

FINDS FROM TWO MIDDLE BRONZE AGE PITS AT WINNALL, WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE

By SONIA CHADWICK HAWKES

THE discovery at Winnall of two small pits containing sherds of Middle Bronze Age 'Deverel-Rimbury' pottery was a fortunate chance arising from the emergency excavation, sponsored by the Ministry of Public Building and Works, of the 7th-century Anglo-Saxon cemetery (Winnall II) on the present Industrial Estate there.¹ The site is on Upper Chalk, 175 feet above O.D., on the east side of the River Itchen about one mile N.E. of the city centre of Winchester (Fig. 1; SU 49413016). Despite the apparent lack of associated house structures, the prehistoric pits must certainly have belonged to a settlement, and their position on the edge of the excavated area suggests that this settlement may have lain further south, where presumably it was destroyed or built over by the modern site occupiers before the discovery of skeletons attracted attention to the spot. Pit A was uncovered by bulldozer and excavated by Mr. Frank Cottrill, Curator of Winchester City Museum, in May 1956; pit B, 75 feet away, was discovered and excavated by Mrs. Audrey L. Meaney in July 1957; and their notes have supplied the following descriptions. The finds have been deposited in Winchester City Museum.

The Pits

- A. Oval, 3 x 4 feet, with flat bottom 2 feet 6 inches below surface of chalk. Filling of earth and chalk with many large flints and occasional flecks of ash or charcoal. Pottery was scattered throughout the fill, with two of the largest sherds at the bottom and some at the top. (Three sheep mandibles preserved with the pottery probably came from this pit.)
- B. (Pl. Ib) Circular, diameter 2 feet 6 inches, with flat bottom 1 foot 10 inches below surface of chalk. Uniform filling of fine dark earth with thin scattering of charcoal throughout. Two quern stones were found at the bottom, and several sherds from a single pottery vessel lay close together just above.

Excavation has shown that pits, in the Middle Bronze Age, were by no means so inevitable a by-product of domestic and agricultural economy as they were to be later, in the Iron Age.² In the well-explored enclosures on Shearplace Hill, Sydling St. Nicholas, Dorset,³ and Plumpton Plain A, Sussex,⁴ for example, they were conspicuous by their absence, and where they have been found elsewhere, as at Park Brow, Sompington,⁵ and Itford Hill, Beddingham,⁶ both in Sussex, or at Thorny Down, Winterbourne Gunner, Wiltshire,⁷ they were as small and shallow as the Winnall pits themselves. Such insignificant holes have generally been interpreted either as cooking holes

¹ Audrey L. Meaney and Sonia Chadwick Hawkes, *The Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries at Winnall, Winchester, Hampshire* (Society for Medieval Archaeology Monograph Series, IV, 1970), pp. 7-8, figs. 3 and 5.

² C. A. Raleigh Radford, 'The Tribes of Southern Britain', *P.P.S.*, XX (1954), 11 f.

³ Rahtz and ApSimon (1962). F4, the only real pit at Shearplace, contained a bone weaving comb which is almost certainly of Iron Age date.

⁴ Holleyman, Curwen and Hawkes (1935).

⁵ Wolseley, Smith and Hawley (1927), esp. fig. E.

⁶ Burstow and Holleyman (1957), esp. fig. 10.

⁷ Stone (1937) and (1941).

(e.g. Thorny Down holes D, J and H, filled with ashes and 'pot-boilers') or as small storage or 'cupboard' pits (e.g. Itford Hill hut E, pit 26 containing carbonised barley, and pit 27 a saddle-quern as in Winnall pit B). The lack of burning in the Winnall pits suggests they are more likely to have been used for storage, possibly for grain or, as we shall see, just conceivably for other purposes.

The Quern Stones (Pit B; pl. 1b, fig. 4, 1-2)⁸

1. Complete lower stone of a saddle quern; one end squared off, the other pointed; maximum length $14\frac{3}{4}$ inches, width $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches, thickness 4 inches. The underside is deliberately shaped so that, when in use on a flat surface, the stone will have been tilted with the pointed end higher, to allow the meal to slide off the working surface at the other. One side is also slightly lower than the other, indicating that on this quern the normal grinding action was not straight down and up but was biased towards the worker's left. The milling surface shows a marked longitudinal and a slight transverse concavity: it shows evidence both of wear and of pecked roughening. The stone is a dark brown coarse-grained sandstone, made up predominantly of rounded and corroded quartz grains set in a ferruginous matrix, and is probably of Sarsen origin.
2. Upper stone of saddle quern, of 'bolster' shape with two damaged corners; maximum length $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches, width 7 inches, thickness $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The grinding surface, which shows a marked transverse and a slight longitudinal convexity, is smoothed by use. The stone is a white medium- to fine-grained sandstone, made up entirely of quartz grains which are angular with only a moderate degree of roundness: again it is probably a Sarsen.

Despite the colour difference, the curved surfaces of these stones fit each other too well to leave any doubt that they were buried after being used together as the components of one quern. They are each typical for their period: similar upper rubbing stones were found in the enclosures on Thorny Down⁹ and Martin Down, Hampshire;¹⁰ lower stones at South Lodge Camp, Rushmore, Wiltshire,¹¹ Park Brow¹² and Itford Hill¹³ – all sites of much the same period as the Winnall pits. From the Late Bronze Age we have the similar but smaller examples from New Barn Down, Clapham, Sussex,¹⁴ which Curwen illustrated when describing the manner in which the saddle quern was used.¹⁵ The tilted grinding surface already noticed on the Winnall stone is paralleled on one from New Barn Down, and, if looked for, will doubtless be found on others. That it was intentional is clear from Curwen's drawing of a third-millennium Egyptian statuette, portraying a woman kneeling at her work of grain rubbing on a saddle quern, the grinding surface of which slopes away from her.¹⁶ Possibly the pointed form of the raised end of the Winnall quern was likewise functional, for ease of gripping it between the knees and thus providing a funnel for grain fed in at the upper end. Whether this was so or not, the pointed end is certainly to be seen on at

⁸ For the petrological information I am indebted to Dr. J. W. Cowie, Dept. of Geology, University of Bristol.

⁹ Stone (1937), 654; (1941), 132.

