EIGHTH INTERIM REPORT ON EXCAVATIONS IN THE IRON AGE HILL-FORT AND ROMANO-BRITISH IRON-WORKING SETTLEMENT AT GARDEN HILL, HARTFIELD, EAST SUSSEX

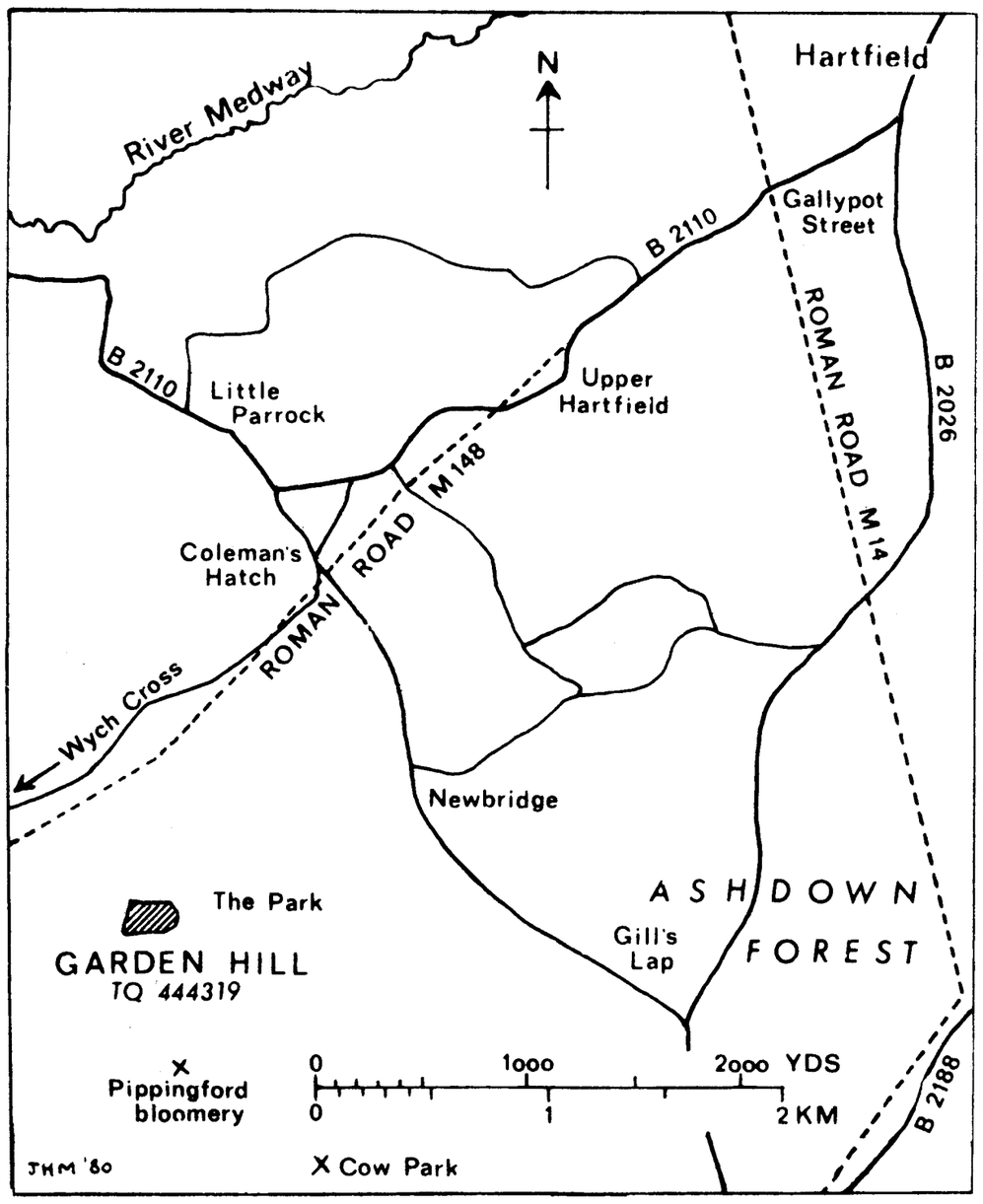

Fig. 1. *The location of Garden Hill.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Garden Hill,[1] part of an area known as 'The Park', is a NE-pointing spur of high ground 1½ miles (2.4 km) east of Wych Cross and 3½ miles (5.6 km) SW of Hartfield (in which parish of East Sussex it lies), between 500 and 550 feet above sea level. The nearest towns are Tunbridge Wells, 10 miles (16 km) north-east, and East Grinstead, 5 miles (8 km) north-west. The ground falls away fairly steeply on the north, south and east sides of the hill, but there is a level approach from the west. The subsoil is Ashdown Sand. The top of the hill is mainly flat, growing luxuriant bracken, with a sprinkling of trees, chiefly sweet chestnut and birch, but including a few very old yews.

Garden Hill lies near a minor Roman road (Margary 148), which in turn connects with the main London-Lewes road (Margary 14) at Gallypot Street.[2] If, as is likely, a road linked the Romano-British settlement to Route 148, it would probably have been on the NW side, where the intervening ground is flat (Fig. 1).

It is clear from the archaeological excavation that sometime in the past the hill-top was lightly ploughed and, as part of The Park, it may have been under grass. At present, Garden Hill lies within the Army Training Area of Pippingford Park and is owned by the Ministry of Defence.

In 1968 Mr. C. F. Tebbutt, FSA, discovered the earthwork which encloses an oblong area of about 6.8 acres (2.7 hectares) on the hill and has been proved to be a late Iron Age hill-fort with a typical inturned entrance at the NE corner; there is possibly another entrance at the NW corner.

1. Before the late seventeenth-century enclosures of the Forest, the hill was within the pale of Ashdown Forest. In the Parliamentary Surveys of Sussex (1658) it is called 'Gardine Hill', see *Sussex Archaeological Collections (SxAC)*, xxiii (1871), 251; the eighteenth-century Hartfield parish ratebooks call it 'Garden Hill'.

2. I. D. Margary, *Sussex Notes and Queries*, xvi, 330, and *Roman Roads in Britain* (London 1973), 37 and 59-62.

After promising trial excavations in the SE corner by Mr. Tebbutt, in which first-century AD Romano-British material was found,[3] the earthwork and the area which it enclosed were scheduled as an Ancient Monument by the then Ministry of Public Buildings and Works, fenced off from the rest of the Training Area and placed out of bounds to troops. The earthwork was surveyed and a plan drawn by Mr. E. W. Holden, FSA (Fig. 3).

In 1972 a small group, directed by Mr. J. H. Money, MA, FSA, and Mr. Tebbutt, investigated an area where buried structures were evident and excavated what turned out to be a small but complete second-century AD Romano-British bath-building.

