LATER PREHISTORIC AND ROMANO-BRITISH SETTLEMENT SITES IN SOUTH SOMERSET: SOME RECENT WORK

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SUMMARY

Geophysical surveys were carried out at four sites to the north of the Roman town of Ilchester, close to Somerton. At West Wood, the plan of a promontory fort was clearly revealed. The Roman villas at Littleton and Hurcot were located, and a plan of the latter was obtained. At Bancombe Hill, the site of a group of buildings was identified, together with a concentration of archaeological features.

INTRODUCTION

Four geophysical surveys, commissioned by the Exeter office of the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME), were undertaken by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford (GSoB) in February and November 1993. The work was part of a pilot survey for the forthcoming Parrett Valley project (RCHME 1992, 51), to assess the potential for geophysical survey on differing lithologies in a region where medieval and later ploughing has often flattened any surviving evidence for Romano-British and earlier settlement (Fig. 1). Such sites are therefore generally known about through excavations or surface observations, and in some parts of the region through air photography (Leech 1978). It was anticipated that geophysical survey might well provide details of sites known only through small-scale or poorly-recorded excavations, or solely through earlier surface observations. These details might include the extent of the site, and the location of buildings, enclosures and other ditched features. Characterisation of such sites would provide new insights into the historical, economic and social context of the Romano-British settlement pattern and its relationship to earlier and later settlement. Four sites were chosen: West Wood and Bancombe Hill, which lie on the Lias ridge bounding the southern edge of the Somerset Levels near Somerton; Littleton, which is situated at the foot of the Polden Hills on the geologically recent alluvium of Somerton Moor, and Higher Hurcot Farm, on Keuper Marl at the south-eastern end of the Polden Hills (OS geology sheet 296) (Fig. 2).

WEST WOOD

Location

The fields examined by geophysical survey lie immediately to the south of West Wood, at an altitude of approximately 70 m above OD (centred on ST 46062963), at the edge of a

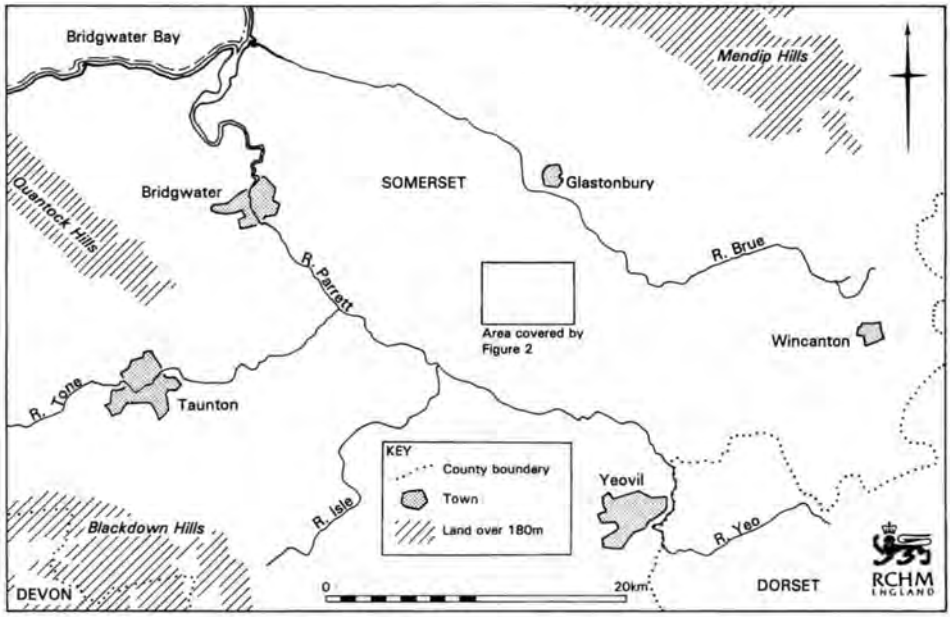

Fig. 1 Map showing the location of the study area (© RCHME Crown copyright)

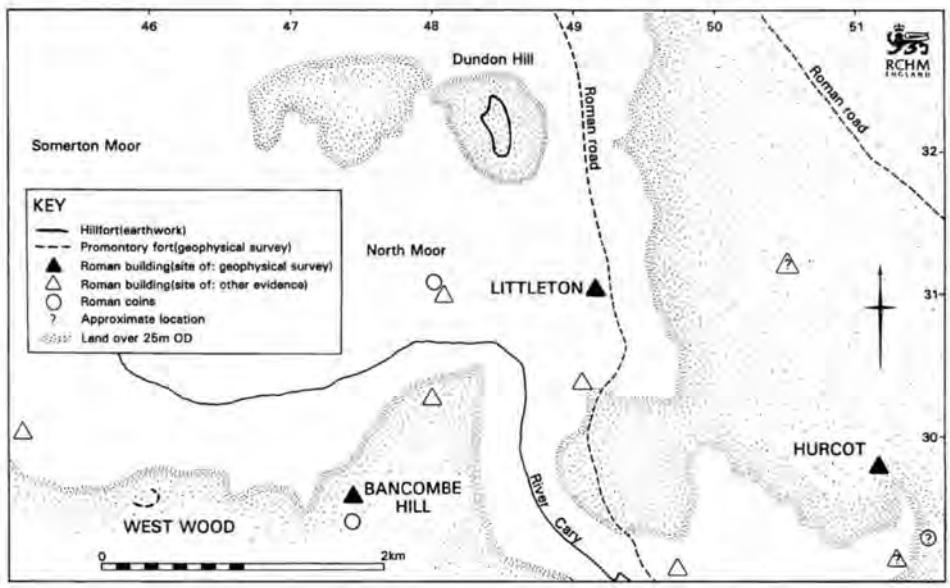

Fig. 2 Location of the sites and other major Iron Age and Roman sites in the study area (© RCHME Crown copyright)

