Archaeologia Aeliana, 3 ser. IV. To face p. 205.

Plate II.



THE LION AND STAG.

VII.—CORSTOPITUM.

REPORT OF THE EXCAVATIONS IN 1907.

Edited by R. H. FORSTER, M.A., LL.B., with contributions by H. H. E. Craster, F. Haverfield, W. H. Knowles and A. Meek.¹

PREFACE.

The work done by the Northumberland County History Committee, and described in the Provisional Report of the Excavations in 1906,² sufficed to show that the site of Corstopitum possesses unusual interest, and that its complete uncovering is both possible and likely to yield rich historical fruit. Accordingly, as the County History Committee could not itself undertake so large a work, the Corbridge Excavation Committee, a body representing local interest and learning and also the whole field of Roman scholarship in England, was formed to take charge of and to carry on the excavations.

From the members of this Committee a smaller Executive Committee was selected, and under the superintendence of the latter body the excavations of 1907 have been carried on with satisfactory results. Special thanks are due from the committee, the subscribers, and all who care for the early history of our island, to Captain J. H. Cuthbert, D.S.O., the owner of the ground, who not only gave permission for the work to be done, but also undertook to bear the cost of any necessary compensation to the tenant for the use or deterioration of the land covered by the excavations.

¹ The sections to which no special authors' names are prefixed were supplied in their first draft by Mr. C. L. Woolley; but as he left England for Egypt in October, they owe their final form to Mr. R. H. Forster, and Mr. Woolley is not specifically responsible for them.

² Arch. Ael. 3 ser. 111, p. 161.

The work will be continued in the summer of 1908 on a section of the site adjoining the part last excavated during 1907. As this section includes a large part of the central quarter of the town, it is hoped that important results will be obtained.

I.--INTRODUCTION.

The excavations were begun on July 10th, under the superintendence of Mr. C. Leonard Woolley, who remained in charge of the work till September 18th, when he left Corbridge and was succeeded by Mr. R. H. Forster, who had acted as his assistant for some weeks previously. Mr. Forster stayed till October 12th, by which date the excavations for the year were completed, and the filling-in lasted till November 3rd. Professor Haverfield was also present during much of August and September, and very valuable assistance was given by Mr. W. H. Knowles, who, in addition to his work as honorary secretary, undertook the task of measuring up the buildings exposed, and has prepared all the plans, sections, and technical illustrations included in this report. Thanks are also due to Mr. H. H. E. Craster of All Souls College, Oxford, and Dr. G. F. Hill of the British Museum, who examined the coins; to Mr. G. L. Cheesman of New College, Oxford, who was present in July; to Professors Lebour and Meek of Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, who advised on geology and zoology; to Mr. J. G. N. Clift, who gave great assistance in the winding up of the work; and to Mr. W. H. St. John Hope and Mr. Mill Stephenson, whose advice on several intricate questions of planning has been of much value. The illustrations are taken from photographs by Mr. J. P. Gibson and Mr. The proofs of the report have been read by Professor Forster. Haverfield and Mr. Knowles, and sections have been contributed by Professor Haverfield (on the inscriptions), by Mr. Knowles (on the fountain and the architectural fragments, by Mr. Craster (on the coins), and by Professor Meek (on the animal remains).

GENERAL RESULTS OF THE YEAR'S WORK.

The area reserved for the past year's work consisted of about two acres on the slope of the hill adjoining the site where, in 1906, part of a dwelling-house was unearthed. The uncovering of this house was practically completed and other structures in the reserved area were examined. To the west of this area a part of the road leading to the bridge across the Tyne was traced, and a considerable amount of work was done in a field which lay to the north-east of the reserved area. This threefold distribution of work involved some expense and trouble in supervision; but it was inevitable, and it yielded useful data for determining the general plan of the town on its south-west side.

The general results of the year's work may be regarded as satisfactory. Real progress has been made in the great task of uncovering Roman CORSTOPITUM, and real light has been thrown on the hitherto unknown character of its streets and buildings: We know that it was not an ordinary fortress, but rather a town, penetrated, doubtless, by military elements, but laid out and built as a town. We know now, in addition, that its buildings were massive and important, and its ruins preserve the traces of its ancient state: they have been freely plundered in order to build churches and houses in Corbridge, Hexham, and doubtless elsewhere in the neighbourhood; but their foundations still remain for us to trace, and among them lie carved and inscribed stones, pottery, coins, and other small objects which, as this year's results demonstrate, may often possess real value as historical evidence.

The work in 1907 was undoubtedly more expensive in respect of labour than had been anticipated. With our complicated remains, it was impossible to 'infer' walls on the method very reasonably pursued at Housesteads, while the trenches, especially those on the slope and at the bridge road, were on the average considerably deeper than those of Silchester, and the débris to

be moved was full of massive blocks and more difficult to handle than the débris usually found on sites, such as Silchester, lying outside a stone country. In working on a heavy slope, the greatest difficulty is the disposal of the excavated earth, so that it may be replaced without waste of labour. In the coming season the work will be on flat ground, and it is hoped that better experience and more careful organization will bring about a substantial reduction in the larger items of expenditure.

The excavations can best be described in topographical order, from south-west to north-east, *i.e.* by commencing with the bridge road (section 11), passing on to the reserved area on the slope (111), and concluding with the remains on the hill top (IV). The inscriptions (v), the fountain and architectural fragments (v1), coins (v11), and other small objects (v111), are described separately in special sections at the end of the general account, while the final sections (IX and X) deal respectively with the pre-Roman remains found during the excavations and the animal remains.

II.--THE ROAD TO THE BRIDGE.

The line of the Roman bridge had been determined in 1906 by Mr. T. E. Forster,³ and found to lead straight to a point in the steep north bank of the road to Corbridge mill, where a number of large stones had been observed by Mr. Coulson in 1861, and had then been explained as the core of the north abutment. A cutting was made in the field above this bank, about ten feet from its edge, in the hope of finding the remains of the abutment, but without success in that respect. The large stones may once have formed part of the abutment, but they seem to have been put in their present position to strengthen the bank

³ See accounts in the Journal of the British Archaeological Association (new series), XII, 205; XIII, 125.

THE ROAD TO THE BRIDGE.

and to support the arable land above it. If any traces of the abutment still exist, they must be sought for under the lower part of the bank and immediately to the north of the road.

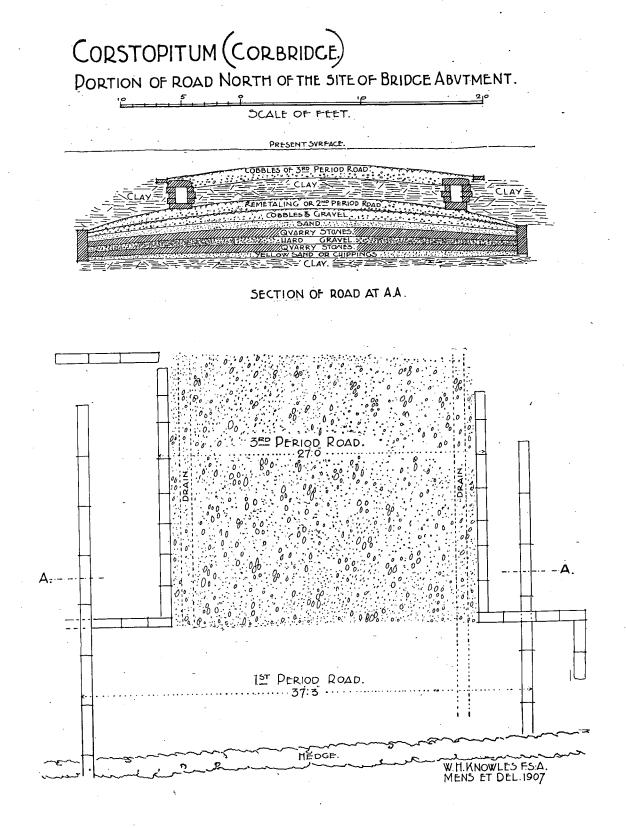
On the other hand, the cutting in the field laid bare the approach to the abutment, and disclosed levels of three distinct periods. The lowest and oldest road lay at a depth below the present surface varying from five feet in the centre to six feet six inches at the sides. It was of massive construction, and was edged at either side by a continuous line of kerb stones, placed longwise and standing on edge. These kerbs differed slightly in size, but were all very large. One stone measures three feet ten inches in length, two feet seven inches in height, and nine inches in thickness. These kerbs were all carefully squared, and the faces finished in 'rustic' fashion, with chiselled arrises. The fifth stone from the southern extremity of the existing line of kerbs had cut through it a rectangular hole, six inches high and seven wide, with a slight downward slope from the exterior towards the interior face, just above the level of the gravel bed on which the stone rests. On the east side the kerbs were not quite so deep, being only two feet in height, though one was five feet long. The average thickness of the east kerbs was nine inches.

The road itself measured thirty-five feet nine inches between the kerbs. Its surface, which was well preserved and extremely hard, consisted of a layer, a foot thick, of cobble stones of moderate size and gravel rammed tightly together. Below this was a layer of sand about six inches thick, and then eight or nine inches of rough quarry stones. Next came a bed, also about eight inches thick, of very hard yellow gravel, in which were occasional patches of lime, perhaps indicating an admixture of builder's material; below this was a second course of rough quarry stones, resting on a layer of a hard yellow sandy sub-

stance, which here forms a thin stratum over the clay subsoil, and is possibly formed of quarry chippings pressed into a compact mass by the superincumbent weight.⁴ The surface of the road had a moderate camber, and no gutter or drain of this period was found in position, though, owing to some disturbance of the surface near the east kerbs, it is impossible to say with certainty that none had ever existed.

On the outside of the western kerbstones, and fifteen inches below their top edge, a fresh level was found, consisting of a mixture of large river pebbles and unshaped quarry stone set in gravel, the whole mass resting on the thin layer of yellow sand and quarry chippings before mentioned. This level appeared to be artificial, in spite of its somewhat uneven surface, and various fragments of pottery were found upon it. It extended westwards for about forty-five feet from the outside of the western kerb. and was then found to slope rapidly down: and on a slanting cut being made through the hedge to the face of the bank at this point, a large deposit of river shingle was found piled against the slope, and reaching to within a short distance of the present surface level. It seems probable that this deposit is the result of a flood occurring in post-Roman times, when possibly the water level was raised by the fact that the bridge was in ruins and to some extent formed a dam across the stream. But it is not necessary to suppose that the flood arose to the full height indicated by the top of the deposit. If on this side of the river a large gravel-bed existed, dry under ordinary conditions, like the bed on the south side of the present river near the modern bridge, a violent flood. acting on loose shingle, would drive the pebbles up an inclined plane to a greater height than its own level.

⁴ These are the strata found at the point where the road was cut through. But it is possible that the two layers of quarry stones and the intervening gravel really represent one thick layer of any hard material that could be got.



The primary object of this artificial bed of stones and gravel seems to have been to pen the kerb stones, which, for all their size, were too thin to resist the pressure of the road without additional support. Any speculation as to the reason of its being carried so far westwards must be postponed until further evidence is obtained, particularly with regard to the manner in which it was finished on the face fronting the river. The investigation of this point was abandoned during the past season owing to the necessity of completing the work in the reserved area.

On the east side of the road, that is, on the side sheltered from the stream of the Tyne, the kerbs were penned by rough stones piled against them, the interstices being packed with gravel. This penning was about five feet in breadth.

On the west side the kerbs were followed right through the hedge and out to the face of the bank above the road to Corbridge mill, eight stones in all being exposed, while one stone was found out of position a foot or two farther to the south. Up to the point thus reached there was no alteration in the construction of the roadway. A search for traces of the abutment was also made somewhat nearer to the modern road, but as this bank lies outside the field, and work can be carried on there at any time, full investigation was postponed. The foundations of the abutment, if they still exist, must be quite fifteen feet below the surface at the point where the cut was made, and if much of the superstructure has disappeared, a continuance of the search might have involved very heavy labour at a time when men were urgently needed on other parts of the site.

A foot higher than the road just described lay the second road. This probably represents a remetalling rather than a reconstruction, as it is homogeneous throughout its thickness and the gravel of which it is composed rests immediately on the surface of the older road, with which it seems to have been conterminous.

THE ROMAN BRIDGE.

No trace of a separate kerb could be found, though the level ran above, and not down to the older kerbs. The actual road level could only be traced for a width of twenty-nine feet from the presumed western edge; beyond this point it, and in a less degree the older road, had been damaged by the insertion of drains at a later period.

The surface of the third and highest road lies about three feet above the surface of the first road. It is of inferior quality and consists of a layer, a foot thick, of mixed river pebbles and rough, flat quarry stones poorly bedded; beneath this is merely a clay and soil filling, a foot thick, resting on the second road level. The kerbs averaged two feet six inches in length, nine inches in width, and three inches in thickness; they were laid flat and merely marked the edge of the road, which was supported on each side by a bank of clay.

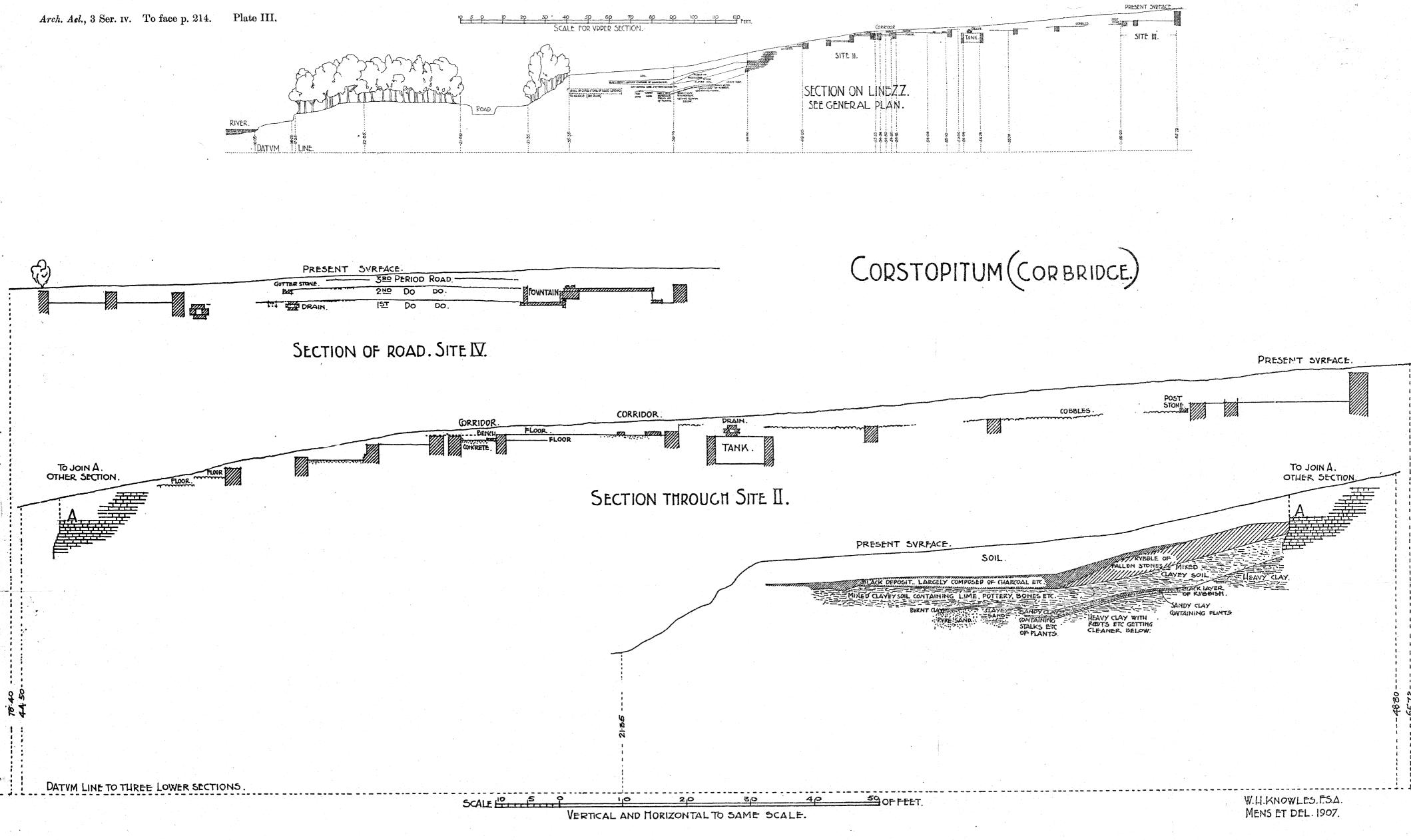
Towards the south, at a point which must have been close to the abutment, this road was about forty-three feet in width, its western edge being immediately over the west kerbs of the old road, while its eastern edge projected some feet to the east of the old line; but twelve feet from the hedge it was narrowed by a rectangular inset of eight feet on either side, the width being thus reduced to twenty-seven feet. Under either side of the narrow road, a little within the edge, ran a covered stone drain, the roofing stones of which were just below the level of the roadway: the eastern drain had a flagged bottom and stone sides of three courses, with a height of fifteen inches; the western was of similar size and construction, and the flagged bottom rested on the surface of the lower road.

Farther east than the eastern drain was a sewer, apparently belonging to the same period, which lay outside the limits of the narrower part of the road, but, where the widening above described occurs, passed under the part which projects beyond

the line of the older road: in the neighbourhood of this latter point, the sewer was built over immediately to the east of the kerbs of the first road, from which it was separated by about a foot of deposit, while below and against its east side were piled rough stones of considerable size; but on being traced northwards it was found to diverge slightly from the line of the kerbs, until there was an interval of a foot between the eastern face of the latter and the western side of the sewer. The sewer measured three feet six inches across the top, and was twelve inches high and fifteen inches wide internally; it was roughly constructed and was covered with vennel stones, laid crosswise, and in many cases upside down, which had clearly been pulled up from some older gutter. They were two feet in length.

In the sewer was found an illegible coin of the third century, and on the road surface a little pottery and a complete quern stone. A coin of Constantine II came, according to the workman who found it, from beneath the surface of this third road. This may, of course, have been dropped and worked its way down after the road was made. But it is not unlikely that this highest level belongs to a very late period in the Roman occupation. The inferiority of its construction points to a period of decadence, and the raising of the level is in itself evidence of a late date. Some finds made in the upper field (p. 246) seem to indicate that the town was abandoned for a number of years about or soon after the middle of the fourth century, and the third road may well belong to a period of restoration subsequent to A.D. 340.

Two cuttings were made across the road higher up the field, and gave its approximate direction up to a point about ninety yards to the north of the hedge, but it was not easy to determine the exact limits of the roadway, as the kerbs had



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BUILDINGS ON THE SLOPE OF THE HILL.

