

EXCAVATIONS AT MEON HILL

By DOROTHY M. LIDDELL, F.S.A., F.S.A. Scot.

Map references :

O.S. 1in. 122. F. 13.

O.S. 6in. XXXI S.E.

O.S. 25in. XXXI 15, 16.

Lat. 51° 6' 55" N. Long. 1° 30' 30" W.

MEON HILL, to give the name which appears on the tithe map of Houghton Parish in the year 1842 to the little eminence now locally recognised only as Houghton Down, lies half a mile west of Stockbridge, its smoothly rounded crown, the summit only 200 ft. above the level of the Test, forming the background to the broad street as one looks westward through the village. The main Stockbridge—Salisbury road for centuries climbed straight over Meon Hill and skirted the site of the camp, but in modern times its course has been deflected in a wide curve northward, and it is now only a deeply rutted grass trackway buried between high banks of creepers and undergrowth which mounts the steeper gradient.

Though Meon Hill boasts no great height it is beautifully situated, the ground falling away below it to rise again in a ring of higher hills two to five miles distant, and its occupants must have been well in touch with the doings of their neighbours. Woolbury camp, two miles east, and Danebury, two miles to north-west, are almost as much overlooked as overlooking.

Quarley camp stands up clearly 6½ miles away over the left shoulder of Danebury, and almost the whole Test valley lies open to the eye, the superb view along the river northward reaching the Kingsclere Beacon and the wide range of the Kingsclere Downs.

Absolutely no traces are visible on the surface of the ancient earthwork, which was discovered in 1924 by the authors of *Wessex from the Air*,¹ who first recorded the ring on an air photograph and identified it with the hill fort referred to in Kemble's *Codex Diplomaticus*, A.D. 982, in which the bounds of Longstock are described as mounting from the Test along the Houghton boundary to "middanweards eorthbyrig."

Local tradition insists that an inn stood not so long since close to the site—probably in the enclosure west of the old hedge-line shown in the photograph and plan, which was known as "Dickon's Piece," and was until the last few years under a different ownership from the rest of the down. A well is also frequently

1. *Wessex from the Air*. Crawford and Keiller. 1928.

mentioned by the "oldest inhabitants," who locate it in very various parts of this same area, but its exact position has not been identified.

The hill is of upper chalk on which occur irregular bands and patches of stiff yellow clay with flints. These clay patches show dark upon the air photograph and are apt to be misleading, forming tempting-looking circles, and simulating ditches and causeways which excavation proves to be of perfectly natural formation. These are fortunately less convincing on a greatly enlarged photograph, where their irregularities show in clearer contrast with the sharp outline of the real ditch. The occasional occurrence of yellow-patinated gravel indicates an original gravel capping to the hill.

The whole of the hill-top is at present under cultivation. Sprinkled all over the centre of the ring are myriads of "pot-boilers" which, with a few flakes struck from the local surface flint and an occasional extremely crude flint implement, provide the only visible evidence of human occupation.¹

The question of a surface water supply is, as usual, unsolved unless a depression just outside the south-eastern side of the Fort, near the Reservoir, may prove to be a dew-pond.

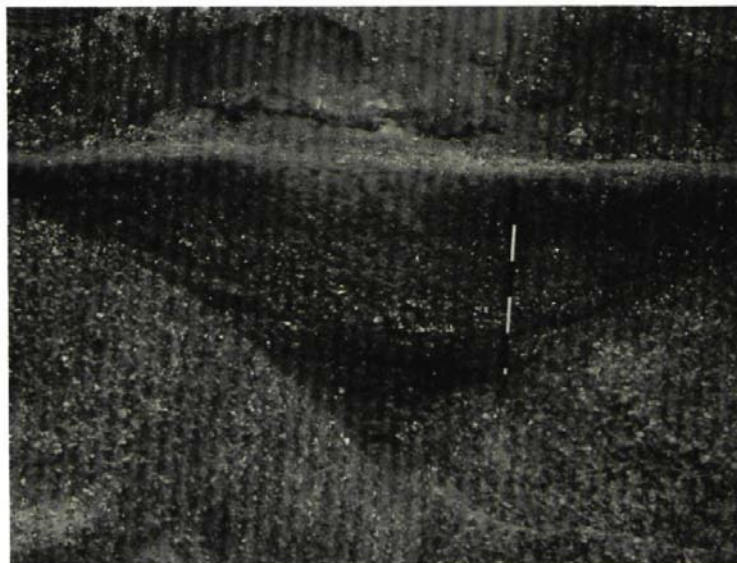
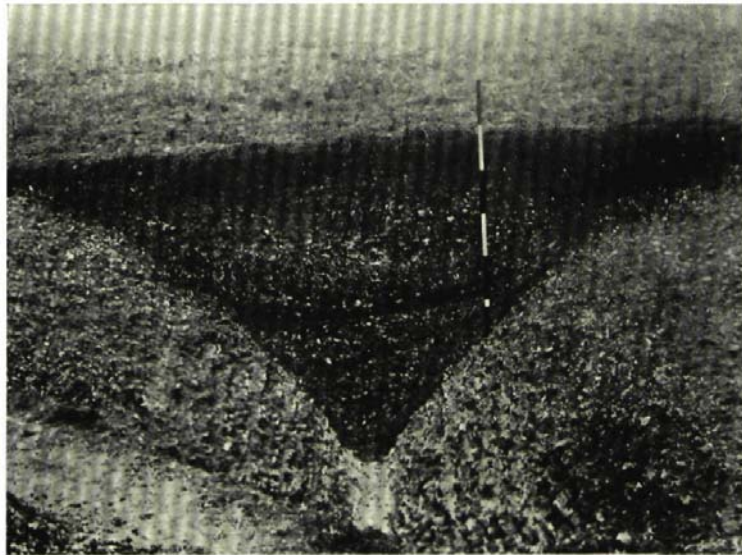
The present owner of the site is Mr. Lyster, of Houghton Down Farm, who kindly gave leave for the excavation and displayed the greatest interest while the work was in progress. Since the site came into Mr. Lyster's possession in 1928, most of the trees on the south of the camp have been felled, a reservoir has been built in the sharp angle where the Parish boundary touches the south side of the Fort, and the field south of the trees which shows as rough grazing in the photograph, has been brought into cultivation.

The site in the summer of 1932 was under wheat, and the work was begun on September 12th, as soon as the harvest was gathered, and continued till October 8th; Mr. W. E. V. Young was employed as foreman with four labourers during the first three weeks, and a fifth for the last week.

Miss A. M. Henderson and Miss Mary Nicol were also present the whole of the time and rendered invaluable assistance.

The results of the excavation proved the ditch shown in the air photograph to be of the La Tène II date occupied into Romano-British times, and there were also discovered a Hallstatt-La Tène I

1. It was so persistently suggested to me during the excavation that these pot-boilers were probably the result of couch fires, that it seems necessary to stress once again the difference between the "crackled" appearance resulting from frequently dropping a heated stone into water, and the cracks and discolouration of a heated stone which has not been subjected to sudden cooling. Proof by experiment is within anybody's scope. Burnt flints, not "crackled," do result from couch fires, and are encountered on the surface, but are not recorded.—D.M.L.



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Plate III. SECTION ACROSS CUTTING I, S. FACE.

Plate IV. SECTION ACROSS CUTTING II, E. FACE.

ditch and dwellings of the same period, indicating continuous occupation of the site throughout the whole Early Iron Age.

Other sites which have produced evidence of a similar period of occupation include Hengistbury Head,¹ the Caburn,² and Worthy Down,³ but in none of these sites do the earliest ditches or dwellings at all resemble those so far uncovered at Meon Hill. Neither do those at All Cannings Cross,⁴ the largest Hallstatt-La Tène I site excavated in England, where the occupation ended about 300 B.C.

Cutting I.

Operations commenced with a trial trench, 15ft. by 5ft., over the north-east side of the ring, 35ft. south from the road. In this the ditch was immediately located, the chalk being touched on each side at a depth of 2ft. The trench was then enlarged south-eastwards to measure 21ft. by 20ft., and slewed round to cross the ditch at right-angles to its course.

This was found to be a typical La Tène II ditch, V-shaped, well made, symmetrically cut, and measuring 17ft. wide at the top, 0.8ft. at the bottom, and 7.6ft. deep.

The section (Pl. III, Fig. 1) shows that the lowest 3½ft. had filled in by natural silting of 2.5ft. of chalk rubble from the vallum on the west side above 1ft. of washed silt. Over this layer was a well defined turf line, with a maximum thickness of 0.8ft. on the east side sloping gently upwards and narrowing to 0.5ft. as it rose to the vallum; fragments of native made Romano-British pottery including bases, and a few pieces of La Tène II type, were found in this turf line and just below it. No Romano-British pottery however occurred in the bottom two feet, which contained a number of fragments of the late La Tène type, including two pieces of bead rim and a part of a pedestal base.

In this turf line was found the bronze pin No. M 1. Above this line the ditch had evidently been deliberately filled in. The thick clayey soil mixed with chalk lay in level layers, firmly rammed down to a great hardness, and on the north side, where a now demolished gateway had led carts over the course of the ditch, this was reinforced with a layer of large flint nodules 2ft. below the surface. Fragments of mediaeval glazed green pottery occurred in these layers, and eight fragments of clay pipe-stem were found down to the turf line in layer four.

It is interesting to note in the photograph (Pl. III) how completely all trace of the ditch is obliterated from the surface. An

1. "Report of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, No. III." Hengistbury Head, 1911-12.

2. *The Caburn*. E. Cecil Curwen. Sussex Archaeological Collections LXVIII and LXXII.

3. *Excavation of an Early Iron Age Village on Worthy Down, Winchester*. R. W. Hooley. *Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club*, Vol. X, Part 2.

4. *All Cannings Cross*. M. E. Cunington.

Neon Hill - Stockbridge. 1932.

Fig. 1. Section of S. face of Cutting I.

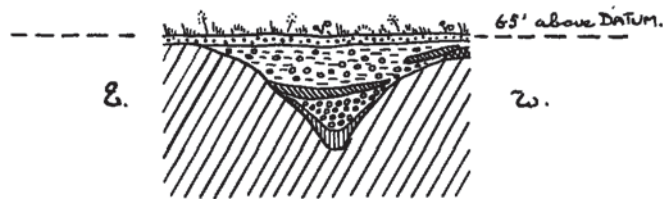


Fig. 2. Early Ditch.
S. face of Section III

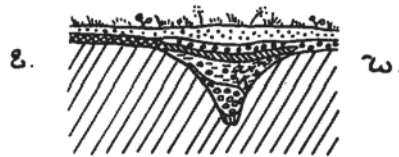


Fig. 4. Early Ditch
S. face of C. II.



Fig. 3. Plan of Fig. 2.
contoured at 1'.

1/2 '32.

- = Top Soil
- = Chalk Rubble
- = Fine Chalk filling.
- = Chalk and Soil filling.
- = Washed Silt
- = Old Turf-line
- = Bottom of Vallum
- = "Pot-boilers"
- = Perrier layer.
- = Edge of Ditch
- = Bottom of Ditch.

Fig. 5. Section of E. face of C. II.