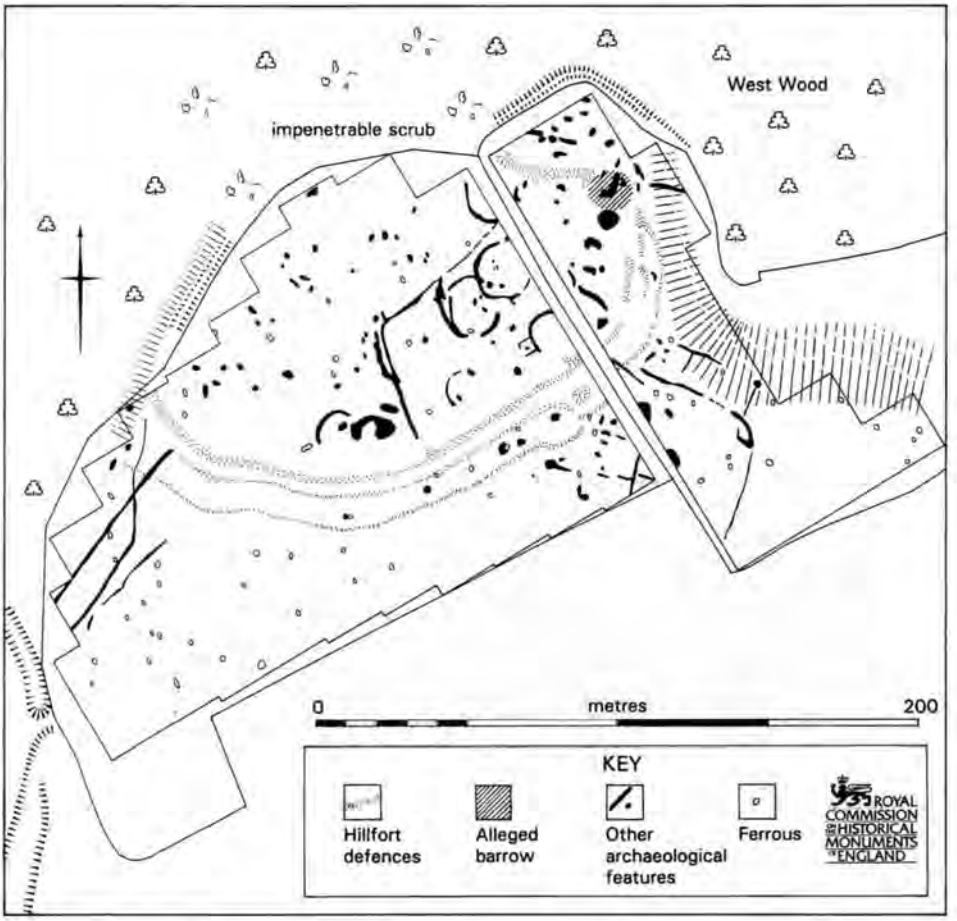

Fig. 3 West Wood: summary plan (© RCHME Crown copyright)

steep scarp overlooking King's Sedgemoor, Somerton Moor and the Polden Hills (Fig. 3). In 1841 these fields, together with those adjacent, were known as 'Park Corner'; West Wood was known as 'Chapples Wood' (SRO 1841a).

The Excavations of 1945–6

A mound named Westwood Barrow, located in the easternmost of the two fields, was known to Rowland E. Thyer, a local quarry foreman, who initiated excavations there in 1945–6. No full report on these excavations was published, but there are other sources. A manuscript report on the excavation undertaken between 29 August and 1 September 1945, together with a sketch plan and photographs, were given by Thyer to RHL in 1974 and in turn to the Somerset Record Office (SRO); an account of the excavation undertaken during the Easter weekend of 1946 was published in the *Somerset County Gazette* (27 April 1946); a manuscript report with sketch plans on the excavation undertaken in 1946 was held by Somerset County Museum and was consulted by the Ordnance Survey (OS) in 1966, following which the site was entered in the record now

held by the RCHME (NMR ST 42 NE 28). The principal collection of finds from the 1945–6 excavations was deposited in the County Museum; these finds have now been augmented by a further collection which was given by Thyer to RHL in 1974.

Thyer's manuscript includes a description of the 1945 excavation:

> 'On the evening of Aug 29th 1945 a trench was started at the East of Barrow where Romano-British pottery thrown out by rabbits had previously been picked up by the writer. After digging to a depth of 1 ft some shards of black Romano-British pottery were discovered in the soil which contained much blue lias stone. At a depth of 1' 6" we came across an iron razor or knife. Iron nails animal teeth, a bone pin and more pottery. At a depth of 2 feet charcoal was much in evidence. On Aug 30th and 31st the excavation produced more fragments of pottery, bones which had been charred, some Blue Lias and Ham Hill stone showing traces of fire and some red colouring. At a depth of 3 feet Black earth was reached - may be Black occupation earth and then the natural clay. Proceeding to dig towards the centre of the Barrow on the North side of the cutting the tibia and fibula of a skeleton were uncovered. On the south side of the cutting the pelvis was found and beside it four fragments of Romano-British pottery including one, a part of a decorated bowl, at a distance of 6 inches to the east.
>
> On the afternoon of Sept 1st a cutting was made to the South and at a depth of 3 feet a skull was disclosed, lying face downwards. Beneath it on the left arm was an iron bracelet, whilst by the lower (left) jaw was a bronze brooch which had made a dark stain on the bone.
>
> At a depth of 2' 6" I had a few fragments of Samian ware some decorated.
>
> The size of the trench from east to west was 9 feet long 2' 6" wide 2' 6" deep to 3 feet. The cutting to the south was 2' 6" by 2' 0" across to a depth of 3' 6". The excavation was worked in lengths of 3 feet by 2' 6" across. This trial excavation produced approximately 200 fragments of Romano-British pottery, some decorated much of the usual black and grey variety, and a few fragments of red.'

Thyer had only two assistants, and following disturbance to the burial, the excavations were filled in, to await further work.

Two photographs taken apparently in summer with the trees in full leaf show a marked out excavation area, but only the part closest to the camera was actually excavated. These photographs must be of the 1945 excavation. The approximate location of the excavation can be calculated from correlation of the photographs with the OS 1:2500 map (Fig. 4). From this it is clear that the compass points as given in the account are not accurate, possibly based only on impression. Excavation south was, in fact, the field boundary to the west; the excavation trench was parallel to this boundary, aligned north-north-west to south-south-east. The excavation trench was apparently marked out in 4 foot units, the intended trench being 48 ft long by 8 ft wide (*Somerset County Gazette*, 27 April 1946). Only the south-eastern part 16 foot length was excavated in 1945.

A third photograph taken apparently at Easter 1946, with the trees not yet in leaf, shows work on the remaining part of the marked out trench about to commence. This excavation was undertaken by a larger group of at least 11 persons, including Thyer, and was led by Mr Wickenden, a schoolmaster from Taunton, and H. St George Gray. 'Cutting across the mound at a depth of 1 ft was a layer of lias slabs. This was followed for 40 ft but the west (ie north-west) end was not reached. Beyond this was a section of dry walling 7 ft deep. To the north (ie north-east) of this wall both I.A. and R-B pottery were found' (NMR ST 42 NE 28). The positions of these features are shown on a sketch plan by Thyer, dated April 1946, summarising the results of the two excavations.

