

# CLASP

Community Landscape Archaeology Survey Project  
Third Annual Report  
2007



Alan Watson

Chair of the Executive Committee

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## Trustees

### **Report by the Chair of the Trustees**

1. I have just completed my second year as a Trustee and my first year as Chair. I would like to put on record my heartfelt thanks to all the other Trustees, the members of the Organising Committee and all other groups and individuals associated with CLASP for their help and advice over the last 12 months.
2. It is difficult to pick out individuals, without appearing to demean everyone else's input, but I would especially like to thank the following: -
  - Stephen Young, our Archaeological Director
  - All the landowners and tenants for permitting us to access their land to carry our various fieldwork. Without this access there would be no CLASP. A specific mention though must be made of my fellow Trustee, Nick Adams from Whitehall Farm Nether Heyford, who continues to allow the Whitehall project to excavate his land. Additionally the Project utilises a major part of one of his buildings for processing the Whitehall Artefacts and runs an office and maintains facilities for long term storage of artefacts on the farm.
  - Jeremy Cooper for taking on the role of Acting Chair of the Organising Committee. Additionally for all his photographic and IT work for both CLASP itself and our member organisations.
  - Dave Hayward Secretary of the Organising Committee for his work in liaising with the Daventry & South Northants District Councils and the West Northants Development Corporation.
  - Mr & Mrs Powell for allowing us to store finds at Whitehall
  - Gillian Biddle, Brian Culling and Fred Kay for all their hard work in refurbishing the repository at Whitehall
  - All of the members who have spent so much of their time painstakingly cleaning, sorting and recording the finds from our various fieldwork activities. Not least those from the member organisations who have organised this work locally.
  - Barbara Evans Rees for all her hard work in drawing up a questionnaire to establish the training needs of CLASP Members together with a list of possible providers/courses.

If I have omitted anyone, please accept my apologies.

3. One of the roles of the Trustees is to investigate extra sources of funding.

3.1 Repository

Ever since the Charity was established we have been looking into finding a building that would be suitable to house all our artefacts from our fieldwork. Various ideas have been put forward but they have fallen by the roadside due to lack of a source of funding. If anyone knows of a building that might suit please do not hesitate to contact us.

3.2 Parish Councils

This year Harpole Parish Council has once again supported us by a donation of £1,000, this is greatly appreciated and has enabled us to comprehensively investigate sites in that parish. If there is anyone out there who thinks that they could twist the arm of their own parish council, please feel free to contact us.

3.3 Roman Research Trust

We also received a second donation of £3,000 from the Roman Research Trust and it is hoped that we may receive further grants from them in the future.

4. Training

I mentioned earlier, the work undertaken by Barbara Evans Rees on Training. The Trustees realise that there is a demand for Training from CLASP members. Barbara's list of courses and providers shows individuals the way forward. The Trustees would have liked to be able to give some financial assistance to members but unfortunately there is no spare money available in our very tight budget.

5. Mission Statement

We have just started to draw up a "Mission Statement" and a list of "Aims and Objectives". We have to go down this management speak road as most requests for funding require them. We will publish our final thoughts in the newsletter later on this year.

I commend this report to you as a true record of the work undertaken by CLASP during the past year. If you have any questions about the report, they may be raised at the Annual General Meeting.

Alan Watson  
Chair of the Trustees

August 2007

## Report of the Secretary to the Trustees

### Who are we?

Seven Trustees were appointed at the 2006 AGM: -

Alan Watson - Chair

Angela Evans - Treasurer

Stephen Young - Archaeology Director

Nick Adams, David Banner, Jeremy Calderwood and Alan Priestly. During the year Ruth Downie was co-opted as a Trustee and appointed Secretary.

### What do we do?

The constitutional remit of CLASP is "to advance the education of the public in the subject of Archaeology, in particular but not exclusively, in West Northamptonshire" (extract from CLASP Charity Constitution), and to that end the Trustees meet monthly:

- to manage the business of the Charity;
- to direct and monitor the work undertaken by the CLASP Organising Committee
- to consider requests for financial aid/or expenditure from the CLASP sub-groups.
- to keep aware of the various sources of funding available and to make applications where possible.

### Who can be a Trustee?

Trustees must be a member of CLASP or the nominated representative of an organisation that is a member of CLASP.