Formation of the Garden Hill Excavation Group

Following these encouraging results the Garden Hill Excavation Group was formed with the support of the Sussex Archaeological Society, and excavation on a much larger scale has taken place annually since 1973. These excavations have produced traces of Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and early pre-Roman Iron Age occupation of the hill-top, and uncovered remains of a late pre-Roman Iron Age hill-fort. A pre-Roman and Romano-British iron-working settlement appears to have existed in the latter half of the first century BC and continued until at least the middle of the third century AD.[4]

The Group (whose Officers and Committee are listed on the last page) is registered as Charity No. 266794; it is affiliated to the Council for British Archaeology and the Sussex Archaeological Society.

2. SUMMARY OF WORK

After eight years the following chronological account can be given. Reference is made throughout to the gridded plan at Fig. 8.

Period I (Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and early pre-Roman Iron Age)

An assemblage of 658 pieces of flint includes 24 cores, 80 scrapers, a tanged arrowhead and three transverse arrowheads (Fig. 2), part of a polished axe, two knives, two ground-edge blades and 56 other retouched pieces. Three microliths (a narrow obliquely blunted point and two narrow 'rods') indicate a late Mesolithic presence, although not necessarily occupation, on the site. All the remaining artifacts can be placed in the Neolithic/Bronze Age period. There are also 41 complete fragmentary 'pounders' or 'rubbers' of a type which has been found on other prehistoric sites, principally Neolithic. They could, however, relate to any period in the occupation of Garden Hill.

In and under the rampart of the late Iron Age hill-fort a few pieces of Bronze Age pottery and other sherds which could be of early Iron Age date were found.

Period II (late pre-Roman Iron Age)

Late pre-Roman Iron Age occupation is represented by the hill-fort (Fig. 3), two round-houses (Building D in G9/G10/H9/H10 and Building G in J9/J10/K9/K10), a forging hearth (K5), another (probably domestic) hearth (E3) and a baking oven (L3).

3. C. F. Tebbutt, 'Garden Hill Camp, Hartfield', *SxAC*, cviii(1970), 39-49.

4. J. H. Money, *Current Archaeology*, 41 (1973), 185-8; *Britannia*, viii(1977), 339-50; see also *Britannia*, iv(1973), 321, 333; v(1974), 458; vi(1975), 282; vii(1976), 373-4; ix(1978), 467, 481; and x(1979), 333-4.

The two round-houses were established on an artificially levelled area. Both were severely mutilated by later occupation, but enough evidence remains to show their general character. Building G, 37 feet (11.3 m) in diameter, had a centre-post and a variety of posts and stakes round the perimeter. It incorporated two four-post structures, one on the east and the other on the west, which were probably porches. Building D, 35 feet (10.7 m) in diameter, which may also have had a centre-post, had similar perimeter-posts and stakes, but no trace of an entrance has yet been found.

The hearth (E3) and baking oven (L3), both of which were dug into the clay make-up of the rampart, have an archaeomagnetic date which appears to be mid-first-century BC; no date was obtained for the adjacent hearth (E2). On archaeomagnetic evidence, the forging hearth (K5) is probably contemporary with the hearth and oven or slightly later, but it is not later than the end of the first century BC.[5]

The fort was mainly univallate, but probably bi- or multi-vallate on the west, where the approach is across level ground. The inturned east entrance had stone-revetted and palisaded banks, through which ran a metalled road; there were two sets of stone-packed gate-posts (D2/D3/D4).

Stratified pottery from the old land-surface under the rampart included a few sherds which are unlikely to be earlier than the mid-first century BC.

The mid-first century BC archaeomagnetic dates of the hearth and oven must be later than the construction of the rampart, and, if the dating of the pottery sealed beneath it is reliable, then the defences would have been erected at about this time. The position of the oven, however, near the crest of the denuded rampart, is not compatible with defence. It may be, therefore, that the oven is somewhat later than the construction of the bank, in which case the pottery forms would have originated earlier than hitherto supposed. It is not possible to establish a precise chronology, and the circumstances which prompted erection of the defences are not known.

5. This interpretation of the archaeomagnetic measurements, which is given by Mr. A. J. Clark, FSA, Ancient Monuments Laboratory, is based in part on the archaeomagnetic results obtained for the Surrey hill-forts of Holmbury and Hascombe, which coincided closely with the Garden Hill results, and is strengthened by the finding of potin coins (?60-50 BC) at Hascombe (report forthcoming in *Antiquaries Journal (Antiq. J.)*, lix(1979) ii).

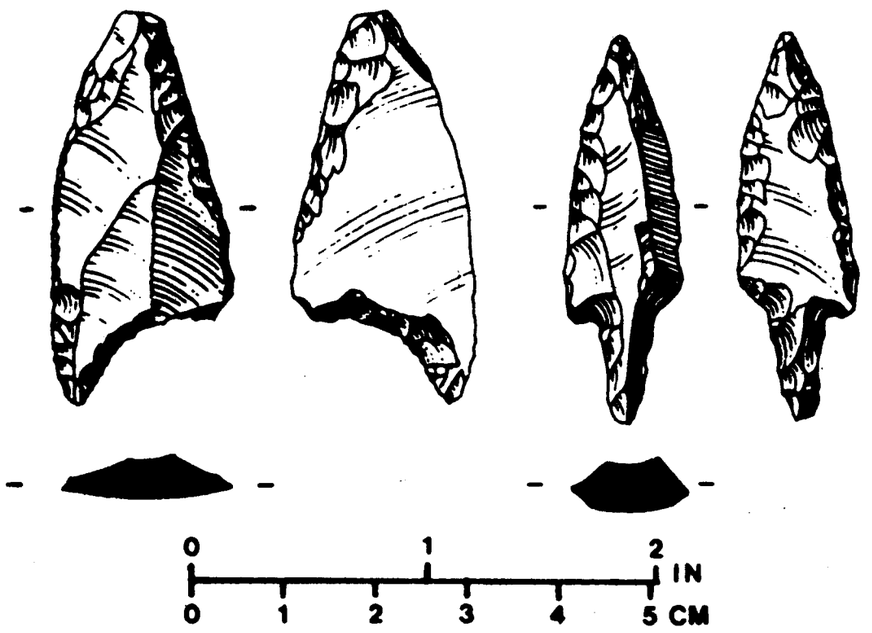

Fig. 2. (Drawn by Mrs. Karen Hughes)
Transverse (l) *and tanged* (r) *arrowheads. Neolithic/Early Bronze Age.*

A section cut through the bank and ditch (B1/B2/B3) just north of the entrance showed a stone-revetted and palisaded rampart behind a broad flat ditch. The absence of significant silting between the bottom of the ditch and fallen revetting stones suggests that the fortifications of Garden Hill collapsed or were thrown down soon after their construction. There was no evidence that the defences were ever used again or the settlement refortified.

