

# The Roman Temple on Brean Down, Somerset\*

By

A. M. APSIMON

With Reports on the Roman Coins and Samian Ware

By

G. C. BOON

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## I. SUMMARY

A square temple of conventional Romano-Celtic type built about A.D. 340 was augmented by lateral annexes and a front porch, probably before A.D. 367-8. After abandonment as a temple it passed through a phase of dilapidation and squatter occupation, during which the north annexe was used for iron working. The temple was demolished about A.D. 390 and a small building built alongside. This was used for domestic occupation until an undefined date in the fifth century, when it too was demolished. A burial in the temple ruins may have been associated with this sub-Roman occupation.

## 2. DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION

The first discovery of Roman potsherds on the site was made by Mrs. Dutton who called the adjacent barrow the "Potter's Mound" (Dutton, 1921). Further shards found by Dr. N. C. Cooper of Winscombe were placed in Weston-super-Mare Museum, where they were seen by the writer. Test cuttings made at Easter 1956 were followed up by excavations in 1957 and 1958 carried out on behalf of the Spelæological Society and the Weston Borough Museum jointly and directed by the writer. In 1958 Mr. B. K. Davison was employed as assistant supervisor.

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The second season's work was much hampered by rain and lack of satisfactory labour, so that work on the north annexe of the temple remained unfinished. In 1959 other test cuttings were made to the west of the building in search of further buildings, with negative result. In the light of this it has been considered that the information to be gained from the further excavation of the north annexe would be unlikely to justify the expense and administrative effort required.

As it is, the buildings have been almost completely excavated, with the exception of the north annexe, only a few baulks being left untouched. As there was no evidence of pre-temple occupation and the site was not in any way threatened, the walls and the remains of the floors were left *in situ*. At the end of the excavation the spoil was replaced mechanically, care being taken to preserve the walls from damage. The site is now grass-grown, but the walls can be traced under the turf. The finds have been placed in Weston Borough Museum, with the exception of a specimen series of coins which is in the Society's museum.

#### PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS

A short interim report on the 1957 excavations appeared in *Proceedings* for 1957-8 (ApSimon, 1958) and brief notes of the excavations were contributed to "Roman Britain in 1957", and "Roman Britain in 1958" (Taylor 1958, p. 146, and Taylor, 1959, p. 129). The present report supersedes anything said in these preliminary accounts. A discussion of topics raised by the coin finds has already been published by G. C. Boon in the *Numismatic Chronicle* (Boon, 1961).

We are indebted to the owners, the National Trust, and the tenants, the Axbridge Rural District Council, for permission to excavate. The Weston Borough Council, through their Library and Museum Committee, gave generous grants in 1957 and 1958, in addition to providing a field headquarters in 1958 and much assistance in other ways.

Among the many members of the Society who helped with the excavations were Dr. H. Taylor and Dr. E. K. Tratman who took most of the photographs, J. H. Crickmay, who assisted with the surveying, Prof. D. T. Donovan (Hull), who identified the building stones, and G. C. Boon (National Museum of Wales), who has contributed the coin report. Mr. G. P. Rye, Librarian and Curator, Weston Borough Library and Museum, gave us every assistance. Special thanks are due to the many volunteers who helped. Members of the public who visited the excavations contributed £140 towards the cost of excavation and bought 1,000 copies of a short interim report.

#### 3. THE SITE

(N.G.R. ST 293588,\* O.S. 6 in. MAP ST 25 NE.)

The Roman buildings which are the subject of this report are situated on the eastern of the two summits of Brean Down, a headland projecting into the Bristol Channel immediately south of Weston-super-Mare (*Fig. 40*).

\* The full National Grid Reference of the central point of the cella is ST 29333 58834, correct to about  $\pm 0.3$  m.

The Down is a ridge of Carboniferous Limestone, separated from the end of the Mendip Hills on the east by the mouth of the river Axe, with Weston Bay on the north and the Somerset levels to the south-east. The northern slopes of the Down, though steep, are fairly even and vegetation-covered; the southern side falls in a series of rocky bluffs and cliffs, partly masked by Pleistocene deposits, which have been described in a previous paper in *Proceedings* (ApSimon, Donovan and Taylor, 1961).

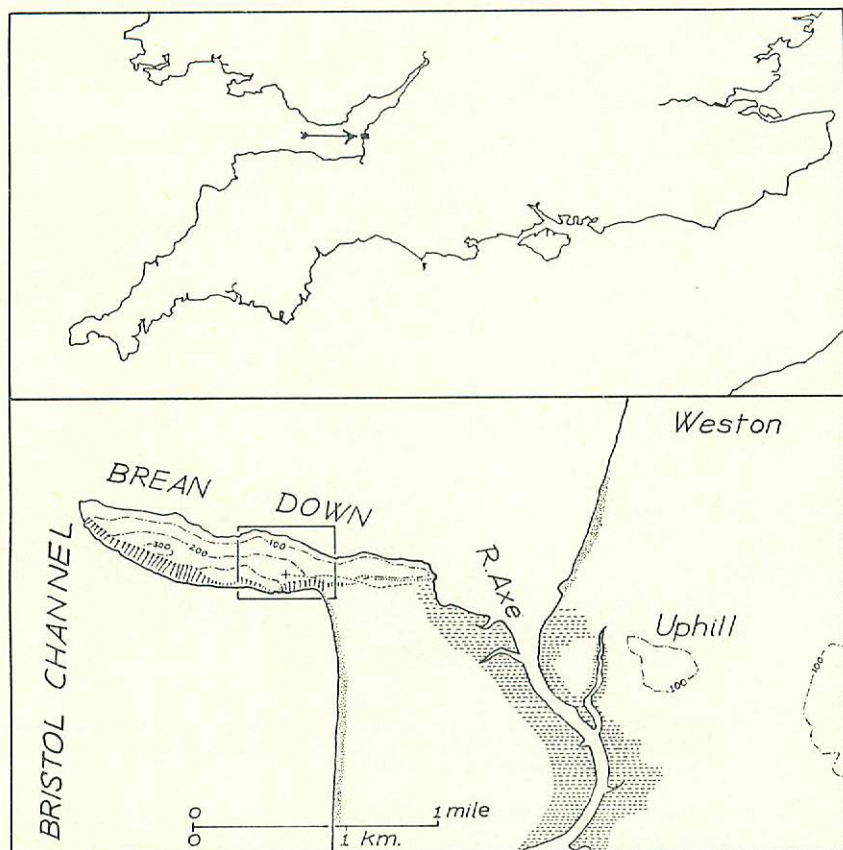


Fig. 40.

The eastern summit (Fig. 41) rises to about 260 ft. O.D. (79 m.), the planed-off surface of the steeply dipping limestone being thought to be the result of marine erosion in the early Pleistocene. The surface of the limestone is covered by a thin layer of red sandy loam or clay, which thickens to as much as 3 ft. when traced down the north slope of the hill.\* This prehistoric

\* Information from Mr. Derek Findlay of the Soil Survey.

weathering soil, which yielded a piece of Neolithic pottery just north of the temple, is covered by a layer of yellow blown sand, which also thickens down the north slope and which is covered in its turn by a thin weathering soil in which a shard of Iron Age pottery was found. This soil formed the Roman ground surface. The superficial post-Roman deposits consist of a fine greyish brown sand.

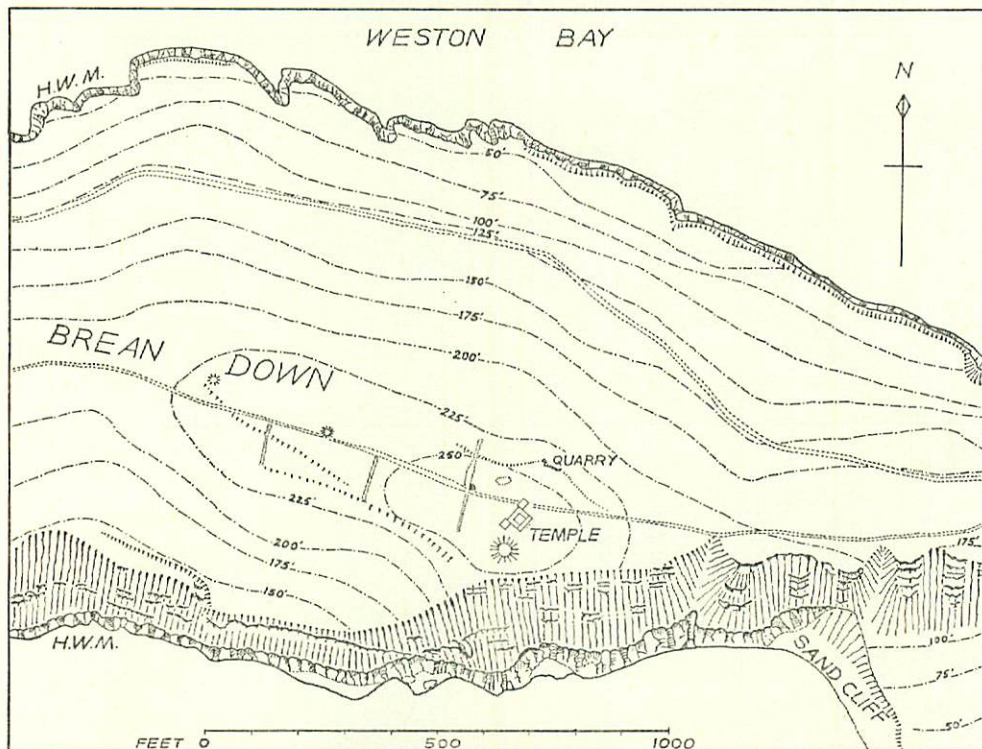


Fig. 41.—(Based on the O.S. plan, Crown copyright reserved.  
Contours approximate.)

The Roman buildings stood at the east end of the hill-top, on which there are also three round barrows, one just to the south of the temple. Immediately to the east the hill falls steeply to about 200 ft. O.D. and the buildings would have stood out at the head of this slope, commanding extensive views on all sides, except directly westwards where the view is blocked by the western summit of Brean Down. The other slopes are so steep that until the construction of the modern road the only practicable way to and from the temple would have been by following the ridge on this eastern side for about 400 yd., to where a steep and narrow gully leads obliquely down the south slope in the direction of Brean Down farm at the eastern end of the Down. Beyond

this point the route is likely to have been by ferry over the river Axe, unless the coastal levels were reclaimed in late Roman times. The field banks marked on the plan are post-Roman, to judge from the presence of Roman building debris in the bank nearest the temple on the west, and the cultivation associated with these fields is probably of early nineteenth-century date as Rutter (1829, p. 93) noted "... a considerable portion . . . has been of late years enclosed and cultivated". Old furrows are visible in a low-level aerial photograph.

#### 4. DETAILED DESCRIPTION

This section is divided into three parts in accordance with the sequence of structures found. Firstly the original temple, secondly the annexes, the porch and the exterior, and thirdly the southern building.

In the description of the stratigraphy the layers found have been numbered as follows:

1. Turf and topsoil
2. Destruction levels
3. Occupation layer
4. Floor and building levels
5. Windblown sand
6. Sandy loam and clay.

Letter suffixes, "a, b, c," etc., have been added to describe local subdivisions of these layers.

##### 4(a). THE TEMPLE

(Plan: *Plate 12*. Sections 1-3: *Plate 13*)

The interior of the temple was completely excavated except for the intact parts of the concrete floor and for three baulks left across the ambulatory. Limited excavations were made outside and the extent of the debris proved by trenches on the east and north. The excavations on the south side are dealt with in the description of the south annexe and southern building.

##### DIMENSIONS AND STRUCTURE

The external measurements of the temple were: length 41 ft. 2-4 in. (10.48 m.), width 40 ft. 2-3 in. (10.22 m.). Internally it was divided into the central cella approximately 16 ft. square, the vestibule 9 ft. 2-3 in. wide occupying the front of the temple and the ambulatory running round the remaining three sides of the cella, 8 ft. 7-9 in. wide on the north and south and 9 ft. 1 in. wide on the west. The walls averaged 20 in. in thickness above offset level. Below offset level they were generally about 2 ft. thick.

The material used in the walls was freshly quarried Carboniferous Limestone. Some of the limestone blocks showed surface-weathered faces, evidently from the quarry surface, and in others the natural joint surfaces of the limestone had been utilised. A weathered yellow facies of the Carboniferous Limestone was also noticed in the walling.

The south wall of the temple and the southern half of the east wall rested directly on the surface of the rock; the remaining walls rested on or (north wall—Section 2) a little below the surface of the red sandy loam or clay (layer 6); footing trenches having been dug through the sand (layer 5), where necessary. Where the wall rested on the rock, there was no pitched footing, the basal course of the wall being accommodated to the sloping and uneven surface of the limestone with considerable skill.

Where there were footings, they were a few inches wider than the wall itself. They consisted of undressed limestones pitched or set on edge, with a filling of sandy earth. The stones were generally only one layer deep, but increased to two layers where the ground fell away towards the north-east corner.

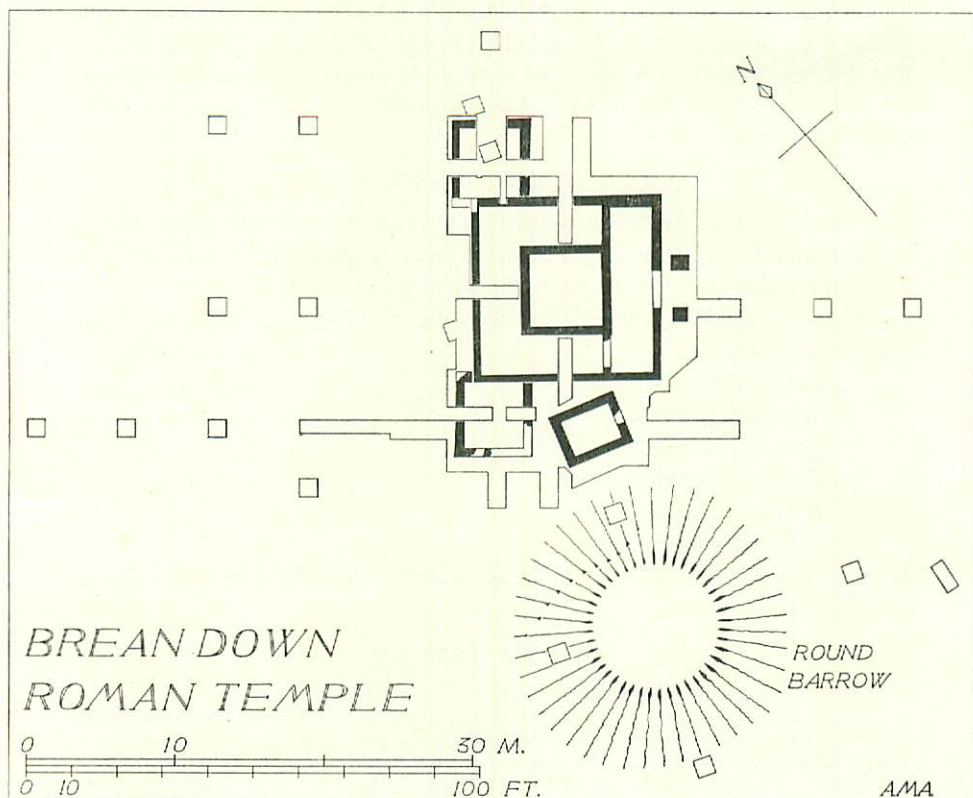


Fig. 42.

The coursed walling consisted of hammer-dressed limestone block facing with a single line of undressed limestones in the core, set in good reddish grey mortar containing a little brick and occasional charcoal flecks. Where the walling rested directly on the rock there was no offset; elsewhere in the southern half of the temple there was one course between footings and offset, increasing in the northern half from two to three courses below offset level. At the north-east corner the thickness of the wall was increased to counteract the thrust of the building down the slope. These levelling courses were tapered off in a very skilful manner. In general the offsets on the outer faces of the walls were wider than those on the inner faces, and there was no close relationship between the offset and remaining floor levels. The offsets were fairly level from west to east but the offsets of the vestibule walls sloped down from south to north (see Fig. 50).

In front of the doorways from the vestibule to the north ambulatory and from the vestibule to the cella, the offset rose by one course, apparently to provide an abutment for a step; 8 ft. 10 in. wide in the case of the cella doorway.

Above offset level the walling was of fairly uniform thickness, with the majority of the courses about 6-7 in. high, though some were as much as 9 in. The blocks used measured up to 15 in. in the face, with quoins up to 18 in. though these

had mostly been robbed out. The walling of the cella generally survived up to three courses above the offset, and locally in the north and south walls to four courses. The outer wall of the temple was preserved from one to four courses above offset, footings, or rock.

The sill of the doorway leading into the vestibule was formed at offset level. Only the southern stone door-jamb was preserved, but—if the porch was built symmetrically in relation to the doorway—the masonry opening would have been about 8 ft. 3 in. wide. The existing sill of the doorway into the cella was one course above the raised offset. Both masonry jambs were robbed and it is impossible to be sure of the width of the opening, although it is likely to have been about 8 ft. Probably in neither case was the original sill preserved and it is possible that both were of wood. The offset level of the doorway into the north ambulatory was robbed, so that we have no information about the sill or jambs. The doorway into the south ambulatory had been robbed right down to the footing level. Widths of about 4 ft. for these doorways would be possible, by comparison with the later doorways into the annexes.

Inside the cella, in the north ambulatory and on the east wall of the vestibule, where the walling was well preserved, the joints were smoothly pointed out with brown mortar in which false vertical joints had been struck. Patches of thick mortar rendering remained adhering to the wall in the cella, in part of the north ambulatory and in the vestibule. In the cella the lower edge of these patches went below the original floor level, showing that the walls had been rendered prior to the laying of the cement floor. The surface of the rendering bore scribed lines and was scarred with trowel marks for keying the layer of fine wall plaster ( $\frac{1}{4}$  in. thick) which had been applied to the surface. Patches of this plaster remained in the cella (darker and lighter red on white), in the vestibule (south wall) and against the north wall of the north ambulatory (creamy yellow). Large quantities of rendering and wall-plaster fragments were found in the debris of the cella, the vestibule and the east end of the north ambulatory, but little elsewhere. A single patch of rendering was noted on the inner face of the west ambulatory wall. No evidence of rendering of the outside faces of the walls was found.

None of the detail stonework remained in position, but material from the debris indicates the use of Bath Freestone for voussoirs, ridge coping and mouldings and of a yellow Triassic Breccia for voussoirs. Many fragments and a few complete hexagonal roofing "slates"\* of Pennant Sandstone, each with a hole for a fastening nail (sometimes remaining) were found in the debris. There were no tesserae and no window-glass.

A large part of the south wall was found robbed down to a well-preserved mortar course. Elsewhere the tops of the walls, which lay immediately beneath the grass-roots, were weathered and the mortar destroyed. Below this the walls were in very good condition, where they had not been interfered with in the process of destruction, and the walling was of good quality.

#### STRATIGRAPHY

- Cella.* 1. Turf and topsoil  
 2+. Recent disturbance  
 2. Rubble spread with predominantly earthy matrix  
 2a. Plastery rubble spread  
 2b. Fill of robbing pits, mainly sandy-mortary earth  
 4. Concrete floor with limestone chipping bedding  
 5. Yellow wind-blown sand (*not excavated*).

The concrete floor rested on a bedding layer of fresh mason's trimmings of Carboniferous Limestone laid on the surface of the sand. These chippings were mostly fairly small (2-3 in.) but where the layer was thicker larger blocks up to 10 in. occurred in the lower part. The matrix of the lower part was sand, changing to sandy-mortary earth in the upper part, which was comparatively hard and compact. No finds were made in this layer or on the surface of the underlying sand where this was exposed. The concrete floor consisted of a lower coarser layer about 2-3 in. thick and a finer surface layer about 1 in. thick, which when fresh had a pinkish tinge, but which weathered greyish white.

\* "Slates"—for this usage, which contrasts with brick tiles (*tegulae*), see, for example, Maiden Castle (Wheeler, 1943, p. 135); as also the Stonesfield "slate" of the Cotswolds—in this case Jurassic Limestone was used for roofing.

This floor was intact only in two small patches, one right in the middle of the cella and another against the south wall, with a roughly triangular area of worn floor between and around them. In the south-west and south-east corners and in most of the northern half of the cella, the floor had been worn through to expose the surface of the mortary bedding layer beneath. In the south-east, south-west and north-west part three robber pits had been dug right through the floor to expose the sand beneath, the south-east pit being continued northward into the north-east part as a shallow trench dug into the floor bedding. No trace of anything which might be construed as a primary occupation level was found, though a film of fine grit on the intact portions of the floor and 2 limpet shells and part of a sheep's rib embedded in the surface of mortary earth in the north-west part may relate to squatter occupation, prior to the destruction of the temple.

The north-west robber pit (*Plate 8a*) was filled with loose, reddish brown, sandy-mortary earth with numerous small limestone fragments and pieces of wall plaster and mortar rendering. On the south side the fill (*2b*) of the pit was continuous with the base of the rubble spread. (See section 3.) Two coins, one Constantinian [no. 135] and one of Valens [no. 173], were found in the fill.

The south-west robber pit only just reached the sand, most of its base being the floor bedding. The lower part of the fill (*2b*) was sandy-earthly with large blocks of limestone, the upper part more plastery, being continuous with the general rubble fill of the cella (section 1, *Plate 13*). Fifty-nine coins [nos. 95, 97, 99-102, 105-17, 119-28, 131, 136, 138-56, 158-9, 161, 163, 168-71] were found in this pit. Almost all were found scattered in the lower 3 or 4 in. of the fill. Of these coins the latest were a series (28 coins) of copies of the "Fallen Horseman" type of Constantius II of c. 354-64, ranging down to minims of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm. size.

In the south-east part the third robber pit had reached but not been dug into the surface of the sand. Its fill consisted of loose sandy-mortary earth with many angular limestones derived from the floor bedding, some fragments of Pennant Sandstone "slates", including one burnt, fragments of wall plaster, mostly freshly broken and fairly large. The edge of the pit was marked by a stratum of "dried pea" grit. In the bottom of the hole was a large piece of Bath Stone roof coping resting right-way up on the sand. This piece fitted on to another found on the old ground surface just outside the south wall of the temple (Plan, *Plate 12* and *Fig. 47*). A chip of moulded Bath Stone (*Fig. 54*, No. 5) was found on the west side just at the edge of the pit. There was a spread of Pennant roofing fragments in the surface of the fill just west of the cella doorway (see section 1, *Plate 8a*).

In the fill were 18 coins [nos. 96, 98, 103-4, 118, 129-30, 132-3, 137, 157, 160, 162, 164-7, 172], the latest being 13 copies of the "Fallen Horseman" type of 354-64.

The rubble spread (layer 2a), which overlay the floor and the robber pits, consisted of gritty-mortary earth containing closely packed wall-plaster fragments, but comparatively little roofing material or masonry debris, except for a broken voussoir and some fragments of Bath Stone. Seven coins [nos. 12, 23, 37, 49, 53, 61, 67] were found in the north-west part, and 28 coins [nos. 13, 14, 16, 21, 24, 32, 40, 42, 45, 48, 50, 57, 62-4, 68-70, 73, 81-3, 85, 90-4] in the south-west part. These included 4 of Valens and 2 of Valentinian I, of which 2 were found on the floor south-east of the robber pit and 1 on the eroded surface north of it. Fourteen coins [19, 22, 25, 35, 46, 54, 60, 71, 78, 80, 84, 86, 87, 89] were found in the south-east part. The latest were 2 coins of Valentinian I and 2 of Valens.

The stratification of the debris was less clear in the north-east part of the cella. The eroded surfaces of the floor and the shallow trench cut in the floor bedding were covered by sandy-mortary earth, while the layer of wall-plaster fragments which sealed the south-east robber pit was continued in the south part of the area by a heap of plaster fragments, 3 ft. by 2 ft. by 9 in. high, covered by closely packed limestone debris, and with some complete roofing "slates" beneath. Elsewhere the lower part of the fill was plastery earth with pieces of roofing, covered by more sandy earth with many dressed blocks of Carboniferous Limestone as well as many fragments of wall plaster. Section 2 shows the jumbled nature of the stratigraphy of the north-east part of the cella.