Analysis of the pottery from the 1945–6 excavations indicates that occupation of the site extended from the middle pre-Roman Iron Age to at least the 4th century AD (Fig. 5). The burial was of Roman date; the bronze brooch associated with it must have been

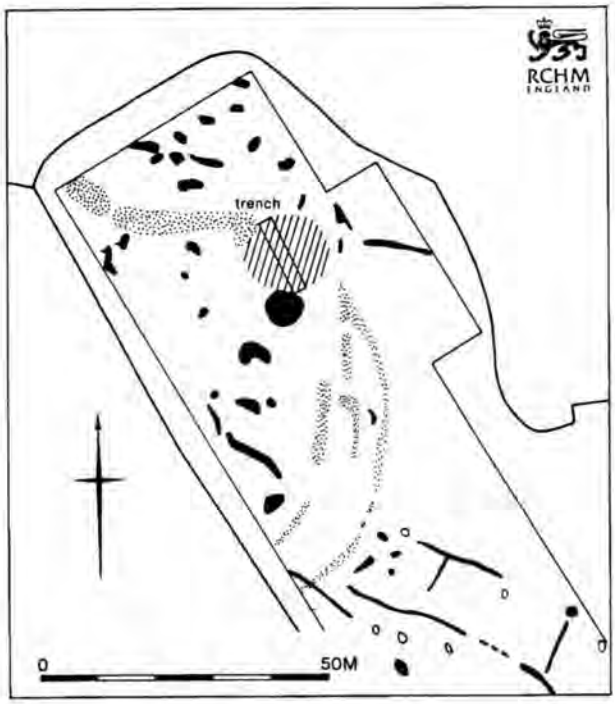

Fig. 4 West Wood: approximate location of the 1945–6 excavations; key as for Fig. 3 (© RCHME Crown copyright)

one of two from the excavations now in the County Museum and is of Roman date, as are five hobnails included in the collection, generally found in quantity only in association with burials.

Air Photography

Aerial photographs taken by M. Aston in May 1990 showed two or three bands of grass marks in the field to the east of that containing the excavations of 1945–6. They appeared to be the defences of a previously unrecorded promontory fort, with a single entrance where the cross defence met the edge of the hill-side on the west. During a subsequent field visit, when the grass marks were still visible on the ground, a stony scatter was noted between the two bands and within the entrance. Earthworks in the woods to the north and east were also identified (Aston and Stokes 1990). No correlation was made between these discoveries and the earlier excavations.

Field Survey in 1993

The eastern field was under pasture. A slight, irregular scarp was noted in the north of this field, presumably the remains of the barrow. A steep natural scarp forms part of the re-entrant to a combe in the south of the field (Fig. 3). The field to the west was under improved pasture, but had been recently ploughed. The owner mentioned the very stony nature of the soil, particularly in the north of the field near the edge of the wood (Mr Fevin, pers. comm.). These fields were under arable and pasture in the mid-19th century (SRO 1841a). A hollow way runs down through the woods immediately to the east of the easternmost field, presumably the remains of the track marked on a 19th century map (SRO 1841a). Along the northern edge of the woods, which date from before the early 19th century (SRO 1806), runs a woodland bank; below this, the ground falls away in a series of terraces.

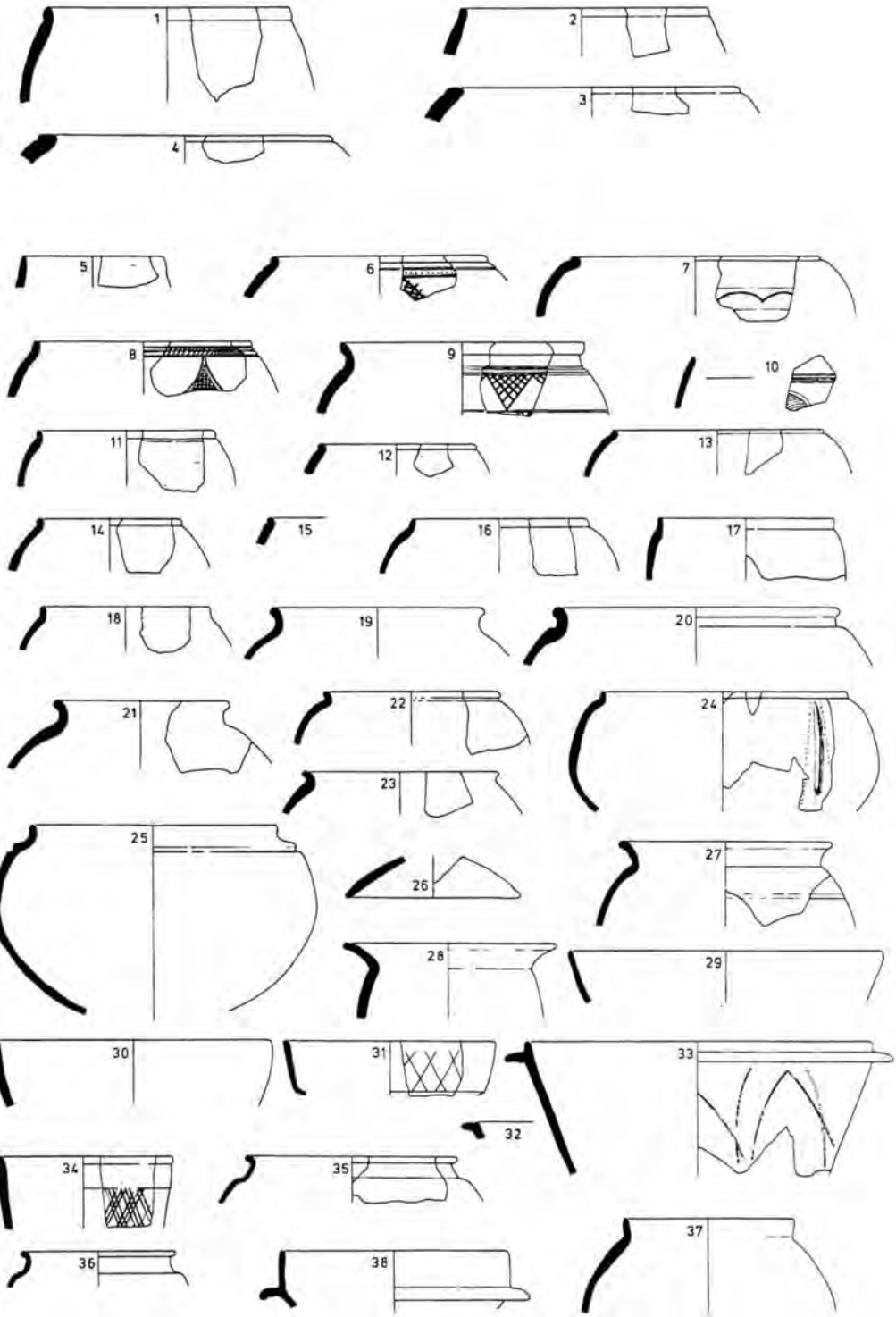

Fig. 5 West Wood: selected pottery (scale 1:5) (For descriptions *see* Appendix)

Geophysical Survey

Although the geophysical work succeeded in identifying the location of the partially excavated barrow, the survey results have cast some doubt upon the interpretation of this feature as a burial mound (Fig. 3). This is partly due to the discovery of a major promontory fort at the site; the gradiometer survey results suggest that the barrow may have originally been part of the fort ramparts. The results are discussed more fully in the survey report (GSoB 1993a).

