

THE EXCAVATION OF BALKSBURY CAMP, ANDOVER, HANTS

By G. J. WAINWRIGHT

IN December 1950 the Ancient Monuments Division of the Ministry of Public Building and Works were informed that the more favoured Andover By-Pass route would cut through Balksbury Camp – a univallate Iron Age hill-fort sited in the southern suburbs of Andover (SU 350445). Alternative routes for this by-pass were explored and rejected because of the extra cost involved and the Ministry of Transport were informed that permission for building the road across the hill-fort would be given, provided that this area was excavated in advance of its destruction. Work on the by-pass was scheduled to begin in the autumn of 1967 and the excavation was directed by the author over four weeks in May and June of that year. In addition, the proposal to extend a housing development scheme, which marginally affected part of the ditch and rampart of the hill-fort in its northern sector, necessitated the excavation of a series of cuttings through the defences in that area (fig. 7, areas BXV–BXVII).

The magnitude of the problem which confronted the excavators may be gauged from fig. 7, where it can be seen that the proposals entailed the investigation of a strip 475 m. long and 45 m. wide across the southern half of the hill-fort in addition to the area scheduled for housing development in its north sector. To cope with the removal of such large amounts of ploughsoil it was decided to use three JCB 3C machines in association with three dumper trucks. Experience showed that this ratio of dumper trucks to excavating machines was too low, partially owing to the frequency with which the former develop mechanical faults, and the number of dumper trucks was increased to six by the end of the excavation. A force of 40 labourers and volunteers were employed in addition and these numbers proved adequate in coping with the necessarily rapid progress of the excavation across the hill-fort. Such techniques cannot be employed except under skilled supervision and this was provided by the participation of Col. A. B. de Quincey, C. Musson, P. Donaldson, J. Huntries and Mrs. I. Wade. It was decided at the outset not to attempt to strip the whole route apart from the more sensitive areas behind the rampart in the west and east (areas BI–BIII, BX–BXIV) and the remainder was investigated by means of spaced area investigations (BV–BIX). It is not felt that the picture thus obtained would be materially altered if the whole area had been stripped, and the expense of such an operation would have been prohibitive in view of the extensive excavations at Durrington Walls which were to follow one week later. At the time of the excavation the land was in private ownership and A. Burnfield and Sons Ltd. of Stockbridge, Hants, R. Ellis and Son of London EC3, and F. J. Lintott of Balksbury Hill are to be thanked for their co-operation in permitting the excavations to take place. In the compilation of this report assistance has been received especially from Mrs. C. Boddington who has prepared the illustrations, from Mr. J. P. Y. Clarke who has assisted the author in many ways, and from Dr. I. H. Longworth and Mr. R. Harcourt who have reported on the neolithic pottery

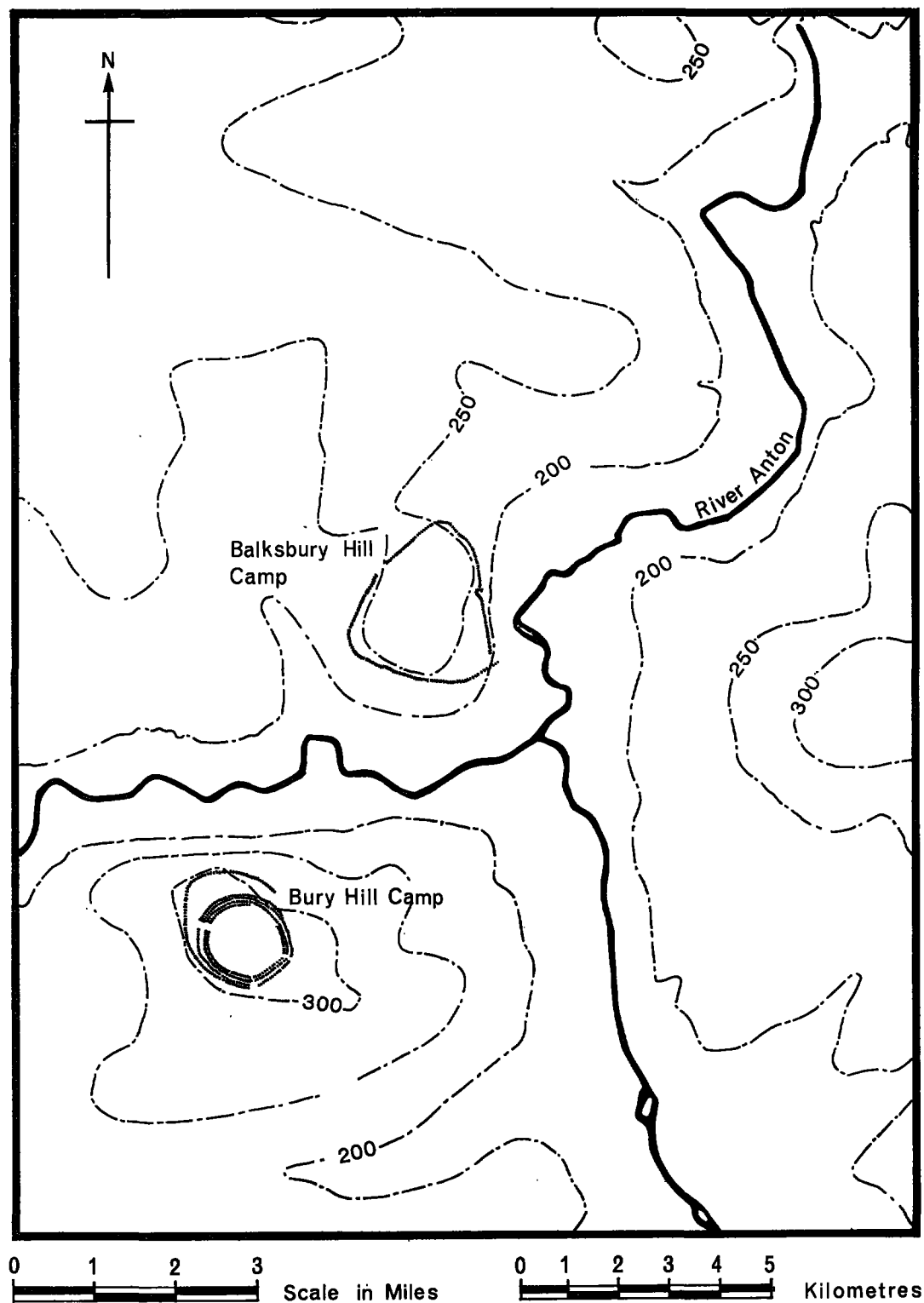


Fig. 6. Location Map for Barksbury Camp, Andover, Hants.

and animal bones respectively. Mr. A. J. Clark of the Ancient Monuments Laboratory carried out a geophysical survey of the area to be excavated.

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL HISTORY

'In the neighbourhood of Andover in Hampshire, I find two other camps mentioned by *Polydore Virgil* which still exist. The one, called Bury-hill, is situated on an eminence west of Andover, and is strongly fortified by nature as well as art; the other, called Barksbury Camp, with a single *vallum*, is nearly square, and situated in the plain; a small rivulet divides the two camps, the former of which was occupied by Edmund the Saxon, and the latter by Canute the Dane.' This description of Barksbury was written by Sir Richard Colt Hoare (1812, 18) and is one of the first recorded descriptions of the earthwork, although there is a mediaeval reference to 'Bakeleresbury', a camp near Andover (Crawford and Keiller, 1928, 95). T. W. Shore considered Barksbury to have been built by the Romans when they attacked the British oppidum on Bury Hill half a mile to the south-west (Shore, 1887, 22-3), but such identifications were quashed by Crawford and Keiller who suggested that the two camps - Bury Hill and Barksbury, were of different age - Barksbury being the older (Crawford and Keiller, 1928, 95).