Thirty-four coins were found concentrated in the basal 6 in. of the debris, including a number in and under the plaster heap and others in the robber trench cut into the floor bedding. The latest of these coins was of Valentinian I [no. 88], found in plastery debris 0.5 in. above the worn surface of the floor [nos. 15, 17-18,

20, 26-31, 33-4, 36, 38-9, 41, 43-4, 47, 51-2, 55-6, 58-9, 65-6, 72, 74-7, 79, 88]. Other finds included two pieces of Bath Stone with mouldings (*Fig. 53*, nos. 6 and 7).

The superficial rubble, layer 2, consisting of limestone blocks in a sandy matrix with little wall plaster or mortar, was really only present in the south-west and north-east quarters. In the remaining south-east and north-west parts the layer contained very little building debris and in part of the south-east area the plaster debris was exposed immediately beneath the turf.

A comparatively recent minor disturbance was marked by holes with stoneless, clean, dark earthy fill, contrasting with the sandy, mortar-flecked matrix of the destruction level. One of these disturbances at the centre of the cella had penetrated almost to the floor level, which was here undamaged (section 1), the other just to the north had reached and been dug into the floor bedding (section 2 and Plan, pit marked "recent"). Blocks of Blue Lias were found in the filling of each (section 1). As this material was otherwise absent from the debris of the cella, it seems likely that these blocks were derived from the quoins of the north annexe, the only part of the building exposed at the surface. Nothing was found in the holes to date this disturbance. The patch of plaster debris immediately below the turf in the north part of the cella (section 2) and two coins found there at the base of layer 1 [nos. 1, 2] presumably owe their position to this disturbance.

*Vestibule.* 1. Turf and topsoil

2b. Rubble spread with earthy matrix

2c. Mortary earth with wall-plaster fragments

2d. Roof slate spread

2e. Hearth in base of 2c

3. Dark earth with hearth

4. Limestone chipping metalling (north and south) and cobbling (centre)

5a. Reddish brown sandy earth

5. Reddish yellow blown sand

6. Red sandy loam

#### Carboniferous Limestone.

The sloping surface of the limestone bedrock was exposed in the floor at the south end of the vestibule. The red sandy loam was seen only in the middle of the room where it formed a thin skin in the crevices of the rock surface (section 1).

From between about 5 and 8 ft. from the south end, the rock was covered by the wind-blown sand. In the middle part this was about 6 in. thick, increasing to 12 in. where it had been left as a step in front of the cella doorway. The southern end of the sand was covered by a thin layer of limestone chipping metalling about 8 ft. wide, which ran obliquely across the vestibule. From there to the mid-point of the room, this was replaced by a spread of limestone cobbles composed of stones up to 6 in. across with upper surfaces rounded as though by nailed boots. A single patch of cement was seen in this surface about 2 ft. 6 in. inside the southern part of the doorway. The cobbling lay on reddish brown sandy earth (layer 5a) which appeared to represent the old soil level on top of the sand. This soil was clean and the only find was a coin of Victorinus [no. 277] which was definitely sealed by the cobbling.

Over an area about 5 ft. square inside the northern part of the doorway this relatively smooth cobbling was replaced by larger rounded blocks with a rough, tumbled appearance as though disturbed. This coarser cobbling rested on brown sandy soil containing shards of pottery, limpet shells, charcoal and a piece of slag, as well as a scatter of roughly horizontal pieces of Pennant roofing. Beneath the "slates" was a thin layer of brown sandy soil and then the unbroken surface of the yellow dune sand. North of this area the floor consisted of a layer of small limestone chippings. The surface of this layer was very irregular. Immediately outside the doorway leading to the north ambulatory a pile of larger limestones rose up above the surface of layer 4. This floor bedding material in the north end of the vestibule was not excavated.

The surface of the floor as just described sloped down between 12 and 18 in. from south to north, and left the internal offsets of the walls exposed—even the footing course was exposed immediately south of the doorway into the cella. It would seem that none of the original surface was left. The only possible traces of this were patches of yellowish mortar preserved to a height of about 6 in. above the bedrock against the south wall and the east wall of the southern half.

The step of undisturbed sand in front of the cella doorway was about 8 ft. long, 2 ft. wide, and raised about 6 to 9 in. above the surrounding floor. Its sides were steeply cut down and may perhaps originally have been revetted with stones, but disturbance made this uncertain. Towards the south end of the step a steep-sided cut, possibly for a post supporting a platform over this step, was seen in section, and just beyond the north end a possible support for another was found, consisting of a stone 10 in. long by 8 in. across the base, set point down, smooth face upward, in a hole cut in the sand, and packed round with smaller stones. Some such structure would have been necessary over the sand which was much too soft to have formed the actual step.

The occupation layer (3) was most clearly differentiated in the south-east corner of the vestibule where it consisted of 3-4 in. of dark soil with ash and fragments of charcoal, as well as burnt pieces of "slates" and wall plaster. Beyond the area showing actual signs of burning (marked as hearth on plan), layer 3 became a dark earthy layer resting first on the rock and then on the floor metalling. This dark earth thinned northward to a mere film no more than 0.5 in. thick. In the area of cobbling it was only found in the hollows and crevices between the stones, though among the coarse cobbling it was in places as much as 2 in. thick. The layer was absent in the northern third of the vestibule. Fragments of roof slates were found generally in the layer, either large horizontal pieces in the southern part, both in and forming a spread on the layer, or small pieces in among the cobbling further north. Fragments of wall plaster and about 20 nails were also found. Finds included fragmentary pottery (particularly on the surface), a little burnt animal bone, limpet and oyster shell, a piece of slag, part of a finger ring and 8 Constantinian coins.

The roofing spread, layer 2d, was only present in the southern half of the vestibule. The basal layer of Pennant fragments rested either on a thin smear of occupation, or on mortary earth with small fragments of wall plaster and roofing nails which, where layer 3 was missing, went right down to rock, or to the surface of the metalling. The surface of the spread, when exposed, looked like a made pathway between the vestibule door and the doorway leading into the south ambulatory. Several of the Pennant fragments were burnt and at least one more nearly complete "slate" retained its fixing nail. The spread had more than one layer of fragments. Against the east wall just south of the cella door it thickened to 9-12 in. above the floor. The fill of this tumbled heap was mortary earth. A curious find was a pair of limestone beach pebbles the size and shape of hens' eggs, nested together in a niche between slates 1 in. from the wall, 6 in. above the floor and covered by three to four layers of "slate" fragments (Plate 8b).

The layer of plastery, sandy-mortary earth, layer 2c, was present over the whole area of the vestibule. It was up to 5-6 in. thick, resting indifferently on rock, floor, occupation level or roofing "slate" spread. In the central part there was less plaster and a distinct layer of "dried pea" grit where the layer rested on the cobbling. The burnt area against the cella wall in the northern half of the vestibule consisted of a very thin spread of dark soil with charcoal fragments, resting on mortary debris, evidently derived from a small fire. Above this was a thin layer of mortary, plastery earth from which came 2 coins [nos. 181, 184] and in which lay a complete roofing "slate". Above this there was a more intensely burnt area close against the wall, for which another whole "slate" resting against the offset seemed to have served as a fireback; while the face of the wall was blackened by fire. The complete "slates" found here were almost the only substantial pieces found in the north half of the vestibule. This burnt area was only thinly covered by layer 2c and the lower burnt area was visible as a spread of grey ash in the surface of the layer.

Close to the south-east corner of the cella and in the south-west corner of the vestibule, heaps of debris consisting largely of fragmentary wall plaster rose above the generally even surface of layer 2c. In the central part of the room this surface looked as though trampled, with a few pieces of Pennant and shards on and in it, and there was a slide of large pieces of roofing over the surface of the first of the plaster heaps just mentioned.

In the southern part of the vestibule a complete antler "pick" was found in layer 2c just above the level of the roofing spread. Other finds from the layer included much fragmentary pottery; limpet, oyster, whelk and scallop shells; animal bone and teeth (sheep) and many snails which had evidently sheltered in the debris; about 100 nails, including 2 convex headed door nails; and fragments of bronze and iron. There were 2 voussoirs, a fragment of another, part of a corbel and a few other small pieces of

Bath Freestone. Of these a voussoir, the corbel and some fragments were found on top of the burnt area against the cella wall, some of the pieces being piled on the offset. The 92 coins found were scattered through the layer, mostly in the southern half of the vestibule, but there were two particular concentrations. The first, of 27 coins, was found just inside and south of the doorway just above the "slate" spread. Twelve of the coins were found together and the remainder within a foot on either side. All except one [no. 188] of these coins were copies or derivatives of the "Fallen Horseman" type. The second concentration occurred in the heap of plaster debris against the south wall of the vestibule and consisted of about 20 coins, again mostly minim copies.

The main rubble spread, layer 2b, consisted of jumbled blocks of Carboniferous Limestone in a matrix of sandy earth, with a fair amount of wall plaster and pieces of mortar, especially in the lower part of the layer. The stone included many large dressed blocks and was closely packed.

This rubble spread extended through the doorways into the north and south ambulatory and the porch. Among the stone in layer 2b were 10 complete voussoirs and pieces of 5 more, 1 corbel (Fig. 53, No. 4), 4 pieces of ridge coping and part of a finial (Fig. 53, no. 9), all of Bath Freestone. Five of these voussoirs were found piled one on top of another in the middle of the vestibule just north of the doorway. The lowest one rested on the surface of layer 2c, and the uppermost reached the surface of layer 2b. Two more and a broken voussoir were found alongside. The corbel was found just outside the doorway into the cella. A single block of Blue Lias was also found just north-east of this doorway.

*Ambulatory.* The three arms of this room are for convenience called *north*, *west* and *south* ambulatory.

1. Turf and topsoil
- 2b. Rubble spread with earthy matrix
- 2c. Mortary rubble spread
- 2d. Roofing "slate" spreads at base of 2c.
3. Dark occupation earth
4. Limestone chipping floor bedding
5. Reddish yellow sand with fossil soil on top
6. Red sandy loam (not excavated)

#### Carboniferous Limestone.

In the north ambulatory, where the surface of the sand had been preserved by the yellow sand thrown out from the trenches dug for the wall footings, it was capped by a 1-in. layer of reddish brown earth, presumably a fossil soil (sections 2 and 3).

Layer 4 was present only in the northern half of the ambulatory, except for a thin scatter of metalling in the south ambulatory, in the area immediately west of the door from the vestibule. At the east end of the north ambulatory the layer consisted of large limestone blocks (8-12 in.), lying at all angles, with a filling of sandy earth, and covered by finer chippings. This finer covering was partly absent against the cella wall and again close to the outer wall, where the stones lay in loose earth, with no well-defined upper surface. The layer gradually thinned westward as the surface of the underlying sand rose and the filling of larger blocks ended. By the north-west corner of the cella the floor consisted of from 4 to 6 in. of limestone chippings in loose mortary earth, the upper surface 2 in. below the offset level.

The layer ended just south of the line of section 1 across the west ambulatory, where the sand was only from 4 to 6 in. thick. Beyond there the floor was formed by the trodden surface of the sand and there was nothing to show where the original floor surface had been.

Three coins were found in the undisturbed part of the floor make-up, one [no. 300—copy, *Constantinopolis*, c. 330-7] half-way down in the layer close to the west wall, one [no. 299—*Urbs Roma*, 330-5] in the north-west corner and the third [no. 298—*Constantine II*, 330-5] in the bottom 2 in. in the north-east corner. A piece of iron slag was found trodden into the surface of the layer in the north ambulatory.

The occupation layer (3) was found in the western half of the north ambulatory and the northern half of the west ambulatory. It was a dark-brown stony earth 1-2 in. thick, trampled into the surface of the floor. In the north ambulatory it was associated with a thin hearth level with scattered charcoal, under which was found 1 coin [no. 293]. Other finds included a few shards, nails, scraps of wall plaster and 3 Constantinian coins [nos. 295-7]. In the south-west part of the ambulatory, occupation was

represented by two thin spreads of charcoal and a scatter of shards and nails on the surface of the sand, associated with which were a bone pin and a coin [no. 294]. At the east end of the south ambulatory, a 1-in. thick layer of dark soil between the roofing spread and the floor metalling produced only a few nails and scraps of wall plaster.

At the east end of the north ambulatory, the floor make-up was covered by 3 to 4 in. of mortary earth with much fresh, fragmentary wall plaster (sections 2 and 3), covered in turn by a spread of broken "slates", layer 2d. The roofing spread included three nearly complete "slates", lying directly on the surface of the hearth close to the cella wall. This spread died out by the north-west corner of the cella and there was little roofing at this level in the west ambulatory. The spread began again close to the south-west corner of the cella, where it formed the base of the mortary, plastered earth (layer 2c), with a spread of large fragments or whole "slates". Finds included pottery, nails, oyster and limpet shells, bone and antler, and a coin [no. 291]. This basal spread may really have been associated with the occupation.

The main mortary destruction layer (2c) contained little plaster, except in the east end of the north ambulatory and a small area close to the western half of the south wall of the cella. In the north ambulatory the layer was thickest against the cella wall. There it formed a bank about 18 in. wide and 12 in. high, resting on the roofing spread. There was a similar bank of mortary rubble in the south ambulatory resting against the south wall of the cella, from which it was separated by a thin layer of sand (layer 5) which rose up vertically against the wall face in a manner hard to explain. A third bank of compact mortary earth closely adherent to the wall face filled the south-west corner of the ambulatory. Elsewhere there was no sharp distinction between the top of the layer and the base of layer 2b. Freestone details from layer 2c in the south ambulatory included a piece of Bath Stone ridge coping and a voussoir of yellow Triassic Breccia. In the north ambulatory a Bath Stone voussoir was found wedged in against the stones of the offset course of the cella wall (section 3). Finds from the layer included about 40 roofing nails, a few potshards, animal bone and teeth (sheep) and antler, limpet, oyster and snail shells, as well as 4 coins [nos. 287-90], including 1 of Valentinian I.

Except for an area in the south-west corner where layer 2c was exposed beneath the topsoil, the rest of the ambulatory was filled to wall-top level by the closely packed rubble spread, consisting of large dressed limestone blocks in a matrix of sandy earth.

The most striking find in this layer was the arch fragment found at the south-west corner of the cella (Plan, Plate 12). This rested on the lower debris containing roofing and wall-plaster fragments. It consisted of 6 voussoirs on the east face and 4 on the west. The east face was hard up against the south-west corner of the cella, while the west face extended just to the north of it. On both faces the soffit was underneath and sloped up away from the corner. The distance between the two outer faces was 22 in., 2 in. wider than any wall on the site, but the difference was due to a central crack 2 in. wide, filled with sandy soil.

On the west face (Plate 9a), there were 4 voussoirs alternately of Yellow Trias Breccia and Bath Freestone, length of soffit 16.5 in., extrados 17.5 in.; east face (Plate 9b), 6 voussoirs, 3 of Trias Breccia and then 3 of Bath Stone (1 displaced), plus a loose fragment, length of soffit 16 in., extrados 18.5 in.; average length of voussoirs 16 in., width in face tapers from 3.4 to 3 in. Joints have greyish pink mortar 0.5-0.75 in. thick.

Loose among the debris in the south ambulatory were 5 voussoirs of Trias Breccia and parts of 3 more; and 4 voussoirs of Bath Stone and pieces of 4 more. One voussoir of Trias Breccia was found in the west ambulatory. A finial base (Fig. 53, no. 10), 6 pieces of ridge coping, pieces of voussoirs and scraps, all of Bath Stone, were found in the north ambulatory.

#### 4(b). THE ANNEXES, THE PORCH AND THE EXTERIOR

##### THE NORTH ANNEXE (Plan: Fig. 43. Section 8: Fig. 44)

The external dimensions of the north annexe were: length 19 ft. 4 in., breadth 17 ft. 0 in. The internal dimensions were: length 15 ft. 7 in., breadth 13 ft. 7 in., all above offset level. Doorway to ambulatory 4 ft. 9 in. wide.

Two of the 1956 test cuttings related to the north annexe. A partial examination of the annexe was made in 1958 by means of four cuttings. Of these the south-west

and the south-east cuttings were taken down to floor level, although the need to examine and remove the burial meant that the examination of the south-west corner of the building was incomplete. In the two other cuttings, work inside the annexe was limited to lifting turf and tracing the top of the wall. Only in the south-east and north-east cuttings was excavation carried down to the surface of the red sandy loam, layer 6. The face of the wall was not traced at the south-west corner, but the presence of wall-core material and the absence of any continuation of the wall into the 1957 cuttings west of the temple (see Plan, Fig. 42) show that the corner and return shown in Fig. 43 are not really in doubt. It is possible either that the corner had been robbed of its quoins, or that it was disturbed at the same time as the adjacent burial.

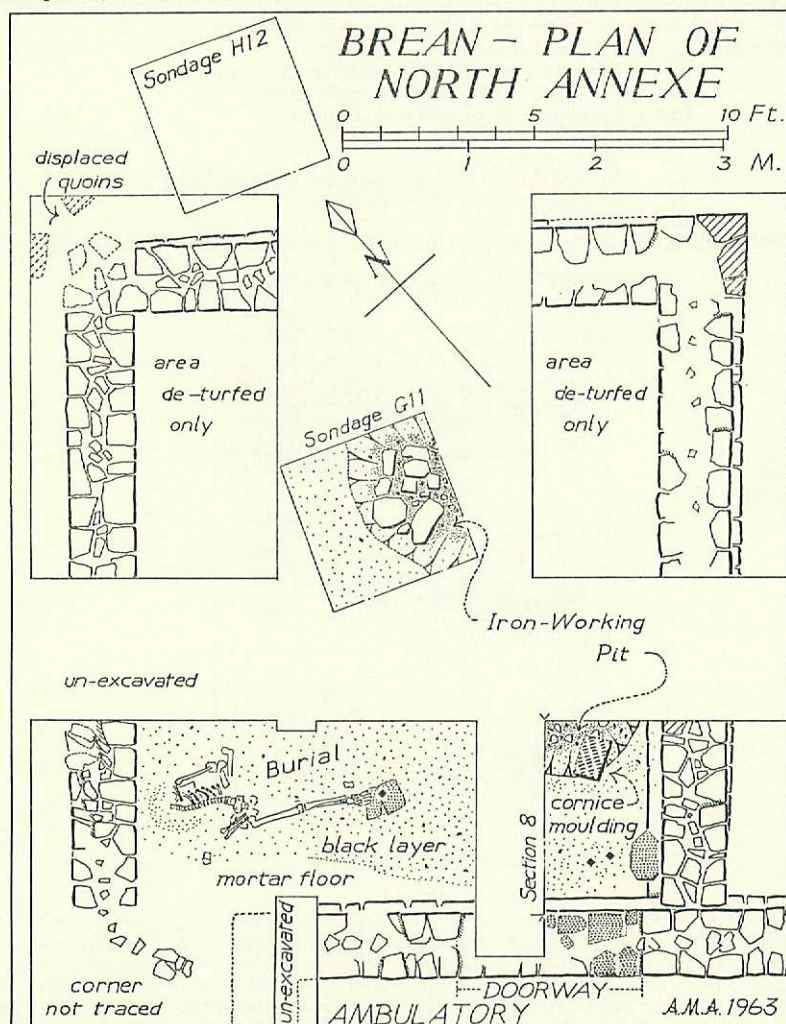


Fig. 43.

On the east side the basal footings were about 6 in. thick and were bedded on the surface of the loam, layer 6. We did not expose the footings elsewhere. The main fabric of the walls was similar to that of the temple. One block of Blue Lias was seen

in the top course of the east wall and the quoins of the north-east corner were of Blue Lias, the largest being 1 ft. 5 in. long by 6 in. deep (*Plate 10a*). At the north-west corner, blocks of Blue Lias evidently displaced from the wall corner were seen in the debris outside. The east wall showed three courses to the offset on its outer face and four courses remaining above the offset at the south end. Elsewhere the wall was reduced to one course above the offset. The north-west and north-east corners were preserved only to offset level. In the south-east corner of the annexe a thin wash of cement covered the surface of the offset of the temple wall and part of the face of the wall.

The south end of the east wall was butted up against the outer face of the ambulatory wall, the offset of which ran through behind the end of the annexe wall. The relationship was not observed at the south-west corner.

- Stratigraphy.*
1. Turf and topsoil
  2. Limestone building rubble in sandy earth
  - 2c. Roofing "slate" spread in sandy earth
  - (2+). Disturbed fill in area round burial
  3. Black fill with slag
  - 3a. Sandy earth
  4. Mortar floor with Limestone chipping bedding
  5. Reddish yellow wind-blown sand
  6. Red sandy loam.

The only cutting to reach layers 5 and 6 inside the annexe was the 1956 sondage (G 11).

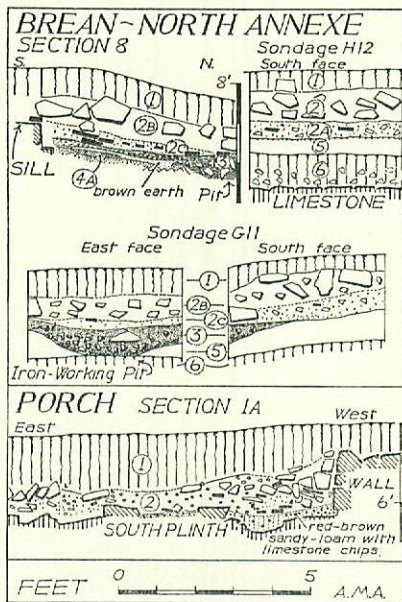


Fig. 44.

The mortar floor was of reddish sandy consistency. In the south-east cutting it had been cut through by the edge of the iron-working pit (section 8, *Fig. 44*), showing the finer capping layer and the underlying bedding of limestone fragments. In this corner the floor had covered both the internal offset of the annexe and the offset of the temple wall. Its original surface was about 2 in. above the latter. In the south-west cutting the limestone bedding was absent close to the temple wall and the mortar floor rested directly on the sand. The floor was very worn, with many holes and depressions. Patches of fragmentary wall plaster, some with red surface, and occasional pieces of roofing lay on the floor. In the central sondage the floor had been completely destroyed by the iron-working pit.

The pit filling was black sand, with numerous lumps of iron slag and large limestone blocks, many showing signs of burning. No evidence was observed of any particular arrangement of these blocks, nor of any structures in the pit. Outside the pit a layer of black fill between 1 and 6 in. thick covered most of the floor, lying directly on it, or in holes and depressions in its surface, except in part of the south-west cutting where a thin layer of brown soil intervened. The black fill consisted of carbon-stained sand with patches of clay and contained burnt stones and slag, and—like the pit filling—occasional unburnt potshards, limpet shells, fragments of animal bone and teeth, and pieces of mortar and wall plaster. In the south-east corner the top 2 in. of the fill was brown streaky clay, suggesting deposition in water. The black layer was covered by a layer of brown soil varying in thickness from about 1 in. to 6 in., succeeded in the south-east cutting by the base of the roofing spread (2c) and elsewhere by coarse rubble (2).

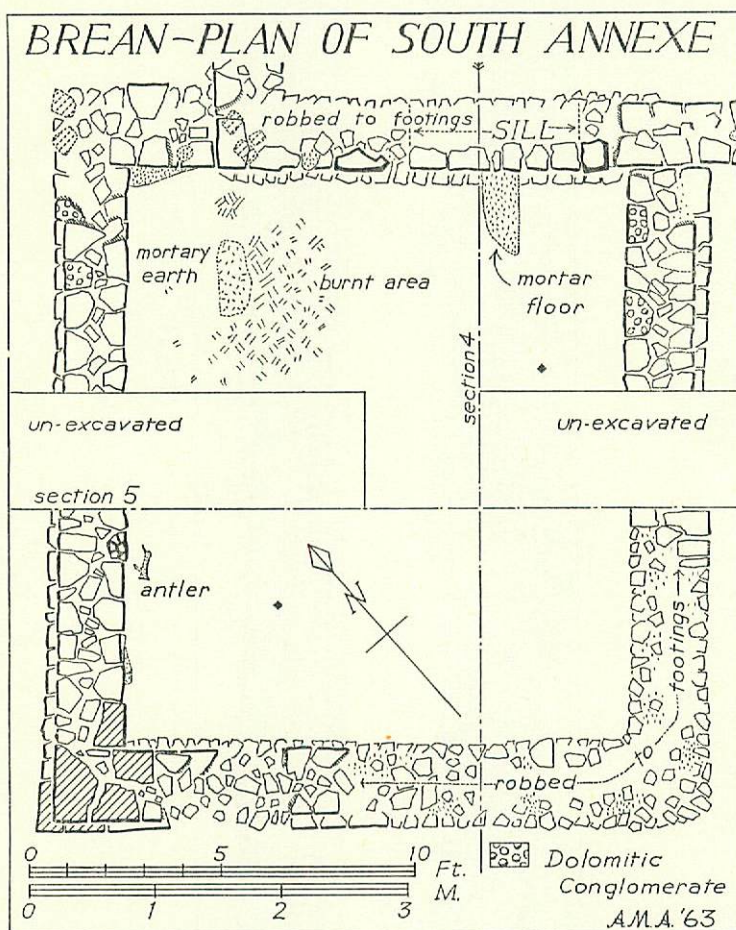


Fig. 45.

