

ROMAN ROAD AT BEDHAMPTON.

IN May 1938 Belmont House, Bedhampton (O.S. 6in., LXXXVI,1) had been demolished and the grounds were being developed as a building estate.

Several drainage trenches, in the London clay, crossed the line of the Roman road from Chichester to Bitterne. The road appeared to have been made by digging a ditch, of an over-all width of about 15ft. and depth in the middle of about 4ft., filling it with flints, chalk and a surface of gravel. The best exposure was in a trench N.W. of the site of the house, running north and south and cutting the road at nearly a right angle. This showed, in the middle of the road, 6in. of soil, 2 to 3in. of gravel, 2ft. 3in. of chalk blocks in small chalk and 1ft. of flints. Other trenches, crossing the road at more acute angles, and tree-holes on the line, confirmed the evidence generally, but the construction seems to have been very rough.

Mr. O. G. S. Crawford traced this road in a straight line from Wickham to Bedhampton, where it joins the line of the main road to Chichester.

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**NOTES ON THREE ANCIENT BUILDINGS
IN AND NEAR HAMBLEDON, NOT NOTICED IN
"THE VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY."**

THE MANOR FARM, HAMBLEDON. The south wing appears to date from c. 1200. It is a two-storeyed building, consisting of a western part about 36ft. by 18ft. and an eastern part 21ft. by 11ft., interior measurements. The north walls of the two parts are in line, with a buttress at the junction. There is another buttress in the middle of the west wall. The walls are 3ft. thick in the lower storey, set back to take the floor in the upper storey. They are of flint rubble with chalk dressings and quoins. There is a good deal of old plaster, especially on the east wall, and I believe the whole, including the chalk, was covered with plaster. With the loss of the plaster the chalk has weathered badly and there is a good deal of patching in brick of various dates, especially in the buttresses. The west front has recently been covered with Portland cement. The only original doorway remaining is an interior one, connecting the upper storeys in the eastern and western parts. It is round-headed and is near the north end of the cross wall. The only opening in the east wall appears to have been a narrow rectangular