

Pont Arc

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PONTEFRACT
& DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NEW SERIES, NUMBER 42.

SPRING 2003

'NEW' ROMAN MILESTONE FIND

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*Right: Members of the excavation team pose with the milestone. Behind is the site of the dig, directed by Dan Ferguson (in hat and dark glasses, second row). The stone was discovered close to this spot, and rescued by farmer Peter Thorpe to whom the Society owes thanks, both for preserving the relic, and for allowing our continued investigation. See story below.
Photo: Roy Donaldson.*



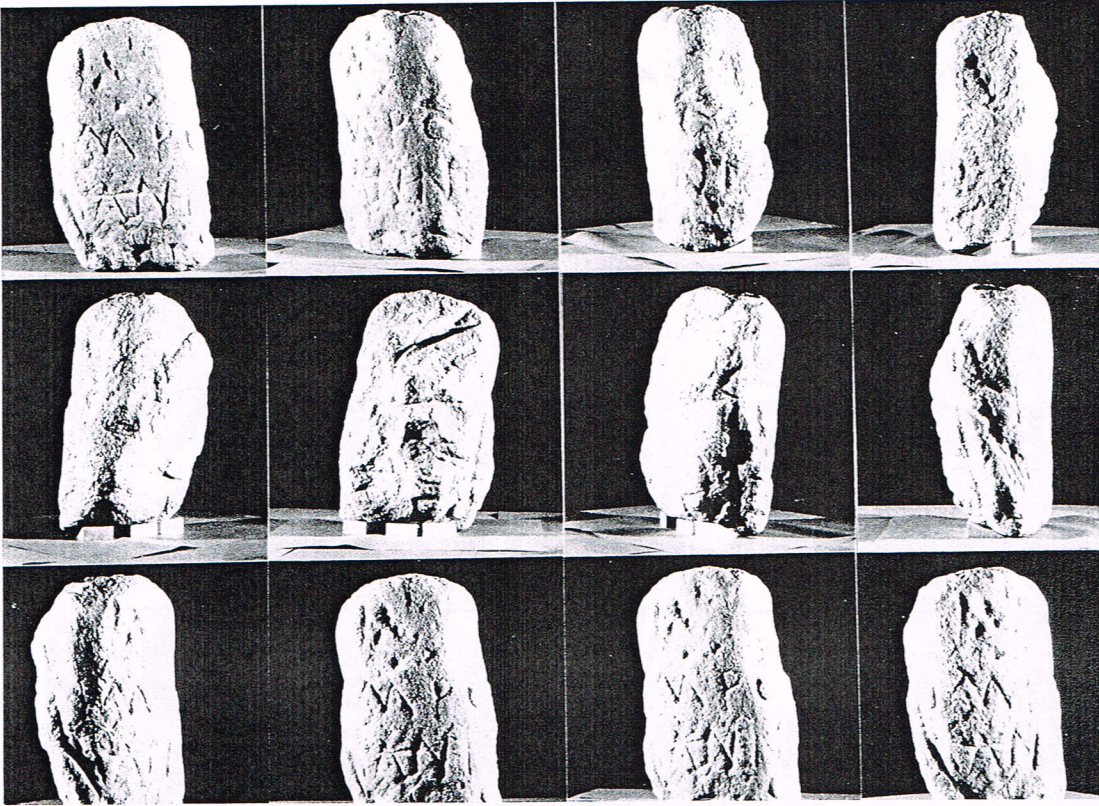
Roman milestones are much rarer than coin hoards. At the last count there were just 116 known from Britain. Originally, they appear to have been placed at intervals of one Roman mile (1620 yards) or one thousand paces, the pace being a **double** step. Usually cylindrical or semi-cylindrical in shape they can be as long as two and a half metres, with much of this length being buried in the ground.

The chief part of the inscription consisted of the abbreviated name and titles of the current Emperor,

whilst the distance to the nearest main centre, in the form MP (millia passuum) E (in this example Eboracvm) XXVI (26 or whatever) is often absent in surviving examples. It may have been painted on *in situ*, and subsequently abraded off.

Unfortunately, the size and shape of milestones has led to their re-use as gateposts, and even lawn-rollers! The most famous one, on the Stanegate at Vindolanda, is quite smooth and certainly still *in situ*.

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The composite picture of the stone showing all twelve photographs, arranged as the stone was spun clockwise. Phot: E.Houlder LRPS.

No trace of inscription is visible, though I would like to see peripheral-lighting techniques tried on it just to confirm this. It is possible that generations of cattle rubbing against it could have worn off a carved inscription, but highly unlikely taking the height of cattle into account.

Another stone which I have known for forty years is now in store in Leeds. It was found in Castleford (LAGENTIVM) by Professor Haverfield himself and offered to the town - which refused it! He then gave it to Leeds. When Castleford began to take an interest in its past, Leeds loaned it back to them but eventually reclaimed it in the early 1960s. The story of how Castleford tried to hang on to this relic, even going to the lengths of concreting it down, is worthy of an Ealing Comedy, but not relevant in this context. The stone had been used twice, the first inscription being buried when the stone was reversed and re-carved to commemorate a succeeding Emperor.

