



Roman Colchester

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Source: *The Journal of Roman Studies*, Vol. 9 (1919), pp. 139-169

Published by: [Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies](#)

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/296003>

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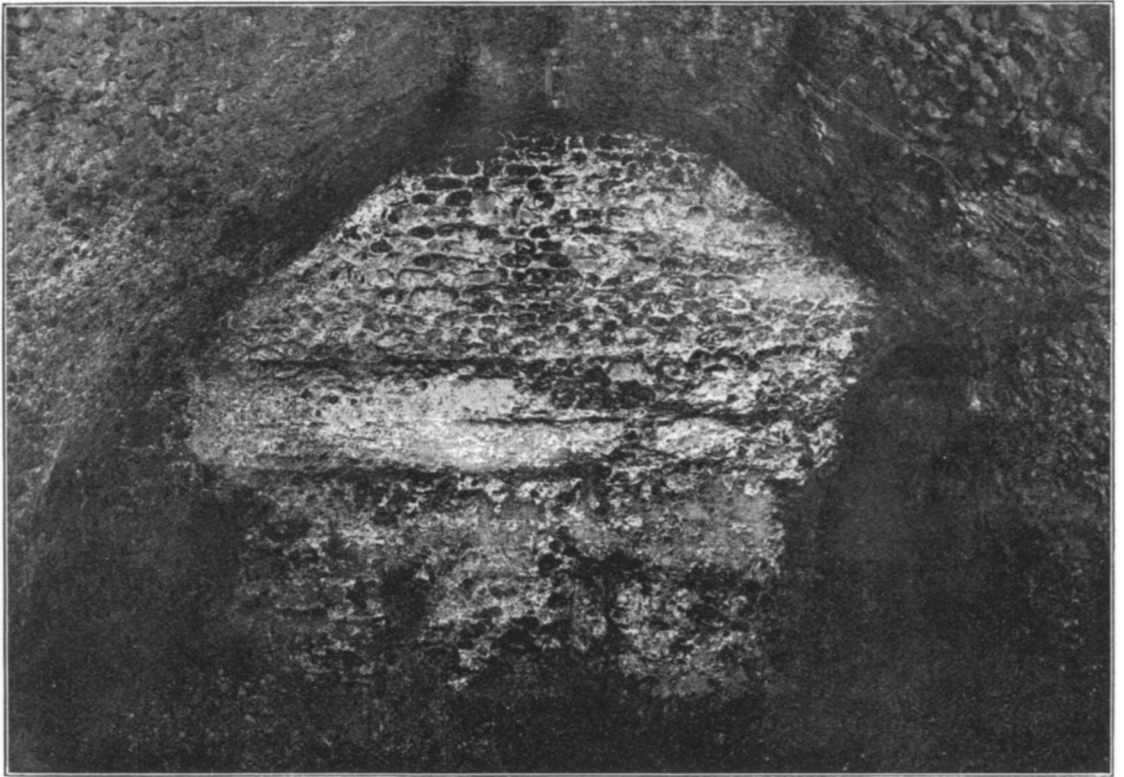
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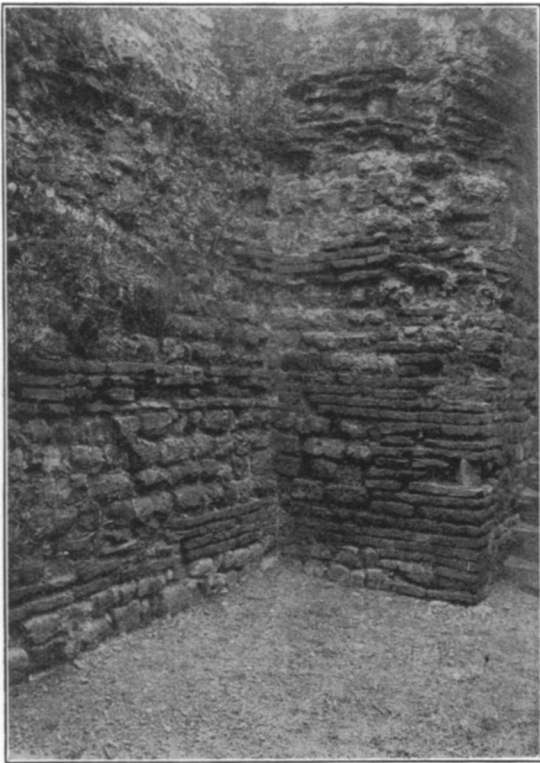


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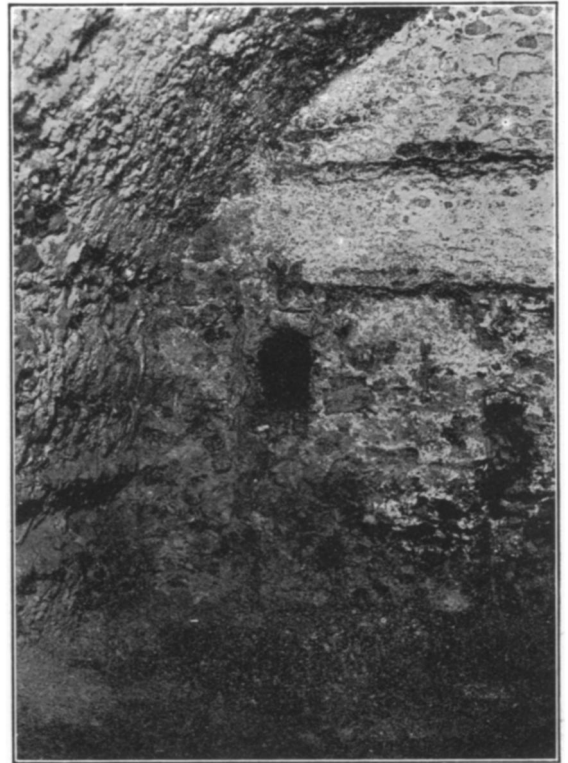
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NO. 1. ROMAN VAULT UNDER COLCHESTER CASTLE, SHOWING S.E. PARTITION WALL (OPENINGS COMPARATIVELY MODERN).



NO. 2. BALKERNE GATE: INTERIOR OF SOUTH GUARDROOM (p. 144).



NO. 3. ROMAN VAULT UNDER COLCHESTER CASTLE, SHOWING MARKS OF BOARDING AND S.E. PARTITION WALL (p. 146).

ROMAN COLCHESTER.

(Plate ix.)

By R. E. MORTIMER WHEELER, M.C., D.LIT., and PHILIP G. LAVER, F.S.A.

Colchester lies at the head of an inland promontory which emerges from the undulating Essex lowlands to meet the tidal waters of the Colne estuary. On the northern and eastern sides this promontory is clasped by the winding course of the main stream, and on the south by a tributary known as the Roman River which, bending northwards, slightly restricts the otherwise open approach from the west. The eastern end of the area thus enclosed rises commandingly above the sharply-cut river valleys and the seaward marshes, which are of sufficient extent to seclude it from the risks of an open shore. The combined accessibility and security of the site at an early date attracted both the landsman and the sea-going trader, who doubtless unloaded his Gallic cargoes at wharves not far from those still frequented by a modest coastal traffic.¹ It is no longer disputed that somewhere within the natural limits of this favoured region lay the great oppidum of the Trinovantes.

The nature or extent of pre-Roman Colchester within this area are problems which do not at present lend themselves to profitable discussion in detail, but two groups of general evidence on these points call for passing reference. More than a century of intensive cultivation has obliterated many of the embankments which formerly supplied the lack of a definite natural obstacle towards the west. Even at the present day, however, vestiges of at least four lines of defensive works can be traced intermittently between West Bergholt and Great Horkesley on the north and Layer de la Haye on the south (fig. 12). It is sufficiently clear from the most casual survey that these works were designed primarily to close the gap between the Colne and the Roman River and so to form the barrier across the neck of a huge 'promontory-fort' extending some 2½ miles from east to west and three miles from north to south. Rough diagrams of the embankments, prepared in the days of Stukeley and Morant² when the district was still undeveloped common, enable us to some extent to repair the ravages of the plough, and sketch-plans, published in more recent years by Dr. Henry Laver, F.S.A.,³ give a general idea of the actual extent of the remains; but the survey now being carried out

¹ The excellent Colchester Corporation Museum is a mine of little-explored information on the pre-Claudian trade of Essex.

² Morant, *History of Colchester*, ii, 25; Bodleian

MSS., R 13, 69; Laver, *Essex Arch. Soc. Trans.* (n.s.) xi.

³ *E.A.S.T.* (n.s.) iii, vi, viii, xi.

for the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments will form the first complete record of the existing evidence.

The banks have not been excavated, but they offer two particles of superficial evidence: (1) the earlier Roman road to London is diverted from its natural course to pass through them, and appears to imply their pre-existence; and (2) it is permissible to conjecture that the main outer system, which is drawn rigidly across the countryside, is later than some of the inner works which creep round the contours. The later system might well represent a reorganisation and enlargement of the Cunobeline period.

