

# A ROMAN DITCH AT EWELL COUNCIL SCHOOL.

BY  
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**D**URING September 1939 Air Raid Shelters were constructed in the grounds of the Council School in West Street, Ewell, in a plot of land bounded on the south-west by the Grove Footpath and on the south-east by the gardens of cottages on the High Street ; from these excavations Mr. C. S. Willis rescued some Roman Pottery and a much-worn coin (second brass) of Titus (?). The writer visited the site, and discovered in the sides of the upper three shelter trenches,<sup>1</sup> which were 3 ft. 6 in. deep, the section of the upper part of a ditch penetrating the subsoil ; but since the concrete floors of the shelters had already been laid, it was impossible to investigate further, or to see how deep the ditch went. The filling contained large fragments of Roman pottery, some vessels being capable of restoration.

In December, when the shelters had been completed, the writer was able <sup>2</sup> to dig a 5-ft. trial trench across the observed line of the ditch, between two of the shelters (Fig. 1, Cutting I). It was found that the ditch (Fig. 2) was not as deep as had been suspected, and instead of being V-shaped was like a shallow U, the greatest depth being 4 ft. 8 in. The subsoil was not uniform, half the ditch being cut into redeposited chalk, and half in a variable sticky sandy deposit. In Cutting V this deposit was more clayey, in Cutting II more sandy.

Roman pottery was found in every spit, but the greatest concentration lay about 3 ft. 6 in. deep, where in places the sherds were lying thickly clustered ; the sherds comprising vessel 12 (Fig. 6) were lying at this level in a horizontal mass. It will be seen that several vessels could be largely restored from fragments, and these fragments were seldom widely separated. The layer also contained a large number of bones, including the complete lower jaw of a horse.

The lowest 10 in. was practically barren, but the 2nd century dish (no. 4) was found lying on the very bottom, part of it indeed being incorporated in the chalky subsoil. This primary sherd

<sup>1</sup> That is, those between Cuttings IV and V on plan (Fig. 1).

<sup>2</sup> By kind permission of the County Education Committee and of Mr. Hobbs, the Divisional Officer, and with the help of members of the Epsom College Archæological Society.

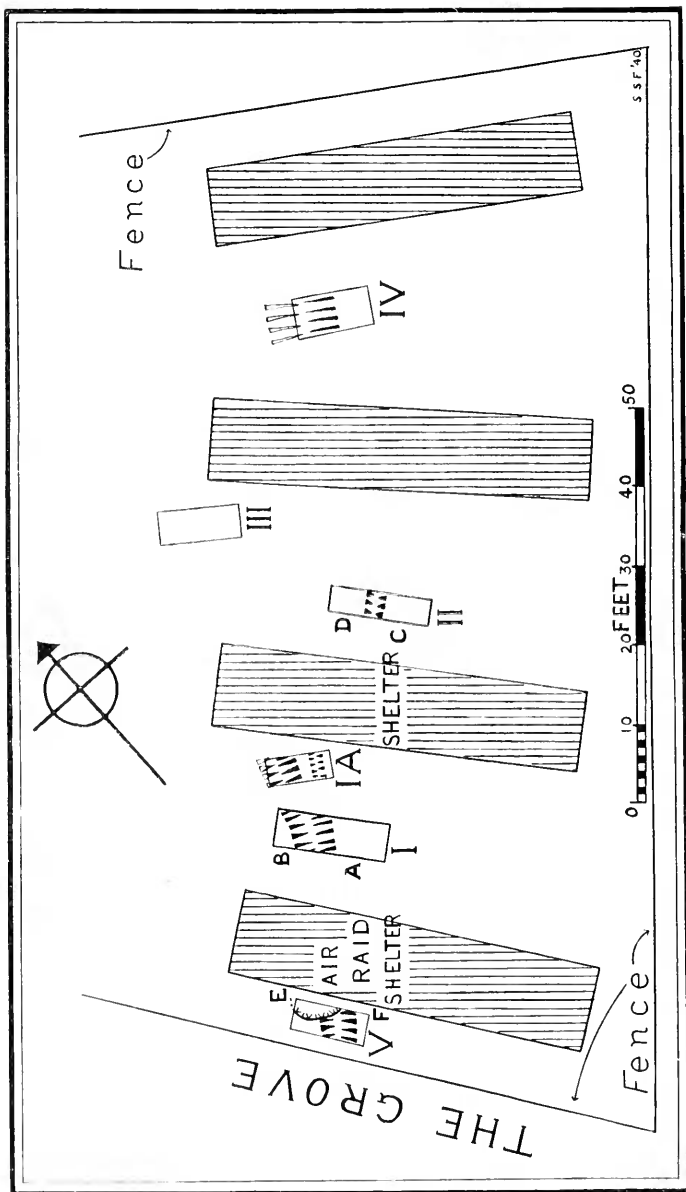
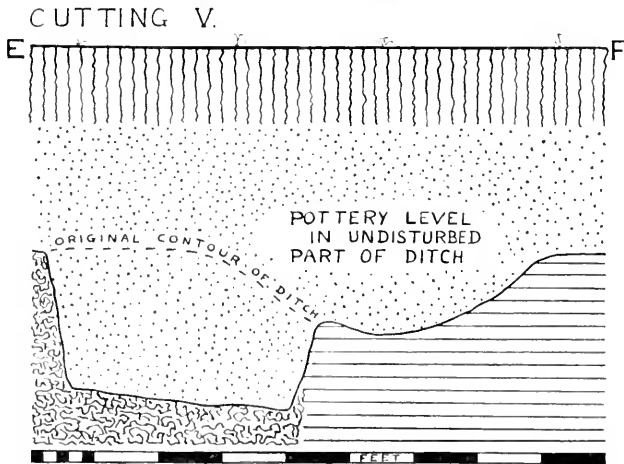
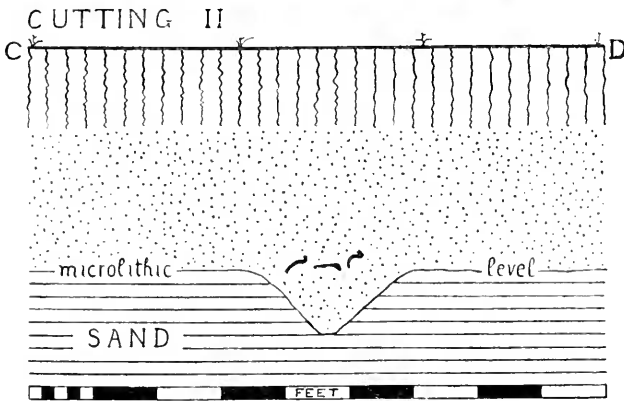
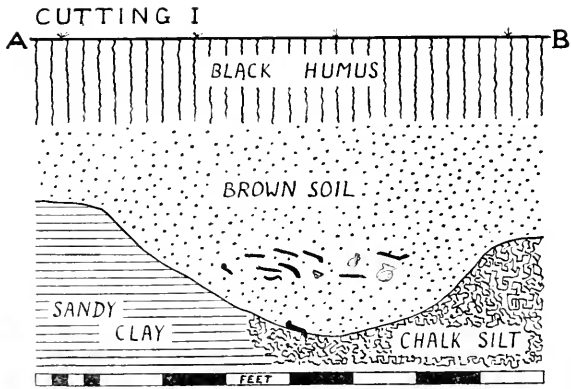