In June 2002 I was with two other members, David Hedges and Dan Ferguson, discussing the forthcoming Roman Road dig with farmer Peter Thorpe. Arrangements made, Peter asked us if we would like to see the 'carved stone' recovered from the same field. We followed his pickup to the farmhouse,

walked behind him to his garden, and there on the dwarf-wall, sidelit by the evening sun, was a stone about half a metre long. The raking light picked out the letters MPC quite clearly.

This obviously was another Roman milestone. The first priority was to obtain some photographs in raking light to elucidate the full inscription and to send to various experts.

Subsequent processing showed some of the inscription, but also demonstrated that we had missed some because the

letters went around the corner of the roughly oval-section column. However, a print was dispatched to Basil Noble of Darlington, an expert who forwarded it to Professor Birley. He suggested that as the letters AN were visible the stone may have been that of one of the Constantines.

Clearly, more precise photography was called for, preferably with a rotating peripheral camera and using even more oblique lighting. Peter very trustingly loaned the stone to me for a week. As it could not be lifted by fewer than two strong men it was quite safe in the boot of my car, though I dreaded having to change a wheel during the week that it was there.

In the meantime, Ron had kindly offered me the use of his rotating sculpture-stand. In the absence of a peripheral camera we could spin the stone and photograph it in fifteen degree segments.

It took three of us to lift the stone and centre it on the sculpture stand; two of us then held it upright whilst David forced wooden wedges beneath until it stood unsupported. I then set up two studio flash-heads, one at each side and aligned to face each other across the surface of the stone, which faced the camera. The base of the stand was covered with black

paper and a deep brown background cloth was hung behind; so far behind that it would not receive any light, effectively giving a black background. Twelve exposures were made, rotating the stone approximately (we had no means of measuring this) fifteen degrees between each shot.

In the meantime, one of the original prints had been seen by Guy de la Bédoyère (a member of the *Time Team*) who suggested that Dr R Tomlin of Wolfson College, Oxford be consulted. Dr Tomlin positively identified a double N on the second line, which is part of ANNIUS, so the Emperor Marcus Annus Florianus was our man. Conveniently for us (but not him) he only reigned for a couple of months in 276 AD.

Shortly after receiving Dr Tomlin's letter, I received the new prints from Courtwood Film Services of Truro, who specialise in archaeological work for units and others. The results were better than we expected, and revealed the full surviving inscription as:

IMP C
?ANNI

The broken-off letters of the third line may be seen to be OFLO, enabling a complete restitution of the inscription as:

IMP C
MANNI
OFLO
RIANO
PF AVG
INV MP
E XXVI

which may be read as: *Imperator Caesar, Marcus Annus Florianus, Pius Felix, Augustus Victorious, Miles to York 26.*

Ironically, another surviving milestone from Castleford also given away, this time to York, is also of Florianus.

All this time the actual dig, directed by Dan Ferguson on a spot selected after a resistivity survey by David Hedges was proceeding. It revealed a roadside ditch, the ploughed-out remnants of the agger, but no missing fragment of milestone.

Peter and Gitte Thorpe had remained fascinated spectators to all this, and eventually decided to place the stone on permanent loan, in Pontefract Museum.

We arranged a formal handing-over ceremony on site, and informed the regional media. The immediate result was a visit from Yorkshire Television's *Calendar*, and a news item which was shown four times during Wednesday 17th July. Both Peter and the writer were featured with the stone, and Peter's dog also appeared. The Pontefract & Castleford Express printed a feature article which resulted in many people visiting the museum to see the now famous stone on temporary display in the entrance hall, whilst awaiting the construction of a proper stand.

All the publicity generated more interest, and Peter, Gitte, and Ross featured with the stone in *Farmers' Weekly* at the end of August. More recently, the story of the discovery and identification illustrated in colour appeared in *Current Archaeology* Number 182.

A report has already appeared in *Forum*, newsletter of CBA Yorkshire, whilst publication in *Roman Inscriptions in Britain* and *Britannia* is scheduled.

THE CASTLEFORD MILESTONES

Roman milestones are in the news. As the hunt for the missing bottom half of the Ackworth stone resumes, we felt it appropriate to tell the story of the other local milestones, in the hope that perhaps the lessons learned will prevent future losses of our cultural heritage.

