

2nd April, 1971

Dear Jim,

I am returning the serial photographs recently passed on to me by Staffs. County Planning Officer, with many thanks.

I have shown them to Jim Gould, and we have together looked at the sites in the Wall area on the ground. The new Shenstone site had just been ploughed but no pottery was forthcoming. The Weeford site was under grass, but we were able to plot it satisfactorily.

It seems to be becoming increasingly clear that Wall was surrounded by a cluster of farmsteads which we hope to investigate further when opportunity offers.

With many thanks and kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

021-354

14th August, 1970

Dear Jim, (Pickering)

I'm sorry not to have replied earlier to your letter but I've just had a week in the metropolis.

We seem to be unlucky again at Wall as far as crop-marks are concerned. From the ground there seemed to be quite a number of buildings outlined in thistles, and aligned on the baths, in the field between the baths and the "Trooper" pub to the east. However, since the crop has grown taller these do not appear so obvious, and I assume do not now show up from the air.

The double-ditched villa (?) type enclosure at SK 111054 appears to be the site investigated by the Birmingham Society in the 1930's and thought to be a farmstead, with evidence of second to fourth century occupation (B.A.S. Trans., 63 (1939-40) p.1.)

The sites round SK 155045 are interesting. It was about here that two Roman lead pigs were found in 1771 and 1833, and of course the other site you mention at SK 139044 is fairly close. How do I get copies of these photographs? I believe you said you were sending the negatives nowadays to a central register, but I don't seem to have the address.

With many thanks and best wishes,

July 30 1970

Dear Bert,

I've made two flights over Wall, but have nothing of special significance to report. A number of indications of minor sites were recorded & the only one outside this category is a substantial double ditched villa? type enclosure at approx SK 111054. It is in the very large field S.W. of the large traffic island where the A5 crosses the A38.

There are a number of sites to the west of the T.V. mast in the fields around SK 155045. A small square roadside site at SK 139044, almost opposite where the road from Weepd joins the A5 & some faint indications of earlier field systems between Chestfield & Hilton which seem to have a similar alignment to the possible first I recorded in that area.

This years results have been prolific but very patchy. I've taken about 1500 photographs this month, but some areas where I thought results would be good this year - Wall was one of them - have been disappointing.

It will be O.K. at Wall one year, it's simply a matter of waiting. Kindest Regards
 Jim Zehner

CONFIDENTIAL

17th Nov, 1970

Dear Jim,

I don't know whether you are likely to be flying over the wall (Belfast!) soon later this year, but I remember you saying that barley is about the best crop to show crop-marks, and there is a lot of it planted round the village this year.

The fields between the 5 fields and the inn, the field opposite on the south side of the sitting street and the field north of the baths are under this cover, and also the field north of the vicarage and school where I suspect other early references may lie.

If you are in the area and see anything interesting I should be glad to know of it. It was possible to see lines of thistles at right-angles to the sitting street in the field between the baths and the inn last year, but of course difficult to get any coherent picture from the ground.

Best wishes for your foreign travels this year!!

Yours sincerely,

Bob Price