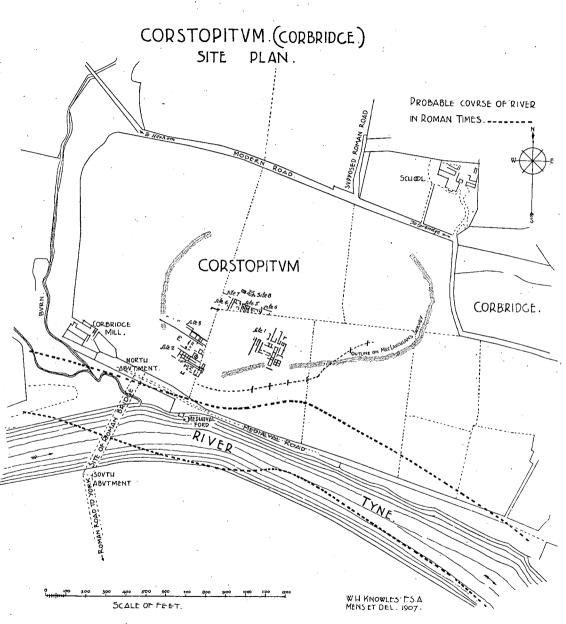
been removed. In the higher trench a few feet of stone gutter, which had not appeared in the neighbourhood of the bridge head, were found four feet within what seemed to be the western edge of the road; and a little to the east of what appeared to be the eastern edge in the lower trench were the remains of a wall, the two uppermost courses of which, in the short length exposed, each consisted of one large dressed stone, closely resembling the kerbs of the lower road near the hedge, but smaller in The road itself in these trenches was of much better size. construction than the third period road near the bridge head, and resembled the upper stratum of the earliest road at that point: it consisted of a laver, thirty-six feet wide and eighteen inches in thickness, of cobbles and gravel, so tightly rammed together that it was difficult to get the pick into them. In the lower trench, the western side of this layer was bounded by the foundations of a wall, which were followed to the north, till they made a right-angled return away from the road. Traces of buildings were found on the east side of the roadway also. But as these trenches were dug late in the season, it was decided to leave the excavation of the road in the neighbourhood of the town for another year.

III.—(1) SITE II.—BUILDINGS ON THE SLOPE OF THE HILL.

The first object of the excavations in the reserved area on the slope of the hill was to connect the work of 1907 with the results obtained in 1906, when part of a house had been exposed on the farther side of the hedge forming the eastern boundary of the 1907 reserved area, and proof had been obtained that the house extended to the west of the hedge. Consequently a start was made upon known walls. The whole of the house area to the west of the hedge was explored. To the east, where the work

of 1906 was left incomplete, the full extent of the building is not yet known, but even so enough has been discovered and planned to show that the building was one of great importance. On the plan attached to the 1906 report this was marked site II, and it has been decided to extend the name to the whole area occupied by this building.

The site presented great difficulties. In Roman times the house stood on the brow of a slope decidedly steeper than the slope of the present surface, and the consequent denudation, both by weather and by the plough, has brought about the almost complete destruction of the southernmost portion. Successive reconstructions have also complicated the problems to be solved. Evidently the site was first occupied by a building of which only two or three disconnected foundations remain. These do not line with the walls or foundations of the later house, but make a slight north-easterly angle with them, and are indicated on the plan by vertical dotted lines. At a later period the site was occupied by a house which underwent various alterations, and seems to have been enlarged in the process; but which was modified rather than radically changed in general plan. \mathbf{It} seems to have consisted in the second period of a series of small chambers, running east and west, and returned towards the south at both ends. so as to enclose three sides of an oblong space; the corridor of this earlier period ran along, the north side of this series of chambers. In the third period the plan was modified by the construction of an additional corridor on the south side of the series of chambers and the west and east side of the returns; at a still later date the central part of this corridor was widened to the south, some of the rooms were rearranged, and the enclosed space between the returns was divided into three open courtyards: another enclosure, probably an open court, and the latrines of the house, adjoin the building on the west



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and probably belong to one of the later periods. The walls generally had been destroyed down to the floor level, where this remained, or below it, so that for the most part it was necessary to make the plans from foundations only, and in some cases these foundations could only be traced by the clay and cobbles which formed their lowest level.

1.—The Rooms.

A.—Only the western portion of the space marked thus on the plan lay within the reserved area: it is possible that it comprises two chambers, but there was no trace of any dividing wall. Only very slight traces existed of the foundations of the wall dividing this room from the north corridor, and no remains of flooring were discovered.

B.—In this room there were two floor levels of opus signinum, the lower being originally much the better in quality and now verv well preserved: the upper was soft, but had been finished off along the walls, except on the west, with a rounded fillet. Between the floor levels was found a coin of Carausius (A.D. 287-293) in good, sharp condition, which is important as perhaps dating the upper floor. Along the east side of the room the edge of the lower floor rested on the top of a wall, of which three courses of good masonry remained. The edges of this and the upper floor had no wall to contain them, but were sharply finished off in a straight line, showing that they had once abutted against a wall now destroyed-indeed, the impression of the masonry was to be seen on the rough plaster of the edges of the floors. Below this site of the destroyed wall were heavy clay foundations, two feet thick, and lying on the clay was a considerable quantity of wall plaster. At one point, half-way across the room, there was a rectangular set back in the floor edge, as if to receive an upright beam: this might be taken to indicate

BUILDINGS ON THE SLOPE OF THE HILL.

that the wall containing these floors was of half-timbered construction, but the impression of masonry on the plaster, already noted, renders it more probable that a wall of the ordinary kind existed here, but had been entirely removed. In the latest period this and the adjacent room to the west seem to have been thrown into one.

C.—In this room also there was an upper floor level of poor quality, with a rounded fillet along the walls, except on the east and a lower floor which was better made and better preserved. The east wall was of rubble only, with a plaster facing; the north wall was wholly destroyed, and of the west wall only a few stones remained *in situ*, though its course was clearly marked by the floor edging. The south wall was supported by the pillars of the hypocaust (P): below the upper floor level it was fairly well preserved, but had been completely rased down to that point.

D.—This was a narrow space, only eight feet six inches in width. It appeared to have had a floor, with a rounded fillet, corresponding to the upper floor of the adjoining chamber : below this, at a depth of four feet seven inches from the surface, the whole area was covered with a layer of burnt wood, containing large pieces of planking which could be picked out unbroken. This layer was several inches thick, and over it was a thin bed of burnt clay. At the north end of the area, and stretching beyond it into the corridor, were four parallel lines of masonry, running east and west: these were only one course high, of very roughly shaped stones laid in irregular lines. The width of the area and the presence of burnt planking seem to indicate that, at any rate at one period, there was here a stairway to an upper storey, and the position is a not unusual one in a Roman house.

E.—One floor level only was traced in this room: it was in good preservation, as were the rounded fillets along the east

and west walls. Of the east wall very little was left: the west wall had been rased to the floor level, but below this was of good masonry.

F.—In this room the concrete of the floor had been almost entirely destroyed. Below were what appeared to be the remains of a hypocaust—blocks of masonry irregularly placed, with very large flags lying upon and across some of them, and bearing in one case a layer of concrete. There were, however, no signs of heat on any of the blocks and no traces of burnt matter between them. Close to the north wall stood two stones with post holes pierced completely through them.

The wall running along the south of this room and of D and E is of considerable breadth; it does not lie parallel to the lines of the house, but at a slight angle with them, and seems to have belonged originally to the building of the earliest period, to which reference has been made. It has been deliberately rased, and presents a level top considerably lower than the present height of the walls running north and south against it; the latter are not bonded into, but merely abut against it, and are interrupted for the space of its breadth. The general lines of the house make it probable that the south wall of these rooms did run in continuation of the north wall of the corridor, and over the top of the skew wall, but no trace of such an upper wall remains.

G.—This was a large room, looking along the south corridor and stretching to the south of it. It was provided with a hypocaust of poor construction: five square blocks of rough masonry remained on the east side, two of them resting on the foundations of an earlier wall. In the south-west corner was a rudely altar-shaped stone, standing on a heap of disused flags and roofing slabs.

BUILDINGS ON THE SLOPE OF THE HILL.

Abutting against the outside of the west wall of this room was a semi-apsidal foundation of very poor quality and of a later date than the adjoining wall. If it had originally been a complete apse, the southern half has entirely disappeared. The space enclosed was rudely flagged, and the wall of the room continued across part of the arc at a higher level than the

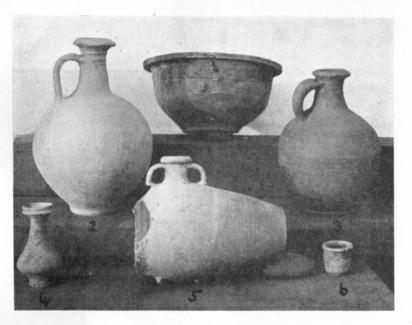


FIG. 1.

flagging, but was broken away just to the north of the point where the flagging terminated. In the opinion of Mr. Knowles, this curved foundation would not be of sufficient strength to carry any superstructure of masonry.

The hypocaust of this room was found full of rubbish, sand, and clay, with many fragments of coloured wall-plaster, decorated

with a Vandyke pattern in pale pink, ochre, and crimson. Under the west wall in the south-west corner were found in fragments the cooking pot and the white jug illustrated in fig. 1, nos. 1 and 2. A large quantity of bones was found in this room and also in F.

H.—Of this room nothing remained except the block of masonry at the north-east corner, and a sufficient amount of clay and cobble foundations to indicate its outline.

The chaotic condition in which the southern part of the house site was found makes it impossible to determine with any certainty the position of the western return of the south corridor. It is possible that, at any rate up to a certain period, the spaces marked I and J formed this return: it is also possible that in the latest period, and perhaps before, the corridor occupied the space marked O. The evidence is so scanty, most of the walls having been traced only by clay and cobble foundations, that I and J might be dealt with either in this or in the following section.

I.—In this room part of a flue containing soot was found, but it was impossible to trace any connexion between it and the hypocausts of the adjacent rooms. The floor was of concrete, and at its north end, where alone it was preserved, rested on a heavy bed of clay, through which the flue passed. The east wall was only preserved at its north end: south of this there was only a line of clay and cobble foundation extending to the southeast corner of J, where it showed a return to the west.

J.—This room had a hypocaust, connected with that of G by an opening in the north-west corner: in this corner were the lower parts of three hypocaust pillars of rough masonry, precisely similar to those of G. Of the floor nothing remained.

K.—This room was excavated in 1906, and is marked a on the plan attached to the report for that year. Three levels of

BUILDINGS ON THE SLOPE OF THE HILL.

opus signinum flooring were found, the uppermost resting directly on the second, the third, which is the best in quality, being fourteen inches lower: beneath this were burnt matter, lime, and fragments of opus signinum from a former building. The whole north wall of the room was jacketed with box-tiles, contiguous throughout, and each communicating by apertures in the sides with the adjacent tiles on either hand. The tiles had been fastened to the wall by T-shaped clamps, and the lowest row was bedded in between the wall and the floor above a flue which ran the full width of the room, passed through the east wall and turned north, communicating with what appeared to be the remains of a hypocaust on the east side of M. The box-tiles were coated in front with plaster which, like that of the other walls, had been coloured, five coats of paint having been applied at different times, always with a fresh ground of fine plaster over the old face. The design could not be restored, but in the last stage there had been a granite-like marbling in dull red and blue for the dado, above this apparently a narrow frieze of straight lines and a Vandyke pattern in dark blue on white, and above this again imitations of various marbles in many colours. In the second layer the dado had an orange ground with designs in creamy white, while above yellow and pale pink prevailed.

Of L, M, and N, which also formed part of the site excavated in 1906, it is difficult to give any clear account, until at some future time an examination is made of the portions of the building immediately adjacent.

2.---The Corridors.

O.—As already stated, this space may at some period have formed the western return of the central corridor, but unfortunately it had suffered more than any other part of the building.

The foundations of the east wall remain at its south end, and terminate beyond the line of the south wall in what appears to be a buttress. Farther to the north were faint traces of clay and cobble foundations only. The space was filled with wreckage containing a large amount of wall plaster.

P.—This section of the corridor was occupied by a small pillared hypocaust, of better construction than those already noticed: it appears to have been inserted at a period subsequent to the building of the house substantially on its present plan, and the manner in which the work was carried out is not free from faults of construction (fig. 2). The area had been excavated to a depth of about three feet, but instead of the pit so formed being lined with masonry, a row of nine pilae had been built against either side, and the intervening spaces roughly filled in with clay and pebbles, on which the signs of heat were as distinct as on the *pilae* themselves: the floor had been supported on these pilae and on two rows of similar pilae down the centre. The pilae were tall and slender in shape, built of small square stones, and based in four cases on large tiles The furnace and stokehole of the hypocaust had or flat bricks. been at the west end, where the foundations of two blocks of masonry jutted out from the sides, leaving a flue or passage slightly wider than the space between the central rows of pilae: a square stone pillar base of small size was found close to this passage. Of the furnace nothing was left except some rough footings on the south: the space which it seems to have occupied was full of sand, and below this was a heavy line of burnt earth The foundations of the wall to the west were and rubbish. two feet above the floor level of the hypocaust, and under them was found unbroken the rough earthenware jug shown on fig. 1, no. 3.

This hypocaust was found full of waste stones and rubbish,

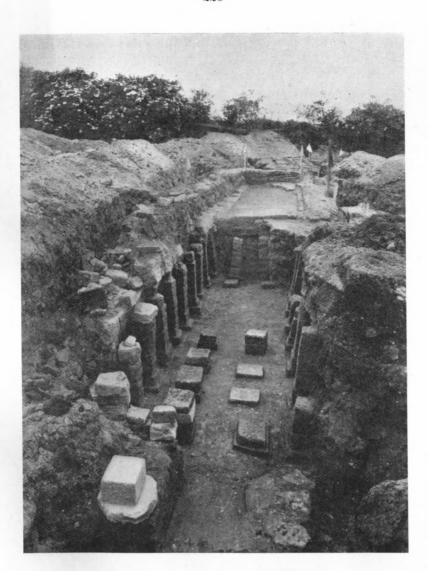


FIG. 2. - SITE II. HYPOCAUST UNDER CORRIDOR.

over which two distinct floors could be traced: the lower of these had been on a level with the well-preserved corridor floor to the east (Q); the other was very ill-preserved, and belonged to the latest period of the house, when the east and west portion of the corridor was widened to the south, the former south wall being cut down and the new floor carried over it to a new south wall, erected about a foot outside the other. The north wall and the original south wall of this section of the corridor had rested, after the insertion of the hypocaust, partly on the external rows of *pilae*, and partly on clay and cobble foundations, and the pressure has caused the *pilae* on either side to take an outward slant. Of the later south wall, built when the corridor was widened, there was practically no trace in this section, except that the clay and cobble foundation was of sufficient width to carry both walls.

Q.-The latest floor level in this section, which extended over the old south wall to the later wall of the widened corridor, and corresponded in level with the upper floors of the chamber (B) on the north, had almost disappeared, no traces of it remaining except on top of the older wall. Beneath it, however, the floor of the corridor in its unenlarged state was particularly well preserved (fig. 2). It was of good red opus signinum, the tile used being somewhat coarsely broken: at the ends and along the south side a quarter-round fillet of finer cement had been laid above it, after the colouring of the wall plaster had been carried down to the floor level. Along the north wall ran a low stone foundation. probably for a bench. The walls had been so thoroughly destroyed that no trace could be found of any doorway opening into the chamber (B) on the north of the court (P) on the south; but at the west end the stone sill or the door communicating with the next section of the corridor (P) was found in situ, and is clearly shown in fig. 2. It was eighteen

BUILDINGS ON THE SLOPE OF THE HILL.

inches wide and five inches thick; at the ends were grooves, three and a half inches wide, to receive the stone jambs, leaving a passage three feet six inches in breadth, while just inside the grooves, on the east edge of the stone, were two pivot holes for folding doors.

R.—This section, like P and Q, had been widened to the south, the old south wall being rased so far as was necessary to allow the new floor to pass over it: both the earlier and later floors were of *opus signinum* of poor quality. Along the centre of this section, under the lower floor, ran a wall, eighteen inches from the north wall of the corridor and forming a slight angle with it: it was not bonded into the cross wall dividing Q and **R**, and its foundations were two feet ten inches below the surface, as against four feet in the case of the north wall. It is, however, parallel with the walls of the north corridor, and presumably contemporary with them. Apparently it represents the south wall of the central portion of the house before the construction of the south corridor.

S.—The eastern return of the south corridor is formed by the space marked b on the plan facing p. 174 of the 1906 report.¹ It appears to be of earlier date than the east and west portion, and may at an earlier period have been continued northwards to join the north corridor.

The remains of the north corridor were scanty and confused. Its west end was closed by a wall, against which stood a large squared stone with a post hole. The foundations of the north wall were of considerable breadth and good construction, but this thick wall had been rased, and on its north edge a thin wall had been built for a distance of thirteen feet from the west end, east of which point it was broken away: this made a shallow recess, with a flat, bench-like projection, the middle of which

¹ Arch. Ael. 3 ser. III.

was blocked by a single large stone, rising to the present height of the thin north wall. Beyond the point mentioned, a thin wall again appeared, built on the southern edge of the older foundation: this thin wall was found to extend for some distance eastwards, but opposite room C the thick base and superimposed thin wall were replaced by two parallel walls, divided by a space of about six inches; but as at a point still farther to the east traces were found of a floor extending under the more southerly of these two walls, the latter may have been merely a stone bench. Possibly this corridor was largely open on this side, at any rate after the construction of the south corridor; and the quantity of roofing slabs found just outside and on the edge of the north wall suggests that it was a low structure, with a pentice roof sloping up to the north wall of the adjacent chambers.

3.—The Courts.

V.—This area had suffered much from the plough. It had been slightly diminished when the central corridor was widened, and traces of two floor levels, the lower two feet below the upper, could be made out at the north end. Of the walls very little was left: a portion of the east wall, which formed the west wall of the eastern return of the central corridor, was standing above the foundations; and the voussoirs discovered in 1906 (see report for that year and fig. 4)² had been built into the south wall near the south-east corner. In the north-west corner was found a stone-built channel, running roughly south-east, but only a few feet of it remained.

U.—The walls of this court survived only in the southwest and north-west corners: in the former quarter the south wall is not bonded into the west, but stops short, leaving a narrow gully about four inches wide; the west wall projects

² Arch. Ael. 3 ser. 111, p. 176.

