

Zeichnungen einiger sehr reicher Grabkomplexe. Im Falle der nicht abgebildeten Funde befinden sich im Text Hinweise, daß sie den in verschiedenen Veröffentlichungen (wie Vedel, Almgren, Jahn und Mackenprang) dargestellten Leittypen ähnlich sind. Eine solche Form der Publikation, die eine lange und auch schlechte Tradition hat – das gilt besonders für die Veröffentlichungen aus dem vorigen Jahrhundert –, ist selbstverständlich unzureichend, und es bleibt nur zu hoffen, daß in dem angekündigten dritten Band der Slusegård-Publikation alle Grabfundkomplexe zeichnerisch abgebildet werden; auch Photos der besonders wichtigen Fundgegenstände sollten dort ihren Platz finden. Nur dann werden die Materialien aus Slusegård eine vollwertige Grundlage für die Erforschung nicht nur der Grabsitten, sondern auch der Chronologie, der Verbreitung der verschiedenen Fundtypen, der interregionalen Kontakte, der Besiedlungsgeschichte, der verschiedenen Bereiche der materiellen und sozialen Kultur usw. bilden. Man muß bedenken, daß wir von der Insel Bornholm, woher eine so große Menge sehr wichtiger seit den sechziger Jahren des 19. Jahrhunderts ausgegrabener Fundmaterialien stammt, bis jetzt über keine vollständige und moderne Publikation eines großen Gräberfeldes der jüngeren vorrömischen Eisenzeit und der römischen Kaiserzeit verfügen. Durch eine komplette Veröffentlichung der gesamten Funde des ausgezeichnet ausgegrabenen und dokumentierten Gräberfeldes von Slusegård, das nach den bereits vorliegenden Daten zwischen der jüngeren vorrömischen Eisenzeit und dem Anfang der Völkerwanderungszeit (Funde aus der Leichenbrandschicht) angesetzt wird, könnte diese Lücke zumindest teilweise geschlossen werden. Es ist zu hoffen, daß die Nachfolger und Mitarbeiter des vorzeitig verstorbenen Professors Ole Klindt-Jensen diese mühsame, aber für die internationale archäologische Forschung äußerst wichtige Aufgabe möglichst bald verwirklichen werden.

Kraków

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Michael G. Jarrett and Stuart Wrathmell, Whitton. An Iron Age and Roman farmstead in South Glamorgan. University of Wales Press, Cardiff 1981. 262 Seiten, 91 Abbildungen und zahlreiche Tabellen.

The Jarrett and Wrathmell volume is the excavation report and analysis of a native rural settlement in southern Wales dating from the 1st to the 4th century AD. Research was carried out by the Department of Archaeology, University of Wales, Cardiff, during 1965–70. The excavation is especially important as the entire area within the settlement boundaries was exposed in detail. Excavation was necessary due to the site being threatened by ongoing agricultural activities.

Enclosed by a bank and ditch, the settlement area is c. 60 m × 56 m (i.e. c. 3300 m²). The bank is considered to have existed, and to have determined the settlement's areal extent, throughout all periods even though the bank is cut by a number of buildings of the later phases. The ditch appears to have filled in by the middle of the 2nd century. Surprisingly, despite the completeness of internal area excavation, only that ditch section nearest the entrance was completely dug. As most of the ditch was not opened, one wonders whether useful information has been missed and to what extent the finds recovered are representative. One would imagine that rubbish recovered from other ditch areas would have indicated something of the function of adjacent buildings during the different phases. As it is, only a large finds concentration has been recorded near the entrance, a not uncommon phenomenon. Bank and ditch are seen to have functioned in retaining livestock within, and in keeping wild animals without; a defensive function has not been considered.

The entrance construction with ditch terminals, entrance-way bank revetment walls, a gate and cobbled roadway is complex for the not easily dated four phases. However, the excavators assume that the four entrance phases span the entire habitation period whereby each phase was of long duration.

The settlement buildings can be mainly placed into one of two clearly distinguishable types. The one, dating to the earlier periods, consists of at least seven round huts such as are characteristic for Romano-British sites; the second type, built during the later phase, consists of rectangular foundations typical of simple buildings found at Roman villa complexes. The round huts, built of wood, have two variations: small, c. 9.50 m to 10.80 m in diameter without internal posts, represented by five examples; and, large huts 13.40 m to 14 m in diameter (two examples) with internal roof support posts. All of these buildings have but one entrance, c. 2 m wide, marked by pairs of two heavy posts. The roofed area of the small type varies from 70 m² to 113 m², while the larger have an area of 141 m² to 153 m². The authors give considerable attention to roof reconstructions and favour that with a combination of four to eight principal rafters with a decreasing number of secondary rafters extending to the apex. The thatched roof would have rested on walls which were c. 1 m high. No mention is made of repairs. Interestingly, one of the huts (section C) had a hearth made from Roman roof tiles.