FIG. 1.—PLAN OF EXCAVATIONS IN GROUNDS OF COUNCIL SCHOOL, WEST STREET, EWELL, 1939-40.

(Note.—The School building lies beyond the top (NW.) side of the plan.)



FIGS. 2-4.—SECTIONS OF CUTTINGS.

PLATE V



BRITISH TIN COIN FROM WALTON-ON-THE-HILL.

P. 151.

Scale  $\frac{1}{4}$ .



1  
3

13

2  
14

SAMIAN POTTERY FROM EWELL COUNCIL SCHOOL.

Pp. 49, 53.  
Facing p. 49

while its filling contained a few small sherds including the fragment of a Samian dish the rest of which came from the ditch filling nearby. Apart from this, the pit-filling was barren.

## THE FINDS.

### A. Pottery.

The writer is deeply indebted to Dr. Felix Oswald, F.S.A., for examining the Samian, plain and figured, from the site: his notes have been reproduced below. A description of the pottery, cutting by cutting, and of the other finds will be followed by a discussion of their interpretation.

#### CUTTING I. *Samian*.

- Pl. V, 1. Form 37, style of Paternus. Ovolo characteristic of early work of Paternus with stamp **PATERNIM** *retro* in small letters as on f. 37 at Rouen and f. 37 at York; mask (Oswald<sup>1</sup> 1330) in small double-ring medallion as on f. 37 **PATERNI FE** *retro*, London, Guildhall Museum; diagonals instead of bead-rows often used by Paternus; the fleur-de-lis ornament on f. 37 **PATERNI FE** at Le Mans. *c.* A.D. 130-140.
- Pl. V, 2. Form 37, small ovolo above wavy line; part of animal, perhaps hind, looking backwards; part of festoon; two rivet holes. Prob. Domitian-Trajan. *c.* A.D. 90-100.
- Pl. V, 3, and fig. 9, 3. Form 30, wavy line below ovolo and also vertically; within festoon small panther to right, with tail round hind leg (smaller variety of Oswald 1518); wavy lines ending below in trifid leaves with rings in the field; man's figure and perhaps fish-tail. Lezoux ware; probably Trajanic. *c.* A.D. 110-120. Spit 4.

The cutting also produced the following pieces (unfigured):

- (i) Form 18, top soil.
- (ii) f. 31, too small for determination.
- (iii) f. 30, rim with broad internal groove, perhaps Trajanic, *c.* A.D. 100-110. Spit 2.
- (iv) f. 37, probably South Gaulish; S-shaped ornaments at base of decoration, characteristic of Vespasian-Domitianic examples. *c.* A.D. 80. Spit 2.
- (v) f. 27, almost whole, stamped **PATERATI OF** (Fig. 10, 1). Pateratus of Lezoux is a Hadrian-Antonine potter. This cup can be dated *c.* A.D. 130. Spit 5.
- (vi) f. 37, basal chevron wreath above bead-row of elongated beads; perhaps first half of 2nd cent. Spit 5.
- (vii) f. 38, fragment of flange, probably same vessel as Cutting Ia, Samian (vii), *q.v.* *c.* A.D. 160. Spit 5.