BUILDINGS ON THE SLOPE OF THE HILL.

slightly beyond the outer face of the south wall, and probably formed a buttress. In the north-east corner there were remains of two floor levels, about nine inches apart, the upper floor corresponding with the earlier floor of the adjacent corridor. Below the upper and upon the lower floor was found a stone drain, which extended from the south wall of the widened corridor. ran for a short distance alongside the east wall of the court, and then curved towards the west, dropped below the level of the lower floor, and passed through the foundation of a wall lying beneath the centre of the court: to the west of this wall was a pavement of opus signinum, on reaching which the drain came to an end. This pavement was bounded on the north by a wall running at right angles to the wall already mentioned and pierced by two converging drains: the more easterly of these was traced for about three feet beyond the north side of the wall: the other could not be traced beyond the wall. On the south side of the pavement the foundations of another enclosing wall were traceable, but had been badly broken up.

T.—This court, which lies to the south of the hypocaust of the central corridor, was so completely broken up and filled with wreckage from the house that little can be said of its arrangement. The remains of the west wall, which forms the east wall of K, have already been described. At right angles to the west wall, and separated from it by a space of four feet, were the remains of a heavy wall, showing foundation offsets on its south face, which was about a foot to the north of the south face of the south wall of H, J, and K, and about five feet to the north of the south face of the south wall of V and U. Eight feet north of this was the north face of a wall, showing no face to the south, from which a return wall, two feet thick and showing east and west faces, ran north, parallel to and two feet distant from the east wall of the court, and after six feet was

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broken away. Apparently only the south half of this eightfoot foundation was occupied by an actual wall, four feet in thickness, along the north side of which the narrow passagelike space adjoining the east wall was continued after making a right-angled turn. It is possible that the fragments of wall above described, which fill the interior angle of this turn, are the remains of a rectangular building occupying the centre of the court, but the remainder of the area was so completely broken up that no further traces of such a structure could be found.

4.—The South Terrace.

The four-foot space between the west and south walls of T appears to have been a doorway or opening leading to a walk or terrace between the south front of the house and the brow of the steep slope above the flat ground beside the river. Immediately in front of court T was a coarse pavement of cobbles set in lime, which sloped at a moderate angle to the south for about eleven feet: on the west this pavement was bounded by a gutter formed of flat stones, which appeared to begin close to the buttress-like termination of the west wall of Q, and ran to the brink of the slope in a direction tending slightly more to the west than the line of that wall. On the south the pavement, which at this point was at the modern surface level. • was broken away, but two feet beyond and a foot lower down was a cobbled pavement, which continued the slope southwards till it came to a stone kerb at a distance of about twenty feet from the south wall of T. This kerb was in line with the kerb of a cobbled path found in front of the south wall of the house close to the hedge, and it appears probable that this path formed a terrace walk along a considerable part of the south front,



FIG. 3.-SITE II. BASE IN FRONT OF SOUTH TERRACE.

A little to the south of this kerb, and in front of court T, a curious feature of the south front was discovered in the course of cutting a deep trench northwards from the southern limit of the field: this was a three-sided base or stepped foundation, projecting from the steep slope immediately to the south of the cobbled walk. The front of this base (fig. 3) rested on the flat ground at the foot of the slope, and measured nineteen feet at the foundation course and eighteen feet above: the three lowest courses were set flush, the next six courses were stepped back successively, and above these the three remaining courses were again set flush, the top of the highest being three feet three inches below the surface. At the sides, above three flush courses, were three courses stepped back, the remaining courses rising in a perpendicular line: the slope, against which the base was built, rose sharply almost from the line of the front of the masonry, and the foundations of the east and west walls mounted it by a series of converse steps, rising a course with every stone's length; of the east wall fourteen feet remained, and of the west about eleven. The facing stones were small, averaging from eight to twelve inches in length and five to six in breadth : the construction was good and regular, but the stones were laid dry, without mortar or any binding material, and the built facing was only one stone thick. Behind it were large unshaped stones, roughly put in without lime, giving a total thickness of five to six feet along the front, and four to five at the sides; behind this again was artificial earth filling, containing burnt rubbish and fragments of opus signinum. There was no evidence of any cross wall on the north side.

It is not impossible that this base may have supported some kind of light superstructure, but the only evidence pointing in that direction is the fact that from the foot of the base there extended for a distance of thirty-five feet a mass of fallen stones

THE LATRINES.

and plaster, which immediately in front of the base was two feet eight inches thick: the débris included numerous fragments of coloured plaster, the ornamentation, as in the case of fragments found elsewhere on the site, being simple marbling of all sorts, or plain lines of colour dividing the surface into panels, but nothing in the nature of figure or floral work. On the other hand it is not impossible that this débris may have been swept down from the house itself, and the base may have supported a terrace or 'bellavista' projecting from the cobbled path.

It will be noticed that the front of the base lines approximated with the foundations which have been described as belonging to the period preceding the existing house: on the other hand its foundations on the south rest on a considerable artificial deposit, which may, however, have been placed there purposely, in order to strengthen what was perhaps a marshy foundation.

5.—The Latrines.

Outside the house proper, on the west side, were the scanty remains of walls enclosing what appeared to be a long court, in the south part of which no floor or trace of cross walls could be found. Towards the north, however, adjoining the west wall of the north corridor was a small walled area, bounded on the south by a thick wall built up against but not bonded into the west wall of the house, and on the west by a continuation of the thin west wall of the court already mentioned. The north wall lined with the north wall of the north 'corridor, but was of later date and had been broken away about eight feet from the north-west angle of the house: it continued westwards beyond the west wall of the area in question, and then disappeared.

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The enclosed area measured fourteen feet by twelve. Along the north and west walls ran a deep channel or drain, with a flagged bottom and sides of good masonry five courses high, the outer side being built up against the enclosing walls, while the inner served to support a raised flagged floor which seemed only to have occupied the west part of the area, and on the east broke away irregularly, giving place to a lower floor level of gravel mixed with a little lime. The channel, which was just a foot wide, came in near the north-east corner, where it and a portion of the north wall had disappeared, and curved westwards, following the wall: on reaching the north-west corner, it turned with an easy curve to the south, and just before reaching the south-west corner went out at a slightly obtuse angle under the wall, beyond which point it could not be traced.

It is clear that in this annexe we have the latrines belonging to the house. The water for flushing was derived partly from a series of converging drains which brought the surface water from the open court on the north of the house site, and partly from a conduit which was traced right across the field to the eastern hedge: these drains united a few feet to the north-east of the point at which the channel is broken away, but their connexion with it may safely be assumed. The conduit, at any rate, belongs to a late period, but the other drains may possibly be of earlier date, as one of them had been purposely blocked up.

6.—The North Court and Cistern.

Opposite room B the north wall of the north corridor took a return to the north, and a corresponding wall ran parallel with it from a point opposite the middle of room C. Eastward of the latter wall and adjoining the north wall of the north

THE NORTH COURT AND CISTERN.

corridor lay a court which presented some extremely puzzling The highest level consisted of a thin floor of rough features. white concrete, stretching from the west wall of the court eastwards, but owing to its inferior quality it was not possible to determine its extent in this direction. On this floor were found a square altar base and a round pillar base (fig. 22, p. 280), the former apparently in its original position. Immediately under this, and apparently contemporary with it, was the conduit already mentioned in connexion with the latrines. About a foot below the upper floor was another floor of opus signinum, much rotted, which was surrounded on three sides by a gutter consisting of a flagged bottom with a roll moulding of opus signinum on each side: this gutter ran (1) along the west wall, (2) parallel with the south wall, at a distance of eighteen feet from it (presumably this section was at the foot of a destroyed north wall), and (3) apparently along the south wall (i.e., the north wall of the north corridor) also. This lower floor, and perhaps the north and south gutters, seem to have extended to the east of the return opposite room B; but here again the ground had been much broken up, and the eastern limit could not be determined. The west wall and the gutter beside it had been cut away to give passage to the conduit.

In the central portion of the court, was discovered a tank or cistern, measuring internally twelve feet long by eight feet wide, its bottom being seven feet four inches below the present surface. The masonry of its sides was fifteen inches thick, of rough workmanship, and built of rough, flattish stones, one and a half to four and a half inches thick and five to twelve inches long, loosely set in very muddy mortar: outside, the walls were backed by clay about a foot thick; inside they were coated with a two-inch layer of *opus signinum*, extremely fine in quality and with a very smooth surface. On the floor, against the

middle of the west wall, a large flagstone was let into the cement, forming a raised base two inches high, twenty-seven inches by twenty-two in area, the shorter side being against the wall: the cement had been brought up above the edges of the stone.

The cement of the floor was rather coarser than that of the sides, and three inches thick; below it was a seven-inch foundation layer of fairly large pebbles set in lime, then three and a half inches of sand, then nine inches of clayey soil containing a good deal of lime and charcoal rubbish, below which, resting on the clean sand was a layer, six inches thick, of burnt earth and reddened stones. In the south-east corner of the cistern, level with the floor, a stone pierced with a circular hole one and a half inches in diameter was let into the south side: from this hole a terra cotta pipe ran through the wall in a southeasterly direction, emptying into a flagged stone conduit, twelve inches high and sixteen inches wide, well built of squared stones and heavily coated with lime on the outside: close to the outlet of the pipe it was almost entirely filled with oyster shells. The conduit, after running in a south-easterly direction for sixteen feet, met the foundations of a wall of the first period, and turning more directly east ran to the hedge.

With regard to the date of the cistern, the evidence, though not very clear, seems to point to a comparatively early period. The longer axis is approximately parallel with the foundations of what has been described as the first period, though it is also very nearly parallel with the main foundation of the north wall of the north corridor, which seems to belong to the second period. The evidence afforded by the deposits under the floor of the cistern has already been stated, and the condition in which it was discovered negatives a late date. At some period the cistern had fallen into disuse: it had been filled in with stones and rubbish, and the return of the north wall of the

SCULPTURE OF LION AND STAG.

north corridor, opposite room B, had been carried across it. The lowest course of this wall was five feet six inches below the surface: between this and the floor of the cistern were twentytwo inches of stone rubble, piled carelessly to form a foundation. Amongst the rubble was a shaped coping stone eighteen inches long, a section of which is shown on fig. 29; p. 281, and in the south-east corner another piece, three feet seven inches long and showing the same section, was discovered. Both pieces lay longitudinally north and south. As the floor of the cistern was cleared westwards, another piece of much greater importance was found, and proved to be a sculptured group, representing a lion and a stag. The group was lying flat and had been broken in two, the lower part, consisting of the stag, with the coping stone (of the same section as those already referred to) on which it is carved, being to the west, and the lion in close proximity on the east. The legs of the lion were cleanly fractured and fitted well together, nothing being missing except a chip from the right hind leg and tail. The group measures three feet in height and three in length: the piece of coping stone to which it belongs is four feet one inch long, the total length of coping discovered being nine feet two inches.

The lion is represented standing on the back of his victim: one fore-paw rests on the right antler, crushing it down against the stag's shoulder, while the talons of the other are tearing at the forehead and left eye. The lion's head is turned towards the spectator: the mouth is wide open, and the lips are drawn back so as to bare the teeth on either side and throw the heavy jowl into prominence. There are wrinkles across the nose and up the forehead, and deep puckers round the staring human eyes; the sculptor, apparently, has meant to suggest that the beast has turned half round to face some sudden intruder. Beneath his weight the stag lies crushed and helpless, its legs

doubled beneath it, its body pressed against the stone, its head strained forward and flattened beneath the lion's claws, while the closed eye and the tongue lolling from the corner of the mouth indicate complete exhaustion.

Clumsv and heavy as the work is, the effort to portray the death agony of the fallen animal shows a certain sympathy with nature and a truth of observation which, in spite of the faults of technique, raise this piece above most of the known examples of Roman-provincial sculpture. In the lion, too, there is a distinct sense of weight and power: the muscles of the hindquarters and of the feet are summarily but vigorously rendered; the turn of the head beneath its heavy mane is effective, and the balance of the body is lively and good. But the sculptor has not felt nearly so much at home with this as with the other figure. Apart from such technical difficulties as made him wrap the tail round the hind leg and unnaturally distend the mouth. in order to adapt it to serve as a fountain, his conception of a lion's head was clearly derived from art and not from nature. The upper part of the face is grotesquely human: the eves in particular are oval and pointed, with sharply cut lids and overhanging brows, and their expression is accentuated by the triangular wrinkles at the root of the nose and by the heavy bridge of the cheek below the eye socket: the pupil is rendered by a deep circular hole in the eyeball.

The curiously conventional character thus given to the lion contrasts very strongly with the attempted realism of the stag; at the same time the figure, by being stylised, does not lose its force. Examples of free sculpture are not common on Romano-British sites in the North, but a comparison between this group and other specimens that have been found will show the difference to be considerable. Most of the latter class are local repetitions of well known types—Mithraic Dadouchi, small

SCULPTURE OF LION AND STAG.

Cupids, figures of Mercury, and the like—all fairly mechanical copies and remarkable chiefly for the degree of their decadence from the original type. Even the best, such a figure as that of 'Cybele' in the Chesters museum, for all its fine workmanship and delicacy in detail, is an illustration of this, when regarded as a whole. It is obviously a repetition, its drapery is cold and meaningless, and the bull on which the goddess stands is slurred almost beyond recognition. The Corbridge group may be ruder in workmanship, or clumsier in design, but it has originality and individual expression. Viewed absolutely, it is far from being a work of fine art. Yet as a document bearing on the history of Roman civilization in Britain, it is of first rate interest and importance.⁵

As to the date of the work, it is difficult to get evidence from comparison with other dated sculpture, but the conditions under which it was buried seem provisionally to assign it to the middle of the second century.

The group, which is cut from a grit exactly similar to the best quality grit obtained from the High Level quarry on Corbridge fell, is sculptured in the round, but it was not meant to be seen from behind, the work at the back being sketchy and unfinished; it must therefore have stood against a wall or some kind of screen. The long stone, which forms its base, was evidently the coping of a wall or balustrade; and the figures are most effective when they are placed on a level with the eve or above the line of sight.

It has been noticed that the lion's mouth has been adapted to serve as a fountain: for this purpose a round hole has been cut completely through the stone at the back of the mouth, and a groove cut in the neck of the stag shows the line of a

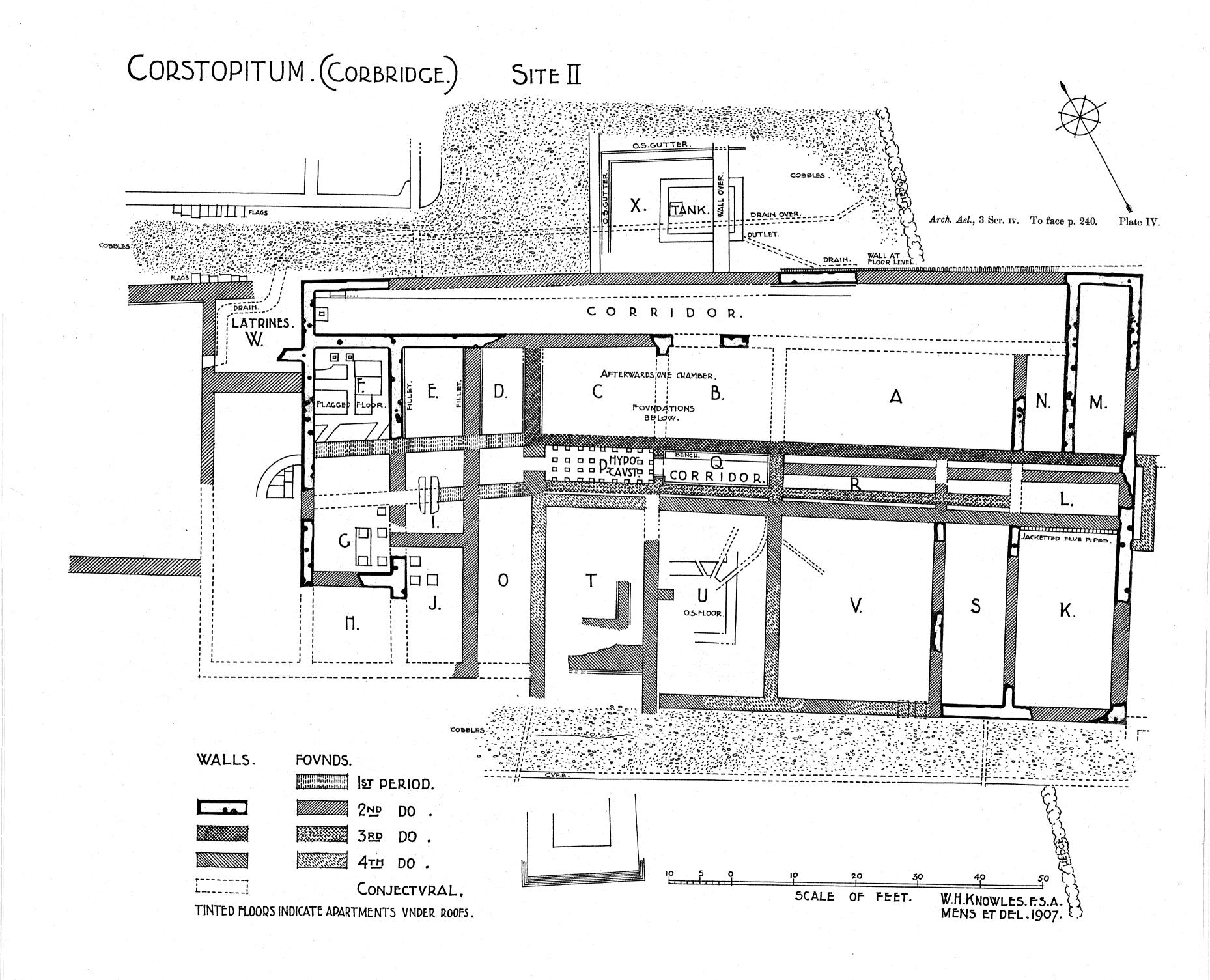
⁵ The piece will doubtless evoke further discussion from competent archaeologists, and the preceding paragraphs must be taken only as a 'first criticism.'