The first plan of the camp was published by J. P. Williams-Freeman (1915, 137-8, 354) who refers to it as 'Bagsbury' enclosing some 45 acres on a plateau between the Anton on the east and the Pillbrook or Anna to the south, with the ground sloping gently away from the camp on all sides. Williams-Freeman refers to the bank as being ploughed down and showing only as a scarp and an entrance was claimed for the middle of the rampart in its southern sector, but this was disproved by excavations in 1939.

In that year the hill-fort on Bury Hill was excavated by the Research Committee of the Hampshire Field Club under the direction of Professor C. F. C. Hawkes with a view to elucidating the later stages of the Iron Age in the area (Hawkes, C. F. C., 1940). At the same time the opportunity was taken of excavating trial sections at Barksbury which is situated half a mile north-east across the valley of the River Anna (fig. 6). These sections were dug under the direction of Mrs. J. Hawkes and were intended to elucidate the relationship of Barksbury to Bury Hill (Hawkes, J., 1940). The rampart was trenched at two points along the southern edge of the hill-fort to the east of the Clatford Road (fig. 7), and a third cutting into the ditch satisfactorily disproved the entrance postulated by Dr. Williams-Freeman.

The cuttings revealed a bank between 5.4 m. and 7 m. wide and 30 cm. high, in front of which was a flat-bottomed ditch 6.7 m. wide and 2.7 m. deep. A considerable number of body sherds of Early Iron Age fabric were found below and to the rear of the bank and from the ditch silts, but these included only three rim fragments and the shoulder sherd of a carinated bowl. Of these sherds, one rim from a coarse situlate jar was recorded from the ditch silts and it was suggested that the remainder represented an occupation of the hill-fort prior to and contemporary with the building of the rampart. A group of sherds of thinner and harder ware were recorded from a higher level overlying the tail of the bank and were regarded by the excavator as being of later date than the coarser pottery referred to above. Finally, a few sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered and regarded as strays. It was suggested that the earlier material was contemporary with that from Bury Hill I and that Barksbury was built as a cattle

enclosure on the basis of its low-lying position, its flat-bottomed ditch and the large area enclosed which would have been difficult to defend.

Finally, in 1958 seven new houses were built facing Rooksbury road in the north-east corner of the camp. The rampart ran through the front gardens of the houses for a distance of some 146 m. and was revealed as a low bank with a core of broken chalk, about 60 cm. high above the old turf line. Foundations which were dug for a garage also located the ditch in front of the bank (Thompson, 1958, 53). Animal bones and body sherds were recorded from the old land surface under the bank, according to the workmen who found them. The material did not include any rims but angular shoulders and flat bases were present, similar to the sherds found by Mrs. Hawkes in 1939.

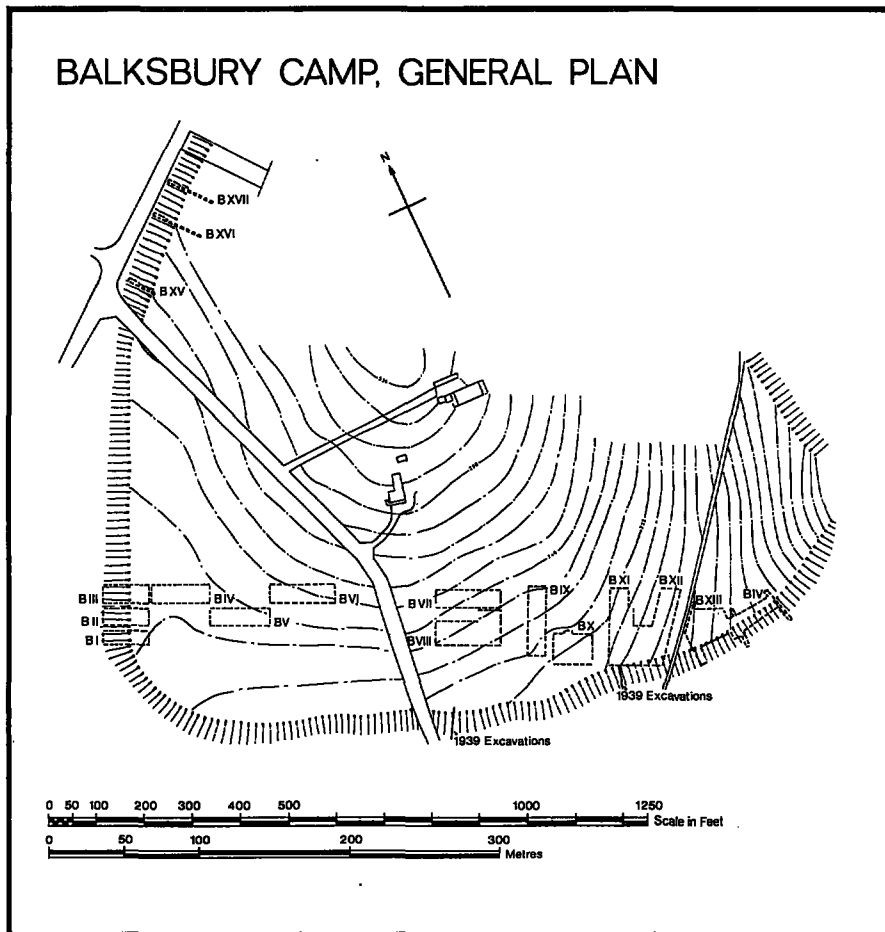


Fig. 7.

THE SITE DESCRIPTION

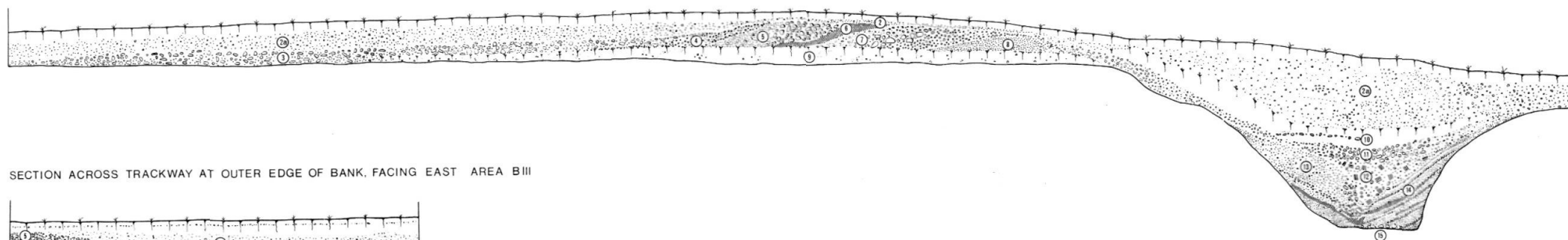
Bawksbury Camp is an univallate hill-fort of some 45 acres which occupies a rounded plateau in the angle between the valleys of the rivers Anna and Anton (figs. 6 and 7).

THE EXCAVATION OF BALKSBURY CAMP, ANDOVER, HANTS

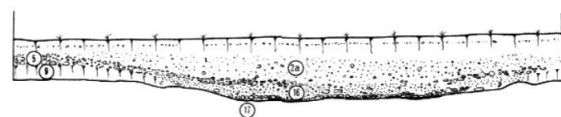
In plan it is a triangle with rounded corners, the north-west side is bounded by the Salisbury–Andover road and the east side is flanked by the road to Rooksbury known as Mill Lane. Building has taken place along both these roads and some record made of the route of the rampart in its north sector (Thompson, 1958), but the alignment of the bank and ditch along the east side of the hill-fort cannot now be seen on the ground. Presumably it has been destroyed by ploughing, building and quarrying for chalk.¹ Indeed, where they are free of encumbrances the rampart and ditch are very