¹⁰ Pitt Rivers, IV (1898), 200, pl. 312, 1-2.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, 37, pl. 242, 10.

¹² Wolseley, Smith and Hawley (1927), 4.

¹³ Burstow and Holleyman (1957), 204.

¹⁴ Curwen (1934), 167.

¹⁵ Curwen (1937), 135 f., pl. ii.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, fig. 1.

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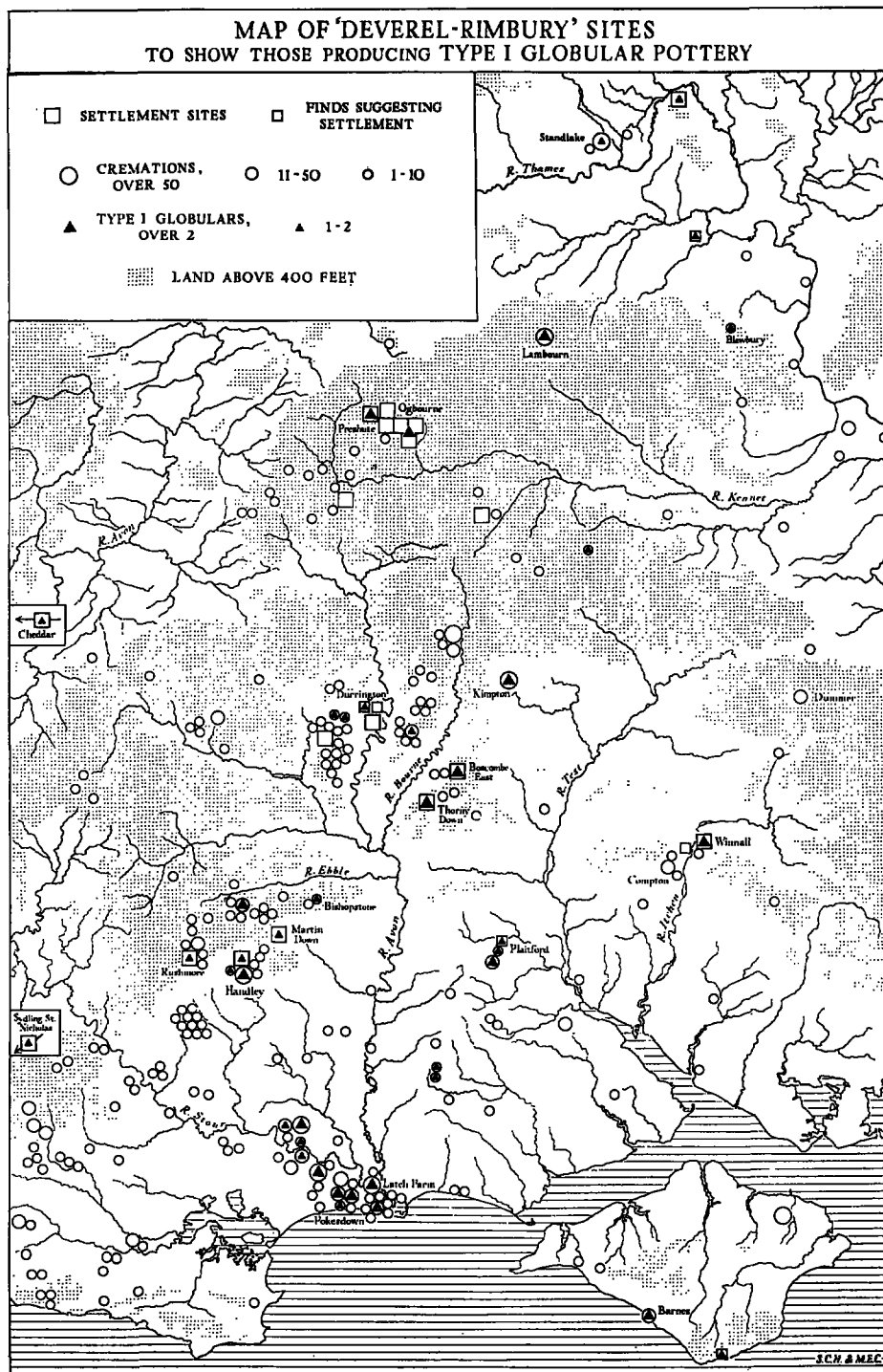


Fig. 1. Map of 'Deverel-Rimbury' sites to show those producing type 1 globular pottery.

least one other saddle quern, notably that, not strictly dated but probably of the earlier Middle Bronze Age, from the 'Junction Pit' at Farnham, Surrey.¹⁷ Found buried in a shallow pit with its upper stone still resting upon it, this is perhaps the best parallel in form, size and completeness to that from Winnall.

It is something of a puzzle that such complete and apparently still serviceable querns should have been abandoned in these pits, both at Winnall and Farnham. And there are other cases, too. We have met with one already at Itford Hill, where there was a complete lower stone in pit 27, and there were two others on the Late Bronze Age site at Green Lane, Farnham, both in pits – one with two loomweights, the other placed as a cover for a domestic pot.¹⁸ Instances of domestic pots buried whole and upright in small pits are known also from the Middle Bronze Age 'Deverel-Rimbury' site at Wreclesham, Surrey,¹⁹ where at least one had a number of burnt flint 'pot-boilers' inside it, and from near the Durrington 'Egg' enclosure in Wiltshire, where the pot in question was a barrel urn.²⁰ It is possible, of course, that the pots were cooking vessels or storage jars, perhaps for water, which were normally kept in pits and which were simply left behind when the settlement site was abandoned, but it is more difficult to imagine leaving the family quern in such a fashion. A good quern, after all, was an absolutely essential piece of domestic equipment, and suitable stone such as Sarsen, though possibly more widespread on the chalk downland than today, was probably not to be picked up on every hillside. So the possibility suggests itself that these deposits had some ritual significance, and that the quern-burials, if not also the domestic pots in pits, were some form of religious offering made under circumstances actually unknown to us but nevertheless perfectly imaginable.