The promontory fort encloses an area of approximately 2 ha. and is defended by three ditches which have been clearly defined as positive magnetic anomalies. In addition, there are complexes of ditches outside the fort, to the west and east, and these are associated with defended entrances. The magnetic results suggest that the inner fort ditch may be 4 m in width, while the outer two ditches are of the order of 1 m to 2 m wide. The interior of the fort is sub-divided into two broad magnetic zones. One is generally magnetically quiet and may be associated with a stock area. The other contains well-defined magnetic anomalies that reflect a habitation area. This includes several round houses, with diameters varying between 11 m and 20 m, which are surrounded by a small enclosure ditch. While the gradiometer has identified numerous pit-type anomalies, these do not appear to be concentrated in any particular zone, and the density is not especially great. There are perhaps only 50 pits with diameters greater than 1 m within the entire 2 ha.

The location of the barrow is slightly perplexing in that it appears to be sited in the middle of the fort ramparts and at a break in one of the defensive ditches, i.e. at the eastern entrance. It is suggested, therefore, that the presence of drystone walling referred to in the excavation (NMR ST 42 NE 28) could be associated with a revetment, rather than being an integral feature of the barrow. In fact, given the lack of obvious barrow components, except for the burial, which has been suggested to be intrusive (SMR 54484), it is possible that what was interpreted as a barrow mound is part of a much denuded fort rampart.

While the geophysical results complement the aerial photographic evidence, they have added significantly to the interpretation of the promontory fort and questioned the accuracy of the description of the burial mound as a barrow.

BANCOMBE HILL

Location

The site on Bancombe Hill (ST 474296) is situated on a gently sloping plateau, immediately to the south of the steep scarp, at an altitude of some 55 m above OD (Fig. 6). It occupies a similar position to the site at West Wood, which lies some 1.2 km to the east (Fig. 2). At the time of the geophysical survey, the three fields examined were under pasture, and no surface irregularities were noted. The three fields were all under arable cultivation in the 19th century (SRO 1841a).

Previous Archaeological Work

The earliest reference to a Roman site on Bancombe Hill is on Hasell's map of the Somerton area, reproduced by Colt Hoare (1832, no. 15). Unfortunately, this site is not referred to in the text of Colt Hoare's monograph. Loom weights, a weaving comb and an *antoninianus* of Gordian III were found during quarrying and road work, at some time before 1939, in the field centred at ST 474294 (NMR ST 42 SE 3). Dewar and Seaby looked for the site in 1950, and found a small dump of building debris and pottery, mostly of 2nd century date, at ST 47332967, in the field to the north of the earlier discoveries (Dewar 1951, 46–7).

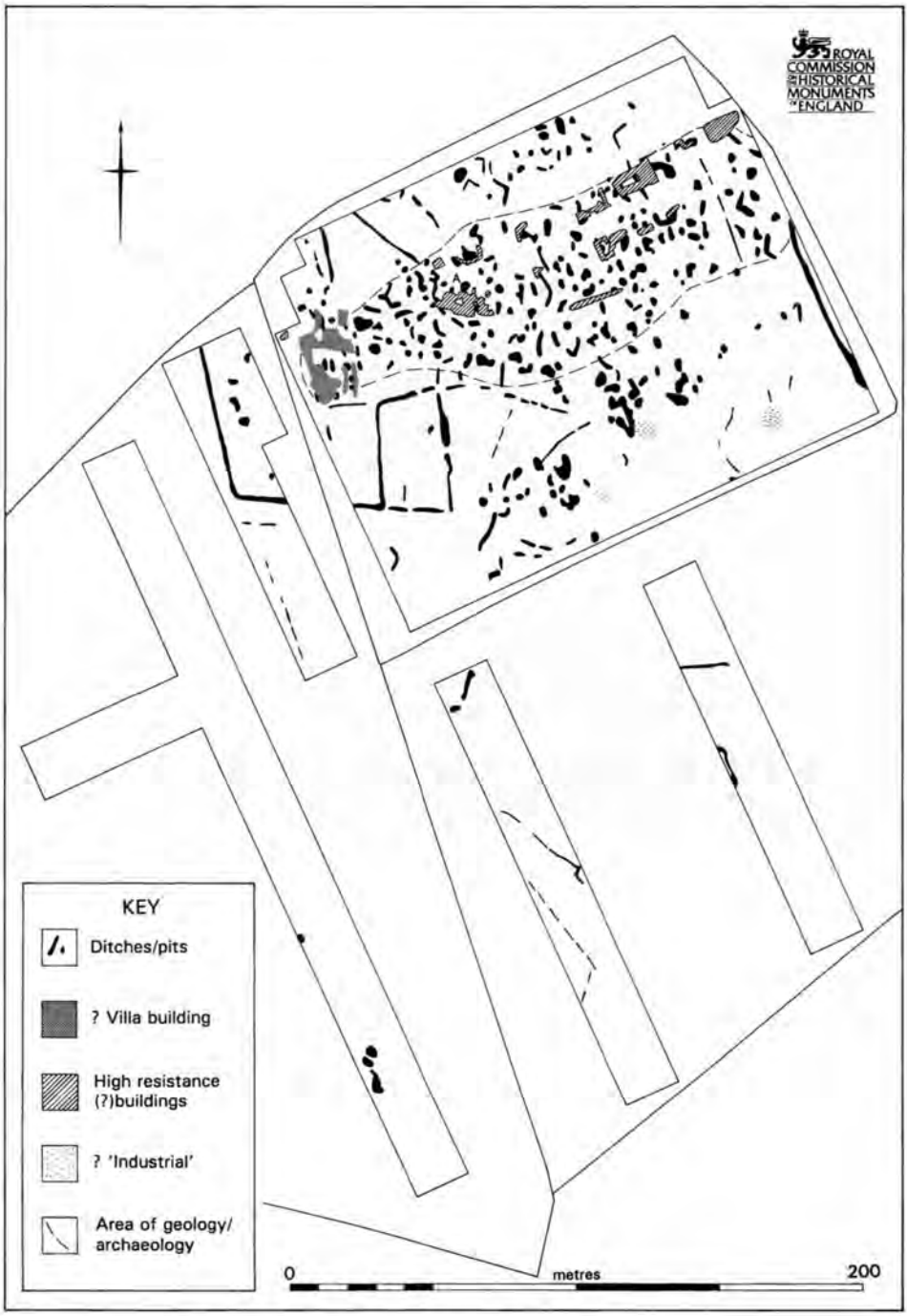

Fig. 6 Bancombe Hill: summary plan (© RCHME Crown copyright)