Period III (Romano-British: late first/early second century)

The earliest Romano-British remains are the foundations of a rectangular building (Building C in F8/G8/H8) measuring 11 by 30 feet (3.3 by 9 m), with which are associated many iron nails.

Absolute dating is difficult, but Dr. M. G. Fulford, FSA, and Mr. R. J. Pollard, BA, University of Reading, who have examined all the pottery from the

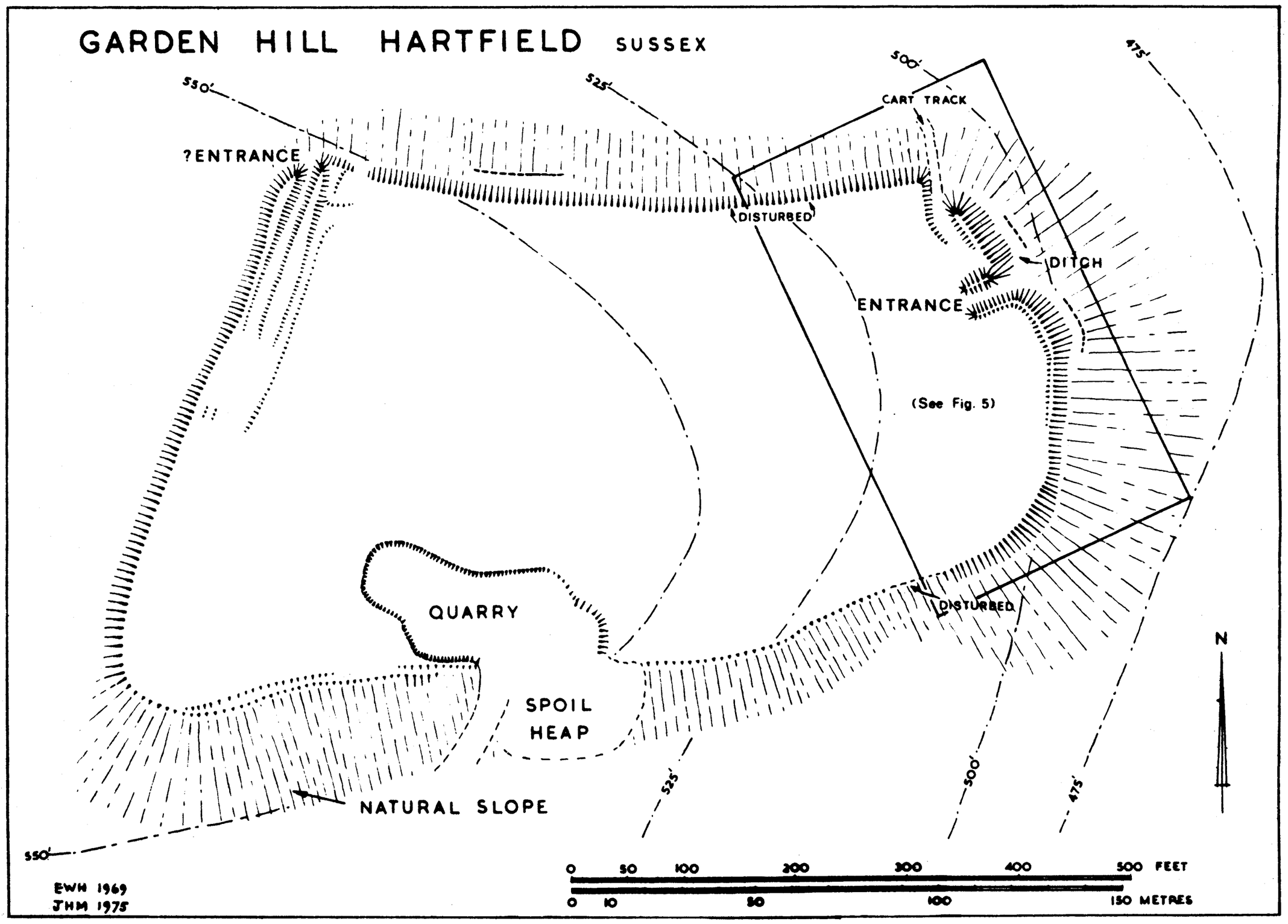

Fig. 3. *General plan of Iron Age hill-fort on Garden Hill.*

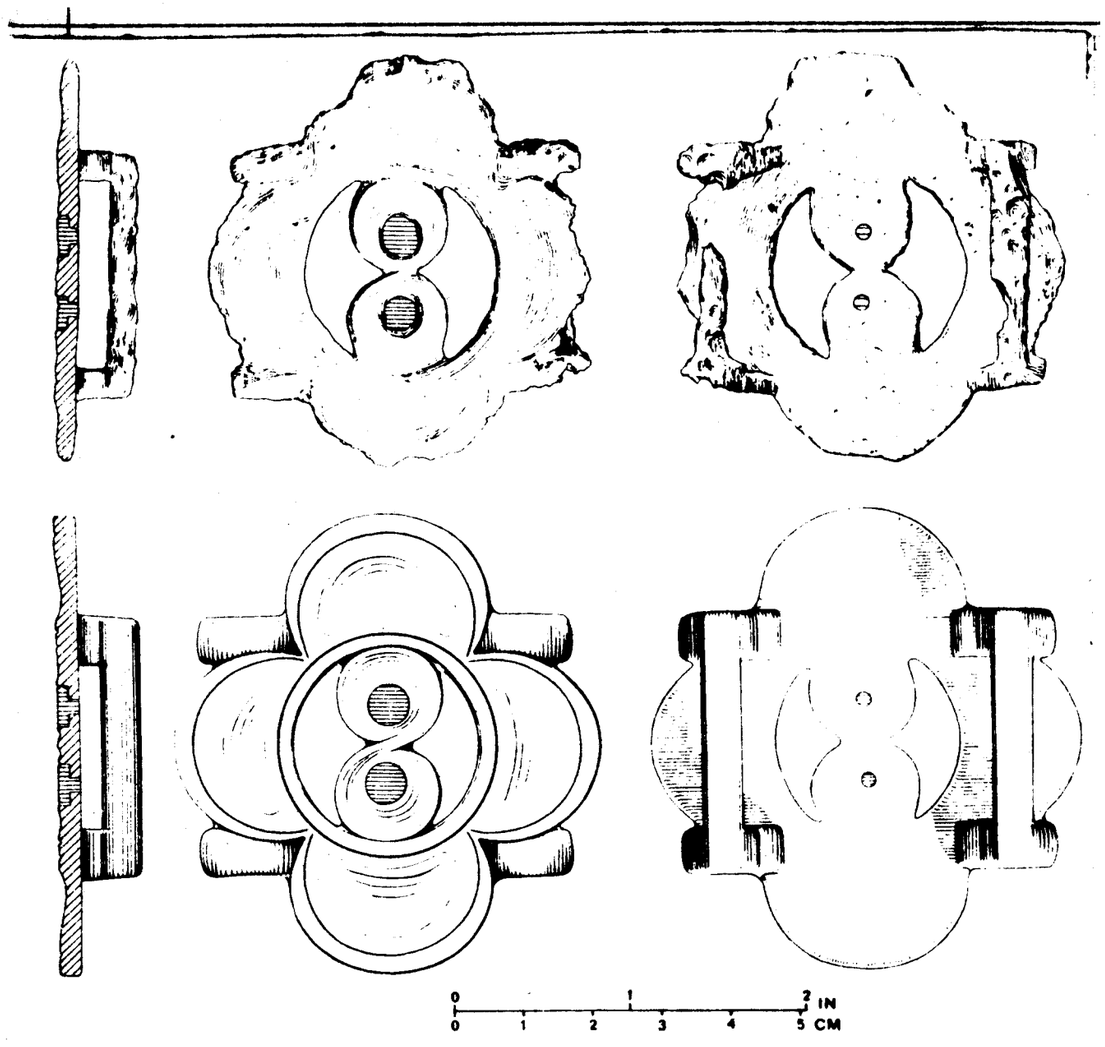

Fig. 4. (Drawn by R. J. Pengelly)
Bronze device for joining two straps: in its present state (above) *and reconstructed* (below). *First century AD.*

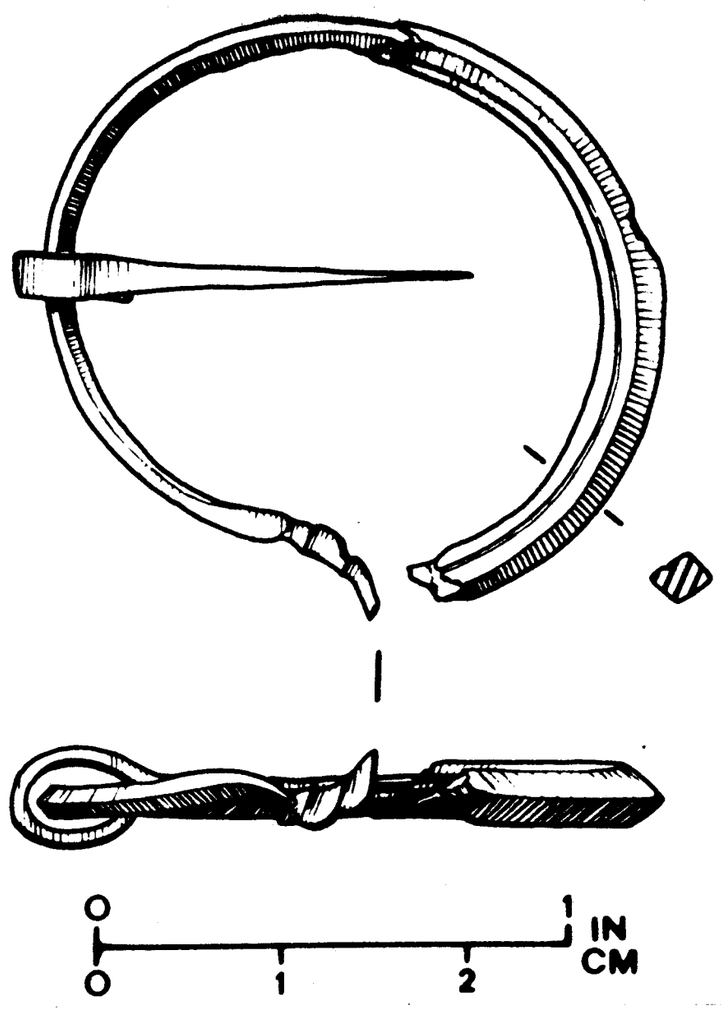

Fig. 5. (Drawn by Mrs. S. Heaser)
Penannular brooch. The ring is formed of a four-sided piece of bronze and has a decorative groove on one facet. One terminal is missing, and the other is damaged. First century AD.

first six seasons of excavation, have found little datable first-century material apart from some which is late in the century. Apart from pottery, portable finds of first-century date include: a *denarius* of Vespasian (AD 70-72), which, being very worn, may have been dropped somewhat later; two strap-unions (one at Fig. 4), a penannular brooch (Fig. 5) and two 'dolphin' brooches, all of bronze. Period III occupation, therefore, probably belongs to the late first/early second century.

Period IV (Romano-British: second century)
