

WILBURY HILL AND THE ICKNIELD WAY.

Wilbury Hill and the Ickniel Way.

Andrews, R

*Transactions of the East Hertfordshire
Archaeological Society, Volume 2, Part 3, 1904.*

IN the programme of the August excursion there appeared the following notice: "Mr. Andrews will state all that is known or conjectured with regard to this earthwork" (Wilbury Hill). If this statement had to be strictly carried out, much more time would be required by the writer, in order to refer to all the ancient and modern authorities—as it is, much has been done. A list of at least twenty-six sources of information is appended, besides the authors' remarks, and those of others who are likely to know at least *something* of the subject, and it is hoped that the whole may prove an interesting contribution to county archæology.

(23) "At the time of the invasion of Britain by Julius Cæsar, all this part of the kingdom [Hertfordshire] appears to have been occupied by the Cassi, who not improbably were the same tribe as Ptolemy mentions as the Catieuchlani." These were no doubt greatly civilized, and had their churches, monasteries, and other buildings, with or without a moat surrounding them, and we may state with a great degree of certainty that wherever there was a church, or a monastic building, or a bury (so called) the road or way adjoining it must have been Saxon, or early British, and made before the advent of the Romans, also where there was a Roman camp, earthwork, or tumulus, there must have been an earlier British way, unless those objects happen to be placed close to the known Roman roads.

Now according to the evidence of Richard of Cirencester (7) we find, "That the ancient British roads may be distinguished from those made by the Romans by unequivocal marks.

1. They are not raised or paved; not always straight; but often wind along the tops or sides of the chains of hills which lie in their course.
2. They do not lead to Roman towns, or notice such towns, except when placed on the sites of British fortresses.
3. They are attended by tumuli like those of the Romans; but usually throw out branches (i.e. branch roads), which after running parallel for some miles, are re-united to the original stem."

And so in "Observations on the Roman Station Magiovinum," by Henry Brandreth (4), we find the following:—

"The Ikening Street is considered to have been a British trackway many centuries before the island was traversed by the Roman roads, that it ran from Venta Icenorum, Caister, near Norwich, to Durnovaria, Dorchester, in Dorsetshire, and had many vicinal branches."

Again, we find noted in the Gentleman's Magazine (8): "The Ickniel way, half a mile of this spot (Danes field, Pirton)—crowned with a number of vestiges of Roman fortifications." So from this we may infer that the Romans found this way nearly ready to their hand, and altered it, and used it as one of their principal roads.

Now as to the route of this road (9), Tompkins, in his "Highways and Byways of Hertfordshire," says, "That the famous Ickniel way, with its memories of the Iceni and Boadicea, runs between Offley and Pirton. From Dunstable it leads to Ickleford, Baldock, Ashwell station, and Royston. Much of that route lies across high and breezy districts; and the spot in the district most venerated by antiquaries, is probably Hexton."

Again, Pointer (1) notices it thus: "Ickenild-street is vulgarly called Acknil-street, and runs close along the bounds between Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, passing by Royston, thence through Baldock, and so through Dunstable in Bedfordshire; and thence to Tring in Hertfordshire again."

(10) "The Ickfield way passes through or near the parishes of Chesterford, Ickleton, Elmdon, Strethall, and Heydon," and that "Of the numerous writers, mediæval and modern, who have treated of the Ickniel way, almost all refer to it as one of a group of four ancient roads mentioned in the laws of Edward the Confessor, as enjoying the high privilege of the King's peace, and as exempt from the jurisdiction of the local courts. It is interesting to observe that Henry of Huntingdon and successive chroniclers, ignore completely any connection of these British roads with the Romans; Elton thinks that it represents a combination of portions of Roman roads; but others think that at least the eastern half of it does not."

Furthermore, Stukeley (11) says: "At Royston the Icening Street crosses the Herman-street—this about Baldock appears but like a field way, and scarce the breadth of a coach—between Baldock and Ickleford it goes through an entrenchment, taking in the top of a hill of good compass but of no elevation; it consists of a vallum only, and such a thing as I take to be properly the remains of a British 'Oppidum'; it is called Willbury Hill, and is said to have been woody not entirely above memory. It goes at the bottom of a continued ridge of hills called the Chilterns, being chalk, the natural as well as civil boundaries between the counties of Hertford and Bedford; being very steep northward."

