

A ROMANO-CELTIC TEMPLE AT TITSEY, AND THE ROMAN ROAD.

BY

JAMES GRAHAM, C.B.E.

IN 1879 the late Mr. G. W. G. Leveson Gower partly excavated a Roman building in Church Field, on Pilgrims' Lodge Farm, in the Parish of Titsey. The following paragraphs are extracted from his account of his exploration (*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London*, Second Series, Vol. VIII) :

" It is situated in the Parish of Titsey immediately on the confines of Tatsfield parish and about 500 yards south of the Pilgrims' Way. It is on a knoll about 500 feet above sea-level. . . . The field itself is called Church Field, and the Wood adjoining, Church Wood. The legend told me by an old man living in the parish, which the inhabitants generally believe, is that an attempt was made to build a Church on this spot, and that what was built by day the witches pulled down by night.¹ Such traditions, however difficult to account for, are by no means uncommon. . . . Mr. Roach Smith informs me that he knows of more than one instance where the name of Church Field is found in connection with Roman remains. . . . We began on 20th October, and found about 18 inches below the surface a building, almost square, facing South-east by North-west, the actual measurements being—North side 21 feet 3 inches : East 21 feet 2 inches : West 21 feet 2 inches. At the North-east and South-west (*sic*) angles were the traces of a buttress, and in the North-east and South-west angles are square paving bricks lying *in situ*. The outer walls are no less than 3 feet 5 inches in thickness, built of flints bedded in concrete, but with no binding bricks. The Northern half is divided by two party walls of 2 feet 2 inches each in thickness, the intermediate space being 3 feet 2½ inches in width. . . . At the North-east end was a rough paving of flints as if the entrance had been on that side. On the East side there had apparently been a ditch

¹ This legend still survives.

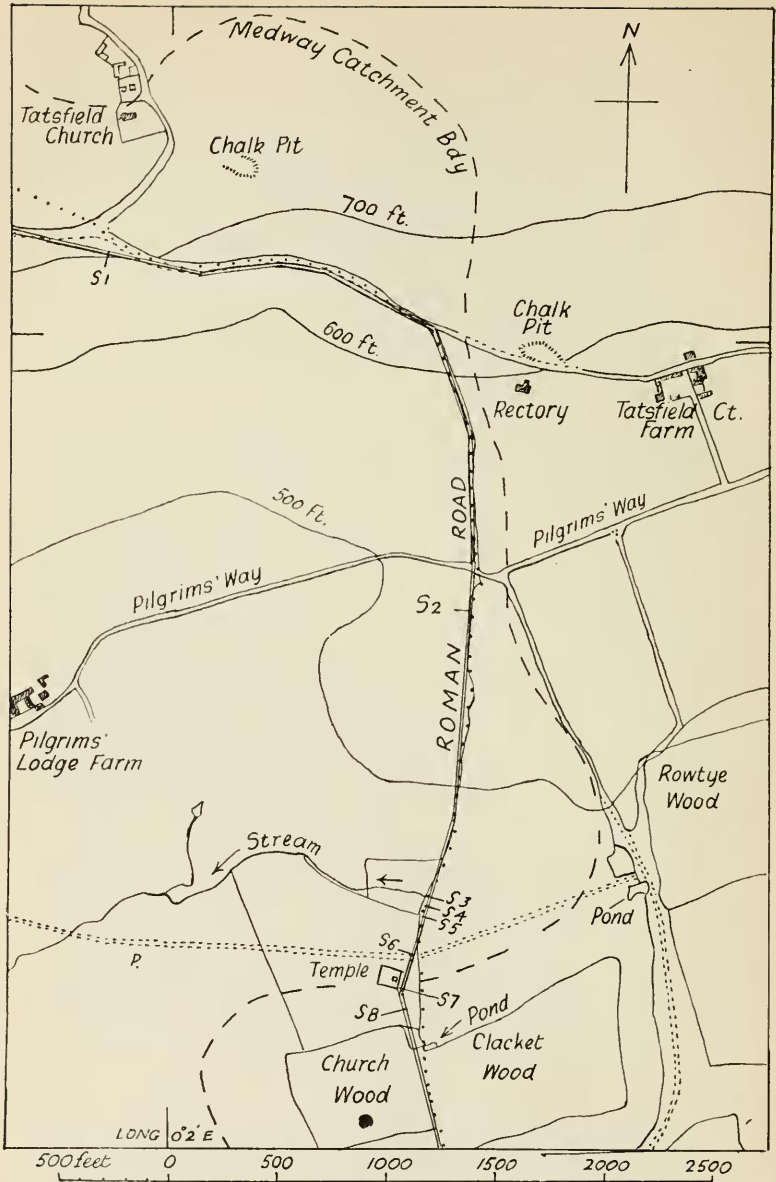
about 3 feet wide, which was full of the debris of the house, for the most part roofing slabs of a red sandstone. On the other three sides the soil was unmoved. I was led to believe from the thickness of the wall and the smallness of the building, together with the almost entire absence of pottery and other domestic objects, that it was something in the nature of a Watchtower, but Mr. Roach Smith dissents from this, and believes that it is only part of a larger building, and as I have been told lately of other lines of wall having been seen in dry seasons this will probably prove to be the case. With the exception of oyster-shells there were very few of the usual accompaniments of a Roman building:—two or three fragments only of pottery, no tesserae, no iron objects except a couple of nails, and two small pieces of wall painting only.”

