

heron, harvest mouse, wood mouse, bank vole, short-tailed vole, field vole, common shrew, mole, and frog (more than 100 individuals of the latter). The variety and quantity represented would suggest that the presence of some at least was intentional, although a number (? of migrating frogs) may simply have fallen into the open pit or have arrived by dint of having been inside the heron. The pit did not, however, appear to have been left open for a long period; the upper fill was almost entirely clean redeposited natural sand and gravel, and gave the impression of having been backfilled immediately.

Roman finds

The site produced an important group of grave goods, cremation urns and general finds. The road-side ditch and adjacent features produced an interesting mid-first century pottery group including flagons, jars and small beakers from the Sugar Loaf Court kiln in the City. Nearby on the road surface lay a fragment of inscribed slab in Purbeck marble. Two graves produced pottery grave goods. One had a pair of fine Highgate 'poppy-head' beakers (Fig. 5), the other a black burnished jar. Near it lay a virtually complete imported glass flask. Another black burnished jar had been used as urn for the succeeding cremation. The rectangular pit to the east contained substantial portions of several flagons brought from the Verulamium region. One other interesting ritual item was a fragment of a pipe-clay Venus figurine, which are invariably Gaulish imports and are often associated with ritual sites.

Medieval remains (Fig. 7)

Although the south side of the site had been disturbed by numerous post-medieval burials, a substantial portion of medieval wall foundation built of chalk blocks was still present. It was c 1.70m (5ft 7in) wide and for 3.00m (9ft 10in) of its length was aligned NW-SE. At its south end it turned to the south, and at its north end the remains of its construction trench turned west, aligning with another portion of medieval wall discovered at the south-west corner of the site of the post-medieval church. The former wall would appear to be part of the semi-octagonal east end of the medieval church, the main body of which would have lain to the south and west of the site. This is corroborated by the

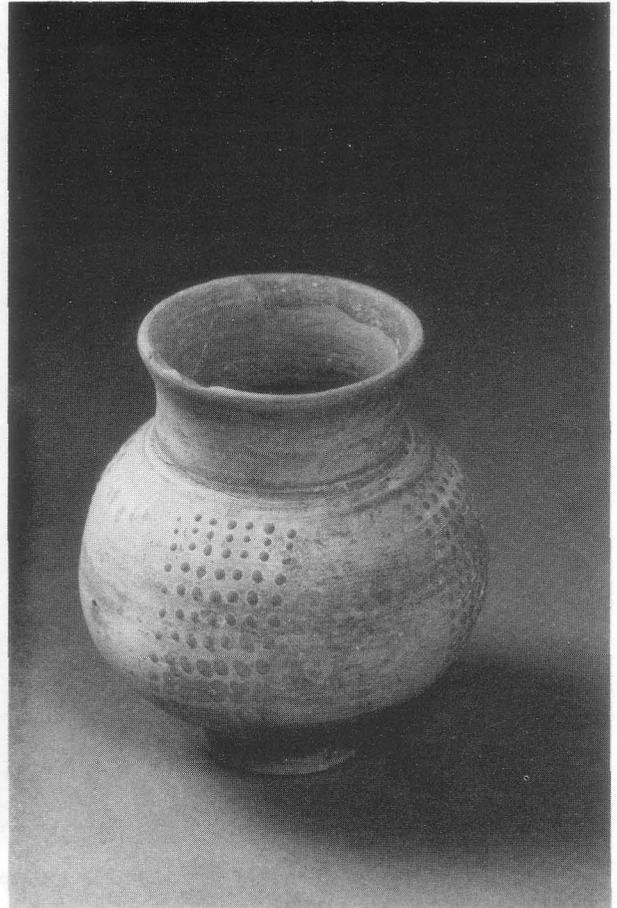


Fig. 5: 'poppy-head' beaker from grave 3; 85mm (3½in) high.
(Photo: Museum of London)

findings on the adjacent site to the south-west; in 1964 the tomb of Anne Mowbray, who is known to have been buried in the church, was discovered there. Several walls were also recorded, and these can be interpreted as belonging to the south wall of the church and to the cloisters.

A number of graves were exposed lying deeper than the majority, and it is probable that their

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Local Societies – amendments

THE FOURTH SET of amendments to the list of local societies (Vol. 4, no. 15, 403-4) is as follows:

London Nat. Hist. Soc. Sec. Miss D. E. Woods, 58 Beehive Lane, Redbridge, Ilford IG1 3RS.

New entry

Harefield Hist. Soc. Sec. Mrs. M. Evans, 4 Hall Drive, Harefield, Middx.