The Pottery (Pit B, pl. Ia, fig. 2, 1; Pit A, fig. 2, 2–9)

PIT B 1. Six joining sherds from the rim and shoulder, and one from the base, of a vessel of 'globular-urn' type. Base flat; body originally globose; neck incurved to a wide mouth with plain upright rim with slight internal bevel. On the surviving shoulder fragment is a vertically perforated lug: originally there must have been more (perhaps four). Lightly tooled decoration as follows: above the shoulder, between horizontal border lines, a zone of chevron ornament with the pendent and standing triangles differentially hatched in 'diaper' pattern; on the shoulder, between the lugs, a row of shallow dimples; below this four girth-grooves, and then a second row of dimples. No sherds survive to show whether there was any ornament on the lower half of the pot. The vessel is thin walled, of fine ware with numerous small white quartz grits, fired to dark grey-brown with buff patches, and burnished inside and out. Original rim diameter *c.* 10½ inches.

PIT A 2. Two rim-and-shoulder and two body sherds of a vessel of 'globular-urn' type, similar in form to the last though no lugs survive. Lightly tooled decoration as follows: beneath the rim one, and on the shoulder traces of at least three, horizontal grooves; between them a zone of chevron ornament with

¹⁷ Lowther (1939), 169 f., fig. 69.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, 187 f., 192 f., fig. 79, 24, pl. xix.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 180 ff.

²⁰ J. F. S. Stone, Stuart Piggott and A. St. J. Booth, 'Durrington Walls, Wiltshire: Recent Excavations . . .', *Ant. J.*, XXXIV (1954), 164 f.

only the pendent triangles hatched. Well made of fine ware with numerous small white quartz grits, fired to dark brown with red-brown patches, and burnished inside and out. Original rim diameter *c.* 6½ inches.

3. Two rim sherds of a vessel of 'globular-urn' type, with plain rim and sloping neck. Lightly tooled ornament as follows: immediately below the rim a single horizontal line, and below it the upper part of a zone of chevrons hatched, as on no. 1, in 'diaper' pattern. The fabric is again fine with small white and grey quartz grits; fired dark brown to buff, and burnished inside and out. Original rim diameter *c.* 7 inches.
4. Three joining sherds from the rim of a vessel probably of 'globular-urn' type, and a body sherd (not drawn). Rim plain and slightly out-curved; below

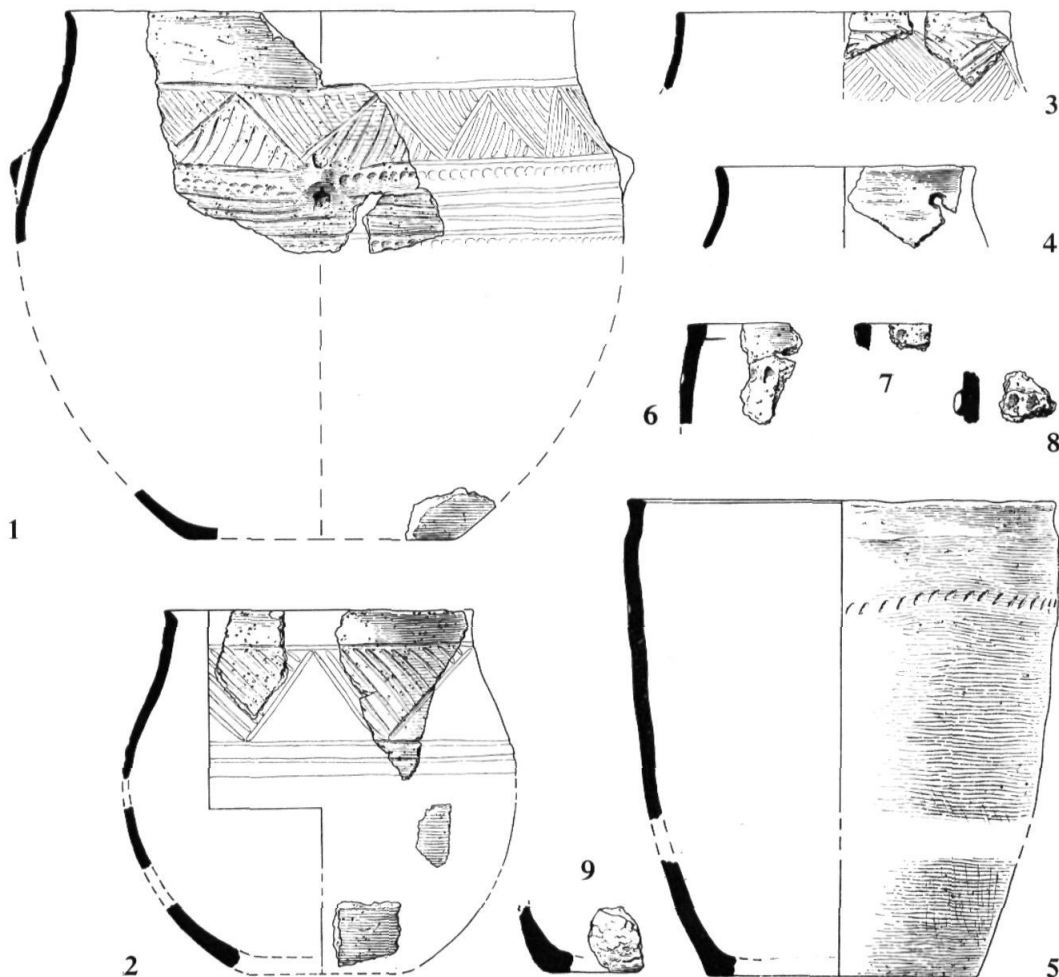


Fig. 2. Winnall, Hampshire, Middle Bronze Age pottery. Scale 1/4.
(Drawing by Mrs. M. E. Cox.)

it a single perforation made after firing by boring from both sides. No decoration; no surviving lugs. Fabric medium fine with small white quartz grits, in colour dark brown outside and redder inside, burnished inside and out. Original rim diameter *c.* 5½ inches.