Mr. Leveson Gower does not appear ever to have made an examination of the “other lines of wall,” and he was not aware that a Roman road passes within a few yards of the building. Had he had knowledge of this fact there can be little doubt that he would have made further investigations.

It is now known that the whole of the eastern boundary of Titsey parish, which is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, follows closely the course of the Roman road from London to Lewes and Newhaven (*Sussex Arch. Coll.*, Vols. LXXIII and LXXIV, and *S.A.C.*, Vols. XL and XLIII). No other Roman building has yet been found on, or near, this road: the Titsey villa, more than a mile to the west, is probably the next nearest. As Mr. Leveson Gower’s building was “on the confines of Tatsfield parish” it was clear that it must be very close to the road. It therefore seemed worth while to try to find out what its relation to the road might be, and to discover the “other lines of wall,” in the hope that they might throw some light on the real nature of the building. Excavation was accordingly started, in July 1935, by Colonel R. H. Cunnington and myself. Mr. Bernard F. Davis joined us a little later.

THE SITE.

The soil is Gault Clay, very hard in a dry summer, very soft and heavy in winter. No traces of the previous excavations were visible, but the site was easily found, thanks to a single rabbit hole, in which flints and fragments of tile were exposed. The building is situate on the highest ground in the field, a slight roll, or flat ridge, running east and west.



ROMANO-CELTIC TEMPLE, TITSEY, WITH THE PILGRIMS' WAY AND ROMAN ROAD.

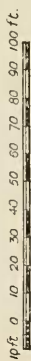
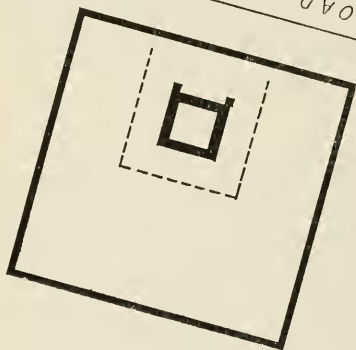
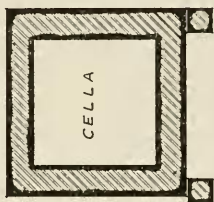
Based on the Ordnance Survey Map with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.