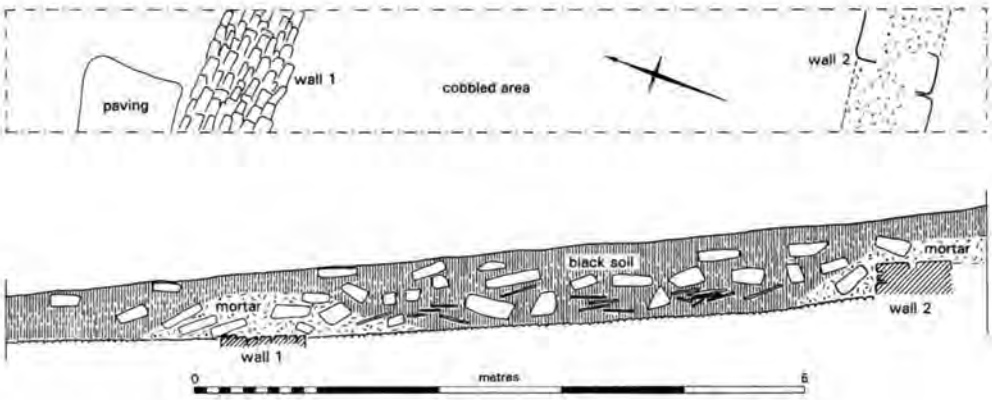

Fig. 7 Bancombe Hill: plan and section trench A

In 1968, the presence of dressed stone, brought to the surface by ploughing, led RHL to excavate a small trench at ST 47362962 (Fig. 6: located at 'A'). Two walls and a cobbled surface were found, together with some late Roman pottery and stone roof tiles (Leech 1969). Fig. 7 shows the detail of the trench excavated at A. Walls 1 and 2 were possibly of two separate buildings, with a sloping cobbled open space between them; on the north side of wall 1 was a well-finished paved floor. Analysis of the pottery from the excavations indicated that occupation of the site extended from the middle pre-Roman Iron Age to at least the 4th century AD (Fig. 8).

Geophysical Survey

The geophysical survey identified the location of a group of buildings, together with other possible structures and a complex of ditch-, pit- and industrial-type features (Fig. 6). However, the interpretation of the results is confusing due to possible geological complications at the site (GSoB 1993b).

A distinct area of high resistance readings was pinpointed and this has a nature and form which suggests that the responses are associated with a former building. While it is tempting to identify wall lines in the data, the results are not that clear, probably due to large quantities of rubble masking any surviving foundations. The high readings cover a roughly rectangular area approximately 35 m by 20 m in size, though there appears to be a 'core' in the south-west, measuring approximately 25 m long by 6 m wide. In addition, there is a possible wing aligned at an acute angle to the main building.

To the north-east of these postulated buildings is a broad band of resistance results which are difficult to interpret. It is tempting to see the higher readings as being associated with the sites of former buildings, perhaps set either side of a trackway, which itself shows as a narrow curving band of low resistance readings. However, alternate bands of clay and limestone, which are known to be close to the ground surface along the scarp slope of the hill, are equally likely to result in the observed responses. It is interesting to note that RHL's excavation trench (Fig. 6: located at 'A') clearly places the walls and floor he discovered within this area of confused results. It is likely, therefore, that both anthropogenic and natural factors are responsible for the results, but in this instance it is impossible to differentiate between the two factors without carrying out more investigative geophysical work.

Unfortunately, the gradiometer results do not help to clarify the interpretation of the

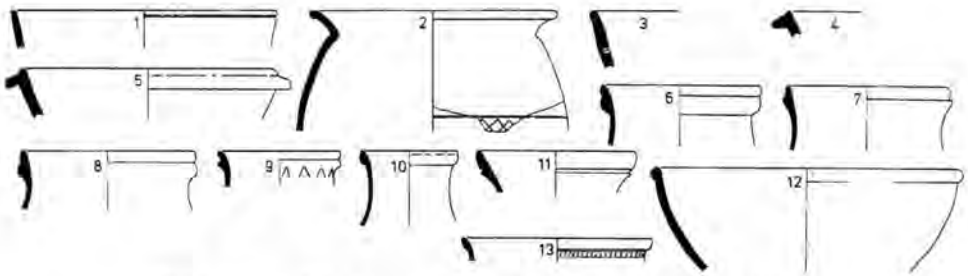

Fig. 8 Bancombe Hill: pottery (scale 1:5) (For descriptions *see* Appendix)

above band of confused results. As with the resistance results, the magnetic responses could be due to a concentration of pit- and building-type features, or alternatively a consequence of the geological conditions referred to above. Elsewhere, however, the gradiometer results are much easier to interpret. For example, there are several ditches which form small enclosures adjacent to the area of the postulated group of buildings and there are a few anomalies which have a strength and character of small-scale industrial working. This may include metalworking areas, pottery kilns and possibly ovens. Sample transects in the fields to the south and west of the main concentration of features indicated a dramatic fall-off in anomalies of potential interest, suggesting that the core of the site is approximately 4 ha in area.

LITTLETON

Location

The site of Littleton Roman villa (ST 49173105) lies at the eastern edge of Somerton Moor, some 0.6 km north of the village of Littleton, on flat, low-lying ground, close to tributary streams of the River Cary, at an altitude of approximately 6 m above OD (Fig. 2).

Field Survey in 1993

During the course of the geophysical survey, a slight, partially embanked, sub-rectangular depression, some 20 m long and 17 m wide, was recorded in the field on the approximate site of the villa. The course of the Roman Road from Ilchester to Crandon Bridge (Margary 1967, RR 51) forms the eastern boundary of the field where the villa is sited (Fig. 9). The field name itself, 'Great Chesils' in 1841 (SRO 1841b), suggests a history of stone-robbing from the site (Field 1982, 43).

Previous Archaeological Work

Samuel Hasell excavated the villa at Littleton in the early part of the 19th century. He recovered part of the foundations of the northern block of a courtyard villa, a plan was made, and it was described in some detail (Colt Hoare 1827, plan facing p. 112; 1832, plan 1; Haverfield 1906, Fig. 81, 323–4).