The roofing "slate" spread (2c) was only found in the south-east cutting. The eastern edge of the roofing spread rested against the top course of the wall and it sloped down to the west, dividing into an upper and lower leaf, each with about two

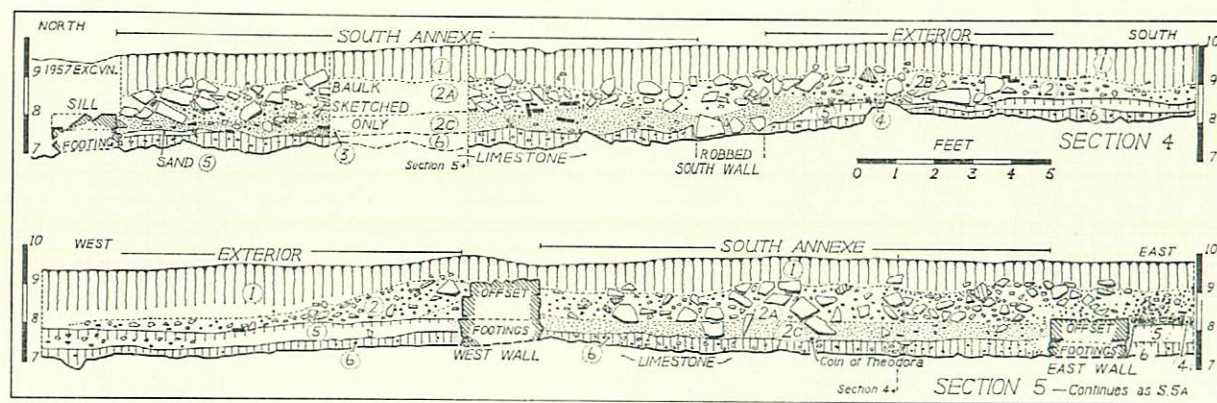


Fig. 46.

layers of "slate" fragments in it. A single complete "slate" was found at the base of the layer lying flat on the surface of the offset of the east wall.

The main rubble spread (2) presented a tumbled surface appearance. It rose above the top of the east wall and sloped down to the west. The moulded block of Bath Freestone (*Fig. 54*, no. 2) was exposed in the surface (see Plan).

Shards of coarse pottery were scattered through the filling of the annexe without any significant concentration. There was a small amount of animal bones and teeth (some burnt in layer 3), limpet shells, a few nails and very little plaster, except for some close to the burial, and very few snail shells. There were 3 coins only, 1 third century [no. 303], resting on the surface of the black layer, and 2 Constantinian, one [no. 304] in the basal "slate" spread (2c) and the other [no. 302] in the rubble spread (2).

The burial in the south-west corner of the annexe lay roughly west-north-west to east-south-east. In general the bones either lay directly on the surface of the black fill, or were separated from it by a thin film of brown earth. Gravelly stones on top of this fill were found pressed up through the left shoulder blade. Under the pelvis the floor was locally higher and the black fill absent, so that the bones rested on 2 in. of brown gravelly soil. The layer above the burial was disturbed. This disturbance had completely destroyed any grave outline that there may have been, though traces of what appeared to be the grave filling of mortary-sandy earth were noticed in a temporary section across the legs.

The burial was an extended supine one and the head must have been up against the inner face of the west wall. Disturbance had removed the skull, the right side of the chest and upper arm, the left forearm, and most of both hands and the left leg, but it was clear that both legs had been extended, with the hands probably laid over the pelvis. There was no sign of a coffin, boot nails or any associated objects. The height (allowing for the missing head) was 5 ft. 6 in. The sacrum and pelvis were compared with illustrations in *Gray's Anatomy* from which it was concluded that the sex was male. The epiphyses were all united (=adult) and there was osteophytic lipping of the spine (=middle age or older). There seemed to have been loss of intervertebral disc space between thoracic vertebrae 1 and 2 and some fusion of cervical 7 and thoracic 1 and 2.

The subsequent disturbance of the burial must have been by human agency, as the bones of the left leg were put back into the ground side by side. They could not then have been as friable as at the time of excavation when the neck and head of the left femur crumbled at a touch. (The description of the burial is by Dr. O. C. Lloyd, Reader in Morbid Anatomy, University of Bristol.)

No sign of the disturbance was visible on the surface before excavation. The fragment of an early nineteenth-century pottery gin bottle found below the turf in the north-west cutting may be a clue to the date of the disturbance.

Outside on the east a thin spread of limestone chippings lay on the surface of the sand (layer 5), from which a single shard of pottery of Iron Age type was recovered. The debris level above sloped downwards to the east, but, apart from some larger blocks in its upper part, was not internally differentiated, nor could it be distinguished from the debris spread derived from the north wall of the temple. Some large blocks of limestone in the topsoil in this area (see also section 2, *Plate 13*) were probably dislodged comparatively recently from the top of the east wall, because stones of this were visible in the grass of the track before excavation. It is to be noted that no slag was found outside the annexe wall.

#### THE SOUTH ANNEXE

(Plan: *Fig. 45*. Sections 4, 5: *Fig. 46*)

The external dimensions of the south annexe were: length 19 ft., breadth 16 ft. 2 in. The internal dimensions were: length 15 ft., breadth 12 ft. 10 in.—13 ft. 1 in., all at above offset level.

Most of the annexe and the area between it and the southern building were excavated, leaving only the interrupted east-west transverse baulk untouched. In addition trenches were dug on the west and south to beyond the limit of the rubble spread derived from the annexe.

The footings as exposed in the south-east part were of a single layer of limestones partly set with mortar and with the upper surface packed with limestone chippings. The fabric of the walls was similar to that of the north annexe, except that here a piece of Triassic Breccia and a number of blocks of Dolomitic Conglomerate supplemented the Carboniferous Limestone. Owing to the northward slope of the ground, there

was one course to offset level on the south, increasing to two on the north side. Most of the south wall and the southern half of the east wall had been robbed out down to the footings, as had the northern face of the north wall, including the doorway. The remaining walls were reduced to one or two courses above offset level.

The annexe was structurally later than the temple, as both the north end of the east wall and the return of the north-west corner were butted up against the face of the ambulatory wall. The doorway in the north wall appeared to have been made by cutting a hole 7 ft. wide in the ambulatory wall. The stone sill was flanked on either side by a larger limestone block with awkwardly projecting upper surface, these blocks being apparently reset. (These blocks are marked with heavy outlines on the plan.)

- Stratigraphy.*
1. Turf and topsoil
  - 2a. Rubble with sandy-earth matrix, lower half mortary, numerous whole snail shells
  - 2c. Mortary earthy destruction layer, base shows signs of burning
  3. Dark earth with potshards, etc. (here really base of 2c)
  4. Mortar floor
  5. Reddish yellow sand
  6. Brown earth with limestone fragments (inside), red sandy loam (outside)—unweathered.

Layer 5 was absent in the southern half of the annexe, though the levels suggest that some of layer 2c may be derived from it. In the northern half it was preserved as clean yellow sand only where covered by the intact patch of floor. Elsewhere it was very weathered and the surface was worn into irregular holes and depressions.

The mortar floor appeared to have been bedded directly on the old ground surface. Only three small patches of it remained *in situ*, the highest against the west wall reaching approximately to the level of the stone door sill. No broken-up portions of this floor were identified in the debris.

The base of the destruction level consisted of dark earth, with flecks of charcoal, patches of mortary earth, occasional roofing fragments, nails and a single fragment of wall plaster. This dark earth rested on the eroded ground surface and was most distinct in the north-west part of the annexe, where it was up to 2 in. thick, with fairly large patches of burning. In the middle of the north part of the annexe, a number of large pieces of roofing "slates" lay on the surface of layer 5 and were covered by a heap of limestone blocks. Elsewhere the lower part (layer 2c) of the destruction layer consisted of about 6 in. of compact brown earth, with mortar fragments and charcoal flecks, and contained much small angular limestone debris similar to that used for wall core, as well as a few larger blocks. In the south-west part of the annexe an antler pick lay at the base of layer 2c resting on layer 6.

The main rubble spread (layer 2a) was continuous with that in the south-west corner of the ambulatory. Three scraps of Bath Stone were found in the rubble inside the annexe and a single piece was found in the rubble just outside the west wall. There were very few finds from the interior of the annexe.

Outside the annexe to the east and south, the surface of layer 5 was covered for up to 3 ft. from the wall by a thin spread of limestone chipping fragments, some quite fresh, others weathered, with a few chips of Pennant Sandstone, all less than 2 in. long. This masons' debris was continuous with that to the south of the ambulatory wall. On top of this debris, a thin layer of sandy earth produced occasional potshards and horizontal fragments of Pennant roofing. The rubble spread outside the south wall took the form of a low bank of stony debris (layer 2b), mainly composed of small angular limestones such as were used for wall core, but also containing larger squared blocks of limestone and a few blocks of Conglomerate and Blue Lias. The surface of the bank was tightly packed with small angular limestones and its southern edge was flanked by a line of larger blocks. Its summit was parallel to the south wall and about 4 ft. away, and it extended eastward to within a couple of feet of the southern building. To the east of the annexe the rubble spread contained mainly smaller limestones, with a few larger blocks close to the ambulatory wall. To the west the rubble tailed away to a thin scatter a few feet outside the wall. A sondage 32 ft. to the west produced only a spread of potshards resting on the old ground surface and covered by brown sandy topsoil with no building debris. Finds from outside the annexe were few; a Constantinian coin [no. 308] from the destruction level to the east, and a second-century coin [no. 309—from a 1956 sondage] from about the level of the old ground surface just outside the south-west corner.

## PORCH AND EXTERIOR TO THE EAST AND NORTH

(Plan: *Plate 12*. Section 1: *Plate 13*. Detail section, *Fig. 44*)

*Porch*: For purpose of description, this is defined as the space enclosed between the two plinths and the front wall of the temple. The plinths were set symmetrically in front of the doorway.

The remains of the south plinth consisted of a single course of dressed limestone blocks, with a core of pinkish mortar, set directly on the sloping surface of the limestone. The plinth had originally been 3 ft. 4 in. wide and 3 ft. 2 in. from back to front, but the south-west corner was missing. Owing to the northward slope of the rock and the old ground surface, the north plinth had had to be built up using pitched footings and an offset course to reach the same level. The pitched footing, which rested partly on rock and partly on the stony sandy loam (layer 6), extended up to the footing of the vestibule wall and was built against it. The offset course was 3 ft. 8 in. square. The upper course, of which only the north side, core and south-east corner remained, had been 3 ft. 2 in. square. This upper course was built squarely over the north side of the offset course, so that there was a projecting offset only on the other three sides. This plinth was built of Carboniferous Limestone except for the stone at the south-west corner of the offset course, which was Blue Lias and some pieces of Bath Stone in the core material. The upper surfaces of the plinths were at the same level and, on each, patches of mortar set back about 6 in. from the edge adhered to the stones, indicating the former presence of column bases or pedestals about 2 ft. square.

*Stratigraphy.*

<i>Porch</i>	<i>East Exterior</i>
1. Turf and topsoil	1. Turf and topsoil
2b. Rubble spread with earthy matrix	2. Rubble with earthy matrix
2c. Rubble with mortar matrix	
2d. "Slate" roofing spread	
3. Brown, sandy stone-free earth	3. Brown sandy earth
4. Gravelly metalling	4. Limestone chippings
	5. Reddish brown sand
	6. Stony red sandy loam (not excavated)

## Carboniferous Limestone

Layer 6 was only seen in a sondage at the north-east corner of the cutting. Layer 5 was only present to the north of the porch. In the porch and to the east and south of it, layer 5 had either been removed or degraded by trampling to form the stoneless, dark-brown, sandy earth of layer 3.

The metalling layer in the porch was very thin, consisting of small gravelly fragments of limestone resting directly on the shattered surface of the rock. Some small patches of cement suggested the possibility that it may originally have had a cement covering. The southern limit of this metalling is uncertain; it was not recognized in section 1 drawn in 1957. It yielded no finds. The metalling to the south of the porch consisted only of small spreads of limestone debris close to the west wall, either natural or masons' chippings.

To the south of the porch and in the spaces between the plinths and the wall, the surface of the rock (surface of the footing in the case of the north plinth) was covered with 2-3 in. of brown, sandy, relatively stoneless earth (layer 3) (*Fig. 44*). Finds from this layer included some pottery and three coins [nos. 329-331], the latest being a coin of Theodosius (383-95) found 5 ft. south of the southern plinth.

Between the north plinth and the temple wall, layer 3 was covered by a spread of Pennant roofing fragments, forming a single layer, with some lying directly on the offset of the plinth. This spread was covered by the layer 2-2b. There was a similar spread between the temple wall and the south plinth; there the fragments included several nearly complete "slates" lying horizontally and lapping onto the upper surface of the south plinth.

The basal debris spread (layer 2c) in the porch consisted of hard, grey, gritty earth with very numerous fragments of greyish white mortar and pieces of wall plaster, which was continuous through the doorway with the same layer inside the vestibule.

This layer did not extend beyond the limits of the porch. Finds included a piece of slag, pieces of Bath Freestone and one Constantinian coin [no. 328]. In the doorway the main rubble spread (layer 2b) presented the appearance of a tumbled heap rising slightly above the level of the wall on the south side (the north jamb was robbed). Its surface fell rapidly on all three sides, so that the south-east corner of the north plinth was exposed and only a little gravelly rubble covered the south plinth. Outside the porch to the east and north the layer became very much thinner and was soon reduced to a scatter of stones lying in dark sandy earth (layer 3).

To the south of the porch the surface of the layer fell gradually in relation to the wall head. Towards the southern end of this area the rubble spread was covered by a thin spread of gravelly material with scraps of Pennant. This looked like a trodden surface. As the rubble layer came to an end, the spread of gravelly rubble (see Plan, Plate 12) continued to the south to form the surface on which the rubble spread derived from the southern building lay. In this southern part the gravelly rubble (covered only by topsoil) produced a number of unworn shards likely to be derived from the occupation of the southern building.

A feature of the destruction layer was the quantity of Bath Freestone found. In the porch were a moulded piece with red plaster facing (Fig. 54, no. 8), a fragment of column base (Fig. 54, no. 11) lying on the south plinth, 2 pieces of voussoirs, and 14 other fragments (plus 1 fragment of yellow Trias Breccia). Outside to the east there were a voussoir, a piece of another, another piece of the column base (at the bottom of the layer) and 5 other fragments. To the south there were a burnt voussoir and 2 other pieces; and to the north were found the corner of a string course block, a piece of ridge coping, 5 pieces of voussoirs and 5 other fragments. Two blocks of Blue Lias were also found. There was a little plaster and scattered pieces of Pennant roofing. Finds from layer 2-2b included pottery, about 100 nails (mostly roofing nails), bone and antler, limpet, oyster and snail shells and a piece of slag. Of the 16 coins found [north of porch: nos. 312, 314, 317-23, 325; east: nos. 315, 325; south: 313, 316, 326-7] the two latest, coins of Magnus Maximus (383-8) and Arcadius (388-95), were from near the top of the layer and thus probably relate to the occupation of the southern building, rather than to the destruction of the temple.

The stratification of the area outside the temple between the north-east corner and the north annexe is shown in section 2. In this area the Roman ground surface was formed by layer 5, weathered to a hard brown sand. Close against the north wall of the temple this sand was topped locally by 3-4 in. of dirty, reddish, sticky soil, probably the throw-out from the trench for the footings which had been dug into the top of layer 6, here a stiff red clay with limestones.

On this was a very compact layer 3-4 in. thick of limestone chippings, apparently masons' debris. This was covered by a 3 ft. wide bank of mortary earth with small limestone fragments (layer 2b), separated from the wall face only by a narrow slot filled with sandy earth. Above this was a more extensive layer of mortary debris (layer 2a), containing occasional blocks of limestone and locally large amounts of broken roofing. The overlying earthy rubble spread, layer 2, included mainly large dressed limestone blocks, a fair amount of Pennant roofing and a piece of Bath Stone ridge coping. The spread of this layer well down the slope (and in particular the superficial debris in the topsoil) probably came from the east side of the north annexe. Two Constantinian coins only [nos. 332, 333] were found in this area, both in layer 2.

#### EXTERIOR TO WEST OF THE TEMPLE

##### (Section 1: Plate 13)

Only small cuttings were made in the area immediately west of the ambulatory wall. These showed the destruction layer (2), resting on the red-brown sand (layer 5). In the base of the destruction layer there was a thick spread of broken roof "slates" in loose brown earth, above which was mortary debris to 9 in. above the sand; and above this the earthy rubble spread, which thinned out as the south annexe was approached. Only a few shards were found in this area.

#### 4(c). THE SOUTHERN BUILDING

(Plan: Fig. 47. Sections 3A, 5A, 6, 7: Figs. 48 and 49)

The external dimensions of the southern building were: length 14 ft. 8-10 in., breadth 12 ft. 1 in. The internal dimensions were: length 11 ft. 8 in., breadth 8 ft. 9 in.; all above offset level.

The foundation trenches dug through the old ground surface were mostly not more than 3 to 6 in. deep and very hard to distinguish, the basal wall course being laid directly on the rock surface. Most of the stone used in the walls was Carboniferous Limestone, much of which showed dressed surfaces, although there was a considerable proportion of blocks with weathered surfaces suggestive of collection from the surface. Blocks of Blue Lias remained *in situ* at three of the corners of the building, having been used as external quoins, and a single fragment of this material was noted in the core of the north wall. The stones used in the wall core were angular as in the temple, but weathered and not freshly chipped. No mortar could be seen in any of the joints, but the core material as exposed on top of the west wall was of gritty-mortary-earthly character. The walls were 1 ft. 11 in. to 2 ft. 3 in. thick below offset level and from 1 ft. 5 in. to 1 ft. 9 in. above, the east wall being thinner than the others.

The walling of the southern building looked inferior to that of the temple, partly because of the greater variation in the size of adjacent blocks and partly due to the use of blocks with weathered surfaces which made the upper surfaces of the courses look more irregular. Chock stones had had to be used to get some of these blocks more nearly level. The Lias quoins were smaller than those of the annexes and less well arranged, one having been laid wrongly in relation to the grain of the stone and having therefore split. Nevertheless, the building was rectangular and the walls were quite competently built, this being most obvious in the way in which the courses below the offset were tapered to fit the slope of the ground and the irregularities of the rock surface. Owing to this slope the south wall had only one course below offset level, whereas the others had two. Mostly the walls remained to only one course above offset level. The jambs and the centre of the sill of the doorway in the east wall had been robbed.

The southern building faces  $18\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  south of due east, differing by about  $22^{\circ}$  from the temple which faces very nearly south-east.

#### *Stratigraphy*

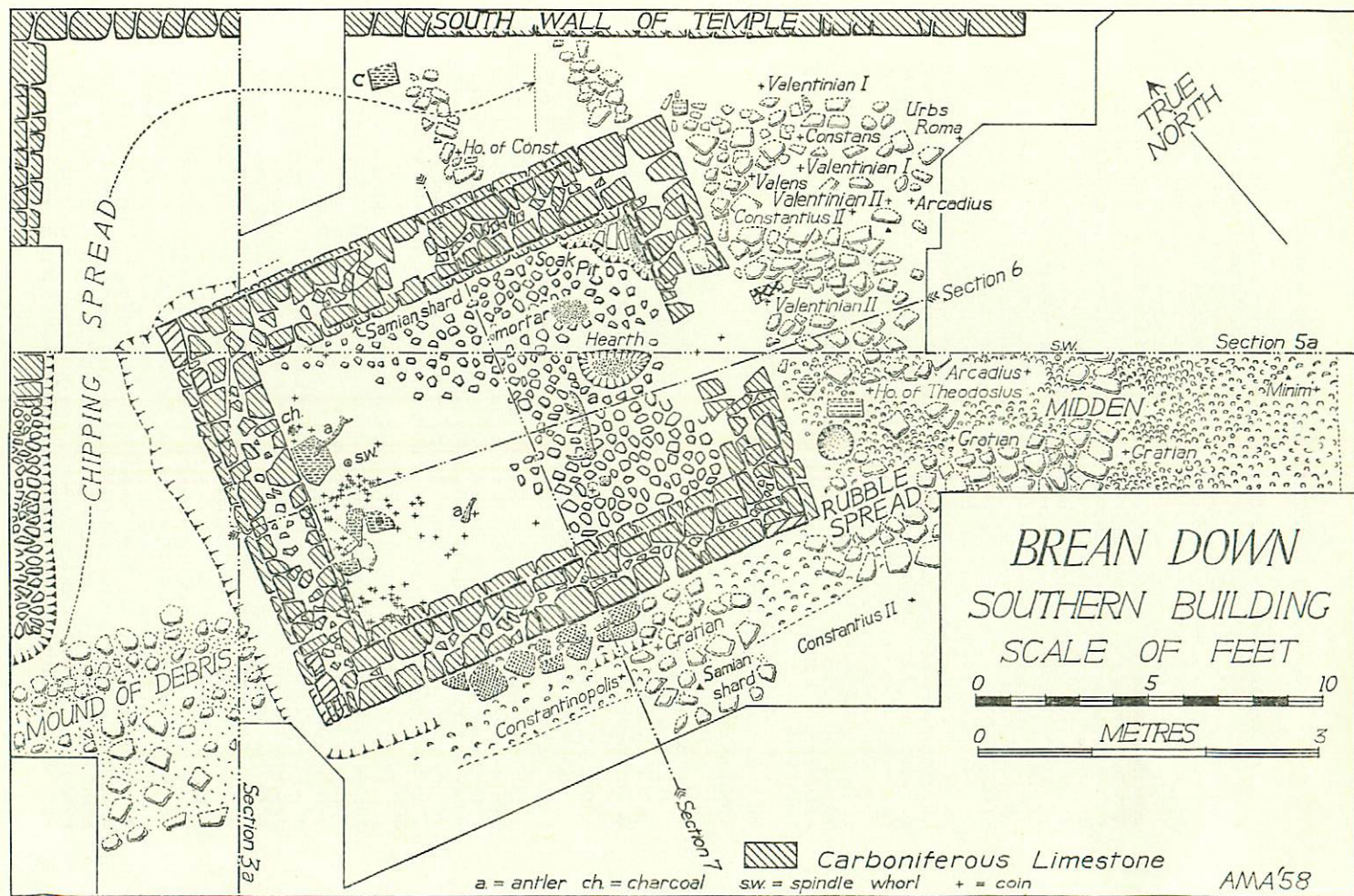
<i>Exterior</i>	<i>Interior</i>
1. Turf and topsoil	1. Turf and topsoil
2. Rubble spread	2a. Rubble spread
3. Midden and occupation	3a. Dark occupation soil
4. Pennant Sandstone chipping spread	4a. Mortar floor and limestone bedding in dark-brown sandy soil
5. Reddish yellow dune sand with reddish brown sandy weathering soil on top	5. Not present
6. Reddish brown stony loamy soil.	6. Reddish brown stony loamy soil.

The prehistoric soil level, layer 6, was found preserved in patches in the western half of the building only; outside it was found on the north, west and south, but thinned out and disappeared to the east. The sand, layer 5, had a similar distribution except that it was missing inside the building and outside extended further east. On the east side this layer was represented by up to 3 in. of dark soil resting on the subsoil. This was mostly sterile but contained a little material derived from the occupation debris.

