

Nettleton

Work has continued throughout the year through the continuing kindness of Mr. L. Webb. This complex site continues to reveal new features, and as one problem is cleared up another one is revealed. During the past season attention has been directed to the complex system of ditches which encompass the eastern bank. There is now little doubt that they form part of a small fort which was made alongside the Fosse-Way either at the time of its construction or soon after A.D.47. The small ditches have produced a quantity of decorated Samian; St. Remy and other pottery of first/second century date. There has also been a number of bronze fibula brooches and some evidence of burning. Claudian coins together with later coins of Vespasian and Domitian have also been found in the ditch filling. But there is also evidence for the first time of pre-Roman occupation at Nettleton. This has been found in a small ditch which has produced Belgic type pottery and a British coin of the Dobunni tribe. This ditch does not form part of the small fort defences.

A further development at Nettleton is the discovery of evidence of several small buildings built outside the late south-bank and presumably near the Fosse-Way. The buildings are now in course of excavation and they appear to be of late 4th century date. A small stone-lined cist containing burnt remains found under one of the buildings appears to be of 1st century A.D. date.

Our thanks are again due to Mr. Webb for his continuing co-operation in our work.