Associated samian pottery suggests that during the second century a timber building (Building B in G6/G7/G8/G9) measuring 30 by 34 feet (9.1 by 10.3 m), substantial enough to be called a 'villa',[6] was constructed on a stone platform immediately to the east of Building C (which may have continued in use) and over earlier occupation debris. Attached to it on the north side was a bath-building 30 feet (9 m) long,

6. This account is based on suggestions by Dr. Graham Webster, FSA, University of Birmingham.

of stone and with a tiled roof (Building A in F5/F6/F7). Building B had an entrance at its SW corner communicating with Building C, if this was still standing. There was another entrance at the SE corner and possibly also a small room which incorporated the platform in H5 and the protruding stone foundation in H6.

The Bath (F5/F6/F7) had a long stoke-hole with position for boiler, a hot room with bath annexe, tepid room, cold room and cold plunge (Fig. 6). The cold room had walls plastered with *opus signinum*, surviving to a height of about 6 in (15 cm), and flooring of local sandstone set in orange-red clayey mortar; there was a quarter-moulding at the junction of wall and floor, and the room was drained by a lead outlet pipe. The cold plunge, which had a step, was also plastered with *opus signinum*, surviving to a height of 18 in (46 cm), floored with sandstone slabs and provided with another pipe. The outlets of both rooms drained into gullies, one of which led into a sump near the bath, and the other (D6/E6) ran down-hill into a pit (D5) near the Iron Age entrance,