The only other available evidence relating to the pre-Roman

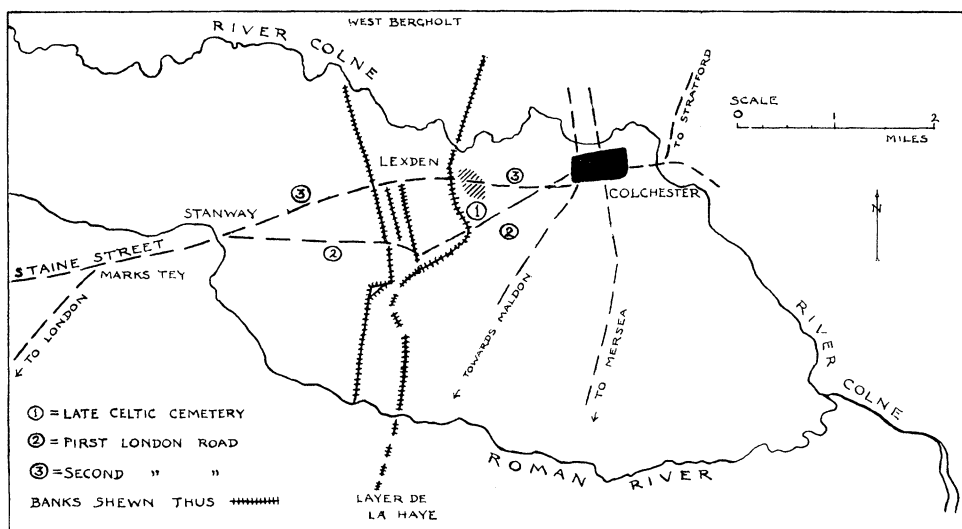


FIG. 12. SKETCH-MAP OF THE COLCHESTER DISTRICT (p. 139).

settlement is the Late Celtic cemetery, which is known to have extended across the present London road near the east end of Lexden Park. North-east of this, near the Roman kilns above Sheepen Farm, a number of native coins have been found at various times,¹ but otherwise Late Celtic finds have been few, and the site of the Roman (and present) town has been singularly deficient in them.

Passing now to the Roman occupation, the analogy of Lincoln, Cirencester and Wroxeter would suggest the postulation of an early military phase, but direct evidence is lacking. The 20th Legion is represented by the well-known tombstone of the centurion Facilis;

¹ Wire's Diary, preserved in Colchester Castle. William Wire was a Colchester watchmaker of the middle of the last century, who has laid archaeology

under a debt by his accurate, if unsophisticated, records of the local events and discoveries of the period.

Pelham and others deduced from Tacitus, *Annals* xiii, 32, that the 2nd Legion Augusta was brought from Colchester to Caerleon; whilst Hübner gratuitously makes Colchester the headquarters of the 14th Legion. The centurion, however, may have been one of the military colonists of the place and in any case one centurion does not make a legion; and Tacitus merely implies that the 2nd Legion was somewhere in the south-eastern quarter of Britain.¹ Furthermore, the statement as to the lack of any defensive works in A.D. 60, if taken literally, is against the probability of any appreciable military occupation within the previous eighteen years.

The general plan of the Roman town, as we know it, is a natural compromise between the conventional Roman pattern and the exigencies of the site. The north-eastern corner of the 'promontory,' rising sharply from the broad, marshy valley of the Colne on the north and east, is further defended on the south by a small but steep re-entrant, and only on the western back of the ridge is the site naturally accessible. Here, at the weakest point, a great fortified gateway (the largest known in Britain) was thrown across the path. The *decumanus maximus* inevitably followed the crest of the ridge, but in doing so was decentralised by the necessity of carrying the flanking walls to their strategic limits in the northern marshes and the eastern and southern declivities. These declivities determined the broad sweeping curve of the wall in the south-east quarter of the town, but with the gradual drying up of the valley here, the contour defence appears to have proved inadequate and the wall was eventually reinforced by some half-dozen bastions of semicircular plan.² Four of these still remain, but they have never been properly examined and their period is quite uncertain. To what extent the wall was originally supplemented by towers or platforms is equally obscure, though the sites of two internal rectangular bastions are approximately known.³ They appear to have been of the same construction as the walls.

With the exceptions of the semicircular bastions and of numerous patches of various dates, the town-defences bear the imprint of one period. Until recent years, no attempt was made to determine this period scientifically, and it was commonly assumed to be that of the Constantinian revival to which such works in Britain have been conventionally assigned. In 1913 and again in 1917 excavations were carried out on the foundations of the west or Balcerne Gate, and the evidence combines to indicate a first-century origin for the structure (fig. 13).⁴ Without re-entering into details already

¹ Cf. Haverfield, *Cymmrodorion Soc. Trans.* 1908-9, 63, note.

² Shown on Morant's plan in his *Hist. of Colch.*

³ One was destroyed in what is now the Castle Park about 50 years ago, and another formerly

existed on the east wall north of the gateway. *E.A.S.T.* (o.s.) i.

⁴ *E.A.S.T.* (n.s.) xv. The block of the plan has been lent by the Essex Archaeological Society, and the photograph (plate ix, no. 2) has been kindly provided by Mr. Francis W. Reader.

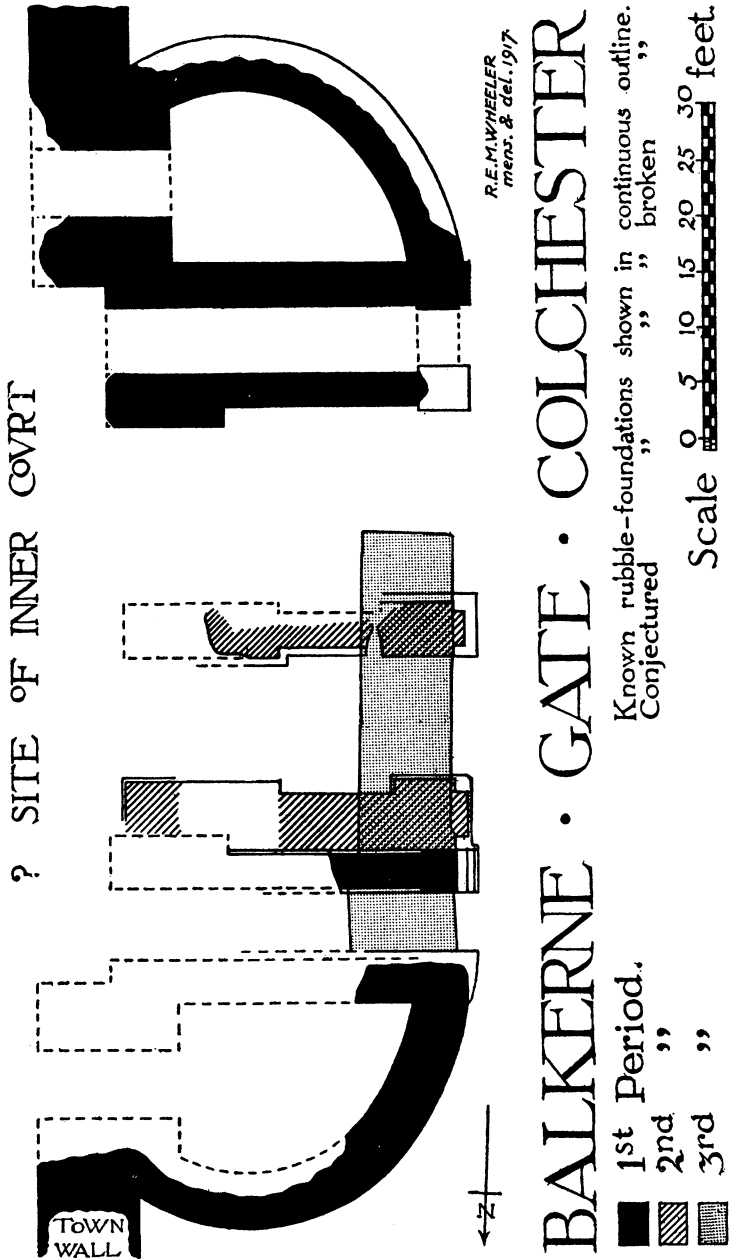


FIG. 13 (p. 141).

accessible, it will suffice in the present paper to summarise the evidence as follows :—

(i) The pottery found in association with the original foundations was exclusively of first-century date. It consisted of several fragments of Samian 29, 24 and 27 and a few fragments of grey ware with the sharply re-curved rim characteristic of Flavian deposits at Corbridge, Newstead and Wroxeter.

(ii) The plan of the gate, with its enormous frontage, four entrances, and flanking bastions all external to the town-wall, is of a type without exact parallel but with some resemblance to a limited group of continental gateways which includes the Gate of Augustus at Nîmes, the two main gates at Autun, and the Porta Palatina at Turin.¹ Of these, the Nîmes gate was built in 16 B.C., those of Autun almost certainly belong to the same epoch, and that

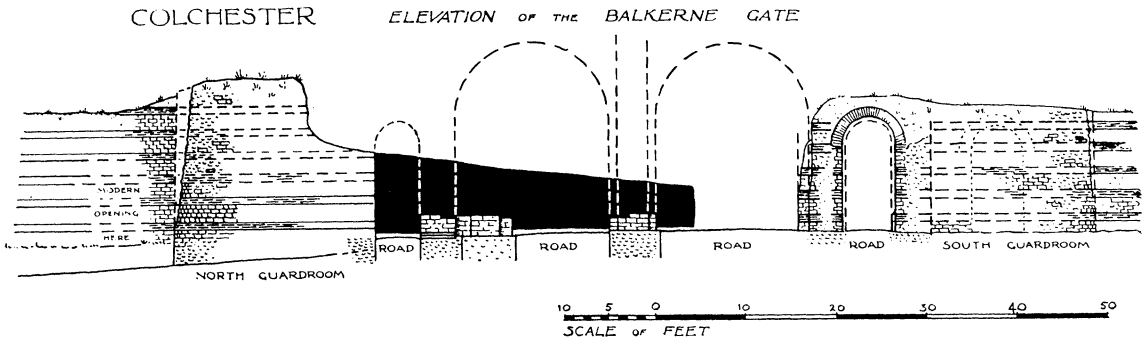


FIG. 14 (p. 143).

of Turin, if partially reconstructed in the third or fourth century, is thought by Schultze² to have originated in the fortifications instituted by Augustus. The weight of these analogous works thus generally supports the evidence of the pottery, and it is *a priori* more than probable that a gateway of this magnitude belongs rather to the beginning of the occupation, when the great Gallic examples were fresh in the minds of the town-builders, than to the later centuries when everywhere gateways were being blocked or reduced in size. To this later phase doubtless belongs the partial blocking and re-building of the Balkerne Gate, shown as '2nd period' on the plan.³

(iii) The building-construction of the gate, like that of the town walls, consists of a cemented rubble core faced alternately with

¹ See *Bonner Jahrbücher*, xviii, 297; and *E.A.S.T.* (n.s.), xv.

