

In Appendix A some place-names are discussed in relation to the archaeological monuments. In Appendix B the ring-ditches are considered; their dating and interpretation still present many problems.

The core of the work is the inventory of monuments (p. 1 ff.) which lists sites under their parish heading in alphabetical order of parishes. While this has advantages, it makes it difficult to grasp the 'feel' of the region, since the parishes are so scattered. The index and lists of monuments in the sectional preface, however, make it relatively easy to examine specific categories of monument in the area.

The Cotswolds contain a series of nationally important sites. Recent excavations at Crickley Hill (Coberley parish), for instance, have revealed that large rectangular timber-framed buildings (perhaps aisled halls) preceeded a later Iron-Age circular building within the impressively sited hillfort. A striking series of crop-marks on the gravels of the Upper Thames in the parishes of Fairford, Kempford and Lechlade (map opposite p. 55) have been plotted from the air and represent a complex Iron-Age and Romano-British landscape of fields, enclosures, tracks and settlement foci.

The Cotswolds have always been known for their luxurious late Roman villas – Frocester Court, Chedworth, Spoonley Wood (Sudeley parish) and Woodchester. Recent work at the architecturally more modest villa of Barnsley Park has begun to reveal new details of the economic background to the villa systems for a pattern of walled closes and fields can now be associated with the villa buildings.

The inventory is richly illustrated with plans which show a high standard of draughtsmanship. The plates, carefully chosen, are of excellent quality; it is good to have among them a visual conspectus of the mosaics of the area. Equally, the aerial photographs emphasise the importance of the earthworks still upstanding in the region and the urgent need to protect them against all forms of erosion.

Manchester.

John Peter Wild.

I. M. Stead, Excavations at Winterton Roman Villa and other Roman sites in North Lincolnshire 1958–1967. With contributions by D. Charlesworth, B. R. Hartley, K. F. Hartley, H. Pengelly, P. E. Curnow, V. Rigby, C. B. Denston, J. Liversidge, D. J. Smith and others. Department of the Environment, Archaeological Reports No. 9. Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London 1976. XVIII and 324 pages, 148 figures, 7 tables and 38 plates.

Archaeology in Britain in common with other scholarly disciplines has been badly hit by rising printing costs. One response to the problem has been to publish excavation reports by the cheaper (but less flexible) method of offset lithography. Official bodies, however, who publish through Her Majesty's Stationery Office, have reacted by simply raising the price of their letterpress publications. While fewer readers will be able to afford these reports, it is nevertheless reassuring to be able to handle work like Dr Stead's Winterton which maintains the established high standards of printing and production.

The volume is a record of excavations carried out at a number of Roman sites on, or on the edge of, the Lincolnshire Wolds between 1958 and 1967, with a post-script on more recent work at Winterton.

The first site to be considered (chapter I) is Old Winteringham on the south bank of the Humber. Dr Stead argues for a military presence here in the period before the Roman advance across the river in A. D. 71. His excavations revealed a series of early ditches which he claims as 'defensive'. There is, however, none of the familiar

imported pre-Flavian fine pottery from the site, and no obvious military equipment; but the brooches support his dating. In the third and fourth centuries two barns containing furnaces were put up on the spot. It is sad that this excavation had to be cut short in 1965.

The second chapter is devoted to a review of the Roman villa at Winterton and its structural development. Dr Stead handed over direction of the site to Dr Goodburn in 1967, and publishes here only the results of his research before that date. Winterton provides perhaps the best model of a working Roman farm so far excavated in the northern provinces and its importance for provincial-Roman studies is far-reaching.

Traces of first-century Roman occupation were noted, but no structural remains. The earliest buildings found (E and J) were both circular and date to the early second century A. D. They resemble the traditional round huts of the British Iron Age. A third circular building (H) dates to after A. D. 180 and may have been a cartshed.

In about A. D. 180 the site was cleared and redeveloped on an entirely new pattern – an ‘ultra-modern villa’ in Dr Stead’s words. Some of the features of the complex such as the mosaics are hard to parallel so early in the countryside. The principal building (G), a winged corridor house, was architecturally modest. It faced east across the farmyard. On the north and south sides of the yard stood ancillary buildings. The south range consisted of a small barn (A), converted c. A. D. 220–250 into an aisled barn (B) with accommodation for both men and animals. The rooms grouped into building C lay to the east of this. In the north range the bath-block F lay next to the main house and further east the large aisled barn D was erected. The latter resembled barn B in that it had domestic accommodation (including heated rooms) coupled with space for agricultural and industrial activities indicated by a series of trench-furnaces. Work after 1967 (p. 315f.) brought to light a third aisled barn (M) at the north-west corner of the farmyard.

In the mid fourth century there were considerable changes on the site. The main house (G) had a separate dining room added and now faced west, away from the farm. Two aisled barns with augmented domestic facilities continued to serve the day-to-day needs of the farmer and his hands, but most of the other outbuildings were demolished.