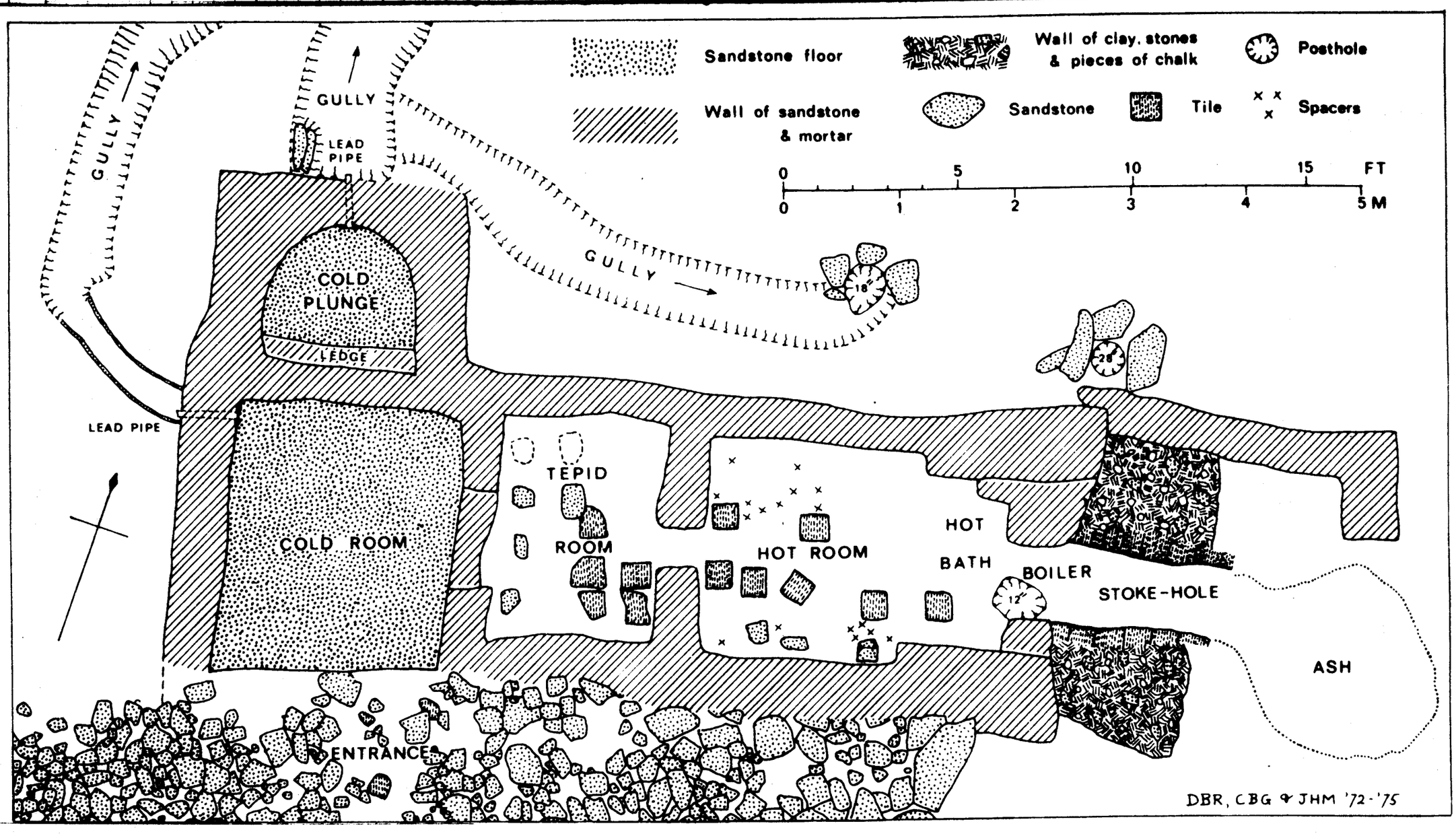

Fig. 6. *Plan of bath-house (Building A).*

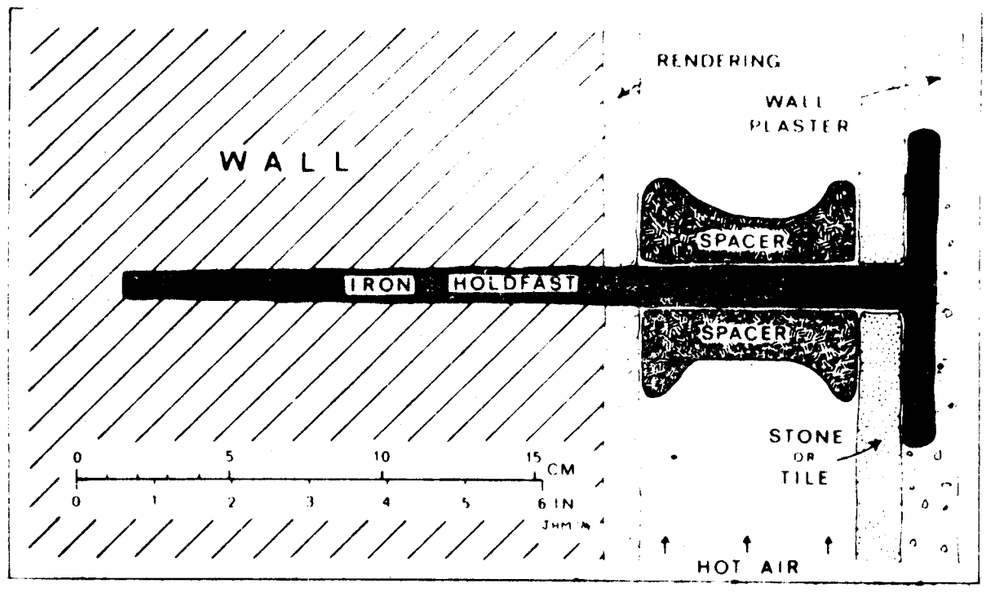

Fig. 7. *Diagram showing arrangement of spacer and holdfast (based on sketch by C. M. Daniels, FSA).*

which, even if still used for traffic, can no longer have been part of a defensive system.

What were left of the *pilae* of the hot room were made of tiles. In the debris of the hot room the remains of 18 baked-clay 'spacers' were found, one still threaded on its iron hold-fast (Fig. 7), for use in the vertical hot-air flues.[7] In the tepid room, where the heat would not have been enough to disintegrate the local sandstone, some of the *pilae* were of this material rather than the more expensive tiles.

The construction of the bath as a whole was rough and has the appearance of a local attempt at copying a smarter Roman original.

Beside the cold plunge fragments of an almost complete pane of Roman window-glass (9¼ by 10 in; 23.5 by 25.5 cm) were found, and this is described by Dr. D. B. Harden, as 'a piece of prime importance for Romano-British archaeology';[8] it has been acquired by the British Museum. There may have been other panes in the bath-building, and there were certainly a number of panes in the villa. Fragments of window-glass have been found on the platform of the villa and elsewhere on the site. The largest pieces, representing several panes, were found in two pits (E2 and E3), where they were dumped with other rubbish when the settlement was transformed at a later date (see below).

North of the bath there were two other pits (D5 and E/F5). The former was probably a sump at the end of the drain from the cold room/cold plunge. The latter was designed to accommodate a clay-lined water-tank.[9]

Period V (Romano-British; following period IV and continuing until at least the middle of the third century)

As excavation continues, the sequence of activity after period IV is becoming clearer, and further evidence may be forthcoming from more archaeomagnetic dates. In several places, late features are superimposed one upon the other, but in the absence of significant stratification it is not possible to establish which structures are precisely contemporary. For this reason no attempt has yet been made to subdivide what may be a considerable period of occupation.

The settlement as a whole appears to have been levelled and tidied up in preparation for new structures and activities.

