

pit (no. 3 above), the backfills of which contained sherds of Ipswich-type pottery, and a sceatta dating to c 720 AD and Ipswich-type pottery. This pottery was not found in any features associated with the structures, which may therefore date to pre-650 AD. They may have been a domestic buildings, a workshop, or a warehouse. Fragments of over fifty loomweights suggest that part at least of the area was devoted to some form of cloth-making.

Discussion

Most of the above sites were located on a gravel subsoil, and/or near to the Thames; while this may simply reflect the Saxon dislike for a heavy clay subsoil, communications and trade were clearly of growing importance in the middle Saxon period. Until recently it has only been possible to postulate a series of farms along the riverfront between the City and Westminster, but occupation here now seems to have been of an commercial rather than a rural nature; imported non-local and continental pottery, quernstones, glass and metalwork all indicate a prosperous economy, while the presence of similar finds at Althorpe Grove, Barking, and The Treasury suggest a close trading network. The large number of loomweights which have now been found to the west of the City suggests that weaving was an important part of the economy and that wool may have been imported perhaps not only for domestic use, but also for re-export⁵⁸. The Jubilee Hall site has afforded a tantalising glimpse of the middle Saxon emporium of *Lundenwic*; subsequent finds by the DGLA indicate that an extensive area north of the Strand was occupied at this time and give hope that further evidence of Saxon buildings in the area may still survive.

58. Contrary to the suggestion that cloth was imported to London in a ready-made state: A. Vince *op cit* fn 3a, 310.

59. V. Horsman 'Rebuilding Saxon London' *Popular Archaeol* (Oct. 1985) 18-23.

60. W. Grimes *op cit* fn 11.

P. Marsden, T. Dyson and M. Rhodes 'Excavations on the site

The Saxon buildings from Greater London are few, but they illustrate the major trends in the 5th-9th centuries. The SFBs may not have been 'hovels', but comfortable dwellings or workshops; several were close to Roman sites, and the question of continuity/reuse merits further consideration. The structures at Barking and Jubilee Hall appear to be early examples of the sill-beam tradition, normally a late Saxon development. Barking, with its plastered and painted wall, is of particular interest. This structure and that at the Treasury (both apparently of some importance) are linked by the re-use of Roman and later building materials to level the foundations, a feature which also has been observed in a 10th-century building at Billingsgate⁵⁹. The late Saxon celled buildings from Cannon Street, Milk Street, Bread Street⁶⁰, in the City of London may perhaps be seen as a hybrid of the SFB and the sill-beam; together with the ground-level structures at Billingsgate and Newgate Street⁶¹, these pave the way for the 'framed' buildings of the medieval period.

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of St. Mildred's Church, London 1973-74' *Trans London Middlesex Archaeol Soc* 26 (1975) 181-7.

J. Schofield *op cit* fn 9.

61. V. Horsman *op cit* fn 9; *op cit* fn 57.

L. Webster and J. Cherry 'Medieval Britain in 1975' *Medieval Archaeol* 20 (1976) 165-6.

Excavations & Post-Excavation Work

City, by Museum of London, Department of Urban Archaeology. A series of long term excavations. Enquiries to DUA, Museum of London, London Wall, EC2Y 5HN (01-600 3699).

Croydon & District. Processing and cataloguing of excavated and museum collection every Tuesday throughout the year. Archaeological reference collection of fabric types, domestic animal bones, clay tobacco pipes and glass ware also available for comparative work. Enquiries to Mrs Muriel Shaw, 28 Lismore Road, South Croydon, CR2 7QA, tel. (01) 688 2720.

Greater London (except north-east and south-east London), by Museum of London, Department of Greater London Archaeology. Excavations and processing in all areas. General enquiries to Louise Priest, DGLA, Museum of London (01-600 3699 x241). Local enquiries to:

North London: 3-7 Ray Street, London EC1R 3DJ (01-837 8363).
South-West London: St. Luke's House, Sandycroft Road, Kew, Surrey (01-940 5989).

Southwark and Lambeth: Port Medical Centre, English Grounds, Morgans Lane, London SE1 2HT (01-407 1989).

West London: 273A Brentford High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (01-560 3880).

Hammersmith & Fulham, by Fulham Archaeological Rescue Group. Processing of material from Sandford Manor and Fulham High Street. Tuesdays, 7.45 p.m.-10 p.m. at Fulham Palace,

Bishop's Avenue, Fulham Palace Road, S.W.6. Contact Keith Whitehouse, 86 Clancarty Road, S.W.6. (01-731 0338).

Kingston, by Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. Rescue sites in the town centre. Enquiries to Marion Shipley, Kingston Heritage Centre, Fairfield Road, Kingston. (01-546 5386).

North-East London Boroughs, by Passmore Edwards Museum. Enquiries to Pat Wilkinson, Passmore Edwards Museum, Romford Road, E.15. (01-534 4545).

Surrey, by Surrey Archaeological Unit. Enquiries to David Bird, County Archaeological Officer, Planning Department, County Hall, Kingston, Surrey. (01-541 8911).

Vauxhall Pottery, by Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. Processing of excavated material continues three nights a week. Enquiries to S.L.A.S., c/o Cuming Museum, 155 Walworth Road, S.E.17 (01-703 3324).

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