BALKSBURY CAMP

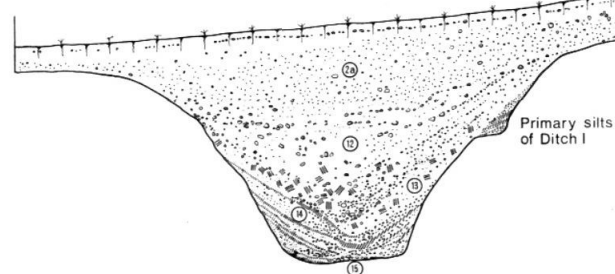
SECTION OF THE SOUTH FACE OF AREA B I



SECTION ACROSS TRACKWAY AT OUTER EDGE OF BANK, FACING EAST AREA B III



SECTION OF THE NORTH FACE OF AREA B III



SECTION OF THE SOUTH FACE OF AREA B III

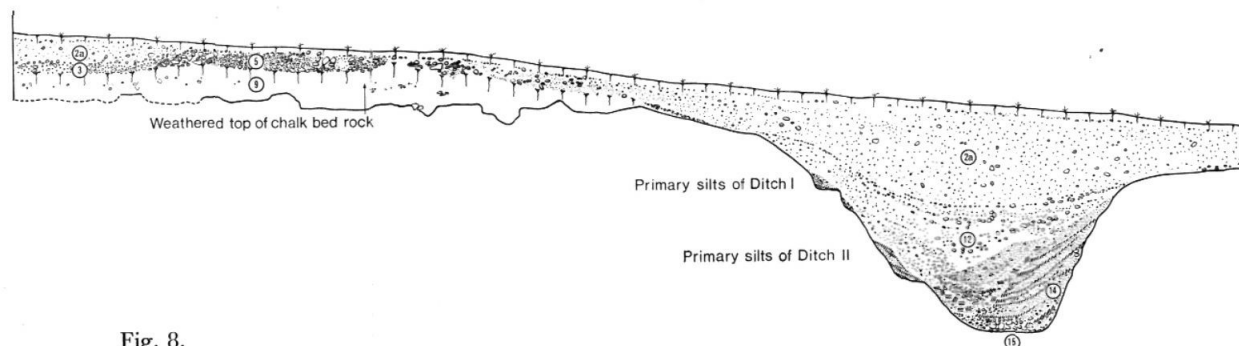


Fig. 8.

¹ Unfortunately it was not possible to complete the survey of the northern sector of the hill-fort in fig. 7 owing to the refusal of the owners of the land to co-operate.

eroded as a result of ploughing and are represented only by a sloping scarp. As far as the eastern defences are concerned the rampart presumably followed the edge of a natural scarp down the Mill Lane but its precise route cannot be ascertained. As a result of this destruction the site of the original entrance cannot be located. Perhaps it has already been destroyed by building operations.

In the centre of the hill-fort stand farm buildings and a private residence, whilst the south-west and south-east corners of the camp are crossed by the metalled road to Clatford and a public footpath respectively. The area to be excavated in 1967 was all pasture with the rampart visible as a shallow scarp at both ends of the strip. The work began at the west end of the by-pass route (areas BI-III) and progressed east until the rampart at the other side of the hill-fort was reached (BXIII-BXIV). Finally, the rampart and ditch were sectioned in three places in their north-east sector (BXV-BXVII) in the area scheduled for housing development, plate II. The site of the excavations BI-BXIV is now covered by the Andover By-Pass.

THE DEFENCES

The hill-fort had been constructed on a subsoil consisting of an intermittent deposit of sticky clay with flints overlying the chalk and these materials are reflected in the composition of the bank. However, as a result of centuries of ploughing the latter was never more than 45 cm. high and showed on the surface, not as a bank, but as a terrace in the slope of the hill. The top of the bank had therefore been severely truncated by ploughing and this complicated the interpretation of the manner in which it had been constructed. Nine complete cuttings were made through the bank and ditch BI-III, BXIII-XVIII, *vide* fig. 7, in the north, west and east sectors of the hill-fort defences and of these, BI-BIII were not slit trenches but area excavations 9.1 m., 12.1 m. and 12.1 m. wide respectively. From these numerous and widely spread cuttings it was possible to build up a composite history of what superficially appeared to be a very simple univallate defensive earthwork. It was worth noting, however, that the complete picture did not occur in any one cutting.

The defences appear to have been constructed on three different occasions and it is convenient to describe the sequence in its chronological order as Phases I-III.

Phase I Represented by a bank with an average width of 3 m.-3.6 m. and now surviving to a height of 45 cm. (figs. 8 and 9, layer no. (8)) fronted by a ditch which was probably some 90 cm. deep and less than 7.3 m. wide. The uncertainties regarding the original dimensions of the ditch are due to the fact that it was largely destroyed by the deeper ditches of Phases II and III. Only its inner angle is preserved in BIII (fig. 8) where the primary silts which survive show some varves or 'banding' and its outer angle survives in BXIV (fig. 9), plate III. It is noteworthy that although evidence for the previous existence of Ditch I was present in BIII it was entirely absent in BI some 12 m. to the south. Similarly, although the material of Bank I is present in BI it had been ploughed away in BIII.

The Phase I defences would have been very weak with a bank 3 m. to 3.6 m. wide and a flat-bottomed ditch only 90 cm. deep and less than 7.3 m. wide. The best section of the Phase I bank can be seen in BI (fig. 8) where the primary soil bank (layer no. (8)) is overlain by flint gravel derived from the clay with flints capping. The capping

at this point is some 90 cm. deep and as the Phase I bank contains no chalk admixture from the underlying deposits this is confirmatory evidence that the Phase I ditch itself was not more than 90 cm. deep. There was no sign of any timber construction in the bank and the single post-hole recorded on the inner edge of the ditch in BXV (fig. 9) is of unknown date.

Some sherds and flint artefacts which can be associated with this phase were obtained from under deposits of Bank II (figs. 8 and 9, layer no. (7)) and resting on the old land surface beneath the bank (layer no. (9)). They were associated with hearths or areas of burning which did not extend under Bank I and which are clearly to be associated with this earliest bank. Material in this stratigraphical position occurred in areas BI, BII and BXII. A total of 567 sherds representing a minimum of 13 vessels were recovered (nos. 1-11) in addition to 128 flint artefacts which included one implement (no. 151). No finds were recorded from the ditch.

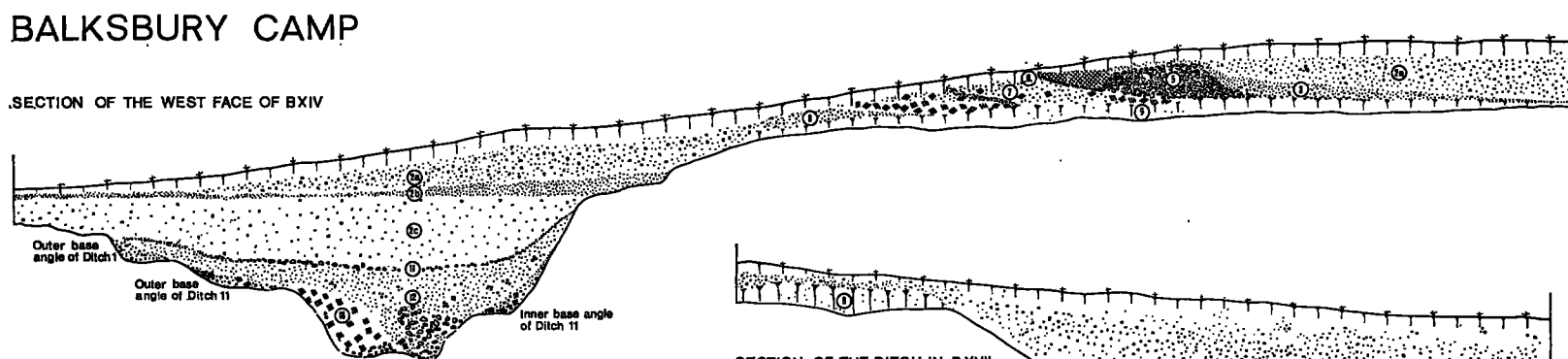
Phase II In Phase II the ditch was enlarged to an average depth of 1.8 m. and to a width which was normally less than 7.3 m. It appears to have had a flat base and was largely destroyed by the Phase III reconstruction although its inner angle was preserved in the south face of BIII (fig. 8), as well as in BXIV, BXV and BXVII (fig. 9). The material derived from the enlarged ditch was deposited on the back of Bank I to form Bank II (layer no. (7)) which was 4.5 m. wide. This material was composed mainly of chalk as the Phase II ditch was sufficiently deep to cut into the chalk beneath the clay with flints capping. In the south face of BIII (fig. 8) the surviving Ditch II silts were again varved with alternating layers of fine and coarse silts. However, no finds were recorded from the Phase II ditch deposits and no sherds or stone tools can be attributed unquestionably to Phase II.