Over the infilled pit in E/F5 a hearth with surrounding stonework and a small timber shelter were built. Three stone *pilae* were removed from the tepid room and placed against the south wall of the hot room, which was re-used for some burning process unconnected with bathing. A level platform of clay and stone was created on the site of Building B, a pit was dug in G/H7 and a hearth laid down on a clay base in G6. Another hearth, on a clay and stone base, was made in K3.

In the SE corner of the settlement a timber enclosure was built, with its east side running just inside the eroded Iron Age rampart and over the infilled rampart quarries.

The pits in J/K6 and L5 were probably dug in period V (? to obtain clay, perhaps used for construction of furnaces) and infilled after only a short interval; that in J/K6 is later than the enclosure.

The activities of these final occupants certainly included iron-working – the roasting furnace in L/M7 within the enclosure has an archaeomagnetic date in the middle of the third century AD – and some of the fences and enclosures may have been intended for the penning of livestock.

Timber building E

This building measured 30 by 40 feet (9.14 by 12.19 m) and was of timber resting on stone pads; there were posts, as if to support verandahs, on the north and west sides, as well as internal posts. Part of the building lay over flattened dumps of ironstone, and the rest on an artificially levelled surface. The date of its construction is uncertain. The padstones which supported the principal posts, however, were not deliberately removed but became buried in the hill-wash, implying that this building may have remained in use until the site was abandoned. In this case, it would have been the principal structure of period V.

Iron-working

Archaeomagnetic tests on material from iron-working features of Garden Hill have provided valuable evidence for their chronology. The hearth (K5) has an archaeomagnetic date in the latter half of the first century BC (see above under period II), and forging slag which probably came from it was found low down in the filling of the adjacent rampart quarry (K3/K4/L3/L4). Very close to the forging hearth lies a smelting furnace (J4/5), 3 ft 3 in (1.0 m) in diameter, which is superficially similar to those excavated by Mr. Tebbutt in Cow Park, ¾ mile (1.2 km) to the south-east (see Fig. 1),[10] and there are also two small (?) metallurgical hearths of uncertain purpose; all these features may be contemporary.

On the evidence of samples so far taken, the smelting furnace in F3 falls within a broad archaeomagnetic date-range of AD 50-200, while that in F2 has an even wider range (mid-first century BC to AD 200); more samples have been taken in an attempt to refine this dating. Slag from these two furnaces was found in a heap between them and in greater quantities, together with other rubbish, in the fill of the nearby water-pit (E2). The bottom of the filling included tap-slag from the furnaces; the middle contained window-glass from Building B or the bath and flue-spacers from the hot-room; and more tap-slag was found in the upper layers. There was Romano-British pottery at all levels. A post-hole in the very top of the pit-filling and another in the slag-pit of the F3 furnace demonstrate that occupation continued after at least one of the furnaces had gone out of use. These discoveries imply that the furnaces were in operation before and shortly after clearance of the debris from the demolished (or collapsed) Building B and the bath.

Excavation has so far uncovered two roasting furnaces. It was in these that the ore was dried, purified and broken up before being smelted. The furnace in J9/10 was not suitable for taking archaeomagnetic samples. It was certainly later than the round-house (G) and was deliberately flattened by later occupants. There is no firm evidence of its date.

South of this furnace are irregular heaps of ironstone, consisting of fragments of the 'iron pan' which is commonly developed along the joints and bedding-partings in the local Ashdown Beds sandstone. It is an hydrated iron oxide (limonite),

7. Note by J. H. Money in *Antiq. J.*, liv(1974) ii, 278-80.
8. Note by D. B. Harden, *op.cit.*, 280-1.
9. The E/F5 pit lies immediately under the hearth and stonework of Building H, and is not shown in Fig. 8.
10. C. F. Tebbutt, interim reports in *Bulletin of Wealden Iron Research Group*, 11, 4-5; 12, 3-4; 13, 2-6; and report forthcoming in *SxAC*, cxvii(1979).

distinguished by its yellow-brown streak. On being heated, limonite loses its water and becomes a ferric oxide of reddish-brown colour and streak; examples of this were found in the filling of the roasting furnace. The sporadic occurrence of the limonite iron-pan deposits would have made it difficult to mine large quantities over a period. Dr. Shephard-Thorn, however, who advises the Group about geological matters and to whom we are indebted for these details, considers that it could have provided a source of ore adequate for the limited needs of the inhabitants of Garden Hill – and several tons of ironstone (much of it waste material rejected before roasting) were left on the site. By their position these dumps of ironstone look as if they belonged to the J9/10 roasting furnace. The date at which they were deposited, therefore, is correspondingly uncertain.

The other bowl-shaped roasting furnace (L/M7), which lies within the period V enclosure, has an archaeomagnetic date in the middle of the third century AD and is, therefore, the latest datable evidence of iron-working at Garden Hill, though not necessarily the end of the Romano-British settlement.

Iron-working at the site was never performed on a large scale and may even have been confined to the production of domestic items.

The pottery

Apart from the Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery, substantial quantities of local and imported Romano-British pottery have been found since 1972. Imports included samian, Spanish *amphorae*, *mortaria*, Nene Valley colour-coated ware and some sherds which might be from Colchester. In date these imports range from the late first century to the early third century. The great majority of the pottery, however, consists of local grog-tempered fabrics, represented by forms which can be related not only to late pre-Roman Iron Age types but also to forms found in the third and fourth centuries.[11]

Other portable finds

Other portable finds include: fragments of first/second-century window-glass (including the pane in the British Museum, another, three-quarters complete in Barbican House, Lewes, and many other pieces, some joining, found in 1978); pieces of glass bowls and bottles; glass beads; the *denarius* of Vespasian (see period III above) and a *sestertius* of Trajan (see 1979 discoveries below); part of a silver ring; part of a glass-paste intaglio representing the goddes Ceres; iron implements and nails; a lead ring and a lead clamp for masonry; quartzite pebbles used as pestles; parts of rotary querns made of sandstone; blocks of sandstone used variously as mortars and for sharpening metal implements; roof-tiles, flue-tiles, flue-spacers and *pila*-tiles from the bath-house; and everywhere the waste-products of iron-working (slag and furnace-lining).

Vegetation

Stratified samples of charcoal collected during the excavations show that species present in the vicinity of Garden Hill during the late pre-Roman Iron Age or earlier included oak (*quercus* sp), ash (*fraxinus* sp) and birch (*betula* sp). These trees are also represented in Romano-British contexts, together with the following: beech (*fagus* sp), alder (*alnus* sp), hazel (*corylus* sp), wild cherry, bird cherry or blackthorn (*prunus* sp), and a representative of the family *rosaceae*, subfamily *pomoideae*, very similar in structure to mountain ash (*sorbus* sp).