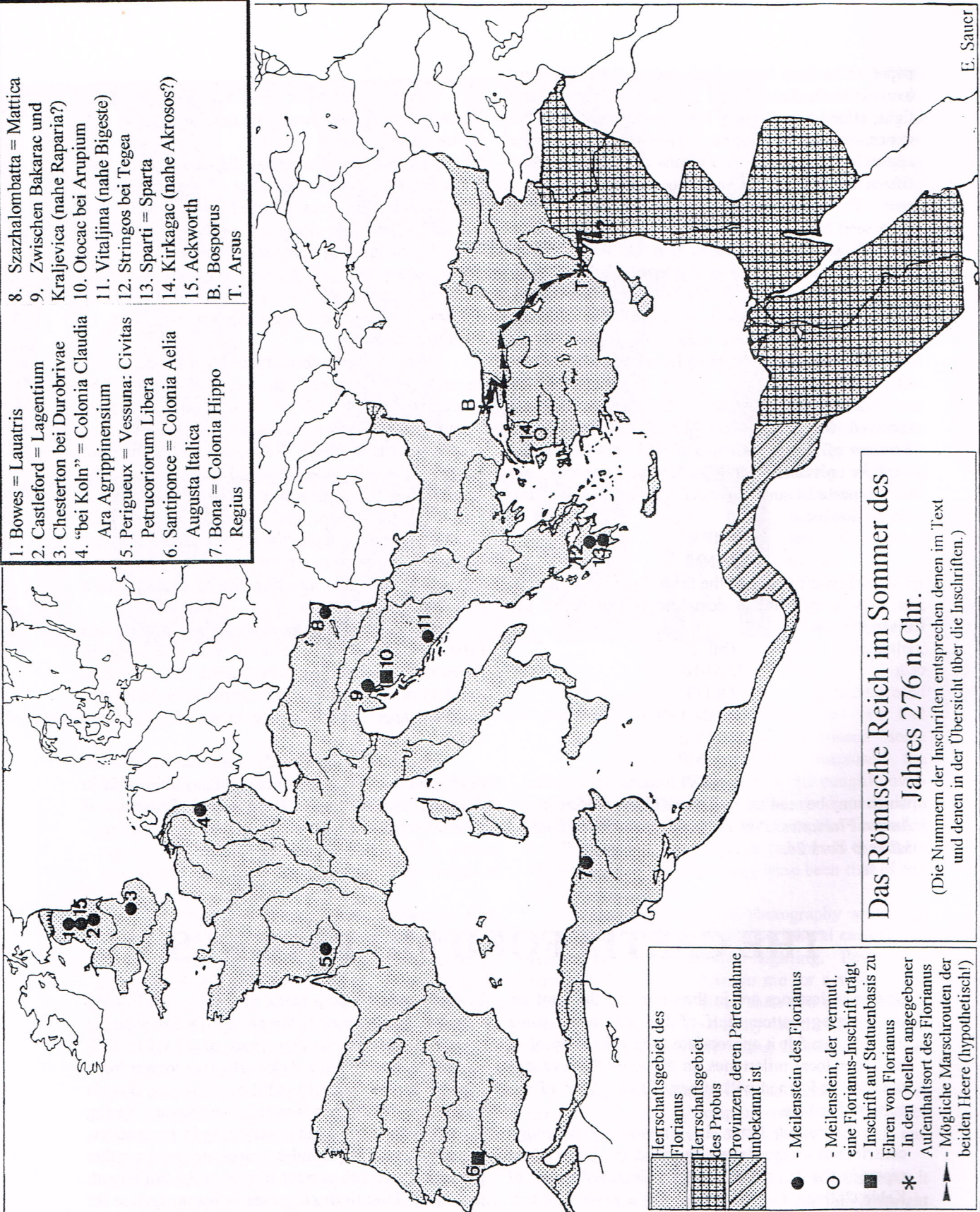
A recent letter in *Current Archaeology* contributed to the debate inspired by our original report in *CA* 182. The writer, Dr Eberhard Sauer, of Keble College, Oxford, referred to a paper of his in *Historia* 47.2, 1998, in which he analysed all the FLORIANUS inscription then known. There were three in Britain, all milestones, from Stainmoor, Cambridge and Castleford. Dr Sauer states categorically that these stones (and the Ackworth one) as well as those erected by all the 'soldier emperors' ie those between 235 and 285, were set up

by local officials as a mark of loyalty, confirming what we already knew in this regard. Dr Sauer kindly amended his distribution map of FLORIANUS inscriptions to include Ackworth and forwarded a copy with permission to publish, which we include here; note that he has inserted 'our' stone. Seeing the complete pattern puts everything in perspective, and reminds us, if reminder is needed, that the rather parochial approach current locally in the Nineteenth and early Twentieth centuries is inappropriate for Romano-British research.

The fact is that the three previously known milestones, all from Castleford, all date from the 'soldier emperor' period, and one of them is yet another of FLORIANUS.

The first to come to light (2273 in *Roman*

(Continued on page 5)



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Bowes = Lauatris | 8. Szazhalombatta = Mattica |
| 2. Castleford = Lagentium | 9. Zwischen Bakarac und Kraljevica (nahe Raparia?) |
| 3. Chesterton bei Durobrivae | 10. Otocac bei Arupium |
| 4. "bei Köln" = Colonia Claudia Ara Agrippinensium | 11. Vitaljina (nahe Bigeste) |
| 5. Perigueux = Vessuna: Civitas Petrucoriorum Libera | 12. Stringos bei Tegea |
| 6. Santiponce = Colonia Aelia Augusta Italica | 13. Sparti = Sparta |
| 7. Bona = Colonia Hippo Regius | 14. Kirkagac (nahe Akrosos?) |
| | 15. Ackworth |
| | B. Bosporus |
| | T. Arsus |



Fig.1. The first, double milestone found in Castleford, photographed in Castleford Library about 1964. Photo: E Houlder LRPS.

The upper inscription reads:

IMPC GMQ ,DECIO,PF AVG,FG, QTRV C

which is: To the Imperator Caesar Gaius Messius Quintus Decius Augustus son of Pius and Gaius Messius Quintus Etruscus Caesar.

The lower one reads:

IMPP CCVIBIO GALLO ETG VOLUSIANO PF AVG EB MP XXII

Which is: To the Imperators the Caesars Vibius Trebonianus Gallus and Gaius Vibius Volusianus Augustus son of Pius, to Eboracum 22.

(Continued from page 3)

Inscriptions in Britain) was the double stone illustrated in figure one. It was first erected in 249-51 and is to DECIUS, and his son the Caesar Etruscus.