In 1951 Littleton was chosen as the site for the second season of the Somerset Excavation School (the first season had been held at Catsgore (Radford 1951, 41)). Under the direction of C.A.R. Radford, some 25 students dug four trenches, each 4 ft wide, across the buildings first uncovered by Hasell. Radford found that the sections of these

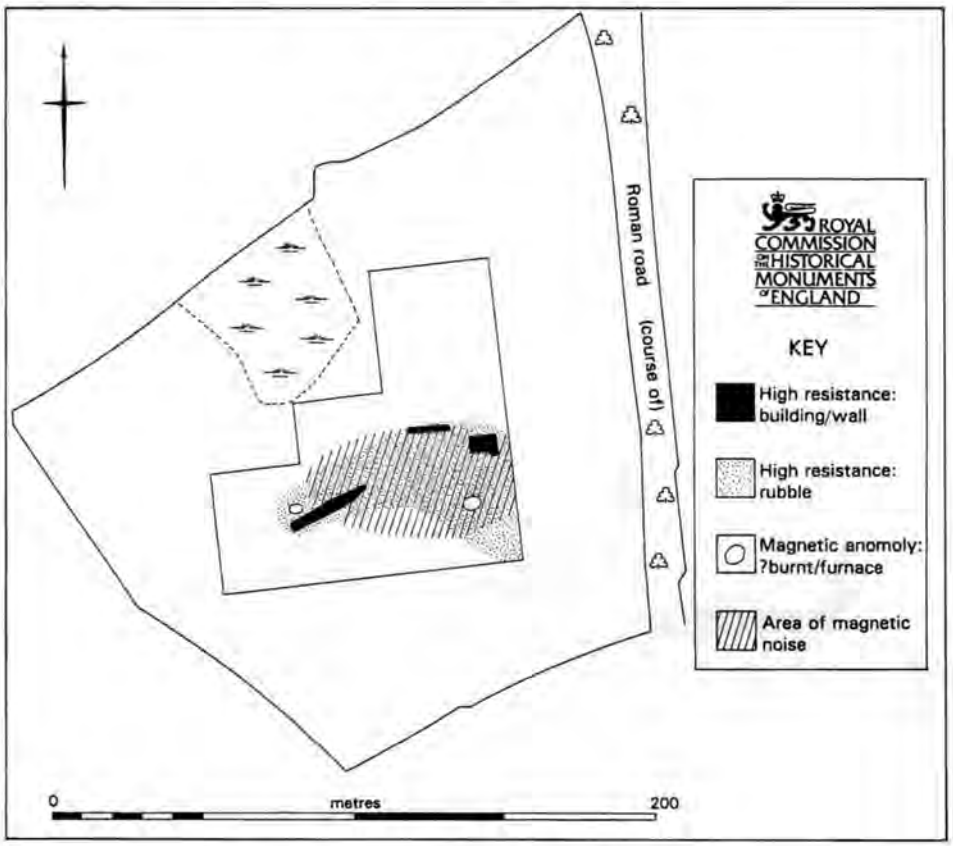

Fig. 9 Littleton: summary plan (© RCHME Crown copyright)

trenches showed the stone foundations of an earlier Roman building, which he was able to date to the earlier part of the 2nd century AD (Radford *c.* 1951, 1–2). Below the floor level of this earlier building, Radford found a storage pit containing Iron Age pottery dating from the 1st century AD. A further trench contained three post holes of a possible round house and pottery dating from the 3rd and 4th centuries AD (Radford *c.* 1951, 3–4).

In 1952, the Somerset Excavation School returned to Littleton, with the aim of determining the extent and chronological range of the Iron Age settlements, and to check the plan and dating of the two Roman buildings (Radford *c.* 1952, 1). The excavations showed that there had been a large Iron Age settlement at Littleton, covering an area of over 30 m by 18 m; its limits were defined only on its eastern side. The features excavated included pits and working hollows. It is unclear whether the round house belonged to the earlier or later settlement (Radford *c.* 1951, 3; *c.* 1952, 2–3). Analysis of the pottery from the excavations indicated that occupation of the site extended from the middle pre-Roman Iron Age to at least the 4th century (Fig. 10).

Radford provides valuable information as to the state of the Roman building. His 1951 sections showed that the walls of the courtyard villa had almost all been removed, and that the main mosaics had been destroyed (Radford *c.* 1951, 2). This destruction occurred

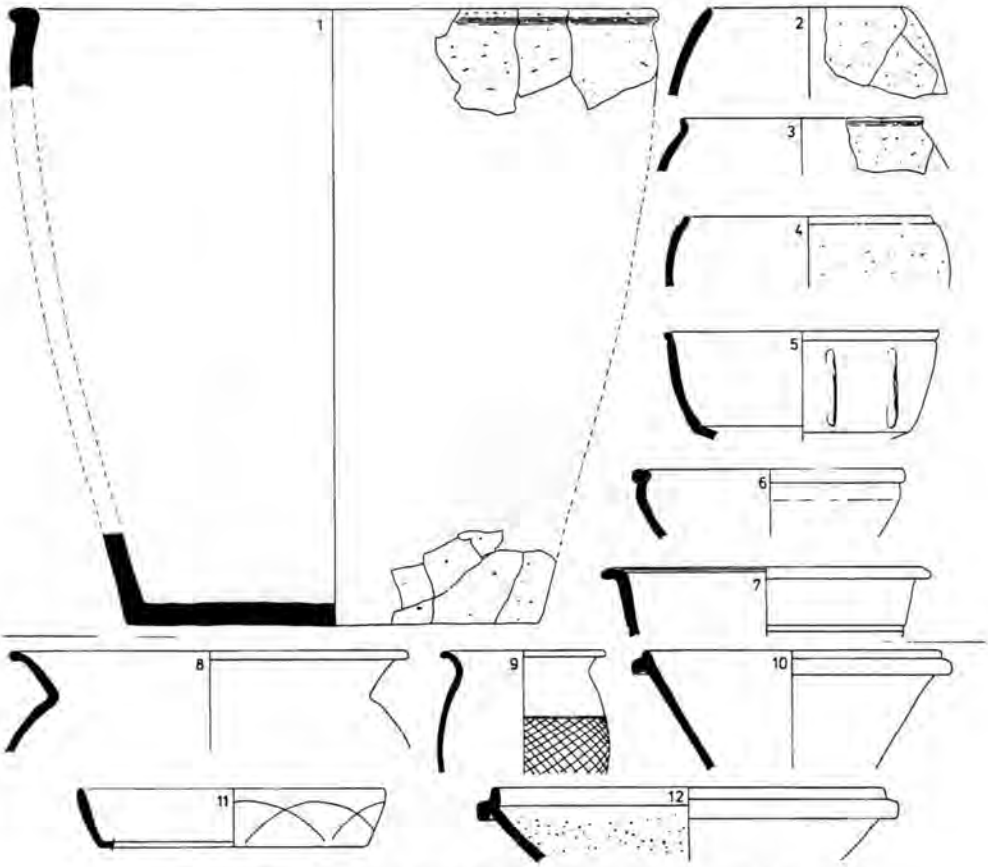

Fig. 10 Littleton: pottery (scale 1:5) (For descriptions *see* Appendix)

while the site was being investigated by Hasell in the 1820s (Colt Hoare 1827). Radford also states that the Roman structures had been 'thoroughly wrecked' (*c.* 1952, 1). The Iron Age occupation layers were some 0.6 m below the present-day ground level. Both of these factors have implications for the geophysical survey described below.