² *Bonner Jahrbücher*, xviii, 339.

³ The wall denoted as '3rd period' on the plan is a rough barricade built over the ruined gate; at least part of it is probably post-Roman. In the elevation (fig. 14) it is shown in black.

four courses of squared stone and four courses of brick (plate ix, no. 2). The stone is septaria supplemented by some calcareous tufa for the facing of the piers. The regularity of the work, the narrowness of the mortar joints and the complete absence of re-used material, all favour an early period. The use of brick courses, commonly regarded as a late feature, occurs both at Herculaneum and at Pompeii, and may reasonably be expected at an early date in Essex where building material is exceptionally poor and naturally demands bonding and levelling courses.¹

(iv) Historically the most likely period for the erection of the walls is that following the sack of the undefended town in A.D. 60. The rebuilding which followed would presumably include defences as the fruits of bitter experience.

On these grounds it is more than probable that the Balkerne Gate was built between the years A.D. 61 and 85, taking the latter as a mean date for the disappearance of Samian 29. With the gate is determined the general period of the main axial and delimiting lines of the Roman survey. The evidence of the Balkerne Gate has been strongly supported by more recent spade-work within the walls, and the alternative hypothesis that the new town was merely a rebuilding on an older plan is disproved by the discovery of early buildings differently oriented and actually underlying the present defences.² The general plan of Roman Colchester was crystallised within the quarter-century following the Boudiccan revolt.

What was this plan? Local antiquaries, from Morant onwards, have recorded innumerable casual discoveries of pavements and walls in various parts of the town, but rarely is the information thus preserved sufficiently precise to indicate either the exact position or the general orientation of the remains. Such information as is worthy of recovery is tabulated at the end of this paper for reference, but certain groups of foundations call for comment in greater detail, and may be considered in the present context. Foremost amongst these rank the walls which underlie both the Norman Castle and the earthen ramparts of the Castle Bailey. They have not hitherto been completely planned, and their significance has been only partially realised. In summary these walls are as follows (fig. 15):—

Under the north rampart are two walls running east and west and parallel to each other except that the outer or northern wall, at a point 45 ft. from the main north-west angle, turns at right-angles towards the north for a distance of 15 ft. and then again resumes its easterly course. The lateral extent of the northerly projection thus formed has not been determined, and the symmetrical restoration shown in broken outline on the plan is entirely conjectural. The main outer or northern wall turns southwards under both the east

¹ The early use of brick bonding courses is also suggested by Haverfield in this Journal, i, 158.

² See Schedule, nos. 36 and 45, and cf. H. Laver, *Arch. Journ.* lxiv, 216.

and west ramparts ; the north-east angle, shown in the unsatisfactory sketch-plan published by Jenkins,¹ is still partly visible in the 'Hollytrees' garden, and the north-west angle, which can be roughly traced in one of the footpaths of the Castle Park, was accurately planned in 1892.² The wall is 2 ft. 4 ins. thick with a 4 in. footing,

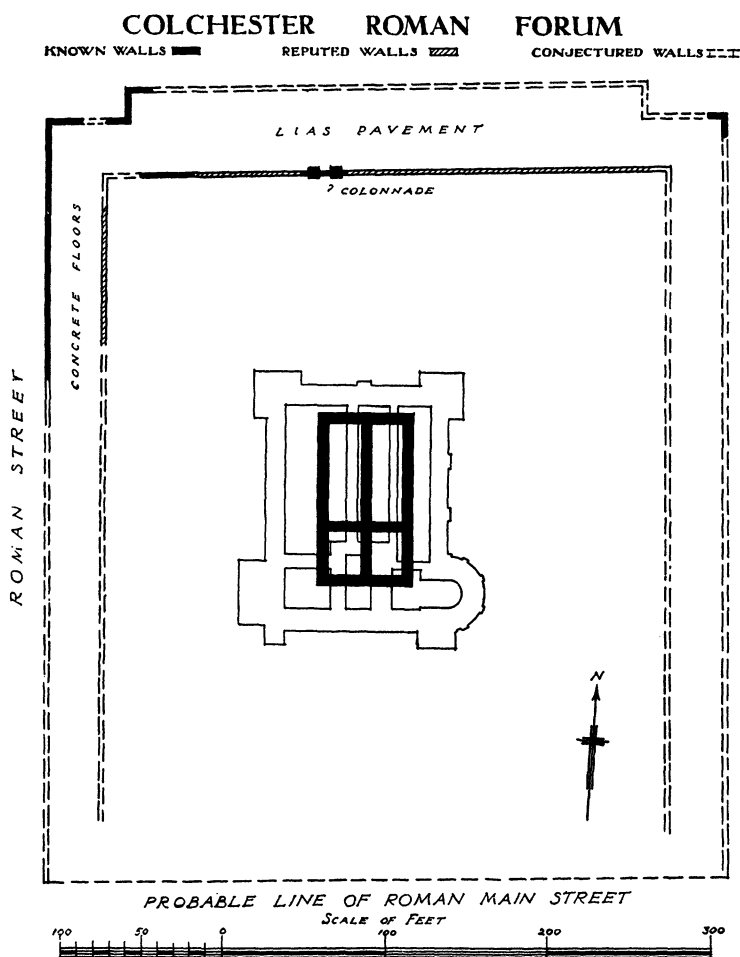


FIG. 15 (p. 144).

and was built of rubble with a facing of squared septaria ; the mortar, at least in parts, contained powdered brick.

The southern of the two walls has been revealed at different dates in three or more places, but only the small length exposed in 1892

¹ *Colchester Castle* (1853) 10, and Appendix, 21. ² *E.A.S.T.* (n.s.) ix, 123.

has been adequately planned. It is said to have been 2 ft. thick and of similar construction to its neighbour, except that no pink mortar was noted. At a point opposite the north entrance of the Castle on the line of this wall were found in 1845 two well-built rectangular platforms or pedestals of masonry, each 5 ft. 10 ins. square, and the same distance apart, but it was not ascertained whether these formed part of a series; they suggest the possibility of a colonnade here. In 1853, further west, this wall was found to turn southward at right-angles 'just beyond the west rampart'—unless, indeed, this angle was in reality one of the two later found in the outer or northern wall (see above). The wall here was thought to be $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. thick, but this may have been an error due to the taking of the measurement at the angle.

Between the two northern walls, immediately north of the two pedestals, was discovered a pavement of blue lias slabs laid on a layer of concrete 5 ins. thick, and regarded by C. Roach Smith as 'unquestionably Roman.' Near this, and possibly forming part of it, Wire saw 'a thin layer of lime or chalk resting on the ground, superimposed by one of the concrete' (*Diary*, 10th Dec. 1844).

Adjacent to the east face of the main west wall two red concrete floors were partially uncovered in 1892. On them were inhumation burials, almost certainly of early Saxon date. Further south the plan is at present conjectural; excavation is very desirable, particularly in the south-east angle which is to be sealed permanently beneath a War Memorial.

Within this enclosure is the little-known structure which is amongst the most remarkable remains of the Roman period now left in these Islands. Under the Castle, but neither bonded into the Castle walls nor planned in any structural relation to the Castle plan, is a building roofed in two spans with barrel-vaults, each 92 ft. 9 ins. long internally from north to south, 19 ft. 10 ins. wide, and divided longitudinally by a party wall 5 ft. 9 ins. thick. About 30 ft. from the south end each vault is subdivided by a transverse partition 5 ft. thick (plate ix, nos. 1 and 3). The walls are all of the same build; they consist mostly of ragstone rubble, bound together by a yellowish sandy mortar, and internally contain no brick or re-used material. At the north end of the main eastern compartment, where an opening was cut through the wall in the seventeenth century,¹ the under sides, apparently of an external brick lacing-course, are partly visible at the top of the cutting, and on the outer face of the masonry are traces of a thin coating of cement containing powdered brick. Nowhere else is the exterior of the structure visible. The vaults appear to have been built up in sections without centring, each section being set at a slight angle to that below it, so that the

¹ Morant, *History of Colchester*, i, 7; Round, *Colchester Castle*, pp. 97, 128.

result approximates rather to a corbel-vault than to a true vault. The marks of the boards (about 1 ft. wide) used for each section are still visible where the mortar surface is preserved (see plate IX, no. 3). The Roman date of the work is sufficiently indicated by its structural independence of, and undoubted priority to, the eleventh-century Castle above it, and both its primitive construction and the absence of re-used brick and other material favour an early date in the Roman period. The plan suggests the substructure of a temple; the proportions tally exactly and the actual dimensions very closely with those, for instance, of the *Maison Carrée* at Nîmes. The hollow podium would be an exceptional feature, although strong-rooms or cellars of varying size are not infrequently found in the substructures of Roman temples, notably in Hadrian's great Temple of Venus and Rome near the Colosseum. In this case it will be recalled that the disgruntled Greek architect Apollodorus ventured to suggest that the chambers within the podium should be used for storing and setting-up the stage-properties belonging to the neighbouring amphitheatre.¹

These Colchester vaults do not seem to have been seriously considered by antiquaries, and are barely referred to by Sir William Hope in his description of the Castle.² Mediaeval history or tradition was perhaps better-informed, for the fourteenth-century 'Colchester Chronicle' states that in the year 1076 'Eudo built the Castle at Colchester on the site of the palace of old King Cole (*Coelis quondam regis*)'³ i.e. on the site of a considerable Roman building. The walls of the enclosure, on the other hand, have long been tentatively identified with the Roman Forum. This identification was advocated by Dr. Henry Laver, F.S.A., and others, and unhesitatingly accepted by Sir William Hope. It has been seen, however, that a recension of the available information still leaves the problem in its initial stages, and we can only tentatively suppose that the evidence indicates a quadrangular area some 350 ft. broad from east to west, and perhaps rather more from north to south, bounded on at least two sides by variously paved compartments between two parallel systems of Roman walls, of which the inner may have supported a colonnade. Within the quadrangle and slightly west of its centre are the vaulted compartments which probably formed the substructure of a temple. The whole scheme, if verified, is reminiscent of that of the forum at Aosta (fig. 16).⁴ Here the middle of the quadrangle, enclosed on the east, north and south, by ranges of vaulted buildings which are commonly identified as public or military store-houses, is shared by an imperial statue and a temple. At Ostia, the forum adjoining the theatre is analogous in

¹ Dio Cass. lxi. 4.

