

HADS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT

SUNDAY 29TH JANUARY

COPYTHORNE – NURSLING SECTION

Just a few members of HADS could take part in this survey. We met at Cadnam, where we had located the Roman road to Nursling on another occasion and then drove to Copythorne Church to locate the *agger* of the route which was clearly seen in a field and marked on the OS map. We followed this route by dowsing through woodland and across open fields before ending up on the A36 not too far from Testwood Lakes.

I am convinced that our recent dig at Nursling was not very far away from where the routes from Lepe, Bartley and Cadnam converge.

This area around Nursling Mill is one of great archaeological interest as no one has ever located the crossing point of the River Test in the Roman period.

HADS have a great opportunity to locate this crossing point and with patient and disciplined dowsing we should be able to discover it.

As part of this research I will be seeking permission to have an excavation across the known section of the Roman route from Lepe, this section is clearly visible in the field to the south of Testwood Lakes.



On the Roman road near Copythorne Church



The “team” locating the Roman road in woodland at Shornhill Plantation

So our next survey day will be on Sunday 19th February when we shall be meeting at the Testwood Lakes car-park at 10:00. Our target is to continue to trace the Cadnam route from the A36 to Testwood/Nursling. If we have a chance to we could always trace the Bartley route to Testwood too, this will depend on the weather and how cold it will be.

The most exciting news concerns the Medieval bishop’s palace at Bishop’s Sutton, as Paul has already indicated we now have permission to carry out a dowsing survey of this site. The event will take place over the weekend of Saturday 31st March and Sunday 1st April. I will be asking for a few volunteers to help with the setting up of the site on Friday 30th March. We hope to make this an open event where local residents can come along to view our results and even have a go at dowsing.

We also have two areas of interest coming up at Bishop’s Waltham but these are in the early stages of research. We are still waiting to hear from Lord Northbrook about the site at East Stratton!

Don