A fundamentally different form are the rectangular stone foundations which possibly served to carry timber buildings. All of these plans have a more or less complex construction history as shown by traces of additions, alterations and replacements. In total, there are at least five clearly recognizable multi-phase buildings. In the northeast, a building has two phases, a T-form oven construction and a water basin. To the south, there are two buildings which may have become connected during the course of their development. That on the east consists of four small rooms and is provided with an hypocaust. The more westernly of these two buildings also has an hypocaust, and a furnace. Notable is the absence of burning traces on the heating systems which leads the authors to surmise that they had never functioned. Both buildings had at least two construction phases. A rectangular building in the western section is divided by cross walls into three more or less equal rooms. The most developed building lies to the north. Two construction phases were delineated here as well, both of which could have had a porticus at the front. The heaviness of the foundations of the second phase would seem to indicate that this building had two floors. The authors suggest a rather complicated construction consisting of two saddle roofs at right angles and two lower roofs for the porticus (room 6) and the add-on no.7. The drawing however (Fig.49) is, for room 7, different from the reconstruction suggested in the text. The reasoning behind these roof reconstructions is not given and one wonders why a much simpler construction was not considered such as a saddle roof over the entire length of the building, to the possible exclusion of room no.7. On the basis of its relatively handsome layout, the building is considered to have been a dwelling. In that respect however, a hypocaust is noticeably lacking.

There are two other types of plans in addition to the two main types: square ditched enclosures with one opening, and granaries. There are two examples of square enclosures, with sides of c. 7.50 m. They have no hearth and it is uncertain if they were roofed over. The lack of heavy posts by the entrance leads the authors to suggest man-high walls for these structures in contrast to the lower walls of the round huts. The suggestion, with far-reaching implications, that these square houses indicate the transition from round to rectangular buildings remains totally unexplored, and is undermined by the uncertainty of these having had a roof. The author's discussion on the fundamental difference between the roof construction over round and square areas does not make the proposition more attractive for these being the link between round and rectangular buildings. Moreover,

there is a total lack of any discussion on how the round huts were used – as dwelling, workshop or byre – and which functions were paralleled in the rectangular structures. Personally, I am far more inclined to consider the change from round to rectangular shape at Whitton as an essential departure in building tradition which may in this case be best explained by adoption of Roman villa construction design.

The last type of plan is the granary, consisting of twelve posts each in a post pit. Three post slots were seen at a high level for one of these granaries. I disagree with the author's interpretation that this granary was based on Roman design. Not the slot itself, nor individual postpit, is the diagnostic criterium, but rather the distance between the post rows. In a Roman context, the spacing is 1 m–1.50 m; in a native context, the rows are 1.50 m to 2 m, or more, apart (J. H. F. Bloemers, Rijswijk [Z. H.]. 'De Bult'. Eine Siedlung der Cananefaten. = *Nederlandse Oudheden* 8 [1978] 195–198); the spacings at Whitton were here given as too small, being 2 m to 2.20 m instead of 1.20 m–1.80 m). Whitton falls perfectly into that series, with greater spacings, of granaries in native context. The distance determines the load bearing capacity and therefore the storage capacity of a granary, which was considerably greater in a Roman than a native context.

Site phasing is discussed in Chapter VIII. The relative and absolute dating is uncertain for a number of points. Habitation phases of 20 to 30 years for timber structures is certainly acceptable. Not very convincing however is the placement, with certain reservations, of a number of plans into two or even three periods by which great differences arise in the total roofed area per period. It may have been better to place house B1 separately, for example, into Phase IV, and house E into Phase III. Phases VII and VIII last somewhat longer, but they also allow some subdivision if one includes the fragmentary plan from the northeast in Phase VII and, the building addition found in the south in Phase VIII.