² *Arch. Journ.* lxi. (1907), 188; also MSS. now in possession of the Colchester Corporation.

³ Morant, *Colchester*, i. 8.

⁴ Fig. 16 is adapted from C. Promis, *Antichità di Aosta*, pl. viii.

general arrangement, but the central position of the temple is unchallenged.¹ The fora of the great Gallic cities, which might be expected to offer analogies, are imperfectly known; that of Arles appears to have consisted of a quadrangle enclosed by vaulted buildings somewhat similar to those of Aosta.²

AOSTA FORUM, "GRANARY" & TEMPLES.

SKETCH PLAN

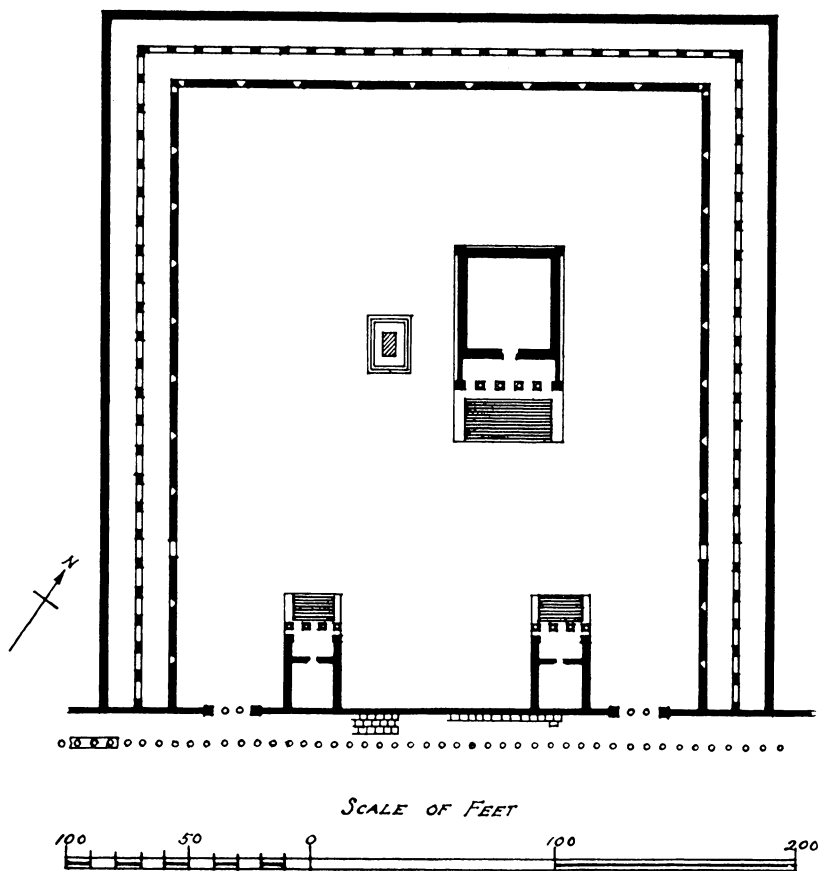


FIG. 16 (p. 147).

Passing from the forum to the slopes which lie between it and the northern wall of the town, we come to an area in which the existence of Roman buildings has been known since Mr. A. G. Wright detected indications of walls in the dry grass during the summer of

¹ *Dissertazioni della Pontificia Accademia Romana di Archeologia* (ser. ii), x, part ii (1912), fig. 61; and André, *Mélanges* (1891), xi, pl. viii.

² Vèran, *Bulletin de la société des amis de vieil Arles*, no. 4, Oct. 1908.

1906. Excavations carried out by the Morant Club in 1920 revealed the general plan of a considerable part of the *insula*, together with the line of the streets which limit it upon the south and west. These streets are of special importance, since they are the only Roman streets hitherto definitely detected by excavation within the walls of the town. The detailed report of the work may be anticipated by the following summary :—

The first street was found 310 ft. south of and parallel to the north wall of the town and extending across the whole width of the Park. It was from 23 to 25 ft. wide, but had at some period been reduced in width to rather less than 20 ft. The surface consisted of a very hard layer of pebbles and stone chippings grouted together with thin mortar; under it was a bedding of broken brick mixed with sand, clay and some yellow mortar. Both the earlier (lower) road and the later (higher) road are of similar section. The northern edge of the road is marked by a low retaining wall of septaria and brick, which was probably surmounted by a wooden paling.

At the west boundary of the Park this street was crossed by another, which ran partly under the modern Ryegate Road towards the site of the Roman North Gate.

Near the east boundary of the Park a gap 25 ft. wide occurred in the retaining wall of the first street. As this gap coincided with the end of the adjacent building and aligned with the east wall of the supposed forum, the excavators regarded it as evidence for the existence of another cross street here parallel to the second mentioned above. Further excavation is required to prove this conjecture.

The *insula*, which would thus be bounded by the three roads on the west, south and east, and by the town wall on the north, would measure 300 ft. by 420 ft. and would thus approximate very closely to the dimensions of the *insulae* adjoining the forum at Wroxeter. Within the *insula* excavations have revealed traces of the following buildings :—

(i) A double house of courtyard type, the two courts separated by a central range and enclosed by other ranges on the remaining sides. Three urns were found deliberately buried against the footings of this house—two against the west external wall and one in an internal angle; it is conjectured that they contained foundation offerings but their interest is that they can be assigned with some certainty to the period A.D. 60–90, and so give a date for the general lay-out of the plan. Underneath the building thus dated were fragments of earlier walls differently oriented, and near them were extensive traces of burning; similar burnt deposits were found under the lower street mentioned above and very probably represented part of the first city destroyed by the Iceni in A.D. 60.

(ii) Immediately west of (i) part of another house was found, consisting of a range of rooms opening towards the west upon a

corridor. Most of the rooms had tessellated floors; three, originally, had mosaics, but only small fragments of geometrical and guilloche pattern remained.

(iii) Further west, in the south-west angle of the *insula*, a room and part of an adjoining corridor with red tessellated pavements, were uncovered in 1892 and are still partly visible. The extent of the building to which they belonged is unknown.

The series thus represents a group of large and comfortable dwelling-houses situated perhaps in the most important quarter of the town and near one of the principal gates. The foundations betrayed plentiful evidence of enlargements and reconstructions at various periods, but their main axial lines may with probability be referred to the post-Boudiccan reconstruction of the town.

Such information as is available regarding the numerous Roman walls and pavements which have been found more or less casually from time to time within the town is tabulated at the end of this paper and on the accompanying plan. The evidence is sufficient to show that the area within the wall was thickly covered with buildings except for a limited space in the south-east quarter under the present Queen Street where there is some indication of the existence of brick kilns or clamps. Apart from these, modern drainage trenches, which revealed much elsewhere, were here almost entirely unproductive although they were carefully watched by the observant Wire. Further west, in Long Wyre Street, a group of three hypocaust furnaces suggests a bathing establishment of some magnitude, and other baths of importance have been partially revealed in the north-east quarter of the town, east or north-east of the Castle. North of High Street, at the south-east corner of East Stockwell Street, a very hard circular foundation, mentioned by Wire, may relate to a circular temple overlooking the main street. The diameter is said to have been 'between 20 ft. and 30 ft.,' but the remains are vaguely described and may have been merely those of an apse. Of more interest is the cellar of the cottage at the north-east corner of Maidenburgh Street, close to the site of town wall. The south wall of this cellar incorporates a large but little-known fragment of Roman brick walling containing a small semicircular arch (now blocked). Other buildings do not call for individual reference, but the abundance and richness of the mosaic pavements, which have been revealed at various times, bear witness to the general prosperity of the colony.

In one respect, the observations of local antiquaries have been singularly deficient. Although many of the Roman streets must have been cut from time to time during drainage and other operations, they have almost entirely failed to attract attention. In two places Wire thought to detect road-metal, but his evidence is extremely uncertain. The only streets definitely revealed by excavation were

those which were trenched last year in the Castle Park. Of these, it may be recalled, one lay east and west at a distance of 310 ft. south of the northern town wall and was traced for over 300 ft. across the Park. Between this street and the known north wall of the supposed forum is room for a narrow insula some 120 ft. broad of the type found in a corresponding position at Silchester. At its western end, the street was found to join another which crossed it at right-angles, proceeding northwards towards the old Roman North Gate and southwards along the west wall of the forum, where it was revealed by a trial pit at a depth of eight feet below the present surface. Remains of the Roman North Gate were still visible at the foot of the Castle Hill in the middle of the last century.¹ It stood some feet to the east of the mediaeval River Gate, but its exact position is not now known. At the eastern end of the first street, reason has been given above for assuming provisionally the existence of another transverse road, flanking the forum and the northern insula on the east.