5. Numerous sherds making up the nearly complete profile of a vessel of 'barrel-urn' type. Rim flat with slight external expansion and internal bevel; very short concave neck above a modest horizontal ridge, best interpreted as a vestigial cordon; body (perhaps taller than drawn) sags with slight convex curve to a flat base. The fabric is medium coarse, soft and friable, with numerous white quartz grits of larger size than in the globular pots. These show more on the inner than on the outer surface, which had apparently been smoothed and rendered over. Colour dark grey-brown with black and reddish patches. Rim diameter *c.* 9 inches, original height at least 10 inches.
6. Two joining sherds from the rim of a vessel of 'barrel-urn' type. Rim flat with slight inward and outward expansion; barely defined shoulder decorated with row of finger-tip impressions. Fabric medium coarse with many white quartz grits, rough textured inside and out, and fired dark brown outside, red inside.
7. Rim sherd of vessel of 'barrel-urn' type. Rim rounded and decorated on front by a row of shallow finger-tip impressions. Fabric medium coarse with many white quartz grits, fired dark brown with red-brown core.
8. Body sherd having applied cordon with finger-tip decoration, probably from a vessel of 'bucket-urn' type. Fabric coarse, dark brown, with grits of burnt flint.
9. Sherd from base and body of a small vessel which may perhaps have been a crucible. The fabric is fine and gritless, hard-fired, and brown-black on the outside.

In addition to the figured sherds, there are from this pit two joining sherds of coarse red-brown pottery, with large white quartz grits, evidently from the body of another barrel urn.

It is on this pottery, of course, that the dating and cultural attribution of the Winnall pits ultimately depends, and we are lucky that it is so distinctive. With the exception of sherd no. 9, which may or may not have been part of a crucible, and, if so, appears as yet unparalleled from this early period, the pottery is immediately recognisable as belonging to that phase of the Middle Bronze Age characterised by the culture which it still seems expedient to follow older writers in calling 'Deverel-Rimbury'.

Sherd no. 8 seems from its fabric to have belonged to a vessel of the 'bucket-urn' family, a type representative of the Deverel-Rimbury Culture in its broadest sense, with a distribution throughout the Lowland Zone of Britain. It is both too fragmentary and too common for its parallels to be worth pursuing. Pot 5, and the vessels represented by sherds 6 and 7, with their white-gritted fabric, are more interesting in that they belong to the 'barrel-urn' family, which, as Calkin has shown, differ from the buckets in having a more restricted distribution.²¹ Barrels have been found only in Wessex, and, within Wessex, only in a region extending in the south from the Isle of Wight, the

²¹ Calkin (1962), 19 ff., fig. 9.

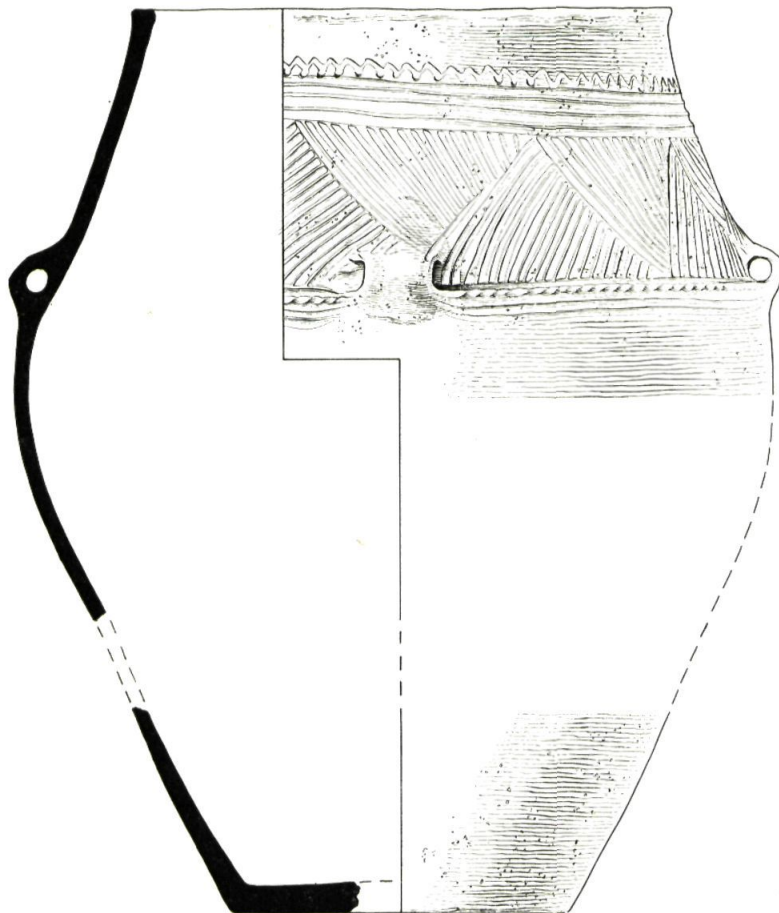


Fig. 3. Compton Way, Compton, Hampshire, Middle Bronze Age Urn. Scale 1/4.
(Drawings by Mrs. M. E. Cox.)

fringes of the New Forest and as far west as the Bournemouth district; in the centre from Cranborne Chase and the Salisbury region as far east as Winchester; and in the north to the Marlborough and Berkshire downs. They have not been found on either of the cemetery-sites of Deverel or Rimbury in Dorset, and indeed are totally absent from the whole of Dorset south of the river Stour. The remaining sherds from Winnall belong to vessels of the 'globular-urn' family. Globular forms generally have a more widespread distribution, but the Winnall examples belong, by virtue of their white-gritted fabric and, in the case of nos. 1-3, their lightly tooled ornament, to a particular sub-species which Calkin named his Type I.²² Though there are a few outliers, as at Sydling St. Nicholas in Dorset, Cheddar in Somerset, and Standlake in Oxfordshire, the distribution of the type I globulars is closely similar to that of the barrels (fig. 1), and the two forms are frequently found together in the same cemeteries and settlement sites.

²² *Ibid.*, 24 ff., fig. 9.