The function of Garden Hill

It will be seen from the foregoing account that, after its brief use as a hill-fort, Garden Hill underwent a number of changes from the latter part of the first century BC to the middle of the third century AD. Archaeomagnetic results indicate that forging took place in the second half of the first century BC, but other iron-working processes of this date have not yet been identified. At least one smelting furnace was in operation after the bath-house had gone out of use, and iron ore was certainly being roasted in the third century AD. Whether or not iron-working continued throughout the period of the Romano-British occupation remains uncertain; the nature of the buildings and the variety of finds could indicate a managerial rather than industrial function in the second century AD. In this context the archaeomagnetic dating of nearby bloomery sites will be of crucial importance. Apart from the padstone building (E), which probably remained until late in the history of Garden Hill, the final occupation included minor structures together with enclosures possibly intended for the penning of livestock.

11. An interim report on the pottery by Dr. M. G. Fulford and Mrs. C. Eade is published in the article on Garden Hill in *Britannia*, viii; see footnote 4.

3. SUMMARY OF DISCOVERIES IN 1979

During the eighth season at Garden Hill, lasting four weeks in August/September 1979, a work-force of between 25 and 40 a day, under a supervisor and site assistants, supported by a finds/conservation assistant, carried out the excavation programme, planned the features and processed the portable finds. Most of the work-force lived in the camp on the site, where they were accommodated and fed free of charge. In spite of a few very wet days, when outdoor work was impossible, the weather on the whole was favourable and the ground always damp enough to preserve distinctions of soil.

Apart from the excavations, very interesting archaeomagnetic results, from samples taken in 1978 and analysed by the staff of the Ancient Monuments Laboratory, have added substantially to our understanding of the chronology of Garden Hill (see above under period II and iron-working).

In the northern part of the settlement work on removing masonry, tiles and other debris of the demolished bath-building from the pit in E/F5 continued. The pit was found to be roughly circular at the top, but square at the bottom and designed to accommodate a clay-lined water-tank (3 ft 6 in by 4 ft; 1.06 m by 1.2 m). The pit which had served the bath in period IV, was infilled in period V, and on top of the filling a hearth and stone surround (excavated in 1978) were built. Excavation of the pit in E2 was also completed, and there is no doubt that, dug from the natural clay, this too was a water-pit, gathering rain-water from the sides of the rampart and the sloping ground behind.

Excavation of the pit in G2/H2 showed that the natural rock came very near the surface at this point. The pit does not hold water and can be interpreted as a quarry for stone, possibly rampart material.

In the area excavation of I2/I3/I4/I5/J4/J5, a smelting furnace (see above under iron-working), two infilled pits (I3), more post-holes of fences, a timber-slot (14/J5) and a possible ground-wall were discovered.

In the ditch section (K2) more silt and tumbled revetment was removed; in places it was difficult to distinguish fallen and silted material from the underlying natural, and, in the opinion of Dr. E. R. Shephard-Thorn, there is still more filling to be removed.

A large new area was excavated in the SE corner of the settlement (L5/L6/M4/M5/M6/N5/N6/N7/06/07/08/09/010). The third side and parts of what may be the fourth side of the enclosure were identified, but more work remains to be done before conclusions can be drawn about its date, character and purpose; the component parts may indeed have been erected at different times. A large pit (L5) was excavated. It was probably dug as a quarry for clay at the end of the occupation of Garden Hill (redeposited natural from it lies over the adjacent occupation layers) and was deliberately infilled soon afterwards (it contained very little silt).

In 08/09 there were two posts which line up with those in 010/N11 and perhaps represent a boundary fence in this part of the settlement.

It was clear from work in 1977/78 on Building G that the other round-house (D) was not thoroughly examined in the dry conditions of 1974. This building, therefore, was re-excavated, first mechanically to remove the back-filling and then by hand. It absorbed far more time and labour than had been expected because of the need to remove later disturbances and examine carefully the tenous traces still surviving in parts mutilated in post-IA times. A large number of post- and stake-holes belonging to the round-house were identified and excavated, but there is still more work to be done.

It is now evident that most of the posts running across the E-W diameter (H8/H9) of this round-house are remains of a later fence, some being set in the top of an infilled pit, the full dimensions of which have not yet been determined. The fence continued outside the western perimeter of the round-house and possibly then turned north to join up with the two posts in F11.

Portable finds in 1979 included: Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flints; substantial quantities of the usual local and imported pottery (mostly grog-tempered wares but including samian, *mortaria*, *amphorae* and colour-coated sherds); a worn *sestertius* of Trajan (minted *c* 104-111 but probably still in use at a later date); fragments of window-glass and glass vessels; an emerald-coloured segmented glass bead; iron implements and nails; pieces of quernstones; a flint 'pounder'; and tiles and spacers from the bath-building.

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Group is grateful to the Ministry of Defence for giving permission to excavate at Garden Hill; to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest and their staff for services of various kinds; to the Hon. Simon Stuart for providing storage for the equipment between seasons and for giving access through his property to the staff and for the supply of the camp; to Headquarters, South East District, and 44 Squadron RCT, for lending a water-bowser; to the Group Management Training Centre of Barclays Bank Ltd. at Ashdown Park, for giving us access to hot showers, a swimming-bath and lecturing facilities; and to our committee member Mr. G. C. Johnson for transporting camping and digging equipment to and from Garden Hill and keeping the camp supplied with water by moving the bowser in and out whenever needed.

We express our warmest thanks to the institutions, trusts, charities, private individuals and firms who contributed £3433 in 1979. Donations included: £500 each by the British Academy, the Leverhulme Trust Fund and the Ivan D. Margary Research Fund of the Sussex Archaeological Society; £200 by the Society of Antiquaries of London and Miss E. Windsor-Aubrey; £105 by Mr. C. P. M. Hunting; and £100 each by the British Museum, the British Steel Corporation, the Sarah d'Avigdor-Goldsmid Charitable Trust, the Strauss Charitable Trust, and J. and P. Head Ltd. A full list of contributors is published at the end of this report.

The main items of expenditure, which amounted to £3429 were the camp, where diggers were accommodated and fed free of charge, the purchase of a marquee for the camp and payments to staff. A sum of £100 was set aside towards eventual publication costs, which created a deficit of £96 on the 1979 current account.

East Sussex County Council kindly lent us tents and other camping equipment, wheelbarrows, spades and shovels. Marks and Spencer Ltd., Tunbridge Wells, again provided unsold food, and Cashmart, Tunbridge Wells, allowed us to use their facilities for wholesale purchase, all of which substantially reduced the cost of financing the expedition.