The current Trustees' period of office expires at the end of the 2007 AGM but they are eligible for re-election. New Trustees will be appointed at the AGM. There is no limit to their number, but (as detailed in the Newsletter) all must have been nominated in writing before the meeting by a person eligible to vote at the AGM, these nominations must be received by the Secretary **before** the start of the meeting.

[downie@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:downie@ukonline.co.uk)

Ruth Downie August 2007

## Treasurer's Report

The Accounts Summary I think is more or less self-explanatory except for the items under 'Other' in both Receipts and Payments columns.

Within the Receipts column you will see that Harpole Parish Council has again been very generous with a £1,000 donation for work done in Harpole. A very big 'thank you' to Harpole Parish Council. The other two substantive contributors were the Countryside Agency donating £7,124 and the Roman Research Trust £3,000. 'Other' relates to £472.13 came from South Northants Council towards our sound and projection system, archaeology quiz £75, T Shirt sales £101 and £81.05 for Raffle and Refreshments from last year's AGM. Other' in the Payments column refers to the cost of hire of sound system at last years AGM of £70.50, £7.00 toll fees, £20 as prize for Quiz, purchase of sound/projection system £1,348.94, Insurance £172.35 £28 for ropes and £10 to NALH.

A breakdown of the funds available at the end of the Financial Year, totalling £6,524.97, is as follows: -

Harpole balance £804.25

Roman Research Trust £2,500

Countryside Agency £2,374.44

The funds we had raised ourselves, not earmarked for a specific purpose, were £846.28.

Angela Evans

August 2007

### Receipts

B/f from 31.03.06	£2853.34
Countryside Agency	£7,124.00
Harpole Parish Council	£1,000.00
History Societies	£105.00
Other Donations	£3,075.00
Membership Fees	£420.00
Bank Interest	£78.04
Other	£729.18
<u>Total</u>	£15,384.56

### Payments

Archive Materials	£323.00
Field Centre	£19.21
Finds processing	£500.00
'Local People -Local Past'	
Geophys Survey	£6,040.00
Website Leaflets	£104.15
Travel Expenses	£30.00
Office Costs	£91.44
Committee Room Hire	£62.00
Affiliation Fees	£33.00
Other	£1,656.79
<u>Total</u>	£8,859.59

Petty Cash	£7.29
Cash in Hand	£17.98
Bank Statement	£7,110.99

	£15,995.85
Paid not on Statement	-£611.29
	<u>£15,384.56</u>

## Accountants Report

### **The Community Landscape and Archaeology Survey Project**

### **Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31 March 2007**

My examination of the attached accounts was carried out in accordance with *General Directions* given by the *Charity Commission*. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect the Trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:
  - Proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with Section 41 of the Act);and
  - Accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act;or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Yours sincerely

Laura A Sturrock BSc FCA ATII

39, Church Street, Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire NN7 3LH

28 May 2007



## Archaeological Director's Report 2007

Unfortunately we have not been able to do as much fieldwork in our survey area as in previous years. In particular we were unable to gain access at the right time to undertake the extensive field walking survey planned for Manshead Field on the site of the Roman Small town at Bannaventa. Therefore this year has been one of consolidation, reconnaissance and preparation for the autumn of 2007. We now have access or initiated archaeological fieldwork on twenty Romano-British settlements distributed across 15 square kilometres of central Northamptonshire. The analytical fruits of this research have helped us to develop the idea of settlement profiling and are constantly changing and challenging our methodological approach to recording our local Roman landscape.

We have continued to work towards the goals outlined in our Stage 2 Local People: Local Past proposals although the completion date has been extended to allow for the processing of the enormous amount of material retrieved. The project has now been awarded £25,000 in total from the Lottery Heritage Fund and this has allowed us to take a much more detailed approach to our landscape survey than would have been the case otherwise. All of the coin assemblages from every site have been catalogued and Dr Mark Curteis has provided a full report for the Whitehall Farm villa excavation. Unfortunately due to publication pressures the scope of the Whitehall Farm excavation itself has been scaled down for the 2007 season and only a limited programme of small scale trial trenching and test pitting was undertaken. The rationale behind the work is to investigate other areas of archaeological potential at the site that might require exploration and identify research priorities for the future.