The general trend seems to be that the settlement, which originally consisted of two or at most three units, had houses which were first built of wood and later replaced by rectangular buildings of wood and stone. The total area of the wood-stone houses more or less agrees with that of the small round huts – between 150 m² and 235 m² – if house E belongs exclusively to Phase III and house B1 to Period IV. During Phases VIII to X, the roofed area increased considerably: two to four houses with a combined area of minimally 300 m²–400 m². The enclosed settlement area by then gives the impression of being rather packed. The eastern area appears to have been used for farmstead purposes such as stalling livestock during Phases I–V. The area was separated from the western part by a palisade and was accessible directly from the main entranceway (see above). The western part served in contrast as the habitation area. For the later phases as well, it is assumed that farm and craft activities were carried out in the eastern sector. The dwelling units would have shifted from the south, via the west, to the north of the settlement during the different phases. It is lamentable that with all of the detailed work done within the bank and ditch no work was done, even of an exploratory nature, to the outside of the enclosure. Greater insight may have been gained on the use of the external area. Considering the small area of the settlement, the importance of animal husbandry for the economy, the role of agriculture and craft activities such as iron and leather working, it must not however be excluded that some of these activities were accomplished outside of the settlement proper. The oven found directly outside the entrance is but one example, but an important one, of such indications.

Analysis by different specialists of the diverse finds categories contributes important information of the economic structure of the community. The pottery consists primarily of local ware, influenced by native as well as Roman traditions. The limited number of mortaria could indicate little orientation towards Roman eating habits. Among the bronze objects are a few typical of a military context: pointing to a military function of some of

the inhabitants? The economy must have been based primarily on livestock rearing, assumed from the many animal bones, for production of meat, milk, wool and leather; followed by agriculture as indicated by the granaries, querns, drying ovens, and remains of emmer wheat and oats; and finally, on some hunting and fishing. The analysis is supported by other data such as plant and insect remains which point to an open vegetation.

The authors are very careful in their remarks on the numbers and status of the inhabitants. Numerically, the community could not have been much larger than an extended family. In settlement size and richness, Whitton takes a middle position relative to other sites of the area, and it is rightly considered 'typical of the isolated farm which continued to prosper under Roman rule without ever aspiring to be more than a farm' (p.253). The authors thereby answer a remark made early in the volume (p.4): 'As such it may have been more typical of the area than present evidence would lead us to suppose.' Experience in similarly oriented research during the 1970s in the Netherlands has shown that some native Roman settlements developed towards villa-type complexes. They are thereby a step in the scale which spans simple native settlements to large and newly founded complex villas. Only research at a regional scale can indicate the meaning of each step in settlement hierarchy, and where each level of occupation is similarly analyzed and compared with each other. This form of studying prehistory has gradually become the norm in a number of countries. Within provincial Roman archaeology however it occurs far too infrequently. It is therefore symptomatic that the excavation at Whitton was totally ignored during the 8th Congress of Roman Frontier Studies in 1969, at Cardiff, a conference which Michael Jarrett helped to organize. It may now be stated that such research has added an important dimension to the study of Roman military presence in the frontier provinces of the Roman Empire.

Despite the few critical remarks made above, it can be concluded that the Whitton excavation, with its multidisciplinary approach and the good publication of the analyses forms an important occasion, and, considering the date of excavation, exemplifies an original and forward-looking vision of developments within archaeology of the Roman period.

Amsterdam

J. H. F. Bloemers

Nina Crummy, The Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971–9. Colchester Archaeological Report 2. With contributions from D. G. Buckley, Philip Crummy, Elizabeth Fowler, Patricia Galloway, Stephen Greep, Mark Hassal, Dr. Martin Henig, Hilary Major, Dr. Graham Webster, and Dr. J. P. Wild. Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd., Colchester 1983. 183 Seiten, 212 Abbildungen und 5 Microfiches.

Philip Crummy, Excavations at Lion Walk, Balkerne Lane, and Middleborough, Colchester, Essex. Colchester Archaeological Report 3. With contributions from Howard Brooks, P. M. Barford, J. Bayley, C. M. Cunningham, Nina Crummy, P. J. Drury, A. J. Gouldwell, K. F. Hartley, Dr. S. Limbrey, Dr. Roger Ling, Joan Liversidge, Dr. R. Luff, P. M. Murphy, David S. Neal, Dr. R. Reece, Dr. D. J. Smith, R. P. Symonds, Maisie Taylor, and Dr. J. P. Wild. Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd., Colchester 1984. 224 Seiten, 204 Abbildungen und 5 Microfiches. 6 Kartenbeilagen in separater Mappe.

Die letzten Dezennien haben vieles zum Verständnis der Geschichte der römischen Stadt Colchester beigetragen. Die wichtigste Entdeckung ist wohl das Legionslager, das der