Both were killed in battle against the Goths and were succeeded by GALLUS and VOLUSIANUS 251-3.(RIB 2274) Luckily the stone had originally been made long enough to reverse and re-carve, but the luckless pair survived little longer than DECIUS,



Fig. 2.

Padgett's illustration of the Castleford FLORIANUS stone. The inscription actually read:

IMP CAES MAR ANNIO FLORIANO PF AVG

Which is: For Imperator Caesar Marcus Annio Florianus Pius Felix Augustus son of Pius.

being murdered by troops of a rival claimant to the purple.

This double stone was found a century ago by a local man digging near Beacroft Road. He was about to break it up into rubble when Professor Haverfield, doyen of Roman studies at the time happened to pass by, make an offer, and purchase it. Generously he offered it to Castleford which, to its eternal shame, refused! Unable to take it with him, he offered it to Leeds Philosophical Society, which accepted. Thus the stone ended up in Leeds Museum.

Within a couple of years, the Castleford FLORIANUS stone (RIB 2275) was found in remarkably similiar circumstances but along Carlton Street. This time it was rescued by Dr Jessop, who after a time gave it to Dr Ryder who displayed it in his garden in The Mount, Pontefract. It finally found refuge in the Yorkshire Museum, York, where Dan Ferguson saw it very recently. Perhaps unsurprisingly, local opinion believed the stone to belong to MARCUS AURELIUS, and a picture of it published by Lorenzo Padgett shows it thus! (figure

two) Indeed, Padgett's picture of the double milestone (figure three), is remarkably fanciful, bearing in mind the debased character of late Roman 'country' inscriptions. Unfortunately we are unable to show a photograph of the Castleford FLORIANUS stone as Dan found it in store, and was unable to picture the actual inscription.

Attitudes do change over time, so that by the 1950s Castleford folk were not only interested in their Roman relics, but eager to display them. Circumstances ruled that the only space available was a room in the public library, but here the double stone, on loan from Leeds, was set up. The writer well remembers taking

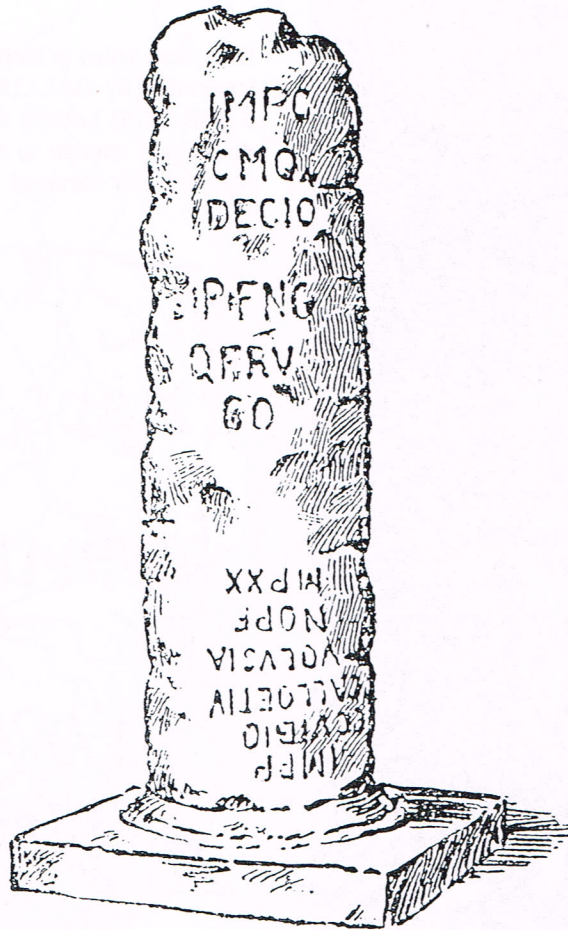


Fig. 3. Padgett's illustration of the first, double, milestone. Note how the artist has regularised the lettering and added a base that does not exist.

the picture (figure one) in that room shortly before it was returned to Leeds. He also remembers seeing finds from the Romano-British settlement and cemetery at Ferry Fryston, and the Roman pottery from the Crystal Bowl site, in the same room.

Today, Castleford still awaits a dedicated museum, but at least has the promise from both Leeds and York that when such a building is erected, either the milestones themselves, or exact replicas, will be returned.

EDITORIAL

As usual, the Editor has had problems seeking contributions for the newsletter. Luckily, he was able to adapt the articles on Roman milestones already published in national journals under his name. The Society's thanks go to all the other contributors of material in this issue

On the local scene, we have much exciting work in prospect. The surveys of Dandy Mill and Darrington Mill should soon be under way, and there is every likelihood that we will be digging another stretch of Roman Road in the Summer.

Time Team, our favourite television programme has contacted us recently. Their summer project is to ask viewers to open a metre-square test pit on their own land or with permission on someone else's. They will supply a pack to ensure that this is done correctly. Then it will be recorded to the best possible standards.

To ensure that everything is archaeologically correct, they have asked a number of our most

experienced members to sign up as observers, willing to check out these pits in various local areas. Any pits which are worthy, will feature on the programme and our members' task is to judge whether anything is actually worth air-time.