Chauncy (25) observes that "Odsey borrowed its name from an ancient Grange called Odsey, near one of the famous Roman ways denominated Icknall, from the Icenians, because it extended from Yarmouth in the east part of that kingdom, to the parish of Barley in this county, in the way giving names to several villages, as Ieksworth, Ieklingham, and Ickleton in the same kingdom. From Barley to Royston it divides Cambridgeshire from this county, and from thence to Odsey severs this hundred from that shire, whence leading across the Pirre or Pirral it gave appellation to the village of Ickleford, and thence continuing by Tring crosses the county of Bucks—but the name of this way, and the country from whence it comes, with the names of several towns built adjacent to it, the marks of the road, and the tradition of the people that live near the same, do confirm me in my opinion, that this is the old Roman way that was heretofore called Icknall."

Again, Henry Brandreth in *Archæologia* (4): "It was at the spot where the present town of Dunstable stands, that this road crossed the Watling-street at nearly a right angle. The Ikening-street enters the county of Bedford on its south-west borders, and continues on the sides of the hills over Leagrave Marsh through Dunstable; then enters Bucks, and it continues on the top or side of the chalk hills, and is known to every inhabitant by the name of the Ickneld or Ikening-street."

Leland, an old historian of 1568 (12), says, "The last and most uncertain street is the Ikenild-street, or Rykniel-street, as others call it, (but I take them to be two distinct streets, as does Mr. Drayton in his *Polyolbion*)" (24), and goes on in his quaint way and phraseology as follows:—

"But oh unhappie chance, Through time's disastrous lot,
Our other fellow streets lie utterly forgot.
As, Eening, that sets out from Yarmouth in the east.
By the Iceni, being then generally possest,
Was of that people first, termed Iening in her race.
Upon the Chilterns here, that did my course embrace.
Into the dropping south, and bearing then outright,
Upon the Solent sea, stepped on the Ile of Wight.
And Rickniel forth that raught, from Cambria's further shore
Where South Wales now shoots forth, St. David's promontore.
And on his midway neer did me in England meet,
Then in his oblique course, the lusty stragling street,
Soon overtook the fosse; and toward the fall of Time,
Into the German sea, dissolved at his decline."

Salmon shows us also (13), "That some will derive the name of the town of Hitchin from the Ikening way, and that Ickleford may

easily be corrupted from Hicklingford; but if so, we might expect to find foundations of buildings continued to Ickleford, which, the nature of the ground, being moory, will not allow. And farther, a town of a mile's extent at least lying upon a military way, would have made us look for a station there, and expect to find coins; it is true a Faustina has been found at Wilbury, now in the possession of Sir Robert Abdy, but one swallow we say makes no summer. The medal is of coarse silver of a common size, and not scarce. Because it is the only one found hereabouts I will describe it. On one side is the head of Faustina, wife of Aurelius, inscribed, Faustina Augusta; reverse, two little children sitting on a bed, inscribed, Saeculi Felicitas. This medal was struck upon the Empress being brought to bed of twins, Commodus and Antoninus. The first lived to be Emperor, the younger died at four years old, and had the name of Verissimus."

Also we may conjecture that Hitchin was an important station in Belgic Gaul, and probably the centre of Belgic Britain. The Icknield way was British, although coins of Postumus have been found there. It is not metallated at all, except at such parts where the Romans altered it to make it straighter.

Pointer (1) premises, "That the Icknield way is possibly pre-Roman and runs from Buckland in Bucks, by Marsworth to Ivinghoe, and is called the lower Icknield way. . . . This Icknield way is not cast upon a ridged bank, or laid out by a deep trench, as some others are, because it lies along under the Chiltern hills on a firm ground, having the hills themselves as a sufficient direction."

If we consult the new Victorian history of Hertfordshire (2), we find "That perhaps the southern limit of East Anglia in Raedwallas' time may have been the Icknield-street, for Anglian remains are plentiful, as shown in the extensive discoveries of the Hon. R. C. Neville."

Again, we may also quote Horsley, and Lipsius, as to the origin of the name; the former (3) says that the "Cenimagni were subject to Cassibelaun, and also the Cassi. For 'Cenimagni,' I think should be read 'Iceni Magni,' or rather 'Iceni Regni,' all lying together about the river Thames. Ptolemy says the 'Iceni' are called 'Simeni,' and at the end of Dr. Gale's (3) edition of the 'Itinerary' we have 'Venta Cenorum' for 'Venta Icenorum'—so 'Iceni Magni' might be changed into 'Ceni Magni.'"