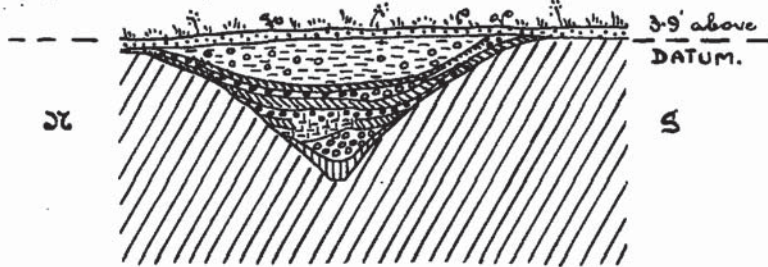


Fig. 6. Plan of C. II. contoured at 1'

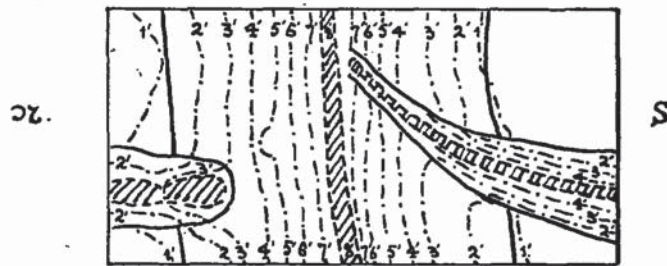
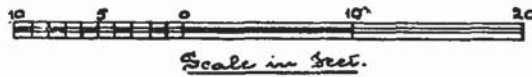
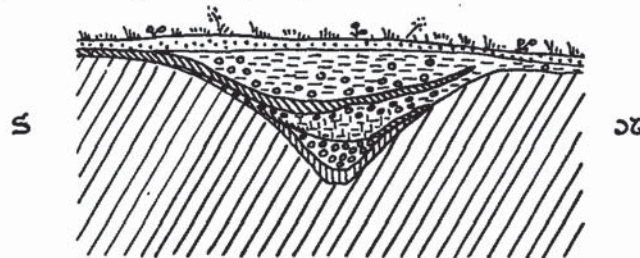


Fig. 7. W. face of C. II.



extension of this cutting, 10ft. by 10ft., was made on the inner side beneath the vanished vallum in search of post-holes, but no trace of such was found. A few flint flakes and numerous pot-boilers were present in all layers of the ditch, the latter being particularly numerous from 4ft. to 5ft. below the surface immediately below the old turf line.

(For complete list of finds, see Table pp. 158-9.)

Cutting II.

A second cutting, 30ft. by 15ft. was taken through the north-west sector of the ring, and confirmed in every respect the evidence of the section in Cutting I. The ditch here was slightly larger, measuring 2ft. wide at the top, 1ft. at the bottom, and 8.5ft. to 9ft. deep, and at a depth of 5ft. to 6ft. below the surface were discovered ten skeletons, roughly interred in and below the old turf line, which lay as before above 2ft. of rapidly silted clean chalk rubble on 1ft. of stiff clayey washed silt. This first turf line had grown 0.4ft. in thickness when broken by the interments. Above the bodies, which were covered with a sprinkling of chalk rubble and some large flint boulders, a second turf line had formed. In the west face this is 0.7ft. to 1ft. deep and is clear and unbroken below the upper stratum of deliberate infilling (Pl. III, Fig. 7). In the east face the turf is 0.6ft. thick, and a shallow layer of very fine rubble intervenes between it and a third turf line only 0.2ft. thick, which stretches unbroken from side to side with a maximum depth of 3ft. below the surface. (Pl. IV, Fig. 5.)

The skeletons bore evidence of systematic, if not particularly reverential treatment, and in almost every particular resemble those found by Dr. J. F. S. Stone at Roche Court Down, 5 miles to the west.⁷ The skulls and the few small objects found with them and described below, point to their being Saxons of the Viking period (10th or 11th century A.D.), and the manner of their burial indicates deliberate executions over a period of years rather than the results of battle.

All lay extended with feet to the north. Six had been decapitated and the heads of four were laid between their knees. Two had their hands crossed behind their backs and two crossed in front, wrists touching as if bound, and these may have been garrotted. There were no signs of dislocation in any of the articulated vertebrae to suggest death by hanging, unless by strangulation. Two skulls were missing.

The burials were not absolutely contemporary, some of the bodies having been disturbed by subsequent interment of the

⁷ "Saxon Interments on Roche Court Down, Winterslow. J. F. S. Stone, B.A., D.Phil. *Wilt's Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, Vol. XLV.



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Plate V. SKELETONS IN CUTTING II LOOKING S.

others, and though there is no evidence to say what interval elapsed between the inhumations, it would appear that the earlier ones, notably No. 6, must have been in a fairly advanced state of decomposition to allow the bones to be so sharply cut with (presumably) a spade.

A cursory examination showed the skulls to be dolicocephalic (long-headed). The skeletons were presented to the Royal College of Surgeons for a detailed examination, and the Report on them by Miss Tildesley, Osteological Curator to the Museum, is appended below.

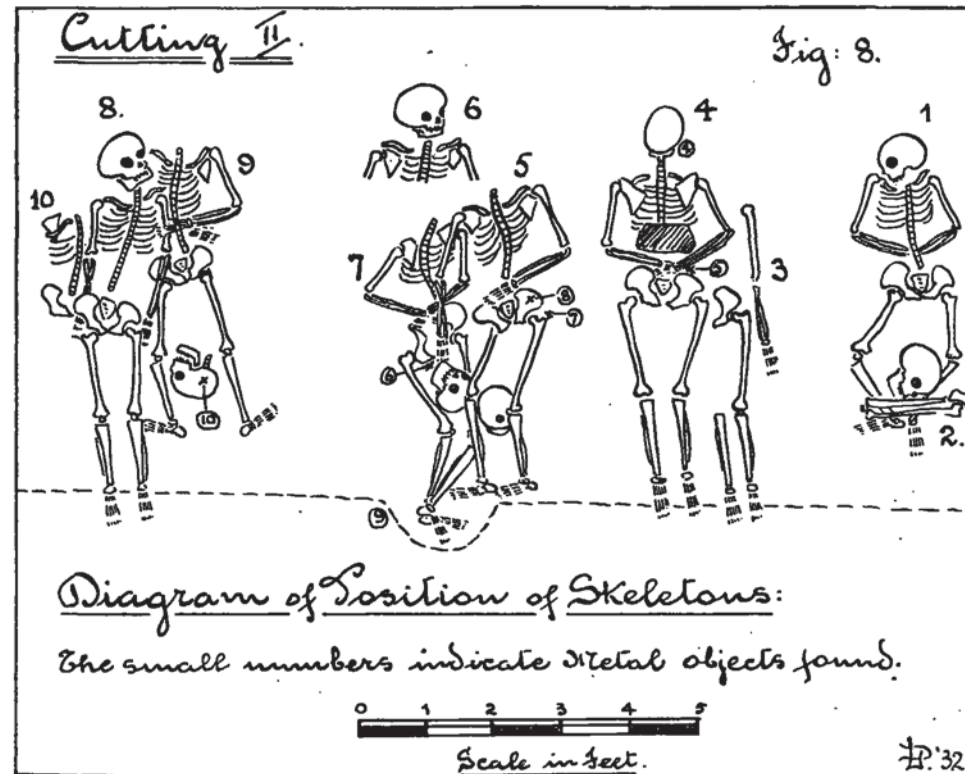
The reason for the choice of the site for these burials is not far to seek. Such executions would naturally be carried out outside the town (as was the more civilised practice in less civilised times), and the soft ditch filling of the abandoned Fort would offer a less troublesome medium for grave-digging than quarrying new graves in the hard chalk. The system was probably in accordance with the formula so often quoted by Geoffrey of Monmouth referring to Saxon times, when "they led him out of the town and sent him to Hell with his head smitten off."

The Skeletons (Pl. V, VI, Fig. 8).

No. I lay on back against the west face of cutting—feet to the north, head turned to the right over right shoulder—hands crossed at wrist behind lumbar vertebrae and were probably bound. Left leg slightly flexed, foot extended—right leg flexed and rotated outwards, knee raised on a heap of stones, foot flexed beneath tibia and foot of No. 2 projecting from face of cutting; the spine slightly dislocated from subsidence of the ditch filling. The lower jaw lay 2 in. above the upper jaw (probably disturbed by rabbits of which there were abundant traces on the south side of the cutting). The left side of skull was cracked.

No. II was only partially exposed projecting from the face of the cutting and had been disturbed. The left half of pelvis lay over the lower end of a disarticulated left femur—beneath these was a skull, complete with lower maxilla, lying on left side and facing north. The skull had a hole in right temple. The right half of pelvis with articulated femur and fully flexed tibia lay just north of the skull; a sacrum, patella, ulna, fragments of four cervical vertebrae, two top ribs and one ankle-bone were found in the humus above, evidently part of this skeleton.

No. III had been cut in two longitudinally when No. 4 was inserted, the left side is complete. Arm and hand extended—pelvis articulated with fully extended leg; the right tibia, fibula, and foot only are present—both feet lie up the north side of ditch. The skull is missing.





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Plate VI. SKELETONS IN CUTTING II LOOKING N.

Plate VII. CLOSER VIEW OF SKELETONS NOS. 3, 4 AND 5.

No. IV. Complete, lying on face, head bent slightly backwards and turned to right, the left side resting on a stone. Hands bound behind back touching at wrists—the left one on top—fingers half flexed towards the palms. Legs and feet fully extended side by side. A large flint boulder lay on the centre of the back, which at first suggested stoning, but when lifted it was found that a little humus and a scapula, probably of No. 3, lay between it and the body, and it was probably placed there during burial. This was not an uncommon feature of Saxon interments, large stones being frequently found on the bodies and feet of skeletons ceremoniously buried in properly prepared graves. Altogether 57 large boulders occurred above and among these skeletons. A small bronze earring (M4) was found 3in. from the right ear of No. 4, and the bronze wrist fastener (M5) lay beside the right hand.

No. V. Complete—decapitated—lying on back slightly turned towards right; right arm extended and hand pronated; left arm flexed—fingers lying across crest of right ilium. Right leg slightly flexed, the knee raised and resting on skull of No. 7. Left leg extended and rotated inwards; both feet lying on side of ditch, toes pointing east. Head placed between knees, face down touching left knee; the atlas is articulated with the skull.

Beside the left hip was a small iron buckle (M8) and 5in. below this a bronze chape or strap-tag (M7). Just beyond the extended fingers of the right hand was the coin (M6).

No. VI had been cut clean through the thorax and humera to make room for No. 7 which in turn lay partly beneath No. 5. The head of No. 6 is bent forward and rotated to left, the lower jaw forced up and to right outside the upper teeth.

Loose bones found in the humus above practically completed this skeleton.

No. VII. Complete—decapitated, the head lying between the thighs above the right femur and beneath the right knee of No. 5; skull lies on base and right side of lower jaw, looking south. The skeleton is prone slightly tilted to right, exaggerating the dorsal curve of the spine; wrists crossed in front level with crest of ilium—probably bound. Legs slightly flexed, knees pointing west and nearly touching, feet pointing west, the right placed on top of the left.

