

A ROMAN VILLA AT LICKFOLD, WIGGON- HOLT

By S. E. WINBOLT and R. G. GOODCHILD

I. INTRODUCTION

THE sixty-five acre arable field extending north from Lickfold Farm to Wickford Bridge, and from the Arun flats to the river Stor, very liberally scattered with fragments of Roman tile and pottery, has for many years been under the observation of the first-named writer of this article. The puzzle was where precisely was there a Roman building. There was little doubt that on this sandy whale-back promontory was an extensive Roman-British settlement: there are definite indications in the soil of three Roman buildings besides the house now excavated. In December 1936 word was sent by Mr. J. F. Hearne, of Littlehampton, that a water-pipe had been laid near the road north of Lickfold. The trench was filled in when we went to investigate, but pieces of flue-tile, some *pila* tiles, and burnt sandstones had been brought to the surface for some twenty yards along the line of the trench. It seemed likely that a hypocaust had been broken through some feet below the surface; also that owing to the slope the Roman building lay roughly parallel to the road. The Hon. Clive Pearson, owner of the land, and Mr. F. Horner, the tenant farmer, were willing to allow excavation, and the former generously offered to finance it. A team collected—no easy job so far as labour was concerned—we began work on 1 April (!), and continued for four weeks until 28 April. Mr. J. Reid Dick gave us valuable assistance. A zealous posse of boys from Collyer's School, Horsham, helped to move the great buttresses of soil 6 to 7 ft. deep which had to be tackled where the exploratory trenches revealed walls. They seemed to prefer navying to trowelling. Much

labour, however, was saved by the happy circumstance that of seven trenches laid out, only one, the southern, failed to hit a wall, and even that found Roman rubbish and a very big sandstone boulder, which looked like a boundary stone. The ground-level at the site is about

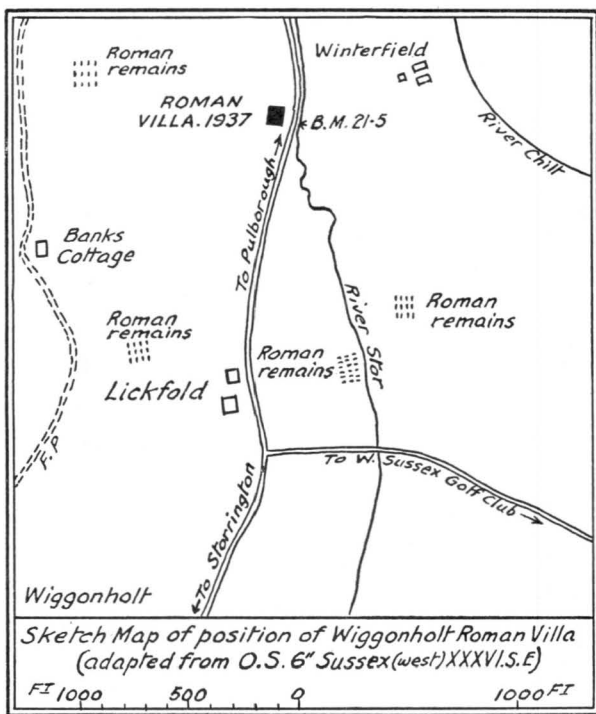


FIG. 1

24 ft. above O.D. The map reference is O.S. 6 in. Sussex (West) XXXVI, S.E.

Eventually we found five rooms and a part of a sixth on the western side of a Roman villa, being precluded from further investigation by a crop on the north, and a hedge and road on the east. There is no doubt that there were more rooms (and perhaps a corridor) on a lower level under the modern road, extending to within a yard or two of the Stor flats. The site had originally been terraced out of the foot of an easterly slope; and

when the place was deserted after burning, about A.D. 365, the floors, largely protected by the burnt debris of roofs, wall plaster, and fallen masonry, and the walls, left about 3 ft. high, were soon covered by the silting of the loose sandy soil from the slope above. Hence the exceptional depth of our work and the exceptional state of preservation of the remains. We found good walls, good floors (one a finely preserved herringbone floor), a perfect series of hypocaust pillars, and part of the concrete floor of a hot room of the baths; some 50 coins and many bronze and bone ornaments on the three successive floors of one room, and broken pottery in quantities which make a chronicler despair; glass, food-bones, and so on, enough to satisfy any investigator. It is highly satisfactory in these days of indiscriminate filling-in to record that the most worthy parts of the villa are to be roofed in by Capt. Pearson for the benefit of the public, and that the things found will be exhibited in the proper place, i.e. on the spot where they were found.

II. DETAILS OF STRUCTURE AND DATE

To come to detail; and first the rooms. A strong sandstone wall with tile bonding courses (1 ft. 11 in. thick) encloses five rooms on the west side, and is continuous for 60 ft. 9 in., but projects 5 ft. 8 in. westward to limit the southern room (I) and the open courtyard (II). Where it limits rooms III, IV, and V it has been hollowed out 7 in. deep on its interior face at the bottom for a height of 2 ft. 9 in. to accommodate a row of tiled hypocaust pillars. It is unusual to recess a hypocaust in this manner, and there is no obvious purpose for the arrangement: the pillars are so solidly constructed, however, that the stability of the wall was not affected (see Fig. 2). The orientation of this long external wall is exactly S.-N. (magnetic).

Room I. Outside and south of this room there may have been a small garden: 13 ft. from the villa we found the rough dry-built wall which bounded it. Close



FIG. 2. WIGGONHOLT ROMAN VILLA: GENERAL VIEW, LOOKING SOUTH.

