

Excavation Round-up 1977

BETH RICHARDSON

THIS IS the sixth in a series featuring an annual round-up of all known excavations carried out in the London area during the previous calendar year. Further details of the excavations may be obtained from the organising body (for addresses see *L.A.* Vol. 2 No. 9 *et seq.* or apply via the editorial offices.)

The excavations are listed according to the London Borough or County in which they took place. Each site is followed by the grid reference (where possible), the name of the organising body and the name of the director. WC and WMC indicate respectively that work continues or work may continue during the current calendar year. The words "No excavation" by a Borough indicate that, as far as the editor is aware, no excavations have taken place in the year in question, but it should be remembered that much valuable site-watching and archive work may have gone on.

The assistance of all the directors and others who supplied the material from which this list was compiled is gratefully acknowledged. The editor would be grateful to hear of any omissions.

CITY

All Museum of London, Department of Urban Archaeology.

GPO Newgate Street TQ 3204 8135 (S. Roskams and A. Thompson). Excavation continued for two months into the Hadrianic fire layers and partially into the scorched occupation surfaces of buildings beneath, on the west and south edges of the area. The main emphasis of 1977 was to complete the excavation (apart from the west wall) of the church of St Nicholas in the Shambles. It comprised four phases: a short nave and chancel, with foundations largely made up of re-used Roman masonry, probably late Saxon in date; a new chancel extension in a second phase, a north aisle in the third phase and a south aisle and squaring up in the fourth phase. The second and fourth phases are medieval in date, the church being demolished in 1547-52. Three hundred skeletons from the graveyard are being studied for evidence of health, diet, disease etc. WC.

Milk Street. TQ 3235 8124 (A. Boddington, S. Roskams and J. Schofield). Substantial wooden buildings of the late 1st century aligned on a road located on the west of the site were followed by several phases of subsequent building in the 2nd c., including a mosaic. Both Boudiccan and Hadrianic fires were examined and traced over parts of the site. The Saxon black earth above was carefully excavated and seems to be imported, perhaps for agriculture. A 9th c. hut with floor and porch was found on the edge of the Roman road, and off Milk Street (first documented 1140) a large stone house perhaps of the 11th c. Other medieval foundations and cesspits were recorded, and a late 17th c. house on Russia Court was recorded by the GLC Historic Building Division. See *L.A.* Vol. 3, No. 5, 140.

Bastion 10A. TQ 3316 8154 (J. Schofield). A previously unrecorded bastion was noticed on Tudor maps in the churchyard of St. Botolph Bishopgate, half way between

the Roman and medieval Bishopsgate and the (?) late Roman bastion under the vestry of All Hallows on the Wall. The new bastion, to be numbered 10A, can be traced in records in 1529 and was demolished by 1676. It is presumably one of the probable late Roman eastern series. A resistivity survey of its likely site in the churchyard was inconclusive.

Cripplegate Wall. TQ 3227 8164. (D. Gadd) A short report on the remaining archaeology of the ditches outside the length of city wall between Bastions 12 and 14, which runs beneath the Museum viewing windows, was prepared, as part of first thoughts about restoration of the wall and ditches as an exhibit. About 4m of medieval ditch fill cutting away most of the Roman ditch can be expected with no more than sporadic survival of the Roman fort and city walls.

Duke's Place. TQ 3551 8122 (J. Maloney). The Roman city ditch was also investigated at Duke's Place. Pottery in it here dates no later than 150 AD, whereas the wall is normally dated to around 200. Either this section of the wall is earlier, or the ditch, which was flat-bottomed, is from the earlier earthen defences, so far never located but presumed to be on the line of the wall. The medieval city ditch was found to be at least 6.5m wide. A rubbish pit produced biscuit wasters from a kiln presumably in the area, together with a Bellarmine jug bearing a date of 1591. WC.