Phase III In Phase III the ditch was enlarged yet again to an average width of 7.3 m. and depth of 3.3 m., thus destroying the greater part of Ditch II which survives intermittently with Ditch I as a narrow ledge. The ditch maintains a narrow flat base along its length and the primary silts normally consist of a thin layer of chalk lumps resting directly on the rock floor (layer no. (15)). In trenches BI-BIII this earliest silting was followed by a succession of varved or banded silts (layer no. (14)) which consist of thin humic lenses interleaved with fine, clean chalk silting. It is possible, though difficult to prove, that these represent the winter and summer siltings of the ditch. At some stage the ditch may have been cleaned out as these thin silting bands are truncated by a V-shaped cutting (*vide* BI, fig. 8) filled with sticky brown clay and stones (layer no. (12)). However, there is no sign of this possible clean-out in the bank material (although it may have been removed by the plough), and it is not a consistent feature in other sections. The silts are sealed by a flint gravel spill from the bank (layer no. (11)) and a thick, largely stoneless soil which had formed when they had attained their angle of rest (fig. 8, BI, (10)). Above this horizon a thick deposit of ploughsoil had accumulated (layer no. (2)). Despite the amount of silt removed, no finds were recorded from the Phase III ditch.

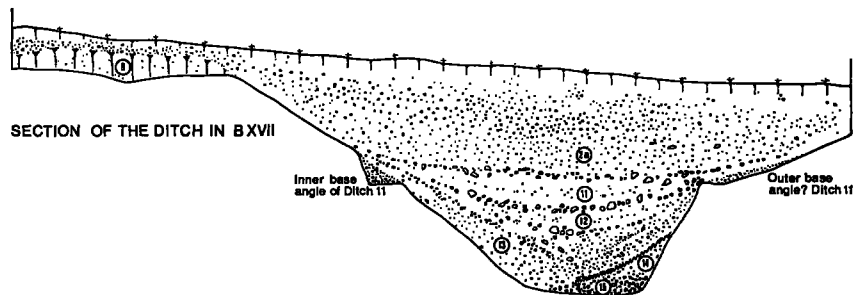
The chalk lumps derived from Ditch III were dumped onto the rear of Bank II to form Bank III (figs. 8 and 9, layer no. (5)). However, the interval between Phases II and III was sufficiently long to enable a weathered surface to form (fig. 8, BI, (6); fig. 9, BXIV, (6)). This surface was represented by a thin band of soft, brown, stoneless,

BALKSBURY CAMP

SECTION OF THE WEST FACE OF BXIV



SECTION OF THE DITCH IN BXVII



SECTION OF THE WEST FACE OF BXV

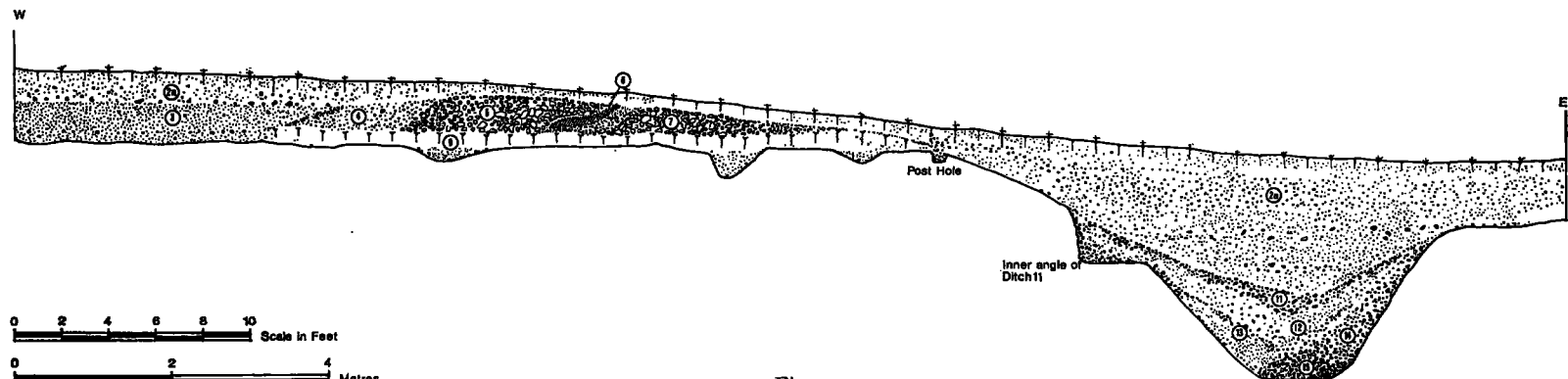


Fig. 9.

humic material and not sufficient of it had survived to enable a guess to be made at the length of time which had elapsed between Phases II and III, even if our knowledge of soil formation was sufficiently advanced for any such guess to have a practical value. The most one can claim is that the interval between Phases II and III was sufficiently long to enable a soil to form. The Phase III bank was now 6.4 m. wide on average but its original height is unknown owing to the amount of erosion which has taken place. No timber structures within the bank were recorded and the post-holes for these would have been located if they had been present.

A thick deposit of black, ashy soil containing animal bones, sherds of pottery and stone tools had built up against the rear of Bank III and the material is regarded as domestic rubbish which had accumulated *in situ* and which is contemporary with Bank III (figs. 8 and 9, layer no. (3)). Wherever it was located it was sealed by a thick deposit of ploughsoil. Some 2,771 sherds representing a minimum of 131 vessels were recorded from this deposit – principally from the eastern end of the excavation (BXI–BXIV) along with numerous flint artefacts and animal bones. In BXIV a human skeleton was found as an informal burial amongst the domestic refuse and there can be little doubt that all this material accumulated during the occupation of the hill-fort in Phase III.

At one point in BIII the bank was cut through by a trackway 2.7 m. wide (fig. 8 section; fig. 12 plan) which had been sunk slightly into the basal clay with flints. The trackway consisted generally of a single layer of broken flint cobbles (layer no. (17)) with wheel ruts which had been filled with more cobbles. The edge of the track was defined by a kerb of larger flints. It was best preserved in the vicinity of the bank which had presumably protected it to a certain extent from erosion, and it occurred only intermittently in the interior and not at all over the ditch. No finds were recorded from it and its age is unknown.

Finally it must be emphasised that the sequence of reconstructions of the bank and ditch recovered at Balksbury has stressed the futility of excavating only one or two cuttings through the defences of any hill-fort. The nine widely spread cuttings through the ditch and rampart at Balksbury were all necessary in the building up of a composite picture which was not represented in a single section. For example, if a single section had been dug along the south face of BI (fig. 8), where the Phase III ditch had completely destroyed those of Phases I and II, a completely false picture would have been obtained and it is doubtful whether the eroded bank could have been interpreted in a satisfactory fashion. Similarly, although the traces of the three ditches can be seen in the south face of BIII (fig. 8) the bank is too eroded to allow for any satisfactory interpretation.