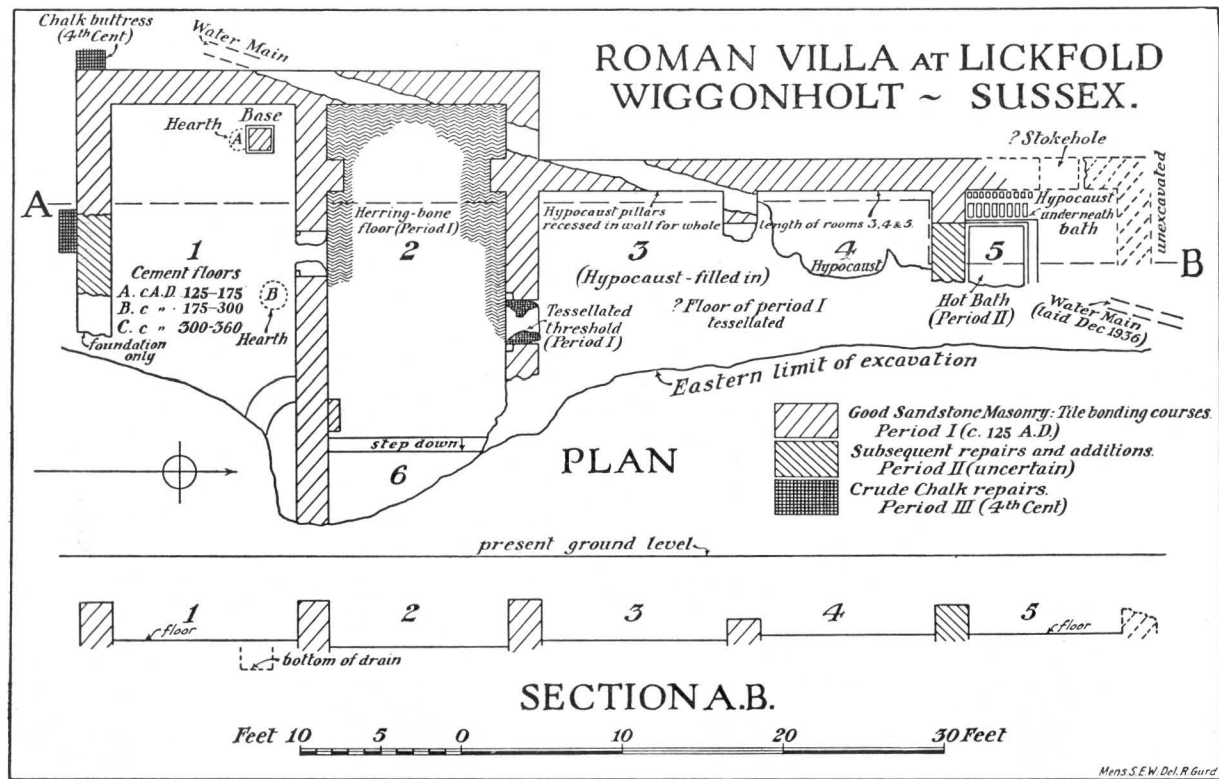


FIG. 3

Mess. S.E.W. Del. R. Gurd

outside the SE. corner of the garden was an exceptionally large boulder, perhaps a boundary stone of the property. The room itself was full of interest, the internal dimensions being 11 ft. 6 in. N.-S., and about 26 ft. E.-W. (the east wall not being located). In its NW. corner, 1 ft. 6 in. from each wall, is a square base or pedestal, solidly constructed of flat tiles set in reddish mortar and faced with plaster. This base is 21 in. square where it rests on the floor (A) of the room, but narrows to 17 in. square after a quarter-round cement moulding (Fig. 4). It is probable that this was the base of an altar, an hypothesis confirmed by some faint signs of burning against its southern front, and the fact that many coins were found near it may be significant.

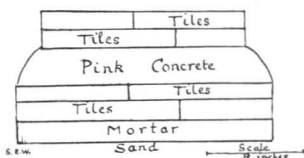


FIG. 4. ALTAR BASE.

The chief feature of this room, however, is that it had three successive floors, dated by the coins and pottery on them. The earliest (A) was a thin layer of cement resting on the natural sand subsoil: it was laid when the villa was constructed, probably about A.D. 125, a very worn Domitian and a fairly worn Trajan being among the coins on it. On the floor were found a pair of bronze tweezers, a few fragments of 'Samian', coarse pottery, oyster shells, window glass, and bone pins, &c. The next floor (B) was made by first laying on the earlier floor 5 in. of sand (containing much material of Antonine date), and covering this with another thin cement floor, of inferior quality, consisting of small fragments of brick and stone held together with a little cement. From the coins in the sand and on the second floor we could date this alteration to the reign of Marcus Aurelius, about the year 175. On the floor were found parts of a necklace of beads, shards of New Forest ware, iron nails, and some 1-in. red tesserae. In the sand layer below it were bronze rings, part of a 'dolphin' bottle, a disk-shaped bronze brooch, and more tesserae. The last floor (C) was barely an inch above B,

and was of the coarsest description, consisting mainly of tiles and flat stones laid level: it dates apparently from the early fourth century, and was covered by a distinct stratum of burnt material, proving that the villa perished by fire. (From evidence obtained elsewhere in the building this fire can be dated to soon after A.D. 364.)



FIG. 5. DRAIN IN NE. CORNER OF ROOM I

We have therefore in this one room an epitome of the life of the villa and a convenient classification of the periods of construction: 1, *c.* A.D. 125–75; 2, 175–300; 3, 300–365.

In the NE. corner of the room was found a wide drain with tiled sides and bottom which emerges from under the north wall, and curves eastward towards the Stor, but could not be followed under the road. For it to have discharged above water-level, the river in Roman times must have been at least 3 or 4 ft. lower than to-day; and indeed the Stor flats have the appearance of having been deeply silted from the low sand-hills