Other evidence as to the street plan is of a less direct kind, but is worthy of consideration in three instances :—

1. The known positions of the east and west gates give the approximate line of the *decumanus maximus*.

2. In the north wall of the town, rather more than half-way between the North Gate and the north-east angle, a gateway was excavated and planned in 1845. No trace of a road is recorded but it is more than probable that the gateway was directly approached from the south, and some slight support for this supposition may be derived from the curious course followed by a culvert which ran through it. This culvert turns slightly westwards immediately inside the gateway before resuming its southerly direction and it may reasonably be supposed to follow this course in order to avoid running under a roadway here. The plan suggests a street as a natural completion of the scheme.

3. There are grounds for presuming the existence of a street approximately on the line of Head Street and North Hill. The evidence is based upon the well-supported conjecture that the mediaeval Head Gate represented a Roman predecessor on approximately the same site. Actual remains of this Roman gate are indeed said to have been observed during drainage works in 1913.² The presence of a Roman gate on the site of this the principal mediaeval gate of the town demands a brief explanation.

When the Colony was rebuilt in the latter part of the first century, the London road left the town by way of the Balkerne Gate, on passing which it turned sharply south-west, crossed the line of the present London road west of the Hospital, and proceeded towards an ancient entrance in the great Grimes Dyke at a point over half a mile

¹ *E.A.S.T.* (o.s.), i, p. 53.

² *E.A.S.T.* (n.s.), xiii, 107. The evidence, though

not doubted by the observer, was not perhaps beyond dispute.

south of Lexden (fig. 12). This diagonal road was flanked by the cemeteries which have produced a large proportion of the early Roman grave-furniture now in Colchester Museum. Its course can still be traced in several places in the form of a slight bank, and the actual road-metal has been seen from time to time, but it has been much damaged by agricultural operations. On reaching the Lexden Banks it turned curiously towards the north-north-west, and excavation has here again verified the slight indications which remain on the surface. It is possible that the bend is due to the junction of the Roman road at this point with an earlier track which passed obliquely through the defences. The passage through the outermost embankment is still clearly marked by a bend in the rampart and by the interruption of the ditch.

During the later Roman period, for reasons which we can only guess, the Balkerne Gate lost its pre-eminence amongst the city gateways. Its position was not naturally defended towards the west, and its extraordinary size, if not a source of weakness, was at least a source of considerable responsibility. Furthermore, as we have seen, the course of the road which passed through it was apparently a compromise with extraneous works and unnecessarily circuitous. For these and possibly other reasons, the gateway was reduced in size and the main road laid out on fresh lines, roughly coincident with those of the present London road. The older road fell into disrepair, was in part perhaps deliberately destroyed, and was entirely ignored in the later 'open field' system, which was aligned on its successor.¹

The new Roman road, like its modern representative, led to an opening in the south wall where later stood the Head Gate. Strategically, this change must have been for the good, for on this side the ground rises steeply from the valley which is even now liable to occasional floods. There is some evidence, moreover, that the defences were here supplemented by a fosse, although this was perhaps overbuilt before the end of the Roman period.² The V-shaped ditch which flanked the road can still be seen in section a few yards south of the modern road, in the cutting made a few years ago for St. Clare Road, between Colchester and Lexden.

In front of the Head Gate, this later London road was possibly joined by another Roman road which ran in a south-south-westerly direction towards Maldon and can still be identified at various points. In the angle formed by these roads lay the principal fourth-century cemetery of the town. The excavation of a gravel pit at the back of

¹ *E.A.S.T.* (n.s.) xiv, 203. Dr. Horace Round, in citing the open field system here as evidence of the complete obliteration of Roman landmarks after the evacuation, was under-estimating the antiquity of the road upon which the system hinged.

² Roman foundations were found close to the town wall in Crouch Street during 1913 (*E.A.S.T.* (n.s.) xiii, 107), but the extreme depth of the soil and débris here suggest the former existence of a ditch. The former 'Gutter Lane,' east of Crouch Street, doubtless represented a ditch here at some period.

Mill Cottages, Butt Road, in the middle of last century, produced a series of elaborate lead coffins and built graves with numerous coins largely of the Constantinian period. Other inhumation burials have been found immediately east of Butt Road, and appeared largely to have outnumbered cremation burials in this region. A sketch plan and full notes of these discoveries are preserved in the diary of the watchful Wire.

The evidence for a Roman gateway or postern on the site of the mediaeval North Gate, at the foot of North Hill, is more meagre. The principal Roman North Gate, as mentioned above, was considerably further east, and the main Roman north road leading from it is now doubtfully represented by a field-track some 400 yards east of the present Station Road. At the same time, Roman pavements and walls found adjoining and partly under the modern road north of the North Bridge¹ indicate some sort of extra-mural settlement here which would naturally have been approached directly from the town by a Roman road on approximately the same line. Roman cremation burials and foundations were found during the rebuilding of the North Bridge in 1843,² and lend some additional weight to this supposition.

The evidence for a street within the town on the general lines of Head Street and North Hill is slightly more substantial. A mysterious drain or gutter is vaguely described as having been found under the whole length of North Hill.³ Roman walls found during drainage operations 10 ft. west of St. Peter's churchyard (Schedule, no. 15) are notably in alignment with each other and suggest that their common boundary may have been a road. No pavements or walls are recorded to have been found crossing the two modern streets, and the exceptional straightness of these streets is suggestive. The evidence, though largely negative, is as much as can be hoped for under the circumstances, and, taken in conjunction with that put forward above, has indeed a positive value.

If we provisionally accept this circumstantial evidence, we add a probable sixth street to the town-plan. In summary, therefore, available information suggests the following framework as a basis for further reconstruction (fig. 17). The main street from east to west divides the town into two unequal parts, the southern part being two-thirds of the width of the northern. The parallel street exposed in the Castle Park should on analogy traverse the town as a lateral thoroughfare; and it will be found that the distance between it and the north wall is exactly one-third of the area north of the main street, or one-fifth of the total width of the town. This suggests the former existence of other lateral streets dividing the town from north to south into five almost equal parts.

¹ *E.A.S.T.* (n.s.) ii, 189; iii, 97.

² Wire's Diary; and *Gent. Mag.* 1843.

³ Wire's Diary, 25th March, 1845.

Crossing these streets at right-angles we have a framework of four other streets—those under Head Street and North Hill, under Ryegate Road, under the east side of the Castle Park, and immediately west of the old boundary wall running from the site of the Greyfriars to the Roman gateway excavated by Duncan. It is between the first two of these that the plan remains most obviously incomplete. The only modern street in this area under which no foundations or floors have

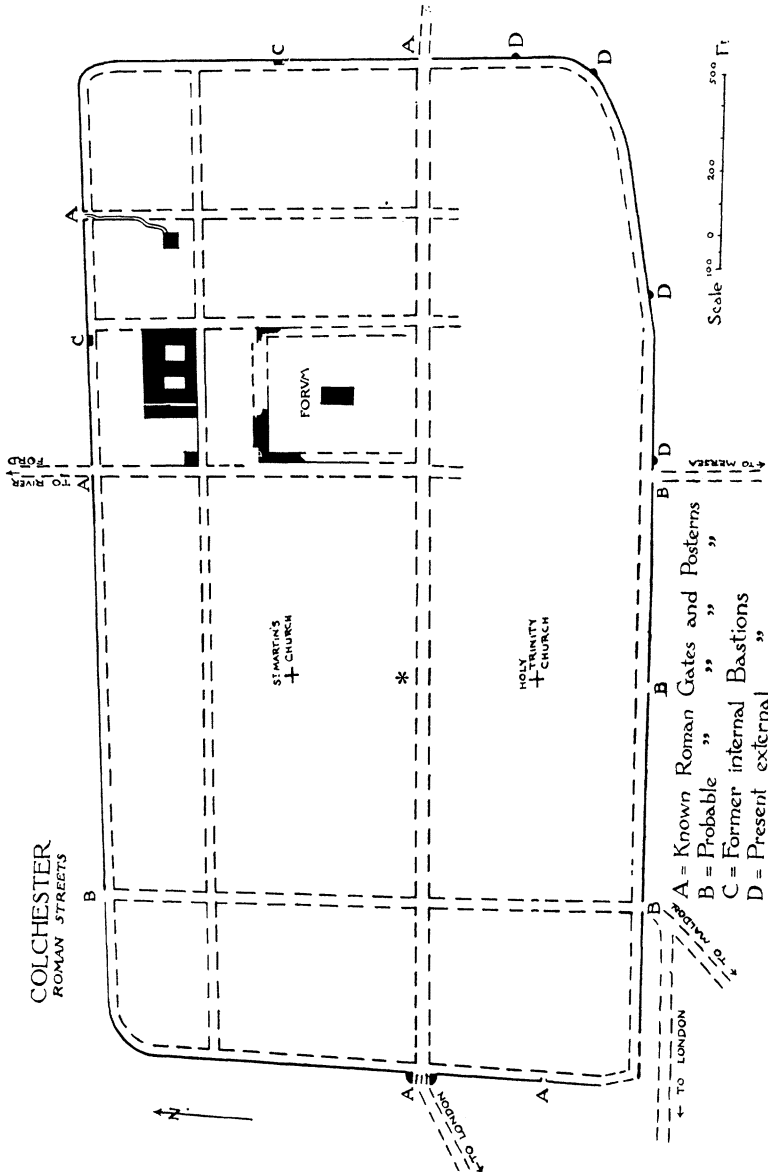


FIG. 17. PROBABLE NUCLEUS OF THE STREET-PLAN OF ROMAN COLCHESTER (p. 153).

been observed is Trinity Street with its northern continuation, West Stockwell Street. Now these two streets cut the area from east to west into two equal halves; and it may well be more than chance that along their line are two of the oldest surviving post-Roman buildings of the town. The Church of Holy Trinity, the west tower of which marks the eastern boundary of the modern street, was not only built, but was *rebuilt*, before the Norman Conquest,¹ and St. Martin's Church, further north, is an early twelfth-century building in a similar position². Without unduly forcing this type of evidence there is every inherent probability in the general supposition that in many cases the situation of Saxon churches indicates the lines of much earlier roads and boundaries. It is not unreasonable to suppose that the west doorway of Holy Trinity opened on to a Roman street, and the conjecture receives support from the exceptional straightness of the modern streets in question. At this point, however, legitimate evidence merges dangerously into geometrical theory, and though it is easy to complete the chessboard street-plan by logical inference on the basis already suggested, we must be content to await patiently more evidence from the spade.