The origin of the barrel urn is obscure. According to Calkin, its prototype is likely to have been a shouldered storage vessel with constricted neck and flat rim, equipped with a rope sling-construction for ease of carriage. He assumes this vessel to have been made of clay, but as no ancestral form survives it seems likely that it was made of a perishable substance such as wicker. The rope cradle was imitated on early barrel urns of 'South Lodge' type: hence the applied vertical strips, swag 'handles', and cordons below the rim and on the shoulder. In course of time some or all of these features tended to be simplified and finally to disappear altogether, and, if Calkin's typological sequence is correct, it appears that Winnall pot 5, though not one of the earliest, is nevertheless not a totally devolved specimen. On this, the only barrel from the site complete enough to warrant discussion, though the shoulder has lost all angularity and its cordon is represented merely by a wavering line of fingernail impressions, the neck cordon does survive in vestigial form and the rim is still square. In all its features this pot is closely paralleled by a large urn from Plumley Heath, Harbridge, Hampshire, which Calkin places relatively early in his series.²³

The classic type I globulars of Wessex, amongst which we may now include three

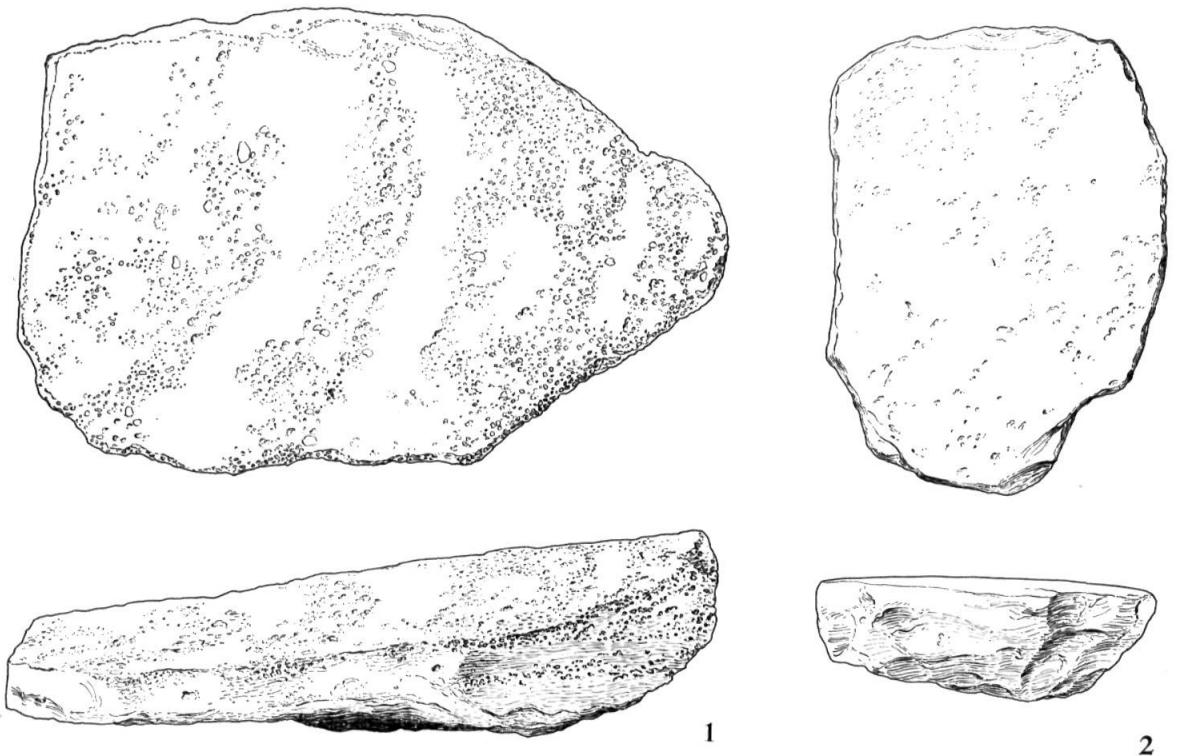


Fig. 4. Winnall, Hampshire, Middle Bronze Age quern-stones. Scale 1/4.
(Drawings by Mrs. M. E. Cox.)

²³ *Ibid.*, fig. 7, 5.

examples from Winnall, are characterised by an inward sloping or incurving neck above a globose body with rounded shoulder, the latter often embellished with four or more lugs. These are usually pierced vertically, and sometimes extended laterally into a continuous pinched-up cordon with dimple or cable ornament. The remaining decoration, normally extending from the zone of maximum girth upwards nearly to the rim, is in shallow tooled lines forming horizontal bands of diaper, hatched- or filled-triangle (rarely arcade) and chevron patterns, bordered by plain horizontal lines and rows of dimples. The origin of these handsome vessels is one of the great unsolved problems of British Bronze Age archaeology: they make their appearance, already standardised as the superior pottery of their day, without direct antecedents recognisable either in Britain or elsewhere in Europe. As with the barrel urns then, we should seriously consider the role of non-ceramic ancestors. It has long been recognised that diaper patterning – so persistent a decorative motif in prehistoric Europe, and such a particular favourite on these type I globulars – was ultimately inspired from basketry work:²⁴ moreover, on our globulars, the shoulder cordon with its small vertically perforated lugs looks very like a pottery rendering of a construction originally carried out in woven grass or fine wicker. Of particular interest in this context is a cremation urn from Hillbrow, Pokesdown, Hampshire: this has a markedly inbent neck; no less than three pinched-up cordons on rim, neck and shoulder, each accented by rows of slanting dimples, and separated by zones of diaper and filled-triangle ornament; and eight vertically perforated lugs.²⁵ It is surely not fanciful to see in this a copy in clay of a round-bellied basket with shoulder, neck and mouth shaped and reinforced by rings of woven withies, the shoulder ring having loops for the insertion of cords, and the neck having decoration in a style traditional to the medium. If this idea is accepted, it would make this pot one of the earliest known type I globulars, and it would be worth noting its unusually angular shoulder as an indication that the normally rounded globular had evolved from a more carinated prototype. Be that as it may, if their form is anything to go by, it does seem as if globulars with cordons and pierced lugs are typologically early: such pots also tend to have ornament in the diaper pattern, which apparently fathered the other main variants used.²⁶ Omission of cordon and lugs, and reduction of decoration to simple chevrons, on the other hand, was a process which seems to have been accompanied by a progressive slackening of the pots' profiles, and to be genuinely indicative of decadence and relative lateness in date.²⁷

The most complete of the Winnall globulars, no. 1 from pit B, is a fine specimen and typologically quite an early one. The line of shallow dimples between the lugs is clearly a rendering on the flat of a decorated cordon such as we see on a globular from the cemetery at Barnes, Isle of Wight,²⁸ and two more from the settlement on Thorny Down, South Wiltshire,²⁹ all of which have a zone of diaper pattern above the shoulder as on the Winnall specimen. Rows of dimples on the flat have been found on diaper-patterned sherds from the enclosure on Boscombe Down East, South Wiltshire,³⁰ and on pots with hatched-triangle ornament from Thorny Down³¹ and from a barrow near

²⁴ Pitt Rivers, IV (1898), 216 ff.

