Romans in Dymchurch

Newspaper report of 1844 about Roman finds at Clobsden, Dymchurch.

Within the last week or two the workmen employed on the wall at Clobsden have made some very interesting discoveries of Roman remains, some of which, fortunately, are in a remarkably perfect state, a full description of which we hope to lay before our readers in a future number; and we trust that the whole will be collected into one appropriate museum, if we may use the expression.

The ground in the neighbourhood abounds with animal deposits and a vertebra of the mammoth has been already exhumed; whilst the vast mass of human bones, which abound in every direction, prove that Dymchurch was, at one period, thickly peopled by the Romans, who, no doubt, considered the extreme verge of the marsh, in which this pleasant village is situated, as at once salubrious, and convenient for their operations.

Among the articles found are Cinerary urns of various sizes, and elegant proportions; lachrymatories paterae, of Samian ware, as beautiful as when they were first manufactured, and various fragments of domestic utensils, especially portions of hand mills of a soft sandstone, which indicate a permanent settlement.

No coins, or indeed any metallic substances, have, at present, rewarded the research of the laborers but as a vast quantity of fragments are daily turned up, unless the sandy nature of the soil has proved destructive of sandy nature of the soil has proved destructive of metals, some further discoveries will, in all probability, throw additional light upon this interesting subject, and give a new interest to the neighborhood.

Sourced by Dymchurch & District Heritage Group