

The defended Vici of Roman Britain: recent research and new agendas

Article

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Defended vici paper tables

Settlement	county	Records included	Published	Grey lit	Post-1990 records
Alcester	Warwickshire	29	24	5	15
Alchester	Oxfordshire	9	8	1	3
Ancaster	Lincolnshire	6	6	0	0
Bath	BANES	25	23	3	11
Bitterne	Hampshire	6	3	4	4
Brampton	Norfolk	1	1	0	0
Caistor	Lincolnshire	1	1	0	0
Cambridge	Cambridgeshire	14	5	12	16
Carlisle	Cumbria	8	3	6	9
Catterick	Yorkshire	10	10	0	9
Caves' Inn	Warwickshire	1	1	0	0
Chelmsford	Essex	10	7	5	9
Chesterton-on-Fosse	Warwickshire	1	1	0	0
Dorchester on Thames	Oxfordshire	9	8	2	4
Dorn	Gloucestershire	1	1	0	0
Godmanchester	Cambridgeshire	16	14	5	11
Great Casterton	Rutland	2	1	1	1
Great Chesterford	Essex	1	1	0	0
Horncastle	Lincolnshire	12	5	8	8
Irchester	Northamptonshire	6	3	3	3
Rochester	Kent	17	12	6	9
Water Newton	Cambridgeshire	4	4	0	2
Worcester	Worcestershire	24	16	12	25
TOTAL		213	158	73	139

Table 1: Number of records of archaeological investigations included for selected defended vici

Site	no. sites/excavations	Mean coins per/ha	Mean brooches per/ha	Mean pot sherds per/ha
Cambridgeshire				
Cambridge	5	201	33	205327
Godmanchester (mostly suburbs)	5	45	8	11073
Complex farmstead	26	28	3	5330
Other farmstead	88	15	3	3192
Villa	6	155	4	18098
Other nucleated settlement	9	246	11	24649
Worcestershire & Warwickshire				
Worcester	13	100	32	42004
Alcester	19	110	17	17641
Farmstead	56	9	4	4032
Villa	3	170	44	15320
Other nucleated settlement	6	94	37	33656
Kent				
Rochester	8	248	64	19268
Farmstead	71	16	3	3076
Villa	18	127	4	18582
Other nucleated settlement	9	294	12	25111
N Yorkshire				
Catterick	8	512	21	16520
Farmstead	45	3	1	1999
Villa	7	358	17	16850
military vicus	3	4268	84	66576
Major Urban				
Winchester Northgate House & Staple Gardens*	2	1089	17	35900
Cirencester (streets, shops & houses)**	3	3229	84	61607

Table 2: Comparison of the density of selected finds categories from selected sites and site types (*data from Ford and Teague 2011; ** data from Holbrook 2008)

Settlement	Date of earthwork	Date of wall	defended area (ha)	Suggested Mansio?	fort/military?	Iron Age settlement?	Height of occupation (c AD)?
Alcester (<i>Alauna?</i>)	200	360	9.3	y	y		2/3
Alchester		200	10.5		y	y	2/3
Ancaster		220	4		y	y	2/3
Bath (<i>Aqua Sulis</i>)	150	220	9.3		y	y	4
Bitterne (<i>Clausentum</i>)	150	350	3.2				2/3
Brampton	180		5				
Brough (<i>Crococalana</i>)	?		3.25	y			
Caistor		300	4				4
Cambridge (<i>Duroliponte</i>)		300	9	y		y	2/3
Catterick (<i>Cataractonium</i>)	150	275	5.7	y	y		3/4
Cave's Inn (<i>Tripontium</i>)	300		1.3	y			2/3
Chelmsford (<i>Caesaromagus</i>)	160		7	y	y		2/3
Chesterton-on-Fosse		320	3.2				
Dorchester on Thames	180	270	5.5		y	y	3/4
Dorn		?	4				
Dropshort (<i>Magiovinium</i>)	?		2.2				
Godmanchester (<i>Durovigutum</i>)		275	11.25	y	y		2/3
Great Casterton		200	7.3	y	y	y	
Great Chesterford		350	14.69	y	y	y	2-4
Horncastle (<i>Bannovallum</i>)		300	2			y	
Ilchester (<i>Lindinis</i>)	150	350	10		y	y	3/4
Irchester	200	200	8	y		y	2/3
Kelvedon (<i>Canonium</i>)	200		5			y	2/3
Kenchester (<i>Magnis</i>)	180	300	9				3/4

Leintwardine (<i>Bravonium</i>)	200		5.74	y	y		
Little Chester (<i>Derventio</i>)	150	275	2.8	y	y		
Mancetter (<i>Manduessedum</i>)	300	300	2.1		y		
Neatham (<i>Onna?</i>)	180		2.5	y			3/4
Castle Hill (<i>Margidunum</i>)	180	?	2.8	y	y		2/3
Mildenhall (<i>Cunetio</i>)	200	360	6	y			
Rocester	?	?	2.73		y		3/4
Rochester (<i>Durobrivae</i>)	170	200	9.5			y	2/3
Sandy Lane (<i>Verlucio</i>)	?		4				
Thorpe (<i>Ad Pontem</i>)	170	300	2.1		y	y	
Towcester (<i>Lactodurum</i>)	?	175	11.25	y		y	2/3
Wall (<i>Letocetum</i>)	300	300	2.1	y	y		2/3
Water Eaton (<i>Pennocrucium</i>)			2.5		y		
Water Newton (<i>Durobrivae</i>)		200	17.6	y	y		3/4
Whilton Lodge (<i>Bannaventa</i>)	200	300	5				
Whitchurch (<i>Mediolanum</i>)	175	?	?		y		2/3
Worcester (<i>Vertis</i>)	(Iron Age)					y	2/3

Table 3. Characteristics of defended vici in Roman Britain (red=date uncertain)