The ground falls very gently to the south and west, and rather more sharply to the north. At the bottom of the dip to the north there is a small stream, dry during the summer of 1935, which is shown on the O.S. map as rising on the parish boundary. Actually its channel is visible, as a mere depression in the turf, for some yards east of the boundary, and after the heavy autumn rains there was quite a strong flow in this channel. The stream is one of the headwaters of the Eden, and is slowly cutting its way back towards the Darenth basin. The boundary between the catchment areas of the Medway and the Darenth (the Eden is a tributary of the Medway) passes exactly through the site of the "small square building" (O.S. 6-inch map, 1914 edition). The parish boundary, opposite the east side of the building, is a rough broken hedge, with a wire fence in it. On the west side of this fence there is a strip, some 25 feet wide, partly overgrown with trees and bushes, having the appearance of an ancient, and now disused, track. Along the west side of this strip is a slight depression, which looks like the trace of a ditch. This strip, or track, was at first supposed to be the Roman road. Later we found that it is not the original road, but merely a diversion. Church Wood lies to the south. Just at the north-west angle of Clacket Wood, on the eastern side of the parish boundary, there is a small pond, formed by an artificial dam of earth and clay. The overflow from this pond has either cut through the Roman road, or a channel has been cut for it.

THE BUILDING.

As may be seen from the plan, the building conforms closely to the general type of the so-called Romano-Celtic Temples, both Continental and British. There is an almost square *cella*, set in an almost square *temenos*, which is surrounded by a substantial wall. The external dimensions of the *cella* are: north and south sides 20 feet 3 inches; east and west sides 21 feet 3 inches. Mr. Leveson Gower gives 21 feet 3 inches for the north side. This is possibly a misprint, or an error in transcribing from notes. The measurement was the more carefully checked because it disagreed with his figure. The width of the walls varies from 3 feet 5 inches to 3 feet

Boundary of Verandah (Approx)



7 inches. They are built of large unbroken flints, with yellow mortar, and are merely foundations, the upper walls having entirely disappeared. Being trench-built they are narrower at the bottom than at the top, and are carried down to a depth of about 4 feet, measured from the top of the existing wall, which is approximately at the original ground level.

The "buttresses" mentioned by Mr. Leveson Gower are at the north-east and south-east (not south-west) angles. They are square, measuring 2 feet 9 inches each way. They are not bonded to the walls, though of exactly the same construction, and are not carried down to the full depth of the wall. The northern "buttress" is aligned with the outer edge of the north wall, but the southern one projects 9 inches beyond the line of the south wall. It is doubtful if they are really buttresses. Mr. M. R. Hull informs me that similar structures, but larger, have been found on the east front of the Temple recently excavated at Colchester. He suggests that they may have supported altars or cult-figures. The small size of these structures at Titsey points rather to cult-figures than altars.

To save time and labour the "party walls" inside the *cella* were not fully exposed. The area within the main walls is covered, excepting a space within the south-west angle, by a layer of very hard gravel, 2 feet to 2 feet 6 inches in depth, resting on undisturbed clay. This space may have been dug out in 1879. This would account for a large square "paving brick" (? bonding tile) being found *outside* the south-west angle, and certainly not *in situ*.

Mr. Leveson Gower is mistaken in stating that the soil, outside the walls, is "unmoved" on the north, south, and west sides. On the contrary, it has been very deeply disturbed to a distance of 10 to 11 feet from the walls, and is full of debris, including fragments of mediæval pottery. In particular, there is much pink plaster, or mortar, which, on the south side, forms a layer fully 6 inches deep near the wall, thinning out to mere patches as the distance from the walls increases. Most of this plaster is in a friable condition, but solid lumps occur. No trace was found of the "rough paving of flints" at the "north-east end," but outside the *west* wall, and extending to the limit of the disturbed zone, there is what

at first sight might be taken for such a paving. The flints however, are not continuous, and, being above the thick layer of debris, cannot be *in situ*. On this (west) side there is a thin, but distinct, layer of red brick or tile dust.

No definite indication of a ditch on the east side was found. The whole of the ground on that side, between the *cella* and the *temenos* wall, is full of debris from the building, including pieces of burnt or charred wood, some of which are recognizable as the remains of shaped timber. There is no pink plaster on this side, but the thin layer of red brick-dust shows in places.

THE TEMENOS.