<sup>1</sup> F. Oswald, *Index of Figure-types on Terra Sigillata*, Supplement to *Liverpool Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology*, 1936-7. [Later citations of Oswald refer to this work.]

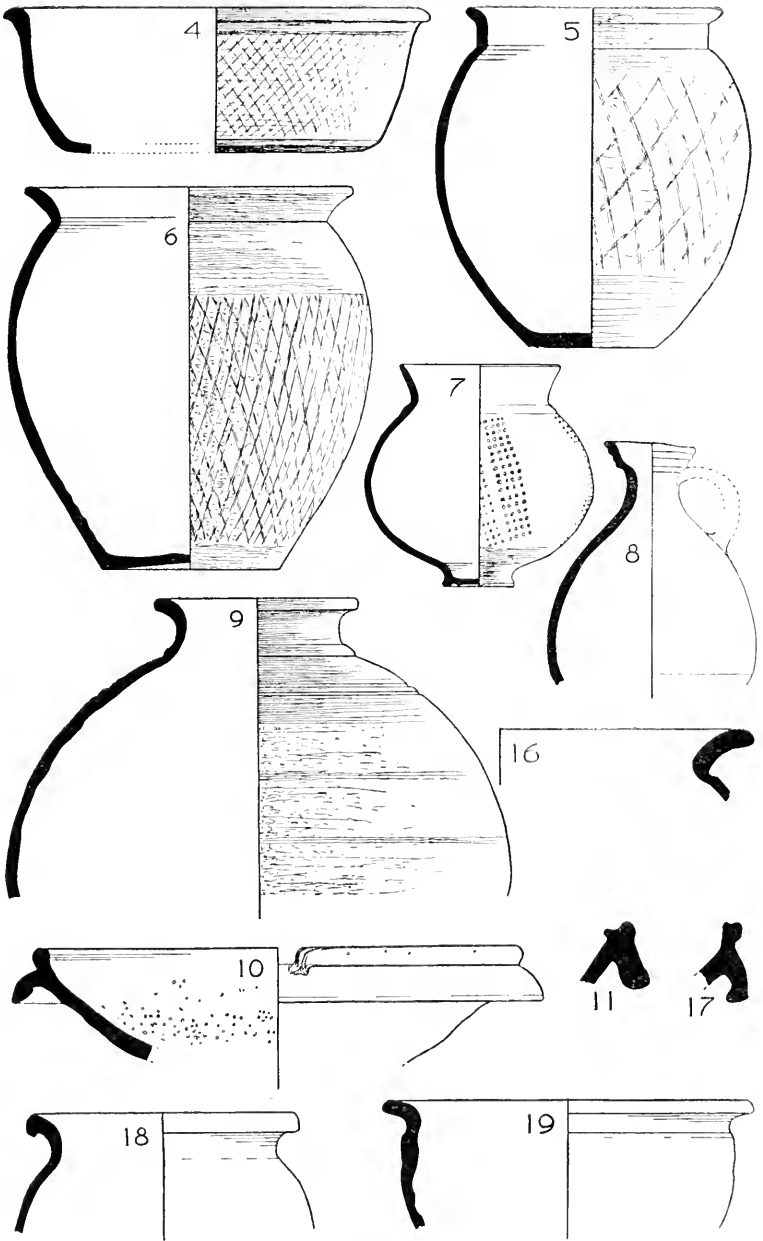


FIG. 5.—COARSE POTTERY FROM EWELL COUNCIL SCHOOL.

*Pp.* 53, 54, 56.

Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

CUTTING I. *Coarse Pottery.*

4. (Fig. 5.) Dish, black polished ware, burnished trellis. Collingwood,<sup>1</sup> type 47, Antonine. From very bottom of ditch.
5. Jar, coarse grey ware, smoothed lattice decoration, short upright neck, everted rim. Paralleled by *Verulamium*,<sup>2</sup> Fig. 28, 23 (A.D. 160-190), and the date confirmed by lack of shoulder. Cf. *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, Vol. LXXX (1939), p. 181, no. 23a, from Chichester, dated mid-2nd century.
6. Jar of grey ware, less coarse than 5, similarly decorated. More likely early 3rd century than Antonine (cf. 28), though a comparable form with lattice was found at Ashted Villa containing a worn coin of Domitian (2nd Report, *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXVIII, Part i (1929), Pl. VII, c, facing p. 12).
7. "Poppy-head" beaker, grey paste, thin white slip. This rotund form is typologically early, cf. *Verulamium*, Fig. 35, 73, dated A.D. 90-125. The vessel though brittle is not badly smashed. The slip ornament is seen to have been applied with some kind of stencil, placed obliquely down the pot.
8. Small flagon, orange paste, cream slip, depth 3 ft. 6 in., cf. *Verulamium*, Fig. 35, 67, dated A.D. 120-150; found also in early 2nd century context at Ashted Villa (*S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXVIII, Part ii (1930), Pl. II, facing p. 134, no. 3).
9. Jar, coarse grey ware, upper part smoothed; cordon at base of neck and two grooves below. This narrow necked type has 1st-century ancestry (cf. 29), but this piece is probably at home in the Hadrianic period, cf. *Verulamium*, Fig. 35, 63, and *Caistor Kilns*,<sup>3</sup> group K. See also Ashted Villa, First Report, *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXVII (1927), Part ii, p. 162, Fig. 4, no. 13.
10. Mortarium, normal buff paste, flint grit. Cf. *Lydney*,<sup>4</sup> nos. 44-53, where Wheeler says the type varies little from the 2nd to the 4th century. Here paste and association confirm date not later than early 3rd century, while a very similar one at Ashted is Hadrianic, *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXVII, Part ii (1927), p. 160, Fig. 3, no. 17c.
11. Mortarium, probably first half of 2nd century. Cf. Ashted Villa, First Report, *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXVII, Part ii (1927), p. 160, Fig. 3, nos. 17d and f, a type now known to be earlier than originally placed by Bushe-Fox.<sup>5</sup> Spit 3.
12. (Fig. 6.) Very large jar, hard sandy ware, grey inside, buff outside, wide for its height. Bead-rim faintly cabled with fingered depressions; rim and shoulder pierced each by a row of holes before firing, and four rows of similar holes occur near base. Holes through rim are pierced from inside, rest from outside; of three holes surviving of rim row one penetrates; one out of eight on shoulder fails to penetrate; of lower rows perhaps just over one half fail, making only a bulge on the inside. The most curious feature is the finger

<sup>1</sup> R. G. Collingwood, *The Archaeology of Roman Britain*, Oxford, 1930.

<sup>2</sup> R. E. M. and T. V. Wheeler, *Verulamium, a Belgic and two Roman Cities*, Oxford, 1936.

<sup>3</sup> D. Atkinson, *Journal of Roman Studies*, Vol. XXII, Part ii (1932).

<sup>4</sup> R. E. M. and T. V. Wheeler, *Excavations in Lydney Park, Gloucestershire*, Oxford, 1932.

<sup>5</sup> J. P. Bushe-Fox, *Excavations on the Site of the Roman Town at Wroxeter, Shropshire*, Oxford, 1912.

impressions on inside, reaching from rim right to base. They are normally in groups of four, and the fingers have been dragged upwards for 1 in. or  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. : on the shoulder the marks are smaller but deeper, and the casts of the finger-nails are clear.

The rope rim recalls certain vessels from the New Forest, *e.g.* from Sloden Enclosure Kiln 1 (Heywood Sumner, *New Forest Roman Pottery*, London, 1927, Pl. XVII, 10), and more particularly from Black Heath Meadow, Linwood (*ibid.*, Pl. XXII, 4-6), where the pierced holes are present in the neck; cf. also the sherd from Sloden (*ibid.*, Pl. XXX, 9) where the rim itself is pierced, and where

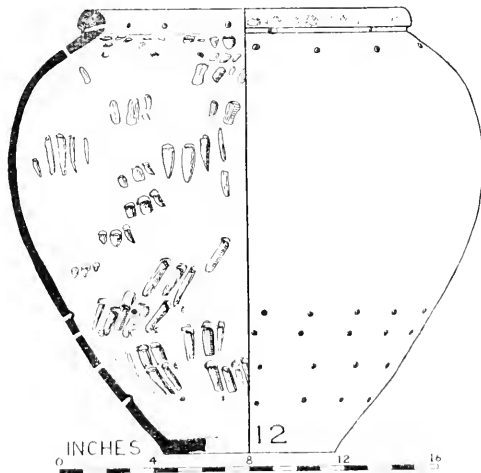


FIG. 6.—LARGE JAR FROM EWELL COUNCIL SCHOOL.

P. 51.

Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Heywood Sumner quotes Pitt-Rivers to the effect that the purpose of the holes was "to enable the air-bubbles during burning to escape without bursting the material." It is difficult, however, to take this explanation seriously, at least in our case; for unless connected with the vessel's function the four lower rows of holes would vitiate its whole purpose. We must therefore suppose the pierced holes to be intentional and functional, for the vessel had certainly been used and was no waster. The outside surface had a creamy deposit of clay, resembling "cob," adhering thickly to it, suggesting that the vessel had been resting in some lined pit. The holes preclude its having contained liquid, and it was probably a storage jar of some solid which required coolness, dampness, or drainage. A similar cabled rim with shoulder pierced by smaller holes has been found by the writer with 4th-century pottery at a site near Headley, Surrey.

Equally remarkable is the fingered interior. This at once recalls the 4th- or 5th-century ware found at Thundersbarrow Hill,



Sussex.<sup>1</sup> But our vessel's paste is by no means "native," nor are its associations so late. Closer parallels are provided by a vessel from the Roman Baths at Highdown Hill, Sussex,<sup>2</sup> where the rim too is similar, and one from the Malthouse Farm Kiln, Kingsley, Hants.<sup>3</sup> A sherd has also occurred elsewhere in Ewell, in Churchyard 4; an example from Pevensey Castle is in Lewes Museum; and the writer has found similar sherds on the South Downs north of Harrow Hill and near Thornwick Barn, Kithurst Hill, and in Surrey at the site of the smaller Roman building on the Beddington Sewage Farm. Other examples come from the newly discovered Roman bath building at Chatley Farm, Cobham, Surrey (to be published), the Angmering Villa (Littlehampton Museum), Nanny's Croft in Arundel Park (*ibid.*), Highdown Hill Camp (*Sussex Archaeological Collections*, Vol. LXXXII (1942), p. 38), Havant and Silchester (*Ant. Journ.*, Vol. XIII (1933), p. 149).