²⁵ Calkin (1962), fig. 10, 2.

²⁶ Pitt Rivers, IV (1898), 217 f.

²⁷ Calkin (1962), 24, fig. 10, 4–6, fig. 11, 1.

²⁸ Dunning (1931), pl. ii, 1.

²⁹ Stone (1941), figs. 2 and 3.

³⁰ Stone (1936), pl. iii, 9 and iv, 10.

³¹ Stone (1941), fig. 3, 2.

Salisbury which is thought to have been located in South Bishopstone parish.³² Further diaper-patterned sherds are known from Boscombe Down East,³³ from one of the enclosures on Ogbourne Down, North Wiltshire,³⁴ from settlement debris in Soldier's Hole, Cheddar, Somerset,³⁵ and from barrow 24 on Handley Hill, Dorset, where the fragmentary rims of urns 22 and 48 are closely similar to one from Winnall pit A, no. 3.³⁶ Hatched triangle ornament, a variant of the diaper pattern in which alternate triangles are left plain, has a like distribution. Generally it is the lower row of 'standing' triangles which are thus decorated, as on cremation urns from Barnes,³⁷ Pokesdown,³⁸ and Latch Farm³⁹ in South Hampshire, and on sherds from settlement sites at Plaitford⁴⁰ and Martin Down,⁴¹ Hampshire, South Lodge Camp, Rushmore, South Wiltshire,⁴² and Preshute and Ogbourne Downs in the North.⁴³ On the most complete globular from Winnall pit A, no. 2, however, it is the pendent triangles below the rim which are hatched, and these are more difficult to parallel exactly.⁴⁴ The third globular vessel from pit A, no. 4, seems to have been undecorated. Plain globulars made in the white-gritted fabric characteristic of type I are known elsewhere and have been included on the map (fig. 1). Fragments from settlement sites, however, have generally been less well published than the more complete cremation urns, none of which is a particularly close parallel to this one from Winnall. The bored holes are common on Bronze Age pottery of this and preceding periods: they may possibly have been repair holes as some have suggested, they may have been used to attach thongs for suspension or for fastening a lid, or they may have been made for purposes now obscure to us.

Discussion

In refining on Calkin's two regional groups of Deverel-Rimbury pottery in Wessex, ApSimon has proposed restricting the term 'Deverel-Rimbury Culture' to South Dorset, the homeland of the type II globulars, and using 'Cranborne Chase Culture' for the distribution area of the barrel urns and type I globulars, justifying them as separate culture areas on the basis of apparent differences in burial practice as between barrow burial on the one hand and flat cremation cemeteries on the other.⁴⁵ Followed to its logical conclusion this system would necessitate not only the proliferation of regional culture names for Sussex and the rest of Lowland Britain at this period, but also the creation of a new super-name to replace Deverel-Rimbury in the broad sense in which it has come to be used (i.e. for the whole Later-Middle, not to mention Earlier-Late, Bronze Age in southern and eastern Britain). ApSimon has not faced up to this large task, and in this at least he has been prudent, for the question of a new and acceptable terminology is not one which can be settled on the basis of pottery types and burial customs alone, more especially when the distinction between the burial customs is as

³² Annable and Simpson (1964), no. 566. See also *V.C.H. Wilts.* I, part 1 (1957), where L. V. Grinsell records it as probably coming from barrow 11 at S. Bishopstone.

³³ Stone (1936), pl. iii, 1 and 6.

³⁴ Piggott (1942), fig. 6, 7.

³⁵ H. E. Balch, 'Excavations at Wookey Hole and other Mendip Caves, 1926-7; III, Soldier's Hole, Cheddar Gorge', *Ant. J.*, VIII (1928), 204 f., fig. 20.

³⁶ Pitt Rivers, IV (1898), pl. 299, nos. 2 and 5.

³⁷ Dunning (1931), pl. iii, 12.

³⁸ Calkin (1962), fig. 10, 11.

³⁹ Piggott (1938), fig. 4, no. 55.

⁴⁰ Hawkes (1942), 44 ff., fig. 10.

⁴¹ Pitt Rivers, IV (1898), pl. 316, no. 3.

⁴² Pitt Rivers, IV (1898), pl. 316, no. 2.

⁴³ Piggott (1942), figs. 5, 3 and 7, 11.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, fig. 5, 1 is a doubtful parallel.

⁴⁵ Rahtz and ApSimon (1962), 319 ff.

yet by no means absolutely clear: settlement sites and their characteristics must also be considered, as must the products of the bronze industries which supplied them. At this present time our knowledge of all these things is so imperfect that it is certainly premature to jettison the old formulae. Though not ideal, 'Deverel-Rimbury Culture' is still useful as a term of general application, and it genuinely seems best to retain it as such for the time being. With it we can employ Calkin's system for regional divisions into 'groups', e.g. South Dorset Group, which admits of unlimited further coinings such as 'Sussex Group', 'Lower Thames Group', etc., to take care of other areas with versions of the same general culture.

For the regional group which most concerns us here, both Calkin and ApSimon agreed on the name 'Cranborne Chase' after the well-known sites, both domestic and funerary, excavated there by General Pitt Rivers. This name, though undeniably attractive, has a major drawback: in relation to the rest of its region it is geographically and culturally marginal. Not only have Pitt Rivers's sites yielded quite a number of the South Dorset Group's type II globulars,⁴⁶ but they are also on the extreme western frontier of the main distribution of the barrel urns, and type I globulars. Thus before the 'Cranborne Chase Group' has become firmly entrenched in the terminology of the period, it is worth searching for some alternative name more expressive of the group's wide distribution. It is not easy to find a satisfactory one, but something along the lines of the 'Wessex General Group' would be more appropriate, especially now that the Winnall material shows the territorial limits of the group to have extended as far east as the Winchester district.