Measured externally the north and south sides are 98 feet 9 inches long : the east and west sides 102 feet 3 inches. Thus the north and south sides are shorter than the others in both the *cella* and the *temenos* walls. All the angles, in both, are exactly 90°. The *temenos* walls are of the same construction as those of the *cella*, excepting that blocks of yellow sandstone (Lower Greensand) occur here and there in the east wall. (None was seen in the other walls, but only short lengths of them were exposed, while the eastern wall was exposed almost completely.) The walls are generally 2 feet 3 inches wide, but vary slightly owing to the irregularity of the flints.

The *cella* is not centrally placed in any direction. The measurements from the outside of the *cella* walls to the inside of the *temenos* walls are : north side, 37 feet 3 inches ; south side, 39 feet 3 inches ; east side, 17 feet 3 inches ; west side, 56 feet 9 inches. The tracing out of the *temenos* walls was made easy by the drought in August, when the whole plan of them became visible. As already stated, practically the whole length of the eastern wall was opened up, and, in addition, the four corners and several short lengths of the other walls were exposed. The well-marked lines of withered grass sufficiently proved their continuity. A layer of red brick-dust, extending to a distance of 2 to 3 feet outside the walls, particularly noticeable along the west wall, suggests that the upper walls were built of, or cased with, brick.

Outside the south-east angle there is a mass of flint, still

held together by the mortar, but detached from the wall. It carries traces of brick, or bonding tile, and may be a fragment of the upper wall, or a fallen corner buttress. A few feet from this same south-east angle, against the outer side of the south wall, there is a mass of rough yellow sandstone slabs, not dressed, standing more or less on edge. The soil around this mass is very black, and full of wood ash, with a few fragments of mediæval pottery. The slabs may be the wrecked remains of an oven, or fireplace of some sort. If so, it is too completely destroyed to provide any indication of its construction or purpose.

The ground to the south, outside the *temenos*, contains much large flint, which, in places, is suggestive of a rough paving or metalling. The Gault Clay, here and there on the site, contains a certain amount of naturally deposited flint, but this is readily distinguishable from the large unbroken building flints, evidently robbed from the Temple, with which this area is strewn. Time and labour did not permit of a thorough exploration, but a few short trenches and trial holes produced some mediæval pottery.

THE ROMAN ROAD.

At the start of operations it was assumed that the track along the parish boundary represented the road. During the drought a large patch of withered grass appeared midway between the south-east angle of the *temenos* and the boundary of Church Wood. A trench across this disclosed unmistakable road metal, the usual flint and gravel construction (see Appendix). At the time this, being apparently not a full width road, was thought to be part of a "loop" from the main road serving as an approach to the Temple. Later, to make sure of the main road, a trench was cut across the boundary track, starting close to the fence. This showed no trace of metal under the track, but, being continued towards the *temenos* wall, it struck the eastern edge of the road 52 feet from the parish boundary and 37 feet from the eastern wall. Investigations to the northward showed that the road runs across the east front of the *temenos*, the western edge of the road being 15 feet from the wall, and parallel to it. This alignment was proved for a distance of about 400 feet to the

north. Its direction is $15\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east of north, true. The long straight alignment coming up from the south along the parish boundary, starting east of Limpsfield Chart, has a direction 14 degrees west of north. This alignment was easily picked up near the parish boundary, between Church and Clacket Woods, and was followed up, by means of a series of borings, towards the Temple. It was found that the trench through the withered patch (No. 8) was exactly on this southern alignment, and that it had exposed the eastern half width of the road. The eastern edge is very clear and definite, both in the wood and in the field, and, judging from its perfect alignment, must be in good preservation. The western edge, in the field, south of the Temple, is indefinite and broken, no doubt owing to damage by the plough. Opposite to, and north of the Temple, the whole width of the road (22 feet) appears to be intact. It is also intact in Church Wood. The two alignments meet just south of the south-east angle of the *temenos* wall, at which point the road changes direction $29\frac{1}{2}$ degrees to the eastward. The position of the parish boundary is evidently due to the natural tendency of traffic to cut a corner, so forming a new track, which was presumably in use at the date when the boundary became fixed.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS.