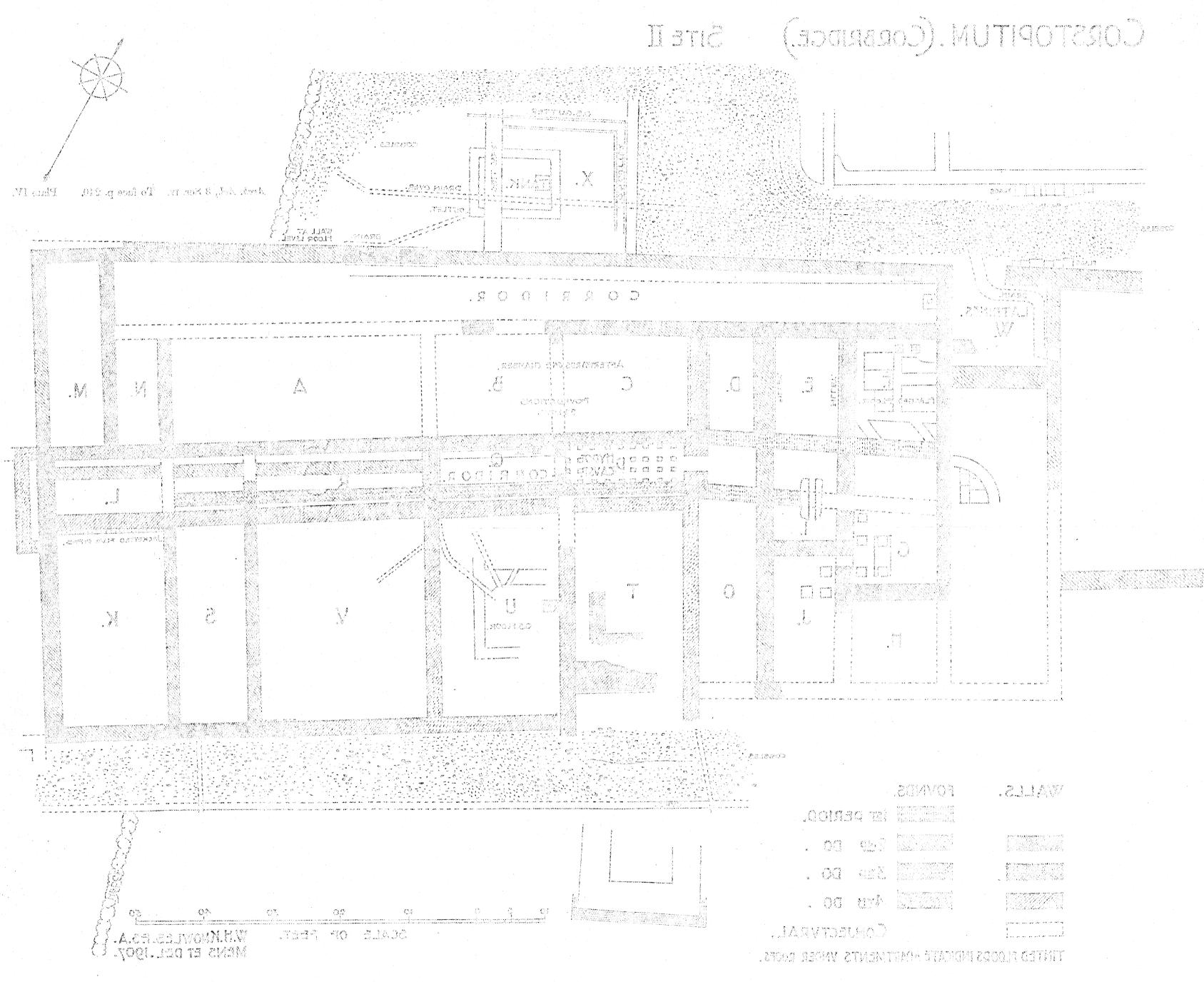
leaden pipe, which presumably passed behind the lion's leg and into his mouth, from which the water was discharged. Such being the purpose of the group, it is natural to connect it with the cistern in which it was found, and the position which it and the other pieces of coping occupied when unearthed seems to indicate that they were pushed over into the cistern from the west end. It is possible that the jet of water issuing from the lion's mouth might be caught by a raised basin which in turn would overflow into the cistern; and the flagstone on the floor, at the west end, may have had the support for such a basin built upon it.

(2) THE AREA NORTH OF SITE II.

Between the north side of the house site and the south side of a range of buildings, running east and west, with a terrace walk or raised pathway in front of them, was an area, about twenty-seven yards in breadth, where the remains discovered were in great confusion.

In the south-west quarter, between the north wall of the latrines of the house and a parallel wall to the north, was a cobble pavement, bordered on the north and south by flagging: this extended for a few yards towards the west and then was broken away; on the east it was broken away at the point where the drain which flushed the latrines had been destroyed. From the wall north of this roadway three parallel lines of what appeared to be foundations ran northwards. The western line, which was heavy but very ruinous, seemed to be the foundation of a wall, but only at the north end, where two stepped courses of masonry remained, was there anything more than a rough foundation course of varying width. The two lines to the east, which lay about eighteen inches apart, were more regular in width but slighter in construction, that on the east being simply





AREA NORTH OF SITE II.

composed of dry stones without lime; the other was narrower and consisted of stones with a slight binding of clay. The space between them was in places filled with burnt earth and charcoal, and appeared to have formed a rough drain, which at the point where the enclosing lines terminated discharged into a stone conduit, the latter running at right angles to and under the drains that flushed the latrines, till it came to an end against the north wall of the north corridor.

West of these lines were the remains of a small square building (block A), of which only the north, west, and south sides were left: it had been divided into two compartments, but apart from the fact that the inside face of the walls was plastered, it possessed no feature of interest.

Block B, on the east of this area, lines with the oldest foundations in site II. Nothing remained of it but the walls outlining one chamber, and fragments showing that there had been another chamber on the west side. The building had been destroyed at an early date, and a concrete floor, of which traces were found on the south side of the south wall, had been carried over the top of the existing foundations. To the north of the same wall, and at a higher level than the concrete floor, was a pavement of small cobbles, which covered the whole of the eastern half of the area with the exception of a few yards along the north side: above this, but covering only the southern half, was a later pavement of larger cobbles, about two feet higher than the lower pavement at the north edge and sloping southwards till at the southern edge the two levels coalesced.

Along the north edge of this area ran a cobbled road, which can be more conveniently described in connexion with the range of buildings lying immediately to the north of it; these have been named site III.

(3) SITE **III**.

On the north side of the area just described was a long building, with a narrow platform or raised path in front of it: to the east this building was traced as far as the hedge on the east side of the reserved area, and was found to extend into the next field; on the west the main building appears to terminate at a point ninety-two feet from the hedge, but the retaining wall of the raised path continued westwards beyond the reserved area, although it was broken away before it reached the eastern side of the main road from the bridge.

The building in question is no wider than the depth of a single chamber, and there has been some scarping of the slope to form the terrace on which it stands.

Its north wall, which is from three to five feet in thickness and at present stands about four feet high, forms a strong retaining wall for the higher level behind it: the west wall and the walls dividing the chambers are of nearly the same height where they are bonded into the north wall, but diminish towards the south, and in most cases disappear before reaching the south wall, of which very little remains.

The westernmost chamber (a) had a concrete floor, across which a drain, three inches wide and four deep, ran diagonally to the south wall. This chamber showed strong signs of burning and produced a large quantity of bones, a considerable amount of pottery, some ironwork, a small crucible, and a piece of a large antler which had been split and troughed and marked with corresponding notches along each edge.

The next chamber on the east (b) also showed traces of a concrete floor, and contained fragments of two Andernach querns and a bronze key-ring.

The next space (c) was a narrow passage, the width of which, three feet nine inches at the south and three feet at the north

SITE III.

end, would be suitable for a stair leading to an upper storey or to the higher level to the north of the site.

The next two chambers (d and e) had also been floored with concrete, but no object of note was found in either; the latter extended beyond the reserved area.

The platform or raised walk in front of this building was five feet in breadth, and had on the south a retaining wall three feet thick and eighteen inches high, faced with good masonry on the south and unfaced on the north side. To the east of *c* the platform was in poor condition and appeared to have been to some extent robbed of its facing stones. West of the same point were found the four stones with post holes inarked on the plan, standing in line a few inches clear of the retaining wall of the platform. It has been suggested that they formed the bases of wooden pillars supporting either a balcony projecting from the upper storey of the building, or a pentice covering the portion of the platform in front of which they stand; but as they are set on the surface without foundation, Mr. Knowles is of opinion that they would not be strong enough to support a roof.

Immediately to the south of the platform was the cobbled road already referred to. It did not appear to extend farther east than the easternmost of the post-hole stones, immediately to the east of which were the remains of a return wall to the south, lining with the west wall of c. Westward from this point the road had a stone kerb on the south side, and it is possible that originally the road and kerb continued at the foot of the platform and extended to the road from the bridge; but from a point sixty feet west of the return wall above mentioned, the road, as found, rose westwards at an easy gradient, the third post-hole stone from the east being partly and the fourth almost wholly embedded in it, and on reaching the level

of the platform its northern edge spread over the retaining wall and continued upon it. This raised road ran westwards as far as the western limit of the reserved area, where it broke off, having apparently been ploughed out.

There seem to have been no buildings on the north side of this road west of the main building on site III, as trenches cut northwards from the edge of the road came immediately into a thick bed of natural sand, which was also found under the floors of chambers a and b. From the north-west corner of the building on site III a thinner and less substantial wall ran westwards, on the north side of which were confused remains, which might indicate a building or a street with stone kerbs.

(4) THE AREA NORTH OF SITE III.

Between site III and the northern limit of the reserved area lay a considerable space in which no foundations were discovered, except a few scanty remains in the north-east corner. Over the southern part of this space the undisturbed gravel was only thinly covered by a few inches of soil. As the part in question forms the brow of the slope, naturally there has been some denudation since Roman times, but the extent of such denudation is not easy to determine. One suggestion is that the denudation has been heavy, and has entirely swept away the foundations of the buildings which once occupied this area, other than the foundations already mentioned: on the other hand it is possible that this space was never built over at all, and perhaps the absence of foundations is negative evidence in favour of the latter view.

However, though this area contained practically no foundations, it derived considerable interest from a series of seven rubbish pits which were discovered near the northern boundary. There were indications tending to show that during the earlier

AREA NORTH OF SITE III.

part of the Roman period a small dene or hollow had existed here, running westwards towards the burn, the north boundary of the reserved area being, roughly speaking, its centre line; the pits close to this line had been sunk to depths farther below the present surface than those more to the south, and apparently the hollow had been filled in and levelled over in Roman times. The pits, some of which were round and some roughly rectangular, had been sunk in the hard gravel to depths varying from five to thirteen feet below the present surface: they had been covered in with layers of gravel, or (in one case) with large flagstones. Though not very rich, they produced a fair amount of pottery and other interesting remains.

R.P. 1: Diameter, four feet six inches; depth, eleven feet eight inches. It contained the small figured bowl of *terra* sigillata, shown on fig 5, no. 3, and towards the bottom a great number of fragments of large *amphorae*.

R.P. 2: Area, eight feet by eleven feet; depth, eight feet six inches. It contained the top of a large amphora, and the bronze jug shown in fig. 31, p. 298.

R.P. 3: Diameter, four feet; depth, thirteen feet. In this pit were found the small vase of Caistor (Durobrivian) ware, with figures of a dog and a deer in relief, and the glass bottle (fig. 30, p. 296).

R.P. 4: Diameter, six feet; depth, nine feet three inches. It produced the plain bowl of *terra sigillata* on fig. 5, no. 10.

R.P. 5: Diameter, five feet; depth, eight feet. The lower part of this pit was filled with black and bitter-smelling sewage, similar to that found in 1906 in the cuttings on the line of the south ditch. The sewage contained fragments of wood, coated with vivianite, some pieces of leather, and the embossed copper cheek-piece described on p. 298.

R.P. 6 contained nothing of particular interest.

R.P. 7: Diameter, four feet; depth, six feet. It produced the figured bowl of *terra sigillata* shown on fig. 5, no. 2.

The foundations unearthed in the north-east corner of the area were fragmentary and of poor quality, but from the trenches in this quarter came two good specimens of enamelled bronze. The only exception was the lower part of a heavy wall, six feet thick at the base, which ran north and south, with a splayed plinth on the west side: this was followed northwards for a short distance beyond the reserved area, and was found to make a return east, the plinth being mitred and continued along the north face. Towards the south it was found to be broken away, but its foundations could be traced over the top of rubbish pit 6, which had been partly filled with large boulders of limestone, to support the broad foundation flags of the wall.

IV.—THE UPPER SITES.

The first feature encountered in the upper field was a street or rondway, about thirty-six feet wide, running approximately east and west. There were indications of three levels, with corresponding drains or gutters, the lowest being about five feet below the present surface, the second three, and the latest from six to nine inches near the west hedge of the field, and a little more at points farther to the east.

The surface of the latest roadway was of rough cobbles, bordered on the south, at the point where it was first encountered, by an open gutter of channelled stones, which was preserved for a few yards only, after which it broke away on the west, and on the east discharged into a covered drain, running at a lower level and with a slight change of direction along the front of a building (site IV) abutting on the street. On the north side the gutter had disappeared. The other road levels were of similar but better construction, and of approximately the same

UPPER SITES AND THE POTTERY STORE.

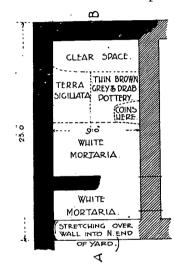
width. A coin of Tetricus, one of Claudius Gothicus, and one of Valentinian were found in the soil under the surface of the latest road: the last-named may have found its way through the somewhat poor and damaged surface of the latest road; but as other evidence points to a restoration of this quarter of the town during or after the reign of Valentinian, it may have been dropped where it was found. Both sides of the uppermost street level were traced in an easterly direction till they ran obliquely through the southern boundary of the field.

In the south-west corner of the field the buildings had been almost completely destroyed, and nothing remained but a few broken walls, and one long wall running north and south, which may possibly have formed the eastern boundary of this site. To the south-west of this latter wall was found a lump of lead and slag which apparently had been at the bottom of a large crucible, together with some rough iron and badly rusted tools. Nearer the west hedge was found a small vessel (fig. 1, no. 6) with iron rust adhering to the inside.

(1) SITE IV.—THE POTTERY STORE.

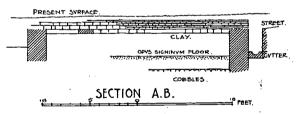
The westernmost building unearthed on the south side of the street was originally of considerable size. At a comparatively late date a pottery store had been erected on the north-west corner, its north and west walls resting on the old foundations. The north wall was in line with the street and separated from it by the stone drain already mentioned, which was about eighteen inches below the surface of the latest road level and may originally have belonged to the street of the middle period. At the north-west angle of the building a similar drain branched to the south and ran along the outside of the west wall: both these drains had been covered, but the cover-stones remained in position only over the southern part of the north and south drain.

The north wall was standing only as high as the road level, and was built of large stones. The lower courses of the west wall, up to the level of the drain cover, were of large squared stones laid in mortar; above these were the remains of a wall of later date and of poor and peculiar quality. The material



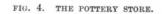
used was rough pieces of broken flags or thin stones of a similar kind, and the masonry bore a strong resemblance to the latest walling-up of part of the west gate at AESICA. The west wall and drain had been broken away before they reached the hedge; the east wall of the earlier building had been, to a large extent, destroyed by later operations; the south wall was not met with, and apparently lay south of the hedge.

The pottery store occupied the north-west corner of this area, and measured fourteen feet north and south, and nine feet east and west.



On the east, between the store and the east wall of the original building, was a space measuring five feet, and on the south was what appeared to be an open yard. The east wall of the store was of large stones which did not rise above the level





3 SER. VOL IV,

of the floor, and only a few stones of the south wall rose above the . same level; the surface deposit of soil was deepest at the northwest corner, where the walls were best preserved, and shallowest at the south-east, where it was only twenty inches thick.

The floor was of trodden clay, thickly laid but with a somewhat irregular surface, lower than the street level. The surface of the floor had been reddened by the heat of a fire that had destroyed the building. Immediately upon it lay a stratum, six or seven inches thick, of burnt wood, ashes, and masses of broken pottery; above this was a heavy red deposit of burnt clay. There was a total absence of tiles or roofing slabs, and it has been suggested that the building had a wattled roof, plastered with clay.

The burnt stratum extended over the whole area of the store, with the exception of a strip, about a yard wide, along the north wall, and in it the pieces of pottery lay very closely packed. Towards the north the fragments were larger and their connexion more easily distinguishable; but at the south end everything had been hopelessly broken and confused. The great quantity of pottery that covered the floor put it beyond question that the building had been a store or shop. The vessels had been arranged on wooden shelves, and were found lying just as they had fallen when the shelves took fire and gave way. A small space to the north-west had been reserved for Samian (terra sigillata). To the east of this were the common drab. brown, and grey British-made wares, with a few fragments of Durobrivian (Castor) pottery; to the south, more than half the shop was taken up with mortaria (pelves) of a white, finely levigated, but highly baked clay. Specimens of this ware were submitted to the authorities of the potteries near Corbridge, and judged by them to be made of local clays.

THE POTTERY STORE.

Between the brown wares and the *mortaria*, within a space of a few square feet against the east wall, were found nineteen coins; the latest dating from the time of Gratian. The coins, of which a fuller description is given in section G, were as follows:—

A: 1 disk, possibly late third century.

1 Tetricus junior.

1 Claudius Gothicus.

B: 3 Constantinopolis.

1 Urbs Roma.

1 Constantius Augustus II.

1 Constantius Augustus II (youthful head).

1 Minimus of the house of Constantine.

C: 1 Valentinian I.

1 Gratian.

All these, except the *minimus*, were third brass. The seven other coins found with the above could not be identified.

In addition to the above, two first brasses were found embedded *in* the clay of the floor, one of Antoninus Pius, about two inches below its surface, and one of Faustina the younger, nearly a foot below. These coins, with the exception of those found in the clay, presumably represent the 'till.' At the south end of the east wall of the store, where a door had led into the space between this and the east wall of the earlier building, an iron lock and key, with what appeared to be a door handle, were lying in the ashes.

Even apart from the evidence of the coins, it was clear that the store belonged to a late period of the town, and had not been occupied or built over at any time subsequent to the fire in which the pottery was destroyed. The coins lay on the clay floor and in the layer of burnt débris, actually amongst the fragments of brown or grey wares or white *mortaria*, and it was impossible to

suppose that so many could have made their way into such a position from above at any period after the fire. The clay floor was so well preserved and the burnt stratum so clearly defined, that it is impossible to attribute the mass of the potsherds to any other date than that to which the majority of the coins belong. A few fragments may have been carried down by the plough, but such a supposition will not account for the numerous and complete vessels found in the burnt stratum.

Mr. Craster has made an exhaustive examination of the coins, and has come to the conclusion that as the majority may be assigned to the period *circa* 330-340, and as these coins are in fresh condition and show no signs of having been long in circulation, the fire which destroyed the pottery probably occurred shortly after the latter year, and the coins of Gratian and Valentinian I may have been dropped on the surface at a later period, when the site was lying vacant, and so have worked down to the burnt layer. It is certainly curious that these late coins should have found their way into the small area within which other coins were already lying; but the occurrence of two coins is insufficient to rebut the evidence afforded by the earlier specimens, which receives confirmation from the discovery, at a point farther to the east, of a large number of third brasses and minimi of the same period that had evidently been subjected to the action of fire. Mr. Craster further reports that fifty-five stray brass coins, minted in the years 325-340 (approximately), were found in 1907, and no brass coin for the period from 340 to the accession of Valentinian 1 in 364, when they again begin to be The general trend of the evidence, therefore, goes to common. prove that the destruction of the pottery store occurred in or soon after the year 340, and this conclusion makes it possible to give an approximate date to its contents.