Despite their 'fringe' position within the group, there is nothing in the least marginal in the character of the Winnall pots: they are classic examples of their respective kinds, with, in the case of the type I globulars, close parallels from as far away as the Isle of Wight, Cranborne Chase and the Marlborough Downs. Closest in all senses of the word is some of the pottery from Thorny Down and Boscombe Down East a few miles north-east of Salisbury. Several miles north-east again is the newly excavated large cremation cemetery at Kaylis Corner, Kimpton, Hampshire,⁴⁷ which is reported to have yielded globular urns too: this site should prove a fruitful source for comparisons. Kimpton is the first large cemetery of this period from the north of Hampshire to be discovered since that at Dummer in 1888,⁴⁸ the 20 or more urns from which included specimens with a 'fanciful wicker pattern impressed on the outside': these may or may not have been type I globulars.

The Winchester district, for long little known as an area of Deverel-Rimbury settlement, begins now, thanks to recent finds, to show up as a distribution area of some importance. Winnall is so far the best attested site of habitation, but the presence of another settlement just across the river Itchen is suggested by some sherds found during excavations in Winchester itself.⁴⁹ The records of burials from the Itchen valley includes old finds of eight barrel or bucket urns from a barrow at Cranbury Common, Hursley,⁵⁰

⁴⁶ Calkin (1962), 26, 57 f.

⁴⁷ *Excavations: Annual Report* (Ministry of Public Building and Works, 1967), 30 f.; *Current Archaeology*, no. 11 (Nov. 1968), 284 ff.

⁴⁸ *Proc. Hants Field Club*, V (1906), 55 f.

⁴⁹ Sherds, possibly of Deverel-Rimbury type, have been found at Oram's Arbor, *Ant. J.*, XLVI (1966), 310: a sherd of a bucket urn was found in 1954 at 82 Hyde Street, and is now in Winchester Museum.

⁵⁰ *Proc. Hants Field Club*, XV (1942), 171 ff.

some miles south-west of Winchester; a single bucket urn from St. Giles's Hill just south of Winnall;⁵¹ and sherds from eight or nine barrel or bucket urns from a barrow just north of Oliver's Battery, Compton.⁵² The latter neighbourhood, which is a little south of Winchester, has also yielded more recent finds: fragments of two bucket urns from Bushfield, Compton, and an unurned cremation and at least nine cremation urns from a cemetery at Compton Way, south-east of Oliver's Battery.⁵³

So far as I know none of these sites has produced pottery strictly comparable with that from Winnall, but the urns from Compton Way include the remarkable vessel (fig. 3) which, seen in its unrestored state, caused Calkin to list two type I globulars as coming from Oliver's Battery.⁵⁴ The upper part of this urn, decorated with shallow-tooled zones of horizontal furrows, zig-zag and diaper pattern, does indeed resemble that of an outsize type I globular, as also does the cabled shoulder cordon and the white flint-gritted fabric. But there the similarity ends, for the four lugs, set above the shoulder cordon, are of the broad horizontally perforated type which is characteristic of Calkin's South Dorset (type II) globulars,⁵⁵ and the base, which does not now join the body but nevertheless clearly belongs, is not that of any normal globular urn, but such as would suit a much taller class of vessel.

Either we dismiss this urn from Compton as an out-and-out freak, or we take it seriously as somehow significant in the development-history of the globular urns. For example, it may be permissible to see in it the work of a potter who was still familiar with Cornish influences among Wessex biconical urns, which certainly antedate the Deverel-Rimbury Culture. That Cornish influence was at work in Wiltshire in the 14th century B.C., during Middle Bronze I, we can see on the well-known ribbon-handled urn from Winterslow B iv, found with a class IB razor,⁵⁶ and perhaps also the handled urn from Bromham G.1, found with a twin-riveted dagger or dirk.⁵⁷ The Bromham urn, though girt with four finger-printed cordons, has a profile from shoulder to base which is not dissimilar to that suggested for our urn from Compton. Dorset, too, has yielded a number of biconical urns with derivatives of the Cornish ribbon- or tunnel-shaped handles, and noteworthy here are examples from Portesham,⁵⁸ and Sutton Down,⁵⁹ on which the handles do not droop as on the Cornish prototypes, but are set above the shoulder as on our urn from Compton; they are of course placed similarly on the type II globulars. For typologically late-looking urns such as these the date could well be 13th century. ApSimon has seen the type II globulars as a development from the Cornish urns, and has hinted at a like ancestry for our globulars of type I.⁶⁰ On the Compton urn, the suggestion of remote Cornish ancestry combined with features undoubtedly characteristic of the type I globulars, might be made to support this

⁵¹ Clay (1927), 323.

⁵² *Proc. Hants Field Club*, XII (1934), 9 f.

⁵³ Finds in Winchester Museum.

⁵⁴ Calkin (1962), 56.

⁵⁵ Abercromby (1912), II, pl. lxxxvii, nos. 390, 391 and 393, pl. lxxxviii, nos. 395, 396a, 401 etc.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, pl. lxxxiv, no. 356; Frank Stevens and J. F. S. Stone, 'The barrows of Winterslow', *Wilt. Arch. Mag.*, XLVIII (1939), 174 ff., pls. ii-iv; Jay, J. Butler and Isobel F. Smith, 'Razors, Urns, and the

British Middle Bronze Age', *Univ. London Inst. of Arch. Annual Report*, XII (1956), 20 ff.; ApSimon (1958), 40.

⁵⁷ Annable and Simpson (1964), 65 and 120, nos. 526-7.

⁵⁸ M. W. Thompson and P. Ashbee, 'Excavation of a barrow near the Hardy Monument, Black Down, Portesham, Dorset', *P.P.S.*, XXIII (1957), 124 ff., esp. 128 ff., fig. 3, no. 4.

⁵⁹ Calkin (1962), fig. 14, 2.

⁶⁰ ApSimon (1958); Rahtz and ApSimon (1962), 319 ff.

hypothesis. Its date could be 13th century, and its rôle could be that of a missing link in the evolution of both types of globular urn. If so it is at present unique, and by itself does not explain the origin of the classic type I globular ornament, which, though similar in style to that of the Cornish urns, yet differs in technique. The change that it illustrates, from cord-impressed work to shallow tooling, is not seen actually happening on any known pottery. We should still bear in mind what was said here earlier about possible models in basketry.