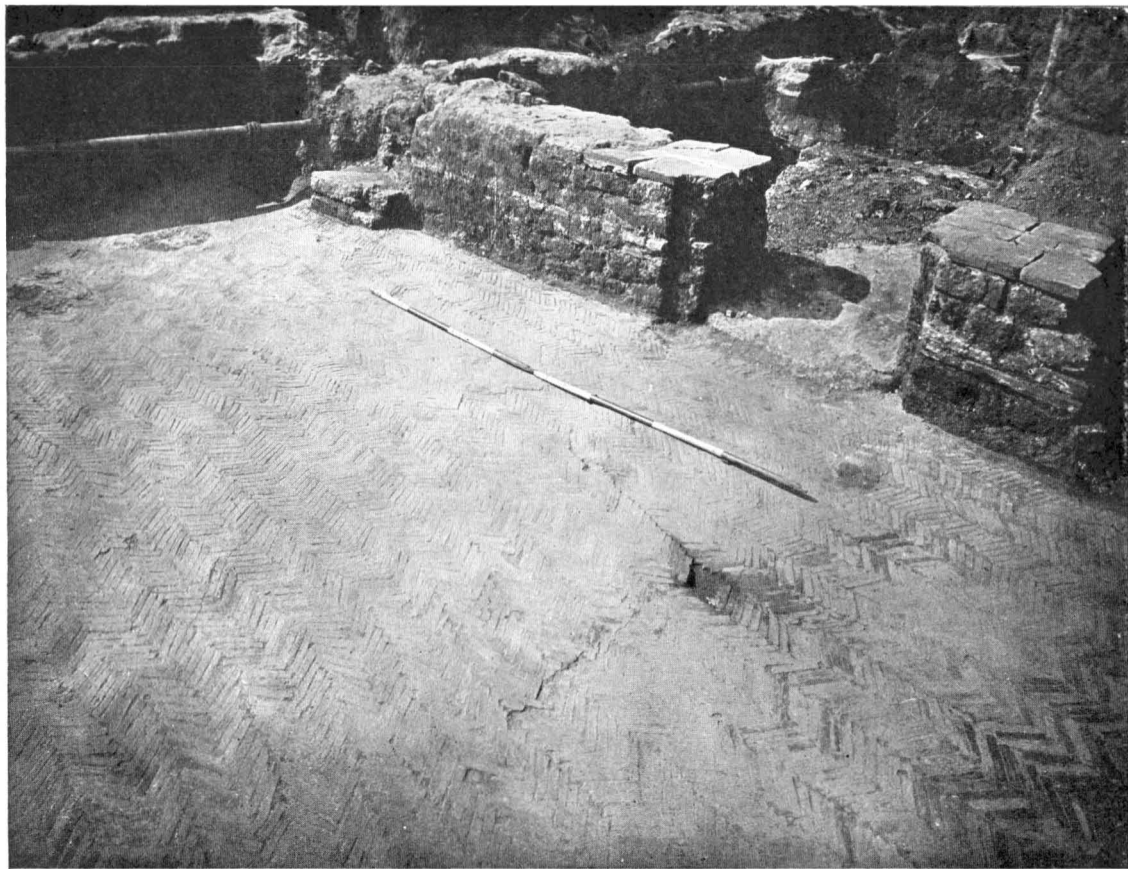


FIG. 6. HERRINGBONE FLOOR OF COURT (II), LOOKING INTO ROOM III.

which hem them in. Hence the fact that the hypocausts are to-day largely water-logged, which could hardly have been the case originally. The drain was intended to drain the adjacent courtyard, and possibly also rooms III, IV, and V: it is 1 ft. 9 in. wide and 2 ft. deep, and there are no vestiges of covering tiles. The bottom is tiled. The walls of this room were all 1 ft. 11 in. wide, and covered on the inside with creamy plaster mottled with pink; they had a bonding layer of tiles 7-10 in. from the ground.

Room II. From room I we go into room II, an open courtyard, by a doorway central to the north wall, and 3 ft. wide between the jambs. In its original form this doorway presented some rather puzzling features, having a very narrow footway between two side pieces, in which were the post-holes of the door frame. When floor B was put in room I, the threshold was made up accordingly with two large lumps of ironstone.

The interior length of the court (W.-E.) is 19 ft. 9 in., its width 11 ft. 6 in. At its west end are two buttresses, 23 in. wide and 12 in. thick, continuing the line of the long wall which bounds rooms III-V, whilst corresponding buttresses are placed at the east end, where two steps lead down to another room (VI). The hedge prevented any further exploration eastward, but this room seems to possess a cement floor, on top of which were the usual signs of the burnt roof. The herringbone floor (*opus spicatum* or *testacea spicata*, Vitruvius) of the courtyard is remarkable—probably unique—in its state of preservation. It is $5\frac{1}{2}$ ft. below present ground-level. There are only three small breaks in it (one of them repaired crudely with cement in Roman times), though the *spicae* are laid in lines which can hardly be called straight. We describe in detail a length of 1 ft. of a *spica*. The tiles set edgewise are 5 in. long and $\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide, and with their mortar joints ten of them go to a foot. The width from point to point is $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. Thus for an area of 12 in. by $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. twenty tiles are required. The depth of these tiles, when best preserved, is $2\frac{1}{2}$ in., but originally they were probably not less than 3 in.

deep. The floor belongs to period I and so was in use all through the life of the villa, some 230 years: this is not surprising with such fine solid work. It must have been worn down considerably by the tread of feet through so many generations, and in places of special wear its depth is now barely 1 in. The tiles, as is usually the case, were baked in this small form (cf. those at Ashtead), and were set in a very solid concrete bed, which is 8 in. deep and laid on a thick base of rubble. For 1 ft. out from the north wall the floor is flat, and then slopes down some three inches. It is possible that seats of some sort were fixed up against the wall here, since there are patches more worn than the surrounding floor. Similar wear is even more evident at the doorways, especially outside doorway I/II where, as the floor of room I rose, tread became heavier. Among the material found on the herringbone floor were several fourth-century coins, the latest being dated about A.D. 350; also a large number of big meat-bones, oyster shells, and fragments of cooking-pots and storage vessels. No domestic ornaments were found, and it is worth noting, too, that the signs of burnt roof debris—so noticeable in the adjacent rooms—were totally absent here, a fact which supports the assumption that this was an open court, as does also the drain through room I. Herringbone floors have also been found at Wood Street (London), Silchester, Wroxeter, Ashtead (late first or early second cent.), and Verulam, where the floor was secondary, laid over a floor of yellow cement (Soc. of Antiquaries, *Research Report: Verulamium*, 1936).