### CUTTING Ia. *Samian*.

Pl. V, 13. Form 37, ovolo of Cinnamus of Lezoux, *c.* A.D. 140-150.

Pl. V, 14. Form 37, style of Doeccus of Lezoux. He uses the four-leaved rosettes (f. 37, **DD**, York; f. 30, **D[OIICCI]**, Silchester); also the pinnate leaf (f. 37, **DOICCI**, Guildhall Museum, London; f. 37, **DOIC[CI]**, Silchester); also the double medallion, continuous ridge inside, square beads outside (f. 37, **DD** and **[DOIIC]CI**, Lezoux; f. 37, **[DOI]CCI**, Bath; f. 37, **DOIICCI**, York; f. 30, **D[OIICCI]**, Silchester; f. 37, **DD**, Vichy).

Types: Sea bull (Oswald 52A) also on f. 37, **DD**, Colchester; Triton (Oswald 21) also on f. 37, **DD**, Wroxeter; and hare to right (Oswald 2057A). Antonine, *c.* A.D. 140-150. Depth, 3 ft. 4 in.

Also present:

- (i) f. 18/31, probably Lezoux ware: first half 2nd century.
- (ii) f. 31.
- (iii) f. 33, 2nd century.
- (iv) f. 36, flange of large bowl, diam. 250 mm. Cf. O. & P.,<sup>4</sup> LII, 13. Worn orange-red glaze, prob. mid-2nd century.
- (v) f. 37, small fragment, prob. South Gaulish and Flavian.
- (vi) f. 37.
- (vii) f. 38, similar to O. & P., LXXII, 6, but a little larger. Flange almost rectangular in section instead of curved; this seems a late feature, and a Pan Rock type. Prob. Lezoux ware, *c.* A.D. 160. Cf. Cutting I, Samian (vii).
- (viii) f. 80, half a base, stamped with rosette (Fig. 10, 2); late variety, in reality intermediate between f. 79 and 80 (or perhaps Curle 15); coarser and thicker than Pan Rock form. The smaller f. 80 from a grave at Xanten is stamped with a rosette (O. & P., LVIII, 9).

<sup>1</sup> K. P. Oakley, in *Ant. Journ.*, Vol. XIII (1933), p. 149; E. C. Curwen, *Archæology of Sussex*, London, 1937, p. 306.

<sup>2</sup> *S.A.C.*, Vol. LXXX (1939), p. 73 and Fig. ix, 7.

<sup>3</sup> No. R.127 in *S.A.S.*, *Survey of the Prehistory of the Farnham District*, 1939 [hereafter referred to as *S.A.S.*, *Farnham*], p. 251.

<sup>4</sup> F. Oswald and T. D. Pryce, *Introduction to the Study of Terra Sigillata*, London, 1920 [hereafter referred to as O. & P.].

Probably early 3rd century and perhaps Trèves ware. Found above jar 15 (see below), but below the disturbed level.

CUTTING Ia. *Coarse Pottery.*

15. (Fig. 7.) Very large jar, similar to 12, in hard sandy ware, grey inside, grey-buff outside, thickly coated with same "cob" material; the shoulder here higher and more abrupt, and the vessel apparently higher in proportion to its width. Bead-rim accentuated by deeply incised groove at its base, and heavily cabled by fingering; inside surface marked with shallow trellised channels; near base one row of pierced holes. The fragments of this jar were found lying

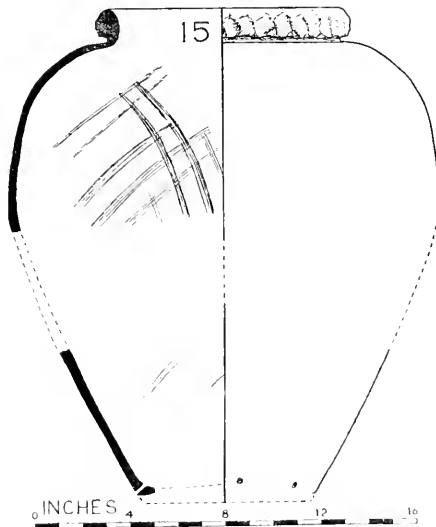


FIG. 7.—LARGE JAR FROM EWELL COUNCIL SCHOOL.

Above.

Scale  $\frac{1}{8}$ .