I do not think there can be any doubt that the building is a Romano-Celtic Temple. At first sight the absence of a verandah seems to differentiate it from the typical examples of these temples, both Continental and British. The general plan, however, is quite characteristic, and the apparent absence of a verandah seems to be due to the building having been subjected to severe and systematic robbery. The zone of disturbed soil, full of debris, which extends to a distance of 10 to 11 feet outside the walls of the *cella*, occupies exactly the space where the verandah, if it had survived, should be. The conditions suggest that the whole of the material of the verandah, both flooring and dwarf walls, or kerbs, was removed, and that the space so left was filled in with debris as the upper walls of the *cella* were demolished. The mass of filled in material ends quite abruptly against an



ROMAN ROAD NEAR TATSFIELD.
Looking East.



ROMAN ROAD NEAR TATSFIELD.
Looking West.

[The photographs show the road at the point SI. The section (filled in) is actually in the immediate foreground of the bottom photograph.]

almost vertical face of undisturbed clay. This face, which is particularly distinct on the western side, probably indicates fairly accurately the position of the outer edge of the verandah. It may be remarked here that numerous fragments of Oolite (probably brought from Gaul: see Appendix), and of red sandstone slabs, were found in the verandah area. The use of these materials, brought from a long distance, indicates that the building was of considerable importance. Apart from the distance, there would be no great difficulty in the transport of these materials to the site, as the communications were good, to the Kent coast via the Pilgrims' Way, and to the Sussex coast via the Roman road.

As to the relation of the Temple to the road, the turn to the north-eastward just south of the Temple was evidently made to secure a reasonable gradient for the climb up the face of the chalk escarpment. If the southern alignment had been continued to the north, the gradient between the 600 and 700 feet contours would have been nearly 1 in 4. On the actual course taken by the road the average gradient between these contours is about 1 in 18, and the steepest part of it is not more than about 1 in 12. This is a much better piece of engineering than the modern road.

It is therefore more probable that the siting of the Temple was determined by the lay-out of the road, rather than the converse, but it is interesting to note that the southern alignment points directly at the east front of the *cella*, though of course at an oblique angle. This may be accidental, because a sighting point on the sky-line of the North Downs would have obvious advantages over a point in the comparatively low country. Tatsfield Churchyard, which looks as if it may have been originally circular, and therefore possibly on the site of a barrow, is almost on the alignment, and seemed a likely point. The alignment, however, if produced, only just touches the extreme eastern edge of the churchyard. There is no other conspicuous point to the north, and it therefore seems a reasonably probable inference that the road was sighted on something occupying the exact position of the *cella*. Possibly some rude shrine or temple, of wood or other perishable material, stood on this spot, and was replaced by the flint building when the fashion for these Temples came

into Britain from Gaul.¹ The turn to the north-east was dictated by engineering considerations. It had to be made somewhere, and, if the present site of the *cella* was previously occupied by a building of some sort it would be a very natural thing to make the turn just before the road reached that building. Actually, if the turn had been made a little farther to the south, the course of the road would have been on higher ground, and the dip into the rather marshy hollow near the source of the small stream would have been avoided. There was evidently therefore some reason for selecting the exact position of the turn, which outweighed these advantages.

Accurate dating of the building is not possible. All the finds which can be dated occurred among the general debris, or in the trenches along the walls, and no "sealed" deposit of any kind was found. The pottery falls into three periods, Iron Age, Romano-British and Mediæval (twelfth to fourteenth centuries). There is nothing which can be referred to the 800 years between the second and third periods. It may be noted that all the Romano-British fragments were found between the eastern wall of the *cella* and the boundary wall of the *temenos*, *i.e.* in what must have been the forecourt of the Temple, while the mediæval pottery was found all over the site, in the debris in the verandah area, and even outside the *temenos*. On the evidence of the pottery alone it is therefore only possible to suggest that the Temple was in use, as a Temple, during a period ending in the third century A.D., that it lay derelict from some time in the third until some time in the twelfth century, and that the site was then occupied for a period of about 200 years, to be again, and finally, abandoned during the fourteenth century. There is, however, one small piece of evidence, or rather two, which may supply a clue to the probable date of the construction of the Temple. In two sections of the Roman road, Nos. 4 and 7 (see Appendix), fragments of box-tile of the same pattern as those in the Temple debris were found. One was about 3 inches below the present top of the road metal, the other right at the bottom of the metal. These fragments must have been incorporated with the metal during the original