We have been successful in securing yet another grant of £3,000 from the Roman Research Trust towards the fieldwork being undertaken at Bannaventa. This additional financial support will allow us to continue our ambitious geophysical survey of the scheduled areas of the site. It also demonstrates the growing importance attached to our initiatives by charitable bodies who are interested in forwarding Romano-British studies. Some new work has been carried out at Bannaventa by members of NNPAST, our metal detecting colleagues, who have completed an

'ad hoc' survey of a field to the immediate north of the late Roman defences called 'Chapel Field'. A total of 132 coins of the Roman period were retrieved by the detectorists and it will be interesting to compare the range and type of coins found with those collected from the surrounding fields. The assemblage has been recorded initially by Dr Steven Ashby from the Portable Antiquities Scheme and the coins are now being analysed by Dr Mark Curteis for CLASP. I would also like to thank the Revd Francis Rodriguez of NNPASt for obtaining permission from landowners which will enable CLASP to commission further geophysical survey work to be carried out in the scheduled area to the east of the Norton crossroads.

The only major fieldwalking survey from last autumn was carried out on a small Roman rural site near Gayton. This fieldwork was undertaken in conjunction with members of the Blisworth Historical Society. Initial analysis of the pottery from the Gayton site indicated that the settlement was particularly active during the late 1<sup>st</sup> to early 2<sup>nd</sup> century with 61% of the diagnostically datable pottery identified as belonging to this period. A significant amount of material from the assemblage indicated that the settlement flourished into the 2<sup>nd</sup> and early 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries. However it is interesting to note that the diagnostically datable material for this middle Roman period is only 36% of the total assemblage and approximately 50% of that available in the early period. In the late Roman period of the mid 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD associated pottery accounts for only 2% of the remaining sherds. The potential archaeological development here is that site pottery profiles related to settlement situated near Lactodurum (Towcester) are different to those settlements associated with the Bannaventa (Whilton Locks) area. The chronological accent of the material culture retrieved is indicative of an early Roman focus as opposed to the era of most 'Romanisation' during the late 2<sup>nd</sup> to early 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD. Should this result prove to be the 'norm' for the site profiles around Towcester, then we can start to see that the 'imperial experience' here is going to be substantially different from that around Bannaventa.

A limited reconnaissance of another large rural settlement was carried out on a site in Easton Neston where 193 pottery sherds were retrieved dating from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. The majority of the diagnostically datable material echoed the chronological distribution found at Gayton with 50% of the sherds identifiable as late 1<sup>st</sup> to early 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. The mid Roman period of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries was represented by

38% of the diagnostically datable sherds. However in the late 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries unlike at Gayton approximately 12% of the datable assemblage could be ascribed to this period. It might be easier to recognise and understand the meaning of these chronological distributions once the newly augmented assemblages from the Roman settlements at Rothersthorpe and Kislingbury currently under survey by members of NNPAST have been analysed.

As proposed in last year's report Cranfield University has carried out a five-hectare geophysical survey on the site of the Sharoah Field Roman Villa, Nobottle. The report revealed a palimpsest of features stretching across the entire area of the site. It is conceivable that the settlement may contain not only a villa building but also structures belonging to the supporting village such as that found at Stanwick near Raunds in the 1990's. This would be quite unique amongst the sites we have currently investigated and the relationship between the different forms of occupation demands further study. A great deal of the Harlestone material still needs to be processed but hopefully we will be in a position to understand the fieldwalked distributions by the time I talk to the Brington Historical Society in November.

Finally further geophysical work on both of the Harpole villas has established that one of the sites extends further to the north than previously thought. On the second site we now have a clear indication of the missing floor plan of the east wing of the main villa range.

Stephen Young  
August 2007

## Organising Committee

### **Acting Chair**

Having been Deputy Chair, I agreed to become Acting Chair of the Organising Committee in November 2006. I made it clear from the outset that I must limit my role quite literally to chairing meetings. I am very grateful that no pressure has been put on me to do any more - although I have occasionally chosen to exert a gentle authority outside meetings when I felt it would be helpful. The Secretary of the Organising Committee will provide a full account of its work in the past 12 months.