The doom of the Roman town-plan, so far as we can recover it, was sealed by the builders of the Norman Castle. The ramparts which were raised upon the ruined walls of the 'forum' spread across the neighbouring streets, thus diverting the line of the High Street towards the south and blocking the direct approach to the old North Gate. A new road was laid down to the west of the encroaching defences, on the lines of the present Maidenburgh Street, and at its north end a new gate was cut in the wall of the town. The obliteration of the northern half of the main Roman cross-thoroughfare involved the decay or destruction of its continuation south of the High Street, and the old Mersea Road was now approached by the new St. Botolph's Gate directly opposite to and commanded by the Castle. The north-eastern quarter of the town between the Castle and the head-waters of the estuary was cleared for military purposes and, except for the intrusion of the Greyfriars, remained a desert until the nineteenth century. Here only ancient boundaries north of the Greyfriars may be thought to preserve some of the lines of long-buried streets. The western part of the town, beyond the immediate pale of the Castle, would be expected to retain something of its former plan, and in this area indeed we have shown reason to presume that three or four of the modern streets are ghosts of Roman ancestors.

With the exception of Verulam, no Romano-British town of similar rank offers so much open land within its walls as Colchester.

¹ The present tower incorporates work of two pre-Conquest dates.

² A third church, St. Runwalds, formerly stood

in the High Street in exact alignment with those mentioned. Its site is indicated by an asterisk on the plan, fig. 17.

Scientific excavation here on a considerable scale is long overdue and cannot fail to produce results of the first importance. Many tons of earth must be moved before the tentative conjectures offered in this paper can be confirmed or amended, but the present compilation of available evidence may serve as a starting point for the future explorer.

NOTE.—The following Schedule is restricted to Roman structural remains *within* the town-walls. On the key-plan (fig. 18) only those remains of which the position is precisely known are definitely indicated. In other cases the scheduled site is represented as nearly as possible by the centre of a small circle. The writers gratefully acknowledge the help of Miss M. V. Taylor, M.A., in collating some of the references, and Mr. Arthur G. Wright and Mr. A. W. Clapham, F.S.A., have kindly assisted in various details.

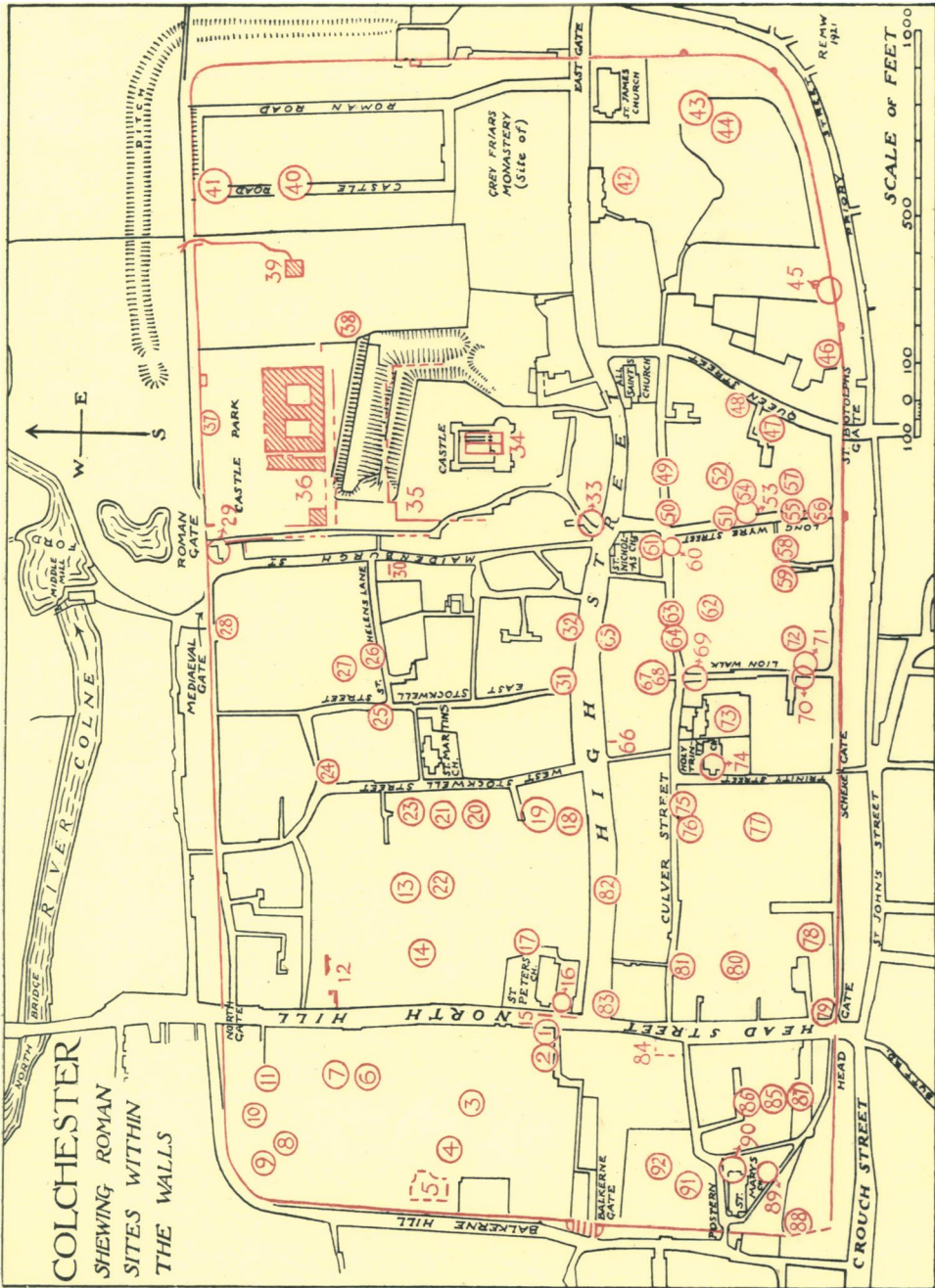


FIG. 18. KEY-PLAN (p. 158).
(Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map, with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.)