If the Compton urn is accepted as ancestral, we have a further indication of the relatively early date now admissible from the type I globulars. Pottery similar to that from Winnall has been found at Plaitford in Hampshire, and at Thorny Down and South Lodge Camp in Wiltshire, together with bronzes of the so-called 'Ornament Horizon',⁶¹ which Margaret Smith so brilliantly expounded and dated by the incoming Montelius III period of the Nordic Bronze Age.⁶² Its opening will here be that of Middle Bronze 2, which in absolute terms means c. B.C. 1250-1200. Classic globular pottery such as that from Thorny Down can thus have been made already in the 13th century, and will certainly have started in manufacture no later than the 12th. How long it lasted is more problematical, for there is no indication that the Thorny Down settlement was occupied for more than a few generations, and even less evidence of longevity in the apparently contemporary sites on Cranborne Chase, on Boscombe Down East, or on Ogbourne and Preshute Downs. It is also remarkable how relatively rare are globular urns in even the largest cremation cemeteries. The explanation may simply be that globular pottery was primarily a domestic fine ware which was used only rarely for burial purposes, but it may also be that their period of manufacture occupied only a short span of the time during which these cemeteries were in use. Precious information about the chronological position of the globulars within the Deverel-Rimbury sequence promises to emerge from analysis of the horizontal stratigraphy in the new cemetery at Kimpton. In the meantime it can tentatively be suggested that the classic type I globulars may not have had a very long life, and that, like Thorny Down, Winnall belongs to an early 'globular-urn phase' of the Deverel-Rimbury Culture which did not outlast the second millennium.

ABBREVIATIONS

- Abercromby (1912): J. Abercromby, *A Study of the Bronze Age Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland* (Oxford, 1912).
 Annable and Simpson (1964): F. K. Annable and D. D. A. Simpson, *Guide Catalogue of the Neolithic and Bronze Age Collections in Devizes Museum* (Wilts. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc., Devizes Museum, 1964).
 ApSimon (1958): A. M. ApSimon, 'Cornish Bronze Age Pottery', *Proc. West Cornwall Field Club*, II, no. 2 (1958), 36-46.
 Burstow and Holleyman (1957): G. P. Burstow and G. A. Holleyman, 'Late Bronze Age settlement on Itford Hill, Sussex', *P.P.S.*, XXIII (1957), 167-212.
 Calkin (1962): J. B. Calkin, 'The Bournemouth Area in the Middle and Late Bronze Age, with the "Deverel-Rimbury" problem reconsidered', *Arch. J.*, CXIX (1962), 1-65.

⁶¹ Hawkes (1942), Appendix, 44 ff., fig. 11, pl. vi; Stone (1937), 652 ff., pl. v, 19, and (1941), 128; Pitt Rivers, IV (1898), 25 f., pl. 238, no. 6.

⁶² M. A. Smith, 'Some Somerset hoards and their place in the Bronze Age of Southern Britain', *P.P.S.*, XXV (1959), 144 ff., esp. 155 ff.

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- Clay (1927): R. C. C. Clay, 'The Woodminton Group of Barrows, Bowerchalke', *Wilts. Arch. Mag.*, XLIII (1927), 313-324.
- Curwen (1934): E. C. Curwen, 'A Late Bronze Age Farm and a Neolithic Pit-dwelling on New Barn Down, Clapham, nr. Worthing', *Sussex Arch. Coll.*, LXXV (1934), 137-70.
- Curwen (1937): E. C. Curwen, 'Querns', *Antiquity*, XI (1937), 133-151.
- Dunning (1931): G. C. Dunning, 'A Late Bronze Age Urnfield at Barnes, Isle of Wight . . .', *Proc. I.O.W. Nat. Hist. and Arch. Soc.* (1931), 108-117.
- Hawkes (1942): C. F. C. Hawkes, 'The Deverel Urn and the Picardy Pin', with Appendix on 'A bronze pin, torcs, and pottery from a Late Bronze Age site at Plaitford, Hants', *P.P.S.*, VIII (1942), 26-47.
- Holleyman, Curwen and Hawkes (1935): G. A. Holleyman, E. C. Curwen, 'Late Bronze Age Lynchet Settlements on Plumpton Plain, Sussex', with C. F. C. Hawkes, 'The Pottery from the sites on Plumpton Plain', *P.P.S.*, I (1935), 16-59.
- Lowther (1939): A. W. G. Lowther, *A Survey of the Prehistory of the Farnham District (Surrey)* (Surrey Archaeological Society, 1939).
- Piggott (1938): C. M. Piggott, 'A Middle Bronze Age Barrow and Deverel-Rimbury Urn-field, at Latch Farm, Christchurch, Hampshire', *P.P.S.*, IV (1938), 169-187.
- Piggott (1942): C. M. Piggott, 'Five Late Bronze Age enclosures in North Wiltshire', *P.P.S.*, VIII (1942), 48-61.
- Pitt Rivers, IV (1898): Lt.-General Pitt Rivers, *Excavations in Cranborne Chase*, IV (1898).
- Rahtz and ApSimon: P. Rahtz, 'Excavations at Shearplace Hill, Sydling St. Nicholas, Dorset, England': with a report on the pottery by A. M. ApSimon, *P.P.S.*, XXVIII (1962), 289-328.
- Stone (1936): J. F. S. Stone, 'An enclosure on Boscombe Down East', *Wilts. Arch. Mag.*, XLVII (1936), 466-489.
- Stone (1937): J. F. S. Stone, 'A Late Bronze Age habitation site on Thorny Down, Winterbourne Gunner, South Wilts.', *Wilts. Arch. Mag.*, XLVII (1937), 640-660.
- Stone (1941): J. F. S. Stone, 'The Deverel-Rimbury Settlement on Thorny Down, Winterbourne Gunner, South Wilts.', *P.P.S.*, VII (1941), 114-133.
- Wolseley, Smith and Hawley (1927): G. R. Wolseley, R. A. Smith, W. Hawley, 'Prehistoric and Roman settlements on Park Brow', *Archaeologia*, LXXVI (1927), 1-40.