Henry Brandreth in *Archæologia* (4) tells us that—

"At the time that the Romans possessed themselves of Britain, Ireland, or at least the eastern shores of it, was inhabited by a people calling themselves

'Gathlin,' whence the origin in the opinion of some writers of the 'Via Gathlina,' or 'Gathlinorum' of the Romans; and the Watling-street of the Saxons; and it is a curious circumstance, remarks Lysons, that an ancient trackway under the very same name tends from the eastern extremity of Scotland to the same country. These 'Gathlini,' he adds, were the remains of the old Celtic inhabitants of England, who had been driven by powerful and successive invaders to the extremity of Wales and the opposite shores of Ireland; and the communication of their country must have been of the utmost importance in those early times as providing a passage for cattle and other articles of trade from the extreme coasts of the west to the great marts for foreign merchants in the eastern parts of Britain. It was from this transit of cattle, I presume, that the Ikening-street derived its name, Yken meaning in the British tongue Oxen. Hence also, Rhedycina, or Rhydykena, from Rhyd, a ford, and Yken, Oxen. This literally translated by our Saxon ancestors would give Oxenford, at which spot the Thames (there called Isis) was most easily fordable for cattle. I may here remark that the word 'Catieuchlani,' through whose country this road ran, seems to have some reference to that of Yek, an ox."

Again, Camden (5) gives a long account of these causeways and the method of their formation, and among other things says, "The second they commonly called Ikenild-street, because it began in the Icenæ country. Neere unto these high walles on both sides were tombs and sepulchres, with inscriptions engraved on them in memorial of brave and noble men that the passengers by might be put in mind that as these sometimes were mortal men, so themselves are now." And Vitruvius (6) also gives a long account of how the Romans made their roads, but which it is not necessary to quote here.

Our county historian, Clutterbuck (14), gives the information that "About two miles from the town of Hitchin, upon the Roman military road called Icknield-street, there is a plot of ground approaching in shape to an oblong, called Welbury, or Wilbury Hill, which appears to have been surrounded by a ditch, now nearly effaced by the plough." And Brayley (15) mentions "On Wilbury Hill, nearly three miles west from Baldock, are traces of an ancient camp or fortification, which Salmon supposes to have been an amphitheatre, and mentions a silver coin of Faustina that was found here: the area included about seven acres, and is crossed by the Icknield way; the rampart on the east and north sides is levelled, on the west it yet remains about four or five feet high bounded by a ditch, on the south are some straight banks, but as are in many places made by the plough on declining ground, this side is the most steep."

One of our local antiquaries, Mr. W. Ransom (16), says, "A commanding position on the Icknield way, about 2½ miles north-east of Hitchin, where traces of an ancient camp are

distinctly visible, with a rampart formerly surrounded by a ditch. Many relics have been found here from time to time, including a few coins. There is also a large tumulus near."

"Highways and Byways of Hertfordshire" (9) states, "On the rising ground, north-east from Ickleford, is Wilbury-hill, where antiquaries can trace a Roman camp, by reason of the fosse which encloses the hill, rather than by any vestiges of stockade or fort."

Stukeley saw in the spot the site of an early British town, and says, "I doubt not that long before Macaulay's traveller shall in vain labour to decipher on some mouldering pedestal the name of our proudest chief, someone will have discovered that Wilbury-hill was a temporary settlement of Phœnician traders, who for once in a way came farther inland than was their wont, to barter purple with the native women."

Giraldus (17) observes "that British fortresses are almost always placed on lofty eminences, whilst the Romans as universally selected a gently elevated situation, near some river, and sufficiently open on all sides to prevent any sudden surprise by the enemy. Another mark of Roman is its form, almost invariably either square or oblong with angles rounded; but that of the Britons was very irregular, and adapted to the shape of the hill on which it was formed, and had many and deep ditches to defend it, but Romans made only a slight rampart. Also brick is found in Roman, with pottery and coins." And Pointer (1) gives: "The Romans in fixing their stations always pitched upon grounds that were driest, and that were not overlooked by any neighbouring hills."

The county boundary between Herts, Cambridge, and Beds here runs up the centre of the Icknield way from Ickleford to the junction of the straight road from Walsworth, and then turns north-east up the centre of the road towards Standalone Farm. Human remains have been found there in the camp. At the junction of the roads the height above the sea is 281 feet, and at the top of the camp in the centre of the road it is 297 feet; part of the camp is said to be in the field to the west, and out of the county of Hertford.