Gracechurch Street tunnel. TQ 3305 8118 (P. Marsden and J. Maloney). A traverse of the Roman basilica and forum was made in a GPO tunnel dug 4.5m below Gracechurch Street. It crossed first the south wing of the forum and found the forum entrance; then the forum courtyard, with a structure, perhaps a decorative pool, near the middle; thirdly, the basilica floor in the hall and side aisles. South of the forum the road passed through three Roman roads, the frontages of several Roman buildings, a 15th c. conduit, and the west end of St. Benet Gracechurch.

City foreshore. (G. Egan). A wide range of post-medieval artefacts have been recovered in the past year, both by the DUA and by members of the public with whom some rapport has been achieved. Projects on lead bale seals, marked knife-blades and other categories of artefacts are in progress. The legal problems concerning ownership and the licensing of searchers remain outstanding.

BARKING — No excavation.

BARNET — No excavation.

BEXLEY — No excavation.

BRENT — No excavation.

BROMLEY

Lower Warbank, Keston. West Kent Archaeological Group (B. Philp). The 11th year of long-term rescue

programme continued on this multi-period site covering the Iron Age, Romano-British and pagan Saxon periods. The eastern part of a large timber-framed aisled building was recorded, the western part having been located in 1976 when it was found to contain three substantial corn drying ovens. This building, relating to the nearby villa complex, dates to the 2nd and 3rd centuries. Pits, ditches and gullies relating to an earlier farmstead and boundary relating to the villa complex were also recorded.

Poverest Road, Orpington. TQ 467 675. Bromley Museum (S. Palmer). Excavations concentrated on areas around the bath house with view to finding any remaining Saxon burials from the cemetery adjacent to the Roman building. One grave was located, that of a male with a dagger and small knife. Minor excavations within the building confirmed that the existing floor level was originally below the floor level of the building. It can now be conclusively shown that the building did originally have a hypocaust system but nothing remains. It was also found that what was previously thought an entrance was probably the stoke-hole for the hypocaust system.

Lower Road/Kent Road, St. Mary Cray. TQ 470 673. Orpington and District Archaeological Society (M. E. Fisher). Small structure (possibly Romano-British) located. WC.

CAMDEN

Platt Street, NW1. TQ 297 833. Inner London Archaeological Unit (G. Black). Two trenches were excavated within Platt Yard and revealed heavy waterlogging of site until at least the 17th c.

West Heath, Hampstead. TQ 256 867. Hendon and District Archaeological Society (D. Collins). Excavations continued on this Mesolithic site in a very rich area, with retrieval of many worked pieces and the discovery of a hearth from which it is hoped to obtain C14 and TL dating. The hearth has been lifted (see p. 168). WC.

CROYDON

Featherbed Lane, Addington. TQ 373 624. Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society (R. W. Savage). Excavations continued on a medieval well to the depth of 83 feet (when hindered by water). The shaft was 3 feet in diameter, flint walled for the first 10 feet and then dug in the solid chalk. The shaft bore foot-holes cut into the chalk. It appeared to have been filled during the 13th or 14th c.

EALING — No excavation

ENFIELD

Palace Gardens, Enfield. Enfield Archaeological Unit. (J. Ivens and P. Armitage). Excavation in advance of new shopping precinct in an area lying immediately

west of the site of Enfield Palace (c. 1551) has revealed brick structures of late 17th c., Tudor pottery and traces of a medieval gravel floor, 12th/13th c. pottery and a coin of Henry II (See pp. 143-8).

GREENWICH

Eltham Palace. TQ 424 740. H. Woods for the D.O.E. The undercroft of Bishop Bek's north range was emptied up to the present circular driveway. Pottery recovered from its backfill and from layers of midden trodden into its pebble floor indicated a date in the first quarter of the 16th c. for the destruction of this range with the medieval chapel which stood over it. In the south range work continued on the detailed recording of the tiled pavement at the dias end of Bek's Great Hall. WC.