The floor, layer 4a, was preserved in the eastern half of the building as a single layer of limestone cobbling with angular stones about 3 to 6 in. in size, their character being that of material derived from the temple wall core, and not fresh chippings as in the temple floor bedding. Among this were 23 fragments of Bath Stone, several with dressed surfaces, including pieces possibly of voussoirs. In the north-east quarter, patches of gritty mortary material survived on the upper surface, suggesting that the whole had originally been covered with a mortary layer. Patches of metallage also survived in the north-west and south-west corners, but the floor had been completely destroyed in most of the western half of the building. No finds were made in this layer and there was no evidence of any previous occupation.

There were only two features relating to the use of the southern building. The first was the oval hearth pit just inside the doorway (section 5A, *Fig. 48*) and the second was in the north-east corner, where a hole lined with clay, and with a line of reddish mortar round its edge, was sunk through the floor to the rock. The fill of this pit was black and greasy above, turning to fine black sand below. It contained a piece of burnt clay, blackened bone fragments, 3 large limestones and fragments of Pennant Sandstone. The space between the basal stone of the wall and the rock was filled with black sand in which was found a leaf-shaped piece of bronze (*Fig. 53*, no. 1).

Fig. 47.



This pit was presumably a soak-away as there was no drain leading from it. In this corner the stones of the offset course retained a surface wash of cement and there was a ledge of cement at the level of their base, corresponding to the level of the floor metalling. This cement ledge rested on the black fill and collapsed when it was removed.

The occupation layer (3a) was different in character in the two halves of the building. In the eastern half it was up to 6 in. thick, consisting of dark earth, more or less sterile in the south-east corner, but elsewhere with much fragmentary charcoal, bone fragments and limpet shells. Close to the doorway the layer ran down to the rock, but this was probably due to disturbance resulting from the robbing of the sill.

In the western half of the building where the floor was missing, the occupation layer was very much thinner, contained much less charcoal and rested either on the rock or on patches of layer 6. In this part of the building little pottery was found. Other finds were a whetstone, a bone pin and a shale spindle whorl.

The coins found in this layer were concentrated in an area about 7 ft. by 3 ft. in the south-western part of the building, only 2 out of the total of 96 being found in the eastern half. Twenty-four of the coins were found in an area about 15 in. by 12 in. in the south-west corner, while a further 18 were found beneath a block of Bath Freestone (*Fig. 49*, section 6, "Coin hoard"). These coins [nos. 436-53] appeared to have been deposited in a small hole in the clayey earth which was filled with more sandy material and covered by 1 to 2 in. of trampled clayey earth. The majority (68 per cent) of the coins were issues of the House of Valentinian I and of Theodosius I, 40 per cent being of issues later than A.D. 382. The absence of minim copies was in striking contrast to the predominantly Constantinian series from the temple.

The occupation layer inside the building, although disturbed in the doorway, was continued outside by a scatter of occupation rubbish in a matrix of dark soil (layer 3), resting on the old ground surface. East of the door this rubbish took the form of a shell midden reaching a maximum thickness of about 4 in. and extending for about 15 ft. In the area excavated the midden contained about 10 gallons of shells, almost entirely of limpets, but with a few oyster shells. Animal bones and teeth were few (sheep and pig). Little pottery was found in the midden. This midden continued on the south side of the building as a thin layer about 4 ft. wide, containing shell fragments and scattered shards, and overlying the large pieces of Pennant roofing marked on the Plan. North of the doorway the occupation layer was thin and separated from the rock only by a thin layer of dark stony soil. North-eastwards the layer continued as a spread of gravelly rubble, which appeared to run over the top of the destruction debris derived from the east wall of the vestibule. In the area between the temple and the north wall of the southern building, the amount of occupation debris was small and decreased rapidly westwards. It lay on top of the spread of Pennant Sandstone chippings.

Finds from layer 3 included a pottery spindle whorl and 7 coins [nos. 454-60]. No. 459, a coin of Valentinian II (388-92), was from the base of the layer.

The destruction level within the southern building (layer 2a) consisted of fairly closely packed rubble in a matrix of sandy earth. At its base there was a thin spread of more gritty debris with small fragments of roofing, some of them burnt, and some large shards of pottery, this spread marking the top of layer 3. At the west end of the building there was much gritty mortary earth disposed in a bank against the west wall and presumably derived from the wall core. Underneath this there was some fragmentary charcoal and a single fragment of wall plaster. The main body of the layer only rose above the level of the walls at the west end, where a tumbled heap of debris overlapped the top of the wall. Among this debris were a block of Blue Lias and two large dressed blocks, a voussoir and ridge-coping fragments of Bath Stone. A convex-headed doornail was found 2 ft. west of the doorway.

The layer contained few nails, little "slate" or mortar, and practically no wall plaster. In the south-east corner there were fewer large blocks of stone, but immediately outside the doorway there was a tumbled pile of closely packed stone (layer 2) which covered the surface of the midden and the occupation debris to the north. The limits of this pile are indicated on the plan. Two lumps of iron slag were found in the debris just outside the north-east corner of the building. West of the banks of coarse debris, layer 2 was only about 6 in. thick and composed mostly of fairly small limestone chippings. On the west side of the building the debris layer was about 2 ft. thick. The section (*Fig. 48*, section 3A) shows an intermediate less stony layer beneath the upper debris. This may be due to the overlap here of the debris

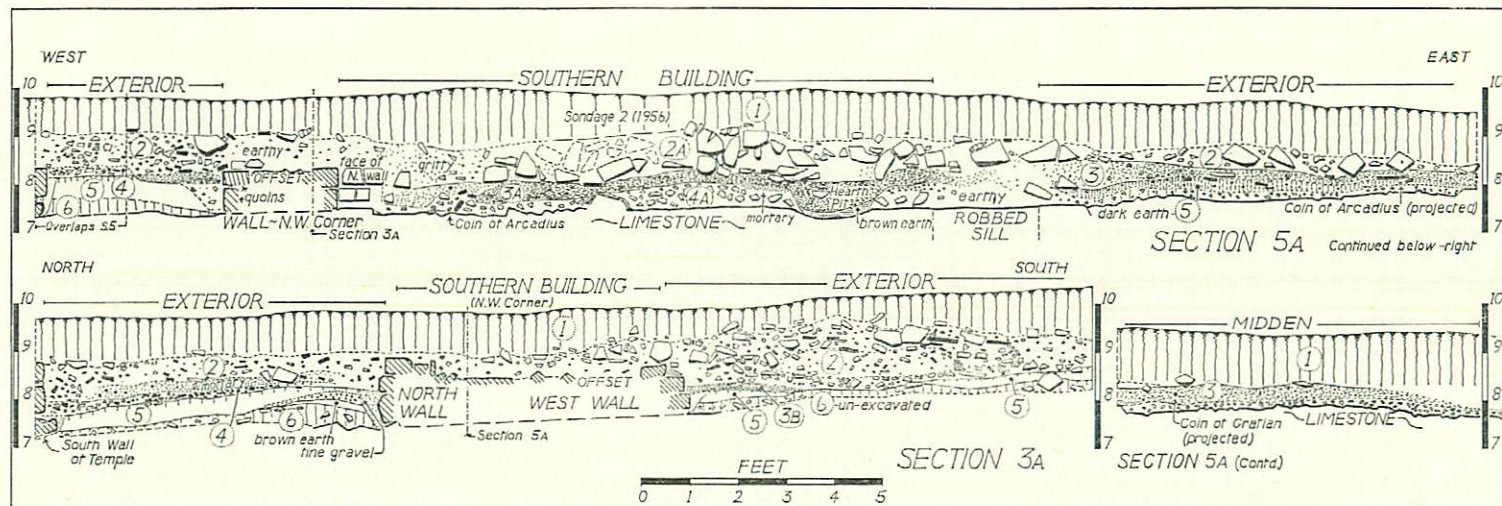


Fig. 48.

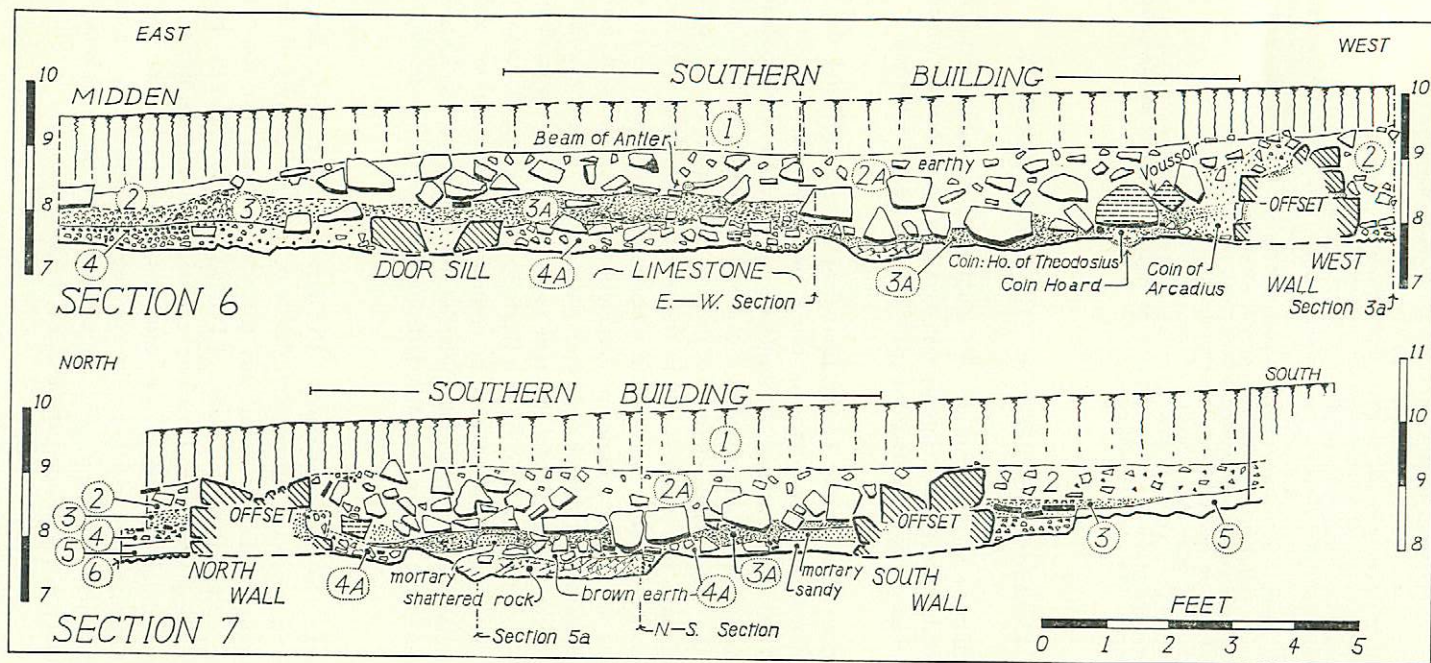


Fig. 49.

layer from the southern building and that from the south annexe already described, but the stratification did not enable us to distinguish these.

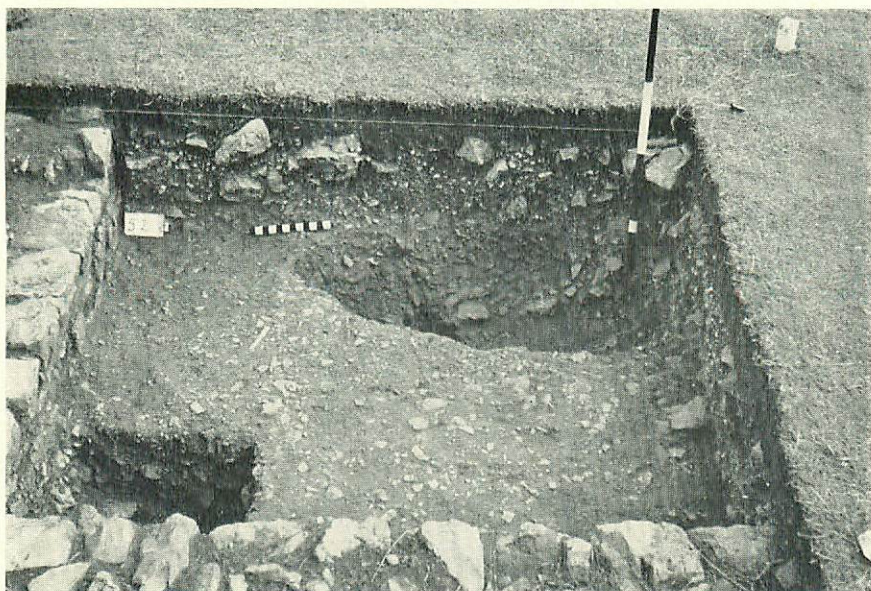
Finds from the destruction layer inside the southern building (2a) included three pieces of red deer antler. Of these, the complete antler "pick" from the eastern half of the building lay with its basal end resting on the gritty level on top of layer (3a), while the tine end rested on stones forming part of layer 2a. The second "pick" was close to the west wall, with one end resting on a large block of Bath Stone and the other on dark mortary earth forming the lower part of 2a. The third and smallest piece of antler was found in the south-west part lying on top of layer 3a, there 2 in. thick. There were 23 coins from the destruction layer, 12 from layer 2a inside [nos. 335-6, 338, 340-1, 351-7] and 11 coins [nos. 337, 339, 342-50] from layer 2 outside. The debris heap outside the door contained pieces of coping, voussoirs and fragments of Bath Freestone and Yellow Trias Breccia.

## 5. INTERPRETATION OF THE STRATIGRAPHY

As nothing was found inside the temple which could certainly be connected with its original religious use, this section is mainly concerned with the problems raised by its subsequent use and final destruction.

*South Annexe.* The interior of the room had been gutted and the walls had been demolished, apparently for the stones of which they were built, the material left in and around the annexe being no more than rubbish not worth removing. The only significant find was an antler pick. As will be seen from the description, another such pick was found in the vestibule and parts of three more were found in the southern building, while several other fragments of antler were found elsewhere. All these pieces, which were of shed antler, were found in destruction levels. The pick found in the vestibule shows considerable signs of wear on the basal tine and it may be suggested that these picks were used as levers to prise stones from the walls in course of demolition. It is interesting to note that Wheeler found 2 antler picks in a late fourth-century context inside the curious oval hut alongside the Maiden Castle temple (Wheeler, 1943, p. 308, *Plate XXXVI, B*). Another late fourth-century example is from Woodyates (Pitt-Rivers, 1892, p. 135).

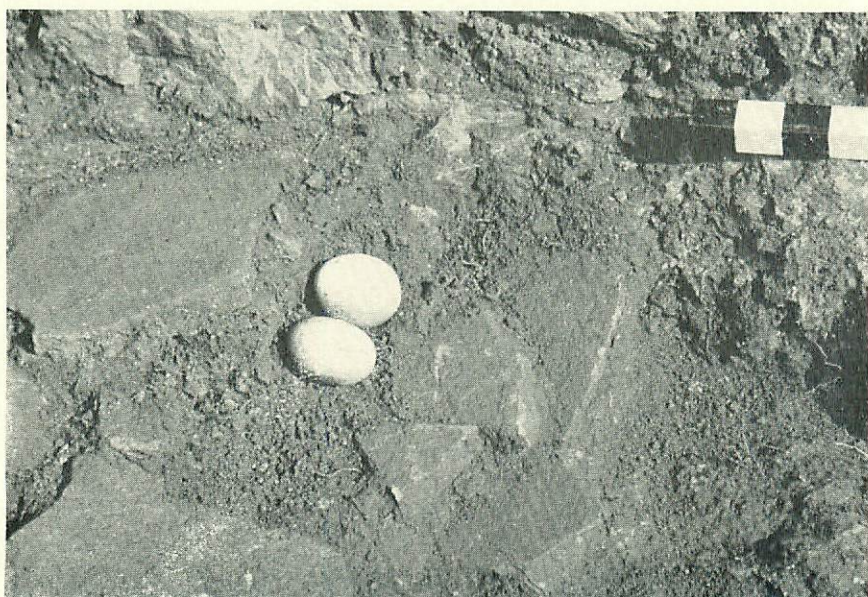
*North Annexe.* No evidence remained of any activity in the room before the iron working pit was cut through the floor. Some breaching of the roof would presumably have been required in connexion with this iron working and this may explain the few pieces of Pennant roofing found on the floor. The iron working appears to have been succeeded by a phase during which rain falling through the broken roof collected in the pit and on the floor. The main destruction of roof and walls was later than this but earlier than the burial. There was no stratigraphic continuity between the north annexe and the ambulatory, the wall being immediately beneath the turf.



**PLATE 8a**

(Photograph: E. K. Tratman)

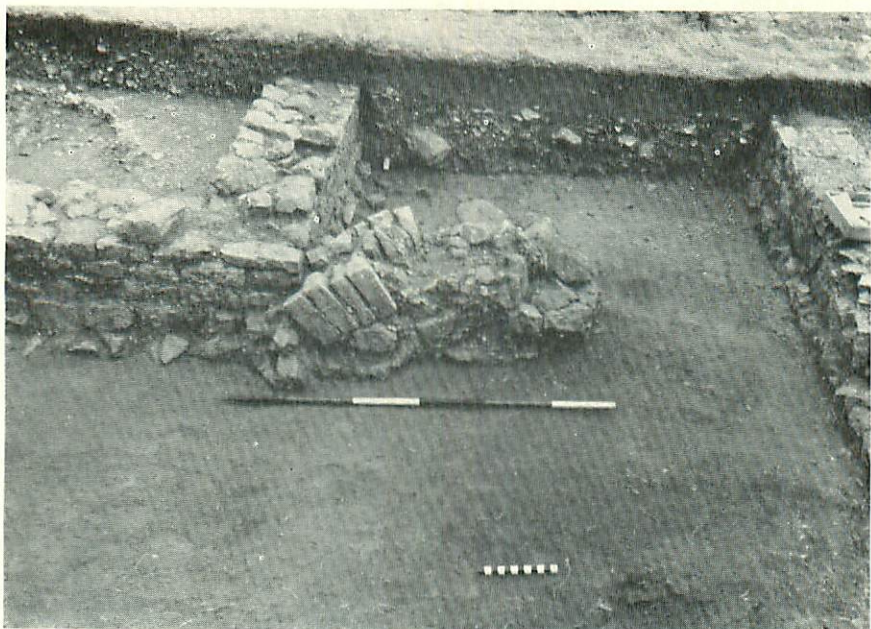
Bræn Down Roman temple: robbing pit in north-west part  
of cella, from the west.



**PLATE 8b**

(Photograph: E. K. Tratman)

Bræn Down Roman temple: limestone pebbles resting on roofing  
fragments against wall of vestibule.



**PLATE 9a**

*(Photograph: H. Taylor)*

Brean Down Roman temple: fragment of arch resting against south-west corner of cella, from the west.



**PLATE 9b**

*(Photograph: H. Taylor)*

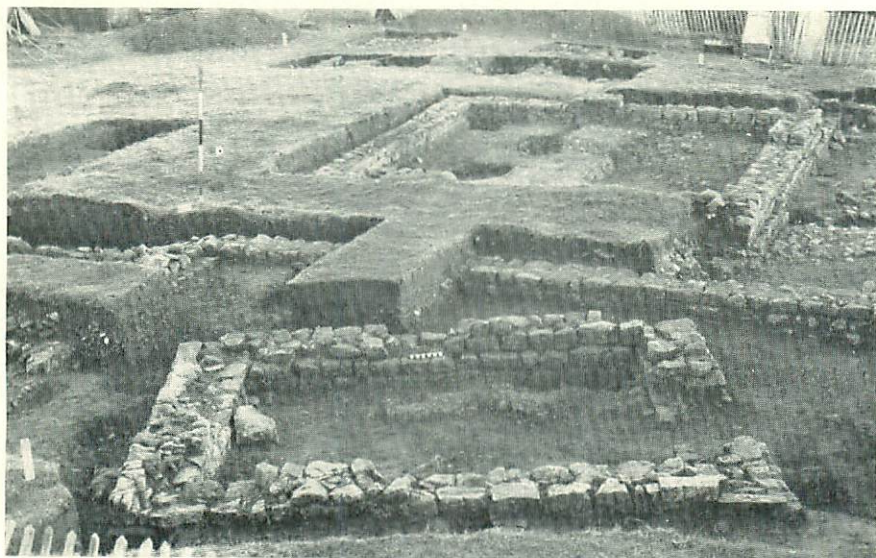
Arch fragment, from the east.



**PLATE 10a**

*(Photograph: H. Taylor)*

Brean Down Roman temple: east wall of north annexe showing Blue Lias quoin stones.



**PLATE 10b**

*(Photograph: H. Taylor)*

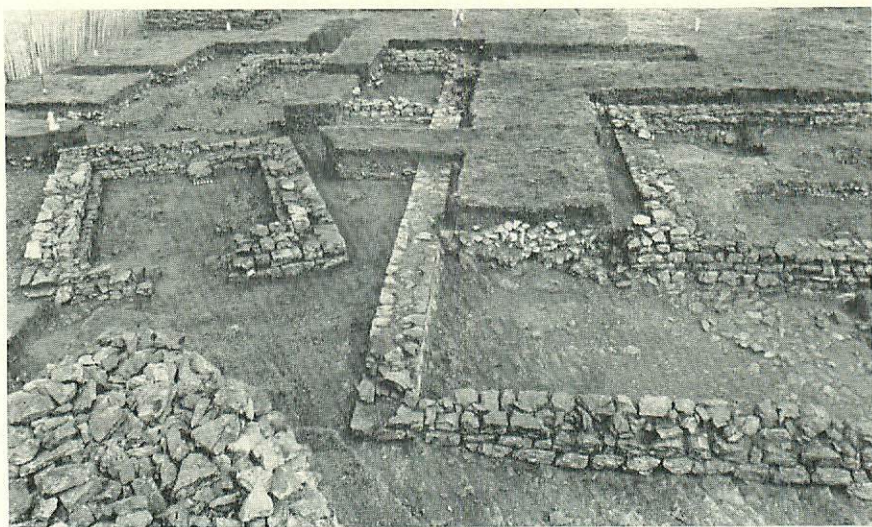
Brean Down Roman temple: southern building from the south, temple in background.



**PLATE 11a**

(Photograph: H. Taylor)

Brean Down Roman temple: view from east showing, *foreground*, plinths of porch and metalling, *middleground*, vestibule with step, *background*, cella with robbing pits.



**PLATE 11b**

(Photograph: H. Taylor)

View from east showing, *right*, part of temple, *left*, the southern building, and *left background*, the south annexe.

*Ambulatory.* The iron slag trampled into the floor of the north ambulatory should indicate activity roughly contemporary with the iron working. The complete roofing "slates" lying directly on the hearth in that area suggest that there was little interval before some of the roof was removed, and the Pennant fragments overlying the occupation layer in the south-west part also suggests dilapidation following close on the "occupation".

The voussoir found in the north ambulatory, jammed down in against the offset course (section 3), could hardly have reached this position naturally and must have either been put or thrown there. Similarly in the light of the conjectural reconstruction suggested below (*Fig. 50*), it is difficult to see how the arch fragment found against the south-west corner of the cella could have reached the position in which it was found without human intervention. Bearing this evidence of interference with the debris in mind and remembering the obvious robbing of the south annexe walling, the simplest explanation for the discrete banks of mortary earth found in the ambulatory, in two cases overlying roofing and wall plaster debris, is that they are the result of the stripping of mortar from the stones robbed from the walls.

*Cella.* Here there was no distinct occupation layer and no layer of roofing debris on the floor. It seems very improbable that, had there been such a layer, trouble should have been taken to remove it before the three robbing pits were dug through the floor. These pits contained freshly broken pieces of rendering and plaster, but were partly sealed by, and not dug through, the mass of plaster debris which filled much of the cella. Their digging must therefore have preceded the stripping of wall plaster from the walls. It seems clear that the roof had not fallen in before this, though it may have been in poor repair, but the presence of a broken piece of ridge coping on the sand at the bottom of one of these pits shows that destruction of the roof followed immediately. The presence of a broken voussoir and other Bath Stone dressings low down in the debris suggests that this demolition was extended to the main structure.