"Among the many monuments of Roman magnificence, their highways were the most admirable of all their works. Their wonderful firmness and smoothness is not only occasioned by the size and hardness of the stones and their close connexion, but also by the materials underneath. The foundation is of a sort of rubble or small pieces of rough stone strongly cemented together; above which is another stratum of coarse gravel cemented in like manner, and mixed with little

round stones, and the whole causeway thus composed of several strata was about three feet high, and near 13 feet broad. The construction was not the same in all places; some countries were of so dry a soil that they had no occasion for any pavement at all: as the Ikenild way here in Britain" (1).

In most cases it is unsafe to assign a date to earthworks (2), but Bishop's Stortford Castle is probably Saxon, and Great Berk-hampstead the same or earlier, and so, no doubt, this Icknield Way; although neither upon it, nor in the county, have mixed cemetery burials been found, so that light might be thrown on its early history; the only one of such interments discovered, was near Sandridge.

There are other camps in different parts of the country which are similar to this at Wilbury Hill, and are ascribed by antiquaries to our Celtic ancestors. Of these we may name Arbury Banks in Cambs, and Maiden Bower in Beds.

Wilbury Hill is not to be confounded with or mistaken for Wellbury, Old and New, which lie to the west of Hitchin (4). It has been supposed by Dr. Stukeley, for Wilbury Hill "to have been a British town. But whatever has been its origin, it is sufficiently apparent both from its situation upon the Icknield-street, and from the number of Roman coins and remains of arms which have been dug up here from time to time that it was formerly occupied by that people for the purposes of warfare." But Salmon says (11):—"What was the use of this enclosed piece of ground which the Ikening way goes through the middle of, 'tis hard to say. It appears to have been about seven acres, enclosed with a vallum about four or five feet high; the one half of the vallum is now to be seen (1726), and in its pristine state, except what the rains in 1,200 years may be supposed to have washed away; it is on a small rising ground, with a small ascent to it every way, but by no means eminence enough for the security of a camp without greater fortification than there are any traces of. Neither does it appear to me to be a British 'Oppidum,' which was defended always by a fosse, the earth perhaps all thrown inwards. They took a greater compass of ground for that purpose, and a place where groves or hills protected them from cold and winter storms. I should take it to be contrived for some theatrical entertainment, some exercise for the youth or for rural sports such as a great number of spectators might attend. The vallum might be to keep off the crowd from pressing upon the actors."

In a MS. relating to Hertfordshire written about the beginning of the nineteenth century (20) is the following description:—

"This place is situate 2 miles N.E. from Hitchin, and in the several parishes of Hitchin, Ickleford, Holwell, and Norton, and forms a very conspicuous part in history. In the year 1795 a great quantity of bones of oxen was found near this spot in making a new ditch for the enclosure of Norton field. In the year 1802 a large quantity of human bones were found near the piece of ground now planted with furze. On January 18, 1816, a quantity of human bones and three small coins of the Emperor Constantinus were found in the bank opposite the furze. On January 21 in the same year the largest and most distant of three barrows, situate southward of the Icknield-road, in a field belonging to a Mr. J. Moore, of Hitchin, occupied by Mr. T. Hailey, of Highover Farm, was opened, and at the depth of nine feet from the summit and near the centre were discovered the bones and ashes of some person, supposed to be an ancient British or Roman military chief. The bones appeared to have been burnt and deposited in a case of wood, as part thereof was found, also charcoal in the ashes. On the bones was also found a small blade of copper, in length three inches and an half, and in breadth one inch, completely encrusted—many of the bones on which this lay were tinged with green from the moisture of the ground; and two tops or heads of spears."

This tumulus is in the second field just south of Wilbury Hill, in what is known as Knowl-piece, probably Knoll-piece, and is only 150 yards south of the railway and 350 yards east of the road from Walsworth to Wilbury Hill. Walsworth is to the east of the junction of the Cambridge branch with the Great Northern Railway main line, and the hill is $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles east of Hitchin station. The field in Hitchin parish immediately to the south-west of the hill is called Wilbury Hill field.