THE INTERIOR

The only structures found in the interior were clustered in the lee of the bank at the west and east ends of the excavation (figs. 10 and 11). The age of these structures relative to the three phases of defence reconstruction is unknown, but they are here assumed to belong to Phase III as this appears to have been the phase in which the most intensive occupation of the hill-fort took place. Beyond the immediate vicinity of the rampart visible signs of occupation consist solely of sporadic cooking hearths (four

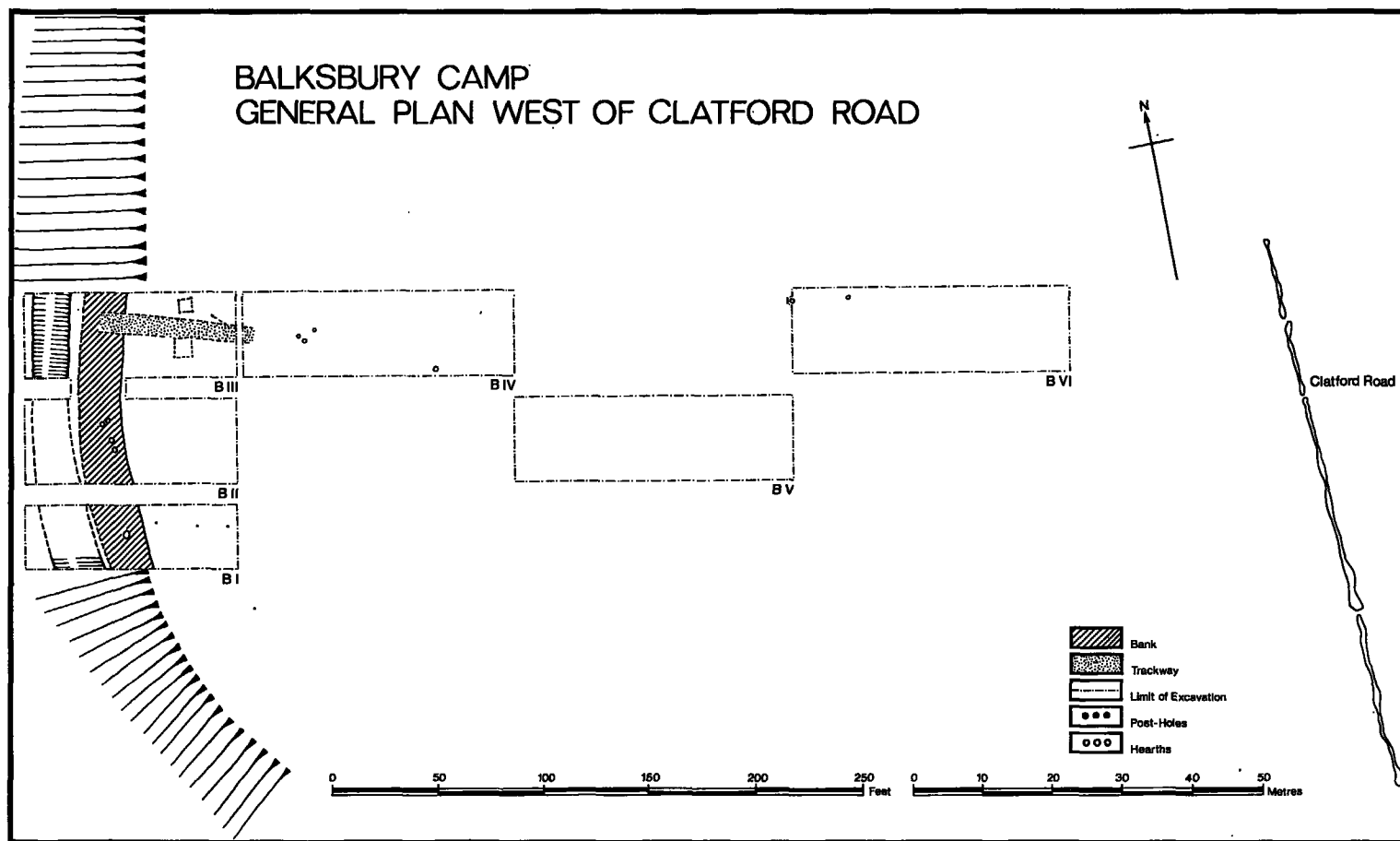


Fig. 10.

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in BIV and two in BVI, *vide* fig. 10) or the occasional post-hole of uncertain age, so that trenches BV–BIX were virtually totally devoid of any sign of occupation (figs. 10 and 11). In BX, however, where one begins to get closer to the rear of the bank (fig. 11), 16 Iron Age hearths were recorded and in areas BIII and BXIII, in which the area immediately to the rear of the bank was investigated, the only timber structures were found, along with plentiful human debris.

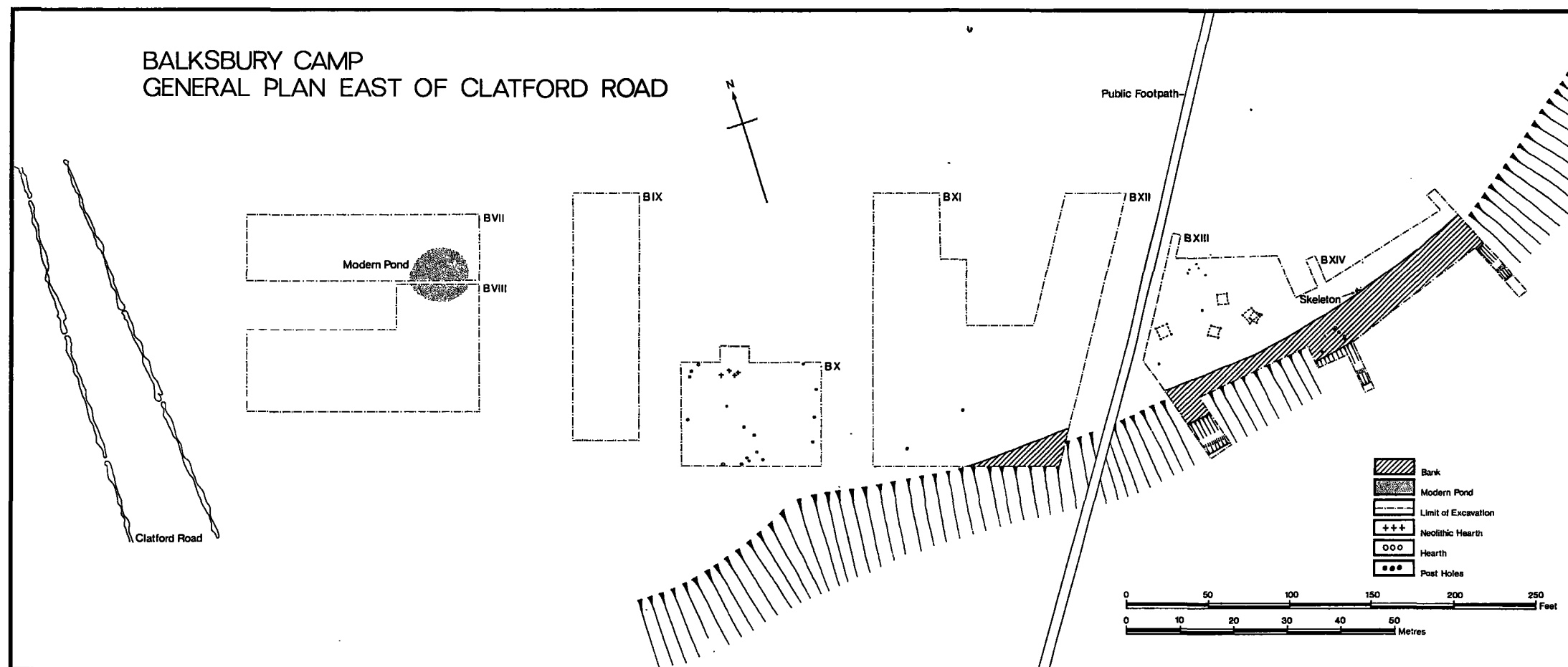


Fig. 11.

Where these timber structures occur in coherent settings, they form four post structures which are widely regarded as granaries, although a body of opinion now considers that they might represent the roof supports for huts. In general the post-holes are not more than 25 cm. in diameter and 30 cm. deep. Where the packing material for the posts has survived it occurs as small flint modules. Eight groups of post-holes can be distinguished, A–C (BIII, fig. 12) and E–J (BXIII, fig. 13).

