Journal of the Chester Archaeological Society

Volume 78 for 2003



Papers relating to the Architecture, Archaeology and History of the County, City and Neighbourhood of Chester

Edited by GEORGINA MUSKETT Chester 2004 © Chester Archaeological Society and contributors 2004 unless otherwise stated.

ISBN 0 95 42563 2 8 ISSN 0309-359 X

Abbreviations

The abbreviations used in this volume follow the system laid down in the *British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography* user's guide, http://www.biab.ac.uk/biabuser.html

Notes for contributors

The Society welcomes articles about the architecture, archaeology and history of the historic (pre-1974) county of Cheshire. If you are interested in contributing, please contact the Editor at the following address:

School of Archaeology Classics and Egyptology The University of Liverpool 14 Abercromby Square Liverpool, L69 7WZ E-mail: ginamuskett@hotmail.com

For detailed guidance for contributors, as well as information on all other aspects of the Society,

see: http://www.chesterarchaeolsoc.org.uk

Designed and produced for the Society by aquarium graphic design ltd. +44 (0)1244 398004

Contents

List of illustrations		iv
List o	of tables	\
Obitu	ary His Honour Judge J. D. Seys-Llewellyn J. T. Driver	vi
I	The Late Prehistoric and Romano-British Settlement of the Mersey Basin A Study in Marginality M Nevell	1
II	Some unusual Roman antefixes from Chester <i>A Jones</i>	23
III	The Heronbridge Archaeological Research Project An Interim Report on the 2002 and 2003 Seasons of the Society's New Fieldwork Initiative D J P Mason	49
IV	Viking Settlement in the Wirral S. Matthews	107
Coun	cil and Officers for the Year 2002/2003	118
Index		119

Illustrations

- I.1 Romano-British Settlement sites in the southern half of North West England, 1st to 3rd century AD
- II.1 Inscribed and other antefixes from Holt
- II.2 Distribution plan of Group 1 antefixes
- II.3 Jupiter Ammon antefix from 25 Bridge Street 2001
- II.4 Lion's head antefix from Goss Street 1973
- II.5 Upper fragment of lion's head antefix from 25 Bridge Street 2001
- II.6 Distribution plan of Group 2 antefixes
- II.7 White lime wash covers the surface of the Jupiter Ammon antefix from Newgate/Pepper Street 1963–4
- II.8 Antefixes of the Sixteenth Legion Gallica from Novaesium (Neuss)
- II.9 Detail of upper fragment of lion antefix from Novaesium (Neuss)
- II.10 Detail of upper fragment of lion antefix from Novaesium (Neuss)
- II.11 Detail of stamp depicting the head of Silenus
- II.12 Stamps and masks from Holt
- III.1 Simple location map showing position of Heronbridge in relation to Chester.
- III.2 Map of Roman Chester and environs.
- III.3 Site plan showing location of earthwork and investigations prior to 2002.
- III.4 1930–31 excavations, footings of side-wall of Roman strip-building.
- III.5 1930–31 excavations, footings of Roman building incorporating re-used architectural fragments.
- III.6 Altar dedicated to the Mother Goddesses Ollototae.
- III.7 Post-Roman burials found 1930–31.
- III.8 Post-Roman burials found 1930-31.
- III.9 Section through post-Roman earthwork, SW corner Field 2 1930–33.
- III.10 Section through northern arm of post-Roman earthwork 1931.
- III.11 1946-53 excavations, plan of earliest Roman buildings.
- III.12 1946–53 excavations, plan of Hadrianic buildings and 'dock'.
- III.13 Section across stream-bed and 'dock'.
- III.14 Roman Heronbridge; stone buildings, Hadrianic and later.
- III.15 Royal Commission on Historical Monuments site survey 1985 with location of 2002 and 2003 trenches marked.
- III.16 Plan of Trench V 2003 showing Civil War features.
- III.17 View of Trench V 2003. Civil War features viewed from east.
- III.18 Trench IV 2002, view south-east showing partly excavated ditch under water with base of clay rampart beyond fronted by remains of stone revetment.
- III.19 Trench III, plan 2002.
- III.20 Trench III 2002, view west towards Eaton Road along line of ancient stream-bed. Mouth of inlet in foreground; bedrock to right, silt infill to left, modern field-drain running down centre.

- III.21 Trench III 2002, view east towards River Dee. Mouth of ancient inlet in foreground; silt infill to right, bedrock to left.
- III.22 Trench III 2002, view north along line of ancient river-cliff showing, at centre left, track leading down to side of inlet in foreground.
- III.23 Trench III 2002, north side of inlet showing various rock-cut features including, at centre top, two adult graves at edge of quay/promontory.
- III.24 Trench III 2002, rock-cut pits north side of inlet.
- III.25 Trench III 2002, view west of tip of promonotory at north side of inlet mouth.
- III.26 Trench III 2002, detail of rock-cut graves at edge of promontory.
- III.27 Trench III 2002, grave (23) showing fragments of sculptured slab as found.
- III.28 Trench III 2002, grave (23), largest fragment of slab decorated with 'funerary banquet' scene showing young girl resting on couch with protective hand of parent on shoulder.
- III.29 Trench III, plan as extended in 2003.
- III.30 Trench III 2003, view looking south-west along rock face of quay. Note 'recesses' and lower platform terminating in vertical edge bottom centre.
- III.31 Trench III 2003, view north along of rock face of quay.
- III.32 Trench III 2003, rock face of quay showing base of northernmost 'recess'.
- III.33 Plan showing restored hypothetical arrangement of mooring-posts.
- III.34 All fragments of 'funerary banquet' scene recovered in 2002. Joining pieces bottom right show curved leg of traditional three-legged table with, to right, legs of servant or additional legs of couch.
- III.35 Two fragments from panel/s of relief sculpture recovered in 2003.
- III.36 Fragment from top edge of sculptured panel with head of female figure.
- III.37 Fragment from lower part of sculptured panel decorated with female figure.
- III.38 Life-sized model of furniture (couch?) leg carved in sandstone.
- III.39 Map showing earthwork in relation to original course of river.
- III.40 Map showing maximum extent of river channel in the pre-Norman period.
- III.41 Simple diagrammatic plan showing location of inlet and quay in relation to road frontage buildings.

Tables

- I.1 Late Prehistoric and Romano-British sites in the Mersey Basin.
- II.1 Table 1: Group 1 antefixes from Chester: quantification of types
- II.2 Group 2 antefixes from Chester: quantification of types