- thickly in Cutting Ia at depth of 2 ft. 3 in., thus sealing the rest of the deposit, which throws interesting light on its date. The cutting failed to produce more than a few small sherds of jar 12, but these were at a lower level than 15. The cutting also produced two pieces of a third similar jar in hard grey ware with "rope-rim" and pierced shoulder, the inside trellised like 15, not, however, with channels, but with scratched or brushed lines.
16. (Fig. 5.) Necked jar, cavetto rim, grey ware. Collingwood 72. Prob. early 3rd century.
17. Mortarium, buff ware; Hadrianic. Cf. Ashtead Villa, First Report, Fig. 17a and b (*S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXVII, Part ii (1927), p. 100). A similar sherd was found in the metalling of the 2nd-century road at Purberry Shot, Ewell.
18. Jar, coarse black ware, not earlier than late 2nd century. Cf. *Verulamium*, Fig. 28, 19.

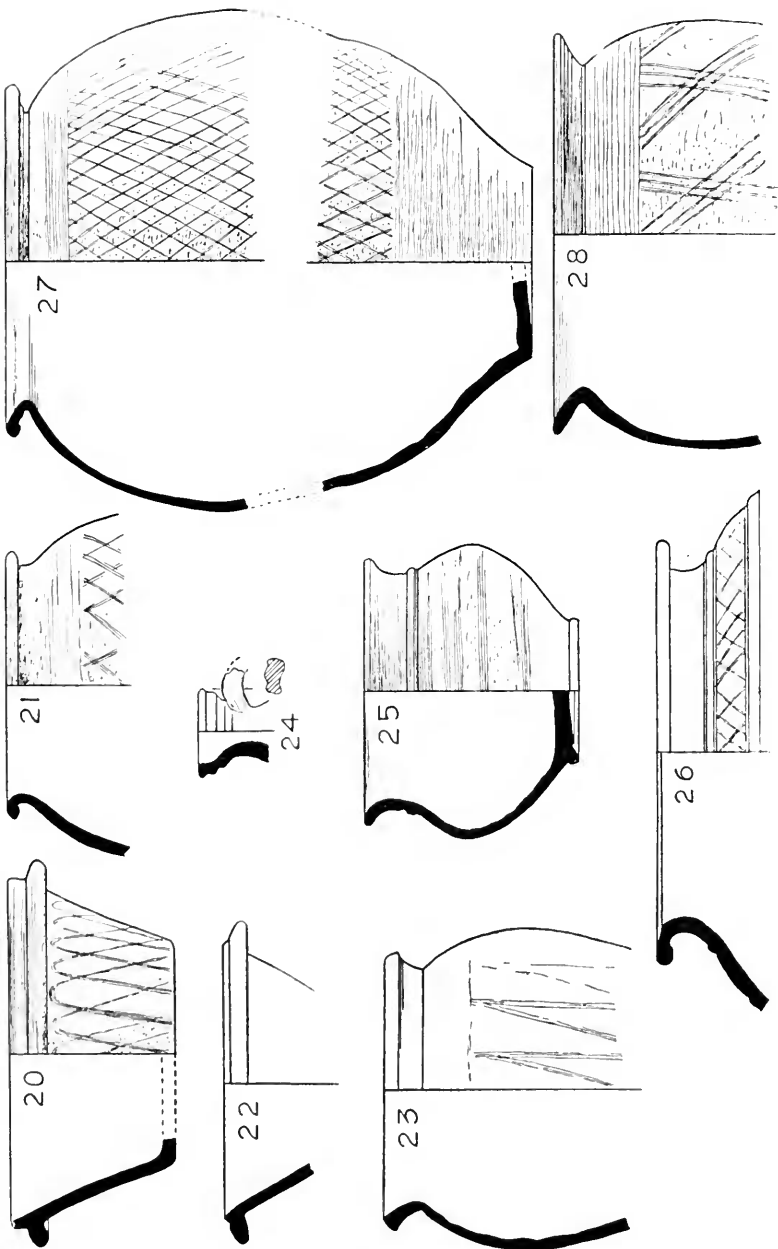


FIG. 8.—COARSE POTTERY FROM EWELL COUNCIL SCHOOL.  
*Scale 1/4.*

19. Bowl, hard pink slightly corky ware, coarsely smoothed inside rim and below neck; slight vestiges of groove on rim. Best taken as an Antonine degeneration of the 1st-century Collingwood type 19; cf. Caistor<sup>1</sup> type V7, Runcton Holme<sup>2</sup> no. 21.
20. (Fig. 8.) Flanged bowl, black polished ware, burnished interlocking arch pattern; depth 3 ft.-3 ft. 4 in.; unlikely to be earlier than the 3rd century.

At the bottom of the ditch were two pieces of dish rim of our type 4, one sherd of folded beaker, and a jar rim too small to be datable. Also primary was a rouletted fragment of Gallo-Belgic or Belgic thin white butt-beaker of the type common at Colchester (cf. *Verulamium*, Pl. LV, A). This is the first such vessel to be recorded from Ewell, and is to be related to the Claudian occupation on the higher ground to the south-west, e.g. at Purberry Shot. Among other pre-Roman fragments was a moulded base showing Belgic or possibly Wealden influence, and some thick coarse crumbly sherds of Late Bronze Age type.

### CUTTING II. *Coarse Pottery.*

21. Jar, grey-black ware, trellised; 3 ft. 6 in. deep in mouth of small ditch. The lack of neck and somewhat sharp little rim recall R.76 from the 2nd-century Stoneyfield Kiln (S.A.S., *Farnham*, p. 243); cf. also Ashtead Villa, Third Report, Fig. 3, 1 (S.A.C., Vol. XXXVIII, Part ii, 1929, p. 7).
22. Flanged bowl, light grey-brown ware. This type occurred in Cuttings Ia and II in the top few spits, overlying the main pottery levels.
23. Jar, similar ware to 21, same position.