Woolwich Ferry. P. Robinson for the London Borough of Greenwich. Trial trenches were excavated in the summer prior to redevelopment to see whether the kiln site to the east extended over the area in question and also whether there was any sign of a glass works known to have existed in Woolwich. Work revealed two late 16th features 'a hearth and a pit, 18th and 19th c. agricultural soils and buildings of 19th and 20th c. date. No trace of kilns or glassworks were found.

Holy Trinity Church East, Charlton. P. Robinson for the London Borough of Greenwich. Trial trenching in the area immediately to the north of the Roman camp on the hill did not reveal any signs of Roman or earlier occupation.

Memorial Hospital, Shooters Hill. TQ 436 765. Shooters Hill History Society (D. T. Jones). Site of "Catherine Wheel" inn located, built 1660. Cellar, walls, fireplace, floors etc. found. Also remains of Hazelwood House, built 1778, which replaced the inn. WC.

HACKNEY

Ash Grove, E8. TQ 348 837. ILAU. (G. Black). This large site was extensively trenched but 19th c. brickearth pits had removed almost all archaeological deposits.

HAMMERSMITH

Lygon Almshouses, Fulham Palace Road, SW6. Fulham Archaeological Rescue Group (K. R. Whitehouse). Further trenching has confirmed earlier evidence of prehistoric occupation: flints with cores and a small rim sherd with cord decoration with could be late Neolithic/early Bronze Age. Large scale excavation not possible due to immediate redevelopment after demolition.

Fulham Palace, Bishops Avenue, SW6 FARG. (K. R. Whitehouse). Discovery of 18th c plan and surveys showing now demolished buildings, and examination of extant buildings and probing under floors has shown that the Great Hall was probably built during the 15th c. and not in the 16th c. as is generally accepted. Site of some medieval buildings, including chapel, are known and should be located in forthcoming excavation. Area underneath Palace and grounds is scheduled under the Ancient Monuments Act. WC.

HARINGEY — No excavation.

HARROW

Bessborough Road, Harrow. TQ 148 875. Stanmore, Edgware and Harrow Historical Society. (J. F. Fahy). A circular brick structure thought to be a well was excavated and found to be a late 19th c. cess pit connected with Roxeth Farm. Apart from modern material a few sherds of 15th/16th c. pottery were recovered plus a quantity of handmade tile from demolished farm buildings.

Reminders

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the *London Archaeologist* will take place on Friday, May 19th at 7 p.m. in the Lecture Room of the Museum of London (see our previous issue). Following the meeting Mr. John Schofield of the Museum's Department of Urban Archaeology will give a lecture on "London's Waterfronts". This is a great opportunity for readers and their friends to learn of the advances that have been made in the past few years in the study of this aspect of London's history, and is strongly recommended.

19-25 High Street, Pinner. TQ 1222 8963. Pinner and Hatch End Local Historical and Archaeological Society (J. Reeves). Due to imminent development trial trenches were excavated at the rear and in the existing properties. Pottery dating from 13th-20th c. were recovered. Features included V-shaped ditch running obliquely across the site containing 13th c. coarse grey ware, and an 18th c. mortar mixing pit. All evidence of early structures destroyed by later development.

HAVERING

Moor Hall Farm, Rainham. TQ 545 820. Passmore Edwards Museum and the West Essex Archaeological Group. Preliminary investigation of a triple-ditched enclosure has demonstrated that the inner ditch was probably cut in the 1st c. B.C. and the two outer ditches somewhat later, possibly in the early Roman period. The enclosure appears to have gone out of use soon after the 1st c. A.D. Features peripheral to the main enclosure include pits, a ditch and a flint-lined possible cess pit or sump. Related finds indicate Roman activity in this area continuing into the 4th c. A.D. WC.

HILLINGDON

Manor Farm, Ruislip. TQ 091 879. Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society. (R. A. Bedford) Trial trenching on east/west medieval moat located unstratified 13th to 16th c. pottery. WC.