Fieldwalking by the Strode Archaeology Society in 1990 in a field immediately to the east of the villa resulted in the recovery of some possible Roman building material, and also a quantity of slag, although there is a suggestion that this field has been used for the dumping of waste material from elsewhere (Hollinrake 1994, 9–10).

Geophysical Survey

It was hoped that geophysical survey of this site might be particularly informative, since a phase of Iron Age settlement could underlay the rather different plan and arrangements of a Roman courtyard villa. Unfortunately, the geophysical survey work was severely hampered by unfavourable ground conditions. Immediately prior to the survey, torrential rain and subsequent flooding resulted in an already damp field becoming extremely waterlogged. In places, this made walking with the gradiometer impossible and minimised any contrasts in moisture content as far as the resistance survey was

concerned. Despite these problems, some positive results were obtained, and the indications are that additional geophysical work may be of benefit when ground conditions have improved (GSoB 1993c).

While the results of the survey have confirmed the general location of the villa, little has been added to the interpretation of the building (Fig. 9). An area of increased magnetic noise coincides with a block of high resistance readings and the general alignment of these anomalies matches with the building plan as described by RHL (Leech 1977, 96–7). It is not possible to assess whether the poor definition of the resistance results is due to the waterlogged ground, plough damage, or to the excavations outlined above.

HURCOT

Location

The site at Higher Hurcot Farm (ST 51152975) lies on a gentle, south-facing slope at a height of some 40 m above OD, close to Chabrick Mill Stream, a tributary of the River Cary (Fig. 2).

Field Survey 1993

At the time of the geophysical survey, the northern field was under pasture; the southern field was under set-aside. Both fields were being cultivated in the mid-19th century (SRO 1841a). The ground slopes down to the stream in a series of plough-flattened lynchets. The main area of Roman buildings lies at the bottom of these lynchets, on a large but ill-defined platform. Below this, a slight plough-flattened scarp marks the course of a hollow way, but not, as shown on the First Edition 1:2500 OS map (Somerset sheet 63.15), a Roman road.

Previous Archaeological Work

The main reason for conducting the geophysical survey at Hurcot was to resolve conflicting accounts as to the location of the villa and to ascertain whether it formed part of a larger settlement. The villa was first mentioned in the earlier part of the 19th century by Hasell, who excavated it in 1827. Colt Hoare (1832, 6–7) reported that traces of hypocausts, baths, and mosaics were found. It was portrayed on the First Edition 1:2500 OS map (Somerset sheet 63.15) in the northern field, just to the north of the alleged Roman road. Haverfield (1906, 322–3) gives further details of the mosaics found, but is sceptical of the location, placing it to the west of Higher Hurcot Farm. This confusion was compounded by Dewar (1951, 47) who reported finding the foundations of this villa in the field to the south of its position on the First Edition 1:2500 OS map (Somerset sheet 63.15). This evidence was verified by Leech in 1968, who saw some small excavations conducted by un-named persons which revealed walls in this southern field, as well as evidence for buildings in the field to the north (Leech 1977, 124, Fig. 123).

Geophysical Survey

The geophysical work successfully identified a complex of buildings (Fig. 11) which clearly corresponds to the 'lost' Hurcot Roman villa (GSoB 1993d). The results indicate that while the main building correlates with the location marked on the First Edition 1:2500 OS map (Somerset sheet 63.15), there are also peripheral buildings to the south, in the area given by the most recent NMR records (NMR ST 52 NW 3).

In places a remarkably clear plan of the buildings has been obtained, suggesting good preservation of many of the wall foundations and perhaps the lower courses. A cluster of

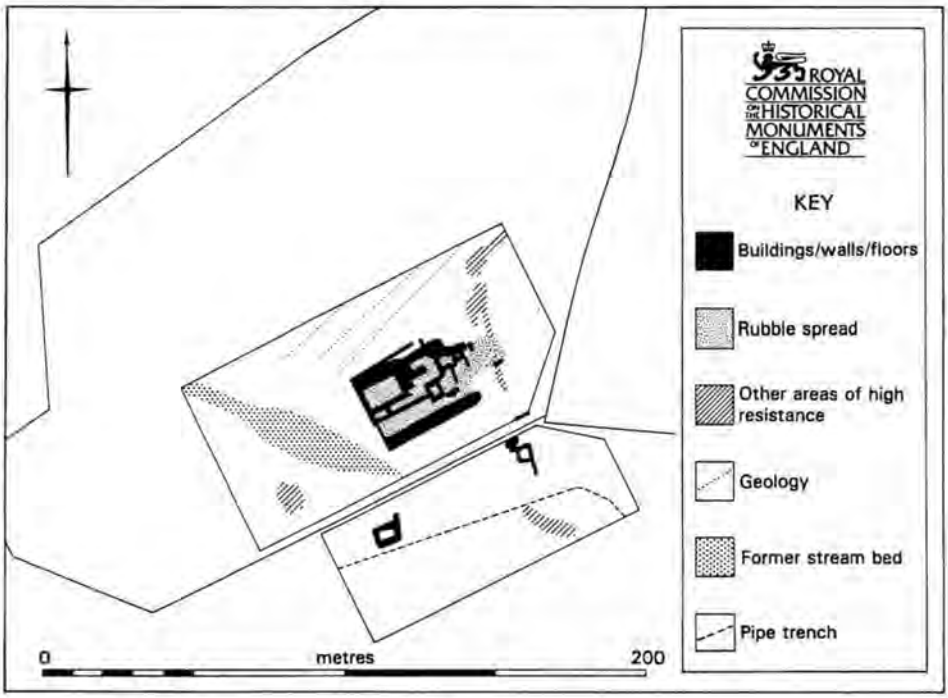

Fig. 11 Hurcot: summary plan (© RCHME Crown copyright)

well-defined rooms is visible and there is evidence for areas of rubble spreads or compacted floors. The core of the main building measures approximately 40 m by 28 m. To the west of the building, and following the line of a depression visible on the ground, is a band of low resistance readings which varies in width. This would seem to correspond to an old stream bed, perhaps the natural spring referred to by Colt Hoare (1832, 7).

South of the villa are two further probable buildings. The westernmost coincides within a few metres of the position given by the most recent NMR records (NMR ST 52 NW 3). It consists of a single, rectangular-shaped cell, measuring 7 m by 6 m, with a short length of wall abutting on the north-eastern corner. The second building is not quite so well-defined; the results suggest that rubble is masking individual wall lines, or that the site has been badly plough damaged. Alternatively, given that its location coincides with the trench observed by RHL (Leech 1977, 124, Fig. 123) past archaeological excavation may be responsible for the lack of clarity in the results. Limited gradiometer survey over the general area of the villa building identified several strong magnetic anomalies which are likely to be associated with fired or burnt material.