SCHEDULE OF ROMAN STRUCTURAL REMAINS AT COLCHESTER WITHIN THE TOWN WALLS.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
1.	—	At S.W. end of North Hill, under Simpkin's furniture shop.	Tessellated Pavement.	Wire.
2.	—	Behind Simpkin's furniture shop, doubtless part of same house as 1.	Tessellated P. and flues.	P. G. Laver.
3.	Various times since 1844.	W. of North Hill, in garden of St. Peter's vicarage.	Foundations, floors, painted plaster, etc. at a depth of 3 to 4 ft.	Wire. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 155.
4.	—	W. of North Hill, under summer house in garden formerly belonging to Mr. Hall.	Tessellated P. .	O.S. 10 ft. xxvii, 12, 3. P. G. Laver.
5.	1865	In garden formerly belonging to Mr. Hall, 132 yds. N. of Balcerne Gate and 32 ft. E. of W. wall of town.	Part of house of at least six rooms, with mosaics, flues, etc.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), iv, 53 (plan); v, 161. <i>B.A.A.</i> xxxi, 69, note. O.S. 10 ft. and 25 ins. xxvii. Coloured drawings of mosaics in Colchester Museum.
6.	—	N. or N.E. of 5 behind No. 47 North Hill (old numbers).	Tessellated P. .	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 155.
7.	March, 1849.	At back of 'Mr. Stirling McLean's house' (now No. 45 North Hill.)	Tessellated P. .	Wire.
8.	—	W.S.W. of the former Bowler's Brewery, W. of N. end of North Hill.	Tessellated P. .	O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
9.	22nd May, 1845.	In the field behind Bowler's Brewery.	Tessellated P. .	Wire.
10.	27th Dec. 1844.	In making a saw-pit behind Bowler's Brewery.	Mosaic. . . .	Wire. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 155. <i>B.A.A.</i> i, 54.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
11.	27th Sept. 1844.	At Bowler's Brewery.	Tessellated P. Perhaps same as 7.	Wire.
12.	Various dates.	E. of North Hill, in garden of No. 18 (formerly No. 16), Bryants, S. of Nunn's Cut; also adjoining this on the S.W., under passageway between Nos. 17 and 18.	Mosaics and Tessellated P's. Part of mosaic with ivy-leaf border in Colchester Museum.	Wire (plan). <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 156. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (n.s.), x, 84 (fig.). <i>B.A.A.</i> xii, 289. <i>Antiquary</i> , xlii, 447. <i>Essex County Standard</i> , 24th Nov. 1906 (photo). O.S. 10 ft. xxvii. P. G. Laver. P. G. Laver.
13.	1920.	100 yds. S.E. of 11, in Mr. Frost's garden, 100 yds. E. of North Hill.	Trench cut E. and W. revealed a hard gravelled surface (probably road or passage) and at distance of 22 ft. further E. a tessellated P. and foundations running N. and S.	
14.	1855.	In garden behind Chaise and Pair Inn.	Tessellated P.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 158.
15.	25th April, 1842.	In North Hill, near E. side, opposite St. Peter's Church.	Foundations running N. and S. in alignment with each other for a distance of 150 ft. or more (a).	Wire (sketch plan). See above, p. 153; and below, p. 169.
16.	Dec. 1842.	In St. Peter's churchyard, a few feet S. of the S.W. angle of the S. aisle, 'whilst digging a grave for J. Green's granddaughter, next to his.'	Concrete floor, at depth of 7 feet.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 155.
17.	Dec., 1849.	N.E. of St. Peter's churchyard during the rebuilding of the People's or Public Hall adjoining the Corn Exchange. The pavement lay 'on the E. side of the building where the foundation is at the S.E. curve.'	Tessellated P.	Wire. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 158. O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
18.	1762-3.	N. of High Street in rebuilding the Queen's Head or Falcon Inn, now the Three Cups, and in what was then 'the garden of Bernard the Apothecary.'	Elaborate mosaic P. and near it, part of another P. found during the demolition of a stable which was itself supposed to incorporate a Roman building.	<i>Phil. Trans.</i> nos. 255-6. Gibson's <i>Camden</i> , 1772, i, 356. Gough's <i>Camden</i> , 1789, i, 58. Stukeley's <i>Letters and Diaries</i> (Surtees Soc.), ii, 162-3. Morant, <i>Colchester</i> , 184 (plate), etc.
19.	About 1840 and 13th May, 1856.	Close to (18), on site of and near the Vegetable Market.	Mosaic P. and foundations.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 155 and 160. <i>B.A.A.</i> ii (1846), 366. Wright, <i>History of Colchester</i> , i, 295. Cutts, <i>Colchester</i> , map, p. 34, I, 7. O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
20.	Before 1771.	W. of West Stockwell Street (formerly Angel Lane), under the house (Mr. Daniel's), next S. of 21.	One or possibly two pavements.	<i>Arch.</i> ii, 290. Morant, <i>Colchester</i> , i, 183.
21 and 22.	1768-1771.	W. of West Stockwell Street, in kitchen garden of house opposite St. Martin's Church, 1768. In 1771 more was opened up at the S. end and under it was a stratum of burnt wheat. At the 'further end' of same garden, another pavement 'with something of an arch under it' was found in 1769.	Tessellated pavements and flue (?).	<i>Arch.</i> ii, 287.
23.	Before 1771.	Under or near house (then Mr. Wall's) next N. of 21.	Pavement.	<i>Arch.</i> ii, 290.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
24.	—	In yard of Inn (formerly the Bishop Blaise) at the N.E. corner of West Stockwell Street.	Tessellated P. ; partly destroyed and partly reburied.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (n.s.), x, 89.
25.	1793.	W. of East Stockwell Street (formerly Bear Lane) 'in the garden of Bragg the baker,' about 200 yds. N.E. by N. of 23.	Mosaic P. with leaf border, about 22 ft. by 17 ft. It extended beneath a stone wall into the adjoining garden where it could not be excavated. In Sept. 1794 it was rapidly being destroyed.	<i>Vet. Mon.</i> iii, pl. xxxix. <i>Gent. Mag.</i> 1794, ii, 801, etc.
26.	23rd Nov. 1855.	N. of St. Helen's Lane and probably under it, in burial ground of the Independent Chapel (Herrick's), 'not far from the mutilated remains of that found in 1793' (25).	Mosaic P. laid on a foundation of bricks set edgewise with a foot layer of broken granite chips and concrete on it (? an earlier road or passage).	<i>Gent. Mag.</i> 1794, ii, 801. <i>Arch.</i> xvi, 147. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 160.
27.	Before 1846.	In garden of house three doors N. of the Independent Chapel, St. Helen's Lane.	Tessellated P.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 160.
28.	1920	In Truslove's Yard, in North Gate Street.	Tessellated P. and foundations.	P. G. Laver.
29.	—	At N.E. corner of Maidenburgh Street, adjoining site of N. wall of town.	The S. wall of the cellar of the house incorporates a piece of Roman brick walling containing an arch, now blocked. The wall and arch are now buried below the springing of the latter, but the wall is still visible to a height of 6 ft. and a similar breadth from E. to W. The work is good and probably not later than the second century A.D.	Mentioned by Wire (cf. above, p. 150).