*Vestibule.* Reason has already been given for thinking that the existing floor surface represented only the eroded lower part of the original flooring. The material found underneath the coarse cobbling suggests some interference, perhaps contemporary with the iron working in the north annexe, at a time when "slates" had begun to fall from the roof, but before plaster had begun to flake off the walls of the vestibule. The occupation layer in the southern half of the vestibule accumulated at a slightly later stage, because it contained fragments of wall plaster. The roofing spread rested on the cobbling in the middle of the vestibule, with only a thin smear of occupation earth between; this suggests that there cannot have been a very long interval between the ending of this occupation and the destruction of

the roof. In the overlying mortary destruction layer, the presence of a Bath Stone voussoir actually resting on the cobble surface suggests that the demolition of the walls, which this layer implies, followed the destruction of the roof without any appreciable lapse of time. Though the upper surface of this mortary destruction showed some signs of trampling, this need indicate no longer interval than was required for the heaping of the pile of loose voussoirs found in the middle of the vestibule, while the fact that they remained a pile and were not scattered should indicate that the accumulation of the final layer of earthy rubble followed very soon after.

*Porch.* The main destruction layers in the porch extended through the front door and were contemporary with the destruction inside. The structure of the porch itself must have been destroyed at an earlier stage, to judge from the presence of large pieces of roofing on the partly robbed plinths. A few scraps of the Bath Stone detail were left, but most was removed and even if no use was found for the column drums, there must have been a strong temptation to roll them down the steep slopes of the hill.

The contrast between the thin layer of rubble, with practically no mortar content, outside the porch on the east side of the temple, and the bank of mortary debris (derived from cleaning mortar off stones) against the north wall gives further support to the thesis that the temple did not fall down, but was deliberately demolished.

*Conclusions.* We are now in a position to bring together the conclusions resulting from this interpretation. In the first place, even though practically no evidence survives of religious use, the addition of the annexes implies that patronage of the temple was sufficient to render the original arrangements inadequate. Later on, the temple underwent a period of dilapidation during which there was squatter occupation of the vestibule, the ambulatory and perhaps the cella. The evidence does not show whether the temple had stood abandoned for long before this occupation began, though it must still have been essentially intact. The occupation was contemporary with small-scale iron working in the north annexe, although the occupation may have gone on longer than the iron working. After the end of this secondary usage, and according to the evidence probably without any long interval, the temple was demolished and much of the stone removed from the site.

The concentrated groups of coins found in the mortary destruction layer in the vestibule and in the robbing pits in the cella require some explanation. The stratigraphic position and find circumstances of these groups showed that they were not hoards *in situ*. Nor, since they were found as concentrated groups in the destruction debris, were they lost accidentally while the temple still stood. The coin evidence proves that the temple was not demolished

until some years later than A.D. 367, perhaps even after 383; yet the coin concentrations did not include any post-Constantinian specimens. It seems probable therefore that these groups of coins had been brought together before, or little later than, A.D. 364 (or perhaps A.D. 367-8: see coin report below), and that they had remained hidden in the temple as a hoard, or hoards, until the demolition began.

Evidently these coins were found when the plaster and mortar were being stripped from the walls. This suggests that they had been hidden in the structure. The few similar coins from the squatter occupation in the vestibule may perhaps indicate that some had been found earlier, but the majority had remained undetected.

The pits in the cella floor are most easily explained as having been dug in the belief that treasure was to be found in abandoned temples. In this case the reality was very different, for the floor plainly yielded nothing, and the hoard, or hoards, when found probably consisted mainly of Constantinian bronze coins, with a large percentage of the small copies of the "Fallen Horseman" type. Mr. Boon's report indicates that, whatever their original value, these coins were by then quite worthless. We may suppose that after pausing only to pick a few, larger, more valuable-seeming coins, the finders threw down the remainder, doubtless with appropriate expressions of disgust. In this way we can explain the concentrations of coins found in the robbing pits and elsewhere in the debris.

It follows from this interpretation either that the coins of the House of Valentinian found in the cella were lost in the brief interval between the digging of the robbing pits and the main destruction, or that they were already lying on the floor, presumably with a scatter of older coins, before the robbing took place. Of the 12 coins concerned (or 14 if we add 2 from layer 2), 6 [85, 88, 91-4] lay either on, or immediately above, the surface of the floor. From this I conclude that the second explanation is the correct one for most of the coins. The positions of the remaining coins are easily explained by the disturbance resulting from the robbing and destruction.

The presence in the temple of these coins of the House of Valentinian may have two explanations, not necessarily mutually exclusive. The first would be that they resulted from a final phase, perhaps brief and tenuous, of religious activity on the site. No evidence of such a phase was obtained, unless we include the pin (*Fig. 52*, no. 18) found in the ambulatory, arguably a votive offering. The second explanation would be that these coins were lost during the squatter occupation. There was adequate evidence of this in the temple. The absence of coins of the House of Valentinian from the vestibule may simply mean that activities leading to coin loss (e.g. gaming) did not take place there. The evidence suggests that cooking was the main activity.

*The Southern Building.* The stratigraphy indicates that when this was built the old ground surface was clean except for a scatter of masons' trimmings. The presence of Blue Lias used in an inferior way and of Bath Stone details evidently reused in walling, as well as spalls of Bath Stone in the floor bedding, is held to indicate that much of the material was robbed from the temple; the adjacent south annexe, the only part where the robbing had been taken down to footing levels, being considered to have provided the source of most of the material.

The way in which the surface of the floor had been worn and the complete removal of the flooring from the inner half of the building, as well as the accumulation of a thick occupation layer, should indicate that the occupation lasted a considerable while. The midden shows that the people who lived there relied on shell fish collected from the shoreline for much of their food, although the animal bones show that they probably kept a pig and a few sheep. The two spindle whorls should mean that they spun their own wool and perhaps made their own clothes. It may be conjectured that the further end of the room, where the floor was worn through, was used as living space, the right-hand corner inside the door with hearth and soak-pit serving as kitchen and the left-hand corner, where the floor was relatively unworn, as bed-space.

The distribution of the coins suggests that most had been kept in a purse or perhaps the pottery bottle (*Fig. 52*, no. 18), and were scattered only at the end of the occupation. It may be noted that this collection included a number of unworn Constantinian issues which Mr. Boon suggests may have been looted from the temple when it was being demolished. It would seem that the owner had had little opportunity to spend these coins and that at the end they were not worth taking away. The southward spread of occupation rubbish over the debris derived from the temple is confirmatory evidence that the occupation was later than the destruction of the temple.

The debris level of the southern building contains insufficient material for whatever scheme of reconstruction is adopted and it seems that much must have been taken away. The three antler picks found in this debris level and the robbing of the sill are sufficient to show that this destruction was deliberate and for the purpose of robbing the stone. This demolition appears to have followed fairly closely on the ending of the occupation.

## 6. STRUCTURAL SEQUENCE AND DATING

(*Fig. 50*)

The temple, consisting of cella, ambulatory and vestibule, is of one build and uniform in its materials: freshly quarried Carboniferous Limestone walling and Bath Freestone and Yellow Triassic Breccia dressings. The north and south annexes we have seen to be structurally secondary, the ends

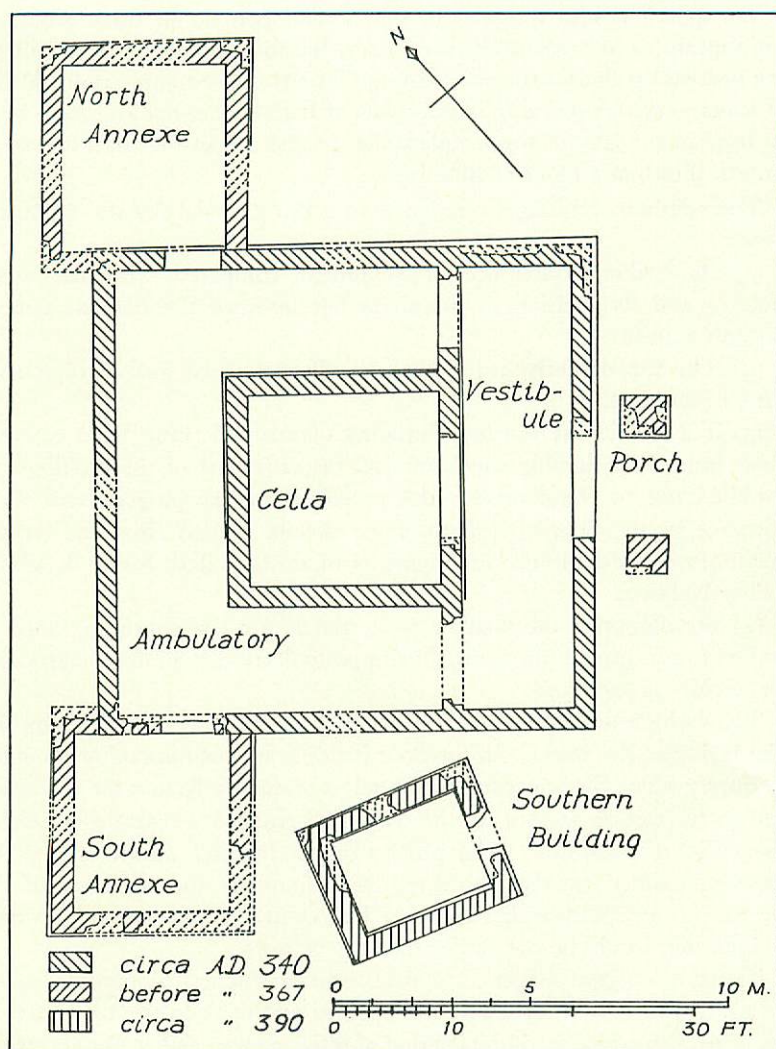


Fig. 50.—Brean Down Roman temple: plan showing building periods.

of their walls being butted up against the ambulatory walls. The introduction of two new building materials—Blue Lias for quoins and occasional blocks of Dolomitic Conglomerate in the walling—indicates at least a new campaign of building. The slight asymmetry of plan and the botched way in which the opening for the door into the south annexe had been cut through the ambulatory wall suggest that these annexes were not envisaged in the original plan.

The porch is also assigned to this second period, on three grounds: (a) it appears to be structurally secondary, the footing for the north plinth being bedded up against the pre-existing footings of the temple wall; (b) the core material of this plinth includes spalls of Bath Stone, not known to have been used in the core of the temple walls; (c) the use in the basal course of the north plinth of a block of Blue Lias.

The southern building is assigned to a third period for the following reasons:

(1) Its striking difference of alignment compared with the other structures and its position in the space left between the barrow, temple and south annexe.

(2) The use of derived and surface-collected stone instead of freshly quarried limestone.

(3) The use in the southern building of material (Blue Lias) patently robbed from the adjoining south annexe, the only part of the buildings to be robbed out to the footings; the probable use, as judged from their occurrence in the debris, of Bath Stone details robbed from the temple superstructure; and the use of fragments of dressed Bath Stone details in the floor bedding.

(4) Stratigraphy: the shallow wall trench for the southern building appeared to cut through the spread of chippings derived from the construction of the south annexe roof.

The dating evidence for the first (temple) building period strictly applies to the laying of the floors. As the floor bedding was of masons' trimmings, with quarry waste for the coarser material, it seems likely that the workmen began to tip this in as soon as the walls had reached a reasonable height, perhaps that of the offsets. This process may have taken a little time as the waste accumulated, so that the three coins found in the thickness of the layer can be accepted as having been lost contemporaneously. The date thus indicated would be not earlier than A.D. 330-7.

There is no coin evidence to date the construction of the porch and annexes. As they were evidently designed as additions to the temple, they must have been added during its period of religious use, and as our argument is that this religious use did not extend substantially beyond A.D. 367, it seems probable that this second building period was also Constantinian in date, and perhaps not much later than the first.

There was no sealed coin evidence from the southern building to date its construction, but as the southern building was constructed partly of material robbed from the temple, an estimate of this date can be arrived at by considering the probable date of the destruction of the temple. This remained substantially intact, except for some deterioration of the roofing and for a little plaster flaking from the walls, while coins of the House of

Valentinian were being lost within it. This phase of gradual dilapidation was ended with deliberate destruction, beginning perhaps with robbing for construction of the southern building, but proceeding without interruption to wholesale demolition and removal of the material from the site—the debris layers are continuous and indicative of a single phase of destruction—after which the ruins remained untouched, except for the digging of the grave in the north annexe, until recent times. If the stones, which covered the worn coin of Theodosius [331] found in the old soil level immediately in front of the temple, were part of this destruction debris, as they appeared to be, then the implied date for the destruction would be hardly earlier than about 390. However, it would be unwise to rely on this one coin, so that we must rest content with the less precise dating given by the coin report: after 380, probably before 400. This, by implication, is also the date of construction of the southern building.

## 7. DISCUSSION

### (a) PURPOSE AND ARCHITECTURE

The identification of the building as a temple is based on the plan of square cella with surrounding ambulatory. This is the most common plan found among the very numerous Romano-Celtic temples (see Wheeler, 1928) distributed in those parts of France, the Rhineland and the Low Countries formerly occupied by Celtic peoples, as well as in the lowland zone of Britain. This particular type is known to derive from rectangular wooden sanctuaries (e.g., Martin, 1960). The Brean temple is of about average size and the features of its plan can all be found elsewhere, though not often combined in one building. Thus the division into vestibule and ambulatory occurs in the second-century spring sanctuary (dedicated to Apollo and Sirona) at Hochscheid, Kr. Bernkastel, Rhein-Pfalz (Dehn, 1941); as well as in a third-fourth-century temple at Civaux, Vienne (Eygun, 1963). More elaborate internal division appears to be indicated by the temple at Caerwent (Ashby *et al.*, 1910), which may also have been entered through a porch. A porch very closely resembling in plan that at Brean formed the main entrance to the late third-century villa at Kingsweston (Boon, 1951), 19 miles away north-eastward along the shore of the Severn estuary. Annexes are also a common feature (plans: Vesly, 1909) and may occur at the front (e.g., Penn, 1960, 1963), side or back of temples, either singly or severally; as original parts or as secondary additions. Annexes placed exactly as at Brean seem to be unusual.

It is usually supposed that the central cella of such a temple was built in the form of a tower similar to that still standing at Autun\* and first

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\* Conveniently illustrated now by Duval and Quoniam (1963), *Figs.* 26-34.

recognized by Lechner (1919), and that the surrounding ambulatory was an open portico, this supposition being sometimes supported by the relative thinness of the ambulatory wall and by finds of dwarf columns, etc., derived from the portico. At Brean there were no such finds and the outer wall was as thick and solid as the cella wall. Had there been an open portico there would have been no logic in the division between vestibule and ambulatory, so that in view of the exposed position of the building it would seem more likely that these parts were fully enclosed. Similar reconstructions have been suggested for several temples (e.g., Wheeler, 1943, p. 131).

The fragment of Tuscan capital (*Fig. 54*, no. 1) from the porch and the pieces of Bath Stone mouldings from the debris should indicate that the temple was clothed in Roman architectural forms. This makes possible some discussion of the appearance of the building. The roof of Pennant "slates" nailed to the timbers would probably have had a greater pitch than the 15–20° limit for *tegulae*, though probably much less than medieval roofs. A pentice roof seems probable for ambulatory and vestibule. It is possible that the cella had a ridged roof, but a low-pitched pyramidal roof seems more probable\* in view of the lack of any longitudinal emphasis in the temple. The arch fragment found at the south-west corner of the cella would fit an arch with a span of about 5 ft. to 5 ft. 6 in., as of window embrasures found *in situ* in the mausoleum or temple at Nettleton-on-the-Fosse. There was no indication of any low-level doorway or window from which this fragment could have come, nor would there have been any structural function for an arch spanning the ambulatory at this point.

The most probable origin for the fragment would be a clearstory window in the cella wall. The arch fragment had alternating voussoirs of Bath Stone and Trias Breccia, and loose voussoirs of both materials were found in the rear part of the ambulatory. In contrast to this, the voussoirs found in the front part, mainly in the vestibule, were all of Bath Stone and only a single small chip of Triassic Breccia was found there. As it seems that the stone robbers had no preference for Trias Breccia and indeed seem to have had little interest in voussoirs, it is likely that the cella had two clearstory windows, one in front with Bath Stone voussoirs and one behind with a mixture of Bath Stone and Trias Breccia. Perhaps the quantity of Bath Stone dressings ordered proved insufficient and so the deficiency was made good using Trias which was available relatively close at hand, the substitute being used at the

\* This is a difficult question. Site evidence for ridged roofs is almost entirely lacking, although a carved stele found at the Titelberg, Luxembourg (Grenier, 1958, p. 469; Espérandieu, 1913, p. 333, no. 4193), has been interpreted, perhaps not altogether convincingly, as a representation of a Romano-Celtic temple with a ridged roof. Such roofs occur on square tombs of classical type such as that of Annia Regilla (Rivoira, 1925, p. 152, *Fig. 182*). Conversely the Autun temple probably had a pyramidal roof, and the cella-like tower of the mausoleum of Galla Placidia at Ravenna still has its pyramidal roof.

back where it would not be so conspicuous. It is possible that these arches were relieving arches over square-headed windows, but this seems hardly necessary in an unvaulted building.

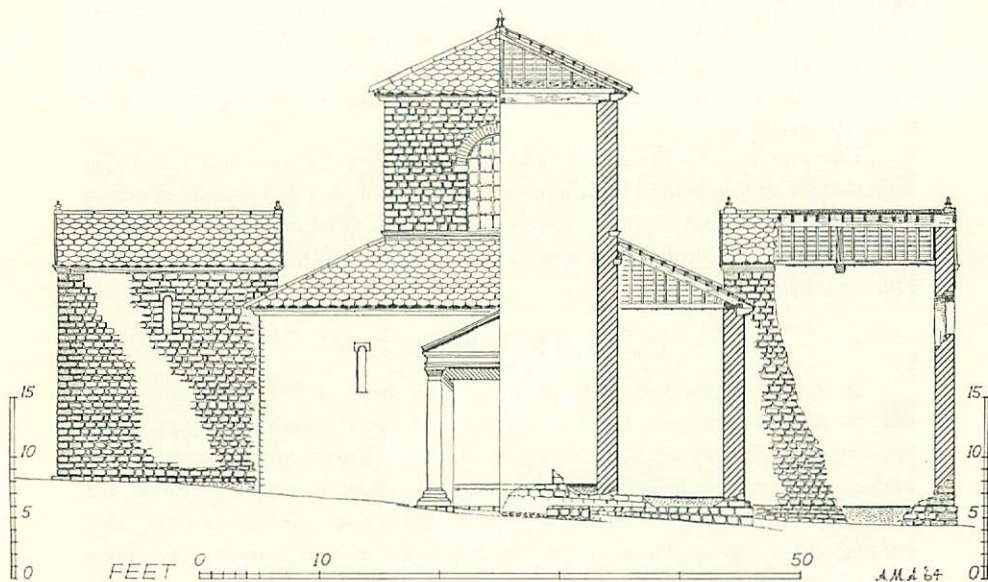


Fig. 51.—Brean Down Roman temple: conjectural front elevation.  
Datum (250 ft. O.D.) as for sections.

The annexes are interesting in the way in which they are placed with their front walls in line with the rear wall of the cella. This care for symmetry coupled with the use of accurately dressed Blue Lias quoins, which would both strengthen the corners of the annexes and provide a contrast of colour and texture, suggests that a modest architectural effect was sought. If the annexe walls were carried up to the same (or less) height as the ambulatory wall, roofing them would have been rather awkward, whatever scheme of roofing were adopted. It may be suggested that they were carried up a few feet above the ambulatory walls so as to form low towers flanking the central tower of the cella. Both annexes are 2–3 ft. longer than they are broad and longitudinal ridged roofs would seem likely.

The porch may be presumed to have had its roof butted against the front wall of the vestibule, rather than riding up over it. The Tuscan columns with shafts perhaps just over 12 in. diameter should indicate, allowing for bases, capitals and some form of entablature, a height of about 10 to 12 ft. to the wall plate. Anything much less would have looked ridiculous in view of the width of the porch, and with a masonry opening about 8 ft. wide the vestibule doorway can hardly have been less than 10–12 ft. high.

and the east wall of the south annexe would have saved half the work. This refusal to make use of standing structures and the choice of a different orientation look like a deliberate rejection of what had gone before. The location of the building also poses a question, for it is on quite the most exposed part of the site and the shelter which the annexe might have provided had been destroyed. My experience of living on the site for two months suggests to me that either the weather was generally much less windy in the late fourth century—this seems by no means impossible—or the most exposed spot had been chosen deliberately; even a very few yards down the hill it is much more sheltered and hardly less level. There is no evidence to show whether the occupation had indeed a purpose beyond the obvious domestic one and we shall probably be safer with the prosaic explanation. The date of the occupation seems too early—in Britain—for us to invoke a Christian hermit after the Egyptian pattern, for all that this may have been the generation of St. Patrick. It seems clear that the occupant of this late building in a very conspicuous spot remained unmolested by pirates, even after the end of Roman rule.

## 8. THE FINDS

[Provenance abbreviations: Cella, Ves. = Vestibule, Amb. = Ambulatory, N. Ann. = North Annexe, S. Ann. = South Annexe, Por. = Porch; S.B. = Southern Building; Ext. = Exterior; E. = East, W. = West. The layers are identified as listed in the description, 2 referring generally to destruction layers, 3 to occupation. U.S. = Unstratified.]

### 8(a). THE ROMAN COINS

By

GEORGE C. BOON, F.R.N.S.

#### A. ARCHÆOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. *The date of the erection of the temple.* Layer 4 in the ambulatory—make-up for the original and now robbed floor—produced three coins [nos. 298–300], including one copy, dated *c.* 330–7. If reliably sealed in the deposit, they suggest that the temple was erected *c.* 340. Since the temple-series of coins scarcely begins before 330, and falls in the main between 337 and 360, this seems a highly probable initial date. It is basically supported by a worn coin of Victorinus [no. 277] from beneath the cobbles of the vestibule, and it is noteworthy that layer 4 produced none of the coins of 341–6 and 346–60 and their copies, so generally abundant on the site.

2. *The date of the annexes.* Too few coins were found here for much light to be thrown on this matter. The coins are similar to those from the ambulatory, and do not conflict with the belief that the annexes were very soon added to the main building.

3. *The date of the end of the occupation of the temple.* The latest coins from the temple-area are 18 struck 364–75, and 3—all from alongside the

wall, south-west of the porch—of 383–95. Most of the earlier group come from the cella; none can be associated with the original occupation of the temple. On the whole, these coins are not greatly worn: only a third of them can be so described. Only one of the Theodosian coins is worn [no. 331]. This evidence seems to suggest that the life of the temple was slowly coming to an end as coins of the Valentinianian dynasty, still but slightly worn, were being dropped on its site, say *c.* 380. That the building was in an advanced state of ruin by *c.* 400 is shown by the Theodosian coin specified above, which was sealed by a fall of stones from the wall.

Since coins of the House of Valentinian probably did not enter Britain in quantity until after the disaster of 367–8 had been retrieved, the secularisation of the temple may well be linked with this event. The iron working in the north annexe may then have followed.

4. *The date of the southern building.* This is known to be later than the remainder of the complex (p. 224) and *ex hypothesi*, therefore, dates from some time, probably some long time, after 367–8. In contrast to the Valentinianian coins from the temple, those from this building are very much more worn: of the 30, only 5 are slightly worn, and 16 are much, or very much, worn. Since these coins were those most nearly contemporary with the southern building, or rather with the suggested *terminus post* of that building, it seems permissible to deduce from their worn state that the occupation here began much later than 367–8.

The fair numbers of worn Theodosian coins must take the life of the southern building well into the fifth century, possibly—at a guess—to 425 or thereabouts. Whether life continued thereafter, without the aid of coins, is hardly a numismatic question.

5. *The coins from the southern building.* The coin-series extends much further back in time than the Valentinianian issues. In particular, it may be noted that many of the Constantinian coins are far less worn than many of the later specimens: this applies especially to the  $\overline{\text{AE}} 2$  *Fel Temp Reparatio* coins [nos. 372–80]. A similar state of affairs appears in a Cambridgeshire hoard (Stretham: Pearce, 1940), but here it is probably due to treasure-seeking and to the general ransacking of the temple. Although site-finds of coins of the Theodosian dynasty are mostly composed of the  $\overline{\text{AE}} 4$ , attempts were made from time to time to improve the module of the bronze coinage, and  $\overline{\text{AE}} 2$  of later emperors are numismatically common coins. The Constantinian  $\overline{\text{AE}} 2$  may therefore have been retrieved for currency-use.