¹ The site was certainly occupied in pre-Roman times. See Appendix, Report on the Pottery.

construction of the road, not during some later repair, and indicate that builder's rubbish was lying about the site when the road was under construction. This rubbish can have come only from the Temple, and, since it is improbable that the Temple existed before the road was made, the inference is that Temple and road were constructed simultaneously. Now Mr. I. D. Margary found, at a point south of Barcombe Mills, on this same road, certain pottery sherds which provided "some definite ground for dating the road as not later in origin than this year (A.D. 150) and probably nearer A.D. 100 or before" (*Sussex Arch. Coll.*, Vol. LXXIV). It therefore seems permissible to place the construction of the Temple at the same approximate date.

There is at present no evidence as to the nature of the mediæval occupation. The comparatively small quantity of pottery, scattered over the site, with no sign of concentration at any particular spot, does not suggest a pot factory. Most of the fragments are the remains of cooking pots, which fact, in conjunction with the wrecked fireplace or oven, rather indicates domestic occupation, perhaps a small farmhouse, or labourer's hovel.¹ There is a third possibility. The site is practically on the Roman road, and only 500 yards from the Pilgrims' Way, and there is good water close at hand. It would have been an excellent camp site for travellers on either road. It may be only a coincidence, but it is a suggestive coincidence, that the period of occupation indicated by the pottery is exactly the period during which the pilgrimages to the shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury were at their maximum. Mr. C. Eveleigh Woodruff (*Arch. Cantiana*, Vol. XLIV, p. 13 *et seq.*) gives a valuable table of the offerings at the shrine, and deduces that "the cult of St. Thomas seems to have attained its apogee" about the years 1370-83. About the end of the fourteenth century there appears to have been a somewhat rapid and heavy decrease in the offerings at the shrine, and though there was a temporary revival in 1420, the year of the fifth "jubilee," the offerings after that date became almost negligible. If the site was used as a camping-ground, either by Canterbury Pilgrims or ordinary travellers, the ruined temple would have provided a convenient

¹ No indication of any mediæval building has been found.

supply of flint to harden up the surface of the clay soil, and this would account for the condition of the ground to the south of the temple, as well as for the complete destruction of the verandah.

In conclusion, I have to thank Mr. C. G. Leveson Gower, of Titsey, Mr. S. King and Mr. J. Bastable, for permission to dig, and a number of volunteer diggers, in particular Mr. E. E. Black, of the Elfrida School, Catford, and his staff, for much hard labour.

APPENDIX.

(I). Pottery.

A representative collection of the pottery finds was submitted to Mr. Hawkes, of the British Museum, who kindly dated the specimens. Later, Mr. G. C. Dunning examined the whole of the pottery in detail, and I am much indebted to him for his report, printed below, on the pre-Roman sherds, and also for the drawings (Figs. 1-3).

In addition to the Belgic pottery dealt with in Mr. Dunning's report the following fragments of Romano-British and other pottery were found :

(1) One small piece of a thin dark reddish grey ware, with a rubbed lattice pattern. From trench east side of *cella*. Roman period, but not closely dateable.

(2) Part of base of a beaker of red ware, with black coated surface. Found just inside the *temenos* wall, opposite east side of *cella*. Early third century, about A.D. 200.

(3) Three fragments of a very thin and fragile ware, light greyish brown in colour, with smooth, but not soapy, surface. Found in association with (2). Roman period. Second, or possibly first, century.

(4) Numerous fragments of mediæval wares, chiefly the remains of cooking pots. Twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Found all over the site.

REPORT ON THE POTTERY FROM THE TITSEY ROMANO-CELTIC TEMPLE SITE.