A high standard of performance was maintained by the workforce. As directors we are particularly grateful for the skill and hard work of our assistant-director, Mr. A. G. Webster, who also supervised for half the period, and of other members of the staff: Mr. M. A. L. Bracegirdle, Mr. A. J. Brown, Mr. R. Daymond, Mr. P. A. Green, Miss S. J. King, Mr. A. Mundy, Mr. R. de Quidt, Miss N. Savage, Mr. M. Sque, Miss F. Thesiger, Mr. J. Whitbourn and Mr. N. P. Wickenden (site assistants); and Miss E. Coe and Mr. K. Simmonds who undertook the planning and purchase of supplies for the camp and acted very successfully as cooks.

Finally we thank the following for specialist reports, advice and services: Dr. M. G. Fulford, FSA, and Mr. R. Pollard (pottery); Mr. C. Bonsall (flints); Dr. D. B. Harden, CBE, FSA (glass); Mrs. C. M. Guido, FSA (glass bead); Dr. E. R. Shephard-Thorn (geology); and Mr. A. J. Clark, FSA, and staff of the Ancient Monuments Laboratory, for taking, testing and interpreting samples for archaeomagnetic dating.

5. PLANS FOR 1980

The ninth season at Garden Hill will run from Saturday 2 August until Sunday 31 August, with preliminary work on the weekends of 12/13, 19/20 and 26/27 July, and on Thursday 31 July and Friday 1 August.

In detail it is intended to undertake the following with a daily force of up to 40 workers:

(a) to complete excavation of the southern and south-eastern fringes of the settlement, where there are Iron Age rampart quarries and other pits filled with Romano-British rubbish; RB occupation levels; the post-holes, sill-walls and beam-slots of timber structures; and iron-working remains, including a smelting furnace;
(b) to complete work on the partly excavated IA round-house (Building D); and
(c) to begin work on the western end of the IA hill-fort, where it is hoped to find IA remains and possibly a RB trackway.

The usual camp, with marquee, cooking equipment and full-time cook, will be established on the site, where free food will be provided to campers (minimum age 18) staying for at least seven days. Daily diggers (minimum age 16) are also welcome.

6. FINANCE

It is estimated that the excavations will cost around £3350, the main items being the camp (£1730) and payments to staff (supervisors, site assistants, planners and a finds assistant - £730). Other expenses include: archaeological equipment, insurance, photography, postage, printing, stationery and a contribution towards eventual publication costs. The Leverhulme Trust Fund has given a further £500 towards staff expenses and the British Museum £100 towards general expenses; a grant from the Metals Society will cover printing costs. The balance of about £2650 remains to be raised.

7. FUTURE WORK

In 1981 a section will be cut through the western defences of the hill-fort, and residual tasks in the Romano-British settlement, including excavation of earlier occupation under Building B, will be completed. In the final season of 1982 a suspected entrance at the west end of the fort and as much as possible of the occupation area behind the ramparts will be excavated.

8. PUBLICATION

Full publication will eventually be in *Sussex Archaeological Collections*. An interim report was published in 1977 in *Britannia* viii, and private interim reports will continue to be printed annually until the work is complete.

J. H. Money
Chairman and Director

A. D. F. Streeten
Director and Secretary

March 1980

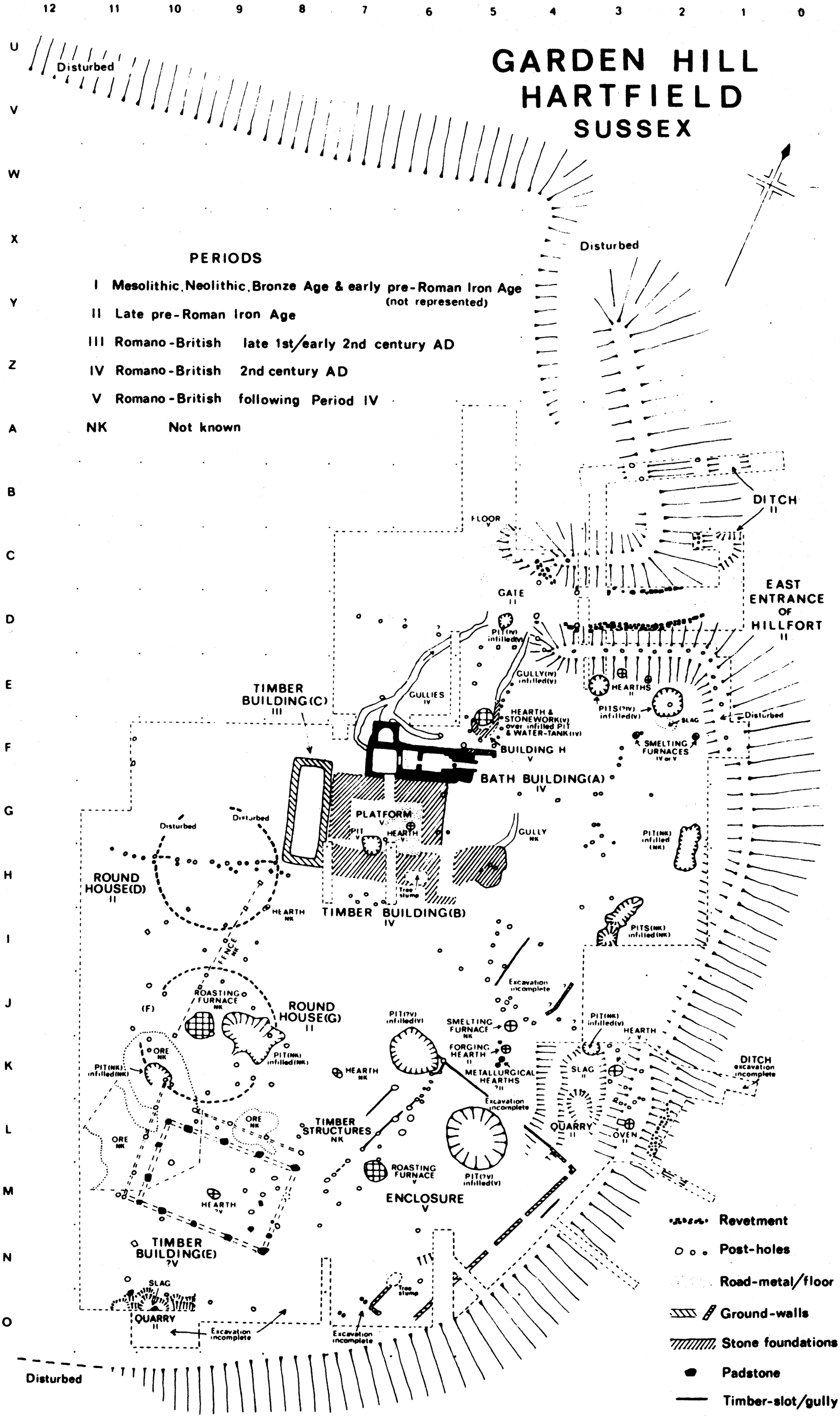

Fig. 8. *Detailed plan of east end of Garden Hill.*