In addition to the finds before mentioned, Clutterbuck (14), in a footnote, says: "On March 25, 1816, the barrow was opened a second time, when the fragment of an urn of coarse clay was found; and near this spot, in the same year, a human skeleton was discovered, about a foot beneath the surface. Of late years many warlike implements of more modern date have been turned up by the plough in the adjacent lands, among which may be mentioned two cannon balls of large size, lately (1827) in the possession of Mr. Hardwick, of Ickleford, and a great variety of coins of the Roman emperors." This is also confirmed by Cussans (22) as follows: "Of Roman coins a great variety has been found at different periods; some in fine preservation, and at the intersection of the two roads a small Roman figure of bronze, about three inches in height, was discovered a few years ago." And we have already mentioned that Roman coins of Constantius were found in the parish of Norton in 1793.

We will again quote Salmon (13), who remarks that

"There is here an intersection of the Ikeny by another road, which seems a vicinal way to Magiovinium (Sandy in Bedfordshire), by Arlsea, Henlow, Clifton, Southil; or perhaps by the three first of these, and so to Sheford upon

the Watling Street. The other branch of this from Wilbury points towards Stevenage and Hertford. To confirm this, Arlsea in old charters is Alrichsea. This might come from Aldridge, the same as Old Ridge, and is the name of a parish in Staffordshire, in which is Barbeacon, an old camp, the Etocetum of the Romans, as I presume; Aldridge there, and Alrichsea here, may both have been named from the military Agger." This is also known as the White way (1) and "goes through Baldock, Stevenage, Welwyn, Sandridge, to Verulam and Watford, and on from Ad Pontes on the Thames." And *Archæologia* (4) says: "One of its branches probably started from it at Baldock going northward to Biggleswade, Blunham, Great Barford, Pertenhall, Kimbolton, Brington, Thurning, Luddington and Chesterton, and so joined the Ermine-street thereabouts. Whilst southwards it went through Baldock, and thence by Graveley, Stevenage, Welwyn, to St. Albans, on to the Watling Street."

In a long examination of the actual site of the camp and its surroundings, I have come to the conclusion that, in the fir grove, except by a very great stretch of imagination, no one would notice that there exists any bank whatever as shown on the Ordnance Survey plan, for on the west side there is absolutely none, whilst on the east side there is but a very low bank, which would not be of sufficient height to form a rampart or vallum. On the north side the same bank appears about half-way along the side, and then only from the west corner. There is no depression in the surface of the ground inside the grove, but such as indicates the natural fall of the ground from east to west. I do not think there was even any supposed amphitheatre here, or anything approaching to it.

Between the Radwell-road and the grove is an extensive gravel-pit, probably 200 feet long and 150 feet wide, going southwards to a point, or nearly so, and this pit is also continued on the north side of the hedge towards the north, almost to the hedges on the north and west of the next little field.

On the east side of the Radwell-road, nearly opposite to this gravel-pit, is an entrance to the so-called camp; with a bank on the north side, 14 feet to 15 feet high, which has its top quite level with the rest of the field; whilst the bank on the south side is about 20 feet in height, and continues with a very broken and varying top by the side of the road towards the south, and finishes at nearly 15 feet in height at the south-west corner. This bank appears to have a fosse, but the formation here on this side of the road, has only, in my opinion, been made to carry off the rain-water from the road surface, and by reason of the road itself having been lowered to improve its gradient.

The camp lies in the direction north-west to south-east, and is 400 feet long, and 220 feet wide at the entrance, narrowing to only the width of a cart-road. At the east end, the fields on either

side are at the same level, and it is only this occupation road falling lower and lower towards the west that appears to form a deep fosse between them. The difference in the growth of the hedge on the south side at different parts of its length, shows plainly where the old Icknield way formerly ran, and the hedge bank becomes somewhat higher as it approaches to the south hedge of the camp proper, which is a much more recent one than the first named. The small field on the south side of the camp and between it and the old Icknield way, has, in the past, been lowered and levelled in the operations of farming; its bank is about four to five feet high.

Then as to the camp itself, more especially its interior. The whole has, during late years, been greatly lowered to obtain gravel and chalk marl, more especially below the level of the road through it, and the bank on the south side appears to be much too regularly formed for such an ordinary earthwork as this camp is supposed to have been; there is no higher ground anywhere around to dominate it, but the field on the north side is quite level with the top of any rampart, so that it appears impossible that any could have ever existed there.