THE POTTERY STORE.

The most important of these contents were the vessels of *terra sigillata* or 'Samian' ware, which were better preserved than most of the pottery. One cup was unbroken, several, though broken, were complete, and many others could be fairly well patched up, though parts were missing, probably owing to the action of the plough. They showed evident signs of fire; most were more or less scorched, and some fragments were

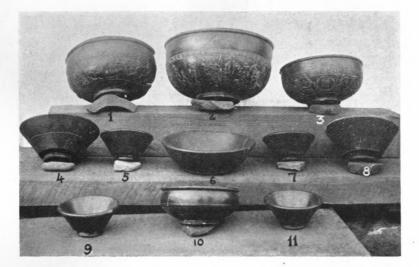


FIG. 5.

burned a deep black throughout, the jet-like surface presenting a curious contrast where, as occurred in some cases, a burnt and an unburnt piece fitted together. Of decorated 'Samian' only two or three small fragments were found, and probably these had been adventitiously introduced. With this exception, all the vessels were plain. In form, they were mostly either straight-sided cups of the shape numbered by Dragendorff as 33,

or deep saucers with a pronounced rise or 'kick' inside, which might also be called shallow bowls, being a deeper and roundersided variety of Dragendorff's No. 31. There are also other similar shapes. In all the examples the clay was fine and of a good red colour, where it had not been blackened by the fire, the glaze was excellent and well-preserved, and the majority of the vessels bore the potter's name stamped inside on the base in good and sometimes in most excellent lettering. The list of these names follows, and in some cases their occurrence on other sites in Northern Britain is noted.

Name.			Stamp.		No. of specimens.	Also found at
Aestivus			AIISTIVIM		1	Chester.
Albillus	•••	•	MIJJIHJA	•••	5	Cilurnum, York.
Genialis	•••		GENIALIS FE/	•••	1	Barr Hill (second century), Procolitia, Cilurnum
Genitor		•••	GENITOR F	•••	1	Cilurnum.
Junius	•••		IVNII		.1	
?	•••		MA IM		1	
Macrinus			MACRINVS F -		- 1	Chester, Cilurnum.
Marcus		۰	MARCIF.	•••	1	(Cilurnum.)
? Maternianus		/NIANI OF	•••	1	Cilurnum.	
Paterclinus			PATERCLINI		3	Cilurnum.
Paternus	•••		PATERNI		1	Chester.
Saturninus			SATVRNINI		1	
Sedatianus			SEDATIANI		1	
?	•••		/OCI FEC (?)	•••	1	
?			CILIS	•••	1	

The names GENIALIS and JUNIUS occur also on German sites such as Rutten and Rheinzabern; MARCUS and MACRINUS appear at La Graufesenque, the Gaulish first century site, and the rest at the second century site of Lezoux. As to La Graufeseneque,

THE POTTERY STORE.

Déchelette says,⁶ 'We can safely affirm that the Rutenian factories did not exist long after the age of Trajan, and, at any rate, that the period of their prosperity was not prolonged beyond that limit.' Speaking of Lezoux, he says (op. cit. 1, p. 190, f.):--

'From the middle of the third century, in consequence of the first barbarian invasions, a stormy period succeeded in Gaul to the peaceful happiness of the previous centuries. At Lezoux it is precisely with the reign of Gallienus that the series of coins found in the ruined factories comes to an end. . . . Amongst the mass of *debris* unearthed from the soil at Lezoux and stored in the Plicque collection, I have not observed a single fragment that can be attributed to the fourth or the fifth century. . . . Thus, in the fourth century, moulded vases were no longer made.'

The Rhenish manufacture did not end so early. Birch and Brongniart suppose that it was carried on until about A.D. 300, Gamurrini until a slightly later date, into the time of the Constantines. On this point Dragendorff says,

'The latter conclusion is more correct: vessels of terra sigillata still occur up to the end of the fourth century. They become, however, rarer, and much inferior in quality. Thus, in the late Roman interments of Andernach, belonging to the fourth century (the last coin is of Maximus, who reigned till A.D. 388), vessels of terra sigillata are still found; but these are badly baked and without glaze. The types are 32, 33, 41, 47, 52, 54, 55; the other forms disappear. Most of the red vessels of these graves are not of terra sigillata, but superficially coloured with a matt red or yellowish medium on which white or dark ornaments are painted. In two hundred and twenty eight late Roman graves near Strassburg (latest coin one of Constantine II, who died in A.D. 340) only three sigillata cups (form 33) were found; only a few examples, too, occurred in the graves found near Steinfurt, which contained coins from Claudius Gothicus to Arcadius. On the latest terra sigillata potters' marks are almost uniformly absent.'⁷

The reported finding of stamped *terra sigillata* in Frankish graves near Nettersheim in the Eifel, Dragendorff discounts on the presumption that the contents of graves of different dates were confused by the discoverers.

⁶ Vases céramiques ornés, 1, p. 102.

¹ Bonner Jahrbücher, XCVI, 139.

In view of these facts, our Corbridge find presents obvious problems. Had the 'Samian' of the pottery store been found apart from any chronological evidence, it would have been assigned, on the score of the potters' names, to the second or third centuries, and by preference perhaps to the second century, certainly we should have considered it impossible, in view of its quality, to date any of it later than the third century. Yet it seems as if this ware was exposed for sale in a shop of CORSTOFITUM as late as A.D. 340. How far the evidence is sufficient to establish this fact, and how far it may necessitate a modification of the views quoted above, is a question which must be reserved for fuller consideration.

On the fragments of *mortaria* which covered the southern half of the store, no potters' names or marks occurred, but they showed great diversities in the forms of their rims. In view, however, of the great quantity of the fragments, any detailed record of these forms must be postponed until a subsequent report.

As the west wall of the store and the drain outside it showed signs of subsidence, a shaft was sunk through the clay floor at the point indicated. Two feet three inches below the shop floor was found a floor of *opus signinum* of good quality: fifteen inches below this was a layer of large and well laid cobbles, which, however, gave out at a point nine feet south of the north wall of the building. Below this level there seemed to have been a small rubbish pit, but no finds were made in it, and the natural sand was reached at a depth of about nine feet from the surface.

The area between the east wall of the store and the east wall of the earlier building was much ruined. The later floor was of gravel laid on a thin bed of clay; over it a few flagstones had been laid against the shop wall in the north-west corner. A drain ran north and south under the floor, and was traced from

THE POTTERY STORE.

the north wall by the street to the southern hedge of the field. In the south-east part of the area, near the remains of the plinthed wall on the west edge of the next site, was a roughlymade, semicircular stone furnace, with the opening towards the south, beside which were found two large lumps of halfsmelted iron and the remains of a pair of tongs.



FIG. 6.

In the yard to the south of the store, the floor at the north end lay nineteen inches below the surface and was two to three inches thick, being formed of gravel with a little lime in it. The burnt stratum that covered the floor of the shop continued into the yard, but thinned towards the south and soon disappeared: the fragments of *mortaria* lay thickly on the yard floor close to the wall of the shop, and thinned out in the same manner. Seventeen inches below the gravel floor was a second

floor of trodden clay, the intervening space being filled with rubbish, which included much pottery, some of it decorated *terra sigillata* of the Lezoux types. A gutter of channelled stones ran north and south down the middle of the yard, the tops of the stones being about flush with the lower clay flooring; only four stones remained together *in situ*, and another was found continuing the line at a point farther to the south.

In the southern portion of the yard the upper floor level had been destroyed, and it was impossible to say whether the fragments of pottery came from above or below it. Accordingly the four potters' names found in this area—REGINUS, SEXTUS, SILVANUS, and TITURO—cannot be considered as affording any chronological evidence. A few of the fragments of *terra sigillata* found in the yard certainly came from the shop, as they fitted on to vessels found there; but as far as could be observed, the bulk of the 'Samian' found in the yard belonged to the lower level, and probably these names came from that level also. At the south end of the yard was found a small stone torso of Mercury, shown on the previous page (fig. 6).

(2) SITE V.

This site lay to the east of site IV, and only the northern part could be excavated, the southern portion, of unknown extent, lying to the south of the hedge. Fig. 7 gives a good idea of this site: the view is taken from the south-west and includes all except the corner of the building nearest the spectator.

About a foot from the ruined east wall of site IV was a stout wall with a splayed plinth on the west side: on the east side it showed no regular face, but a well-made covered stone drain ran along it, and nearer the hedge the ashlaring had been removed from the western face also; at the north end it was



FIG. 7. SITE V.

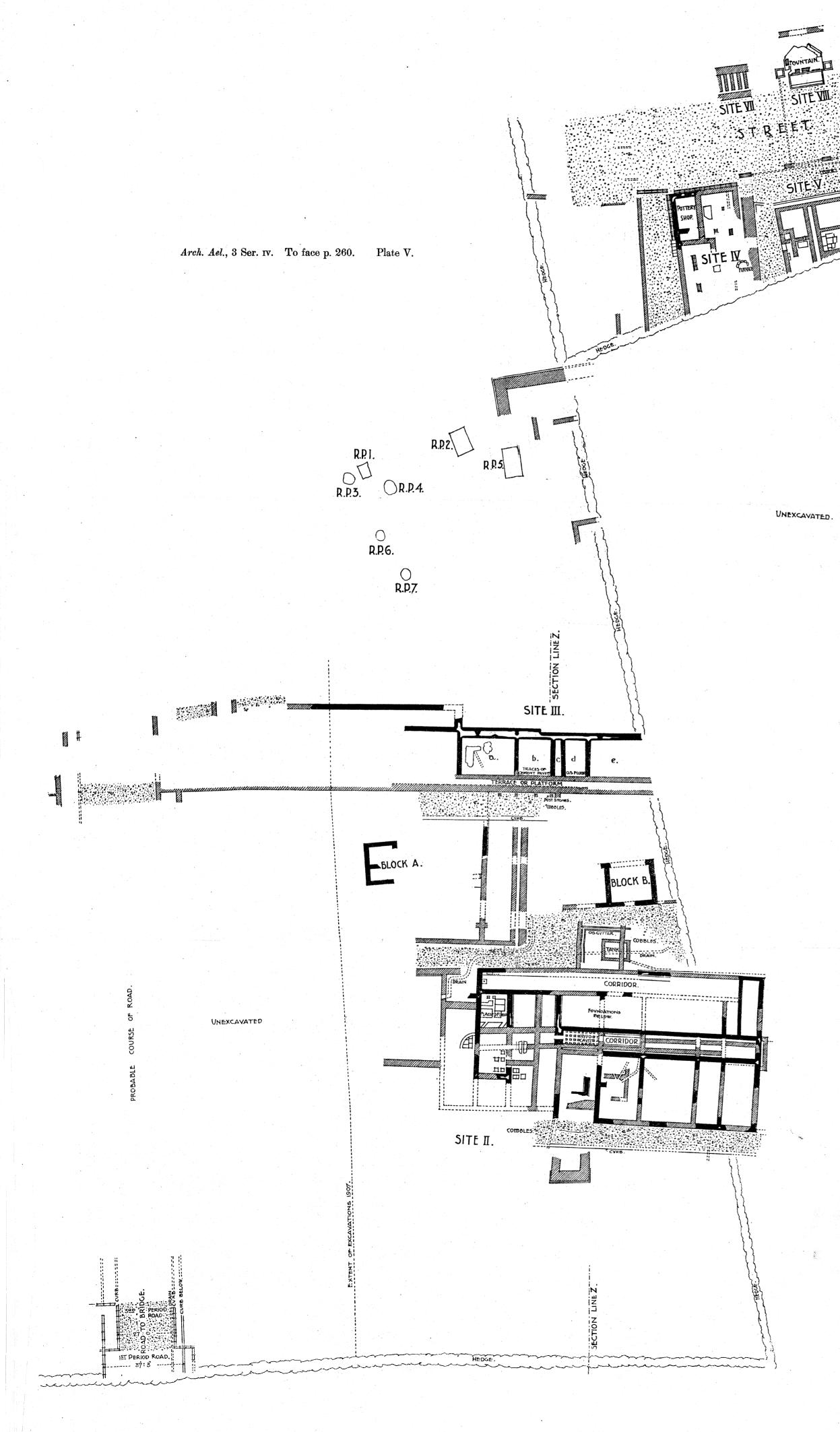
broken away just before reaching the edge of the street. This wall seems clearly to be of earlier date than the buildings on either side.

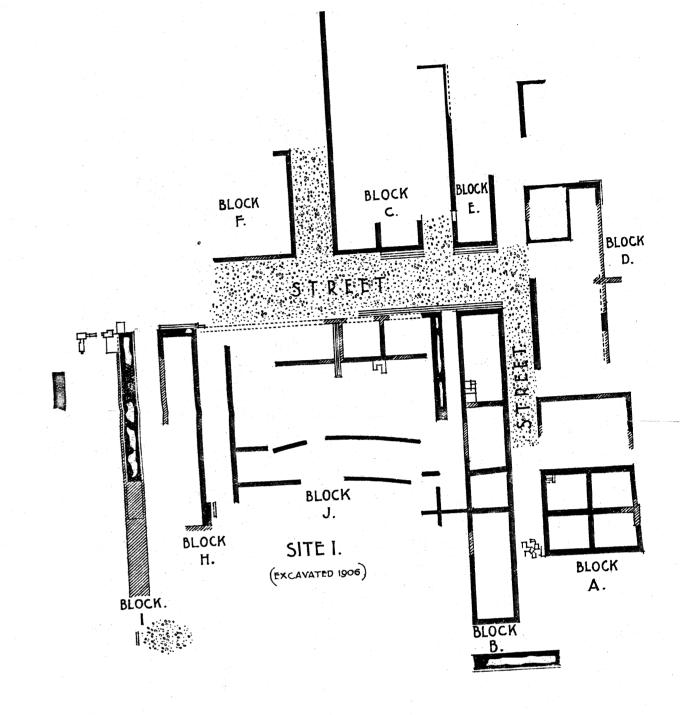
The building to the east of this wall had been set fifteen feet back from the street, but there was no sign of pavement in the recess so formed. A good stone drain ran along the outer side of the north wall, leading from the drain on the east side of the plinth wall. This building, as well as the adjacent foundations on the east, extended to the south of the hedge. and could not be completely excavated. It has therefore been thought best to reserve a detailed description until the rest of the site has been uncovered. The finds included a block of dressed stone with a rough inscription . . . LLONIV / IVS, two square pillar bases, one of which is shown on fig. 25, a stone quern, an irregular slab of stone, scored with a figure of fifty-six squares, making an extempore draughtboard, a few bone draughtsmen, a bronze brooch in the shape of a crouching hare, and a fair number of coins.

(3) SITE VI.

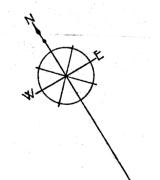
This site had been occupied by a building of some importance, the remains of which were extremely confused. Only the northwest corner lay within the area available for excavation, and the character of the north wall, which was five feet thick and had a splayed plinth on its north face, makes it probable that the rest of the building occupies a considerable space on the south side of the hedge: until this space is excavated, it is impossible to give a clear account of the building, and a detailed description of the part already uncovered is accordingly held over, in order that all the evidence relating to the site may be printed in one report.

In this area was found the curious stone shown on fig. 27, and the fragments of a small pillar, on one of which was a rude scratching representing a human figure (fig. 20, p. 280). The





SITE



CORSTOPITVM (CORBRIDGE) CENERAL PLAN.

W.H.KNOWLES, F.S.A. MENS ET DEL 1907.

SCALE OF FEET.



SITES VI-VIII.

collection of coins of the Constantinian period, already mentioned under site IV, were found close to the outside of the north wall of this building, at a depth of two feet nine inches below the surface. A fuller description of them is included in section VII.

(4) SITE VII.

In running a shallow trench northwards from the north-east corner of site IV, with the object of proving the width of the street, a large flat stone was discovered, lying in a horizontal position, close to the north edge of the uppermost roadway and at a lower level. This stone was raised, and on its lower surface was found the fine inscription to Antoninus Pius described in section vi. Next to it was found the stone bearing the vexillus inscription, also lying face downwards, and a further search resulted in the recovery of several small fragments of the An Ionic capital and several different mould-Antoninus slab. ings were found in the same area, one of the latter being part of a somewhat late but elaborate plinth or base course, and sufficient evidence was obtained to show that an important building had stood on the site; but as the foundations of the south wall were seven feet below the surface and a considerable amount of time and labour would have been needed for its complete excavation, it was decided to proceed no further. It is hoped that the building will be uncovered in 1908 and described in the next report.

(5) SITE VIII.

A cutting made to prove the width of the lowest street level, a short distance to the east of site VII, led to the discovery of a large base (fig. 21, p. 280), measuring twenty-six inches across, designed to support a shaft twenty-one inches in diameter. The removal of this base revealed the south-east corner of the remarkable structure which is described by Mr. W. H. Knowles in section VI.

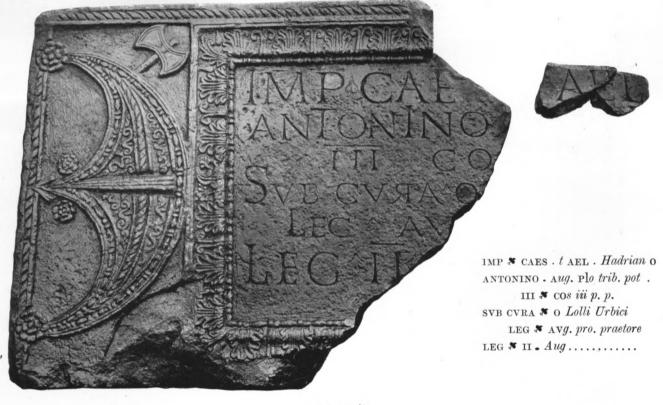
V. INSCRIPTIONS.

(By F. HAVERFIELD.)¹

1. Found in a building on the north side of the main street (site VII) on the top of the hill, lying face downwards on the floor, the left hand half of a large and decorated dedication, forty-three inches long, thirty-four inches high, four and a quarter inches thick: smaller pieces from the same stone were found close by amid debris. The surface of all the pieces is singularly fresh and well preserved. The stone appears to be the same as that produced by the Black Pasture quarries, near Chollerford. The original monument was an inscribed panel flanked at each end by an Amazon's shield-a device familiar in Roman secondcentury work-enriched with a spearhead, two axes and conventional foliation. The lettering is notable for its initial capitals, and for the reversed R in line 4, which is plainly intended to suit the slope of the preceding v-vRA being thought more seemly than VRA. The heights of the letters are two and seveneighth inches in line one, two and a quarter inches in line two, one and three-quarter inches in lines three and four, one and fiveeighth inches in line five, and two and three-quarter inches in line ix. The text may be restored as follows.