Room III is entered from the courtyard through a well-preserved doorway similar to that between rooms I and II. In this case, however, the posts of the door frame were not sunk in post-holes on the threshold, but were recessed in grooves cut for the purpose in the masonry of the door jambs. Both the threshold of the doorway and the floor of the room itself seem to have possessed red tessellated floors in period I, but this was apparently replaced by or repaired with cement

during the repairs of A.D. 175. Finally, probably in period 3, the hypocaust of this room was dispensed with altogether, and filled up with rubble, no proper floor being laid on top. On top of the rubble filling and in the distinct stratum of burnt debris was a coin of Crispus. The room is 11 ft. 6 in. wide, but, the eastern



FIG. 7. ROOM III: HYPOCAUST PILLARS RECESSED INTO WEST WALL.

wall having disappeared, its length could not be ascertained; it was excavated for 12 ft. Along the west side we found in perfect condition the complete series of eight tile pillars with their caps, recessed 7 in. into the wall. There are ten tiles to a pila, and 6 in. between pilae. (See Fig. 7).

Room IV was 10 ft. 6 in. wide and divided from III, not by a continuous wall, but simply by two buttresses projecting from the west and east walls. Like III, it seems to have possessed in period 1 a red tessellated

floor, afterwards replaced by cement, but in this case (and that of room V) the hypocaust underneath was in use till the end. We decided not to go down to the floor of the hypocausts, as the remaining parts of floors above them were too fragile, and we did not want them to collapse. Between the floor (most of which had collapsed subsequent to the Roman period) and the surrounding walls was the gap 6 in. wide for the flue-tiles up the walls. The latter, some traces of which remain, seem to have provided a continuous facing to the wall.

Room V (the hot room) seems in period 1 to have been identical with rooms III and IV, being divided off by buttresses 2 ft. long, and having a hypocaust underneath. At the beginning of period 2, however, drastic alterations were made, involving the construction of a small hot room (or *sudatorium*) on top of the existing hypocaust. To do this, the buttress in the SW. corner was extended eastward by a rubble wall, and a row of bigger flue-tiles was added to the original ones. These secondary or inner flues were not taken down to the hypocaust through the floor, but were fed with hot air from the original row through holes in their sides. The new hot chamber thus constructed was heated, therefore, both by a hypocaust underneath and by a double row of flues running up its side. It has a thick cement floor and plaster walls, retaining in one corner their Pompeian-red fresco: between floors and walls runs the usual quarter-round convex moulding, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. over-all. The interior width of the chamber (N.-S.) is 4 ft., its length uncertain owing to the fact that subsidence has broken it off abruptly at about 3 ft. 6 in. from its west end. The general arrangements of this *sudatorium* will be best understood by reference to the photograph (Fig. 8). The original (period 1) flue-tiles were 11 in number, and measure $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. (ext.) with 1-in. mortar joints. The additional (and later) row number 8 in all, measuring $11\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. (ext.). A double row of flues seems to be exceptional. The general arrangements of Room V are closely paralleled by the bath at the Compton Villa (*Surrey Arch. Coll.* xxviii, 41-50).

Beyond this point investigation was prevented by a springing crop, under which the main west exterior wall of the villa appears to continue. There are some indications that the stokehole and furnace which heated the bath-rooms were situated outside, or close to, room V, but lack of space made it impossible to confirm this.



FIG. 8. FLOOR (PERIOD II) OF HOT ROOM, WITH FLUES ON WEST SIDE.

If this were the case—as there is every reason to believe—room III may have originally been the *tepidarium*, heated only indirectly; and room IV a *caldarium*. Economy was probably the cause of the dismantling of room III in period 3.

Room VI was reached by steps east from the courtyard (II), and was 11 ft. 6 in. wide and of unknown length. It had a very solid cement floor, and the walls and risers of the steps were plastered. The fact that the villa extends under the present road disposes of

the supposition that the Roman road from North Heath through Wiggonholt to Cootham and the Downs coincides with it. Peter Martin, indeed, thought that the Roman road ran on a higher level a little westward, and that is where it should be looked for. The contemplated diversion of the modern road may possibly strike it. The present road, replacing the old one, now disused, along the Arun flats, may have been hardened about 1887 when Wickford Bridge, as we see it, was built; it was cut along the edge of the Stor valley. But as there was a Wickford Bridge in 1636, according to *The High Stream of Arundel*, the course of the modern road may date early in the seventeenth century. It was something of a shock, when our work was done and this report written, to find that Peter Martin in his map (*S.A.C.* XI, opp. p. 127) marked Roman remains exactly on our site. Did he know of a villa here? Almost certainly not, because he uses a symbol which elsewhere on his map denotes non-structural Roman finds (e.g. the hoard at Redfold). His text makes no specific mention of Lickfold, but he refers generally to finds of pottery and coins in the Wiggonholt district, and a farmer may have picked something up from the surface of the Lickfold site. It was quite obvious in the course of excavations that the site had not been disturbed since Roman times.

Honoris causa. We acknowledge the help of J. Reid Dick, T. R. G. Swayne, F. A. Goodliffe, A. D. Franklin, G. H. Kenyon, Miss E. M. Barraud, Miss Haines, boys of Collyer's School, especially G. and J. Patterson, C. Sherston, the agent at Parham Park, Mr. W. Allfrey, who kindly lent a hut, barrows, and planks, and the various Pulborough schoolboys who assisted. We are especially indebted to Mr. C. H. V. Sutherland, of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, for much trouble taken with the coins.

III. HISTORICAL SUMMARY

There is no evidence for occupation on the site prior to A.D. 100. The few very worn first-century coins are merely the normal survivors common to all second-

century sites. Further, the somewhat worn state of the coins of Trajan and Hadrian (whose issues are notorious for their long circulation) makes an initial occupation before A.D. 120 rather improbable. The evidence as a whole suggests a date *circa* A.D. 125 for the construction of the villa, the solid masonry of which is typical of the second century.