The Icknield way never went through this camp, but only along the outside, on the south; it is plainly to be seen at the south end of the fir grove, but, as it proceeds eastward, it is entirely absorbed into the field for some three hundred to three hundred and fifty yards, and then only reappears as a narrow cart-road for some distance.

The tumulus before mentioned as being in Knowl field is covered by a grove of timber and underwood, and is about four to five feet high; it is almost a complete circle of 180 feet in diameter. The field is now called Knocking-hole field.

Finally, my decided opinion is, that in spite of all the foregoing evidence, there is nothing now left to show that a Roman camp was ever in existence here. The high bank at the entrance and any banks that are found around it, are but the remains of excavations made by those who were engaged in digging gravel in years past; and so the whole can be judged to have been only a large gravel-pit. As to the finds, those that have been mentioned are such as continually occur in greater or lesser numbers along the courses of all the ancient ways in the country, and in the populous places which our forefathers, and other tribes and nations, more or less frequented.

1. Pointer's *Britannia*, 1724.
2. *New Victorian History of Herts.*
3. Horsley's *Britannia Romana*, 1732.

4. *Archæologia*, vol. xxvii.
5. Camden's *Britannia*, 1610.
6. *Vitruvius*.
7. Richard of Cirencester, ed. 1809.
8. Gomme's *Gentleman's Magazine Library*, vol. vii.
9. Tompkins's *Highways and Byways in Hertfordshire*.
10. *Cambs Antiquarian Society's Transactions*.
11. Stukeley's *Itinerarium Curiosum*, 1776.
12. Leland's *Itinerary*, 3rd ed., 1768.
13. Salmon's *History of Hertfordshire*, 1728.
14. Clutterbuck's *History of Hertfordshire*, vol. iii, 1819.
15. Brayley's *Beauties of England and Wales*, vol. vii, 1808.
16. *Herts Natural History Society's Transactions*, vol. i.
17. *Itinerary of Giraldus*, 1806.
18. Barlow's *General History of Europe*, 1791.
19. *Handbook of Hitchin*.
20. *MS. History of Hertfordshire*, 1800.
21. *Tablet of Memory*.
22. Cussans' *History of Hertfordshire*, 1870.
23. *Archæological Survey of Hertfordshire* by Sir J. Evans, 1891.
24. Drayton's *Polyolbion*.
25. Chauncy's *Historical Antiquities of Hertfordshire*, vol. i.
26. Craven's *Commercial Directory*, 1854.

R. T. ANDREWS.

LETCHWORTH CHURCH.

THIS parish was formerly in the diocese of Lincoln. The church is built chiefly of rubble and flint, and has comparatively recently received a coat of rough cast. The plan is simple, consisting of nave, chancel, and south porch. By interior measurement the nave is about 40 ft. 5 in. long by 16 ft. 5 in. wide, chancel 21 ft. 2 in. long by 13 ft. 8 in. wide, total interior length 56 ft. 10 in. The dedication is unknown. Mr. John Swan, diocesan registrar of Lincoln, informs me that he has no reference to any dedication, and that being so, he takes it for granted that there never was a dedication. From the marked inclination of the chancel to the south-east it is probable that the dedication is to a saint whose festival occurs in the winter months.

The porch entrance has a plain pointed arch, each of the spandrels containing a shield; the western shield bears six lozenges, three and three; the bearings of the eastern shield have disappeared. In the porch wall east of the entrance, a corbel projects slightly, and near it are five circle markings. One of our Society's members who has kindly examined these for me is of opinion that the corbel is an ancient carving of a human face now nearly worn away, and as there is no trace of a corresponding one west of the entrance, the masons may have used adopted material when building the porch. Of the circle markings it is thought they were the work of idle youth, except that of two concentric rings and central dot, which was marked out by the aid of a compass; none of the others will bear this test. In the *St. Albans Arch. and Archæol. Soc. Trans.*, 1899, vol. i, part 3, pp. 190-1, is given an illustration of a similar marking at Flamstead Church, and on a coin of Boadicea at the British Museum. As these circles are found on churches in all parts of the country, it is thought that they possess in common some primary cause, and archæologists are requested to photograph or sketch them, and place them on record. Personally the writer of the paper says he knows of no amusement more fascinating than the hunt for circle, cup, and other markings.

The porch has a blocked window on each side, on the east square-headed, on the west pointed. On each side of the porch is a narrow bench, about six inches wide, of rubble and stone. The remains of the stoup are in the west wall near the nave door, and there is a circular depression about three inches diameter in the