

Vicus Helena and *Litus Saxonicum* Further Remarks

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On *Vicus Helena*: addition to the article "To be done with *Vicus Helena*" by CAPRON, Eric at www.pdf-archives.com

In this paper, we mentioned two lieu-dit located in the commune of *Abancourt*: the *Voie Basse* and the *Voie Haute*. However, we notice their surprising positions: the *Voie Basse* (or "Lower Road") goes over the hill of *Abancourt*, while the *Voie Haute* (or "Higher Road") passes through a marsh between *Abancourt* and *Hem-Lenglet*, at the foot of the same hill.

We may explain this seeming contradiction by examining the relative height of this position, rather than local geography. The *Voie Haute* connected two places through the marsh. Therefore, it was built on stilts. The confrontation must have happened there.

Today's road bears little likeness with its fifth century counterpart, because the river *Sensée* has been through many changes since. First, it lost a part of its upstream flow, which was diverted towards the *Scarpe* when the threshold of *Vitry* was dug (Dietrich LOHRMANN, **Entre Arras et Douai: les moulins de la Scarpe au XIème siècle et les détournements de la Satis**). Then, it was canalized. An archaeological research for stakes preserved in the marsh's soil could make their dating possible.

On *Litus Saxonicum*: an addition to "Remarques historiques, étymologiques et toponymiques sur la partie orientale du *Litus Saxonicum* de Gaule et sur *Quentovic*" by CAPRON, Eric at <http://cat.inist.fr/>

After more research, we propose a probable etymology for the word *Locus Quartensis*: a lieu-dit from the commune of *Saint-Josse* named *Les Couartes*. A *couarte* is a historical unity of measurement, equal to a container presenting a capacity of 16 litres. This type of container was used during the roman period, to collect the sap from maritime pines (*pinus pinaster*) which would caulk ships.