### CUTTING V. *Samian.*

- (i) Form 18/31, half the dish, diam. 184 mm. (Fig. 9); similar in size to O. & P., XLVI, 10, but centre peak not so high. End of stamp visible, perhaps [CAVPIR]R<sup>̄</sup>A M<sup>̄</sup>A (Fig. 10, 4). Lezoux ware; probably Hadrian-Antonine, c. A.D. 130-140.
- (ii) f. 31, rim.
- (iii) f. 31, part of base with lead rivet in centre; part of stamp perhaps [SIN]TVR<sup>̄</sup>V<sup>̄</sup>S F (Fig. 10, 3). Lezoux ware; probably Trajanic (the lettering good, and the stamp has a swallow-tail termination). c. A.D. 110-120.
- (iv) f. 31, rim.
- (v) f. 31, piece of base, coarsely rouletted; probably late 2nd or early 3rd century.
- (vi) f. 36, medium size, almost complete, diam. 176 mm. Similar to O. & P., LIII, 10; Trajan-Hadrianic, c. A.D. 115-125.
- (vii) f. 36, a third of dish, diam. 264 mm.; even larger than O. & P., LIII, 17, from Niederbieber, which is dated end of 2nd century. This perhaps same age, or a little earlier.

<sup>1</sup> D. Atkinson, "Roman Pottery from Caistor-next-Norwich," *Norfolk Archaeology*, Vol. XXVI, Part ii (1937), p. 225.

<sup>2</sup> C. F. C. Hawkes, *Proc. P.S.E.A.*, Vol. VII (1933), p. 243.

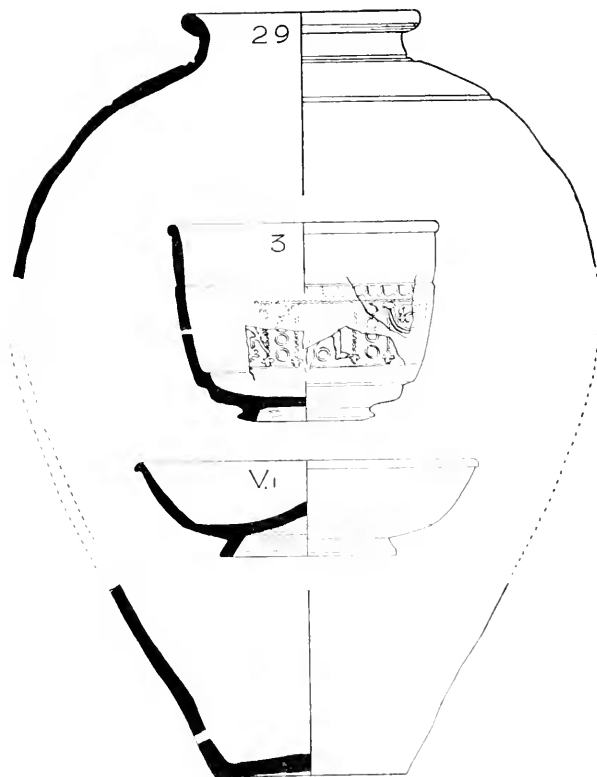


FIG. 9.—COARSE JAR AND SAMIAN WARE FROM EWELL COUNCIL SCHOOL.

Scale  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

*Pp.* 49, 56, 58.

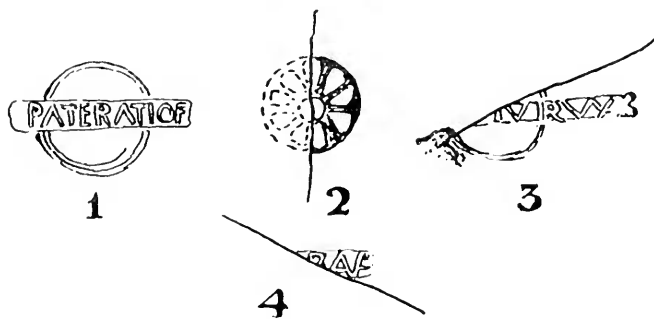


FIG. 10.—POTTERS' STAMPS ON SAMIAN WARE.

*From a drawing by A. W. G. Lother, F.S.A.*

Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

*Pp.* 49, 53, 56.

CUTTING V. *Coarse Pottery.*

24. Flagon neck, brick paste, cream slip ; cf. 8, first half 2nd century.
25. Jar, grey ware coarsely burnished above shoulder, moulded foot, cordon at base of neck. Akin to "poppy-neck" beaker type ; see similar pot, S.A.S., *Farnham*, p. 235, R. 21 ; here the shoulder has sunk. Prob. Hadrianic.
26. Jar, coarse grey ware, burnished trellis zone between rudimentary cordons. First-century type, common at Colchester in groups dating A.D. 50-100 ; also Ashtead Villa, Flavian-Hadrianic period.
27. Jar, light grey ware, burnished rim and trellis. The flattened rim seems quite a common local feature. Cf. one from Ashtead, S.A.C., Vol. XXXVIII, Part ii, p. 142, Fig. 3, no. 1, and sherd R. 80 from the 2nd-century Stoneyfield Kiln (S.A.S., *Farnham*, p. 242).
28. Jar, black ware, polished above pattern ; sharply everted rim, feeble shoulder. Prob. late 2nd century.