Dr Stead’s description of the structures is admirably clear and he is absolutely honest about the dating problems. His discussion of the context and function of the buildings (p. 79ff.) is excellent. In his account of the aisled barns, however, he relies too heavily on the research of Mr. J. T. Smith whose data were already out of date when they were published (1964). Aisled barns are the commonest standard building form in Roman Britain, and fulfilled a wide variety of functions, domestic, agricultural and industrial, on a wide variety of sites. Their rarity in continental Europe is curious.

The evidence for the local pottery industry of North Lincolnshire is presented in chapter III. This is a very useful survey of the known and recently discovered kilns in the area.

The final main section of the book (chapter IV) contains a series of specialist reports on the finds from all the sites described. Two groups of finds deserve particular comment.

Imported pottery such as samian and the specialised British wares such as mortaria might be expected to throw light on the supply routes to North Lincolnshire, as indeed they do; but the coarse pottery, especially at Winterton, is unusually

well documented and a high proportion of it can be assigned to the kiln sites described in chapter III. The distinctive local wares such as parisian ware are of great interest.

Mention must be made, too, of the penetrating study of the mosaics of Winterton by Dr D. J. Smith. He is able to suggest that the Brough-Petuarria school of fourth-century mosaicists (who worked at Winterton) may be an offshoot of the studio at Corinium-Cirencester.

In a detailed postscript to the volume Dr Roger Goodburn describes the results of his own excavations at Winterton since 1968. Recognition of Iron-Age and Roman ditched enclosures west and south of the main building complex is one of the more significant discoveries.

The plans and line-drawings throughout the book are first-rate, but sometimes over-inked by the printer. Half-tone plates are on the whole good, but there are few showing the excavated features. Very few misprints have crept into the text.

Manchester.

John Peter Wild.

F. Gerald Simpson, Watermills and Military Works on Hadrian's Wall. Excavations in Northumberland 1907–1913. Edited by Grace Simpson. With a contribution on watermills by Lord Wilson of High Wray. Titus Wilson & Son, Kendal 1976. XVI und 198 Seiten, 27 Textabbildungen, 66 Fototafeln und 20 weitere Tafeln und Faltpläne.

Das hier besprochene Buch enthält Berichte über Ausgrabungen, die F. G. Simpson (1882–1955), einer der bedeutendsten Ausgräber der Hadriansmauer, in den Jahren 1907 bis 1913 unternommen hat. Die zahlreichen Untersuchungen an verschiedenen Punkten der Grenzmauer verfolgten neben topographischen und baugeschichtlichen Zielsetzungen vor allem den Zweck, die Chronologie dieser einzigartigen, römischen Militärgrenze zu klären. F. G. Simpson hatte geplant, die Berichte in der *Archaeologia Aeliana* zu veröffentlichen. Das wurde indessen durch den Ausbruch des ersten Weltkrieges verhindert. Auch später hat er die Veröffentlichung noch mehrmals vorbereitet, sie unterblieb aber schließlich wegen anderweitiger, dringender Beanspruchungen des Autors. So hat nunmehr Grace Simpson, die Tochter des Verfassers, die Grabungsberichte herausgegeben, wofür man ihr dankbar sein wird. Denn die Diskussion um die Bauphasen und um die Funktion der verschiedenen Komponenten der Hadriansmauer ist in den letzten Jahren recht lebhaft geworden, und daher ist die Veröffentlichung der alten Grabungsberichte besonders zu begrüßen. Das richtige Verständnis mancher baulicher oder chronologischer Einzelheiten wäre ohne die genaue Kenntnis der hier vorgelegten Berichte erschwert oder unmöglich. Außer den Originalberichten F. G. Simpsons enthält das Buch in der Einleitung eine kurze Lebensbeschreibung des Autors durch die Herausgeberin. Grace Simpson hat außerdem einige der Grabungen mit Hilfe der Grabungstagebücher, Notizen und Briefe aus dem Nachlaß beschrieben, sie hat bei anderen neuere Forschungsergebnisse und Literatur nachgetragen und in manchen Fällen die Funde bearbeitet, wobei sie auch kurze Gutachten weiterer Fachleute einholte. Dabei liegt der Akzent auf chronologisch wichtigen Funden, und die Herausgeberin geht mehrmals recht kritisch auf die Datierungsvorschläge anderer Bearbeiter ein. – Einen gewissen Schwerpunkt des Buchs bilden Untersuchungen technischer Anlagen, nicht nur der Wassermühle von Haltwhistle Burn Head und einiger auf eine Mühle deutender Reste an der östlichen Rampe der Brücke von Chesters und an der Brücke von Willowford. Man findet in dem Buch auch eine Beschreibung des gut erhaltenen