Sadly, some of our leading professional organisations in archaeology have come out against the idea. They feel that it will overload professionals in checking up on the pits. However, most people with at least ten years digging under their belts will be qualified for this, and do not need to consult professionals except in exceptional circumstances. To our mind, the enthusiasm engendered will surely outweigh any problems, whilst no more actual damage will be done than is created by gardening! It may even result in an increase in membership for societies such as ours. All in all, we approve.

Eric.

A PRESIDENT'S LADY

Those of us who recall the early days of the Society will remember Ken Wilson, our President during the early sixties, and his wife Peggy who taught many of us precision digging. The Roman and medieval sites at Drax, and our own St Richard's Friary responded to Peggy's keen eye for stratigraphy and her strict site discipline. We also appreciated her home-cooking in the famous caravan!

Sadly, Ken died some years ago, but Peggy continued to soldier on doing various voluntary tasks connected with heritage. When she became too old to dig she took up genealogy and did invaluable work on Alderney families. Now, at ninety, she is at last retiring from this self-imposed but vital work.

The local newspaper published this tribute to Peggy last year. We reproduce it here with thanks to the *Alderney Journal*. Regrettably, the photograph with the article was not suitable for reproduction, but Peggy's friends will be glad to hear that she hasn't changed at all since we last saw her, in the New Inn, in the mid 1960s:

PEGGY HANDS OVER

Peggy Wilson retired to Alderney with her husband Ken in 1967. Prior to this, they had been regular summer visitors to the island for several years. On arrival, she was almost immediately involved with the archaeological dig at the Iron Age site at Longis and began her long association with the Alderney Museum.

Peggy and Ken were appointed joint Directors of the Museum and helped the team of volunteers who worked to create the present museum from the old school building. She says it was a relief to be able to move out of the damp, often flooded rooms of the Island Hall basement where the Alderney Museum was initially housed. For fifteen years Peggy and Ken edited (and wrote for) the *Bulletin*, which was then the quarterly publication of The Alderney Society - quite a task as they had to type out the copy and then duplicate and staple the pages together.

In 1956 the State and Church Registers were returned to the island having been stored in Winchester during the War. Peggy started her work on the Alderney records in 1979 and found many of them in a poor state of preservation, both at the Church and the Greffe, with no back-up copies in case of flood or fire. In 1981 she gave up working at the Museum but agreed to continue dealing with the sprinkle of genealogical enquires addressed there, never expecting that the hobby of tracing island ancestors would take off in the way it has since.

Peggy has devoted countless hours to compiling family trees, and has recorded copies of all the existing registers dating from 1652 to the present day. Helped by the Guernsey Greffe, and then using money earned by research, she was able to have the original ledgers re-bound, photocopy volumes made and ring-bound - though these later had to be re-copied and stapled into volumes. Peggy was able to

persuade both Church and Greffe to invest in fireproof cabinets for storage. The Roman Catholic Church then allowed her to take copies from their registers, which were better kept. The Non Conformist Registers did not survive the last war.

Since then the photocopies have been available to anyone doing research, and helped by Eileen Mignot, they have compiled information on over 650 families. More than 100 trees have been compiled of the larger families - some sreading over nine sheets of A3 paper - and more than 200 shorter family trees. Peggy gets enquiries from all over the world from people wanting to research their family origins and every enquiry is dealt with meticulously and professionally. Alderney tourism has benefitted from this over the years, as enquirers decide to visit the island from which their forbears came and combine this with a visit to Peggy so that they can inspect the registers.

Many of the family trees contain hundreds of names - the largest one, the Le Cocq family, comprising something like one thousand names. Families that came here to build the forts and breakwater only have perhaps ten or twenty entries and their family records take the form of simple lists. Some common English and Scottish names appear and reappear at intervals over the years, the bearers not apparently related.

Peggy says that the bulk of accumulated correspondence had become a problem to house, and it had been found necessary to make a list of enquirers for each name and discard the often rambling letters and subsidiary 'trees' sent with enquiries. She says it would have been nice if these could have been verified and integrated with those compiled only from Alderney records. Occasionally people have offered to help, but Peggy stresses that unless someone has done similar work, it is not easy to cope with the old handwriting, especially if it is in Renaissance French or Church Latin.

Now Peggy feels it is time to retire and is handing over to Eileen Mignot, with whom she has worked for some years, and is happy in the knowledge that she leaves the research into future enquiries in very competent hands. Peggy has never made any charge over the years for the service she has provided and almost £2000 in donations have been passed on to mainly local charities. Eileen will also continue to contribute to worthy causes any donations she may receive from those she helps, and can be contacted at 8, St Martins.

We wish Peggy well in her retirement - though it sounds as if it could be a fairly busy one. In her 'spare time' Peggy is known to knit blankets for refugees and collects and refurbishes good used clothes for the same purpose to send to Southampton via the Red Cross. She is also planning one last visit next winter to her other beloved island - Malta.

PM

Ken was part of the Naval force which relieved Malta, and therefore a member of the George Cross Association. He and Peggy maintained a cottage on the island which they visited every winter. After Ken's death Peggy continued to spend winters there until the hazards of negotiating modern airports (thoughtless young people with skis and snowboards) became too difficult for her.

THE HUNDHILL ROMAN ROAD EXCAVATION

by Daniel Ferguson, Field Director.