#### B. NUMISMATIC CONSIDERATIONS

Like most site-finds, the 468 coins listed are of the commonest types of their day and possess little individual interest: collectively, they are of great significance.

A feature of the Brean series is the large proportion of barbarous imitations. Copies amount to exactly a half of the total; and of that half, four-fifths are of the  $\overline{\text{AE}} 3$  *Fel Temp Reparatio* ("Fallen Horseman") type, introduced in western mints of the Empire in 354, and struck until 360. It is with this class that we are concerned. It includes a few struck over preceding types, viz. *Gloria Exercitus* (one and two standards) [nos. 43, 190] and *Victoriae Dd Auggq Nn* [no. 130, etc.]; copies on new flans from 16 [no. 133] down to 3 mm. [nos. 231-4] across; and some more or less plain copies ranging from 6 [no. 80] to 2 mm. [nos. 266-7] in diameter, which are "*Fallen Horseman*" derivatives. Some of these little coins therefore come within the Lydney category of "minimissimi" (Wheeler and Wheeler, 1932, p. 125).

In the past, extraordinary claims have been made as to the date of such copies. Mrs. T. V. Wheeler, in the *Lydney Report* of 1932, cautiously advanced a fifth-century dating. Twenty years later, one writer was placing them as late as the middle of the sixth century (Hill, 1952), although this was subsequently retracted (Hill, 1952a). A curious circular argument has also grown up, to the effect that because coins of so small a size were made there must have been a shortage of bronze; and because there was a shortage of bronze, the coins were made so small. There is no reason to believe that there was a shortage of bronze at the close of the Roman period or in the early Dark Age.

Dr. J. P. C. Kent has reviewed the evidence relating to the practice of imitating orthodox issues of the Roman mints (Kent, 1959). His general conclusion is that the copies are "contemporary with the currency of the prototypes" (*ibid.*, p. 66). In the case of Lydney, Kent points out that a late dating is scarcely compatible with the type of orthodox coin present in the same hoard—Constantinian—on a site abounding in the coins of the House of Valentinian I. No "Fallen Horseman" has ever been found overstruck upon a coin later (by some chance) than the  $\overline{\text{AE}} 3$  prototype.

There can be no doubt whatever, from the schedule which follows, that the bulk of the "Fallen Horsemen", large and small, was in use during the life of the temple, viz. between 354 and 380, most probably between 354 and 367-8, and had passed out of use by the date of the southern building. This plain fact strikingly demonstrates the accuracy of Kent's numismatic thesis, and the matter is discussed in greater detail in a paper published, by the generous permission of Mr. ApSimon, in the *Numismatic Chronicle* (Boon, 1961).

The existence of overstrikes in this coinage tends to show that the monetary crisis which called forth this wave of imitation—the last important wave in Romano-British history—was officially engendered by the *demonetization* of previous issues upon the striking of the  $\overline{\text{AE}} 3$  type in question. Now, although the "Fallen Horseman" ceased to be issued by the Roman

mints in 360, the ordinary bronze coinage of the period between 360 and 364, when Valentinian and Valens ascended the throne, is rare on British sites. Moreover, it would appear that the coinage of these two emperors did not reach Britain in quantity, as mentioned above, until after 367-8. This period of fifteen years is the period in which the "Fallen Horsemen" copies were made in ever-decreasing size.

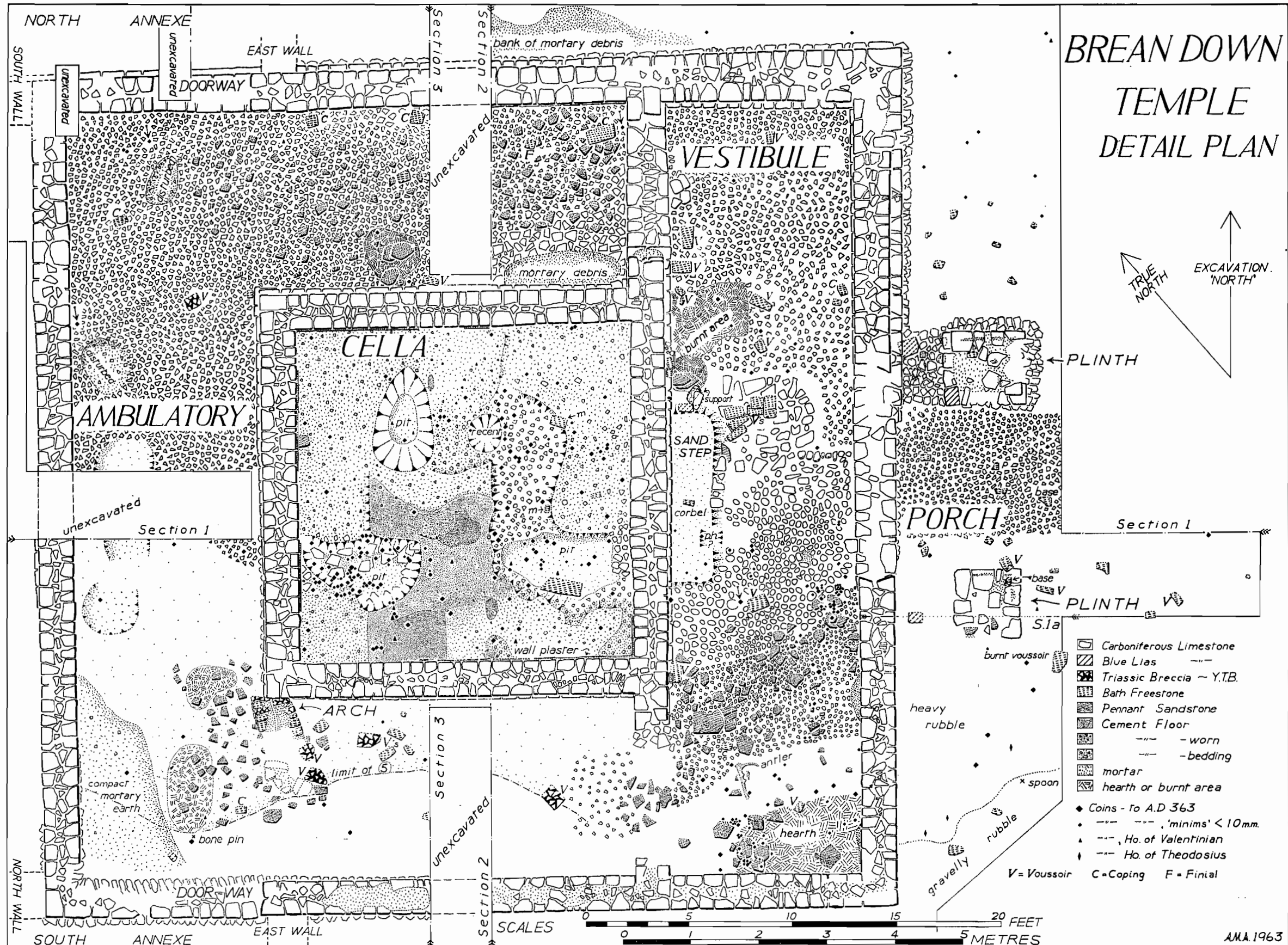
The purpose of these tiny objects has long excited speculation. Superficially, their occurrence at Brean and Lydney suggests that they may have been imitations in a very real sense, votive coins bought by the packet for good money, to be presented to the god. This idea overlooks two facts: (a) they are known at Canterbury and at Great Staunton villa where no sacred associations appear to attach to the buildings in which they were found (refs., Boon, 1961, p. 196); and (b) the following schedule shows a general devolution from largest to smallest, in which it would be difficult to point out the abrupt break which should, on the "votive" explanation, be the dividing line between currency-copies and imitations not meant for general circulation. However absurd it may appear, this general devolution seems to prove quite definitely that even the smallest copy was meant as a token for an official coin of the desirable type which its crude designs simulated. The first "Fallen Horsemen" copies would have been fairly near in module and weight to the prototype. Then, as copy was made from copy, and natural greed intervened to observe what worthless material could be foisted upon the public, the size dropped and dropped. There is an important corollary. A token coinage requires official backing. The backing in this case, of course, was not direct, or is not believed to have been so: but the Roman government backed its bronze coinage by its authority, if not by specie, and could compel its acceptance, whilst reserving the right to demand its taxes in gold. It was upon the artificial position held by the orthodox bronze coinage that the forgers relied. It may be remarked that when this authority was withdrawn, no bronze coinage, let alone such wretchedly poor imitations, could possibly have been acceptable; and this is a final argument against a post-Roman dating.

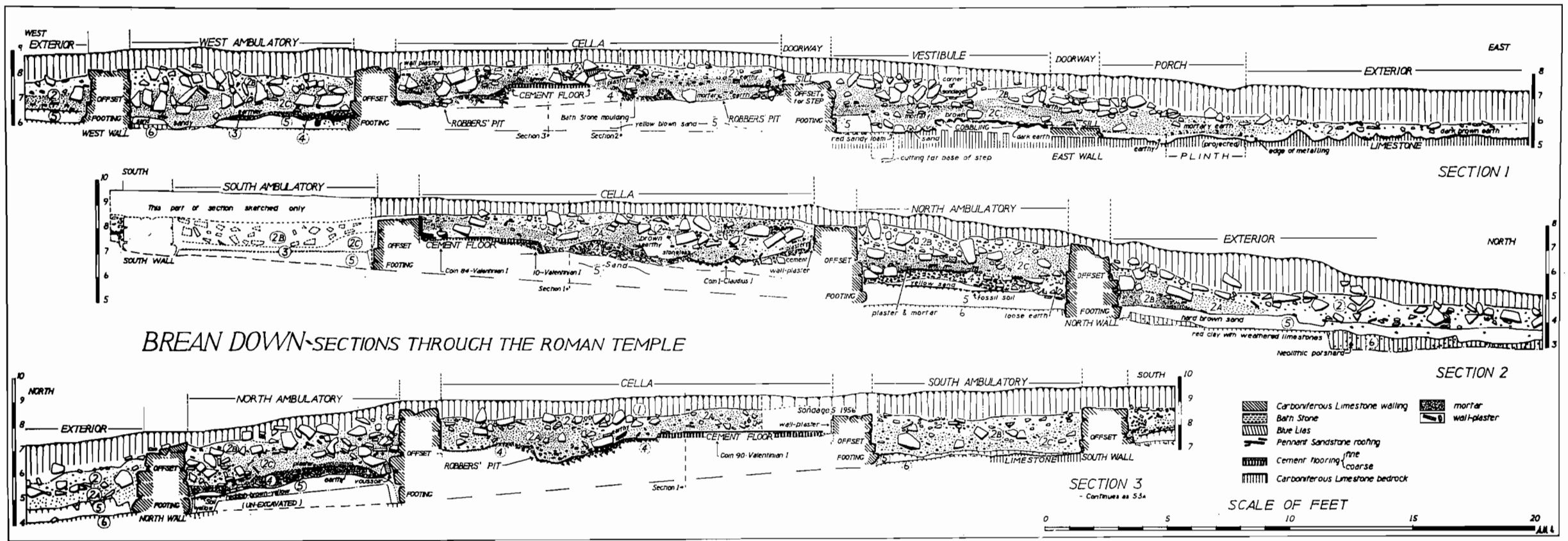
We are left with the fact that Brean and Lydney, two temple-sites, have produced large numbers of small copies. Whilst there is, clearly, no reason to credit the "votive-coinage" theory, some explanation is required. Other temples, particularly Pagans Hill and Frilford (Berks.), have yielded large numbers of worn—worn-out—coins (refs., Boon, 1961, p. 196) which were in effect "votive", inasmuch as they were offerings to the god, or else the unwanted residue of such offerings, after the better specimens had been picked out by the priest. Bad coinage would gravitate to these shrines as easily as to the offertory of a country church. Perhaps the small, bad copies of Brean or Lydney may be explained in this way.

BREAN DOWN ROMAN TEMPLE SITE  
SCHEDULE OF "FALLEN HORSEMAN" COPIES AND DERIVATIVES (PLAIN)

	Temple	South Building	Unstratified	Total
<i>Overstrikes</i>	8	1	—	9
16 mm.	1	—	—	1
15 mm.	5	1	1	7
14 mm.	5	—	—	5
13½ mm.	1	—	—	1
13 mm.	6	4	—	10
12 mm.	6	—	—	6
11½ mm.	3	—	—	3
11 mm.	12	—	1	13
10 mm.	16	1	—	17
9½ mm.	1	—	—	1
9 mm.	15	—	—	15
8½ mm.	1	—	—	1
8 mm.	8	—	—	8
7½ mm.	1	—	—	1
7 mm.	12	—	—	12
6 mm.	7	—	—	7
5½ mm.	1	—	—	1
5 mm.	11	—	—	11
4½ mm.	1	—	—	1
4 mm.	6	—	—	6
3½ mm.	2	—	—	2
3 mm.	6	—	—	6
<i>Derivatives</i>				
6 mm.	1	—	—	1
5 mm.	2	1	—	3
4½ mm.	1	—	—	1
4 mm.	12	—	—	12
3½ mm.	6	—	—	6
3 mm.	15	—	—	15
2½ mm.	9	—	—	9
2 mm.	2	—	—	2
TOTALS	183	8	2	193

*First- and second-century aes.* Apart from a few radiates and their imitations, commonly found on fourth-century sites and in hoards (e.g., at Cheddar, Boon, 1958), the excavations produced nine coins [nos. 1, 12, 279, 303, 309, 334, 358, 359, 335] of a date considerably earlier than the temple. No structural, and very little pottery, evidence favours an initial occupation of this part of the down, at least, before the temple was built. The coins, which include 1 "Claudian copy", and 5 *sestertii* of the second century, are therefore in some way to be associated with the fourth-century coin-series of the temple. *Aes* of the type concerned was struck only in very small quantities after Valerian, and there was scarcely any in the last quarter of the third century. Since Diocletian, with his *folles*, had altered the basis of the token currency, it is difficult to see how these coins could have fitted into the monetary system of the Constantinian era. Possibly the coins were scrap: nos. 279 and 335 have been defaced and altered, and may have been designed





	331	THEODOSIUS I	VICTORIA AVGGG	?-P	383-95	w
NORTH EXTERIOR						
Layer 2	332	CONSTANS	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>2</sup>	Trier-?; I, 75?	330-5	w
	333	CONSTANTIUS II	FEL TEMP REPARATIO ["Fallen Horseman"]	Lyons-S; II, 254/7	353-60	sw
B. SOUTHERN BUILDING AND EXTERIOR						
Layer 1	334	COMMODUS?	—	sest.	180-92?	vmw
Layer 2-2a (23 coins)	335	—	—	sest.; has been lathe- turned, and has 10-mm. circle cen- trally engraved on one side. No types left; metal is ori- chalc, hence identi- fication	—	—
	336	CONSTANTINE I	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>2</sup>	Trier-P; I, 80	330-5	w
	337	Ho. of Constantine	Gloria Exercitus <sup>2</sup>	copy, 13 mm.	c. 330-5	—
	338	CONSTANTINOPOLIS	Victory on prow	Trier-P; I, 66	330-5	w
	339	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Trier-S; I, 70	*	w
	340	Magnentius	Two Victories	copy, 14 mm.	351-3	w
	341	CONSTANTIUS II	FEL TEMP REPARATIO ["Fallen Horseman"]	Lyons-P; II, 254/6	353-60	sw
	342	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copy, 15 mm.	c. 354-64	—
	343	*	*	copy, 13 mm.	*	—
	344	*	*	minim, 5 mm.	*	—
	345	VALENTINIAN I	[derivative] GLORIA ROMANORUM	Arles-II; II, 484/5 (fr.)	364-7	w
	346	*	*	Lyons-II; II, 330	367-75	sw
	347	VALENS	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE	Aquileia-P?; II, 1041/7?	367-78	mw
	348	VALENTINIAN II	SALUS REIPUBLICAE	?-?	388-92	sw
	349-50	ARCADIUS	VICTORIA AVGGG	Arles-?; Arles-P; II, 566/9	388-95	w, sw
	351, 352, 353	*	*	Lyons-P; II, 395; (1)-(2)	394-5, etc.	sw-w
	354	Ho. of Theodosius	*	?-?	383-95	mw
	355	ARCADIUS	SALUS REIPUBLICAE	?-?	388-95	mw
	356, 357	Ho. of Theodosius	*	?-?	*	mw

## B. SOUTHERN BUILDING AND EXTERIOR—continued

PROVENANCE	No.	EMPEROR, ETC.	TYPE	DETAILS	DATE	CONDITION
Layer 3a (inside) (78 coins)	358	TRAJAN	—	<i>sest.</i>	103-11?	vmw
	359	COMMODUS	AUCTOR PIETAT, etc. SC	<i>sest</i> ; RIC 494/523	186-9	mw
	360	VICTORINUS	PAX AVG	<i>ant.</i> ; RIC 118	268-70	mw
	361	TETRICUS I	* *	<i>ant.</i> ; RIC 101	270-3	w
	362	CONSTANTINE I	SOLI INVICTO COMITI	London; NC '56, no. 83	309-12	w
	363	LICINIUS I	* * *	London; NC '56, no. 184	315-17	sw
	364	CRISPUS	VOT X DOMINOR NOSTROR CAESS	Ticinum-T; NC '57, 396 (ii)	321-6	w
	365	Urbs Roma	Wolf and Twins	copy, 9 mm.	c. 330-5	—
	366, 367	CONSTANTIUS II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>1</sup>	Trier-S, ?-?; I, 126, —	337-41	w, mw
	368	*	VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN	?-?	341-6	mw
	369, 370	CONSTANS	* *	Trier-S; I, 142b, 148	*	mw, w
	371	Constans	* *	copy, 12 mm.	*	w?
	372	CONSTANTIUS II	FEL TEMP REPARATIO [hut]	Trier-S; II, 30	346-50	sw
	373	*	* *	Rome-Q; II, 606	*	sw
	374	CONSTANS	[galley] * *	Trier-S; II, 43	*	sw
	375	Constantius	* *	copy, "Trier", 21 mm.	*	sw
	376	Constans	* *	copy, "Aquileia", 22 mm.	*	sw
	377, 378	CONSTANTIUS II	* * ["Fallen Horseman"]	Trier-S, ?-?; II, 72, —. N.B. The illustrations in II showing FH3 and 4 Types have been inadvertently transposed.	353-4	w, mw
	379, 380	*	* *	Lyons-P, Arles-P; II, 253/6, 455. No. 379 is either doubly struck or has bar- barous overtype.	*	sw, vsw
	381	Constantius	* *	copy; <i>on</i> : ?; 15 mm.	c. 354-64	—
	382-4	*	* *	copies, 13 mm.	*	—

385-7	VALENTINIAN I	GLORIA ROMANORUM	Lyons-II (2), Arles-I; II, 281, 293, 479	364-7	w-mw
388, 389	*	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE	Arles-III, Aquilaia-S; II, 481, 971	364-7	mw, w
390-392	VALENS	* *	Arles-I (2), -III; II, 483, 492	*	mw-w
393	VALENTINIAN I	GLORIA ROMANORUM	Lyons-II; II, 311	367-75	mw
394	VALENS	* *	?-I R F Siscia- F SISCIA (S);	* ?	vmw
395	VALENTINIAN I	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE	II, 1414 var: no upper F	367-75	w
396-8	GRATIAN	GLORIA NOVI SAECULI	Arles-T (2), ?-?; II, 529, —	*	w-mw
399	VALENS	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE	Arles-S; II, 528/32	367-78	mw
400	GRATIAN	* *	Arles-S; II, 533	375-78	w
401-3	VALENS	* *	?-?	364-78	w-mw
404-5	Ho. of Valentinian	* *	Lyons (1) ?-? (1); one cut down to 13 mm.	364-78	mw
406	VALENTINIAN II	VOT XV MULT XX	?-?	378-83	mw
407	MAG. MAXIMUS	REPARATIO REIPUB	Lyons-P; II, 380	383-7	w
408	*	SPES ROMANORUM	Aquilaia-P; II, 1003	387-8	w
409	THEODOSIUS I	VICTORIA AVGG	Arles-P; II, 565/68	388-95	w
410	VALENTINIAN II	* *	?-?	383-95	w
411-15	ARCADIUS	* *	Arles-P, -S, -T, -?; Rome-?; II, 556, 569, 781	*	sw-mw
416-21	*	* *	?-?	*	sw-w
422	HONORIUS	* *	?-?	393-5	vsw
423-4	Ho. of Theodosius	* *	?-?	383-95	vsw-w
425	THEODOSIUS I	SALUS REIPUBLICAE	Rome-T; II, 800/4	388-95	vsw
426, 427	VALENTINIAN II	* *	Rome-S, -?; II, 799, —	388-92	sw, mw
428	ARCADIUS	* *	Rome-P; II, 801/5	388-95	sw
429	HONORIUS	* *	?-?	393-5	sw ?
430-2	Ho. of Theodosius	* *	Arles-P; Rome-P; ?-?	388-95	w-mw
433	ARCADIUS	* ? *	Not struck up	—	w ?
434	Ho. of Theodosius	* — *	copy ?—10 mm.	c. 388-95	—
435	—	—	blank flan, 11 mm., probably for a copy.	—	—

B. SOUTHERN BUILDING AND EXTERIOR—continued

PROVENANCE	No.	EMPEROR, ETC.	TYPE	DETAILS	DATE	CONDITION
Layer 6 (inside)	436	CARAUSIUS	PAX AVG [Salus type]	ant., RIC 929; on: ?	287-93	sw
	437	Constantius ?	"Fallen Horseman ?"	copy, 10 mm.	c. 354-64	—
	438	VALENTINIAN I	GLORIA ROMANORUM	Aquileia ?-S	367-75	sw
	439	VALENS	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE	Lyons-I; II, 348	*	sw
	440	*	*	Arles-P; II, 528/32	367-78	w
	441	Ho. of Valentinian	*	?-? (fr.)	364-78	mw
	442	GRATIAN or VALENTINIAN II	VOT XV MULT XX	?-?	378-83	mw
	443	MAG. MAXIMUS	REPARATIO REIPUB	Lyons ?	383-7	w
	444	VALENTINIAN II	VICTORIA AVGGG	Arles-P; II, 562	388-92	sw ?
	445-6	ARCADIUS	*	?-?	383-95	w-sw
	447-9	Ho. of Theodosius	*	?-?	*	sw, w
	450	*	*	copy, 14 mm.	c. 383-95	sw ?
	451	*	SALUS REIPUBLICAE	?-?	388-95	w ?
	452-3	*	— ? —	?-?	383-95	w
(Nos. 436-9, 441-5, 447-9, 451-3 and probably the others seem to constitute a hoard.)						
Layer 3 (exterior)	454	Constantinopolis	Victory on prow	copy, 12 mm.	c. 330-5	—
	455	CONSTANS	VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN	Trier-S; I, 150	341-6	sw
	456	GRATIAN	GLORIA ROMANORUM	Rome-P; II, 711	367-75	mw
	457	*	GLORIA NOVI SAECULI	Arles-I; II, 523a	*	sw
	458	*	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE	Arles-T; II, 533	375-8	sw
	459	VALENTINIAN II	SALUS REIPUBLICAE	?-?	388-92	sw
	460	Ho. of Theodosius	*	Rome-?	388-95	mw ?

C. UNSTRATIFIED (GENERAL AREAS)

461	CLAUDIUS II	CONSECRATIO [eagle]	ant., RIC 266	270	w ?
462	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Arles-S; I, 376	330-5	w
463-5	CONSTANTINOPOLIS	Victory on prow	Trier-P, Arles-P ?	*	uw, mw
466	CONSTANTINE II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>1</sup>	Trier-P	335-7	def.
467	Constans	Victoriae Dd Auggq Nn	copy, 13 mm.	c. 341-6	—
468-9	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copies, 15 and 11 mm.	c. 354-6	—

D. SONDAGES (1959)

470	radiate ?	?—	minim, 9 mm.	c. 270+	
471	CONSTANTINE II	BEATA TRANQUILLITAS	Trier-S; NC '57, no. 214 (iii)	320	

## 8(b). THE SAMIAN WARE

By

GEORGE C. BOON

Eight small pieces, of plain forms and of Antonine date, were found. They represent perhaps five vessels. Samian in this sort of quantity is a well-known feature of late Roman sites and does not, of itself, suggest an occupation earlier than the foundation of the temple. The fact that all the scraps of Samian are derived from dishes suggests that they represent the ritual service used in the temple.

