



Walton Heath Mosaic AD 100 – 200

One of the finest Roman mosaic floors in Surrey is from the villa at Walton Heath, which was first discovered in 1770. In 1856 the mosaic was carefully recorded, which is fortunate as it now no longer exists. Mosaics were symbols of wealth and status and intended to impress any visitors to the villa home. The Walton mosaic was a tessellated floor which was made from cubes known as *tesserae*. The terrerae were mostly red – made from broken pieces of samian pottery – but also included cubes of white chalk. This panel is from the mosaic's centre and included a design of a vase (or *cantharus*). Its age is only a guess, as is not easy to date based on its pattern alone.