For the first fifty years of its existence, that part of the building excavated seems to have been a hive of activity. The number of early coins contrasts noticeably with the meagre proportions of these coins normally found on British villa sites: out of 50 found in room I, 35 are earlier than A.D. 200. So great was the wear and tear during this early period that by about A.D. 175 a new floor was necessary in this room, and the baths needed extensive repairs.

Yet vague signs of a decline in efficiency and culture can already be detected. These repairs and alterations to the baths were executed in a somewhat slap-dash manner: tessellated floors are replaced by inferior cement ones, and the new walls show lack of care.

Subsequent deterioration is even more marked. About A.D. 300 room I received its third and last floor, nothing more than a crude layer of flat tiles and stones with occasional patches of mortar: similarly, dilapidations during the fourth century were made good in a rough and ready manner with unshaped blocks of chalk—a material which the second-century builders could afford to scorn. The fine herringbone floor of the 'court-yard', now much worn and broken in places, had become a depository for broken pottery and kitchen rubbish. In short, the romanized inhabitants of the villa appear to be displaying all the symptoms of a reversion to type.

Soon after A.D. 364, and while coins of the Constantinian era were still largely in circulation, the villa met its end by fire. The roof-timbers and superstructure of the building—now probably dry with age—did not need much encouragement to burn, and the building was soon a heap of charred debris surrounded by crumbling walls.

Excavation has revealed no signs of violence in the villa's destruction, nor was anything of value left in the burning building (the coins, of course, had been lost long before); yet it is reasonable to connect the fire with the famous 'fourfold invasion' of Picts, Scots, Attacotti, and Saxons which we know took place in A.D. 367-8.¹

With the navigable river Arun so close, the Lickfold site must have been particularly vulnerable in these troubled years, and we have other evidence at a rather earlier date of devastations in the same district. At Redford, scarcely a mile from the villa-site, a remarkable hoard of 1,800 late Roman coins, packed in rouleaux in a wooden box, was discovered in 1855.² The latest coins in this hoard suggest burial not long after the death of Constantine the Great, probably by a wealthy landowner of the Wiggonholt or Pulborough district—perhaps even the occupier of the Lickfold villa. In these years, too, the old Iron Age earthwork at Cissbury, long derelict, was refortified—doubtless for the protection of refugees from the affected areas.³ There, in the shelter of the massive prehistoric ramparts, the reversion to type which we have already noticed at Lickfold could be carried to its logical, if rather pathetic, conclusion.

IV. 'FINDS'

*The Coins*⁴

(REPORT BY C. H. V. SUTHERLAND)

(?) CLAUDIUS I, A.D. 41-54.

1. *Dupondius*. Probably as *M. & S.* I. 132, 82. Greatly worn.

DOMITIAN (? as *Emperor*, A.D. 81-96).

2. *Dupondius*. Types illegible through long wear.

¹ Collingwood and Myres, *Roman Britain and the English Settlements*, p. 284.

² *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, XI, 140.

³ *Antiquaries Journal*, XI, 14-36.

⁴ References are to Mattingly and Sydenham, *Roman Imperial Coinage* (= *M. & S.*), and to Cohen, *Description historique des monnaies frappées sous l'empire romain*, 2nd ed. (= *C.*).