The question remains of the future of the role of Chair of the Organising Committee. The CLASP Constitution is (quite intentionally) vague about the officers of the Organising Committee and their functions: these are indicated in the Rules of the Organising Committee that were adopted by, and can be amended by, the Trustees. In constitutional terms (rather than in historical terms) the Organising Committee is set up by the Trustees to carry out the work of organising the practical activities of CLASP. It is entirely responsible to the Trustees for every aspect of its work, the Trustees appoint its officers following selection by the Committee members.

Historically the Chair of the Organising Committee (which, prior to the advent of the Executive Committee of Trustees was the only body governing CLASP) played a major role in promoting, motivating, and administering CLASP. I am clearly not doing that, and while some elements of the previous Chair's activities have been spread around the Organising Committee, others have not, and have ceased. Whether or not this matters is for the Trustees to decide in close consultation with the Organising Committee: is there still a need for a very active Chair of the Organising Committee? Or has the Committee been able to operate effectively without an active Chair now that the Trustees are there to play the major role in motivating and giving direction to CLASP? Could chairing meetings be rotated among willing Organising Committee members?

On a purely practical level, is there anyone who would like to take on the job? A willing and suitable candidate is the first prerequisite of any new appointment.

The future of the Organising Committee and its officers is a matter that the Trustees must consider and act upon. Meanwhile I am very happy to carry on as Acting Chair.

Jeremy Cooper  
August 2007

### **Secretary of Organising Committee**

As described by the Archaeological Director, this year for reasons beyond our control has not seen as much fieldwork as we had initially envisaged. The year has however remained a busy time for your Committee. Shortly after last years AGM the resignation of the former Chair caused the Committee to examine the responsibility of the various ancillary functions that she held. It was agreed that we should seek to spread these not only within the Committee but also to the wider membership; if necessary additional members could be co-opted to the Committee to perform these functions. To date the necessity for this has not arisen.

The Committee has appreciated the need to identify dates for fieldwork as early as possible in the year to enable members to arrange their diaries accordingly. Whilst this year we have managed to do this on a basis of provisional dates it has again proved impossible to provide fixed dates owing to the understandable vagaries of farming. We cannot enter onto land until it is in an appropriate condition for fieldwalking and metal detecting.

Your Committee has been aware of the challenges faced by this part of Northamptonshire by the government proposals for rapid development of housing and industry in the area. The Committee has therefore sought to establish contact with the West Northants Development Corporation (WNDC) the body created to oversee and steer this development. Currently the Archaeological Director and myself are involved in negotiations with the Regeneration Manager at WNDC to establish a positive working relationship between them and CLASP. Hopefully this will enable CLASP to become involved with some of the Archaeological Fieldwork that will need to be undertaken in the areas of proposed development. Additionally we will also campaign, where appropriate, to protect the archaeological heritage of the area and its associated landscapes. There is also a pressing need to ensure that not only the many artefacts already held in the area but those that will be discovered in the path of this extensive development are properly protected. CLASP is therefore still investigating a way forward with establishing an adequate

repository in the area for this materiel. This will enable it to not only be protected but available for research and educational purposes together with some public viewing.

We have established liaison with both the Daventry History Group and the Daventry Town Museum through the auspices of our member Roy Sharp. It is hoped that we will have a display of CLASP artefacts at the museum in the forthcoming months.

It is perhaps disappointing that no member has come forward with any suggestion for a self-generated minor project during the past year. It would be encouraging to see either an individual member or a local society suggest a project to the benefit of their local community. This would be undertaken by the member but under the auspices and steerage of this Committee.

Dave Hayward  
August 2007

### **Report by Membership Secretary**

At the time of writing I am pleased to report that Daventry History Group has intimated their intention to join CLASP with Society membership. This therefore brings our Society Membership to eight groups. There has unfortunately been a reduction in the number of Individual Members during the past year, numbers dropping from one hundred and twenty five to ninety two. The figures this year include thirteen new members.

Julia Johns  
August 2007

## **Society Reports**

### **Brington History Society**

The society has some 60 members and meets monthly throughout the year. Speakers present broad ranges of topics with an emphasis upon county history. This year, under the direction of Stephen Young, the CLASP Archaeological Director, members have been involved in cleaning pot and tile sherds recovered from the fieldwalking of the roman settlement site at Nobottle, part of the CLASP Local People -Local Past Project.