In the summer of 2002 members of the Pontefract & District Archaeological Society were given the opportunity to examine the supposed route of the Roman Road, designated Margary 28b, on land south of Potwells Farm, Ackworth, near Pontefract, in the area where the milestone of the

Emperor Florianus had been found, through the good graces of the landowner Mr Peter Thorpe. To the south the Roman Road line is followed in large part by Sandy gate Lane and Hundhill Lane, then the A639 towards Barnsdale Bar, from

(Continued on page 8)



Members at work, looking South and West. Photo: D Ferguson.

where it is taken up by the A1, but from the top of Water Lane northwards its line is no longer employed as a roadway for the long stretch towards Castleford, but crosses open country and farmland.

This landscape was included formerly in a much larger Pontefract Park than exists today, through which the Roman Road was noted historically for its high 'agger' or bank, and named 'Roman Ridge' (as indeed it was towards Doncaster also). This ridge is no longer so evident, except at Barnsdale Bar, for it has been ploughed out along most of its length, but it did lead to its line being marked on maps, and to be used as a marker for parish and other boundaries.

At the site by Potwells no 'agger' is visible, but a broad terrace is evident on the line, along the flank of the hill at about 46 metres above Ordnance Datum. At the beginning of June 2002 we commenced our investigation on this terrace by conducting a Geophysical Survey over two plots aligned either side of an old field boundary, where the parish Boundary turned onto the Roman Road line, and where the milestone had been found, around National Grid reference point SE456 190.

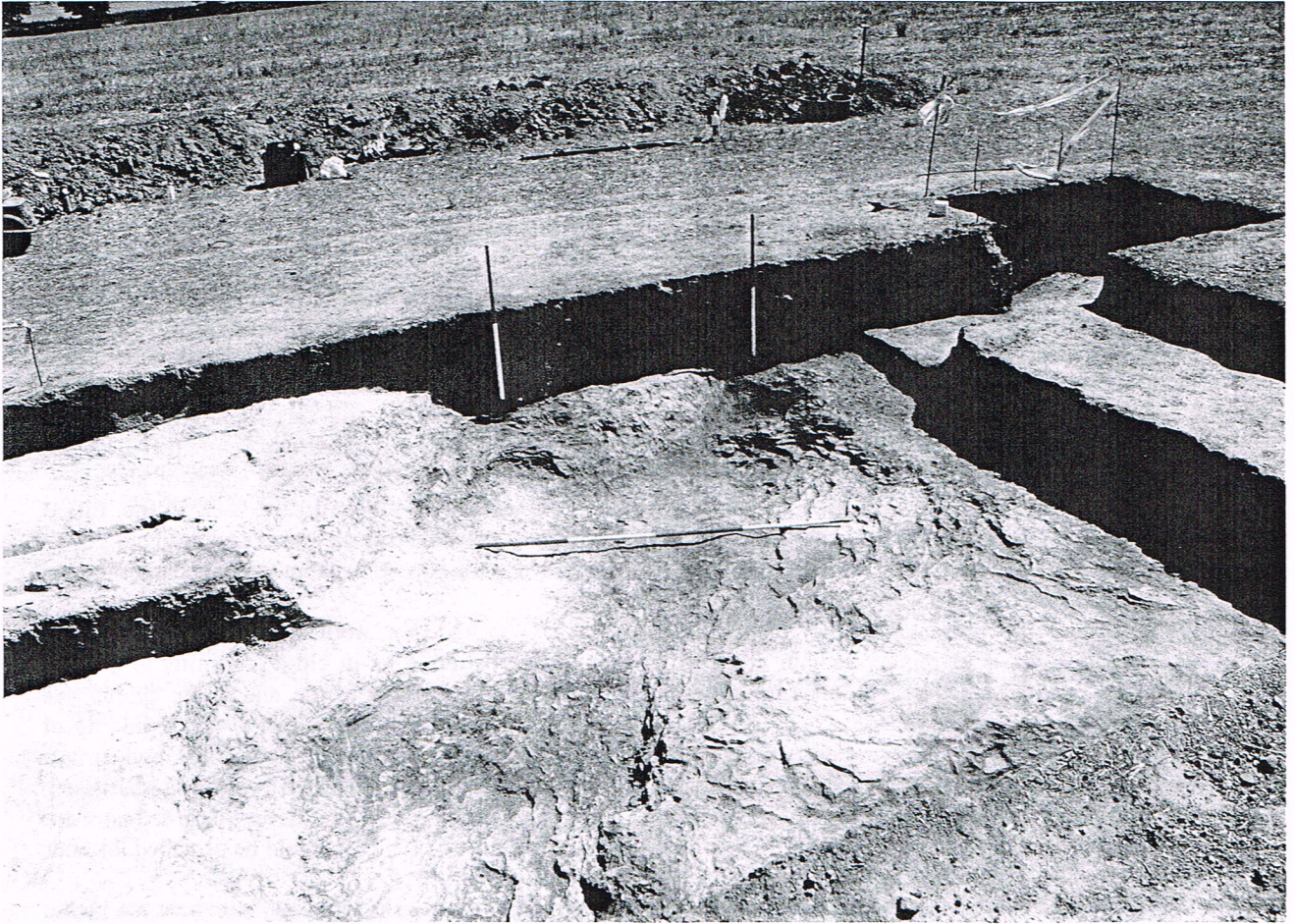
The results of the resistivity survey suggested

that the 'classic' elements of a Roman Road were present at the site, a broad positive anomaly with parallel strips of low or negative readings alongside, representing a wide stone roadway flanked by drainage ditches on either side.