PROCEEDINGS FOR THE YEAR 1969

Group A: A group of four post-holes delineating a rectilinear area with dimensions of 2.1 m. x 1.8 m.

Group B: A group of four post-holes forming a square with dimensions of 2.7 m. x 2.7 m.

Group C: Two post-holes 2.1 m. apart.

Group E: A group of five post-holes which do not form any coherent pattern.

Group F: A group of four post-holes delineating a rectilinear area 1.9 m. x 2.1 m.

Group G: A group of four post-holes delineating a rectilinear area 1.7 m. x 1.8 m.

Group H: A group of four post-holes delineating a rectilinear area 1.8 m. x 1.7 m.

Group J: A group of eight post-holes which represent two superimposed groups of four post-holes of different dates:

(i) Four post-holes delineating a rectilinear area 2.2 m. x 1.8 m.

(ii) Four post-holes delineating a rectilinear area 1.6 m. x 1.4 m.

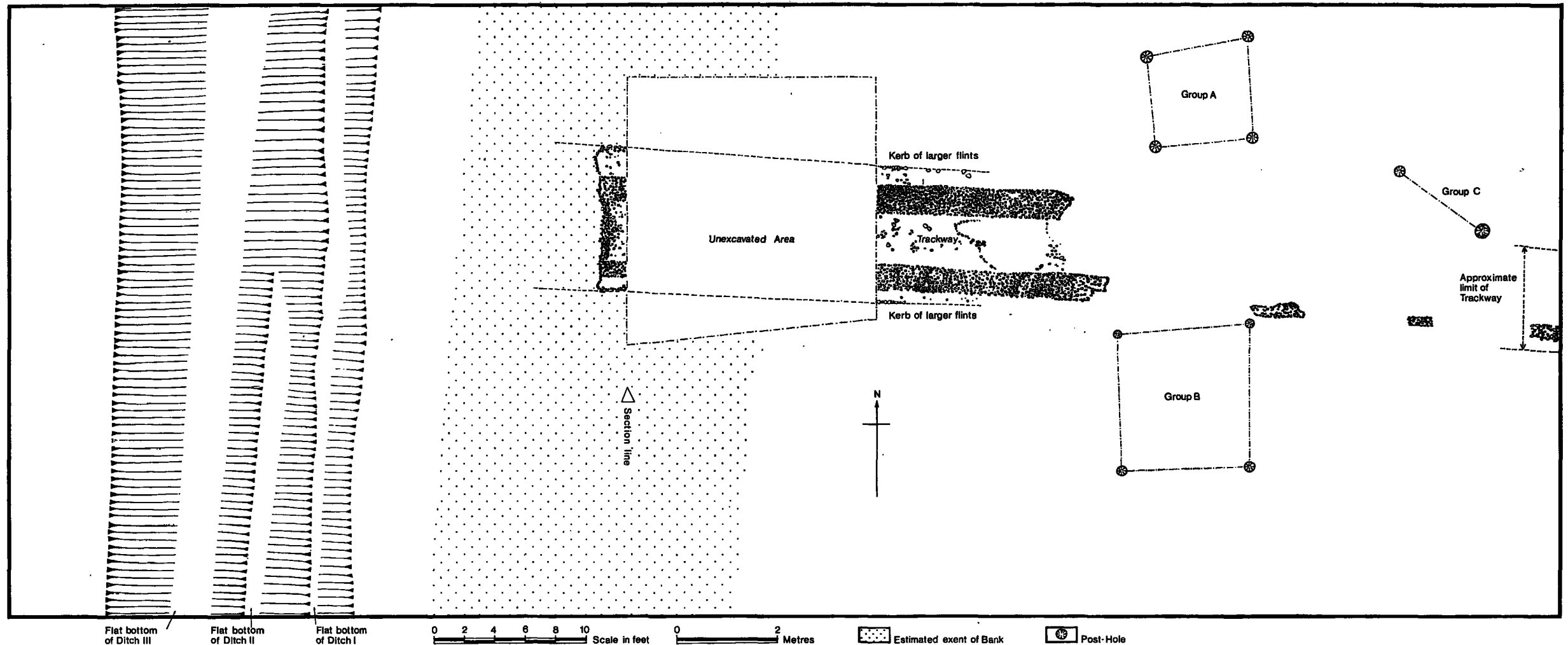
It is not possible to ascertain from the ground plan which of these two groups is the older.

In addition to the timber structures a crouched burial was found in the rubbish deposit which had accumulated behind the bank in BXIV. There was no attempt at a formal burial and the body had simply been incorporated in the rubbish deposits which occurred both under and over the skeleton.

In his report on the excavations of the Early Iron Age farmstead at Little Woodbury, Professor Bersu interpreted rectilinear groups of four post-holes as granaries for the storage of grain (Bersu, 1940, 97-8). Since that time this interpretation has been extended to include rectilinear settings of five and six posts. In the report on the excavation of a Durotrigian farmstead on Berwick Down near Tollard Royal, the present writer listed these structures as then known (Wainwright, 1968, 112-116) and drew attention to the occurrence of grain in post-holes of such structures from Tollard Royal and Rotherly. Since that time similar structures of four post type have been recorded from Llandegai in Caernarvonshire (Houlder, 1968, 220) and Midsummer Hill Camp, Herefordshire (Stanford, 1968). In addition, Professor Frere has drawn attention to quartets of post-holes with a fifth at the centre from Ivinghoe Beacon, Bucks., the larger of which measures 4.8 m. x 3.6 m. (Cotton and Frere, 1968, 194-5), and renewed the question as to whether or not these may be the remains of huts by drawing attention to similar structures from Glastonbury and Croft Ambrey.

Some light on this question may be shed by the excavations carried out by the writer in a Late Iron Age farmstead at Walesland Rath in Pembrokeshire (Wainwright, 1969). At this site, a six post rectilinear setting measuring 3 m. x 3.9 m. was terraced into the slight slope and surrounded partially by an eaves-drip gully 6.7 m. in diameter. There can be no doubt that this six post structure, which in plan is identical with the six post 'granaries' of Rotherly and Tollard Royal though rather larger, represents a roofed building. This being so there is no reason to doubt that similar six post structures in southern England, together with the larger four post structures, represent the roof supports of huts, the eaves-drip gullies for which have been eroded away. It would be rash to regard all four post structures in this light, however, until more sites in good preservation have been excavated where such eaves-drip gullies might be expected to have been preserved.

BALKSBURY CAMP PLAN OF AREA BIII



ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

The animal bones from the excavations were studied by Mr. R. Harcourt who established that the 210 specimens represented a minimum of 19 individuals. Insofar as one can draw conclusions from the small numbers present, sheep is the most common animal represented (six individuals) followed by cattle (four), dog (three) and pig, horse and red deer each represented by two individuals respectively. An arable economy may be indicated by the four post structures if they are granaries but this must remain uncertain.

THE NEOLITHIC SETTLEMENT

In area BX the remains of four closely grouped hearths were found which had been preserved from the plough by a slight hollow in the surface of the chalk in this area (fig. 11). The remains of at least three pots represented by 21 sherds were recorded from two of these hearths and have been reported on by Dr. I. H. Longworth. He concludes that the sherds are best treated as occupation debris and represent an association of fine and coarse Beaker wares typical in such a context. The fine beaker (no. 158) belongs to a developed stage of Clarke's Southern British Beaker Tradition and the heavy 'plastic' rustication of a second vessel (no. 159) is typical of this phase for which a date of about 1550 B.C. would seem appropriate. The only artefacts found with the pots were 22 flint flakes, but a bifacially worked flint axe (no. 149) and one transverse arrowhead (no. 150) found elsewhere on the hill in ploughsoil deposits may belong to this settlement.

THE FINDS

In the following report on the finds the objects are primarily arranged according to the material of which they were made and are numbered consecutively. The trench and layer number of each sherd and object is appended to its description to facilitate its location in terms of the plans and sections. The report on the neolithic pottery was prepared by Dr. I. H. Longworth.