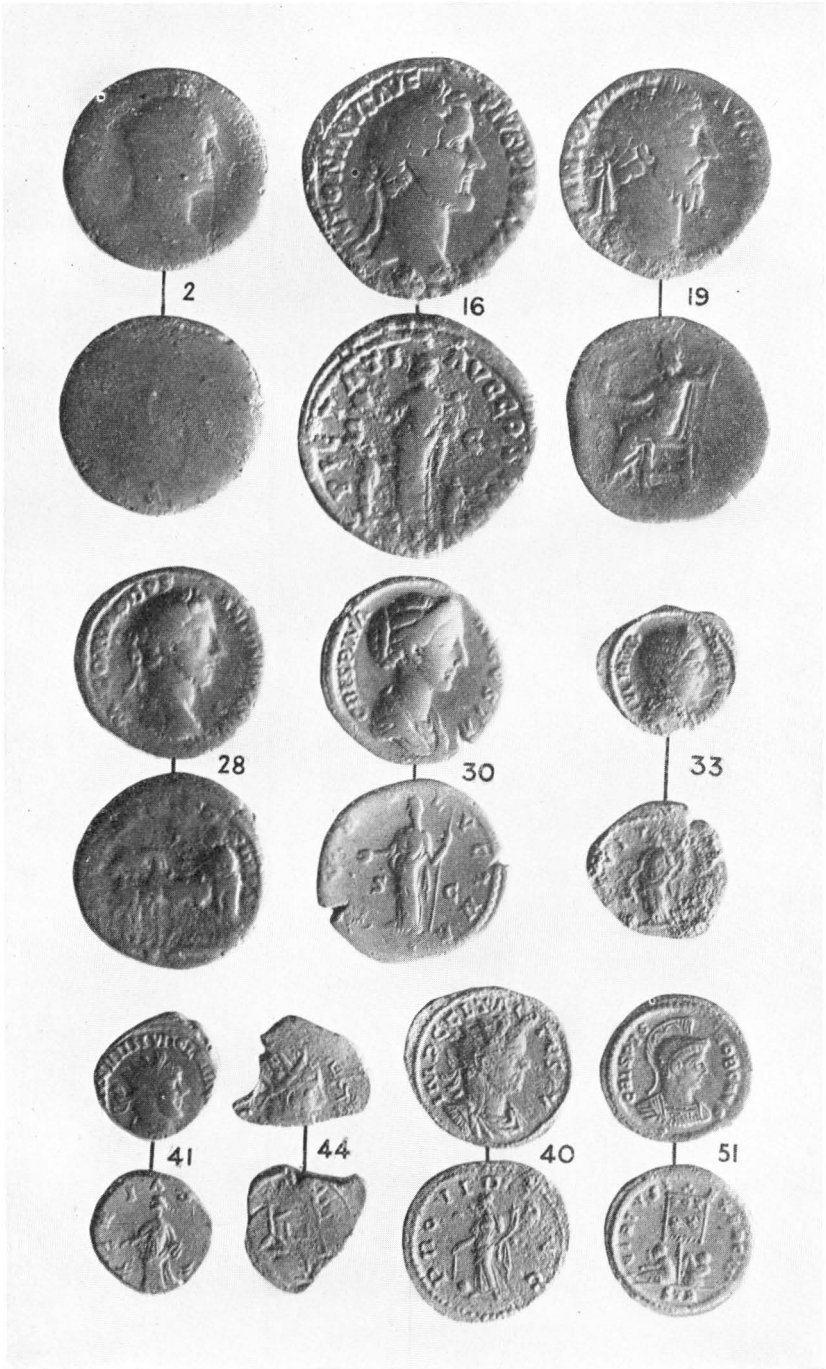


FIG. 9. ROMAN COINS FROM LICKFOLD VILLA SITE.

UNCERTAIN, PROBABLY OF THE FIRST CENTURY A.D.

3. *As*. Perhaps of Vespasian or Titus: —ESPA—visible. Greatly worn.
4. *Dupondius*. Illegible through long wear.
5. *As*. Illegible through long wear. (Pierced for suspension).

TRAJAN, A.D. 98–117.

6. *Sestertius*. *M. & S.* II. 290, 651 or 652 (A.D. 114–17). Rather worn.
7. *Sestertius*. Probably as *M. & S.* II. 291, 663 (A.D. 114–7). Rather worn.
8. *As*. After A.D. 114 (OPTIMO in obv. legend). Illegible through wear.

HADRIAN, A.D. 117–138.

9. *Dupondius*. Perhaps as *M. & S.* II. 426, 657 (A.D. 125–8). Greatly worn.
10. *Sestertius*. Perhaps as *M. & S.* II. 439, 772 (A.D. 134–8). Worn.
11. *Sestertius*. Types obliterated by wear.
12. *As*. Types obliterated by wear.

ANTONINUS PIUS, A.D. 138–161.

13. *Dupondius*. *M. & S.* III. 132, 847 (A.D. 147–8). Fair.
14. *As*. *M. & S.* III. 142, 934 (A.D. 144–5). Very fair.
15. *As*. *M. & S.* III. 142, 934 (A.D. 144–5). Slightly worn.
16. *Sestertius*. *M. & S.* III. 149, 1002 (A.D. 158–9). Very fair.
17. Quartered Æ2 coin, probably of Pius: ANTONI— visible. Rev. illegible.

MARCUS AURELIUS, A.D. 161–80.

18. *Sestertius*. Obv. IMPCAESAVRELM ANTONINVS AVG [—; head r., laur.
Rev. SAL VT AVG Salus (?), laur., stg. facing, head l., holding cornucopiae in l. and ? extending r.: on either side s c.
Not in *M. & S.*: style of rev. odd, and rev. a little worn.
19. *Sestertius*. Cf. *M. & S.* III. 298, 1064 (A.D. 172–3). Rather worn.
20. *Sestertius*. Types uncertain through wear. (Rev., ? Providentia.)
21. *Sestertius*. Types uncertain through wear. (Rev., Victory).
22. *As*. Types uncertain through wear.

FAUSTINA II, before A.D. 176.

23. *As*. ? *M. & S.* III. 344, 1625. Much worn.
24. *As*. Types uncertain. Rather worn.

LUCIUS VERUS, A.D. 161–9.

25. *Denarius*. *M. & S.* III. 259, 566. (A.D. 166). Fair.

LUCILLA, *Wife of Verus.*

26. *Sestertius.* ? *M. & S.* III. 352, 1738. Worn.
 27. *Sestertius.* *M. & S.* III. 353, 1757. Worn.

COMMODUS, A.D. 180-93.

28. *As.* *M. & S.* III. 405, 319 (A.D. 181). Rather worn.
 29. *Sestertius.* *M. & S.* III. 416, 441 or 418, 454 (c. A.D. 184-5).
 Rather worn.

CRISPINA, *before* A.D. 183.

30. *Dupondius.* *M. & S.* III. 443, 680. Fresh.

SEPTIMUS SEVERUS, A.D. 193-211.

31. *Denarius.* *M. & S.* 308 (A.D. 202-10). Very fair.
 32. *Denarius.* (Probably Sept. Severus: obv. heavily corroded;
 rev., [PAX] AV[GVS]TI, in very fair condition. Coin broken.)

JULIA MAMAEA, *Mother of Sev. Alexander*, A.D. 222-35.

33. *Denarius.* Obv. IVLIAMA MAEAAVG Bust r., diademed.
 Rev. [A]EQVITA[SAVG] Aequitas stg. l., holding scales and
 cornucopiae.
 Not in *C.* ? Hybrid, Mamaea + Sev. Alexander ? Fairly fresh.

VALERIAN, A.D. 253-9.

34. *Antoninianus.* Rev. illegible through corrosion. Obv. fair. Coin
 broken.

GALLIENUS, A.D. 260-8.

35. *Antoninianus.* *M. & S.* 177. Fairly fresh.

VICTORINUS, A.D. 268-70.

36. *Antoninianus.* *M. & S.* 51. Good.
 37. *Antoninianus.* *M. & S.* 75. Fair.

TETRICUS I, A.D. 270-3

38. *Antoninianus.* *M. & S.* 88. Fair.
 39. *Antoninianus.* *M. & S.* 109 (?). Rather worn.

TACITUS, A.D. 275-6.

40. *Antoninianus.* Cf. *M. & S.* 47, but PROVID— . Fresh.

'RADIATES', *circa* A.D. 270-300.

41. Æ3. Obv. — — — CII II NVACL—II N and radiate head r., with
 hair in 'corkscrew' curls, perhaps derived from a Quintillus
 model.
 Rev. [P]IEIAS[—] and copy of *Pietas Aug* type.
 Imitation, struck on thick flan. Good.