HOUNSLOW

Brentford High Street. TQ 178 775. Museum of London with West London Archaeological Field Group. (A. Laws). Excavations revealed an 18th c. clay pipe kiln used by the Brentford pipe maker William Heath. The Roman road was again located with adjacent settlement and small groups of native pottery were recovered from features sealed beneath the road. These appear to date from the conquest period.

ISLINGTON

Dagmar Terrace, N1. TQ 318 839 ILAU (I. Schwab) Two linear features, containing 14th-15th c. material were found, cutting the natural gravel. Above these was a packed gravel surface of similar date.

Northampton Buildings, EC1. TQ 314 824 ILAU (G. Black). No archaeological deposits survived below the 19th c. basements.

Parkfield Street, N1. TQ 314 834 ILAU (G. Black). A small length of rubble wall was revealed at the south of the site. There was no associated dating evidence. North of the wall were four ditches, possibly for drainage. One sherd of 16th-17th c. pottery was found, but the other ditches were undated.

KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA — No excavation.

KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES

Eden Walk II. TQ 181 692. Kingston Museum and D.O.E. (D. Hinton). A compact deposit of brushwood and branches, perhaps deliberately laid, was found sealed by a thick layer of clay. Associated finds included Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery, a human cranium, animal bones and flint flakes. During contractors' excavations further prehistoric material was collected and the site of an additional Surrey white ware medieval kiln located.

LAMBETH

Vauxhall Bridgefoot, SE1. TQ 303 781. Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation Committee. Owing to thick concrete and ground water, small scale trial machine work failed to add further information to that published (*T.L.A.M.A.S.* 1977, 28, p.278) on the location

and nature of the medieval waterfront. Site watching during redevelopment is planned.

RouPELL Street/Hatfields, SE1. TQ 315 980. S.L.A.E.C. Two weekends were spent excavating a small area and recording the stratigraphy from the modern ground surface to the natural gravel. No evidence for early activity on the site was found; the post medieval hearths could well relate to one of the premises of the late 18th century botanist Curtis at what was Halfpenny Hatch. Site watching during redevelopment is planned.

Site Watching: by S.L.A.E.C. Examination of the levels in contractors' trenches on 38 redevelopment sites has produced little archaeological evidence.

Vauxhall Pottery. TQ 303 781. Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society (Roy Edwards). 400m² machine cleared and the western half dug to substantially intact remains of terminal (1865) floors and wall bases of the "wet" end of the stoneware factory. A large group of stoneware pottery is dated to 1860-65.

St. Leonard's Churchyard, Streatham. TQ 300 717. (K. Dark). Trial trench revealed archaeological levels disturbed by vaults.

LEWISHAM

Deptford Strand. P. Marsden. Investigation of traditional site of Drake's *Golden Hind*. Found evidence of ship-building (much tar and wood shavings) of 17th c., when historical records strongly indicate that this site, outside the naval dockyard, was where the *Golden Hind* was preserved.

MERTON

Merton Priory, Merton. TQ 265 696. South West London Team and Surrey Archaeological Society (J. S. McCracken). Excavation of the entire chapter house of the Austin Priory of St. Mary, Merton, has revealed that the building, originally rectangular, was later enlarged with an apsidal end. 25 burials recovered from within the chapter house to date. Portions of the cloister, infirmary passage and slype also excavated. Quantity of mosaic, Westminster, Chertsey, Penn and Flemish floor tile. WC.

NEWHAM — No excavation.

REDBRIDGE — No excavation.

RICHMOND — No excavation.

SOUTHWARK

Southwark Cathedral Crypt. TQ 327 803. M. J. Ham-merson for SLAEC. Traces of clay and timber buildings of 1st c. date, and a timber-lined well of probably late Roman date were examined. The well contained a group of sculptured stones (see *LA* 3, No. 4, p.112), perhaps the furnishings of a mausoleum, with a large amount of building rubble; much of the material was burnt and damaged. The sculptures are provisionally dated to the 2nd c. A substantial medieval chalk wall was also recovered.