THE POTTERY: NEOLITHIC

By I. H. LONGWORTH

Hearth 1

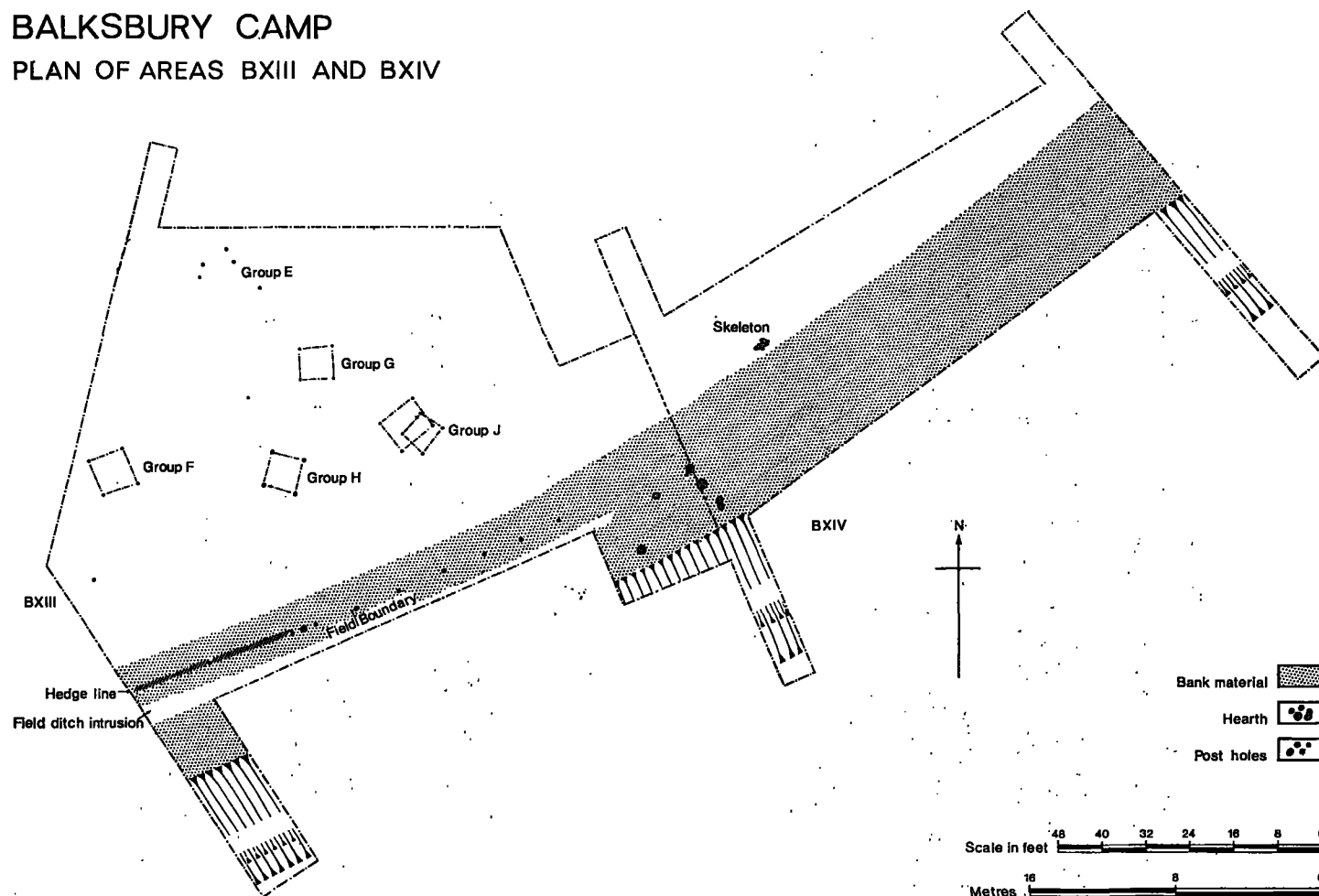
Fifteen sherds representing three vessels:

158 Nine sherds from the rim and body of a Beaker of well fired paste, reddish brown externally, grey to brown internally, tempered with grit and grog. Surface roughly smoothed. Decoration is made with a comb having elongated rectangular teeth. The pattern consists of three horizontal lines immediately beneath the rim separated by a reserved band from a deep zone of reserved bar chevron, itself bounded above and below by horizontal lines. A second reserved band at the maximum diameter of the body separates the upper ornament from a second zone of reserved bar chevron and filled triangles, again bounded above and below by horizontal lines.

159 Four wall sherds from a Rusticated Beaker of rather soft paste tempered with grit, reddish brown externally, grey to brown internally. Surface smoothed. The decoration consists of rows of finger-nail-bordered raised ribs separated by horizontal plain bands.

BALKSBURY CAMP

PLAN OF AREAS BXIII AND BXIV



THE EXCAVATION OF BALKSBURY CAMP, ANDOVER, HANTS

Fig. 13.

- 160 An undecorated rim sherd of fairly hard paste tempered with large grits. Reddish brown externally, brown internally.

Hearth 2

Six sherds representing at least two vessels.

Small wall sherd from the body of a Beaker of well fired paste, reddish brown externally, grey internally, tempered with grit and grog. Surface rather weathered. The decoration consists of the remains of a plain band bounded above and below by horizontal lines made with a rectangular toothed comb. Probably the same vessel as no. 158.

Four wall sherds of Rusticated Beaker of rather soft paste tempered with large grits, reddish brown externally, grey to brown internally. Surface smoothed. One sherd carries the remains of horizontal finger-nail-bordered ribs. Probably the same vessel as no. 159.

Small fragment of base angle. May represent a fourth vessel.

The sherds, representing at least three vessels, are best treated as occupation debris. As Dr. D. L. Clarke has shown, the association of fine and coarse rusticated Beaker Wares is typical of such a context. The fine Beaker (no. 158) belongs to a developed stage of Clarke's Southern British Beaker Tradition S2/S3, and the heavy 'plastic' rustication of no. 159 is typical of this phase.² The undecorated rim (no. 160) appears to represent a further variety of Beaker domestic ware but is too small to suggest the form of the vessel.

A date of about 1550 B.C. would seem appropriate for this pottery.

THE POTTERY: IRON AGE

The fabrics of the Iron Age pottery can be divided into five classes.

Ware A Hard brown-black gritty fabric with numerous flint grits.

Ware B Hard fine brown fabric with few grits, frequently burnished.

Ware C Soft red-pink fabric with sparse flint grits.

Ware D Hard brown fabric with few grits and pinkish-brown exterior.

Ware E Hard pink fabric with grey core and few grits.

The Iron Age Pottery: Phase I

The sherds assigned to this phase were obtained from a series of hearths underlying material of Banks II and III which are presumably to be associated with the earliest rampart. In each case (BI, BII and BXII) the hearths and pottery rested on the old land surface (layer no. (9)) and were sealed by material of Bank II (layer no. (7)). The 567 sherds recovered represent a minimum of 13 vessels on which it is unwise to base any typological conclusions. The following types are, however, represented amongst the assemblage:

² *Palaeohistoria* (1966), XII, 197.

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TABLE I: DISTRIBUTION OF WARES BETWEEN TRENCHES
The figures relate to the numbers of sherds recovered

TRENCH	WARE A	WARE B	WARE C	WARE D	TOTALS
BI	38	—	4	—	42
BII	124	42	198	130	494
BXII	31	—	—	—	31
Totals	193	42	202	130	567

1. Jars of bipartite form with flattened lip and weak shoulder which are undecorated save for the occasional occurrence of heavy finger finishing below the rim (nos. 1-3).
2. Bowls with upstanding rim and rounded shoulder (nos. 4-5).
3. Dish or pan with straight wall and simple rim (no. 6).
4. A small cup (no. 7).

In addition several rim sherds were recovered from bowls and jars of unknown type (nos. 8-11). There is a total lack of any formal decoration or of haematite coating.