32 A ROMAN VILLA AT LICKFOLD, WIGGONHOLT

42. Æ3. Small radiate imitation; types illegible through wear.
 43. Æ3. Small radiate imitation; rev. standing figure. Much worn.
 44. Æ3. Radiate imitation on irregular flan: obv. very crude head and traces of legend: rev. possibly to be derived from the *Hilaritas Aug* prototype. Fair.
 45. Æ3. Radiate imitation: rev. uncertain. Much worn.
 46. Æ3. Small radiate imitation: rev. uncertain. Worn.
 47. Æ3. Radiate imitation: rev. a brockage of the obv. Very fair.
 48. Æ3. Small radiate imitation: rev., ? *Fortuna Redux*. Worn.
 49. Æ3. Small radiate imitation: rev. illegible through wear.

CONSTANTINE I, A.D. 307-37.

- (a) Crispus striking under his father, A.D. 317-26.
 50. Æ3. C. 7. PTR. Very fair.
 51. Æ3. C. 172. STR. Fresh.
 (b) Constantine Junior striking under his father, A.D. 317-37.
 52. Æ3. C. 113. TRS. Fairly fresh.
 53. Æ3. C. 122. Fair.
 54. Æ3. C. 127. Fair.
 55. Æ3. C. 127. Fair.
 (c) In the name of Theodora, wife of Chlorus.
 56. Æ3. C. 3.
 (d) Commemorating the foundation of Constantinople, A.D. 330-7.
 57. Æ3. C. (*Urbs Roma*) 17. PLC. Good.
 58. Æ3. C. (*Urbs Roma*) 17. Fair, but broken.
 59. Æ3. C. (*Constantinopolis*) 21: semi-barbarous copy. Fair.

CONSTANS, A.D. 337-50.

60. Æ3. C. 176. TR—?. Fair.
 61. Æ3. C. 176. Fair.

HOUSE OF CONSTANTINE I, *uncertain*.

62. Æ3. *Virtus* type. Worn.
 63. Æ3. Barbarous copy of the *Fel. Temp. Reparatio* issue of c. A.D. 348, and perhaps nearly contemporary. Rather worn.
 64. Æ4. As no. 63, but clipped down, and later in date (?). Fair.

VALENTINIAN I, A.D. 364-75.

65. Æ3. C. 12. Worn.

VALENS, A.D. 364-78.

66. Æ3. C. 47. Rather worn.

HOUSE OF VALENTINIAN I, *uncertain*.

67. Æ3. *Securitas Reipublicae*. Much worn.

ILLEGIBLE.

68. Æ2. Too much worn for identification.
 69. Æ3. Too much worn for identification.
 70. Æ3-Æ4. Too much worn for identification.

Together with these coins was found, in room I, a circular piece of base metal: but this was never a coin.

A Note on the Coins

The range of coins recovered from the villa presents some features of unusual interest. Although the first-century coins—all of which have suffered greatly from long circulation—form a normally small proportion of the total finds (about 7·4 per cent.), the issues of Trajan, Hadrian, and the Antonines swell to a number for which it is difficult to find a parallel in the exploration of other villa-sites: about 37·3 per cent. of the coins belong to the second century. It may, however, be noted that the worn condition of the coins of Trajan and Hadrian and (to a lesser extent) Antoninus Pius would seem to indicate that regular and busy occupation of the site was not achieved much before the middle of the second century. The third-century coins form 28·4 per cent. of the total finds. There is, as usual, an abrupt fall noticeable in the currency-volume between A.D. 200 and 260. On the present site, moreover, the coins of the time of the Gallic Empire are distinctly scarce in view of their broadcast profusion elsewhere; the nine uncertain 'radiates' or radiate copies may, in some cases, be imitations of a later date. The figures drop still further during the fourth century (26·9 per cent.); the numbers of the coins struck in Constantine's own reign are somewhat below the average, and this decrease is not compensated by any increase in the issues of *circa* A.D. 340-360. Indeed, the series dwindles swiftly down to this later date, and may be held to have ceased no more than a few years afterwards.

Individual coins of special interest are nos. 18, 33, 41, and 44—the last a very remarkable barbarization of what was perhaps originally the *Hilaritas Aug* type, in which Hilaritas bears a palm in one hand. Of the coins of reduced, or so-called 'minim', size there is none which suggests an origin later than the fourth century.

Location of Coins

(The numbers refer to items in the Coin List. Coins of uncertain stratification or from the top soil are omitted).

Room I. Floor A—2, 6; Sand filling AB—4, 13, 17, 18, 20, 25, 26; Floor B—1, 8, 9, 12, 14, 16, 21, 27, 31, 32, 33, 34, 41; Floor C—43, 44, 52; Filling of drain—37, 39, 49.

Room II. Herringbone Floor—54, 57, 58, 59, 61, 63, 64.

Room III. Late floor over dismantled Hypocaust—51.

Room IV. Floor—53.

Pottery

Surface finds on or close to the site before excavation were symptomatic of a long occupation. These included fragments of barbotine-dotted buff and grey ware, common at Hardham Camp and dated about A.D. 100; the end part of a Samian potter's stamp—(T)INI, probably representing CARANTINI, LEZOUX A.D. 75–110, or AVGVSTINI, 160–200; New Forest ware with 5 parallel incised lines, end of third century; Samian ovolo and glaze of Paternus, f. 37, dating 110 onwards; ovolo and part of decorated zone of f. 37 by Divixtus, c. 110—Antonine, with minute step above ovolo.

From the trenches:

Samian. In all 55 fragments. Rims of Trajanic date, with fine groove below bead rim (room I, floor A). Side of flanged cup with good pink glaze (I-A), and other pieces of early 2nd century. Small high base of ? f. 33, first half of 2nd century (I-A). Many pieces of coarser ware and orange-coloured glaze: one a piece of bowl (I-B). Flat rim of bowl with heart-shaped leaf in barbotine, f. 35 or 36, Trajan-Hadrian. Imitation Samian: pieces with parallel lines of small quatrefoil impressed rosettes; parts of bowls with flange 1 inch down from rim, late 3rd and 4th century (Oswald and Pryce, p. 233). Piece with two contiguous rows of rouletting, with brown interior.