CONCLUSIONS

Geophysical survey has proved to be a useful technique in locating a wide variety of archaeological features at all four of the sites examined. At West Wood, ideal ground conditions on the Lias ridge produced the first plan of a recently discovered promontory

fort, and suggested a re-interpretation of the excavation evidence. At Bancombe Hill, the underlying geology affected the interpretation of the geophysical survey results, but excellent ground conditions on the Lias ridge allowed the discovery of a wide range of archaeological features. Poor ground conditions at Littleton hindered the efficacy of resistance techniques, but disturbance by past excavations and ploughing probably also contributed to the disappointing results. However, the results obtained did suggest geophysical survey to be a valid technique on the alluvium in this area. Resistance survey on good ground conditions at Hurcot, on Keuper Marl, revealed a plan of the villa buildings, together with two further buildings to the south.

There is now much better evidence for the overall extent and character of the sites at West Wood, Bancombe Hill and Hurcot. At West Wood the Iron Age settlement is now firmly located within a promontory fort, but the nature of the Romano-British settlement, clearly close by to judge from the evidence of the pottery and other finds, is not yet established. At Bancombe Hill geophysical survey has provided a much clearer overall plan of the settlement, its extent previously only hinted at through a spread of building and occupation debris in the plough soil. Geophysical survey has failed here to provide any evidence for an earlier Iron Age settlement, but more complex geological conditions may have prevented its recovery. Such evidence was looked for particularly at Littleton, to provide a context for the material from the 1951–2 excavations. Rapid realisation that the ground conditions were simply too wet led logistically to the geophysical survey resource being supplemented at West Wood; it will have to be decided whether and when to target further work at Littleton. At Hurcot, too, there was no evidence for Iron Age settlement, and here the results might be considered more conclusive. The extent and character of the site are now clearly defined. Prior to the survey it was uncertain whether the site would prove to be analogous to Catsgore, some 4 km to the south of Hurcot. Here, a villa and associated farmsteads extended along either side of a road in existence in the Roman period and in use until this century (Leech 1982). From the survey evidence at Hurcot it has been ascertained that the site is that of a single villa aligned on the road of recent use. The absence of any apparent enclosure ditches is also of interest, and could indicate that the site was founded in the 3rd or 4th centuries AD. At Catsgore, the boundaries of farmsteads established in the 1st or early 2nd centuries AD were delineated by ditches and banks; by the later Roman period these had been replaced by stone walls (Leech 1982, 38). It was also hoped that geophysical survey might identify the locations of cemeteries belonging to these settlements, such as that excavated on Bradley Hill (Leech 1981). This has not yet proved possible.

These results, together with those from recent geophysical survey within the Iron Age fort on Ham Hill (GSoB 1992; 1993e), have been sufficiently encouraging to enable further work. This will clearly be best extended to areas where a concentration of Romano-British settlement sites is already identified. This will in turn enable analyses of the inter-relationship between settlements with apparently different chronologies and functions to contribute to our understanding of economic and social structure and change within the Romano-British period.

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The survey archive and copies of the geophysical survey reports can be consulted at the National Monuments Record Centre, RCHME, Kemble Drive, Swindon, SN2 2GZ.

APPENDIX

POTTERY ILLUSTRATED IN THE TEXT

The characteristics of the pottery from the region are discussed in detail elsewhere and need not be repeated here (*see* Leech 1982, 153–8).

Fig. 5: Westwood Barrow

M-LPRIA Types
1–2. Jars with slight bead rims, hard sooty black fabric, poorly finished.
3–4. Jars with flattened bead rims, black burnished, quartz sand temper.
5. Straight-sided bowl, hard sooty black fabric, poorly finished.
6. Bowl with bead rim, decorated, black burnished, shell tempered, LPRIA.
7–8. Bowls with bead rims, decorated, black burnished, quartz sand tempered, LPRIA.
9. Bowl with everted rim, decorated, black burnished, quartz sand tempered, LPRIA.
10. Fragment, similar to 7–9, LPRIA.

UPRIA ('Durotrigan') Types
11–15. Jars with bead rims, BB1.
16–18. Jars with incipient everted rims, BB1.
19–21. Jars with upright rims, BB1.
22–3. Jars with slight everted rims, BB1.
24. Bowl with ribbed decoration, BB1.
25. Bowl with everted rim, cordon above shoulder, BB1, cf. Brailsford 1958, no. 11.
26. Lid, BB1.

Romano-British types
27–8. Jars with everted rims, BB1, 2nd to 4th century.
29–30. Dishes with plain rims, BB1, 2nd to 4th century.
31. Bowl with beaded rim and carinated sides, decorated, BB1, 1st to 2nd century.
32. Bowl with reeded rim, BB1, 3rd century.
33. Bowl with flanged rim, BB1, 4th century.
34. Bowl copying Samian form 30, hard grey, 1st to early 2nd century.
35–7. Jars with upright rims, hard grey, 1st to 2nd century.
38. Flanged bowl, OxCC, Young type C51, 240-400+.

Fig. 8: Bancombe Hill

1. Bowl, probably carinated with bead rim, fine micaceous fabric, 1st or early 2nd century.
2. Jar with everted rim, BB1, 2nd–4th century.
3. Dish with plain rim, BB1, 2nd–4th century.
4–5. Bowls with flanged rims, BB1, 4th century.
6–11. Flagons with double bead rims, wheel-thrown, hard grey, common in 4th century contexts at Bradley Hill.
12. Bowl with bead rim, fine red fabric with red colour coat, not Oxfordshire.
13. Bowl with turned over rim, OxCC, 3rd or 4th century.

Fig. 10: Littleton

1. Large jar with flattened bead rim, red exterior, black interior, crushed limestone and shell tempered, M-LPRIA.
2. Bowl with inturned rim, similar fabric to 1, M-LPRIA.
3. Jar with slight everted rim, similar fabric to 1, M-LPRIA.
4. Bowl with inturned rim, BB1, MPRIA.
5. Bowl with bead rim and ribbed decoration, BB1, 1st or early 2nd century.

6. Bowl with heavy rim or possibly a lid, BB1, 1st century AD.
7. Wide mouthed jar with double reeded rim, BB1, 1st century AD, (cf. Cunliffe 1971, 194–6).
8–9. Jars with everted rims, BB1, 2nd–4th century.
10. Bowl with flanged rim, BB1, 4th century.
11. Dish with plain rim, BB1, 2nd–4th century.
12. Flanged mortarium, OxWWM, Young type M22. 240–400+.

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