Andrew Shaw  
September 2007



1st Century Brooch just recovered from the ground by one of our metal detectors during an organised dig at Nether Heyford in 2007



2007 exploratory work at Gayton on an early Iron Age and Romano-British settlement reveals several of our volunteers, including the Archaeological Director and Chair of Trustees, in various levels of activity!

### **Bugbrooke History Group**

The Group meets every two months, and this year our activities have ranged from the history of Northamptonshire enclosures to a visit to the Battlefield at Naseby. We had a presentation by Steve Young of the results of our local field walking and geophysics surveys. Although there is ample evidence of Iron Age and Roman occupation, there is no clear indication of the sites of settlements. A photographic history of Bugbrooke is being prepared and we expect to complete it for publication before Christmas. All meetings of the Group are open and there is no membership fee. Details of future meetings may be found on [www.bugbrookelink.co.uk/history](http://www.bugbrookelink.co.uk/history) or from Pat and Alan Kent 01604830518

Alan Kent

August 2007

### **Flore Heritage Society**

Whilst there has been no direct activity in Flore connected with the Local People-Local Past Project during the past twelve months the Society itself has had a good year. We have been proud to note that the British Association of Local History gave our erstwhile John Smith an award in recognition of his long service to the history and heritage of Flore and its environs. With the compilation of the analysis of the initial stages of the Local People-Local Past Project on the CLASP website it has enabled us to understand better where Flore parish fits into the wider picture of local Romano-British settlement.

Alan Priestly

August 2007

### **Harpole Heritage Group**

We helped organise the metal detecting survey carried out at 'Harpole Two' (Barn Close and The Mere) on 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> August 2006. This was the first joint 'three-way' project between CLASP, NNPASt and us. There were five metal detectorists from NNPASt and one from CLASP together with 11 helpers from CLASP and us. All participants worked very well together, there were also a number of visitors to the site. A total of 29 coins were found, 28 being Roman together with part of a fibula, many pieces of lead and bronze and part of a Saxon brooch.

This all added to the information we have already gained about this location. The weather was very kind to us except for the Tuesday afternoon when several thunderstorms met overhead and we had to have an early finish. The resistivity survey started in 2006 could not be completed and is being arranged for autumn 2007. We had planned to



carry out field walking at 'Harpole One' (Flaxlands) but the crop grew rather quickly and we had to cancel, this is now being arranged for August/September 2007. Harpole parish council is again giving us a grant of £1000.00 for work to be carried out within Harpole parish. Together with Stephen Young I have been to see George Briscoe and Winne Clifton landowners and Elizabeth Still and family, tenants, to discuss future plans and deliver copies of the phase One CLASP Dvd.

I attended the May parish meeting to give a report on what is happening with CLASP and archaeology in Harpole. They were satisfied and I thanked them and the people of Harpole for being so generous.

We are grateful to the landowners and tenants for their co-operation and for allowing us onto their land. They were all very interested in what is happening. I visited Harpole primary school with Stephen Young, CLASP Archaeological Director, to discuss plans for the display of Roman 'finds' to be displayed in the foyer of the school. We plan for this to happen by spring 2008. I have attended all of the Organising Committee meetings, even taking the chair at the April and July meetings. These are now held at the Baptist meeting rooms in Nether Heyford, each lasts for about 2 hours.

My husband and I went to view the 'test pits' prior to the new Sandy Lane road being constructed and have requested a copy of the report, but not yet received it.

I have arranged displays of the CLASP activity photographs for and attended the following events. Whitehall Roman Villa and Landscape Project Open Meeting and the Council for Independent Archaeology conference. Displays were also arranged for Flore Heritage Society, NN PAST at Norton Village Display and a conference at Manchester University. During the year I have been active with the Whitehall Project by participating at their excavation and enjoyed their outings to Bedford museum and Chester.

Three members of Harpole Heritage Group provided blood samples for DNA analysis for national 'the

People of the British Isles project' which we heard about through CLASP.

Jennifer Smith

August 2007

## **NN PAST -**

### **Norton, Northamptonshire Portable Antiquities Search Team**

Our members have continued to recover significant artefacts and coins from within Norton Parish thereby increasing our knowledge of the history of the area. As a result of changes in farming practice very little

land within the Parish was ploughed after harvest which resulted in less new material being brought to the surface and within range of our detectors. However, with the imminent threatened development it is important that we continue to take every opportunity to cover as much land as possible whilst it is still available to us.