Castor. The greater part of bulge and tapering cylindrical neck of a pot with small base, about 10 in. high, 'ornamented round bulge with white-painted scrolls between horizontal lines $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. apart. Several fragments of a dark-grey red-bodied pot with metallic lustre and tapering neck, with base the size of a half-crown (I-B). Similar base of the size of a halfpenny. Pot with three rouletted lines (III).

New Forest. Many pieces of purple-surfaced, grey-bodied pots, with small base and fluted sides—'thumb pots' (I-B).

Coarse Pottery. Masses of fragments of ordinary grey and black wares, but comparatively few red wares. Small globular jars. A big light-grey jar with burnished horizontal lines (II, period 3). Parts of red mortars. Fluted jars of various colours. Big store-jars with rope-pattern and collar rims. Neck and stepped rim of a small buff bottle with stopper. Part of grey cup of f. 27 with burnished zigzag ornament below rim. Buff ware ornamented with pink-painted leaves on a stem, or scrolls. Black cooking dishes. A grey jug with white-painted rim. White-painted rim (I-C), and clumsy grey outslipping rim almost flat (I-C). Grey pot with burnished lattice lines inside rim. Many heavy jars with potter's finger-marks on interior, one with buff-painted zones and combed scrolls between: black jar with a line of stick-impressed ornament $\frac{3}{8}$ in. wide, 3 impressions to the inch. Parts of grey lids. Small base (2 in.) of big-bulged urn of creamy texture (I. A-B).

Glass

A fair quantity of window glass with the usual rounded edge, pieces showing cemented band $\frac{5}{8}$ or $\frac{6}{8}$ in. broad: average thickness is $\frac{5}{32}$ in. One small fragment is still in its wooden frame. Colours are light green, or slightly purple. Fragments of base of 'pickle-jar' with moulded line round square base. Fragments of glass bowls with bead rims, of clear, delicate white glass. Amber glass is represented: one piece of vessel with parallel grooves below lip. Folded rim, handles and part of bulge of small 'Dolphin' vase, dated at Wroxeter A.D. 150-250. (I-AB). Remains of a wire-threaded necklace of very small glass and paste beads, alternately cylindrical and melon-shaped.

Bronze

A disk-shaped brooch of applied type, size of a florin (I-AB). The front plate bears in relief a conventional design representing

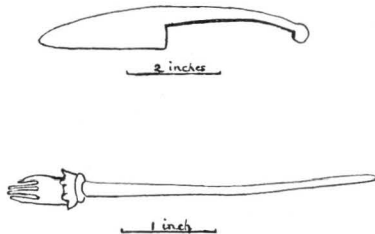


FIG. 10. RAZOR AND HAIRPIN.

a rearing horse to the left, three soldiers with spears and shields to the r., and at the bottom a Roman eagle. Identical brooches from Kitchen Hill, Wilts., are in Devizes Museum. (See *Antiquaries Journal*, vol. XI, pp. 160-1, where the design is incorrectly figured and ascribed to the 5th century). The Lickfold specimen is certainly not later than mid-4th century; coming from the sand layer between floors A and B, it can fairly accurately be dated A.D. 125-175. For a brooch of the same pattern, but with different applied design, see Verulamium Report, 1934, in *Antiq. Journ.* Jan. 1937 (vol. XVII, no. 1, pp. 45-6). A terret ring with fine green patina (I-AB). Fibula (broken) of simple bow and double spring coil in one piece (I-A). Cf. Wroxeter, dated 75-100. Fibula with 6-coiled spring, and broken rings of flat section (I-A). Fibula with 4-coiled spring, catch-plate wanting: apparently converted into use as tweezers. Two rings (broken) with bezels set with amethyst. Hair-pins: one with short conical head. Another, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, with head in form of a hand holding some object (I-A). For similar pins see *Wroxeter II*, 1913, pp. 12, 13, in bone: in bronze, see Guildhall (Lond.) Museum, specimens from Southwark. Pair of tweezers, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. long (I-A).

A razor, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. long (6 in. over top curve): point to end of blade, $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. Spoon (*ligula*), shovel-shaped bowl, with kink above bowl for suspension on egg-cup: cf. Guildhall, Bath, and *Wroxeter*, iv, plate 17; also *Richborough*, II, pp. 46-7, plate 20, where this type is said to be late 3rd or 4th century. Parts of flat applied ornaments; a small wire handle; nails, some with stud heads nearly the size of a penny. Small chisel.

Lead. Pieces of thin sheet lead.

Bone. Hair-pins, 21. One bodkin. Part of a flat armlet. Boar's tusk and teeth. Deer tine cut clean through at base and one branch. Knuckle-bone cut through for a counter. Parts of a very thin (?) animal's skull.

Shells. Oysters, limpets, mussels, and cockles (floors of I and II).

Iron. Part of knife. Parts of lamp-hanger with four hooks branching out from one stem. A T-shaped cramp. Front of a lock with two points for driving into wood, and circular hole for key. A leaf-shaped tab with hinge and central rib on inner side—probably to cover a lock: $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. at widest.

Miscellaneous. Much unusual wall-plaster, impressed with patterns of circles and scrolls, and painted white. Buff and cream wall plaster with broad zones of Pompeian red: one piece with thin green line, and another mottled. Many 1-in. red cubes from tessellated floor. A few small cubes of chalk and blue lias and other colours, some $\frac{3}{8}$ in. square, suggest a floor of fine mosaic. Sandstone rubbers. Many round pebbles of flint from the chalk and of ironstone, selected as marbles: of many sizes. Part of a bracelet of Kimmeridge shale. Two tiles marked with a dog's foot, and another with footpads of dog, apparently chasing a cat.

Note. The only pieces of pottery found on the different floors of Room I, the 'Dolphin' glass bottle and an early fibula, confirm by their dating the periods indicated by the coins.