

to previously recognised features in the vicinity thought to be military in character (Waddelove *et al* 1990)

David Thomas, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

#### References

Waddelove, E, Waddelove, A. C, and Jones, G D B, 1990  
The Roman Fort at Ruthin, Clwyd, *Britannia* 21, 299-305.

### FLINTSHIRE

#### BROUGHTON MILLS ROAD, Bretton, Clwyd (SJ 346/356)

Desk-based appraisal and watching brief work was carried out in advance of clay extraction on behalf of Broughton Mill Ltd near to the supposed line of the Chester to St Asaph Roman road. No trace of any archaeologically significant features were found.

Ian Rogers, Gifford and Partners (Gifford Project 6924)

#### KELSTERTON, Northop, Clwyd (SJ 277 707)

Evaluation by desk-based appraisal and geophysical survey and a watching brief were undertaken by Gifford on behalf of Clwyd County Council in advance of the construction of the new Dee Crossing during 1994-5. The geophysical survey was carried out by Stratascan. Only one main item of archaeological interest was noted during the desk-based appraisal, the possible presence of the Roman road from Chester to St Asaph, Margary's road number 67a (Margary 1973, 348-9). During the geophysical survey and watching brief no trace of the road was identified. It may be that the road extended beneath the present main road or it may have been entirely removed by ploughing. Margary does give an alternative, inland, route for the road via Hawarden and Halkyn which fits better with the arrangement of main routes elsewhere in Britain, which joins the lowest fording points of rivers but does not follow the coasts. However, the nearby settlement at Pentre Farm, Flint, would probably have had some kind of access route.

Ian Rogers Gifford and Partners (Gifford Project 3852)

#### References

Margary, I D, 1973 *Roman roads in Britain*. London: John Baker

#### OAKENHOLT, Flint (SJ 254 716)

A watching brief over pipe-laying between Flint and Oakenholt was carried out by Gifford on behalf of Welsh Water. The pipeline passes the vicinity of the Pentre Farm lead-working site and crosses the supposed route of the Chester to Asaph Roman road. No archaeologically significant features were observed. The ground was very disturbed by modern ploughing and the pipe trench was extremely narrow. It is, however likely that plough-truncated Romano-British features survive in this area. The absence of the Roman road here adds weight to the view that the alternative inland route suggested by Margary (Margary 1973, 348-9) is correct.

Ian Rogers, Gifford and Partners (Gifford Project 6746)

#### References

Margary, I D, 1973 *Roman roads in Britain*. London: John Baker

#### PLAS COCH, Wrexham (SJ 326 517, PRN 19361)

During September-October 1994 salvage excavations in advance of a large retail development uncovered part of an extensive Romano-British settlement. The main evidence recovered consisted of a series of discontinuous, shallow ditches, which were presumably boundary markers, aligned

mainly north-west to south-east, with others at right angles to them. A corn-drying kiln, a well and a possible hearth were the only structural evidence for buildings. In the northern part of the area a shallow recut ditch, roughly parallel to the boundary ditches, formed part of the south-west and south-east sides of an enclosure, with an entrance on the south-eastern side.

Further excavations were conducted during February 1995, concentrating on an area to the north-west of the earlier excavations. Several ditches had been revealed in section, behind which an area c 55 x 18m remained relatively undisturbed. The excavations revealed further boundary ditches and several postholes, although with no obvious indications of structures. Between this and the earlier site, features had previously been observed in section beneath a dump of hardcore. Only a limited area was available for excavation, but this revealed the stone foundations for the corner of a building, possible hexagonal, which may be related to the enclosure identified previously.

Stephen Greuter, Clwyd Archaeology Service; Nigel Jones, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust; Bill Slater, Wrexham Maelor Borough Council

### MONMOUTHSHIRE

#### ABERGAVENNY, 75 Hereford Road (SO 3045 1485)

(See also under Post-medieval)

A field evaluation was commissioned by Mr and Mrs K Jones in respect of a proposed housing development in an area which was believed to be on the line of the Roman road leading northwards out of Abergavenny. No archaeological deposits other than the recently demolished house, known as Hafod Farm, and of late 18th or early 19th century construction were encountered. A copy of the report has been deposited with the Gwent Sites and Monuments Record.

D Maynard and A G Marvell, Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT 95/030)

#### ABERGAVENNY, Area of Priory Church (SO 301 141)

(See also under Medieval and Post-medieval)

During field evaluations for building works adjacent to St Mary's Church and in Beili Priory redeposited Roman pottery was discovered, including a greyware jar rim. A copy of the reports have been deposited with the Gwent Sites and Monuments Record.

D Maynard, M Lawler and A G Marvell, Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT 95/049 and 95/081)

#### BRYNRHYDDERCH FARM, Llanover Fawr (SO 3450 1085)

The aerial photograph by John Sorrell of what appears to be a previously unrecorded Roman fortlet at a point some 500m north of this farmhouse leads to the conclusion that Margary's line for his route 62a, the road from Usk to Abergavenny, Brecon and beyond did not, as he suggested, use the line of the now bypassed single track A40 between Clytha Park and Abergavenny, but followed a roughly parallel line using higher ground further back north from the River Usk. This disposes of the inherent improbability, recognised by Margary, of the more sinuous eastern half of his line, and adopts a route still usable for the whole of its length via footpaths or minor roads.