Binders

THE PRICE of our binders has been increased from £1.50 to £2 each (including postage), but we believe this still represents excellent value for money, as they hold sixteen copies while most other binders hold only twelve.

11-19 St Thomas Street. TQ 328 802. M. G. Dennis and W. McIsaac for SLAEC. Disturbance in the natural sands, perhaps caused by root action, contained sherds of possible Iron Age date. The sands were overlain by silts, probably pre-Roman to Roman in date, and the area was probably waterlogged during the early Roman period. The top of the silts showed gulleys, possibly the marks of boat keels or wheels. The area was levelled with rubble for a later Roman building, of which a ragstone footing and mortar floor survived. The building was sealed by dark earth.

Above the Roman building were robbing pits, a further silt layer (probably a flooding) and a (possibly agricultural) earth layer. One of several gulleys contained pottery of Pingsdorf type and halfpenny of Alfred.

A stone cellar or undercroft, probably of later medieval date, was almost certainly part of St. Thomas' Hospital. The wall were substantial, and one end had external buttresses and a finely built relieving arch; it seemed designed to carry considerable weight, and may have been the base of a tower.

The medieval structure was superseded by a substantial brick building, probably part of the 16th c. rebuild of the Hospital; the undercroft continued in use, rebuilt in brick. The site was progressively levelled for later phases of the Hospital.

124 Borough High Street. TQ 320 794. M. J. Hammersmith for SLAEC. Within the natural sands were a heap of charcoal and calcined bone, perhaps the remains of a hearth, and three stakeholes, associated with flint blades of possible Neolithic/Bronze Age date. Cut into the sands was an inhumation burial, its legs crossed, perhaps of Iron Age date. The sands were sealed by a soil level containing pottery dating from around the Roman conquest; this was cut by a grid of substantial post pits, probably post conquest but sealed by the 1st c. Roman road. At least two phases of gravel metalling survived; the south shoulder was cut by a double row of stakeholes, parallel to the road, containing sherds of 3rd-4th c. pottery. The road ditch had been filled by the late 1st or early 2nd c., the top contained masses of burnt daub, perhaps from a hearth or kiln.

A medieval pit, of c. 14th c. date, and several 18th c. pits were examined.

213 Borough High Street TQ 325 798. R. G. Denssem for SLAEC. The horizontally laid timbers for a "causeway" were sealed in the silted clay fill of a large deep channel running north-west/south-east. The make-up and metalling for the Roman bridge approach road lay over the clay and timbers; the road was c. 8m wide and aligned north/south. Traces of Roman activity survived on both sides of the road. The Roman levels and a later chalk-lined cesspit were cut by post-medieval celiage.

Harper Road. TQ 324 794. SLAEC. An inhumation burial, lying east/west, had been packed in chalk, indicating a 4th c. date; it was surrounded by iron nails, probably the remains of a coffin. The skeleton was that of a man aged about 20, and approximately 5ft 8in tall; his surviving foot lay over a group of hobnails from a boot.

An east/west ditch, provisionally dated to the 4th c., was probably a boundary rather than for drainage, as there was no slope to the bottom. There are several 19th c. records of burials in the vicinity, and this ditch may mark the southern boundary of a cemetery.

Thirteen gulleys, of 17th c. date, were probably the foundation trenches of tenter frames used in cloth finishing: two 18th c. maps show "tenter grounds" in this area. An alternative explanation, as agricultural features

such as bedding trenches, is less likely. See *L.A.* Vol. 3, No. 5, p.122.

Cardinal Bourne Street. TQ 328 791. M. J. Hammerson for SLAEC. Two streams intersected on the site, which was probably waterlogged for most of the Roman period. A higher gravel spread in the northern part of the site may have been the edge of a road or similar feature.