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
30.	—	Adjoining St. Helen's Chapel, on the N.	Short length of walling of septaria surmounted by triple course of Roman brick, still visible. Presumably Roman.	Visible.
31.	1842 and 1845.	At the S.E. corner of High Street and East Stockwell St. under the former Bear P. H.	Mosaic P., nearly 3 ft. by 6 ft., found 6 ft. deep and destroyed. Near by were remains of a 'circular building between 20 and 30 ft. in diameter.' (b).	Wire, 13th Dec. 1845. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 154-5 (cf. above, p. 150; and below, p. 169).
32.	Before 1907.	On N. side of High Street, in enlarging Wick's wine cellar, next W. of the George Hotel.	Tessellated P., destroyed.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (n.s.), x, 89.
33.	1917.	Under Museum Street	Fragment of wall, possibly Roman, running E. and W.	P. G. Laver.
34.	—	Under the Castle	Vaulted structure	Above, p. 146.
35.	1842, 1892, etc.	Under ramparts of Castle Bailey.	Walls and pavements	Above, p. 144.
36.	1906 and 1920.	In Castle Park, S. of town wall.	Buildings and streets	Above, p. 148.
37.	—	At N. end of Sheep's Head Field (now Castle Park) immediately S. of town wall.	Burnt débris resting on 'a long row of tesserae' so continuous that it was thought to be a path inside the wall.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), i, 54.
38.	About 1848.	N.E. of the N.E. angle of the Castle ramparts and immediately E. of the refreshment room in the Park.	Tessellated P.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), i, 226; v, 157. O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
39.	1853.	N.E. of the Castle, in the 'Hollytrees' grounds (c).	A building 30ft. square with double walls, clay being rammed between them, and a concrete floor, furrowed by wide gutters and a spring still filling it was partly excavated by Duncan. Three feet above the floor was an arched opening 2 ft. square, forming the mouth of a culvert which was traced for a distance of 200 ft. north to a gateway in the town wall. The culvert after passing through the gateway branched into two and was traced for a distance of 56 ft. outside the walls. In the building from which it led was a large spiral spring for a trap which would close the culvert when the water in the well rose only 5 ft. high.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), i, 210 (plan).
40.	About 1852.	Under Castle Road, opposite Radnor Terrace, towards the W. end of former Botanical Gardens.	Tessellated P., 18 ins. below surface. A well worn 2B. of Faustina the Elder was found underneath the concrete bed of the pavement.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 159.
41.	About 1852.	A little N. of 40	Layers of wood ashes found 2½ ft. below surface, and a little further E. a flagstone floor 6 ft. square bearing traces of fire. Still further E. a fragmentary floor of Roman tiles 3 ft.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 159.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
			below surface, continued by a path of septaria and pebbles 3 ft. wide and of unknown length.	
42.	—	S. of High Street, 80yds. S. of East Hill House.	Pavement . . .	O.S. 10ft. xxvii, 12, 4.
43.	Before 1768.	In grounds of East Hill House, probably within the N.E. corner of the meadow, 130 ft. W. of the E. wall as marked on the O.S. 10 ft. xxvii, 12, 9.	Mosaic P., red and white with 'star-like' pattern.	Morant, <i>Colchester</i> , i, 183. <i>Arch.</i> xvi, 147.
44.	Feb. 1907.	S. of East Hill House, in levelling the bowling green.	Large piece of tessellated pavement and 10 ft. from it a smaller piece and a geometrical mosaic pattern.	<i>Daily Telegraph</i> , 4th Feb. 1907. <i>Essex Weekly News</i> , 1st Feb. 1907.
45.	—	Under S. wall of town	Pavements and foundations.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), i, 37, 57. <i>A. J.</i> lxiv, 216.
46.	1920.	E. of the former Theatre (now garage) near the S.E. corner of Queen Street, and about 20 ft. N. from the town wall.	Pavement . . .	P. G. Laver.
47.	1848.	W. of Queen Street, opposite house No. 27	Pavement or paved way.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 157. O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
48.	Sept. 1848.	A little N. of 47, about half-way up Queen Street.	Roman brick floor; destroyed.	Wire.
49.	—	In Culver Street, opposite garage on site of old Grammar School	Very hard foundation-wall crossing the street at right-angles.	Wire (sketch-plan).
50.	Oct. 1848.	Under Culver Street, E. of Long Wyre Street, opposite the backway to the Cross Keys P. H.	Very hard foundations of septaria and a floor of Roman tiles.	<i>B.A.A.</i> v, 86. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 158. O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
51.	Aug. 1848.	Under Long Wyre Street, about 150 ft. S. of Culver Street, opposite the entrance to Smith's Yard.	Two hypocaust flues, and near them three arched hypocaust fire-places covered internally with soot, at a depth of 7 ft. from the surface. More remains under the footpath were not opened. The remains were re-buried except for one fire-place, which was damaged (<i>d</i>).	Wire (sketch plan). <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 157. <i>B.A.A.</i> v, 87.
52.	Before 1850.	Approximately E. of 51 under the soil-pit of a house overlooking Long Wyre Street.	'A very pretty mosaic pavement.'	Wire (sketch-plan).
53.	—	Under Long Wyre Street, at the entrance to Albion Court.	Pavement . .	O.S. 10ft. xxvii, 12, 9. (Apparently no other authority.)
54.	Sept. 1848.	In Albion Court, on E. side of Long Wyre Street opposite the third and fourth doors on the N. side of the Court.	Pavement . .	Wire sketch-plan). <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 157.
55.	1848.	S. of 53 crossing Long Wyre Street 'at an angle.'	Foundation-wall .	Wire (sketch-plan).
56.	1848.	S. of 55, under same street.	At intervals, successively a tessellated pavement and a floor of Roman tiles, the latter close to the S. end of the street.	Wire (sketch-plan).
57.	1892.	E. of 55, in alterations at Lock's furniture shop, under an old chimney and extending over a long part of the house.	Mosaic with spiral border. Two pieces given to Colchester Museum.	<i>Antiq.</i> xxvii, 24. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (n.s.), x, 89.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
58 and 59.	—	In Victoria Place, at S.W. end of Long Wyre Street, each 130 ft. N. of Eld Lane, and 140 ft. and 70 ft. W. of Long Wyre Street respectively.	Two pavements .	<i>B.A.A.</i> v, 86 <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 157. O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
60.	1848.	Under Culver Street, S. of St. Nicholas graveyard and immediately W. of Long Wyre Street.	Foundations . .	Wire (sketch-plan).
61.	23rd Dec. 1842.	In St. Nicholas churchyard.	Foundations, etc. (e)	Wire.
62, 63, and 64.	—	In Culver Street, between Long Wyre Street and Trinity Street, and S. of Culver Street.	Foundations and tessellated P.	O.S. 10 ft. xxvii. (Apparently no other authority.)
65.	Before 30th April, 1842.	'On the premises of Mr. Salmon, linen-draper, No. 50, High Street,' now No. 48.	Tessellated P. .	Wire
66.	Still visible.	S. of High Street, 50 yds. W. of Red Lion Inn, in E. wall of cellar of Hopwood's, jewellers, 2½ ft. S. of the street wall.	Fragments of Roman wall consisting of ten courses of brick on rubble footing.	A. W. Clapham.
67 and 68.	Before 1762, in June, 1849, and in 1857.	Under the yard of the Red Lion Inn.	Two, possibly three, pavements; one of black and white tesserae, and another an elaborate mosaic.	Morant, <i>Colchester</i> , i, 53. <i>B.A.A.</i> v, 87. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 158; (n.s.) x, 87.
69.	Before 1849.	In Lion Walk, at the N. end.	Pavement; destroyed.	Wire (sketch-plan). <i>B.A.A.</i> x, 96.
70.	1849.	In Lion Walk, near the S. end, about 20 ft. from Eld Lane.	Mosaic P. . .	Wire (sketch-plan). <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 157-8.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
71.	1843.	In graveyard of Lion Walk Chapel, about 30 ft. E. of Lion Walk, where grave being dug for T. B. Harvey.	Tesselated P.	Wire.
72.	—	E. of 71 adjoining the wall dividing this graveyard from the next on the E.	Tesselated P.	O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
73.	1748, etc.	W. of Trinity Street, in garden of Trinity House (now Messrs. Cooper & Garrod's, formerly Sir Peter Creffield's).	Tesselated P., nearly 3 ft. below the surface.	Morant, <i>Colchester</i> , i, 183. Brayley and Britton, v, 293. Cutts, <i>Colchester</i> (plan). O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
74.	—	E. of Trinity Street, opposite the 'house of Worts, Surgeon,' Nos. 5 and 6 Trinity Street.	'Very hard foundations' at depth of 5 ft.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 158. O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
75.	—	N. of 77, at the Culver Street back-entrance of No. 1 Trinity Street.	Tesselated P., at a depth of 6 ft.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (n.s.), x, 88.
76.	1880.	S.W. of 75, in garden of No. 1 Trinity Street.	Foundations . . .	P. G. Laver.
77.	—	W. of Trinity Street, in garden of 'Francis the solicitor.'	Tesselated P.	Cutts, <i>Colchester</i> (plan). O.S. 10 ft. xxvii, 128.
78.	—	In Sir Isaac's Walk, under the Friends' Meeting House.	Pavement . . .	O.S. 10 ft. xxvii, 128.
79.	—	Under the house at the N. corner of Head Street and Sir Isaac's Walk.	Tesselated P.	Cutts, <i>Colchester</i> (plan). O.S. 10 ft. xxvii, 12, 8.
80.	May, 1881.	E. of Head Street, under part of Mumford's Iron Foundry, formerly Mrs. Prosser's garden.	Mosaic P., with central vase, guilloche, ivy-leaves, etc., and fragments of walls and plaster; at a depth of 5 ft.; re-buried.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (n.s.), iii, 14 (plate); x, 88. <i>P.S.A.</i> (2 s.) viii, 343.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
81.	1886.	Partly under Culver Street and partly under adjacent buildings, at the gateway to Mumford's Iron Foundry, 60 yds. E. of Head Street.	Mosaic and foundations; part of mosaic now in Colchester Museum. Close by, down the former 'Hitchcock's Backway,' opposite Bank passage, roof tiles were found.	<i>Builder</i> , 5th Nov. 1886, 682. <i>Antiq.</i> xv, 29. <i>B.A.A.</i> ix 195. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (n.s.), iii, 206 and 88. <i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.), v, 160.
81.	Jan. 1920.	In High Street, S. of tram-lines, about 300 ft. from W. end of street.	Two walls of brick and septaria running E. and W.	P. G. Laver.
83.	—	On S. side of High Street, at the W. end.	Foundations, etc., are known to exist beneath several of the buildings here.	O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
84.	—	W. of Head Street, at the N. angle of Church Street and Head Street.	'A concrete road apparently Roman' seen here and vaguely described. It can hardly be accepted as evidence, although a Roman street probably ran near this site.	Wire.
85.	1893.	W. of Head Street, at back of King's Head Inn, in making a strong-room for Mr. Howard's office.	Foundations and tessellated P.	P. G. Laver.
86.	—	N. of 85, in Mr. Inglis's garden.	Tessellated P.	P. G. Laver.
87.	1892.	In garden S. of 85	Foundations, etc.	P. G. Laver.
88.	About 1871.	A little S. of St. Mary's Church and Church Street South, in the garden of St. Mary's Cottage.	Tessellated P.; taken up and relaid in the veranda of the house.	<i>E.A.S.T.</i> (o.s.) v, 160. Cutts, <i>Colchester</i> (plan). O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
89.	—	In graveyard S. of St. Mary's Church.	Pieces of tessellated P. found at considerable distances apart during the digging of graves.	Morant, <i>Colchester</i> , i, 183.

No.	Date of find.	Original site.	Remarks.	Authorities.
90.	—	Under E. end of St. Mary's Church.	Foundations and tessellated P.	O.S. 10 ft. xxvii.
91.	—	In cherry garden, N. of the old Rectory which was immediately N. of St. Mary's Church.	Tessellated P.	Morant, <i>Colchester</i> , i, 183.
92.	1871	Under E. wall of S.E. bay window of the modern St. Mary's Rectory.	Foundations and tessellated P.	Cutts, <i>Colchester</i> (plan).

(a) No. 15.—'At the termination was a Roman road 10 ft. in width and which appeared to cross the hill.'—(Wire). Wire's sketch-plan shows this wall and 'road,' and immediately south of the latter a further wall in line with the first and running up the hill as far as the junction with the High Street. There is some reason to suppose that these walls represent the eastern edge of a Roman street running partly under Head Street and North Hill. The 'road' mentioned by Wire may have been a passage between two houses, or the entrance to a courtyard; its proximity to the line of the main (High) street and its narrow width put it out of court as one of the Roman streets of the town.

(b) No. 31.—'Mr. Clark, bricklayer, informs me that when digging to enlarge the cellar of the Bear Inn at the corner of East Stockwell and High Streets (the house—apparently of Henry VII's time—had been removed), he came upon a circular building between 20 and 30 ft. in diameter. In consequence of the almost impossibility of breaking it up, the cellar was left at its original depth. The premises occupied by Mrs. Dennis stand where the Inn did.'—Wire's *Diary*, Dec. 13th, 1845.

(c) No. 39.—There is some diversity of opinion as to the exact position of the above building. Duncan's plan is apparently a careful survey and places the building about 200 ft. south of the town wall and therefore *north-east* of the Castle. This is doubtless

correct. Later sketch-plans—Buckler, *Colchester Castle*, 1877, p. 43; and Cutts, *Colchester* (plan)—place the building nearly 500 ft. south of the town wall. Fragments of a sewer do in fact exist at this point and are shown on the 10 ft. O.S., but there appears to be no authority for identifying them with the system discovered in 1853.

(d) No. 51.—Near these remains a tessellated pavement and a floor of 'red polished earth' were found in Aug. 1848 at a depth of 4 ft. below the surface of the street, opposite 'Peck the basket-maker.' The exact site is now unknown.—*E.A.S.T.* (o.s.), v. 157.

(e) No. 61.—'Our attention was turned to some fragments of an old wall thrown up by a person digging a grave, when the Clerk took occasion to observe that in digging graves it was no uncommon thing to meet with a foundation corresponding to the town wall and which appeared to run north and south. When digging the grave for Mr. Gentry it was originally intended to be 9 ft. deep, but in consequence of meeting with a foundation it could not be of that depth. The Clerk to St. Nicholas informs me that when digging a grave in that churchyard he came upon what seemed to him a brick damp for burning bricks and on another occasion a quantity of wood ashes.'—Wire's *Diary*, 23rd Dec., 1842. The exact position of Mr. Gentry's grave appears to be unknown.