This body is not quite in the centre of the ditch, and a hollow 1.5ft. wide by 0.75ft. deep has been cut in the chalk on the north side to accommodate its feet.

A small oblong iron buckle (M9) lay on the edge of this recess.

No. VIII the uppermost of three bodies at the east end of the cutting. Complete, lying on back fully extended. Head bent to right and rotated to left against two big stones; arms extended at

sides, the right hand behind the pelvis. Legs hyper-extended, the feet being stretched up the side of ditch at a higher level than the knees.

No. IX decapitated—lying on back partly beneath No. 8—arms flexed and wrists crossed above the upper lumbar vertebrae and probably bound—the fingers of left hand rest on the humerus of No. 8, legs extended, feet turned out and flexed, the heels lying inwards and downwards. The head is between the knees, the top vertebrae being articulated with the skull, which lies on left side, facing west. The lower maxilla is articulated but has fallen open.

A small bronze earring (M10) lay near the right ear of this skull.

No. X part of a skeleton much disturbed by the interment of Nos. 7 and 9. The left side of the thorax, scapula, clavicle, ribs and vertebrae and left half of pelvis are undisturbed. The femora had been thrown back on top of No. 8, one lying along the left radius, its distal end just below the elbow joint, and the other with distal end and part of pelvis resting on the right temple. The tibia was articulated and flexed back along the right humerus.

The fact that these limbs remained articulated in spite of being strongly flexed, indicates that the joints were still supported by some flesh or sinew, at the time of their disturbance. Other loose bones were found in the soil above these three bodies.

The orientation of the bodies north and south is evidently deliberate and possibly an intentional final insult to slaughtered malefactors. The same orientation was observed in the case of the skeletons at Roche Court Down, the bodies there being laid in groups along the ditch parallel with its sides when the ditch turned north and south, in direct contrast to the interments in the adjoining Saxon cemetery where the graves lay east and west.

A few Romano-British shards occurred in the humus immediately around the bodies, undoubtedly dug out of the broken turf line and thrown back over them. The remainder of the finds may be regarded as contemporary, but are unfortunately not very definitely dateable though Mr. Kendrick, of the British Museum, who kindly inspected them, is inclined to place them in the late Saxon or Viking period rather than the Migration period of Saxons. In the same layer were found two iron arrow-heads of the Viking period or later, and to the same date the iron buckle may also be ascribed.

There seems no reason to dissociate the coin from the other objects, while bearing in mind that as the 11th century turf line was only 5 or 6 inches above it, which is no distance for a thin silver coin to "walk," and that there was nothing but soil between

it and the turf, it may possibly be intrusive. The coin was minted in the latter part of the reign of Edward the Confessor and, if contemporary, confirms a late date for the interments.

One may be tempted to try and deduce a date from the clearly marked turf lines, but it is impossible to attain a satisfactory degree of accuracy without knowing the date of abandonment of the fort, the length of time covered by the rapid silting of the vallum and the exact period at which the remainder of the bank was ploughed in.

The old turf line in Cutting I, undisturbed by burials, is 1ft. deep. In Cutting II it is 1.2ft.—of which 0.4ft. is below the skeletons and 0.8ft. above—a proportion of 1 to 2. Assuming that the fort was occupied till the end of the Romano-British period, approximately 450 A.D., and filled in about 1700, and allowing a generous estimate of 50 years for the accumulation of $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet of rapidly silted chalk rubble, this would bring the burials to the second half of the 10th century. If the presence of the decaying bodies themselves accounts, as seems probable, for the growth of the 0.2ft. more turf than is present in Cutting I, then the proportion is altered to 4 to 6, which would bring the date a little later, and nearly to the 11th century.

This is an extremely rough computation and may easily be in error by a hundred years, but the comparative thickness of the two turf lines cannot be entirely ignored, and the depth of turf below the bodies will not allow the burials to be placed as early as the 5th or 6th centuries, the date tentatively ascribed to the Roche Court burials.

The fact that the calculation of a later date is supported by the finds makes it more acceptable.

There is every reason to suppose that other skeletons must lie in the ditch to the east and west of this cutting.

REPORT ON HUMAN REMAINS FROM MEON HILL.

By Miss M. L. TILDESLEY.

The human skeletons exposed in the upper layers of a section of trench excavated by Miss Dorothy Liddell on Meon Hill near Stockbridge in 1932 are ten in number, eight of them practically complete. Owing to their burial very close together and in some cases superimposed; owing also to the fact that in many cases the head had been removed from its normal position taking some of the vertebrae with it; and to the further fact that some of the bones had subsequently been scattered, it was impossible for the excavator to determine from the position of some the skeleton from which they derived. Careful examination of the remains since cleaning and mending has, however, made it possible to identify

the owners of those vertebrae and limb bones that were of uncertain derivation.

Skeleton No. 1 was that of a man aged about 40 to 45 years. All the teeth were present at death and all the 24 that still remain are quite healthy. All the cervical vertebrae are present but the 2nd and 4th give evidence of decapitation. A blow aimed from the left side had cut into the right transverse process of the 5th cervical vertebra but had not detached it. A second blow, aimed from the same side, has made a slanting cut passing through the lower part of the left transverse process of the 5th and through the upper part of the body and of the right transverse process of the 6th, taking also a bit off the right transverse process of the 7th vertebra.

Skeleton No. 2 was that of an individual aged about 25 to 30 years. The sex indications were rather contradictory, but on balance were taken to indicate a male. The teeth were all present at death and only the left upper third molar lost post-mortem. The three remaining upper 2nd and 3rd molars were badly carious. Other teeth healthy but showing a good deal of wear for 25—30 years and rather irregular. Of the cervical vertebrae the 3rd, 4th and 7th were missing; the others showed no damage. Much earlier in life this man had broken the right forearm (both radius and ulna) near the elbow and in healing they had ankylosed together. There were signs of disease on the lumbar vertebrae on which Mr. T. W. P. Lawrence, F.R.C.S., reports as follows: "The spinal column is free from disease except to the 2nd and 3rd lumbar vertebrae. On the anterior surfaces of these two there is a deposit of new bone occupying an area of about 1½ in. in diameter, otherwise the two bones are normal and there is no ankylosis resulting from this bony deposit, which probably was the seat of a tumour."

Skeleton No. 3 was that of a fully adult male and was very imperfect, most of the upper part being missing. The five cervical vertebrae that were present shewed no cuts—the atlas and 5th cervical vertebra were missing.

Skeleton No. 4 was that of a young man aged about 22 to 25 years. Teeth all present and all healthy. Cervical vertebrae all present and none cut. The young man had died otherwise than by decapitation.

Skeleton No. 5 was that of a young man aged about 20 to 23 years: teeth all present and all healthy. He had been decapitated. The first five cervical vertebrae were present and showed that a blow delivered from the right side of the victim had hit the neck between the 4th and 5th vertebrae.

Skeleton No. 6 was again male but older—over 50. His teeth were in much worse condition. At death five stumps of upper teeth were left in the upper jaw, of which only the left upper canine remains. It had an abscess at the root and the sockets of the others showed signs of disease. In the lower jaw only the right first molar and one root of the left first molar had been lost at death but most of the other teeth had been badly worn. The man had been decapitated. The cervical vertebrae were all present and so provide complete evidence that the head had been cut off with a single clean blow between the 4th and 5th vertebrae which took a little off each. The right wrist and the lower part of the spinal column show signs of arthritis. The 5th lumbar vertebra articulates with the sacrum on the left side.

Skeleton No. 7 was that of a man of about 45 years. Teeth were all present at death and the thirty now preserved are all healthy. He had been decapitated. The first three vertebrae and the 7th have been preserved. A blow has taken a slice of bone from the under surface of the 3rd vertebra and either this blow or one aimed lower down cut into the right collar-bone. This bone was hit by two blows—one cut off its mesial end and the other was rather more lateral. The man shows considerable signs of arthritis, the 3rd



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Plate VIII. LOOKING S.W. OVER CUTTING SHOWING W. FACE OF
CUTTING, AND EARLY (HALLSTATT) DITCH ON LEFT.

Plate IX. SECTION ACROSS EARLY DITCH IN CUTTING II.

and 4th thoracic vertebrae being ankylosed. Also the right hip-bone shows signs of arthritis above the hip-joint.

Skeleton No. 8 was that of a woman aged perhaps 30 to 35. The teeth were all present at death except the lower right wisdom tooth which had never erupted. The amount of wear on the teeth points to a greater age than would be suggested by the quite open sutures, which are more characteristic of an individual under 30. None of the teeth was carious but there were signs of disease round the sockets of the left lower first molar and lower incisors. She had not been decapitated: all the cervical vertebrae were present and none had been cut. Signs of arthritis on the lumbar vertebrae.

Skeleton No. 9 was that of a youth of about 20. His teeth were all present at death but the second lower milk molar had been retained, no pre-molar having erupted in its place. This milk tooth is carious. All his cervical vertebrae are preserved and show that he was decapitated by a blow which struck the neck between the 5th and 6th cervical vertebrae.

Skeleton No. 10 was that of a man aged probably 35 or more. Only fragments of the skull are left. The condition of the bone seems different from that of the others, being rather more metallic. Of the cervical vertebrae all but the 1st and 7th are preserved. He had been decapitated by a cut clean through the upper part of the body of the atlas. Ankylosis of the 5th and 6th thoracic vertebrae and many other signs of vertebral arthritis were in evidence, while the astragali showed the same disease to have been at work at the back of the heels.

As regards the race of these skeletons a considerable number of measurements were made on the crania and compared with the data for both Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon series. The resemblance is closer to the Anglo-Saxon, with which our crania agree in all the characters measured. Only a small amount of Viking material is available for comparison but suggests that of the two alternatives offered by the earrings found with two of the skeletons the Anglo-Saxon is the correct one.

The Early Ditch.

The other interesting discovery in Cutting II was a second and earlier ditch, running from the southern face of the cutting into the main ditch which had intersected it almost at right angles. Its course had curved into the east face of the cutting, where it disappeared.

The tracing of this ditch is difficult, as there are no surface indications of its course, which can only be determined by digging. Three small trial trenches (referred to as Section I, II, and III) were therefore made at intervals of 20ft. in the direction in which the ditch appeared to lead, and found that after bearing slightly to the south-west, it is turning gradually south-east at a distance of 85ft. from Cutting II.

The top layers only were dug in Section II to locate the ditch, but Sections I and III were completely excavated, and in Section III the cutting was extended beneath the vallum, but no post-holes were found.

The pottery found in this ditch proves it to be of the Hallstatt-La Tène I period.

Sections I and II, 15ft. by 5ft.

Section III, 35ft. by 5ft., widened to 10ft. in east half.

This ditch measures 6.5ft. in depth and from 5.7ft. (Cutting II) to 8.8ft. (Sections I and II) in width at top, narrowing to 3ft. at 3ft. to 4ft. below the surface, below which it tapers rapidly to a width of only 0.3ft. to 0.6ft.

This exaggerated elongation at the bottom does not resemble the early ditches at All Cannings Cross, nor any of the sites previously mentioned.