SUTTON

Bandon Hill Cemetery, Beddington. TQ 299 646. Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society (C. Orton). Trial trench, in area of Roman cremations. Flint waste, loom weights, Iron Age and Roman pottery but no features earlier than late 19th c. WMC.

TOWER HAMLETS

Davenant Street, E1. TQ 344 818. ILAU (I. Schwab). A trench c. 100m long was excavated across the site from Old Montague Street to Whitechapel Road, in order to trace the line of the Roman road to Colchester. The road was not located but observation of contractors' trenches in the western part of the site revealed burials relating to a known burial ground of 17th-19th c.

6-8 Folgate Street, E1. TQ 334 820. ILAU (G. Black). Observations during building work revealed the clunch rubble foundations of a wall, probably of medieval date.

29-33 Felgate Street, E1. TQ 336 820. ILAU (I. Schwab). Two trial trenches produced no evidence of use earlier the 17th c. when a quantity of dumping has occurred.

The Highway, Shadwell, E1. TQ 349 806. ILAU (D. Whipp). Excavations east of the signal tower revealed evidence of a late Roman timber building, with an associated ditch system and metalled surface. Five early 2nd c. cremation burials, found to the east of the building, were the only evidence for use of the site in the early Roman period.

Tower of London. (G. Parnell for the DoE) Part of a hitherto unknown Roman riverside wall was found in association with the southward extension of a late 14th c. river wall. A 3rd or early 4th c. date has been provisionally assigned. The wall rested on foundations of oak piles and chalk. The surviving north face comprised neat courses of ragstone. Several phases of overlying medieval masonry reflect the wall's influence on the development of the Tower's south-east defences.

WALTHAM FOREST — No excavation.

WANDSWORTH

Althorpe Grove, Battersea. TQ 268 768. South West London Team and Surrey Archaeological Society. (J. S. McCracken). Site located north of 1975/76 excavations on a gravel and alluvium terrace on south bank of Thames. Saxon pits and pottery found, mostly from the alluvium, but no evidence of structures as discovered in 1975/76.

38 Felsham Road, Putney. TQ 2397 7558. Wandsworth Historical Society. (N. Farrant). Continuing work shows that the Roman road (Round-up 1976) leading to the Thames is only c. 3m wide and parallel (@ 31° E of N) to Stane Street; a tentative date is Flavian. A small hut with timber beam foundations was aligned on the road and overlay an earlier Roman ditch (@ 20° E of N). Sherds of the (?) Neolithic and Iron Age occur, together with worked flint including an arrowhead and a spearhead, WC

67 Felsham Road, Putney. TQ 282 7557. W.H.S. (N. Farrant). An attempt to pick up the possible Roman ditch found at No. 55, 40m away (Round-up 1976) failed.

22 Bendemeer Road, Putney. TQ 2376 7588. W.H.S. (N. Farrant). A trial excavation close to the supposed earliest Roman approach route to the Thames produced a field

scatter of Roman and later sherds, and an undated but damaged thin gravel surfaces.

WESTMINSTER

St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, EC4. TQ 312 812. ILAU (J. Siegel). Observations during the redevelopment of the site revealed a ditch or pit of probable Roman date, two early medieval pits and additional structure features of the pre-fire Chambers of Clifford's Inn.

Neal Street, WC2. TQ 303 811. ILAU (I. Schwab). Observations during the redevelopment of the Odhams Press site produced evidence of a plague pit, probably dating to the 17th c.

ESSEX

Sun Street, Waltham Abbey. TL 382 095. Waltham Abbey Historical Society. Salvage excavation during car park construction within the monastic precinct revealed glazed floor tile fragments, apparently waste from floor laying. Triangles of Waltham types 10 to 13 of group 3 were associated with plain black and yellow squares, rectangles and triangles together with yellow lozenges (*Trans. Essex Arch. Soc.* ii, 1970, p. 44-45) A dump of lime with 15th c. pottery behind a brick structure probably indicates a lime kiln. Further sections of chalk foundations of the south side of the abbey precinct wall were seen.