What is more an obvious isolated peak of high readings, across the supposed road-side ditch on the southwestern, uphill, side, gave us hopes that we might find further pieces of the milestone here, and that this spot may have been its original 'locus', while a line of low to negative readings running across the road line seemed indicative of a culvert. Of the two Survey plots we decided to concentrate on that to the east of the old field boundary, the Field 1 Plot, as the results were better there, and as the second field surface was somewhat lower the archaeology was likely to be more fragmentary there.

We therefore opened up a trench within the field 1 Plot only. This was 20m by 5m, with a 2m x 2m extension over the area of the peak anomaly.

Upon excavation it was found that little remained of the former Roman works. What had seemed on the Survey a road surface was in fact only the base for the road-bed, created by cutting into the natural limestone of the hillside. There was



The rock-cut ditch looking South and West. Photo: D.Ferguson.

more evidence for the roadside ditches, especially that on the high side of the road. In fact this had been cut in part through the fill of an earlier large pit or quarry, which may have pre-dated the Roman work altogether, or may have been part of the initial preparation work by them, i.e. the terrace cutting. The former seems more likely as two thumbnail-sized flint blades were found in its bottom fill. The 'peak anomaly' was located at the edge of this pit, and represented a fragment of the natural rock left high at the pit cutting. There was no evidence for the milestone ever having stood here, nor were any further fragments of this found in the pit (so we cannot say that this had been dug to hold it either).

The supposed culvert turned out rather to be the remnant of a furrow, for it extended beyond the Road and its ditches on both sides, but it did serve to show how the Roman features had been destroyed by ploughing. In fact there

were faint traces of ridge and furrow all over the local fields, mostly in changes in vegetation cover and colour, and this had been more evident in the past. The spacing of this suggested a medieval date for its production, and might suggest that the road went out of use as a highway in or before that period.

Our work served to show just how much work the Romans had gone to in preparing the road-bed here, by creating a 10m plus broad terrace to take it, and how thoroughly the upper part of their work, the Road structure itself, had been destroyed by ploughing.

There was a suggestion of the period when this happened, and a hint of pre-Roman activity on the site.

This is a short popular-style report written especially for PontArc. The full, detailed report is in the Society Archives and may be consulted on request.

**THE PONTEFRACT YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS'
PAGES**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL POETRY DAY AT
FERRYBRIDGE,**

by Janet M^cNaught

This project was an idea which without the help of DIVA, would have remained an idea. To bring poetry and archaeology together took a great deal of forward planning by West Yorkshire Archaeology Services, the Highways Department, Ian M^cMillan and the Pontefract Young Archaeologists.

In advance of a new section of Motorway, which will link the M62 to the diverted A1, Archaeological Services (WYAS) is undertaking a large archaeological survey and dig in an area to the south west of the present day Ferrybridge Power station. The area is extremely rich in archaeology stretching back over the last five thousand years. The site map reference is SE 474243.

To enter the site, each and every visitor has to wear a flash jacket and hard hat (courtesy of the Highways Agency) and be accompanied by a member of Archaeology Services (WYAS). In this instance, Paul Wheelhouse, the Project Director was our guide.

On 31st July 2002 we congregated at Ferrybridge Junior School awaiting our guide. Ian had arrived well in advance of our departure time and proceeded to hand out postcards to everyone. Appropriately dressed, we approached the site in an orderly fashion along Stranglands Lane. JCBs and dumper trucks were brought to a standstill at the wave of a hat, to allow us to safely traverse the site into the compound.

Once safely inside, Paul Wheelhouse introduced himself to the assembled group, handed out leaflets about the ongoing work and advised us of the care to be taken around the open trenches and post holes as well as the necessity for everyone to never assume that a machine driver had seen us and would stop just because we were there.

Out on site, the first stop was the huge Iron Age enclosure, where by getting everyone to observe the rises and falls in the surrounding topography we could begin to comprehend the vast prehistoric landscape within which we were now standing. The ring ditch was clearly visible, the geology being magnesian limestone, and the fill shattered red sandstone. Within the ring ditch the Bronze Age people had raised a barrow/burial mound, thus making this a ritual site of some significance within the area.

A site chosen for its location is more often than

not re-used by successive populations, and this was true of Ferrybridge. Roman enclosures, buildings and a corn drier have all been excavated on this site. The names of farmers and archaeologists of past generations were discussed and remembered as we took up positions as posts on the edges of postholes, and brought the built landscape back to life. Filled with new knowledge, new words and ready to go we returned to the education cabin to start composing our poetry.

We had not noticed the noise from the motorway which runs in close proximity to the site until Ian pointed it out to use, and so our chorus was begun. From there it was a start at the beginning of time for Ferrybridge, and gathering momentum. Words, thoughts and ideas were tossed in, discussed, reviewed, turned round, but never discarded until we were certain whether they could be moulded into our rhythm or not.

Eight verses, and several hours later, we had to reluctantly say goodbye to Ian in the school car park where we had begun.

We had gained a great deal of knowledge, had a lot of fun, become word-smiths, and produced a poem, whilst Ian M^cMillan had visited his first ever archaeological site.