Since anybody can step across the ditch one pace below its margin, and an active man or animal could clear the whole width with ease, the extra depth would seem to have no defensive value, unless it had supported a stockade or barrier of brush-wood, for which purpose its narrow sides seem particularly well adapted. Backed by a vallum from 5ft. to 6ft. high, this would have afforded reasonable protection.

The bottom of the ditch was full of washed silt varying from 0.8ft. in Sections I and III, to 1.5ft. in Cutting II (where the ditch slopes downwards before its eastern curve and water would accumulate). This differed from the clean washed silt in the La Tène II ditch, being discoloured and full of flecks and small pieces of charcoal, which were found throughout the narrowest part of the ditch. There were no definite cores of wood nor traces of packing.

The charcoal analysis by Mr. Maby identifies the samples taken as:—

- Corylus sp. (Hazel) early formed wood.
- Crataegus sp. (Hawthorn) early formed wood.
- Fraxinus sp. (Ash) mature rather slow grown wood, probably from a small branch.
- Quercus sp. (Common Oak) mature wood of very poor growth.

This is consistent with the idea of a barricade of brushwood and prickles.

Over the washed silt in Section I and III are 2ft. of chalk rubble from the east or vallum side, above which is a dirty mixed filling of soil and chalk, containing a quantity of pot-boilers, ash and tiny fragments of bone, and covered by a turf line 0.5ft. thick. The remaining depression (1.5ft.) was levelled at the same time as the later ditch.

In Cutting II the filling is different. The washed silt is covered by the mixed filling of fine chalk and soil with pot-boilers and occasional bone fragments 1.5ft. to 3ft. deep. The coarse chalk rubble lies over this and away from the vallum side of the ditch, where it could not have fallen naturally, and there is no turf line.

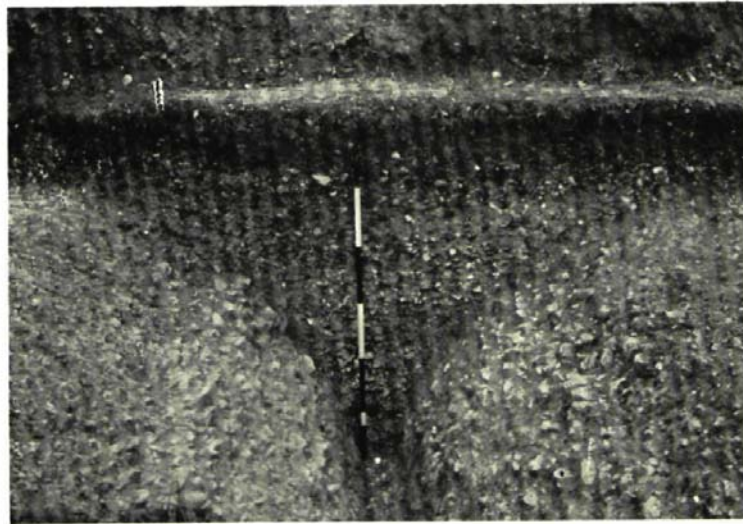


Plate X. S. FACE OF EARLY DITCH, SECTION III.



To face p. 141.]

Plate XI. LOOKING N. OVER CUTTING III. PITS 3 AND 2
IN FOREGROUND, 1 IN CENTRE, AND 5 IN N. FACE.

As this part of the early ditch runs beneath the La Tène II vallum, it is clear that the abnormal chalk rubble stratum results from the filling of the early ditch by the construction of the later vallum, and that the La Tène II people followed on, or merged with, their predecessors before the earlier camp was abandoned, and before grass had grown over the ditch of the first settlement.

The ditch contained a great quantity of pot-boilers, especially in the first four layers. All the pottery below the old turf line was of Hallstatt and La Tène I type. A fragment of worked bone gouge came from the bottom layer in Cutting II, and a clay spindle whorl from layer 3 in Section III, where some pieces of clay daub were also found in layers 2 and 4. These objects, together with the nature of the ditch filling, suggested adjacent dwellings, but extensive boring with an auger failed to reveal any further traces of habitation. (See Table of Finds, pp. 158-9.)

Cutting III.

For the most interesting results of the excavation, we are primarily indebted to Mr. Lyster, who told us of a layer of dark ash which had been encountered when laying water pipes from the reservoir on the southern side of the field near the trees.

Boring with a specially constructed auger confirmed the presence of an expanse perhaps 80ft. to 100ft. in extent of very dark burnt material, 2ft. below the soil, and a cutting 35ft. by 10ft. was made to investigate it.

The first 2ft. were of fine chalk silt mixed with the heavy clay soil beneath a layer of soft brown humus (largely leaf mould from the trees). The third layer exposed the ash and refuse of La Tène II—Romano-British occupation site in the northern 23ft. of the cutting, meeting a descending band of very hard chalk rubble 10ft. from the south face, which proved to be the inner margin of the La Tène II vallum. This locates the course of the ditch, which had already been traced by boring, as far as the belt of trees at a point 63ft. west of this cutting and considerably outside the abrupt curve shown on the key plan in *Wessex from the Air*. It also explains the right-angled turn taken by the parish boundary at the corner by the reservoir, after which, running south for some 80ft., it turns again and resumes its north-westerly direction, having thus avoided cutting through the camp, but touched it at a point "middanweards eorthbyrig." In this rubble was a stake-hole 1ft. deep below the rubble and 3.8ft. below present surface at a point 8.2ft. from south of cutting and 1.8ft. from east. Its diameter was 0.6ft. at top and 0.3ft. at bottom, and it contained loose soft soil filling with scraps of charcoal (Hazel), three pot-boilers, three yellow pebbles and a fragment of bone.

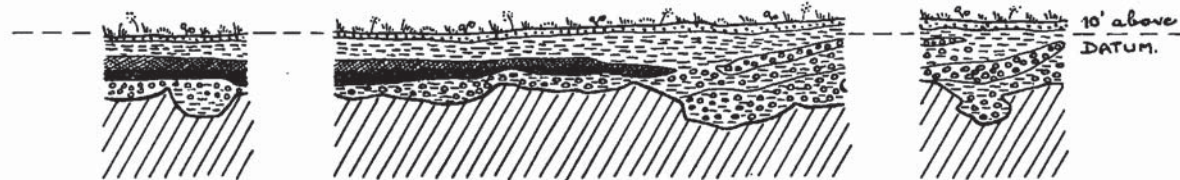
Sections in Cutting III

Fig 9.

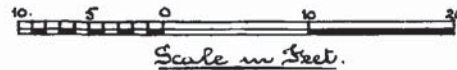
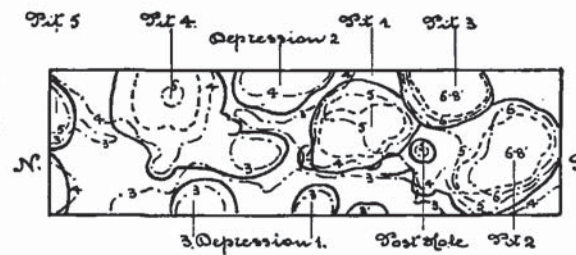
North face

East face.

South face.

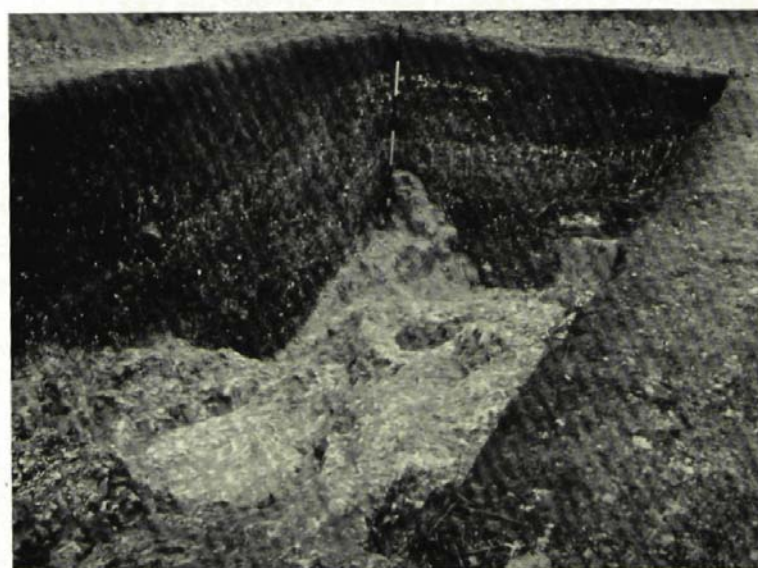
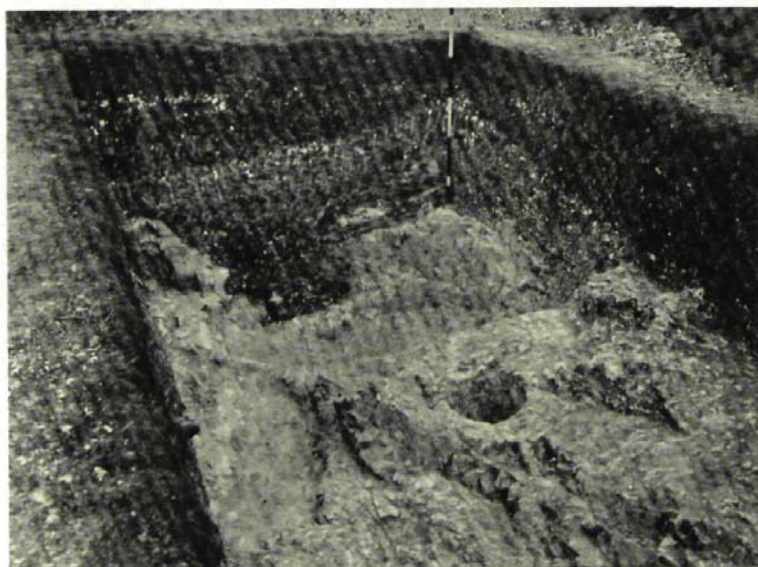


Plan of C. III
showing Pits
contoured at
1'.



- = Top Soil
- = Clay Soil
- = Chalk Rubble
- = Chalk & Soil filling
- = Burnt layers
- = Undisturbed Chalk
- = Edge of Pits
- = Bottom of Pits

D '32.



To face p. 143]

Plates XII and XIII. LOOKING S. TO PITS 2 AND 3.

It was driven through the rubble layer and touched, though it did not penetrate, the hard chalk beneath.

The cessation of the ash layer at the brink of the vallum indicates that this settlement and the main earthwork were contemporary. The burnt layer contained much common La Tène II and Romano-British pottery, a quantity of animal bone and so many thousands of pot-boilers that counting had to be abandoned. To rake them up and weigh them in barrow-loads would have been the only way of recording them.

The Romano-British evidence was entirely confined to this burnt stratum.

Below the vallum-chalk lay some Hallstatt finger-tip pottery and haematite-coated ware, and hollowed from the undisturbed chalk, which varies from 5.5ft. to 3.5ft. below the surface, were found a cluster of La Tène I pits, grouped shamrock-wise around one central post-hole, evidently "rooms" of a dwelling covered by one roof, and the edges of other pits showed in all the faces of the cutting.

