

ROMAN REMAINS : HIGHAM MARSHES

In May, 1953, my attention was drawn to a site in Higham Marshes from which fragments of Roman coarse ware were being obtained. The site was about 150 yards west of the northern end of Higham Common Causeway, and south of the sea-wall (National Grid Ref. 70157505). Here mechanical diggers were cutting a wide trench in the marsh in order to win clay to repair the sea-wall. In the south side of this trench was observed a wide band of peat whose top lay some three feet below the level of the marsh which is here about 7 feet above N.O.D. Sherds of coarse ware, one fragment of Samian ware, and brick and tile pieces were obtained from the peat and the stratum immediately above it. From conversation with the workmen it was learned that considerable quantities of such remains were turned up by the diggers, including the rim of a large *mortarium*.

The water-logged condition of the site precluded proper examination but a Roman Occupation site associated with the Upper (Roman) peat bed was indicated.

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