## CENTRAL GAULISH

1. Basal fragment. Walters 79 (S.B., 2a).
2. Rim fragment, probably from the above; burnt? (S.B., Ext., 1).
3. Basal fragment, very small, Dr. 31? (E. Ext., 2).

## EAST GAULISH

4. Basal fragment, Dr. 31 (N. Ann., 3).
- 5-6. Two fragments, another Dr. 31 (S.B., Ext., 2).
- 7-8. Two fragments, from the same (?) Dr. 31—a different vessel from the foregoing (S.B., Ext., 3).

## 8(c). THE COARSE POTTERY

By

A. M. APSIMON

## PREHISTORIC

The shard of neolithic Peterborough pottery found in the red loam outside the north wall of the temple has been published elsewhere (ApSimon, Donovan and Taylor, 1961, p. 110, *Fig.* 25, no. 6). The shard of Iron Age pottery found on the old ground surface (layer 5) in the same area was of dark-brown to black ware with abundant calcite grit, exactly like that from the Sand Cliff published in the report cited above.

## ROMAN

*(Fig. 52)*

The amount of pottery from the site was comparatively small. The greater part was found in front of the temple and in and around the southern building. All the sondages shown on the plan produced at least some shards and there is clearly an extensive if sparse scatter in the surrounding area, which a rough calculation indicates may be of the order of 3,000 shards, presumably accounting for the missing parts of most of the pots found by us. Examination of the pottery shows that it can be divided into two series, that from the temple, associated with the squatter occupation, which may be dated between about 370 and 390 (see part 6 above), and that associated with the occupation of the southern building, dating probably from about A.D. 390 and later. These two series were distinct except that shards belonging to pots found in the southern building and associated midden were also found in the following places:

- (i) Layers 1 and 2 (destruction) in the southern half of the area in front of the temple.
- (ii) In the destruction layer (2b) south of the south annexe. This layer was thin and shards thrown onto it could easily have worked their way down into the layer.
- (iii) In the earthy destruction layer (2b) in the south part of the vestibule and ambulatory.

It would of course have been very easy, once the southern wall of the temple had been pulled down to the level at which we found it, to throw rubbish over the wall from the southern building. It was observed that the amount of pottery in the earthy destruction layer of the temple increased as the southern wall was approached, and it seems clear that much of the pottery in this area and in the corresponding layer in the south annexe is derived from the southern building.

The two series are too close in date for there to be striking differences between them, and too restricted in quantity for it to be clear whether any apparent differences are significant. An interesting observation is that the flanges of the cavetto rim cooking pots from the southern building are generally wider than those from the temple series. As the types represented are of common occurrence and the dates suggested here are more precise than on most local fourth-century sites, it has not been thought necessary to quote extensive parallels from the literature. It is possible that some of the pots were not new when they came to the site. This is obviously true of the Samian ware but there was very little else to suggest the incorporation of material from any earlier occupation.

*Imitation Samian and Colour-coated Wares: 1-9*

1. Rim and body fragments, of grey ware with orange slip with glossy red surfaces, wheel-thrown, decorated inside and underneath with bands of rouletting. Probably an imitation of the Samian form, Walters 79 (Ves., 2b and 2c).

2. Dish, rim shards only, ochreous yellow ware with traces of red slip. This common type derives from the Samian form Drag. 31 (S. Ann., W. Ext., 3); coarser rims (S. Ann., 2c) and (S.B., Ext., 3), foot ring base (E. Ext., 1).

3. Dish of similar type, red ware with traces of red slip (S. Ann., W. Ext., 2), foot ring base and two rims (S.B., Ext., 2 and 3).

4. Bowl of red ware with red slip decorated with impressions made with a four-toothed comb. This is a characteristic and widely distributed fourth-century type (S.B., Ext., 2 and 3; E. Ext., 2).

5. Rim shards of bowl with short neck, grey ware with pinkish core, no trace of slip, decorated with stamped impressions. This is either worn or else a coarse-ware copy of the colour-coated form, for which in general see Bushe Fox (1926, pp. 89-92) (E. Ext., 1—derived from S.B.).

6. Rim of necked bowl, red ware with red slip, band of rouletting on neck (E. Ext., 2—derived from S.B.?).

7. Rim shard of necked bowl, buff ware with traces of red slip, band of rouletting on neck (S. Ann., 2a), other pieces of the same or similar pots (S. Ann., 4, S.B., Ext., 2 and E. Ext., 1 and 2); so probably derived from S.B.

It is interesting to find the group represented by nos. 4-7 associated with the occupation of the southern building.

8. Bowl with broad, hooked flange and rim rising above as a low bead, ware has grey core, and orange surfaces with specks of mica (E. Ext., 2). This type is probably derived from copies of Samian form Curle 11.

9. Straight-sided mortarium, red ware with grey core, red slip on the outside. A familiar fourth-century imitation of the Samian form 45 (S.B., 2a; S.B., W. and E. Ext., 3 (midden); E. Ext., 1 and 2), also 1 scrap (Ves., 2b) derived from S.B. occupation.

*Other Wares*

10. Mortarium, surfaces cream over red slip, grey core. Type as *Lydney*, Fig. 26, no. 20, "probably after 367" (S.B., 3a).

11. Mortarium, white ware, the only shard of this type from the site (S.B., Ext., 1).

12. "Thumb pot"-beaker with indented body, fine grey ware, black outside, decorated with white paint (S.B., Ext., 2). "New Forest" ware?

13. Dish, slightly curved side, black ware (S.B., Ext., 1). About five other examples of this type, most in black calcite gritted ware, were found in association with the southern building. Shard of one of these stray (Ves., 2b). One example only in coarse grey ware with stone grit (S.B., Ext., 2).

14. Flanged dish in black ware, about 15-plus examples of this type from the southern building, mostly in calcite gritted ware (S.B., Ext., 3).

15. Flanged dish, from about the smaller end of the size range of the type (N. Ann., 2c and 3c).

16. Cavetto rim cooking pot, black ware with sand-grade calcite grit, outside polished (S.B., 3a). About 20 more of this type associated with the southern building and about 10 from the squatter occupation of the temple.

17. Jar rim, ware as nos. 14-16. Shape as *Pagans Hill* (Rahtz and Harris, 1957), Fig. 6, no. 82 (Ves., 2b).

18. Bulbous beaker with tapering neck and raised foot, dark grey-black ware, very worn (S.B., 3a and 2a). A coarse version of Richborough type 96 (Bushe-Fox 1926), ultimately derived from the Rhenish and Caistor ware beakers. The pieces

of this vessel were found in the western half of the southern building and it is possible that it had been the container for the coins which were scattered around the south-west corner.

19. Pie-dish, hard grey ware (S.B., Ext., 2). Also another not figured.
  20. Rim of flanged rimmed dish or bowl, with low bead on flange, gritty grey ware (S.B., Ext., 3—midden).
  21. Bowl with flanged rim, two grooves on the upper side of the flange, one under, grey ware (S.B., Ext., 2).
  22. Necked jar with out-turned beaded rim approaching cavetto type, hard grey ware (E. Ext., 3). Three others similar (S.B., 3a, and S.B., Ext., 2).
  23. Necked jar with out-turned rim, soft grey ware (S.B., Ext., 2). Seven others from this area (2 and 3), also (Amb., 2b, Ves., 2b, and E. Ext., 2) both the latter distorted. Larger, thicker examples are in very hard grey ware with pinkish core.
  24. Necked jar as described above, very hard grey ware (S.B., Ext., 2).
  25. Jar of grey ware with everted rim grooved along the lip (S. Ext., 2). Four examples (S.B., Ext., 2 and 3), one (Amb., 2b).
  26. Jar of grey ware with everted rim grooved on the upper surface (S.B., 3a), another (S.B., Ext., 3) and one rather different (Cella, 2).
  27. Cullender, grey ware, everted rim. Holes pushed through from outside and arranged in circumferential and radial rows. More than one, shards (Amb., 2b, 2c, 3) (E. Ext., 2) (S.B., Ext., 1, 2 and 3).
  28. Rim shard, fine grey ware with smooth outer surface (S. Ann., 2a).
  29. Rim, round-bodied jar with hooked rim, fine hard grey ware (S.B., Ext., 1), another with rim more rounded (S.B., 3a).
  30. Rim of beaker with curled-out lip, fine grey ware with pinkish core (E. Ext., 1).
  31. Neck of jug in hard grey ware, overfired so that the body is warped and blistered. This form with "double rim" and lightly tooled lines and matt bands on the globular body is a common local type (Cella, 2), body shards (E. Ext., 2).
  32. Neck of flagon in softer reddish ware with grey core, surfaces grey. Horizontal bead below rim giving "double rim" effect. Faint tooled lines on neck (S.B., Ext., 2).
  33. Rim of flagon or jar in grey ware. The grooved "double rim" is a characteristic local type, for which see *Pagans Hill*, p. 38 (S. Ann., 2a); other examples include six (S.B., Ext., 1 and 2), and two (E. Ext., 2).
  34. Storage jar rim of pale buff ware with orange core, porous texture, only one other example of this ware from the site (Ves., 2b and 2c).
  35. Handle, with hole partly countersunk, in grey ware with sand-grade grit, mostly quartz (Amb., 3).
  36. Rim of storage jar, in hard grey ware, rim formed by bending over the clay, line of horseshoe-shaped impressions on the inside (S. Ann., 2c).
  37. Rim of large storage jar in hard reddish brown ware with grey core, containing some angular stone grit, surfaces grey-brown (E. Ext., 2).
  38. Shard from shoulder of storage jar in hard grey ware, decorated with thumb impressions between horizontal grooves (S. Ann., 3).
- Among the pottery not illustrated are fragments of small sloping necked beakers in thin buff ware, some with traces of colour coating, of the same type as *Lydney*, *Fig. 27*, nos. 60-1.
- There were also two to three shards of white ware jug with rilled surface (E. Ext., 2).

#### 8(d). SMALL OBJECTS OF METAL, BONE AND STONE ETC.

##### BRONZE (*Fig. 53*)

1. Leaf-shaped piece of thin bronze sheet, with six holes punched through the surface close to the edge, probably for sewing on to a head-dress or garment used in connexion with the temple ritual. Analogous material from Wood Eaton and other temple sites has been discussed by Joan Kirk (Kirk, 1949, pp. 35-6) (S.B., 3a), found in black sand of the soak-pit extending under the base of the wall.
2. Bronze spoon with oval bowl. Found in two pieces (E. Ext., 2 and 3).
3. Tube made of bronze sheet rolled round, 0.07 in. diameter, marked with transverse grooves 0.1 in. apart. Several other pieces were also found (S.B., Ext., 2 and 3). These might perhaps have been used as parts of a fringe on a ritual garment, a thread being taken through the tube.

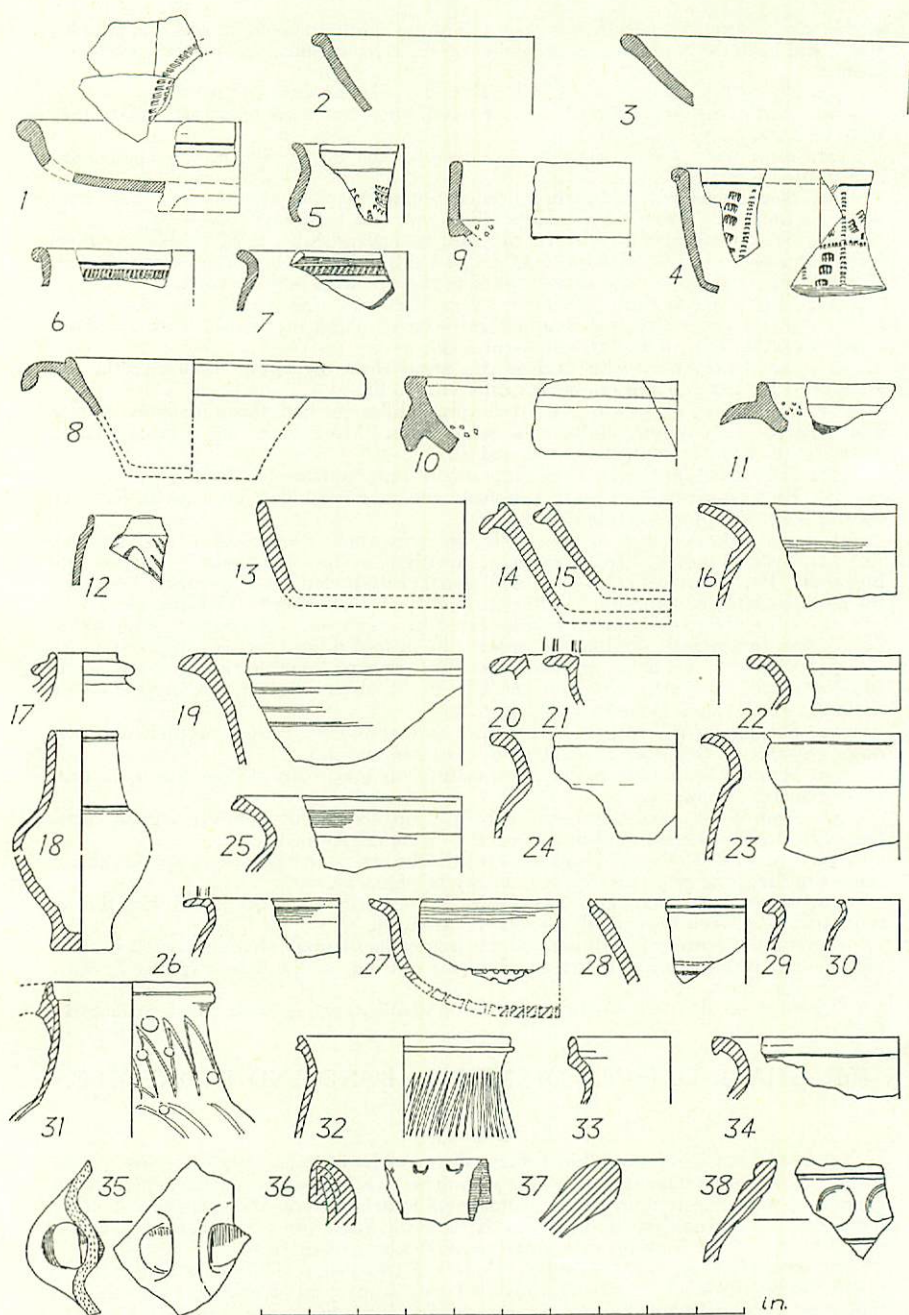


Fig. 52.—Brean Down Roman temple: coarse pottery.  
One-quarter natural size.

for an ornamental use. Alternatively, they may have served as convenient multiple-units of the "Fallen Horsemen" copies although, unlike the engraved pieces noted by Wroth (1911, p. xviii), which seem to have been multiples of the small (7 to 9 mm.) *nummi* issued by Rome mint in the late imperial period (Carson, Hill and Kent, 1960, p. 43), foreshadowing the XL and XX *nummi* "autonomous bronze" and, further afield, the great Anastasian *folles* of 498, the Brean pieces bear no indication of their value. Possibly, too, they may have been weights. It would be well to reserve judgement on the problem which these coins pose.

#### THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE LIST, ETC.

1. According to the wishes of the excavator, the list is divided into the following parts and subdivisions:

- A. The Temple: (a) Cella  
(b) Vestibule  
(c) Ambulatory  
(d) North annexe  
(e) South annexe  
(f) South annexe (exterior)  
(g) Porch and east and north exterior.

B. The Southern Building.

The coins are additionally grouped according to the layers in which they were found, and are in chronological order within those layers. The layers are in descending order.

C. Unstratified.

D. Sondages (1959).

2. The following conventions are used:

- (a) Capital letters for coins of definite attribution, capital and small letters for copies.
- (b) Asterisks indicate "same type as preceding", etc.
- (c) A letter hyphenated to the mint-name indicates *officina*.
- (d) In the case of certain copies, the word *on:* indicates an overstrike upon the type further specified.
- (e) Superscript 1 or 2 for *Gloria Exercitus* coins indicates the number of standards.
- (f) The type of *Fel Temp Reparatio* meant is given in square brackets below the legend.

3. The following works of reference are used:

RIC: Mattingly and Sydenham (edd.), 1929-62, cited as a number to be looked up under the reign in question.

NC '56: Carson and Kent, 1956, cited as a number to be looked up in the list.

NC '57: Kent, 1958, cited similarly.

I, II: Carson, Hill and Kent, 1960, cited as I or II according to the Part specified, and a serial number to be looked up.

4. The following abbreviations, indicating the state of wear, are used (it has not been possible to extend this to all the copies):

uw: unworn; w: worn; m: much; s: slightly; v: very; def: defaced (physically).

E.g., vsw: very slightly worn.

## A. THE TEMPLE

PROVENANCE	No.	EMPEROR, ETC.	TYPE	DETAILS	DATE	CONDITION
CELLA						
Layer 1	1	Claudius I	Minerva SC	as, grade iii copy	c. 43-64	mw
	2	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copy, 12 mm.	c. 354-64	w
Layer 2 (9 coins)	3	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Trier-P; I, 51	330-5	w?
	4	MAGNENTIUS	FELICITAS REIPUBLICAE	Trier-P; II, 51	330-1	uw
	5	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copy, 15 mm.	c. 354-64	—
	6	*	* *	copy, 13 mm.	*	—
	7	*	* *	copy, 11½ mm.	*	—
	8	*	* *	copy, 8 mm.	*	—
	9	*	* *	copy, 7 mm.	*	—
	10	VALENTINIAN I	GLORIA ROMANORUM	Lyons-S; II, 275	364-7	sw
	11	GRATIAN	GLORIA NOVI SAECULI	Arles-I; II, 517	367-75	sw
Layer 2a (83 coins)	12	ANTONINUS PIUS	Annona SC	sest.; RIC 981	157-8	vmw
	13	CLAUDIUS II	CONSECRATIO [eagle]	ant.; RIC 266	270	w
	14	radiate	Virtus	copy, 19 mm.	c. 270+	w?
	15	*	[obv. brockage]	copy, 15 mm.	*	—
	16	CONSTANTINE I	PROVIDENTIAE AVGG	Trier-P; I, 38	324-30	uw
	17	Urbs Roma	Wolf and Twins	copy, 13½ mm.	c. 330-5	uw
	18	CONSTANTINE II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>2</sup>	Lyons; I, 181 ff.	330-5	vsw/sw
	19	Ho. of Constantine	Gloria Exercitus <sup>1</sup>	copy, 12 mm. (fr.)	c. 335-41	—
	20, 21	CONSTANTINE II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>1</sup>	Lyons-P; I, 240; Arles-P; I, 416	337-40	sw, sw?
	22	CONSTANS	* *	Trier-P; I, 133	337-41	vsw
	23	*	SECURITAS REIP	Rome-T; I, 588	*	mw
	24-6	HELENA	PAX PUBLICA	Trier-P; I, 112, 128, 112	337-41	w?, vsw, w
	27	THEODORA	PIETAS ROMANA	Trier-P; I, 129	*	vsw
	28	CONSTANTIUS II	VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN	Trier-S; I, 161	341-6	sw
	29, 30	CONSTANS	VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN	Trier-?, -P; I, 140, 160	341-6	w
	31, 32	*	* *	Trier-P, Lyons-S; I, 160, 260	*	w, sw
	33	Constans	* *	copy, "Trier", 13 mm.	*	vsw?
	34	CONSTANTIUS II	FEL TEMP REPARATIO [Emp. on horseback]	Rome-B; II, 589	346-50	sw
	35	CONSTANTIUS II	* *	Trier-S; II, 38	*	vsw
			[phoenix/orb]			


36	CONSTANS	*	*	Trier-?; II, 39	*	sw
37	*	[phoenix/pyre]		?-?	*	w
38	DECENTIUS	VICTORIAE DD NN AVG ET CAE		Lyons-P; II, 220	351-3	sw
39	Decentius	Two Victories		copy, 18 mm.	c. 351-3	sw
40	Magnentius	Victoriae Dd Nn Avg et Cac		copy, "Trier", 21 mm.	c. 351-3	w?
41	Magnentius	Two Victories		copy, 16 mm.	*	sw
42	Magnentius	Two Victories		copy, 10 mm.	c. 351-3	—
43-5	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"		copies; on: Gloria Exercitus <sup>1</sup> , Victoriae Dd Auggq Nn (2, 1 doubtful)	c. 354-64	—
46	*	*	*	copy	*	—
47	*	*	*	copy, 15 mm.	*	—
48-50	*	*	*	copies, 14 mm.	*	—
51	*	*	*	copy, 13½ mm.	*	—
52, 53	*	*	*	copies, 13 mm.	*	—
54-57	*	*	*	copies, 12 mm.	*	—
58	*	*	*	copy, 11½ mm.	*	—
59-64	*	*	*	copies, 11 mm.	*	—
65-70	*	*	*	copies, 10 mm.	*	—
71	*	*	*	copy, 9½ mm.	*	—
72-3	*	*	*	copies, 9 mm.	*	—
74	*	*	*	copy, 8½ mm.	*	—
75	*	*	*	copy, 7½ mm.	*	—
				Of lead		
76	*	*	*	cut-down AE 3	*	—
				orthodox, 7 mm.		
77	*	*	*	copy, 7 mm.	*	—
78	*	*	*	copy, 5 mm.	*	—
79	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman" [derivative]		copy, 5 mm.	c. 354-64	—
80	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman" [derivative]		minim, 6 mm.	c. 354-64	—
81, 82	*	*	*	minims, 5 and 4 mm.	*	—
83	*	[derivatives]		minim, 2½ mm.	*	—
84	VALENTINIAN I	GLORIA ROMANORUM		Aquileia-?; II, 965	364-7	sw
85	*	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE		Arles ?-?	364-75	w
86	VALENS	*	*	?-I	*	w
87	VALENTINIAN I	GLORIA ROMANORUM		Lyons-II; II, 311	367-75	w
88	*	*	*	Lyons-II; II, 354	*	sw
89	VALENS	*	*	Trier-S; II, 123	*	sw
90	*	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE		Arles-?; II, 501	*	sw

## A. THE TEMPLE—continued

PROVENANCE	NO.	EMPEROR, ETC.	TYPE	DETAILS	DATE	CONDITION
Layer 2a—continued						
	91-3	*	* * *	Trier-P ?; II, 110 ? Lyons-P; II, 332 Siscia-A; II, 1395	367-75	sw ? sw sw
	94	*	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE	Arles-P; II, 532	367-78	sw
Layer 2b						
(79 coins)	95	TETRICUS I	FIDES MILITUM	ant.; RIC 69 or 71	270-3	w
	96	Tetricus II	Spes Publica	ant., copy	*	w
	97	CONSTANTINE I	MARTI CONSERVATORI	London; NC '56, no. 129	313-7	w
	98	CONSTANTINE II	PROVIDENTIAE CAESS	Trier-S; I, 33	324-30	vsw
	99, 100	*	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>2</sup>	Trier-S, Lyons-P; I, 56, 181	330-5	sw
	101	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Rome-Q; I, 535	*	sw
	102	Urbs Roma	* *	copy, "Lyons", 15 mm.	*	sw ?
	103	CONSTANTINOPOLIS	Victory on prow	Lyons-P; I, 191	*	w
	104	Constantinopolis	* *	copy, "Lyons", 14 mm.	*	sw ?
	105	CONSTANTINE I	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>1</sup>	Arles-P; I, 398	335-7	vsw
	106	CONSTANTINE II	* *	Trier-P; I, 124	337-40	sw
	107	CONSTANS	* *	Lyons-P; I, 253a	337-41	w
	108-10	Ho. of Constantine	* *	copies, 14 (1) and 12 (2) mm.; one "Trier"	c. 335-41	—
	111, 112	HELENA	PAX PUBLICA	Trier-S, P; I, 104, 112	337-41	sw
	113	CONSTANTIUS II	VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN	Lyons-P; I, 256	341-6	sw
	114, 115	*	* *	?-?	*	w
	116, 117	CONSTANS	* *	Trier-P, S; I, 138	*	} vsw-w
	118, 119	*	* *	Trier-S; I, 140	*	
	120	*	* *	Trier-?; I, 148	*	
	121	*	* *	Trier-P; I, 155	*	
	122	*	* *	Trier-P; I, 163	*	
	123, 124	*	* *	Trier-?; —	*	
	125	*	* *	Arles-P; I, 454	*	
	126	*	FEL TEMP REPARATIO [phoenix/orb]	Trier-P; II, 39	346-50	uw
	127	MAGNENTIUS	VICTORIAE DD NN AVG	Amiens; II, 10	351-3	sw