The completion is fairly certain. It may indeed be doubted whether the traces of letters at the bottom of the AEL fragment are the tops of a P and a tall I (as I have given) or of a G and a Pl tied, and whether *pro praetore* was cut in full in line five. But neither point makes any difference. It would be rather more useful to know if the last line named other legions besides II. Augusta, or described the work done by the soldiers. In any case, the general sense is :-- 'To (or in the reign of) the emperor

'I have examined all these inscriptions myself, except some of the smaller objects in No. 7, which are marked as 'copied by Mr. Woolley.'





Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Pius, in the third year of his tribunician power (A.D. 140) and in his third consulship, Father of his country, this (slab or building) was set up under care of Q. Lollius Urbicus, governor of Britain, by the Legion II. Augusta...?

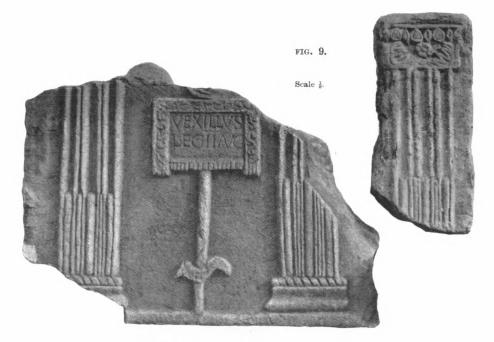
In A.D. 140, as we know otherwise, Urbicus was taking steps to advance beyond the Wall of Hadrian and erect the 'Vallum of Pius' along the isthmus between Forth and Clyde, an isthmus previously fortified by Agricola but soon abandoned. Many inscribed slabs witness to his work, and all closely resemble the new find in style and character of decoration. What precisely he did at Corstopitum we cannot tell. Probably he remade, or perhaps made for the first time, the Roman road now called Watling Street, between Corbridge and Melrose. We know that he was also active at BREMENIUM (High Rochester), on this same road, as a slab found in the principia there testifies (Lap. Sept. 567). On the other hand, no sure indications of earlier date than A.D. 140 have yet been found between Tyne and Tweed. Melrose, however, was unquestionably reached in the first century, so that if Watling Street had not then been constructed, some other route, not now discoverable, must have been in existence.

2. Found lying beside no. 1, face downwards on the floor of the same building, fragment, twenty-two inches high, thirty inches broad and four inches thick, of a large ornamented slab, representing a façade with attached pilasters. Between two pilasters on the fragment now found is a representation in low relief of an ensign, broken above, but bearing the inscription, in one and one-eighth inch letters, VEXILLVS LEG II AVG, 'The flag of the second legion Augusta.' Probably the relief represented some sort of shrine in which the standard was kept. VEXILLVS for vexillum is an addition to a brief list of known examples of words properly neuter which occur as masculine



SLAB FOUND AT HIGH ROCHESTER (Bremenium) now in the Alnwick Castle museum, similar to fragmentary slab discovered at Corstopitum (see page 263).

here and there on inscriptions. Thus vexillus itself occurs in C. I. L. III, 79 and 1193, collegius in the Acts of the Arval Brothers, muniments on a Spanish inscription (C. I. L.II, 266), and conversely, enm templum on an African inscription, and so forth.² Each case seems to be a mere accident due to an individual. There is no



reason to think that forms like *vexillus* or *collegius* ever really existed. Rather, we may remember that persons who speak a highly inflected language not unfrequently err in their genders, even though the language be their native tongue. It is only

² Examples have been collected by Neue and Wagener (Formenlehre) and Diehl; see also Wölfflin's Archiv, xv, 301.

INSCRIPTIONS.

when a particular error becomes more or less universal that the form resulting from it acquires a real existence, and this does not seem to be the case with *vexillus* and the like.

A small piece of the same façade was discovered some years ago in Corbridge parish church, which contains in its oldest parts much Roman material (fig. 9; upper right-hand corner).

3. Rectangular block, fourteen inches long, fifteen inches high, twelve inches deep, found lying loose in a building on the south side of the main street (site v): marked with two lines of letters one and a quarter inches tall, formed by points or dots, in the manner of a graffito; much worn on the left """LONIV | IVS. Probably Apo]llonius. The inscriber perhaps intended to put the whole name in one line and, finding that impossible, added IVS in the second line, instead of the one necessary letter, s. The name is no doubt that of some soldier or inhabitant of Corstopitum.

4. Found amid the ruins of the cistern and fountain (site VIII), some sandstone pieces of a pediment, decorated by two Victories upholding a wreathed circle with an inscription inside. The circle must have measured twelve to thirteen inches in diameter within the wreath: the remaining letters, two and a half inches high, indicate an inscription (see fig. 14):—LEG | $\overline{xx} \cdot v \cdot v$. | FECIT—'The Twentieth Legion, Valeria Victrix, built this (water-supply).' The form both of the carving and of the inscription are too common to need illustration here.

It is possible that the monument was broken up by the royal personage who was the first to undertake excavations at Corbridge. King John dug here—for treasure—in 1201, and what he found, *lapides signatos aere et ferro et plumbo*, may have been our fountain with its stones joined by metal clamps.

5. The pedestal on the east side of the water-trough (p. 272) was once inscribed. Now only the lowest part of an L (or

perhaps an E) is visible: we may think of the common formula v(otum) s(olvit) l(ibens) m(erito) and put LM in the last line of the lost inscription.

6. *Tiles.*—Many legionary tiles have been found at Corbridge both this year, on the slope and on the top of the hill alike, and in previous times. Though all imperfect, our discoveries indicate two slightly varying inscriptions of the Sixth Legion, of which the first is the commoner.

(1) LEG.VI.V leg(io) vi v(ictrix)

(2) LEG.VI.VI leg(io) vi vi(ctrix)

7. Minor objects. -(a) Ring in 'white bronze,' bearing the letters, svc | cEs. This suggests the modern success. But the lettering is consonant with a Roman origin, and the object was found sufficiently deep to make such a theory possible. Whether we should connect it with the god Succlus is another question.

(b) Fragment from the rim of a tumbler-shaped glass vessel, bearing the letter M. (Copied by Mr. Woolley.)

(c) Samian pottery stamps on decorated ware of the shape numbered by Dragendorff 37; stamped on the outside among the ornamentation.

- (1) Found on the hill-top near the rubbish pits, EVIRIO. Copied by Mr. Woolley, but the stamp seems unknown and the true reading must be BVTRIO.
- (2) Found in the hayfield, west of site IV, part of the familiar monogram read generally as *Pat(e)rni (C. XIII,* 10011, 242; Déchelette, 1, 289).
- (3) Found near No. 1, a mere fragment—IM..., probably the last syllable of *Cinnami*, written, as usual, retrograde fashion.
- (4) Found in rubbish pit 2, ... TSAL in retrograde letters, probably *Lastuca* .f. (Copied by Mr. Woolley.)
- (5) Found a little south-west of the pottery store; decorated

POTTERS' NAMES.

with a band of laurel leaves instead of the usual 'ovolo.' Stamped on the outside of the plain band above the laurel leaves and below the rim, in small letters, LVTAEVS FEC. Probably German ware. See C. XIII, 10011, 209, 262, etc.

(d) Samian pottery stamps on plain ware, stamped on the bottom of the inside.

AIVINVS? (IVI blurred): Rubbish pit 4, from a cup (shape 33 or similar).

ATIL ... : Site v.

: BOI ...: Bridge road, lowest level; a mere fragment. Of the stamps which commence thus, those of Bonoxus seem especially to bear the dots.

CAIOF: bit of small plain cup.

CATEI... VSF (blurred): bit of saucer.

CELSI.M: North terrace wall. (Copied by Mr. Woolley.)

con ...: Near the rubbish pits, a mere fragment.

CRA...: Rubbish pit 6, probably Cracuna. (Copied by Mr. Woolley.)

DIOTNATVS: (Copied by Mr. Woolley: T uncertain): perhaps Dioratus.

DI VICFC: Rubbish pit 3 (copied by Mr. Woolley: reading dubious).

MAIERAIAIIAI: Site II, Materniani.

MACRO (0 doubtful): Rubbish pit 2.

MARTIVS F: Site v.

MATVRVS: Near rubbish pits.

PATER F: North terrace wall.

All copied by Mr. Woolley.

[p]ECVLIARIS F: Rubbish pit 1.

PIINTIIIMN: part of large saucer, near rubbish pits:

111 slightly defaced at bottom. Probably *Pentili manu* (C. XIII, 10010, 1522).

PRIMANI M: Rubbish pit 2. (Copied by Mr. Woolley.)

REGINVS FE : Near potterv store. REL ... : Rubbish pit 7. RVFIANI: Rubbish pit 2. All copied SEXTI MA: Trench below tower, site II. SEXTI M: Near rubbish pits. Woolley. SEXTI M: Rubbish pit 2. SILVANI: West of pottery store, shape 31. TINI...: Rubbish pit 2. TITVRONISO, bit of cup, west of pottery store. RI. MAN from a large saucer or bowl. G.A.FEC from a small cup, found in the cistern where the lion was also found, site II.

..... ILIANI-Site II. (Copied by Mr. Woolley.)

..... NICCIM-Shape 31, rubbish pit 1. (Do.)

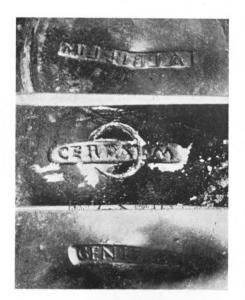


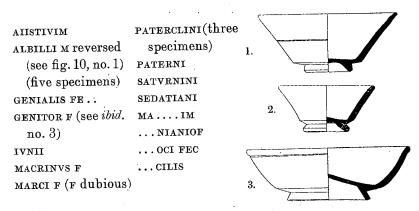
FIG. 10.

I have added the precise provenances to most of the preceding stamps. At the same time, no very great importance can be attached to them. Small objects like bits of Samian ware are easily shifted, whether by the ordinary processes of ploughing and draining, or by the hunt for building stone which has occasionally taken place at Corbridge, or by rebuildings and reconstructions such as those of the Roman period.

by Mr.

(e) Samian from the pottery store (site II), one specimen of each found except where noted: the first three straightsided cups (shapes 1, 2), the rest saucers or shallow bowls (shape 3, in adjoining cut).

The lettering of these stamps is mostly very good and such as to suggest a fairly early date. An example is given on fig. 10, GENITOR F, which agrees entirely with the lettering current in the second century and which does not stand alone.



(1) Amphorae and pelves (mortaria).

Amphorae handles (1) IIIMIN trium Minicior(um)-Site II.

ICIOR

- (2) VIRGIN-Rubbish pit 3.
- (3) LGM do.
- (4) L.IVNI.M-Site VI.
 - ELISSI . P

Mortaria lips

(6) ossIIM—Rubbish pit 3.

TMM

(5) BRVSCI-Site VI.

Also a few of which no proper reading can be given. Nos. 2, 3, 5 and 6 are from Mr. Woolley's copies.

VI.--SITE VIII. THE FOUNTAIN AND ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS.

(By W. H. KNOWLES, F.S.A.)

The structure indicated as site VIII on the general plan plate V), and for convenience called a fountain, comprises a building on the north side of the street, where the roadway on the opposite or south side was recessed for a considerable distance. The building has a frontage of nineteen feet to the street, and measures thirteen feet six inches from north to south; it is six sided on plan, two, the east and west, being about eight feet, and the north and canted sides about seven feet six inches in length. It was apparently entered from the north. On the exterior the pavement is at the same level as that of the earliest street. On the interior the floor or platform is two feet above it.

On either side the structure is flanked by a square pedestal, and in front of it is a large trough or cistern. The building and _ pedestals are set back from the street, the front of the cistern being in line therewith.

The massive appearance of the masonry, which is elaborately cramped together (see the measured drawings facing p. 274), and includes the platform or *podium* only, suggests at first sight an important superstructure which is not borne out on examination. It will be observed that there are no foundations; indeed, there is only one course below the broad stone that carries the plinth, and which is on the same level as the floor. It is therefore certain that whatever the character of the enclosing walls they were of light construction.

The lowest course of ashlar, where it abuts on the south against the cistern, is a thin one and is chamfered on its top edge on the west side; above it is a broad stone of irregular width which supports a square plinth and over it a moulded and grooved base course. On the south the plinth is sunk, having a fillet on both



FIG. 11. THE FOUNTAIN.

edges to receive the moulded base and on the east and west sides a single fillet where the stones vary in size. The fillet is worked with projections on the external angles of the *podium*, and on the south for two intermediate pilasters.

The base is moulded to the outside and sunk or grooved on the top to receive the stone panels, single only to the east and west, and three in number on the south, divided by pilasters tenand-a-half inches wide (see section E.F., plate VI). It is evident that on at least three sides there existed a low solid screen or balustrade, whilst on the north and two canted sides there may have been either a similar balustrade or enclosing walls. Two fragments of a panel, rebated on the edge and bearing a diamondshaped pattern are shown on section E.F. They fit the groove of the base, and being similarly worked on two edges indicate that the dividing pilasters were also grooved to support the panels. The floor was formed of large slabs of stone six inches thick, laid on a bed of clay and cobbles finished on the top with a rough covering of opus signinum. None of the iron cramps which bound the floor stones together remain, but traces of the lead which secured them can be discerned. On the north side the masonry has been completely removed. A corresponding aperture occurs in a wall of unequal thickness, which is four feet six inches distant from the building.

The masonry exhibits some unusual features. (A) In the moulded base where it is worked round the projecting pilasters, the stones are mitred after the manner of joiner's work, instead of, as in good masonry, being wrought on a stone on which the mouldings continued beyond the mitres, (B) a chamfered course passes along the west side only, (c) the plinth stones are carelessly grooved to receive the end stones of the cistern, (D) the ashlar below the plinth is dressed where it was hidden by the cistern.

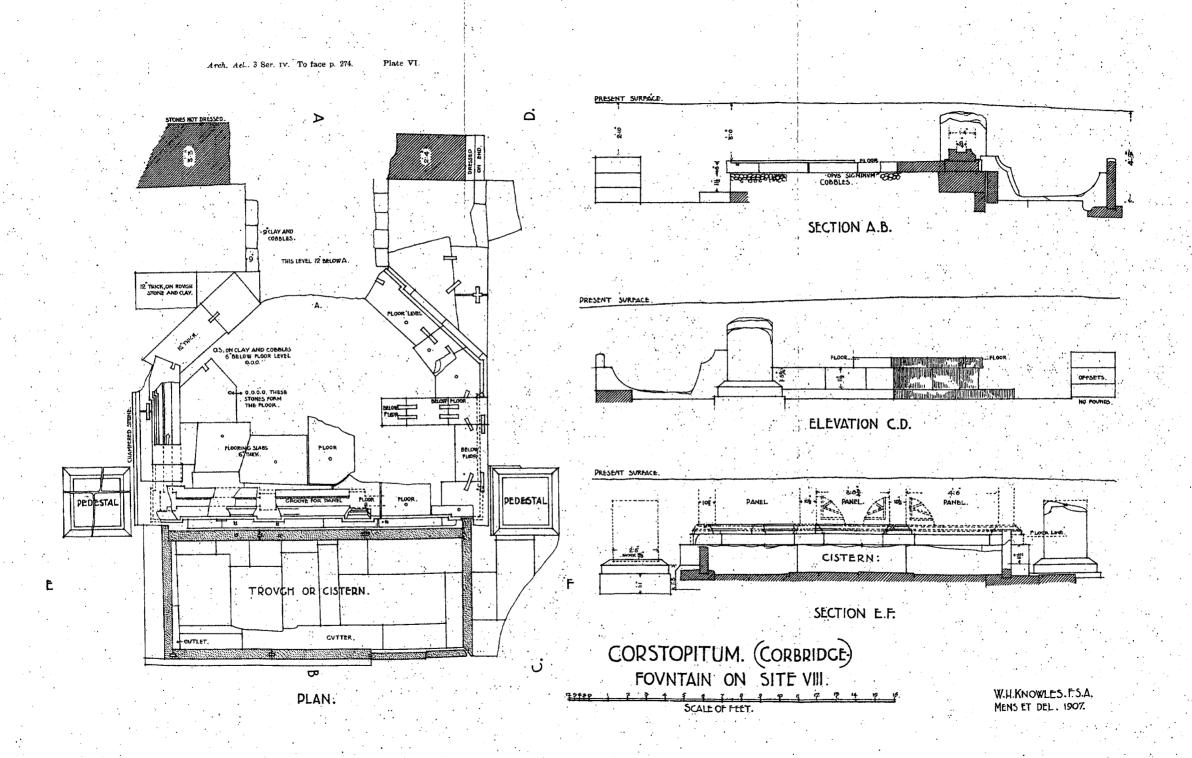




FIG. 12. THE FOUNTAIN.

The pedestal stones which flanked the building are two feet five inches by two feet five inches by three feet six inches in height, and rested on a chamfered base which is sunk to receive them. On the top of the remaining pedestal is a dowel hole, and on the front face was an inscription of which all that is left is part of a single letter apparently an L.

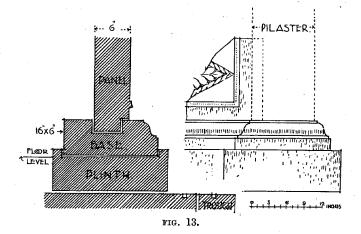
The trough or cistern which stands in front of the building measures on the inside fifteen feet five inches by five feet nine inches, and two feet in height. The ends of the trough are constructed of single stones seven feet in length. The sides consist of three stones, each 5 feet long, grooved on the edge and joined by cement-excepting where the side stones are grooved into the ends, which in turn was strengthened by being carried into grooves worked on the lower courses of the building (see plan, plate VI). The two small and thinner slabs at the south-east corner occupy the position of a single original stone. The top of the upright slabs of the front and one end are irregularly scalloped and appear to have been worn by the passing of water vessels over them. The north side of the cistern was cramped to the ashlar course below the plinth of the building. The bottom is paved with large flat stones, grooved to receive the upright slabs and sunk to form a channel which falls into an outlet at the southwest corner, and communicates with a drain on the exterior, where also were some broken tiles resembling water pipes.

The junction of the trough with the building is awkward and clumsy, and warrants the suggestion that it is of a different date and was added later. In any case it may be assumed that a water supply issued from the building, most likely from a mask or some such object fixed in the middle of the panels above the cistern. Nothing has yet been found to indicate whether the building supported any reservoir (unless such was placed on the floor level), and it is clear that, so far as the south side of the

THE FOUNTAIN.

building is concerned, the small pilasters which divide the panels were inadequate to support either a cistern or a roof. Unfortunately, no cornice stones have been discovered, and the evidence so far forthcoming indicates merely a solid balustrade or low screen between the piers.

