

B. Probably Roman -

Here such camps as the, Castles as
Hors Hill was according to some

C. Saxon. }
D. Danish. } probably C. Probably
post-Roman
must be

I keep a loose list of doubtful - better.
bracketing after each the surmises
made about it. - Where the nature
of an earthwork has been cleared up
we might say - "Bokerley Dyke [certainly
Post-Roman. cf. etc. giving reference to obser-
vations]. ^{+ in this case it would be better under its proper heading.} Can you suggest any better way
of meeting the difficulty? There is no
hurry as the book is not nearly ready -
not on the stocks. I hope to be in Dorset
in the summer & then to the north bar-
rows of Tenant Royal again - I should
happen to be at Rushmore at that
time, I should greatly like to discuss
one or two points in connection with
this project with you if you care allow
me an opportunity. - with many apologies
for this trespass on your time.

I am, yours faithfully
R. W. C. Widdie.



Widdie
And. Vol. II
Jan. 22/99.
(papers) sent
to him.

L2331

77, HARBORNE ROAD,
BIRMINGHAM.

21. Jan. 1899.

77, HARBORNE ROAD,
BIRMINGHAM.

My dear Sir,

I am most grateful to you for the
copy of your paper on "Pen Dits" & even
more so for the maps of Dorset &c
which I have duly received & which,
I assure you, I very greatly appreciate
& shall much value. If I am
not troubling you too much I should
very greatly value your advice on a
point which is causing me con-
siderable perplexity at present.
I am engaged in preparing for Messrs.
Murray an Archaeological Handbook



to England, something like Jordan
only on a more extensive scale
with short accounts of various
kinds of antiquities dealt with.
[By the way, may I ask you to regard
this as confidential?]. My promise
is with the earlier antiquities, as a
man is doing the churches, castles,
& domestic part with such assidui-
tude as I can give him. The
point which gives me the greatest
trouble is the classification of
Earthenware. The usual statement
in the older books that such a camp
is Danish, another Roman or seems
to me to be in many cases wholly arbi-
trary & when one probes the evidence
it often (? generally) resolves itself into

a surmise of some county-history
writer, or early antiquary - not based on
excavations which I think you have
shown to be the only safe test. The
Pompeybury above Dorchester - thought
by many to be Roman - name calls in
Danish but gives no reason. To adopt
such a classification would be doing
my mind mischief & I don't want to see
it in my book, though it must be
alluded to. Then the "Archæologia"
series use Roman, pre-Roman & Saxon,
well, perhaps the Saxon burh can, in
instances be identified - but as regards
the others as you point out (I think
in the Wansdyke vol) it is very difficult
to say (without digging) whether is R. or whether
pre-R. or whether again Celtic and pre-
later Roman work. My own view is
that the best plan perhaps is to classify
something like this.

A. Probably pre-Roman.

There are in such camps as Maiden
Castle or Yarbury about which I
suppose there is not much doubt.