The very uneven top surface of the chalk was also worked into three shallow depressions, while a smooth-trodden pathway connected the group of pits at the south side with those beneath the north face of the cutting.

The Pits. (Pl. XI—XIII, Fig. 9.)

Pit 1. It measures 8.8ft. in diameter north and south, and 6.5ft. east and west, with a maximum depth of 5.4ft. below the surface and 1.4ft. below the chalk, and was the first to be excavated. Its sides are sharply cut though not now deep, and on the north side were definitely undercut. A small depression on the north-west margin contained a good deal of ash and charcoal (Hawthorn). The floor slopes to the south-east and is very smooth. At its lowest point, on the south-east side, a step 0.6ft. deep descends to Pit 3, of which half lies beneath the east side of the cutting, and it is only partially excavated, as time did not permit an extension to be made.

Pit 3 measures 6ft. in diameter with a maximum depth of 6.8ft. below the surface and 3.8ft. below the chalk. The bottom is smoothly curved and slopes towards the east. The sides were almost certainly undercut, and rise to a mass of chalk in the south-east corner. A further drop of 1ft. leads down to Pit 2.

Pit 2. The best of the series. Its greatest diameter is 9.5ft. and it is 6.8ft. deep. It is as circular as the natural splitting of the chalk would allow without careful finish, and where not actually

undercut as in the south face, is vertical-sided. The floor is uneven, but all the ridges are worn smooth.

The filling of all three pits was similar, loose fine chalk and soil containing pot-boilers, a small amount of charcoal, a little animal bone and shards of pottery, all without exception of the Hallstatt type. Some pieces of clay daub bearing imprints of withies were also found in Pits 1 and 2, and in Pits 1 and 3 were two pieces of burnt clay, possibly from a hearth. There were no other signs of hearths or burning in the pits. A very fine bone gouge (V5), the tip of another (V4), and part of a nicely carved shale bracelet (V3) also came from Pit 3.

The Post-Hole is very regular, well cut and perfectly symmetrical. It is 1.4ft. in diameter at top, and 0.7ft. at bottom, and 1.4ft. deep. The area around it is worn smooth. Its filling was loose and soft, and contained charcoal which the analysis describes as "*Quercus* sp. (Common Oak). Mature wood of poor growth. All the ten specimens are the same and are probably from the outside of one post."

Pit 4 is shallow with outward sloping sides. It only just attains 5ft. in depth. The bottom is irregular but considerably worn, and a passage trampled quite smooth leads over the intervening ridge into the north end of Pit 1.

Pit 4 has two shallow extensions on the west and south sides.

The Oval Depressions. No. 1, against the west face of the cutting, is 3ft. in diameter and 3ft. deep. No. 2, between Pits 1 and 4, is 6ft. long and 4ft. deep and runs under the east face. No. 3 is slightly smaller and lies against the west face. They are level at the bottom but not smoothed. Their purpose is not known, but lined with skins the two larger ones would make comfortable sleeping places. From depression 3, another trodden path leads to the south side of **Pit 5**, of which only a part of the south margin is yet exposed.

This pit again hints at overhanging sides and looks as if it may be large and deep. The filling is darker than in the other pits and contains a good deal of charcoal. It is, however, definitely separated from the Romano-British black layer above by a line of fine chalk rubble.

The lay-out of these pits is quite unlike those at All Cannings Cross, where the only "grouped" pits were found not to be contemporary, or at the Caburn, while the Hengistbury dwellings were surface huts and not pits.

I understand that these are, however, very similar to a group of pits containing the same types of pottery found at Ham Hill, Somerset, of which full particulars are not yet available.

Trial Trenches were made in five other places with only negative results.

The first two of these, T.T. 1, 15ft. by 5ft., and T.T. 2, 30ft. by 5ft., were plotted 250ft. east of Cutting 1, where the air photograph shows a dark line looking remarkably like a ditch interrupted by a causeway immediately south of the road. It was found that these dark patches are due to pockets of clay in the chalk. The same result was obtained from T.T. 3 and 4, each 10ft. by 5ft., made to investigate a dark ring which shows in the south-west corner of the field near. This at first glance looks like a large barrow (it is actually 80ft. in diameter and the central "dot" measures 32ft.), but when seriously examined on an enlarged photograph the irregularity of the ring is far from convincing. The natural formation of the ground here consists of fissures in the chalk filled with pure clay.

T.T. 5 was made at a spot where much goodwill and not a little imagination fostered the hope that a dark line, traceable on the photograph from this same discredited "barrow" towards a break in the west side of the ditch might represent an old roadway leading to the causeway of the entrance. The trench was dug for a depth of 3ft., but finding that the ditch was quite uninterrupted, it was not taken deeper.

There is a good deal of clay in this side of the camp in which the auger does not always give satisfactory results, the natural mixture of clay and nodules of inferior chalk greatly resembling the artificial filling of ploughed-in vallum from the top of the ditch.

It was not possible to pick up the exact course of the ditch on the east side where the clay is thick, either by boring or by "bosing" (percussion) which proved quite useless on this site.

It has been decided to resume the excavation, with Mr. Lyster's permission, in September 1933, when the work will be mainly concentrated on the La Tène I dwellings and a further search for the entrance.

The Finds.

Pottery. (Figs. X—XII.)

Only a brief account of the pottery will be attempted as it was extremely fragmentary, and its composition and texture may be more satisfactorily dealt with after another season when other examples are available.

No reconstructable pieces were recovered, but there were 81 fragments of rim, base or ornament, from which the date of the settlements could be determined.

FIG. X.

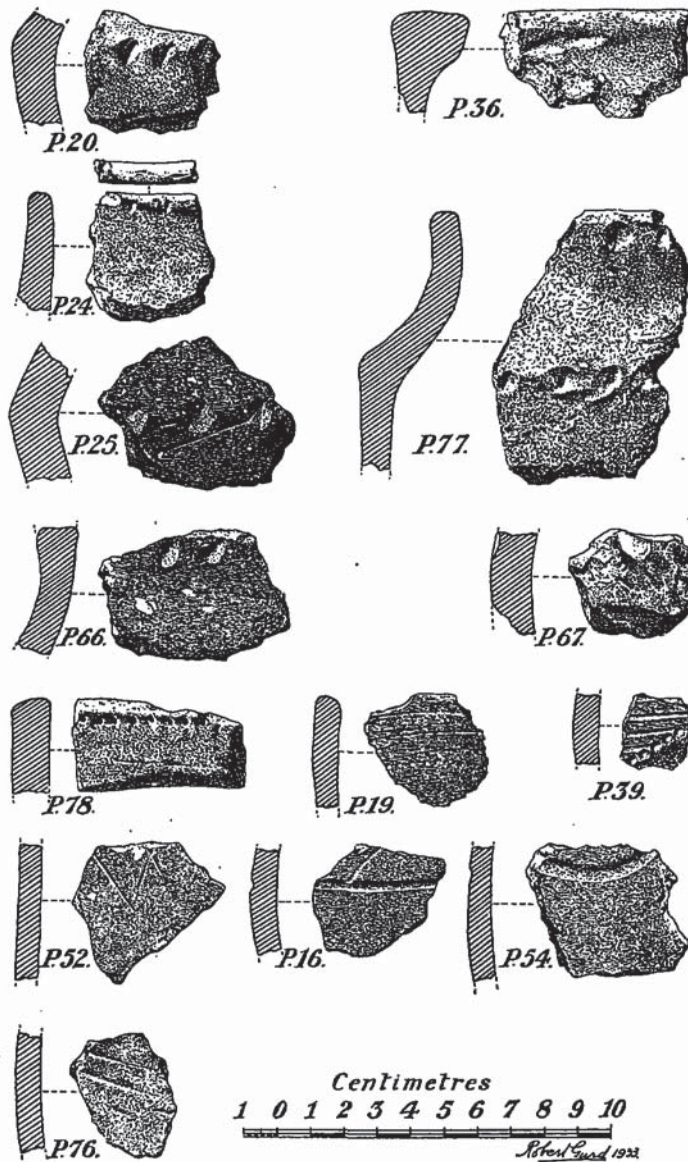


FIG. XI.

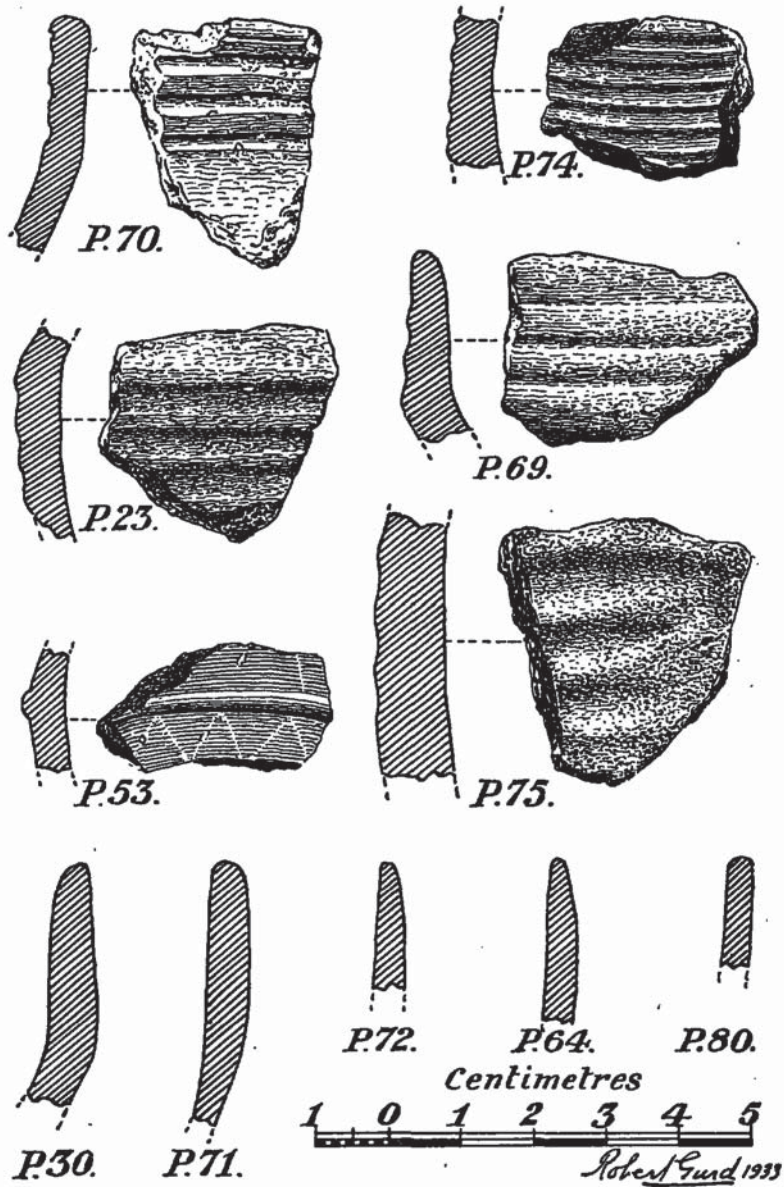
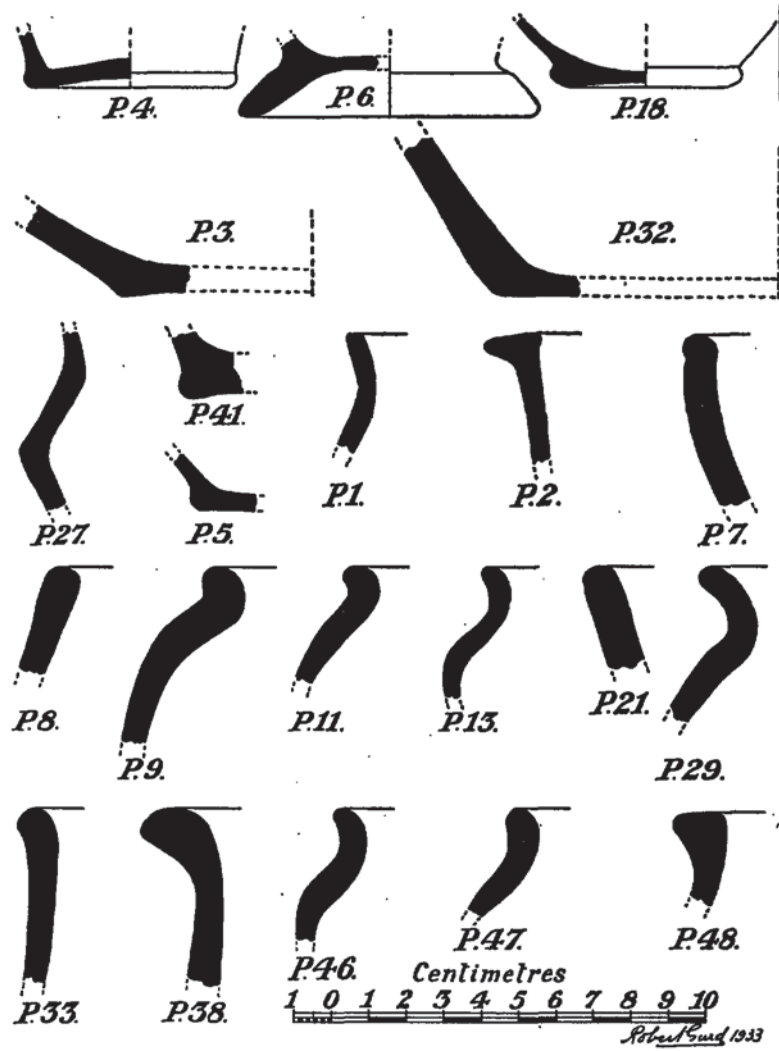