After a significant number of Roman finds by our members on land south of Shawney field, Bannaventa, CLASP arranged for a geophysical survey of the area. This indicates a site of considerable interest that will be the subject of further investigation by NN PAST working with CLASP after next harvest. A further site to the east of Shawney field has yielded a large number of Roman finds to our members. We have at all times kept the landowner fully appraised of the finds and as a result agreement was recently reached with them for CLASP to arrange a geophysical survey to be carried out on this area.

Last September saw NN PAST's second public exhibition in Norton Village Hall. It proved to be even more successful than our previous exhibition and was enjoyed by a considerable number of people. The exhibition was given excellent coverage by the local press and local radio.

Our membership has increased during the year and by carefully vetting new members we aim to ensure that we will continue to work with integrity, enthusiasm and professionalism. A number of our members finds have been published in professional journals and the Portable Antiquities Scheme annual report. Two of our members were invited to work with Time Team for a programme on a Northamptonshire site that will be screened when the new series starts early next year.

Mike A Goodman

July 2007

### **Towcester and District Local History Society**

It is 25 years since the TDLHS was established and to celebrate this milestone a series of events have been planned that will compliment business as usual activities. In April a new publication was successfully produced, entitled Camera 3. The booklet reflected images of Towcester over the past century utilising archive photography. To generate awareness and appreciation of the historic town centre of Towcester a painting competition has been launched, local talent from the area, including schools, has been invited to participate. Following the success of NALH walks, a number of guided walks have been scheduled over the summer period to impart knowledge of the local historic landmarks.

To mark this special anniversary, an exhibition to reflect the achievements of the society will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> September. It will

include a display of Towcester memorabilia, the 1855 rating map and a Constable Staff. Also on the day a Saxon re-enactment group will be putting on an event for the children. At the end of September an evening presentation will provide an excellent insight into a Historic Journey that visitors to Towcester would have taken in days gone by. The journey will start from the old Railway Station through the town, ending at the racecourse.

A joint field-walking project with CLASP will be undertaken at Easton Neston on a site identified by Stephen Young, the Archaeological Director). From an early investigation several pottery shreds were found dating from the Iron Age to the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Confirmation of timings will be advised through CLASP.

Gina Boreham

August 2007

### **Weedon Bec History Society**

There has been little activity directly involving CLASP during the past year. We still wait to put some test pits into the garden at the Old Vicarage, Pine Reach. Our society has had another active and successful year with broad spectrum of topics covered.

Julia Johns

August 2007

### **Whitehall Farm Roman Villa and Landscape Project**

#### **Resitivity Equipment**

Stephen Young, the Archaeological Director arranged for practical demonstrations and instruction involving two groups of Whitehall volunteers in setting out and working with the resitivity equipment. This involved the setting out on the field near the site of a 10 metre by 10 metre square using plastic coated cord, and this was divided into 1 metre wide lanes.

The Resitivity unit has a frame with two metal probes, at the head of the frame is mounted instrument, various cables are attached along with a long lead including a probe which is places in the ground some 15 metres from the instrument. Each member of the group took turns to move the frame with instrument attached at approximately 1 metre intervals along the set out lanes and the readings noted on the instrument. Whitehall has now made it's own cord system for future use. Stephen also intends to bring this forward to fully record a complete set of readings over a selected area, then teaching the group to down load this information and interpret the results.

### **Whitehall Excavation 2006**

The group has throughout the winter and spring processed the finds from last summer's excavations. These have been recorded, weighed and boxed ready for storage in the container.

#### **Box Flue**

Members have been involved in examining how the box flue units would have formed. It appears pottery clay was used, having been rolled out on a flat surface then moulded around a wooden former. On exposed faces a comb pattern applied to the outer surfaces, this is to form a key to bond the mortar when built into the structure. This comb patterning takes up different layouts and the group has examined much of this material to try and interpret how the different patterns are applied and whether there is any preferred system.

#### **Tegula Roof Tiles**

As a result of a published study of the features of tegula at Romano-British military sites a similar programme of research is now underway at into the tegula emanating from Whitehall. In excess of 50000 tile fragments are being subjected to this statistical analysis. It is hoped that this work together with scientific analysis of some of the fragments will indicate origins of much of this material.

Brian Culling

August 2007