BY GERALD C. DUNNING, F.S.A

The three vessels illustrated in Figs. 1-3 form a group of late Belgic wares, and probably date from the period A.D. 25-50. It is possible that Fig. 3 is slightly later in date than the other two, but in any case it is earlier than A.D. 70. The absence of stratification on the site is unfortunate, but the fragments of Fig. 3 were all found together just outside the wall of the *cella* at, or just below, the original ground level. The pots may be accepted as evidence of a settlement at the end of the Iron Age, possibly continuing into the early years of the Roman period, and in any case prior to the building of the Romano-Celtic Temple. In this respect the site invites comparison with other Romano-Celtic Temple sites on which pre-Roman objects have been found,¹ although these are evidence of settlement only and not of pre-Roman sanctuaries.²

Fig. 1. Bowl of wheel-turned hard dark grey ware with finely crushed grit. The surface is well smoothed and somewhat soapy, black on the upper part and brown above the base. It has a flat rim, slightly bulging side, and wide flat base; maximum diameter 9.3 inches, height 3.1 inches.



FIG. 1.

Belgic wheel-turned hard grey ware with finely crushed white grit, smooth, rather soapy "leathery" brown surface.

($\frac{1}{2}$ actual size.)

Apparently the form of this bowl is without parallel elsewhere. Much, if not indeed all, Belgic pottery is based directly or indirectly on metal prototypes, but the shape and proportions of this bowl are quite different, and suggest that it is copied from a wooden form, such as the wooden tubs turned from a solid block, found in the Glastonbury lake village.³

Fig. 2. Rim of very similar ware to Fig. 1, but with buff surface. The rim is everted and beaded on the outer edge; diameter

¹ *Antiquaries Journal*, VIII, 314.

² At Farley Heath, however, the square enclosure around the Roman temple was preceded by a polygonal Celtic one. *S.A.C.*, XXXVII, 183.

³ A. Bulleid and H. St. G. Gray, *Glastonbury Lake Village*, I, 312.

7.9 inches. The pot was a necked jar or bowl of common Belgic type, and similar both in ware and form to pottery from other local sites, for instance Cobham¹ and Cæsar's Camp, Wimbleton.²



FIG. 2.—RIM OF NECKED JAR.

Belgic wheel-turned hard grey ware with sparse grit, buff surface.
($\frac{1}{3}$ actual size.)

Fig. 3. Reconstruction of fragments of a storage jar; rim diameter $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches, maximum diameter 12 inches, and height about 12 inches. The vessel is lightly wheel-turned, of very hard light

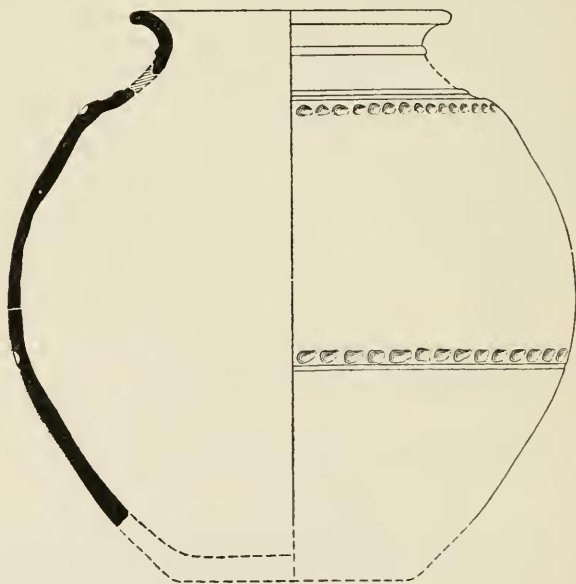


FIG. 3.
RECONSTRUCTION OF FRAGMENTS OF STORAGE JAR.

($\frac{1}{3}$ actual size.)

grey ware flecked with particles of black grit, and soapy buff surface. It has a strongly everted rim, sloping neck meeting the shoulder at a sharp angle, and markedly bulging profile. There

¹ *S.A.C.*, XXI, 192; XXII, 137.