FIG. XII.



These show an uninterrupted sequence from Hallstatt to Roman times, the earliest types being the coarse urn-shaped vessels decorated with finger-tip or nail impressions on or below the rim and along the angular shoulder; and bowls of haematite-coated ware ornamented with girth furrows between rim and shoulder (Fig. XI). These forms, which were the most common found at All Cannings Cross, are attributed to the early part of the 5th century B.C. in this country.

Examples occur at Meon Hill, varying from the deep sharply-marked furrows of the earliest vessels (P70) to the shallower less clearly defined grooves of a somewhat later period, as the culture deteriorated (P23, 69, 75). There is one fragment of cordoned red-coated ware with chevron patterns incised *after* baking (P53), and another piece with larger chevrons similarly scratched (P52).¹ Some of the rims of this ware are very thin and well made.

Two examples (P19, 39) of a line of small impressed dots combined with shallow grooved lines also occur. These are on a paste with a smooth polished black surface, and are very similar to some from the La Tène I settlement at Fifield Bavant. One fragment of ware nearly half an inch thick has a row of sharply stabbed punch marks from one-eighth to quarter-inch deep, which might have been made with a splinter of bone or a large thorn (P78).

Two samples of lug were found, one a much abraded piece of a simple lug (P65), and the other (P79) the base of a small horizontally perforated handle similar to Fifield Bavant Pl. VI, No. 11.

These types were found only in the early ditch and in the pits in Cutting III.

The La Tène II period is well represented by the common types of unornamented hand-made ware with short outcurving, and incipient bead rims. These are found in the upper layers of Cutting III and in the La Tène II ditch with no definite line of demarcation between them and the Romano-British types of olla and vessels with out-turned and flattened rims, though the latter are more numerous in the higher layers of the ditch.

There is one fragment of base of Castor ware (P5) and two minute chips of Samian, one (P14) probably from S. Gaul, 1st century A.D.

Of the La Tène III true Glastonbury type, there is one piece with a section of grooved curvilinear design (P54), a base with a beaded foot (P18), and other unornamented shards of the same paste.

One example of a hollow pedestal base in a fine gritty grey ware (P6) was found, resembling No. 68 from Worthy Down, and

¹. See also *All Cannings Cross*, M. E. Cunnington, p. 36, and *Early Iron Age Site of Fifield Bavant Down*, R. C. C. Clay. Pl. VI.

FIG. XIII.

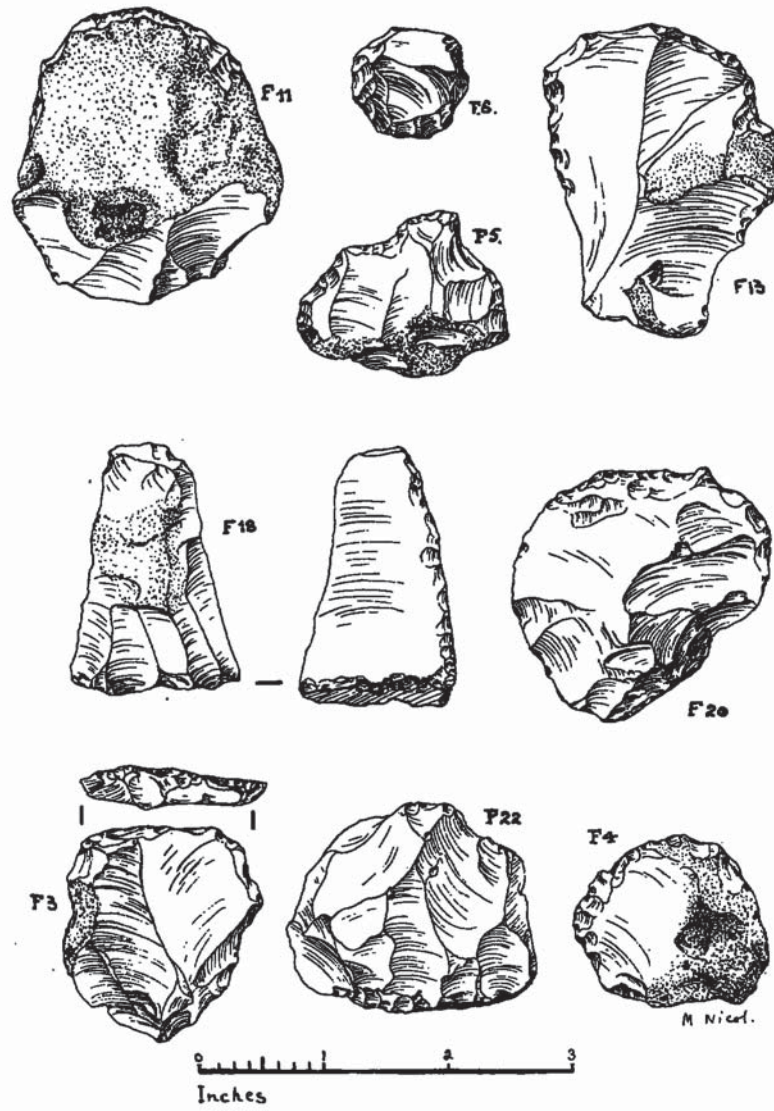
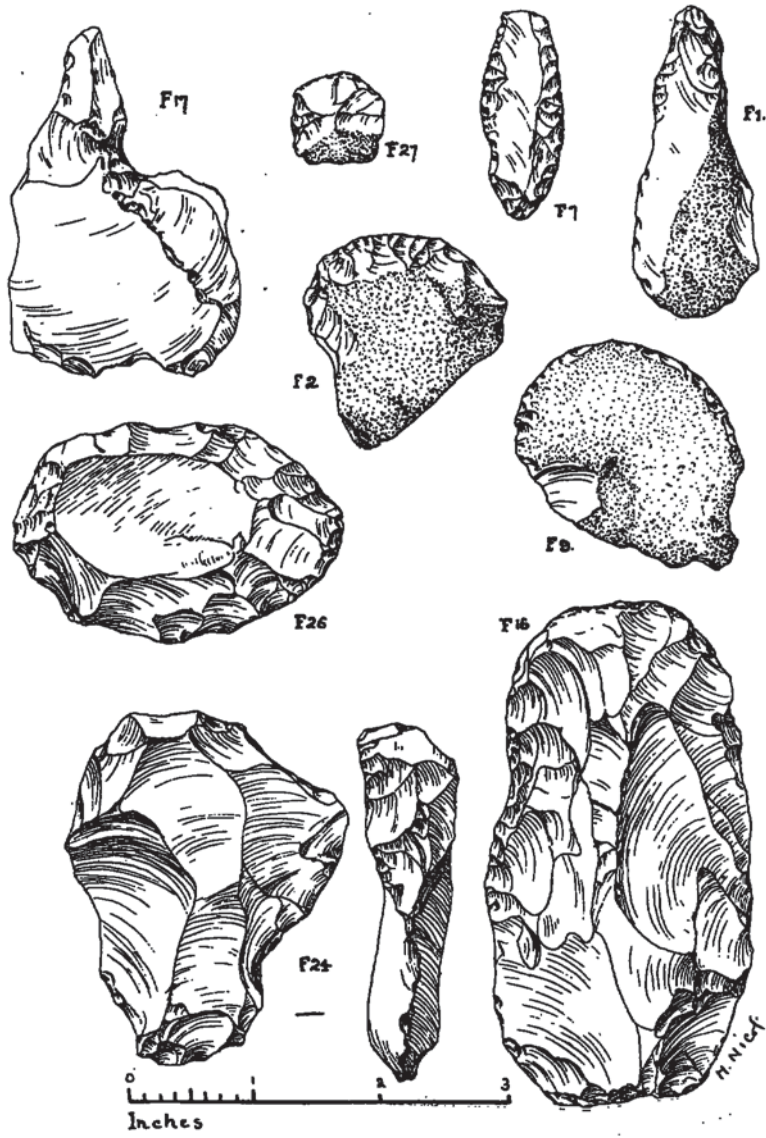


FIG. XIV.



another (P15) of which matching fragments show a cordon and the base of a boss or handle.

Mr. C. Hawkes kindly inspected and assisted in dating all the pottery, and expressed the opinion that the series indicates continuous occupation throughout the periods represented.

Flint. (Figs. XIII, XIV.)

The flint implements are scarce and very poor. They are made of the local flint from the clay which breaks into clumsy misshapen flakes, to which, with a few exceptions, a minimum of rough secondary working has been applied. Only 25 implements were found in the excavation, and another dozen were picked up on the surface between the cuttings. One or two of the pieces are patinated white, most are semi-patinated or mottled, and a few are clear and unpatinated. The cortex of the flint is thick and frequently rough and pitted. With the exception of an unusually thin and nicely worked scraper (F9) from layer 6 of the early ditch, all the implements come from the La Tène II or surface layers. There is an almost total absence of the hammerstones which abounded at All Cannings Cross. One only (F15), roughly spherical in shape, 2in. in diameter and battered all over, being found in the Romano-British layer in Cutting III. It was in this layer that the pot-boilers were most profuse.