We may hazard the conjecture, considering the open design of the structure and the situation it occupied, that it served the purpose of a shrine dedicated to the guardian deities presiding

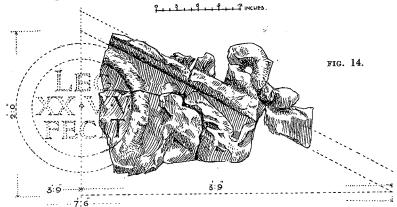


over thoroughfares, or of water divinities, or was merely a speaker's platform or *rostrum* accessible from the buildings on the north side of it, and commanding on the south the large open street or square in which a considerable audience could conveniently assemble.

Whether statues or other decorative features adorned the large detached pedestals it is useless to speculate until more is known of the contiguous buildings.

SOME ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS.

The base and part of a panel of the 'fountain' building. The base measures sixteen inches by six inches, it is moulded to the exterior and grooved on the top to receive panel stones arranged between pilasters. The portion of a panel shewn in the sketch is rebated on two edges to fit the groove in the base, and also apparently a similar groove in the pilasters. It is carved in low relief with floral decoration enclosed by a cable moulding placed diamond fashion, within a hollow marginal moulding. (See fig. 13.)



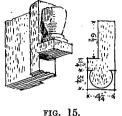
A portion of a carved pediment. When extended the base must have been seven to eight feet, and the height to the apex within the raking moulding about two feet. The complete pediment was sculptured in relief with two winged Victories supporting between them a wreath, within which was inscribed LEG. $XX \cdot V \cdot FECIT.^1$ On the raking cornice is an open cresting of cable-like form. The length of the base of the pediment does not agree with the width of the building nor of the space between the intermediate pilasters of the south front. It is furthermore

¹ See Victoria County History of Somerset, vol. 1, p. 234.

too light and delicate in detail to have occupied any structural

position; it is more probable that it adorned some mural tablet. (See fig 14.) Found on site VIII.

Part of an attached baluster. Standing on a projecting shelf and worked on the face of a rebated stone probably intended to enclose a panel. (See fig. 15) Found on site VIII.



Fragment of a carved cornice with broken cresting, and roundels between zig-zag ornament; or possibly berries between



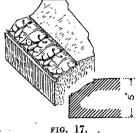
FIG. 16.

laurel leaves. This and the previous stone may have had some connexion with the carved pediment, although the torus on which the cresting occurs does not agree with the moulding shown in similar position. (See fig. 16.) Found on site VIII.

Two fragments of a base moulding five inches high. A cyma enriched with acanthus ornament. (See fig. 17.) Found on site VIII.

Part of a base course with cyma and cavetto mouldings, eight and a half inches high. (See fig. 18.)

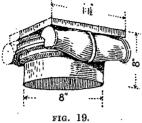
An Ionic capital with side volutes, the shaft at the necking being eight inches diameter. (See fig. 19.) Found on site VIII.





Portions of a small column with entasis. (See fig. 20.) It is eleven and a half inches diameter at the widest point and nine and three-quarter inches immediately above the apophyge and fillet.

FIG. 18. The shaft when developed might have an upper diameter similar to that of the capital. Found on site v,



Large base, found on site VIII. One foot nine inches in diameter above the double torus, the plinth being two feet four inches square. The building or colonnade of which it formed part must have had an elevation of some architectural pretension. (See fig. 21.)

FIG. 19. Base found on site 11 near the tank. One foot seven inches diameter above apophyge and fillet, the plinth being two feet one inch square (See fig. 22.)

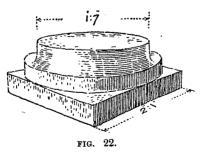


1:9 FIG. 21.

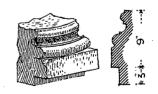
Fragment only of an Attic base, dressed on underside to enter a groove or tenon. (See fig. 23.) Moulded base, fifteen inches square and nine inches in height, found on site VI. (See fig. 24.) Two square chamfered bases, twenty-four inches

square by ten inches in height. (See fig. 25.)

FIG. 20.

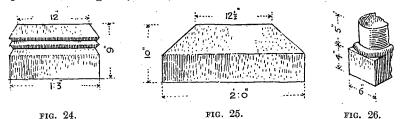


Found on site v.





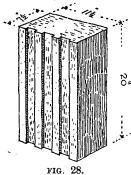
Small base, shaft five inches diameter, plinth six inches square. (See fig. 26.)



Stone found on site VI, dressed on three sides only, with a chamfered cap (or base) and worked on the top to form three tenons; possibly part of a pilaster to receive the end of a beam, or, if a base, was tenoned into a sill or threshold. (See fig. 27.)

Part of a fluted pilaster. Eleven and a half inches by seven and a half inches on plan and one foot eight inches in height. (See fig. 28.)

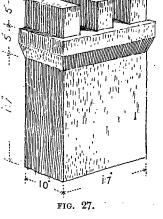
Coping stone of the tank. Site 11. Thirteen and a half inches by ten The lion and stag are sculpinches.

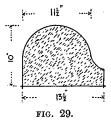


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tured on a coping stone of the same section. (See fig. 29.)

In addition to the several minor above, 8[≤] fragments of statuettes and of drapery were discovered; these, including the torso of a Mercury with caduceus, are stored for future reference. (See fig. 6, p. 257).





VII.---THE COINS.

(By H. H. E. CRASTER, M.A.)

Nearly seven hundred coins were found in the course of the The large majority of them formed a hoard which lay season. close to the outer face of the north wall of site vi, a few yards to the west of the point at which the Roman street cuts the present field-hedge. The hoard rested in loose earth, at a depth of two feet nine inches below the present surface, and six inches below the upper street level, of which the cobbled pavement breaks away before reaching the wall. It formed a solid mass of The coins composing it were welded together, and many metal. of them had been burned to a brick-red, showing that the whole had been subjected to intense heat; and, as small pieces of charcoal were found imbedded in the mass, it is not improbable that a bag or wooden box containing the coins had fallen among burning timbers.

Under the circumstances, it is not possible to describe the hoard in detail, or even to give with accuracy the total number of coins that it comprised. In very few cases could both obverse and reverse be clearly read, and the fragile state of the coins rendered it impossible to subject them to a careful cleaning. They appear to be all 'third brass' and *minimi* and to fall approximately into the following classes:

Coins of Con	stantin	e and	his so	ons, ol	overse	uncert	ain (s	, few	
of these j	probabl	y vir	rvs ex:	ERCIT	vs)				50
Ditto; revers	se GLOR	IA EX	ERCITV	s					90
Coins of Hele	na and	Theod	lora	•••					10
Vrbs Roma				•••					87
Constantinop	olis			•••					104
Illegible	•••		•••	•••				about	150
		Sum	total		•••		•••	about	490 .

THE COINS.

The majority of coins bearing an emperor's head are to be assigned to Constantine II as Caesar. A considerable number belong to Constantine I, and some to Constantius II as Caesar. Coins of Constans, if present, are rare, and none of the coins can be dated with certainty as subsequent to the death of Constantine I (337). On the other hand, the issues represented are all subsequent to A.D. 330. In its composition the Corbridge hoard bears a close resemblance to those discovered at Bishopswood on the Wye and at Easton in Norfolk,¹ and, like them, may be dated not later than A.D. 340

Such interest as the hoard possesses is derived from the place of its discovery and from the manifest signs of conflagration which it presents. Whether the fire which baked these coins into a hardened mass destroyed the whole town or any appreciable portion of it is a point still to be determined, and of special interest for its bearing upon the gutted ruins of the pottery store described in an earlier section of this report. But it may at least be inferred that the fire was antecedent, though not necessarily immediately antecedent, to a considerable rise in the street-level, and to the consequent reconstruction of this quarter of the town.

The earliest coin discovered in the course of the excavation was a legionary silver coin of Mark Antony. With this exception, the series of coins found singly in the past season commences with a silver coin of Domitian, minted A.D. 92, and, as in the majority of northern sites, ends with Gratian and Valentinian II (A.D. 375, or later). A second brass of Marcus Aurelius, minted A.D. 162, was in fresh condition, but all the earlier coins showed greater or less signs of wear. Two notable gaps occur in the series. For the period from 196 to the accession of Gallienus

¹ Described in Numismatic Chronicle, 3rd series, vol. xvi, p. 209 et seq.; 4th series, vol. 11, pp. 185-186.

(A.D. 253) no coins were forthcoming, a phenomenon which also occurs in the case of other Roman sites.² The second period of rarity sets in with the death of Constantine Π (A.D. 340) and extends to the accession of Valentinian I (A.D. 364). Only one silver coin and one brass coin can be said with certainty to fall within this epoch, and the paucity of numismatic evidence for these years is the more striking since the preceding decade (330-340) is particularly prolific in examples, furnishing fifty-two specimens apart from the hoard. A scarcity of new coins sets in from the date at which the hoard was consumed by fire. This was a period, however, during which very little small brass was coined, and our data must be enlarged by further excavation before any deduction can safely be drawn from the coincidence.

The majority of fourth-century coins discovered on the site were minted at Trier and Lyons, but Arles and Thessalonica were also represented, and three examples of the London mint were discovered, namely, two coins of Carausius and oné of Constantius Chlorus.

My thanks are due to Mr. Hill of the British Museum for assistance in drawing up the following list, and to Professor Oman of All Souls college, Oxford, for helpful criticism and advice.

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² As at Borcovicus, Arch. Ael., 2nd series, vol. xxv, p. 298; but this comparative rarity of early third century coins is not peculiar to the Roman Wall; see Victoria County History of Somerset, vol. 1, pp. 287, 338.

Value.	Obverse and Reverse.	Reference to Cohen.	Number.	Where found.
	MARK ANTONY.			
AR	Head of Jupiter Ammon to r. ; rev. legionary eagle between two standards		1	Gutter north of site IV.
	DOMITIAN (81-96).			
AR	IMP. CAES. DOMIT. AVG. GERM. P.M. TR. P. XI.; rev. IMP. XXI. COS. XVI. CENS. P.P.P.; Pallas fighting ; date A.D. 92	273	1	West of site IV.
	NERVA (96-98).	-		
l ae	(1) Laureated head r.; rev. CONCOR; two hands joined; in field s.c	. 	1	Site v, room a.
l ae	(2) Laureated head r. ; rev. illegible		1	Site II, room c, foundation of east wall.
	TRAIAN (98-117).			
1 AE	(1) Laureated head r		1	
1 AE	(2) Laureated head I		1	West of site IV.
2 AE	(3-4) Laureated head r		2	Drain of lower street.
	HADRIAN (117-138).			0
l ae	Laureated head r.; rev. Moneta with balance and cornucopia	••••	1	Gutter north-east of site III.
	ANTONINUS PIUS (138-161).			,
1 AE	(1) ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS P.P. TR. P, laureated head r		1	Gutter north of site IV.

THE COINS.

Value.	Obverse and Reverse.	Reference to Cohen.	Number.	Where found.
	ANTONINUS PIUS (138-161)—continued.			· .
l ae	(2) IMP. CAES. T. AEL. HADR. ANTONIN[VS AVG. PIVS P.P.], laureated head r.; <i>rev.</i> female figure seated to l., holding patera; in exergue s.c		1	Site IV, in clay floor.
2 AE	(3) Laureated head r.; rev. Health standing to 1., feeding serpent		1	Site 11, room u.
	MARCUS AURELIUS (161-180).			
AR	 (1) M. ANTONINVS AVG. GERM. SARM.; rev. PAX AVG. (in exergue) TR. P. XXXI IMP. VIII COS. III P.P.; Peace firing spoil and holding a cornucopia; date, A.D. 177 	440	1	Gutter north-east of site III.
l ae	(2) IMP. CAES. M. AVREL. ANTONINVS AVG. P.M.; rev. CONCORD. AVGVSTOR. TR. P. XVI [COS. III] S.C.; M. Aurelius and L. Verus clasping hands; date A.D. 162	24	1	Street below site III.
	FAUSTINA JUNIOR.			
l ae	Head 1		1	Site IV, in clay floor.
AR	[COMM] ANT. AVG. P. BRIT. ; rev. ROMA (in exergue) [P.M. TR. P. X IM]P. VII [COS. IIII P.P.]; Rome seated, holding Victory and cornucopia; date, A.D. 185	661	1	Site Iv.
	SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS (193-211).			
AR	L. SEPT. SEV. PERT. AVG. IMP. VIII; rev. [P.M.] TR. P. IIII COS. II [P.P.]; Pallas to l., with sloping spear and shield; date, A.D. 196	417	1	Site VI.

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REPORT OF EXCAVATIONS AT CORSTOPITUM, I

, 1907 :

Value.	Obverse and Reverse	Reference to Cohen.	Number.	Where found.
	GALLIENUS (253-268.	154	1	Site v, room c.
3 AE	(1) GALLIENVS AVG.; rev. DIANAE CONS. AVG.; deer r.; in exergue ϵ	194	_	-
3 AE	(2) Radiated head r.; rev. PROVIDENTIA AVG.; Providence with wand and cornucopia; in field s		1	Site vi.
3 AE	(3) Radiated head r. ; rev. PAX AUG. ; Peace standing to 1., with sceptre and olive branch	880	1	Street below site III.
3 AE	(4) Radiated head r.; rev. SAECVLARES AVG.; antelope to l	925	1	Site vI.
3 AE	(5) Radiated head with cuirass r. ; rev. VBERITAS AVG. ; Fertility	1008	1	Street.
3 AE	 (b) Instituted head with called a 1, you obtained head y 1 and y 1 an	•••	1	Site 11, room c.
	VICTORINUS (265-267).			
3 AE	(1) IMP. C. VICTORINVS P.F. AUG. ; rev. ORIENS AVG. ; sun raising right hand and holding whip (blundered)	77	-1	Site vi.
3 AE	(2) IMP. C. VICT radiated head r. ; rev. Peace with olive	79	1	Site v, room a.
3 AE	branch and sloping sceptre ; in field v and a star.			
•	TETRICUS I (267-273).	÷		
3 AE	(1) IMP. C. TETRICVS P.F. AVG. ; rev. PAX AVG. ; Peace with olive branch and sceptre	95	3	Site v, room c, and site v1.
3 ae	 (2) IMP. C. TETRICVS P.F. AVG. ; rev. VIRTVS AVGG. ; soldier leaning on shield and holding spear 	207	1	Site v1.

THE COINS.

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Value.	Obverse and Reverse.	Reference to Cohen.	Number.	Where found.
	TETRICUS I (267-273)—continued.			
3 ae	(3) Uncertain reverse (including three blundered coins)		14	Three from lower
				level of street,
				one in gutter of
				upper road at
	•			bridge, three
				from site VI, one
				from corridor of
				site II, one from
				street below site
	TETRICUS II (267-273).			111.
3 AE	Radiated head r		5	Sites IV, VI and
			U	vII, and street
				below site III.
3 AE	CLAUDIUS GOTHICUS (268-270).		_	
JAL	(1) DIVO CLAVDIO; rev. CONSECRATIO; eagle	46	3.	Site v, room c,
				and lower level
3 ae				of street.
3 AE	 (2) DIVO CLAVDIO; rev. CONSECRATIO; lighted altar (3) Providence ? standing to 1. with cornucopia 	50	1	Site v, room c.
3 AE			1	Site IV.
O AL	(3) Reverse uncertain		3	Site v, room c, and
	AURELIAN (270-276).			site vı.
2 AE	IMP. AVRELIANVS AVG. ; rev. FELIC. SAECVLI ; Felicity with patera	75	1	Site vi.
	and caduceus; in exergue s.	•-	-	

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REPORT OF EXCAVATIONS AT CORSTOPITUM, 1907:

Value.	Obverse and Reverse.	Reference to Cohen.	Number.	Where found.
	CARAUSIUS (287-293).			
2 AE	(1) IMP. CARAVSIVS P.F. AVG.; draped bust; rev. FAX. AVG.; Peace with olive branch and vertical sceptre; exergual mark	Webb 128	1	Site II, room b, between floor-
	$\frac{\mathbf{F} \mid \mathbf{O}}{\mathbf{ML}}$			levels.
2 AE	(2) IMP. C. CARAVSIVS P.F. AVG; draped bust; <i>rev.</i> PAX AVGGG.; Peace with olive branch and sloping sceptre; exergual mark $\underbrace{s \mid P}_{MLXXI}$	Webb 170	1	Site VI.
3 ae	(3) IMP. CARAVSIVS ; rev. SALVS AVG. (?); locally struck		1	Site v, room c.
	CONSTANTIUS CHLORUS (Augustus 305-6).			
l ae	IMP. CONSTANTIVS P.F. AVG. ; rev. GENIO POPVLI ROMANI ; Genius with patera and cornucopia	116	1	Lower level of street.
	HELENA.		•	
3 AE	FL. IVL. HELENAE AVG.; rev. PAX PUBLICA; Peace with olive branch and transverse sceptre; in exergue 'TRP'	4	2	Site 11, room f.
	THEODORA.	,		
3 AE	FL. MAX. THEODORAE AVG.; rev. PIETAS ROMANA; Piety with child in her arms; in exergue 'TRS'	4	2	Site VI and road below site III.
	CONSTANTINE THE GREAT (306-337).			
3 ae	(1) CONSTANTINVS MAX. AVG.; diademed head; rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS; two soldiers, between them a single standard	250	2	Site vı.
	surmounted by a flag; mint-marks 'TRS' and 'TRF'			

THE COINS.

Value.	Obverse and Reverse.	Reference to Cohen.	Number.	Where found.
3 AE	CONSTANTINE THE GREAT (306-337)—continued. (2) CONSTANTINVS MAX. AVG.; diademed head; rev. GLORIA	. 254	4	Street below site
	EXERCITVS; two soldiers, between them two standards; mint-marks TRP, TR'S, PLG, and * PLG	201		III, site v, room c, and site vI.
3 AE	(3) CONSTANTINVS MAX. AVG. ; laureated head ; reverse as before ; in exergue TRS	255	1	West of site vi.
3 AE	 (4) IMP. CONSTANTINVS MAX. AVG.; rer. VICTORIAE LAETAE PRINC. PERP; two Victories placing on an altar a shield lettered vot. pr.; in exergue PTR~ 	640	1	Site v, room c.
	CONSTANTINOPOLIS.			
3 AE	(1) CONSTANTINOPOLIS; rev. no inscription; Victory with trans- verse sceptre and shield; mint-marks TRP, $\frac{R}{TRP}$ (two ex-	21	7	Sites IV and VI.
	amples), TRS *, PLG (two examples); and one British-minted specimen			
Minimi	(2) Same obverse and reverse; in exergue PLG	21	4	Sites IV and VI and bridge-head.
	URBS ROMA.			
3 AE	(1) VRBS ROMA; rev. no inscription; wolf with Romulus and Remus; mint-marks, FLG and SCONST	17	3	Site IV, site v, room c, and site vI.
Minimi	(2) Same obverse and reverse ; in exergue PLG	19	5	Sites VI and VIII and street below site III.