² *Antiquaries Journal*, XII, 437.

is a cordon at the constriction of the neck, and another at its lower end just above the shoulder. The decoration consists of two rows of impressions of the finger-tip, one just below the shoulder angle, and the other below the bulge; immediately beneath the lower row is a shallow girth-groove.

This jar should be compared and classed with a group of vessels found in East Sussex, which are remarkable for the revival of finger-tip marks on pottery showing Belgic influence in the everted rims, bulging sides, and use of cordons. A series of these bowls is in the Sussex Archæological Society's museum at Lewes. One pot found at Hassocks has finger-nail marks on three wide bands at intervals on the body, and another pot found at Bormer near Falmer is of more globular form with a row of finger-tip marks actually in the side of the vessel. Both these pots contained burnt bones, and almost certainly belong to the first century A.D. Attention is simply drawn to these vessels here, as the whole group is being studied in detail by Miss C. M. Preston, who will shortly publish a paper in the *Sussex Archæological Collections*.

(II). Metal Objects.

(1) A piece of thin sheet bronze, cut to a diamond or lozenge shape. Measurements 28×10 mm. corner to corner.

(2) A strip of lead, highly oxidized, $48 \times 12 \times 6$ mm. Convex on one side, and curved lengthwise, with a rough groove along each edge. Probably a plug for repairing a pot.

(3) Several iron nails.

(4) Remains of a knife blade. Probably mediæval. Found on top of the *temenos* wall, alongside the supposed oven or fireplace.

(III). Miscellaneous.

(1) Four worked flints, which Mr. Hawkes tells me are probably Bronze Age. These may have been imported with the gravel, perhaps from Worms Heath on the chalk plateau to the north.

(2) About a dozen oyster-shells, and three fossil sea-urchins. These last probably imported with the building flints.

(3) Numerous pieces of a cream coloured Oolite, tentatively identified as the Marquise Oolite of the Pas de Calais. One piece is a block, of semi-elliptical section, with one flat side.

Length 10 inches. Width of flat side $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches at one end, narrowing to 5 inches at the other. Diameter from centre of flat to apex of curved surface, 4 inches. The wider end is dressed flat, the other irregularly rounded. Near the rounded, and narrower, end, there is a cavity in the flat side, which might be a dowel-hole. Another piece is a fragment of a slab, dressed smooth on one side and the edge. Maximum thickness on dressed edge $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Chisel marks clear on both the dressed surfaces.

(4) Numerous slabs of a purplish sandstone, apparently from the Old Red Sandstone. None have nail holes.

(5) Numerous fragments of the usual thick Roman bonding tiles. Also fragments of box-tiles, presumably builder's rubbish used for making up concrete or rubble, as there is no sign of a hypocaust.

(IV). The Roman Road.

For convenience, the exposures of the road have been numbered on the map from north to south, though they were not dug in that order.

(S1) On a narrow terrace cut in the steep face of the chalk. Large flint, mixed with gravel. Existing width about 12 feet, but probably originally wider, the outer edge of the terrace having crumbled away. Metal about 6 to 7 inches thick in centre. Surface broken up, partly by tree roots. A small ditch on upper side of the road.¹

(S2) A conspicuous *agger*, 4 to 5 feet high on west side, overgrown with bushes. Large flints and gravel. Width of road 22 feet, with 15 inches of metal in centre. In very good preservation.¹

(S3) In wet weather the small stream rises just east of this section, which was actually dug in its channel. There are springs also under the road, and the water has partly destroyed the western side. Flint and gravel. Width about 22 feet.

(S4) Full width section. Road 22 feet wide, with 16 inches of metal in centre. Surface, broken flint with gravel. A

¹ Described in detail in *S.A.C.*, XLIII, 115-16.

fragment of box-tile, of similar pattern to those found around the temple, occurred about 3 inches below the present surface of the metal.

(S5) Western edge only exposed, to check alignment.

(S6) Western edge only, as in (S5).

(S7) Full width section. Usual flint and gravel construction, but somewhat damaged. A fragment of box-tile was found at the bottom of the metal.

(S8) Half-width section, on eastern side. Usual construction.