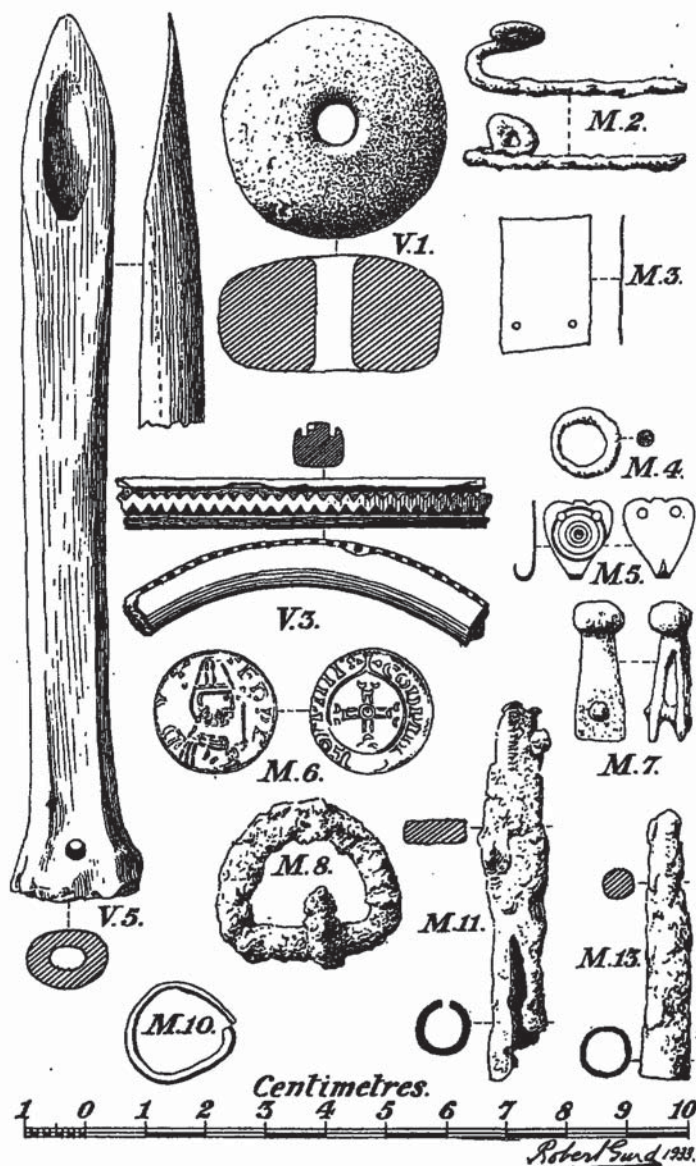
A rather thick but fairly well worked leaf-shaped arrowhead (F7) came from layer 3 of Cutting II. A thick flake triangular in section at the point and trimmed for use as a fabricator (F1) was found in Cutting II, layer 1, and a scraper of unpatinated flint with good secondary working (F2) came from layer 6 of this cutting (F16): a small roughly-shaped hand axe was found in T.T. 1. It is 1½in. thick, 4in. long and 2in. broad, quadrilateral in section at the butt end and blunt at the point. It is considerably battered at the end and along both sides.

In T.T. 2 was a very crude borer (F17) roughly trimmed on alternate sides of the point and worked to form a hollow scraper on one side. One other thick end scraper (F24) is worthy of mention, being grooved on each side of the butt as if for hafting. The remainder of the implements are crude scrapers and rough knives.

Metal. (Fig. XV.)

- M. 1. A thin bronze pin with very fine point from C. I, l. 3.
- M. 2. Iron pin of a brooch. C. II, l. 3.
- M. 3. Small bronze plate with two perforations, ? a lorica.
C. II.
- M. 4. Small bronze earring thickened on one side found at right side of skull of skeleton 4.

FIG. XV.



- M. 5. Bronze "wrist-fastener" beside right hand of skeleton 4.
- M. 6. Coin found just beyond the extended fingers of skeleton 5.
- M. 7. Bronze chape near left hip of skeleton 5, 5in. below the iron buckle M. 8.
- M. 8. Small iron buckle from left hip of skeleton 5.
- M. 9. Small oblong iron buckle, 1½in. by ¾in., now completely disintegrated, 3in. east of feet of skeleton 7.
- M. 10. Thin bronze earring from right side of skull of skeleton 9.
- M. 11. Iron arrowhead, C. II, l. 4, above skeletons.
- M. 12. Iron tongue of buckle. C. II, l. 5.
- M. 13. Socketed iron arrowhead. C. II, l. 4 or 5.
- M. 14. Piece of bronze scabbard binding. C. III, l. 3.

The metal objects were examined by Mr. T. D. Kendrick, who writes that there is very little to be said about them, and adds :—

"The little bronze 'wrist-fastener' (M5) with the ring-and-dot ornament on the back ought to be dateable, but I cannot find anything really like it. I presume it belongs to the same family as Mr. Lethbridge's Burwell fastener of VII or VIII, and I am bound to say that by itself I should have suggested a similar date for your example. Mr. Newall has also found a long-shanked fastener like Mr. Lethbridge's, and we imagine they are both late descendants of the ordinary A.-S. wrist-clasp. We can only suppose that yours with its tiny hook is the final stage.

"The chape or tag (M7) is likewise very difficult to date. It does not seem to occur in our pagan cemeteries, but as little bronzes of more or less the same kind occur on the Continent in the Migration Period, I cannot say that your specimen must be late. But I believe it is, all the same.

"The bronze earring (M4) probably belongs to the Viking period. It is very unlikely to be early, and looks like the common man's version of the fine gold and silver earrings of the 10th and 11th centuries. This remark also applies to M10, though in this instance I am not sure about the ring being exclusively late.

"The iron arrowheads are Viking Period or later, and I should imagine the rectangular buckle is also Viking Period. There are many examples of all these in the Norwegian and Danish museums.

"I am afraid one can only surmise that your skeletons are late Saxons or Vikings, and not Migration Period Saxons."

Of the coin, Dr. G. C. Brooke writes :—

"The coin is a Winchester penny struck by the moneyer Godwine Ceoc (one of the few instances of a surname, but necessary at Winchester where more than one Godwine was at work at this time).

"The type is the sixth out of ten struck by the Confessor ; so one cannot be far wrong in dating it about, or shortly after, the middle of the reign."¹

Various Small Finds.

- V. 1. Baked clay spindle whorl, in diameter. E.D., Sec. III, l. 3.
- V. 2. Piece of bone slightly trimmed.
- V. 3. About one-third of a bracelet of Kimmeridge shale, finely carved with a chevron pattern in relief between two deep grooves.
- V. 4. Piece of bone worked to a point.
- V. 5. Bone gouge or scoop, in perfect condition shaped to a very slender point, bored longitudinally to form a socket and pierced with two holes for rivets at butt end, where the joint of the bone is straightened but not entirely trimmed away. This is similar to those found at All Cannings Cross, Class B. It was found in C. III, pit 3.

Twenty fragments of clay daub were found distributed throughout all layers and cuttings.

Small pieces of Sarsen were also found (see Table) which were examined by Dr. H. H. Thomas, who pronounces them to be ordinary Sarsen common to the district.

A small piece of a quern-stone of ferruginous grit with well polished quartz grains was found in C. II, l. 5, and another fragment of the same came from C. III, l. 3. This is foreign to the neighbourhood, the nearest point from which it could have been obtained being just west of Wilton.

In C. III, Pit 2, l. 1, was a piece of Fayalite magnetite slag, the common type of iron slag for the early La Tène Period.

Bone.

Small fragments of animal bone and teeth occurred in almost every layer. They were most profuse in layers 3 and 4 of E.D., Sections I and III, and in layer 3 of C. III.

¹. In Oman's *Coinage of England*, 1931, it is stated that in the early days of Edward the Confessor the moneyers were unable to depict the King's beard which only appears on coins of the last 15 years of his reign.

All but the smallest chips were submitted to Dr. J. Wilfred Jackson, D.Sc., who very kindly sends the following report :—

REPORT ON THE BONE.

By PROFESSOR JACKSON.

"The animal remains from this site, submitted by Miss Liddell, consist of fragmentary limb-bones, teeth, etc., of the following domestic species : Small Celtic ox, Celtic sheep, pig, small Celtic horse and dog. In addition there are scanty remains of fox, but no bones of deer seem to be present. The remains of the domestic forms agree closely with those from other Early Iron Age sites, as Glastonbury Lake Village,¹ Swallowcliffe Down,² Fifield Bavant Down,³ and All Cannings Cross,⁴ and represent the animals slaughtered for food by the inhabitants.

"The remains are from various places on the site, some being of Le Tène I date and others La Tène III. There is, however, no difference to be noted between the bones from the different levels.

"The fragmentary nature of the remains renders it impossible to do more than separate them into their species, and a complete record of occurrences is not attempted."

Celtic Ox.

Remains of this animal occurred in almost all the cuttings, mostly as loose teeth or split bones. These, together with the few perfect bones of the feet, indicate small animals like the Celtic Shorthorn (*Bos longifrons*). The following are of interest : A lower jaw (C. III, Pit, l. 2) showing an absence of the first premolar and absence of the third (or hinder) column in the last molar, and another example from the same location showing a small alveolus for the first premolar. In size both jaws agree with others from Glastonbury Lake Village and Swallowcliffe Down, where similar abnormalities were noted by me.⁵

Sheep.

Teeth and bones from many of the cuttings belong to a slender-limbed form of sheep. A rather stout tibia (C. III, Pit, l. 1) has been shaped into a gouge at the proximal end and is pierced at the distal end with two small, neatly-drilled holes through the anterior and posterior faces of the bone. A hole is also pierced through the articulation. A fragment of a radius (C. II, l. 7) shows some slight trimming (? gouge).

Pig.

The remains of pig are not abundant and consist of loose teeth, fragmentary jaws, and broken bones. These agree with similar remains from Glastonbury and other Early Iron Age sites.

1. *The Glastonbury Lake Village*, Vol. II, 1917.

2. *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, Vol. XLIII, 1925, pp. 90-93.

3. *Ibid.*, Vol. XLII, 1924, pp. 90-93.

4. *Early Iron Age Inhabited Site at All Cannings Cross Farm, Wiltshire*. Devizes, 1924, pp. 43-50.

5. *Annual Magazine Natural History*, ser. 8, Vol. XV, 1915, pp. 291-5; *The Glastonbury Lake Village*, II, 1917, p. 654, and *Swallowcliffe Report*, op. cit. p. 91.

Horse.

There are few remains of horse and these consist mainly of loose teeth. The material is rather scanty, but a few foot bones suggest a small, slender-limbed animal of the Exmoor pony type, as in other Early Iron Age stations.

Dog.

Two canines represent the dog. They were found in different places on the site.

Fox.

Two canines and a lower jaw from three different places belong to fox.