SURREY

Glebe Meadow, Ewell. TQ 221 628. Nonsuch Antiqu. Society. (R. Temple). Excavation on the line of Stane Street revealed a partly damaged width of road. A chalk floor with postholes overlay the side ditch; beyond that were postholes and building material. The large amount of pottery recovered included the first "London ware" recorded from Ewell.

Petters Sports Field, Egham, Surrey. TQ 016 715. Surrey Archaeological Society (M. G. O'Connell). A second short season took place at the multi-period site at Petters Sports Field during August 1977. A further stretch of the Late Bronze Age enclosure ditch discovered in the first season of work was excavated, while the line of the 1st c. A.D. Roman ditch and palisade trench was confirmed.

London Street, Chertsey, Surrey. TQ 044 668. SAS (R. Poulton). A site on the street frontage near the centre of the historic town has been examined in advance of redevelopment. The remains of buildings ranging in date from the 19th c. to the 12th c. were discovered. The earlier phases of occupation were surprisingly well preserved, particularly the floor levels of a probably 14th c. timber building, which extended over most of the site. These floor levels sealed the pits and post holes of a period shell-tempered pottery was being used.

North of Park Road, Stanwell: centred TQ 054 745. SAS (R. Poulton). A site where aerial photography has revealed a complex of crop-marks was examined. Geophysical survey proved negative. A small trial trench (4m by 4m) was opened and a number of features, including two ditches and several pits and post holes were found, providing valuable information if it is necessary — as expected — to plan a full-scale excavation in advance of gravel extraction. WMC.

South side of the High Street, Staines, on the Central Area Development. TQ 0365 7162. All London and Middlesex Archaeological Society (K. R. Crouch).

Site A.

Excavation in the garden of the National Provincial Bank (now demolished). An area of 120 sq. m. revealed a series of 1st-2nd c. A.D. gravel workings and the back parts of three Roman buildings, partly constructed over the earliest gravel workings. All buildings were of timber and clay construction and walls being covered with a white plaster. Due to 19th c. levelling all other features and periods had been removed.

Site B.

An area adjacent to Elmsleigh 1974-75 revealed a high point running parallel to the road and demarcated the extent of the Roman settlement and later Saxon occupation. Besides one Roman gully there were a series of Saxon gullies running across the line of drainage, with a series of post-holes at regular intervals. These gullies were traced for 30m. eastward and seemed to be part of a larger complex of gullies which were excavated on Elmsleigh and the Friends Burial Ground Staines. One of the gullies had been deepened and widened in the 10th/11th c. The true width and depth of these gullies was impossible to determine due to the 19th c. levelling of the area.

Site C.

Pre-Flavian phases of ditches and timber buildings, the earliest thought to be of military origin. Silver brooch of 'Hod Hill' type found. Buildings demolished and replaced by further timber buildings by end of 1st c.: these in turn demolished c130 A.D. and replaced by a masonry one. Further buildings in 2nd c., apparent absence of 3rd c. occupation but evidence for re-occupation in 4th c.

Saxon material found in two pits — both containing grass-tempered pottery, one with a bone comb and glass bead. These and the late Roman material were covered by a black soil which contained pottery from L. Saxon to 16th c. A brick-built clay pipe kiln, destroyed in late 19th and 20th c. foundations, was found.

See next issue of *L.A.*



ARCHAEOLOGY IN ISRAEL

Volunteers required this spring and summer to help excavate major Palestinian sites:

HERODIUM — 13 May to 10 June

LACHISH — 24 June to 11 August

CITY OF DAVID — July to September

HAYONIM (Natufian site) 31 July to 15 August

For further details please send s.a.e. to:

PROJECT 67 (LA)
21 Little Russell Street,
London, WC1
Tel 01-242-4024