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REPORT OF EXCAVATIONS AT CORSTOPITUM, 1907:

Value.	Obverse and Reverse.	Reference to Cohen.	Number.	Where found.
	CRISPUS (317-326).			
3 AE	(1) CRISPVS [NOBIL. C.]; helmeted head l. with spear and shield; rev. BEATA TRANQVILLITAS; altar surmounted by globe; on the altar votis xx; in exergue 'STR'	14	1	
3 AE	(2) FL. IVL. CRISPVS NOB. CAES. ; laureated head l. ; rev. PRO- VIDENTIAE CAESS. ; gate of camp, over it a star ; in exergue 'STR.	125	1	Site v, room c.
	CONSTANTINE II (317-340).			
3 ae	(1) CONSTANTINVS IVN. NOB. C. ; laureated head l. ; rev. CAESARVM NOSTRORUM; laurel crown, within it vot. v. ; in exergue TSBVI	38	1	North of cistern.
3 AE	(2) CONSTANTINVS IVN. NOB. C. ; laureated head r. ; rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS ; two soldiers, between them two standards ; in exergue TR P	122	1	Site 11.
Minim	(3) Same obverse and reverse	124	1	Site IV.
3 AE	(4) Obverse and reverse as before; between the standards the Christian monogram	128	1	Site vi.
3 AE	(5) CONSTANTINVS AVG.; diademed head r.; rev. GLORIA EXER- CITVS; two soldiers, between them two standards; in exergue PLG		1	Site III.
Minim	 (6) CONSTANTINVS IVN. N. C. ; laureated head r. ; rev. no inscription ; wolf suckling Romulus and Remus ; in exergue 'TRP' 		1 .	Site vI.

THE COINS.

Value.	Obverse and Reverse.	Reference to Cohen.	Number.	Where found.	
	CONSTANS (333-350).				
3 AE	(1) FL. IVL. CONSTANS NOB. CAES ; laureated head r. ; rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS ; two soldiers, between them a standard hung with a flag	52	1	Street north of site VI.	
3 AE	(2) CONSTANS P.F. AVG. ; diademed head r. ; rev. as before ; in exergue PLG	54	1	Near rubbish pits.	
3 AE	 (3) CONSTANS P.F. AVG. ; diademed head r. ; rev. VICTORIAE DD. AVGG. Q. NN. ; two Victories, each with crown and palm ; in field D ; in exergue TRP 	179	3	Site IV, site V, roomc, and street north of site VI.	
3 AE	(4) Same obverse and reverse, but in the field an ivy-leaf; in exergue TRP	179	1	Street north of site VI.	
	CONSTANTIUS 11 (323-361).				
3 AE	(1) FL. IVL. CONSTANTIVS NOB. C. ; laureated head r. ; rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS ; two soldiers, between them the labarum ; in exergue SCONST	92	1	Site v, room a.	
3 AE	2) Same obverse and reverse, but in place of the labarum two military standards; in exergue بال	104	5	Sites 11 and VI and site v, room c.	
Minim	(3) Diademed head r.; rev. VOT. XV MULT. XX within a laurel wreath	334	1	Road at bridge head, lower level.	
AR	(4) D. N. CONSTANTIVS P.F. AVG. ; diademed head r. ; rev. VOTIS XXX MVLTIS XXXX within a laurel wreath ; in exergue LVG	342	1	Site 11, floor of room f.	-
3 ae	(5) · [FL. IVL. CONSTANTI]VS NOB. CAES. ; laureated head r. ; incuse reverse			Street.	

Value.	Obverse and Reverse.	Reference to Cohen.	Number	Where found.
	HOUSE OF CONSTANTINE.			
2 AE	Constans or Constantius II; rev. FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO		1	•••••
Minimi	<i>Rev.</i> GLORIA EXERCITVS		3	Site VI and site v, room c.
	VALENTINIAN I (364-375).			1
3 ae	 (1) D. N. VALENTINIANVS P.F. AVG.; diademed head r.; rev. GLORIA ROMANORVM; Valentinian with hand on captive, holding labarum; in field of one specimen, of II; in another I D SMAQ 	12	3	Site II, room f; west of site IV, and lower level of street.
3 AE	 (2) D. N. VALENTINIANVS P.F. AVG; diademed head r.; rev. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE; Victory with crown and palm, in field of two specimens of II; in exergue of two other specimens, PCON 	37	7	Street below site 111, site IV and gutter of same; site V, room c; west of site VI; site VI, and site VII.
	VALENS (364-378).			
3 ае	(1) D. N. VALENS P.F. AVG.; diademed head r.; rev. GLORIA ROMANORVM; Valens, with hand on captive, holding labarum,	11	• 2	Sites II and VI.
•	mint-marks, OF III cons			
3 AE	(2) D. N. VALENS P.F. AVG.; diademed head r.; rev. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICE; Victory with crown and palm; mint-mark, OF III CON	47	1	Site 11, room f.

THE COINS.

Value.	Obverse and Reverse.	Reference to Cohen.	Number.	Where found.
	GRATIAN (367-383).			
3 AE	(1) D. N. GRATIANVS AVGG. AVG. ; diademed head r. ; rev. GLORIA NOVI SAECVLI ; Gratian with labarum and shield ; mint mark OF CONS	13	1	Site IV.
3 AE	(2) D. N. GRATIANVS P.F. AVG. ; diademed head r. ; rer. GLORIA ROMANORVM ; Gratian, with hand on captive, holding labarum ; in exergue LVGF	23	1	East of rubbish pits.
3 AE	(3) D. N. GRATIANVS P.F. AVG. ; diademed head r. ; rev. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE ; Victory with crown and palm ; mint-mark, OF I LVGP	34	1	Site v, room c.
3 AE	(4) Reverse doubtful		2	Street below site III.
3 ae	[VALENTINIAN II (375-392).] D. N. VALENTIN ; diademed head r. ; rev. illegible		1	Site v, room c.

Forty-six coins remain unidentified. These include one first brass and four second brass coins of the second century, seventeen coins of the period of Claudius Gothicus and the Tetrici, six barbarous imitations of coins of the same period, and four coins of the fourth century of which two are British minted.

OTHER MINOR FINDS.

VIII.-OTHER MINOR FINDS.

Pottery.—The vessels and fragments found in the pottery shop have already been noticed, and a list of potters' marks is given in the section dealing with the inscriptions. The excavations produced a large quantity of pottery, the bulk of which came from the rubbish pits and the upper field, site II producing a comparatively small proportion.

The varieties of terra sigillata are not numerous, and the types appear to be uniformly late: the numbers of the shapes in Dragendorff's scheme are 31, 32, 33, 37, and a variant of 44. A shape not given by Dragendorff was also found-a thinwalled and apparently pear-shaped vase, plain, but of the type often ornamented with incised patterns. A bowl, signed BVTRIO,⁶ and decorated with cupids and sea monsters, was found just below the surface in the rubbish pit area. Another, on which victories carrying palm branches alternate with figures of Diana and a fawn was found in rubbish pit 7 (see fig. 5, no. 2, Another, from rubbish pit 1, has pictures of a man p. 253). resting one foot upon a rock; these figures are separated by circles and semicircles containing masks (see fig. 5, no. 1, p. 253). A curious fragment of shape 37 had the stamp LVTAEVS FEC impressed on the smooth rim above the ornament, which consisted of a wreath of laurel leaves and berries instead of the usual 'egg and staff' pattern.

Of other pottery, the rubbish pits produced a considerable variety. Fragments of several large *amphorae* were found, some of which bore the makers' stamps, and one had the *graffito* cxx, probably an indication of capacity. A curious barrel-shaped vessel of fine white clay and a small white vase came from rubbish pit 3 (see fig. 1, p. 221, nos. 5 and 4). Two fragments

⁶ See section E, 7, (c), (1).

were found of a ware sprinkled with mica, the process producing the appearance of gilding. A jug was found unbroken outside the west end of the corridor hypocaust in site II, above the burnt layer (see fig. 1, p. 221, no. 3). Another jug, of fine white pottery and apparently of early date, came from beneath one of the later foundations of the same site: a cooking pot of rough ware lay with it (see fig. 1, p. 221, nos. 2 and 1).



FIG. 30.

There was a moderate quantity of Durobrivian and other finer wares, but for the most part in small fragments only, though it was possible to restore the greater part of one vase of the usual slate colour. with dogs and hares or deer, worked in relief. There were a few specimens of the fine blackfaced Belgic ware with patterns in white slip, and a good many pieces

of the indented 'thumb vases' in all sizes of the Castor type, some with a brown surface and raised floral design in white slip, and some with matt brown painting on a white ground, the specimens of the latter kind being all of a rude and common type. There were also a few very small fragments with a greenish vitreous glaze on a grey or red body. The only other piece of interest was the arm of a small statuette: it is of the smooth white paste which is common in such figures and resembles that of St. Remy en Rollat.

GLASS AND METAL OBJECTS.

Glass.—Rubbish pit 3 produced the only unbroken specimen. It is a small bottle, about three inches high, of blown glass (fig. 30), greenish-blue in colour and deepening in tone at the base, which is comparatively thick; the two handles are of drawn glass, white in colour. The bottle had been suspended by a bronze chain attached to the handles, the fastening and one link of the chain being found in place. There were many fragments of other bottles, mostly of the common square shape: the neck, reeded handle, base, and two sides of a bottle of this kind were found, but otherwise only disconnected fragments occurred. One very delicate vessel, which apparently had been tumbler-shaped, had engraved lines running round it. Another tumbler rim was engraved with the letter M. Numerous fragments of windowglass were found on the house sites.

Metal.—(a) Iron.—A large number of iron objects were found, but most were in a very bad state of preservation. Of those which it was possible to identify, the greater proportion were implements of a non-military character; but several spear-heads and arrow-heads were found, as well as a sword, nearly complete, and three or four calthrops. As the use of calthrops in Roman times has been considered doubtful, it is well to mention that the specimens referred to were found in one of the rooms on site v, about three feet below the surface. The other objects discovered include various tools, a knife with its wooden handle almost complete, some pieces of chain, and a *stylus*. A lock, key, and door-handle were found in the pottery-shop, close to what appeared to have been the doorway opening into the yard or annexe on the east, and another iron key, of larger size, was found in the rubbish pit area.

(b) Bronze.—Amongst the bronze objects were a fine stylus, parts of several small buckles, a small cruciform pendant, a signet-ring with a key in relief on the bezel, two plain finger-

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rings, a ring with triple reeding, a key-ring, and a ring of white bronze engraved with the letters svc | CES. There was also a small figure of an eagle, possibly from the top of a helmet, the head and legs of which were missing.

Rubbish pit 5 produced a cheek-piece of a helmet of very thin bronze, with a row of small holes along the curved edge, showing



that it had been lined with leather or some similar substance. The design, which is partly chased and partly in repoussé work, has for its central feature a draped female bust in very high relief. The head is of a purely classical type and admirably executed. and there appear to be no indications that the work is Romano-British. When found, this cheek piece was pressed flat and had suffered much from the acids in the soil, but it has been restored to its original shape and backed.

From rubbish pit 2 came a fine bronze jug (fig. 31) which has been restored, in spite of the damage which it had sustained: the soil of the

upper part of the site is unfortunately inimical to bronze, and all remains of bronze objects found in that part of

OBJECTS OF BRONZE, LEAD, BONE, ETC.

the excavations were much corroded. This jug stands ten inches high and is five and a half inches in diameter: the shape is simple but graceful, and the ornamentation is confined to the handle which, where it joins the rim, is divided into three petal-like members, the uppermost being free and slightly curved back, while the others follow the rim. At the base of the handle is a small, delicately worked female head with flowing hair.

Several examples of enamelled bronze were found. One is a circular brooch with concentric rings of red and blue enamel; another is an open-work bronze clasp of good design, with upright panels in yellow and blue at the top; the third and best piece is a large plaque, with a late Celtic design of spirals is blue on a yellow ground. From site v came a small brooch in the form of a sitting hare or rabbit.

(c) Lead.—A fragment of a lead relief, representing a dancing girl, was found in a drain to the north of site II. The only other leaden object of interest was a circular weight, weighing 495 grammes; conical holes had been cut in the lower surface, and smaller holes in the upper, probably to adjust the weight to the standard.

Bone.—Two dice were found, of which one was of bone and regularly marked: the other was of hard wood and marked with two aces, the six being missing. There were several pins of various sizes, two needles, a few small handles of uncertain use, and a number of chequers, of which some were plain and some were ornamented with lathe-turned concentric circles. site VI produced a plain triangular scale of bone, about two inches in breadth and very thin, with a hole at each corner.

Stone.—In addition to the objects already mentioned, one red pebble was found, bezel-shaped, with a snail cut on it in intaglio. A stone implement, which appeared to be a heavy pestle, was found near the bridge head, and a similar implement came from one of the chambers of site III.

IX .--- PRE-ROMAN REMAINS.

It has often been maintained that a British settlement existed on the site of Corstopitum before the foundation of the Roman town, and Maclauchlan considered that such a settlement would account for the fact that the Deor Street, after descending into the Tyne valley near Riding Mill, does not cross the river immediately, but keeps to the south side for about two miles till Corstopitum is reached. This view, however, is not conclusive, and possibly future research may confirm the same writer's supposition that a road from the south-west joined the Deor Street at or near the southern end of the bridge; definite proof of the existence of such a road would account more satisfactorily for the choice of this particular position for crossing the river.

Up to the present practically nothing in the way of direct evidence of such a settlement has been found. A few rough fint flakes and scrapers have occurred in the soil, both this year and last, but these cannot be regarded as throwing any light on the question. During the past season a trench was carried from the southern limit of the reserved area, above the road to Corbridge mill, up to the front of the stepped base on the south side of site II; this trench was eighty feet long, five feet wide, and for the greater part of its length eleven or twelve feet deep. The surface soil varied in depth from three feet seven inches to five feet three inches, the top of the Roman deposit being variable, while the modern hill slope is fairly even. A mass of fallen stones and plaster, of a thickness gradually diminishing from three feet, stretched from the stepped base to a point about thirty-five feet to the south, the southern and thinner portion being covered by a layer of black rubbish, chiefly charcoal, thickest at the point where the rubble ended, and running with

PRE-ROMAN REMAINS.

a fairly level surface to the bottom of the field, where it was a foot thick. This burnt stratum appeared to represent the period after the destruction of the town.

These two layers rested upon a heavy stratum of made soil of a clayey character, containing bones, lime, pottery, fragments of stone, etc.-the ordinary rubbish that accumulated in the neighbourhood of a Roman town. This stratum continued uniformly down to the road, sloping somewhat steeply at the north end, and gradually coming nearer the present surface towards the south. Its lower contour was very different, and it appeared to overlie what may at an early date have been the bank of the river, midway between the second and third geological terraces. After sloping down from the edge of the third terrace, the ground lay horizontal: this was succeeded by a dip of three feet in less than ten, and further to the south it again became horizontal. To the north the soil was a heavy clay: on the slope of the old river bank it was clay mixed with sand, and in what had been the bed of the river, pure sand.

Between the deposit of Roman date and the untouched soil were thin strata of a different character—two at the north end of the cutting and one at the south end. The upper stratum was three inches thick at the north end, where it was composed almost entirely of burnt matter: further to the south this was succeeded by a thicker layer of sandy clay, somewhat discoloured, through which the carbonised stems of plants or reeds ran perpendicularly. The lower stratum, which was followed for the whole length of the cutting, consisted of a thin layer of the same sandy clay, in which were found a number of small flint chippings. The upper part of the heavier clay below this stratum was full of carbonised filaments—apparently the root-fibres of grass, etc.

Clay of similar quality to that in which the flint chippings were found had been used in the foundations of some of the rooms on site II, and in examining these foundations one or two broken scrapers and a barbed and tanged flint arrow-head were discovered. The evidence, however, which has come to light up to the present, is quite insufficient to prove any settlement, or any occupation of more than a temporary kind.

X.-SECTION H.-THE ANIMAL REMAINS.

(By professor A. MEEK).

The specimens sent from the excavations were of a fragmentary character, but they were numerous and in many respects interesting. The following animals were represented:

- A.-Site II. Hypocaust of a large building where a considerable amount of rubbish had accumulated.
- Al.-Low down in rubbish pit. Small collection belonging to a dog.
- A2.—Near top of rubbish pit. Nearly complete remains of dog and specimens belonging to pig, and Bos Taurus var. longifrons.
- A3.—Below North Terrace Wall (31st July, 1907). Pony, B. longifrons, pig, sheep, dog.
- A4.—Rubbish pit at depth of 13 feet. B. longifrons, pig, dog, red deer, swan, pheasant, duck.
- B.—(17th July, 1907). Scattered remains from various parts of the foundations. *B. longifrons*, red deer, pig, sheep, pony.
- D.—(13th Sept., 1907). B. longifrons, young dog, almost complete skeleton of calf, pony, pig, dog. Also part of skull of Bos belonging to a type found previously in local (earlier) deposits.

Site v.-Remnants of human jaw.

E.—(4th Sept., 1907). Pony, B. longifrons, young sheep, pig, red deer, dog, badger, fox, oyster-shells (from the sea).

F.-Small bird.

- G.—Scattered bones from site II. B. longifrons, sheep, pig, deer, goose, shell of mytilus (marine mussel).
- (August 3rd, 1907). Lower jaw of European beaver, B. longifrons, pig, pony, sheep dog, oysters. Bag 1: pony, pig, human remains; bag 2: B. longifrons, bird, human remains.

Ibid. B. longifrons, pig, dog.

Site II.—Passage of hypocaust. Remains of small birds, pheasant and grouse, pig.

West hypocaust. -B. longifrons, deer, duck, partridge, grouse.

(September 25th, 1907). B. longifrons, young duck, red deer, roe deer, pig, sheep, human remains.

Against North Terrace Wall. B. longifrons, pig, deer, pony, dog, bird.

 (October 4th, 1907). Between two concrete floors (court of site II.). Many shells of snails, viz., many *Helix aspersa*, a few *Helix nemoralis*, a few *Helix hortensis*, one *Helix rotundata*. All yet common at Corbridge. From under flagged floor of building in hayfield: *B. longifrons*, sheep, pig, dog.

REMARKS.

The Bos Taurus, var. longifrons is well represented, and the remains show that it was liable to a great degree of variation. In certain cases the animals could not have been much less in size than the present day shorthorn, though the majority were about the size of the Chillinghams of the present time. One skull is interesting, as it belongs to a race which must have existed in prehistoric times—a small race, about Chillingham size. It is possible that it may have been living wild, and that it, or a near ally, survives in the Chillingham. At all events in one or two cases a lower jaw was found among the remains, which had the character of the Chillingham,—viz., the absence of the first premolar.