This last verse I penned, but this will be ever-changing as the PYACS are producing their own last verses, which will be judged for our annual Silver Trowel award, where funny, sad, serious or straight-forward poetry or prose will be accepted.

FERRYBRIDGE HENGE

Waggons going past on the M62

Wagons going past on the M62

What!

Waggons going past on the M62

Wagons going past on the M62

Bronze Age people gathering on a hill,

Cough!

Bronze Age people all feeling ill,

What a place for a fine burial,

If the Romans hadn't come we be gathering still.

Chorus

AWOL from his church,
Supposed to be at a funeral,
He left them in the lurch.

Chorus

Canon Greenwell dug up bones,
Under the power station,
He wasn't Indiana Jones,
Not even a relation.

Chorus

Tony Pacitto brought his van,
to take away the spoils,
He was really an ice cream man,
Who drove down one of the (h)oyles.

Chorus

Tony Pacitto found a house,
Made for drying corn it,
He also found a sozzled mouse,
Who'd had six pints that morning.

Chorus

He deduced this must be,
A Roman brewing place,
And promptly named it Tetley,
A smile upon his face.

Chorus

Canon Greenwell's ghost now did appear,
Arising from out the dust,
He said, "I'll have a pint of beer,"
"Oh, all right, if you must."

Chorus

So we have solved the mystery,
That has baffled archaeology,
As diggers dig and wagons roar,
we keenly wait to learn some more.

Chorus

*By Ian M Millan & Pontefract Young Archaeologists
on the site of Ferrybridge Henge, 31st July 2002.*

NOTES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

One of the problems inherent in editing a newsletter like ours is the variations in style and character of the contributions received from members. This brief protocol is intended to assist members as they write articles, news items, etc. for future publication.

HOUSE STYLE

Though part of the editor's job is to put items into house style, the work is considerably eased, and more newsletters actually published, if contributors try to adhere to the conventions accepted by that publication. Here I list our own conventions:

There should be one space after all Full Stops. This is modern typing convention, and avoids unsightly gaps at the end of lines.

All paragraphs except the first should begin with one tab indent, as decided by your own software.

There should be no blank line between paragraphs.

Reserve italics for author's name and for book, film, and other titles in the text. Reserve bold for sub-headings as above.

Your name, as author, should appear, centred, beneath the title in italics.

PHOTOGRAPHS

We reproduce from prints, maximum size 7 1/2" x 5" on glossy paper. The Editor firmly believes that one picture equals a thousand words, so please try to include some with contributions.

Pictures of archaeological site features should adhere to the proper conventions, ie scales must be parallel to at least one frame-edge, horizon level, and area in focus correctly calculated for the subject. Remember that this is the P&DAS's best publicity vehicle, and we must keep attracting new members and impressing general readers.

DRAWINGS

Line drawings or half-tone are suitable, but

ensure that they are already reduced to publication size, and that the lines stand out.

MAPS ETC.

Keep maps simple, ie do not overload them with information. Remember a scale and north-point.

IMPORTANT GENERAL NOTE

Avoid infringing copyright on any text or illustration.

SUBMISSION FORMAT

All items over three hundred words in length (other than Letters to the Editor and book reviews) **must be submitted on 3 1/2" disc, in .txt format.** This is accessed through the File - Save as option in MicroSoft Word. Please also submit a 'hard' or paper copy of the text to assist editing. We use **Times New Roman font in 10 point, single spaced.** If your copy is similarly formatted, considerable time is saved at the Editorial computer.

PONTEFRACT & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Application for membership/Renewal of membership (please delete accordingly)

Subscription rates (please circle) Student/OAP £3, Adult £4, Family £7.

NAME.....(Please print) ADDRESS.....

.....POSTCODE.....

TELEPHONE(including code).....

I would/would not (delete as applicable) like to be included on the fieldwork register.

Please forward with the appropriate remittance to the Treasurer, Mr RP Lockett, 77, Station Road, Low Ackworth, PONTEFRACT WF7 7HG. This form may be photocopied to avoid spoiling your copy of PontArc.

GALLERY



The picture chosen for this issue's spotlight is from our Chairman's photo archive. It shows the Society's dig on the Roman fort at Ilkley in the summer of 1965. The people shown are L to R: Tom Peacock, Chris Peacock (in bobble hat) Terry Carney, and Ken Wilson, then President and Site Director. The two people on the extreme right include Kevin Stubbs. In the background is the Manor House Museum whilst the doorway near the wheelbarrows was our shelter/tea-making facility. This dig was memorable because it marked the re-introduction of dried milk after the war. Up to this time we had used the real thing, with the consequent problems of storage and deterioration; ie it went sour!

EDITOR'S APOLOGY

A number of submitted items have had to be held in reserve until the discs on which they were sent can be converted into the version of MicroSoft Publisher which we use.

This Newsletter is published by THE PONTEFRACT & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, and Edited by Eric Houlder. Submissions should be sent to him at 31 Fairview, Carleton, PONTEFRACT, WF8 3NT, UK., enclosing a SAE if you wish your text, disc(s) and/or pictures to be returned. In the absence of a SAE it will be assumed that items may be disposed of. All items published are copyright the author, and may not be reproduced, (except for review, of course,) without permission of the Editor who will seek the author's permission. Opinions, letters and articles published do not necessarily represent the views of the P&DAS unless this is stated categorically.

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