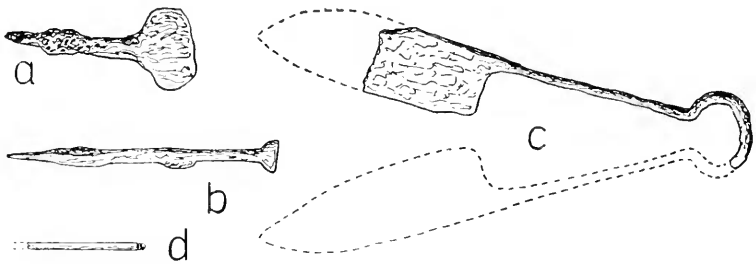


FIG. 11.—IRON AND BONE OBJECTS FROM CUTTING 1a.

Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .*Below.*

29. (Fig. 9.) Jar, groove on shoulder, vestigial cordon at base of neck ; reddish-brown paste not baked through, distinctly pre-Flavian quality. Similar date suggested by the pear-shaped form, whose Belgic derivation is apparent ; ancestral to 9.

B. *Other Finds.*

- Fig. 11, a. Iron object consisting of square-sectioned stem and flattened blade, perhaps a chisel. Cutting 1a.
- b. Iron stilus in good condition. Cutting 1a.
- c. One blade and spring of pair of iron shears ; cf. J. B. Bush-Fox, *Second Report on the Excavation of the Roman Fort at Richborough*, Oxford, 1928, Pl. XXIV, 67. Cutting 1a, depth 3 ft.
- d. Bone pin, point missing. Cutting 1a.

Cutting 1a also produced a plain bronze ring, perhaps a finger-ring, its circuit snapped and broken ends overlapping.

Cutting I produced a piece of glass. Both cuttings produced fragments of Castor ware, well down.

## SUMMARY.

The southern half of the plot of land south of Ewell Council School has been shown to contain remains of Roman date consisting of two small and one larger ditch which contained occupational debris. Natural obstacles and horticultural operations prevented the full elucidation of the plan, but it is possible that the larger ditch at least was a boundary ditch, and that the home it bounded was near the Grove Footpath, under which the ditch continued in the direction of Tayles Hill. Here a somewhat similar ditch has already been recorded.<sup>1</sup> Roman sherds occurred in soil thrown out from the Air Raid Shelters south of the ditch (though no structures were visible); but in the series of shelters (not marked on the plan) north of the ditch towards the school building, no antiquities of any kind were found.

In the absence of further discoveries, the importance of the site centres on the contents of the ditch; for it has provided a considerable group of pottery, much of which is of a size sufficient to throw light on the local ceramic types of the first two and a half centuries A.D. Of these the most important are the jars 12 and 15, which are of a type apparently localized in Surrey and Sussex.

The bulk of the pottery with which these jars were associated belongs to the middle decades of the 2nd century. It should, however, be remarked that the fine collection of Samian in Cutting V consisting of large fragments and even almost complete dishes covers a period of 80-100 years, nor are the earlier more fragmentary than the later pieces. Thus a certain power of survival is evident, which may extend to the coarse pottery. Yet the virtual absence in the stratified levels of flanged bowls (the leading dish of the 3rd and 4th centuries) contrasts strongly with their abundance in the upper layers of disturbed earth where, too, Cutting Ia produced a piece of colour-coated flanged bowl of the 4th century (spit 2). Dish 20 was the only flanged bowl to be found in the undisturbed filling of the ditch in any cutting. Apart from this, the only pieces with any claim to be considered later than Antonine are the Samian forms 80 (Cutting Ia, viii) and 31 (Cutting V, v), and jars 6, 16, 18, and possibly 28. This being so, it would be well to allow due weight to the preponderance of Hadrianic and Antonine forms, and we may reasonably conclude that the ditch became filled in not later than the middle of the 3rd century, or perhaps a decade earlier.

This conclusion has an important bearing on our strange jars 12 and 15, which are now seen to be earlier than much of the material

<sup>1</sup> *S.A.C.*, Vol. XLIII (1935), p. 17.

quoted in comparison, though it is important to note that a mid-3rd century date is confirmed by Dr. A. E. Wilson for some of the Sussex material. At Thundersbarrow the context of the sherds was the re-emergence of native Celtic techniques and culture following the decay of Roman civilization; in the New Forest the implications are similar at an earlier date. The bead-rims, profiles, and even the holes of our examples can be readily paralleled in Iron Age ceramics, and it may well be that the Ewell vessels anticipate that re-emergence, and illustrate the under-current of pre-Roman tradition whose survival is attested amongst Romano-British peasants.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For this, see C. F. C. Hawkes, *op. cit.*, pp. 247, 250, 253, etc.; *Ant. Journ.*, Vol. XVIII (1938), pp. 113 ff.