In addition to the bones described by Dr. Jackson, four examples (two astragali, one lower end of femur and one fragment of scapula of ox) were found to be scored by knife cuts, probably resulting from the disjointing of animals.

Mr. A. S. Kennard, A.L.S., has kindly provided the Report on Snails, of which only few samples were observed.

REPORT ON THE NON-MARINE MOLLUSCA.

Samples from seven different parts of the excavations were sent and examined for the remains of mollusca, with following results :—

EARLY DITCH SECTION I, LAYER 6, LA TÈNE I.

Arion sp. Rare.
Xerophila itala (Linn.). Rare.

EARLY DITCH SECTION III, LAYER 5, LA TÈNE I.

Vertigo pygmaea (Drap.). Rare.
Arion sp. Common.
Limax sp. Rare.
Trochulus hispidus (Linn.). Common.
Xerophila itala (Linn.). Common.

EARLY DITCH SECTION III, LAYER 7, LA TÈNE I.

Vallonia excentrica sterki. Rare.
Arion sp. Common.
Limax sp. Rare.
Xerophila itala (Linn.). Rare.

These three faunules all indicate open grass country.

EARLY DITCH SECTION I, LAYER 5, LA TÈNE I.

Arion sp. Common.
Helicella cellaria (Müll.). Rare.
Helicella nitidula (Drap.). Rare.
Trochulus hispidus (Linn.). Common.
Xerophila itala (Linn.). Rare.

EARLY DITCH SECTION III, LAYER 6, LA TÈNE I.

Vallonia costata (Müll.). Rare.
Vallonia excentrica sterki. Rare.
Arion sp. Common.
Trochulus hispidus (Linn.). Rare.
Trochulus striolatus (Pfuff.). Rare.
Limax sp. Rare.
Xerophila itala (Linn.). Common.

These two faunules also indicate open grass country, but there must have been other herbage affording rather more shade than the preceding.

CUTTING II, LAYER 4, WITH SKELETONS.

Pupilla muscorum (Linn.). Common.
Cochlicopa lubrica (Müll.). Common.
Vallonia Costata (Müll.). Rare.
Vallonia excentrica sterki. Common.
Arion sp. Common.
Trochulus hispidus (Linn.). Rare.
Xerophila itala (Linn.). Rare.
Cepaea nemoralis (Linn.). Rare.
Cepaea hortensis (Müll.). Rare.
Cecilioides acicula (Müll.). Rare.

CUTTING II, LAYER 5, WITH SKELETONS.

Pupilla muscorum (Linn.). Rare.
Cochlicopa lubrica (Müll.). Rare.
Vallonia costata (Müll.). Rare.
Vallonia excentrica sterki. Rare.
Arion sp. Common.
Xerophila itala (Linn.). Common.
Cepaea nemoralis (Linn.). Rare.
Cecilioides acicula (Müll.). Common.

These two faunules, though on the whole indicating open grass land, would appear to show the presence of coarse herbage of brambles.

There is considerable resemblance between the three series and all indicate a climate similar to that of to-day. There is a total absence of the damp conditions of the Beaker period.

TABLE OF FINDS.

M.=Mediaeval. RB.=Romano-British. T.=La Tène. H.=Hallstatt.
 FL.=Flakes. PB.=Pot-boilers. ED.=Early ditch.

Cutting and layer	Fl.	PB.	Flint Imps.	Sarsen = 0 Daub = x	Metal and other finds	Pottery
C. I, 1	7	90	F1			M
2	11	54			clay pipe	M. RB.
3	3	39			M1, oyster shell, clay pipe	
4	7	79		o	oyster shell 2, clay pipe	RB. Castor. T2, 3, P2-5
5	10	250		o, x		RB. T2, 3. P6-8
6	2	86	F2			T2
7		16				T2
Ext.	3	100				
C. II, 1	10	2132	F3-6		oyster shell	M. RB. T1
2	13	865				M. RB. T2
3	13	1573	F7		M2	M. T2
4	12	1331		o	M3, 11, 13	RB. Samian. T2. P9-10
5	1	334	2 cores	o		RB. T2

TABLE OF FINDS (CONTINUED).

M.=Mediaeval. RB.=Romano-British. T.=La Tène. H.=Halstatt.
 Fl.=Flakes. PB.=Pot-boilers. ED.=Early ditch.

Cutting and layer	Fl.	PB.	Flint Imps.	Sarsen = 0 Daub = x	Metal and other finds	Pottery
6	2	210				RB. T2, 3. H. (from ED.). P15-20
7						T2. H. T1 (from ED.). P21-23
ED. C. II, 2	1	41	F8			H. P24
3		5				H. P25-26
4	1	2				H.
5	1	34				H. P27
6		45	F9	0	V2	H. P27
7						
Sec. 1, 1		193				RB. T2
2	1	109				RB. T2. H. P29
3	4	349	F10-11			H.
Sec. 2, 4		148	F12			H. T1
5		39				H. P30-31
6						H.
ED. Sec. 3, 1	5	277	F13		10 frags. tile	M. RB.
2	1	276		0, x		T2. H. T1
3		320			V1	P36-39, below vallum
4		253		x		T1
5		32				H. P. 40-41
6						T1
7		6				T1
C. III, 1	10	247	F14		52 frags. tile	M.
2	9	253		0	7 tile	
3	4	2234	F15*	0, x	1 oyster M14	M. RB. T2. P42
4	5	450*		x	frag. human skull	RB. T2, 3 (in black). P43-56. H. (below black). P56-60
5	5	101		x		H. P61-69
Pit 1	8	58		x		H. P70
Pit 2				x		H. P71-76
Pit 3				0, x		H. P79-81
TT. 1	14	18	F16	x	V3, 4, 5	H. P77-78
TT. 2	28	23	F17-22			RB. T2
TT. 3	2	12				RB.
TT. 4	3	17	F23	0	frags. tile	
TT. 5	7	257	F24-25	0		M. RB.

* Southern half of Cutting only. In north half pot-boilers were so numerous that counting was abandoned.

LIST OF POTTERY.

Cutting I.

l. 3.	frag. rim	..	..	..	..	..	P. 1
l. 4.	frag. RB. Flat everted rim	..	..	..	..	..	P. 2
	„ base of similar paste to above	..	..	..	..	..	P. 3
	„ base hard red paste RB.	..	..	..	..	..	P. 4
	„ base of Castor ware	..	..	..	..	..	P. 5
l. 5.	frag. pedestal base	..	..	..	..	..	P. 6
	„ bead rim	..	..	..	..	..	P. 7
	„ coarse simple rim	..	..	..	..	..	P. 8
	also fragments much abraded lug.						

Cutting II.

l. 4-5.	frag. incipient bead rim, large vessel and gritty ware	..	..	P. 9
	„ base coarse British gritted ware	..	..	P. 10
	two minute frags. Samian.			
l. 5.	frag. late La Tène everted rim, gritty paste	..	..	P. 11
	small frag. RB. rim thin and gritty.			

Above skeletons.

	frag. rim La Tène III	..	..	..	..	P. 13
	frag. Samian (probably S. Gaul, 1st cent. A.D.)	..	..	..	..	P. 14
l. 6.	joining frag. of rim P. 12, frags. of pedestal base of gritty paste red inside and grey out, also frag. cordon and base of handle of same	..	..	..	..	P. 15
	two frags. ornamented with a groove	..	..	..	..	P. 16
	frag. rim of same vessel	..	..	..	..	P. 17
	base of thin-sided vessel, La Tène III	..	..	..	..	P. 18
	frag. simple rim ornamented on side with small impressed dots, La Tène I	..	..	..	..	P. 19
	frag. shoulder very coarse vessel ornamented with finger-nail impressions, Hallstatt	..	..	..	..	P. 20
	also piece of Haematite.					
	also piece of P. 22.					
l. 7.	frag. P. 15.					
	piece of simple rim of thick large vessel, La Tène I	..	..	..	..	P. 21
	frag. base of thin smooth-coated Hallstatt ware.					
	frag. with three girth grooves, Hallstatt	..	..	..	..	P. 23

Secondary Ditch.

l. 2.	frag. rim, decorated top and side with nail marks, Hallstatt	..	..	..	..	P. 24
l. 3.	shoulder very coarse vessel decorated with three finger-tip marks, Hallstatt	..	..	..	..	P. 25
	tiny frag. rim of thick Hallstatt vessel	..	..	..	..	P. 26
l. 5.	frag. shoulder of carinated bowl of smooth-coated paste similar to P. 22	..	..	..	..	P. 27
l. 6.	frag. P. 27.	..	..	..	..	P. 28
	minute frag. with grooved decoration	..	..	..	..	P. 28
	frag. Haematite.					

Section I.

l. 2 (turf-line).	frag. everted RB. rim	..	..	..	..	P. 29
l. 5.	frag. rim of Haematite ware	..	..	..	..	P. 30
	tiny frag. simple rim	..	..	..	..	P. 31

Section II.

l. 2.	frags. base La Tène II	..	..	..	..	P. 32
	frags. straight-sided vessel with rounded rim	..	..	..	..	P. 33
	small frag. simple rim very coarse paste	..	..	..	..	P. 34
	„ „ „ „ „	..	..	..	..	P. 35

Pit 2.

1. 6.	pieces of rim and carinated shoulder ornamented with finger-tip, Hallstatt	P. 77
	frag. thick grey ware ornamented with two rows small deep-stabbed holes, La Tène I	P. 78
	frag. with broken base of horizontally perforated lug	P. 79
	two frags. rim fine Haematite, Hallstatt	P. 80
	frag. rim with vertical furrows	P. 81

LIST OF FLINTS.**Sec. III.**

C. I.	1. 1.	Crude fabricator	F. 1
	1. 6.	Scraper	F. 2
C. II.	1. 1.	Very rough scrapers	F. 3, 4, 5, 6
	1. 3.	Leaf-shaped arrow	F. 7

Secondary Ditch.

C. II.	1. 2.	Thick flake struck from a core	F. 8
	1. 6.	Exceptionally thin scraper, cortex covered except where chipped at edge	F. 9

Sec. I.

	1. 3.	Crude scraper	F. 10
		Thin-edged cortex-covered scraper	F. 11

	1. 4.	Knife used both edges	F. 12
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Sec. III.	1. 2.	Large rough-end scraper	F. 13
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C. III.	1. 1.	Rough unpatinated scraper of dull black flint	F. 14
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TT. 1.	1. 3	(Black layer). Hammerstone	F. 15
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TT. 1.		Small hand axe, hammered at end (and frag. of core)	F. 16
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TT. 2.		Very rough borer and hollow scraper	F. 17
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		Flake of clear unpatinated flint from a core used as a knife	F. 18
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		Rough flake used as a knife	F. 19
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		Horseshoe scraper worked alternate faces	F. 20
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		Tiny flake of clear flint worked at edges	F. 21
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		Core of clear flint	F. 22
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TT. 4.		Clear outside flake with finely worked knife edge	F. 23
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TT. 5.		Large end scraper, grooved at sides for hafting	F. 24
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		Large rough flake with used edges	F. 26
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Surface Finds.

		Oval scraper worked all round and much used	F. 26
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		Very small scraper	F. 27
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