	128, 129	Magnentius	Victoriae Dd Nn Avg et Cae	copies, 15 and 14 mm.	c. 351-3	w?
	130-2	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copies; on: Victoriae Dd Auggq Nn (2); copy? (1)	c. 354-64	—
	133	*	*	copy, 16 mm.	*	—
	134	*	*	copy, 15 mm.	*	—
	135	*	*	copy, 13 mm.	*	—
	136	*	*	12 mm. copy	*	—
	137	*	*	copy, 11½ mm.	*	—
	138-48	*	*	copies, 10 mm.	*	—
	149-52	*	*	copies, 9 mm.	*	—
	153-7	*	*	copies, 8 mm.	*	—
	158, 159	*	*	copies, 7 mm.	*	—
	160	*	*	copy, 6 mm. Cut down	*	—
	161	*	*	copy, 5 mm.	*	—
	162	*	*	copy, 4 mm.	*	—
	163-5	*	*	minims, 4 mm.	*	—
			[derivatives]			
	166, 167	*	*	minims, 3½ mm.	*	—
	168	*	*	minim, 3 mm.	*	—
	169-72	*	*	minims, 2½ mm.	*	—
	173	VALENS	GLORIA ROMANORUM	Arles-II; II, 480	364-7	vsw
VESTIBULE						
Layer 1	174	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Lyons-P; I, 190	330-5	vsw
Layer 2b	175	CONSTANS	VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN	Trier-P; I, 140	341-6	sw
Layer 2c (92 coins)	176	CRISPUS	BEAT TRANQLITAS	London; NC '56, no. 227	320-4	sw
	177	CONSTANTINE II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>2</sup>	Lyons-P; I, 187	330-5	vsw
	178	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Trier-P; I, 76	*	sw
	179	CONSTANTINOPOLIS	Victory on prow	Trier-S; I, 59	*	sw
	180	DELMATIUS	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>1</sup>	Arles-P; I, 402a	335-7	vsw
	181	CONSTANTIUS II	*	Trier-P; <del>•TRP</del> <sup>2#</sup> I, 126 var.	337-41	sw
	182-4	Ho. of Constantine	*	Copies, 14, 8 and 7 mm.	c. 335-41	—
	185-7	CONSTANS	VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN	Trier-P; I, 140; 149, 150	341-6	vsw-sw
	188	Magnentius	Two Victories	copy, "Lyons", 18 mm.	c. 351-3	vsw
	189	*	*	copy? quartered, 7½ mm.	351-3	—

## A. THE TEMPLE—continued

PROVENANCE	NO.	EMPEROR, ETC.	TYPE	DETAILS	DATE	CONDITION
Layer 2c—continued						
	190	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copy; on: Constantine II Gloria Exercitus <sup>2</sup>	c. 354-64	vsw ?
	191	*	* *	copy, 15 mm.	*	—
	192	*	* *	copy, 13 mm.	*	—
	193-6	*	* *	copies, 11 mm.	*	—
	197-200	*	* *	copies, 10 mm.	*	—
	201-204	*	* *	copies, 9 mm.	*	—
	205-6	*	* *	copy, 8 mm.	*	—
	207-10	*	* *	copies, 7 mm.	*	—
	211-216	*	* *	copies, 6 mm.	*	—
	217-23	*	* *	copies, 5 mm.	*	—
	224	*	* *	copy, 4½ mm.	*	—
	225-8	*	* *	copies, 4 mm.	*	—
	229, 230	*	* *	copies, 3½ mm.	*	—
	231-6	*	* *	copies, 3 mm.	*	—
	237	*	* *	minim, 5 mm.	*	—
			[derivatives]			
	238-43	*	* *	minims, 4 mm.	*	—
			[derivatives]			
	244-7	*	* *	minims, 3½ mm.	*	—
	248-61	*	* *	minims, 3 mm.	*	—
	262-5	*	* *	minims, 2½ mm.	*	—
	266-7	*	* *	minim, 2 mm.	*	—
Layer 2d	268	Constantinopolis	Gloria Exercitus <sup>1</sup>	copy, 8½ mm.	c. 335-41	—
Layer 3 (8 coins)	269	Ho. of Constantine	Gloria Exercitus <sup>2</sup>	copy, 12 mm.	c. 330-5	—
	270	CONSTANTINE II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>1</sup>	Trier-S; I, 93	335-7	vsw
	271	CONSTANTIUS II	* *	Lyons-S; I, 242	337-41	sw
	272	CONSTANS	FEL TEMP REPARATIO	Trier-S; 	346-50	vsw
			[phoenix/orb]	Not in II; since presented to the National Collection		
	273	Constans	Fel Temp Reparatio	copy, 5½ mm.	346-50	—
			[phoenix/orb]			
	274	*	* *	copy, 5 mm.	*	—

	275	*	*	*	copy, 4 mm.	*	—
	276	*	*	*	minim, 4½ mm.	*	—
			[derivative]				
Layer 5a	277	VICTORINUS	PROVIDENTIA AVG	ant.; RIC 61	268-70	w	
U.S.	278	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copy, 5 mm.	c. 354-64	—	
AMBULATORY							
Layer 2b	279	--]SAR[---, head laur. R.	[filed]	den.—core of plated; filed down on rev.	—	def.	
	280	radiate	Pietas (implements)	copy, 14 mm.	c. 270+	w	
	281	CRISPUS	VOT X CAESARUM NOSTRORUM	Lyons (·); NC '57, no. 319	320-4 vsw	vsw	
	282	CONSTANTIUS II	FEL TEMP REPARATIO [hut]	Trier-P; II, 30	346-50	sw	
	283	CONSTANS	* *	Trier-S; II, 37	*	w	
	284	Constantius	[phoenix/orb]				
	285	*	"Fallen Horseman"	copy, 9 mm.	c. 353-64	—	
	286	VALENS	* *	copy, 7 mm.	*	—	
			SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE	Lyons-P; II, 348	367-75	w	
Layer 2c	287	CONSTANTINE II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>2</sup>	Lyons-S; I, 187	330-5	w	
	288	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Trier-S; I, 85	*	vsw	
	289	CONSTANTINOPOLIS	Victory on prow	Trier-S; I, 66	330-5	sw	
	290	VALENTINIAN I	SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE	Rome-T ?; II, 708 ?	364-7 ?	w	
Layer 2d	291	GALLIENUS	VIRTUS AVG	ant., Rome; RIC 321	260-8	w	
	292	CONSTANTIUS II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>1</sup>	Trier-P; I, 94	335-7	uw	
Layer 3	293	radiate	Hilaritas ?	copy, 15 mm.	c. 270+	w	
	294-5	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Trier-S; I, 58	330-5	uw, vsw	
	296	Urbs Roma	* *	copy, 11 mm.	*	—	
	297	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copy, 11 mm.	c. 354-64	—	
Layer 4	298	CONSTANTINE II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>2</sup>	Trier-S; I, 63	330-5	sw	
	299	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Trier-P; I, 70	*	uw	
	300	*	Victory on prow	copy, 11 mm.	*	—	
U.S.	301	CONSTANS	* *	Trier-S; I, 127	337-41	sw	
NORTH ANNEXE							
Layer 2	302	CONSTANTINOPOLIS	Victory on prow	Trier-P; I, 66	330-5	uw	

### A. THE TEMPLE—*continued*

PROVENANCE	No.	EMPEROR, ETC.	TYPE	DETAILS	DATE	CONDITION
Layer 2c	303	JULIA MAMAEA	FECUND AUGUSTAE	den.; RIC 331 <i>Sev. Alex.</i>	226 ?-35	mw
	304	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copy, 15 mm.	c. 354-64	—
Layer 2	305	CONSTANTINE I	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>2</sup>	Trier-P; I, 54	330-5	vsw
	306	HELENA	PAX PUBLICA	Trier-P; I, 112	337-41	w
	307	THEODORA	PIETAS ROMANA	Trier ?; I, 113, 120 or 129	337-41	w
Exterior 2	308	CONSTANTIUS II	VOT XX MULT XXX	Nicomedia ?- ?; I, 1149, etc. ?	341-6	mw
Exterior 3	309	FAUSTINA II	VENERI GENETRICI	<i>sest.</i> , RIC 1386b Pii	145-6	vmw
PORCH AND EAST EXTERIOR						
Layer 1	310	Urbs Roma	Wolf and Twins	copy, 10 mm.	c. 330-5	—
	311	CONSTANS	VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN	Trier-S; I, 163	341-6	w
Layer 2-2b (16 coins)	312	CONSTANTINE I	BEATA TRANQUILLITAS	Trier-P; NC '57, no. 212 (ii)	320-4	vsw
	313	CONSTANTINE I	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>2</sup>	Lyons-P; I, 192	330-5	sw
	314-16	URBS ROMA	Wolf and Twins	Trier-S; I, 51, 70 Lyons-P; I, 195	*	vsw, w
	317	CONSTANTINE II	GLORIA EXERCITUS <sup>1</sup>	Lyons-?; I, 266 ?	335-7	sw
	318	Ho. of Constantine	Gloria Exercitus <sup>1</sup>	copy, 15 mm.	c. 335-41	—
	319	CONSTANS	VICTORIAE DD AVGGQ NN	Trier-P; I, 154	341-6	vsw
	320	CONSTANS	FEL TEMP REPARATIO [hut]	Rome-S; II, 604	346-50	sw
	321	MAGNENTIUS	VICTORIAE DD NN AVG ET CAE	Amiens; II, 13	351-3	vsw
	322	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copy, 14 mm.	c. 354-64	sw ?
	323	*	*	copy, 11 mm.	*	w ?
	324	VALENTINIAN I	GLORIA ROMANORUM	Arles-S; II, 510	367-75	w
	325	GRATIAN	GLORIA NOVI SAECULI	Arles-III; II, 523a	*	sw
Layer 2-2b	326	MAG. MAXIMUS	VICTORIA AVGG	Lyons-S; II, 386	383-7	sw
	327	ARCADIUS	VICTORIA AVGGG	Arles-P; II, 566/9	388-95	sw
Layer 2c	328	Constantius	"Fallen Horseman"	copy, 13 mm.	c. 354-64	—
Layer 3	329	*	*	copy, 10 mm.	*	—
	330	*	*	minim, 4 mm.	*	—

[derivative]

4. Fitting made of sheet bronze, bent round into horseshoe shape, with a hole through each end. Decorated on the outside with a thin raised rib between two grooves (S.B., Ext., 3).

5. Iron nail-head plated with bronze (S.B., Ext., 2).

6. Bronze bracelet broken type as *Lydney*, p. 82, *Fig. 17*, as found was twisted spirally to finger-ring size (S.B., Ext., 1).

*Not illustrated*

Finger ring, small fragment only (Ves., 3). Scraps of sheet bronze. Various provenances.

#### IRON

7. Stylus, with square shank (Ves., 2c).

8. L-shaped object, probably a door fastening. For parallels see Cleere, 1959, p. 59, *Fig. 4* (Ves., 2c).

9. Ring, probably square section before corrosion (S.B., Ext., 2).

10. Nail, round head, square section, Cleere type IIIa (S.B.), found wedged in between two stones of the offset course in the south-west corner of the building.

11. Nail, as Cleere type IIIId. About 50-60 nails of this type were found. The nails used for fastening the roofing slates were about 2-2½ in. long corresponding to Cleere's type IIIc. About 200 of these were found.

12. Nail with domed head and square shaft. About 7 nails of this type were found, of which 2 were found in the cella doorway, 1 just inside the vestibule doorway, 1 in the doorway from vestibule to south ambulatory and 1 in the doorway of the southern building. These nails were probably used decoratively on wooden doors (see Webster, 1959).

13. Iron object made of flat sheet, with round hole at one end and probably another at the broken end. Perhaps timber strapping (S.B., Ext., 3).

14. L-shaped iron object with punched hole in one corner. Perhaps a fastening as no. 8 (Ves., 2c).

15. Single-edged knife with curving back, badly rusted (S.B., 3a).

#### BONE

16. Gaming counter, bone disc with incised ring-and-dot ornament on the upper surface. Examples from the Llantwit Major villa (Nash Williams, 1953, p. 153 and *Plate XV*, no. 20) and Springhead, Temple, V (Penn, 1963, *Fig. 6*, no. 4) (N. Ann., U.S.).

17. Bone pin with rounded head, broken and apparently gnawed (S.B., 3a).

18. Bone pin with conical head and moulding below (Amb., 3).

19. Shale bead, cylindrical with grooves running round at intervals of about 0.1 in. (S.B., Ext., 3).

20. Shale spindle whorl (S.B., 3a).

21. Pottery spindle whorl, grey ware (S.B., Ext., 3—midden).

22. Broken end of whetstone, fine-grained grey sandstone (S.B., 3a).

*Not illustrated*

Fragment of Pennant Sandstone, possibly from a quern (N. Amb., 2b).

### 9. BUILDING MATERIALS

*Carboniferous Limestone.* Much of this was probably quarried on Brean Down. The old quarry marked on *Fig. 41* to the north-east of the temple was examined by means of a test cutting and shards of pottery of fourth-century type were found lying on the quarry floor, covered by 18 in. of grey sandy topsoil. What may be another Roman quarry was noted on the slope south-west of the temple. It seems likely that the outcrop was quarried wherever conveniently exposed.

*Dolomitic Conglomerate.* This is exposed along the sides of the Mendip Hills 2-3 miles to the east of the site.

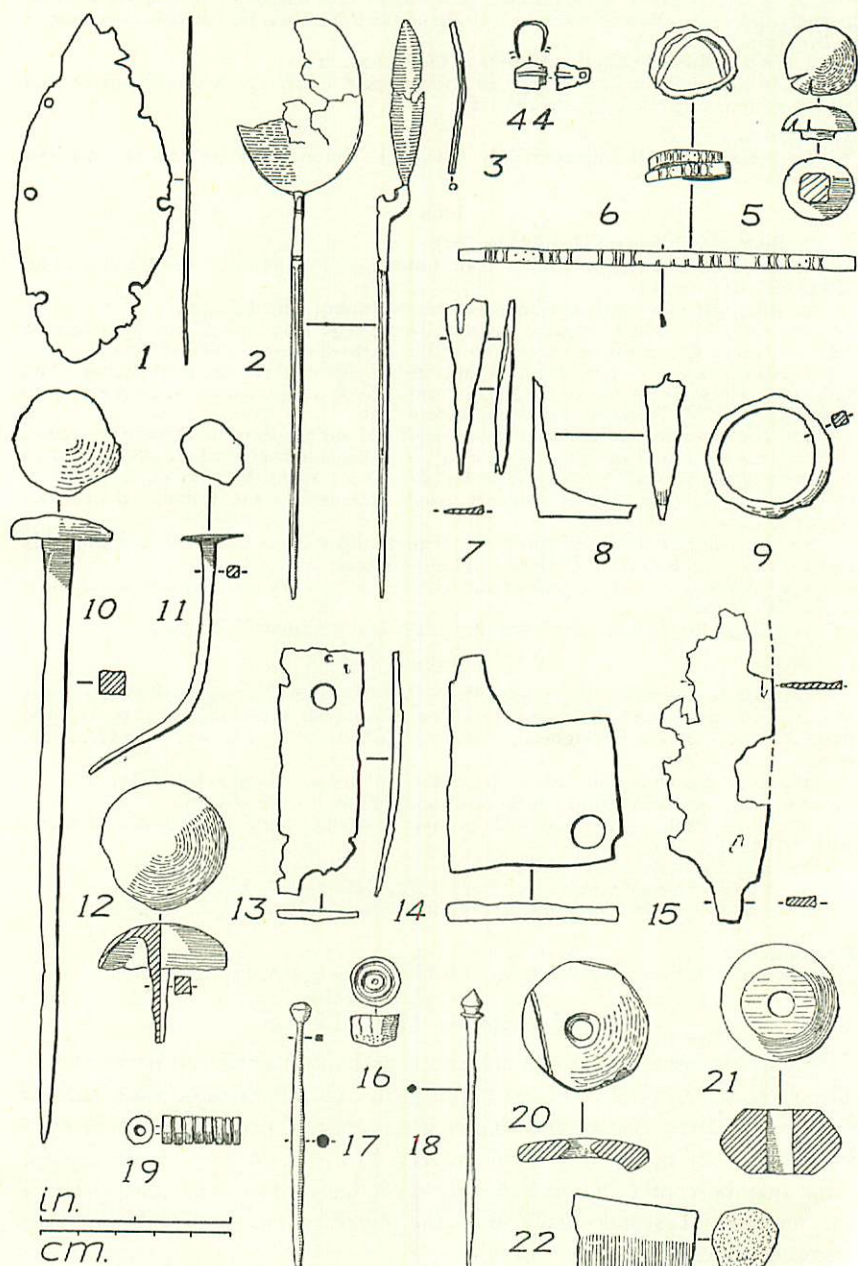


Fig. 53.—Brean Down Roman temple: small finds. One-half natural size, except no. 19, natural size.

*Yellow Triassic Breccia.* This occurs on the north side of Bleadon Hill about 2 miles to the east.

*Blue Lias Limestone.* This material, which was used for the quoins of the annexes, occurs in the Polden Hills to the south-east. For medieval use of this rock see Donovan and Reid (1963).

*Pennant Sandstone.* This rock, which was used for roofing slates, occurs in the Bristol coalfield, the nearest outcrops being in the Nailsea area, about 12 miles away. Professor Donovan comments: "This was commonly used for roofing Roman buildings in Somerset and there was therefore an industry for supplying 'slates' just as with Bath Stone."

*Bath Stone.* This oolitic limestone of Middle Jurassic age was used for stone details. The specimens from Brean come from the Bath area, but the Roman quarries cannot now be located because of very extensive later workings. The Bath Freestone may perhaps have been brought to Brean by water, first down the river Avon to its mouth and then down the Bristol Channel to the mouth of the river Axe. The various types of detail, ridge coping, voussoirs, finials and mouldings as found in the area seem so standardized that it is likely that they were mass-produced at the quarries.

#### BATH STONE DETAILS

(Fig. 54)

1. Fragment of capital of Tuscan type, the diameter of the top of the capital about 16 in. (U.S., but probably Ves. or E. Ext.); presumably derived from the porch.

2. Moulded block, broken, now 13 in. long in the face. The bedding of the stone is horizontal. The upper surface is dressed plain, perhaps sawn, one of the sides is dressed plain, the other broken, and the back is broken and shows signs of subsequent bruising. The flat, rebated face is dressed and partly covered with red plaster and the moulded lower surface, also dressed, shows traces of what may be the white base for plaster rendering (N. Ann., 2b) (Plan, Fig. 4). A similar moulding was used on the cornice of the podium of the mausoleum, or temple, of fourth-century date at Nettleton-on-the-Fosse (seen by courtesy of the Camerton Excavation Club), so that our fragment may also be derived from a cornice, as the position of the rendering might suggest. The Bath Stone mouldings in the collections of the Roman Baths Museum in Bath, probably mostly of earlier date, do not include any parallel.

3. Moulded fragment (Por., 2c).

4. Corbel, 3.1 in. wide, the back broken, bedding of the stone parallel to the long sides (Ves., 2b). A corbel of similar profile, 1 ft. 2 in. long, is figured by Middleton (1890, p. 656, Plate 28) in his report on the Spoonley Wood villa. He also figures mouldings generally similar to those from Brean.

5. Moulded fragment (Cella, 2, west side of south-east robbing pit), marked on section 1.

6. Moulded fragment, 2.4 in. wide (Cella, eastern half just north of section 1). Some of these smaller moulding fragments are presumably from string courses.

7. Moulded block, 5.1 in. wide in the face, both sides being broken. The lower side is tooled and mortared, the upper side is weathered. The block shows part of a rectangular dowel hole, presumably for pegging timber work to the upper surface. The bedding of the stone is vertical, perpendicular to the length of the block (Cella, 2, N.E. part), plotted on Plan, Plate 1.

8. Corner of tabular block, both sides broken, now 5 in. by 4 in. The longer side has a shallow rebate along one edge and there are traces of red plaster facing on this surface. These features correspond to those on the large moulded block, no. 2. Presumably this moulding was used in connexion with a door or window opening, or in the structure of the porch (Por., 2b).

9. Weathered block, the lobed collar moulding and part of the shaft of a pinnacle or roof finial (U.S., but probably Ves., 2b, north part).

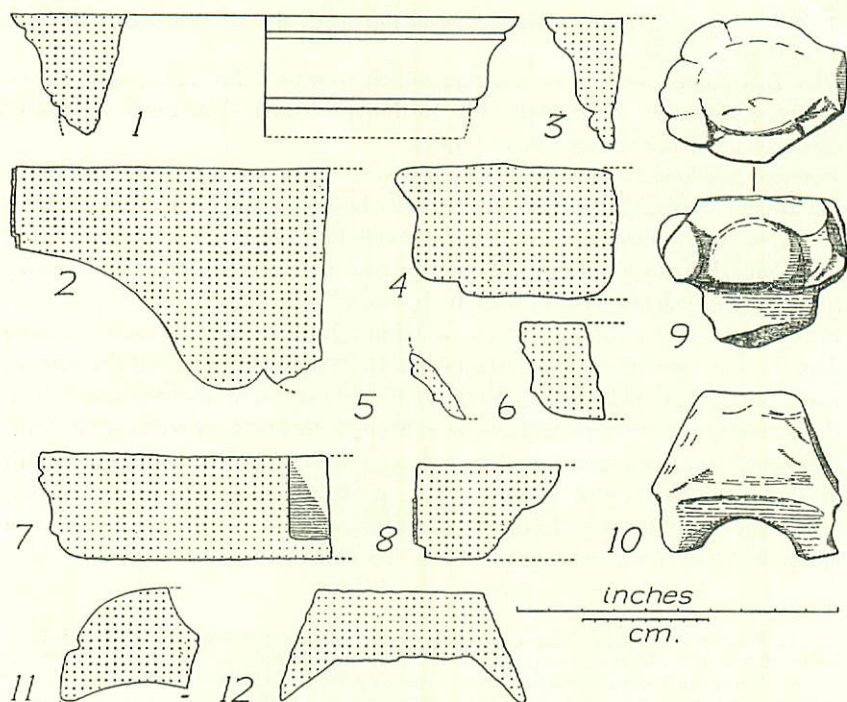


Fig. 54.—Brean Down Roman temple: Bath Stone details.  
One-sixth natural size.

10. Base of finial of same type, 5 in. square, the underside hollowed out to fit onto the ridge or apex. Bedding vertical, weathered, no worked surfaces left (N. Amb., 2b). Finials of this type have been found in association with Roman buildings in the Bristol area and an example was found at Silchester (Fox, 1892, *Plate 24, Fig. 8*).

11. Corner of column base pedestal (?), 8.8 in. wide along one face, 6.5 in. along the other, with grooved moulding, bedding is horizontal. The old break on the back shows signs that the block has been in a fire. Two fragments (Por., 2).

12. Section through piece of ridge coping. The sections of the various fragments found varied to some extent, but all agree in showing fresh tooling of the underside, while the upper surface is weathered. Mortar was present on some. The bedding was normally vertical, parallel to the length. No complete pieces were found. The longest piece was 15 in. long. One piece showed a tooled end sloping at about 20°. The aggregate length of coping found was about 11 ft.

#### Not illustrated

Voussoirs, about 50 including fragments. On most the bedding was parallel to the long sides, that is radial to the centre of the arch. Dimensions have been noted in the description of the arch fragment from the cella. Some loose voussoirs were mortared on what was presumably the soffit. Voussoirs which had been burnt are noted in the description. Probably this burning was due to fires lit at the time of demolition and is not evidence for the destruction of the temple by fire. The voussoirs of Trias Breccia were similar in type.

Corbel, a possible fragment (Ves. 2c).

Plain moulded blocks, include one 15.25 in. long, 12.25 in. wide and 7 in. thick (perpendicular to the bedding), found lying on the floor of the southern building (see section 6), and another found lying on top of the first, originally over 10 in. long, 7.25 in. wide and 7 in. thick, the bedding of the stone as the first.

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