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"PAULTON VILLA"

by W. J. WEDLAKE

For some years it has been my wish to conduct an exploratory excavation on the site of the Roman villa discovered by the Revd. John Skinner in 1811.

The rough sketch in the Skinner diary indicates a building of large dimensions on the site at Pows Field, east of Paulton village. We are most grateful to Mr. G. Brunt of Clandown Farm who has permitted us to make an exploratory excavation. This has shown that there was a large villa on the site facing south towards the Eastern Mendip Hills. The presence of a quantity of blue tile and painted plaster indicates that it had a heating system and painted plaster walls. There is also some indication that the building was more extensive than was indicated by Skinner's sketch plan. The building was certainly more than 100 feet wide and some 80 feet in breadth. It is hoped to be able to arrange with Mr. Brunt for a more extensive examination of this interesting site.

Editor's note:

1. This is the site of the 1996 "Field Walk", a report on which appears elsewhere in this edition.

2. Unfortunately we have no record of the "exploratory excavation", save for the above extract from "Camertonian".