1. Jar of bipartite form with slack shoulder of Ware A with upright neck and flattened lip. Heavy finger finishing below the rim (BII, (5)-(9)).
2. Jar of bipartite form with slack shoulder of Ware B with upright neck and flattened lip (BII, (5)-(9)).
3. Jar of bipartite form with slack shoulder of Ware A with short upright rim and slightly beaded lip. Heavy finger finishing below the rim (BII, (5)-(9)).
4. Bowl with rounded shoulder of Ware B with a short upright pointed rim (BII, (5)-(9)).
5. Bowl of similar type as no. 4 but in Ware C (BII, (5)-(9)).
6. Straight-sided dish or bowl of Ware D with simple pointed rim (BII, (5)-(9)).
7. Small cup of Ware C (BII, (5)-(9)).
- 8-11. Rim sherds from plain bowls and jars of unknown type (no. 8, BII; nos. 9-11, BXII; (5)-(9)).

Not Drawn Rim, body and base sherds (94) of straight-sided jar of Ware C (BII, (5)-(9)).

Not Drawn Rim, body and base sherds (16) of jar of Ware D with flat rim (BII, (5)-(9)).

The Iron Age Pottery: Phase II

No objects attributable to this phase were recorded although they may have become incorporated with those of Phase III.

The Iron Age Pottery: Phase III

The material assigned to this phase was obtained mainly from an accumulation of human refuse against the rear of Bank III (layer no. (3)). A smaller quantity was

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obtained from intermittent hearths in the interior of the hill-fort. This last material cannot be assigned stratigraphically to any particular phase but is included here for the sake of convenience.

A total of 2,771 sherds representing a minimum of 131 pots were recorded from these localities (nos. 12-148) and from an examination of Table II it is clear that the great proportion of this material (97 pots out of 131 or 74 per cent of the whole) came from BXIII in the vicinity of the group of four post structures F-J (fig. 13).

TABLE II: DISTRIBUTION OF WARES BETWEEN TRENCHES
The figures relate to the numbers of sherds recovered

TRENCH	WARE A	WARE B	WARE C	WARE D	WARE E	TOTAL NO. OF SHERDS	MINIMUM NO. OF POTS
BIII	6	2	2	43	—	53	2
BIV	10	—	—	54	7	71	2
BVI	8	—	—	84	—	92	4
BX	8	—	—	20	—	28	1
BXI	54	—	4	275	—	333	8
BXII	17	17	17	408	—	459	14
BXIII	328	79	78	1,051	52	1,588	97
BXIV	30	—	14	103	—	147	3
Totals	461	98	115	2,038	59	2,771	131

The main ceramic types are as follows:

1. Jars of bipartite form with flattened lip and rounded shoulder which are only rarely decorated with finger-tip impressions and heavy finger finishing below the rim (nos. 12-45).
2. Bowls with upstanding or slightly everted rim and rounded or slack shoulder which are only rarely decorated with finger-tip or finger-nail impressions (nos. 46-68, 127-8, 132-6).

Of the 131 pots, 30 per cent are jars and 21 per cent belong to the bowl category, whilst 49 per cent are represented by rims from bowls and jars of unknown type. Decoration is extremely rare and confined to finger-tip or finger-nail impressions along the top of the lip or the shoulder (nos. 18, 23, 25, 54, 59, 127-8, 137), whilst one base is similarly decorated (no. 139). However, only nine pots or 7 per cent of the total are treated in this way. Haematite coating of the fabric seems to be absent and there is a similar lack of any grooved or incised decoration.

12. Jar of bipartite form of Ware A with straight everted rim (BXIII, (3)).
13. Jar of bipartite form of Ware A with upright concave neck (BXIII, (3)).
14. Jar of bipartite form of Ware A with upright neck and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
15. Jar of bipartite form with rounded shoulder of Ware D with upright rim and simple lip. Traces of finger finishing below the rim (BXIII, (3)).

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16. Jar of bipartite form of Ware A with slack shoulder, short upright neck and flattened rim (BXIII, (3)).
17. Bipartite jar of Ware A with slack shoulder, upright neck and flattened lip. Traces of finger finishing below the rim (BXIII, (3)).
18. Bipartite jar of Ware D with slack shoulder, upright neck and finger-tip impressions along the top of the lip (BXIII, (3)).
19. Bipartite jar of Ware D – with vestigial shoulder, upright neck and simple lip (BXIII, (3)).
20. Straight-sided jar of Ware B with straight everted neck and simple lip. Traces of finger finishing below the rim (BXIII, (3)).
21. Straight-sided jar of Ware D with straight upright neck and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
22. Bipartite jar of Ware D with upright neck and simple lip (BXIII, (3)).
23. Bipartite jar of Ware D with upright, slightly concave neck. The well pronounced shoulder is defined by a row of finger-tip impressions and finger-nail impressions decorate the top of the lip (BXIII, (3)).

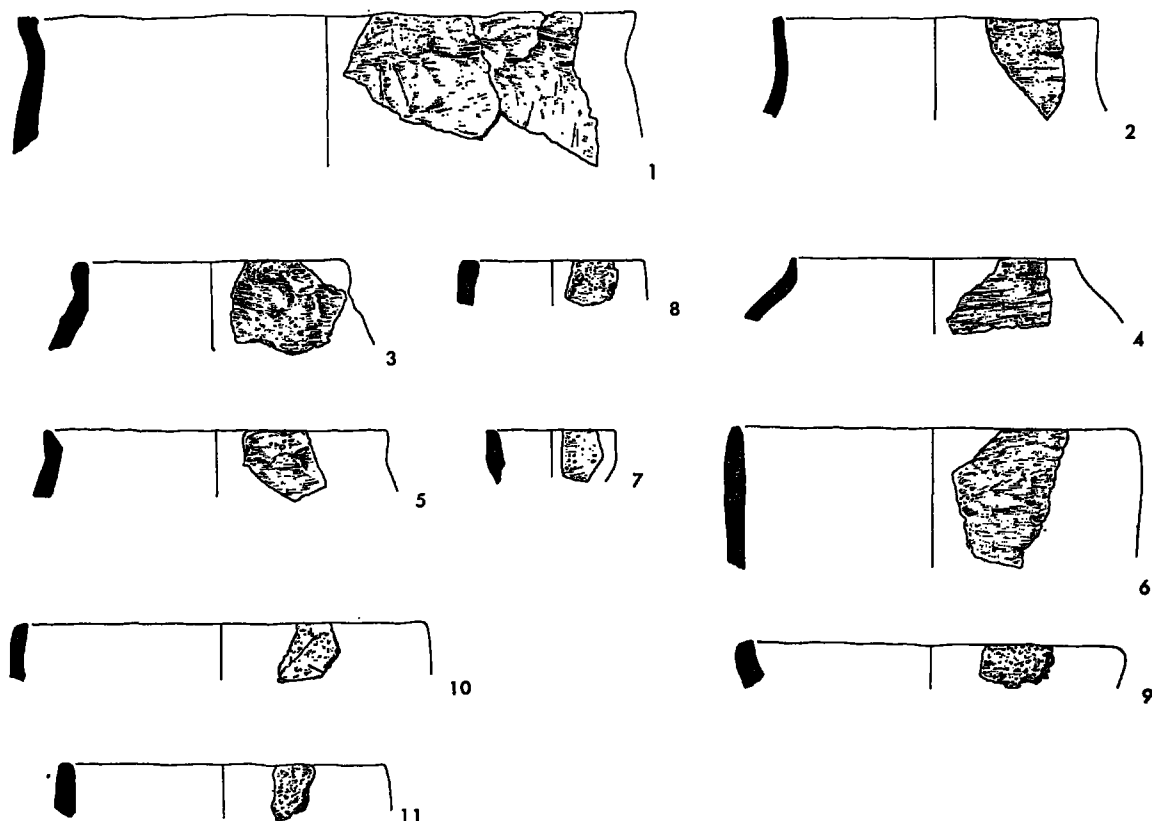


Fig. 14. Balksbury Camp. Iron Age pottery. Scale 1/4.

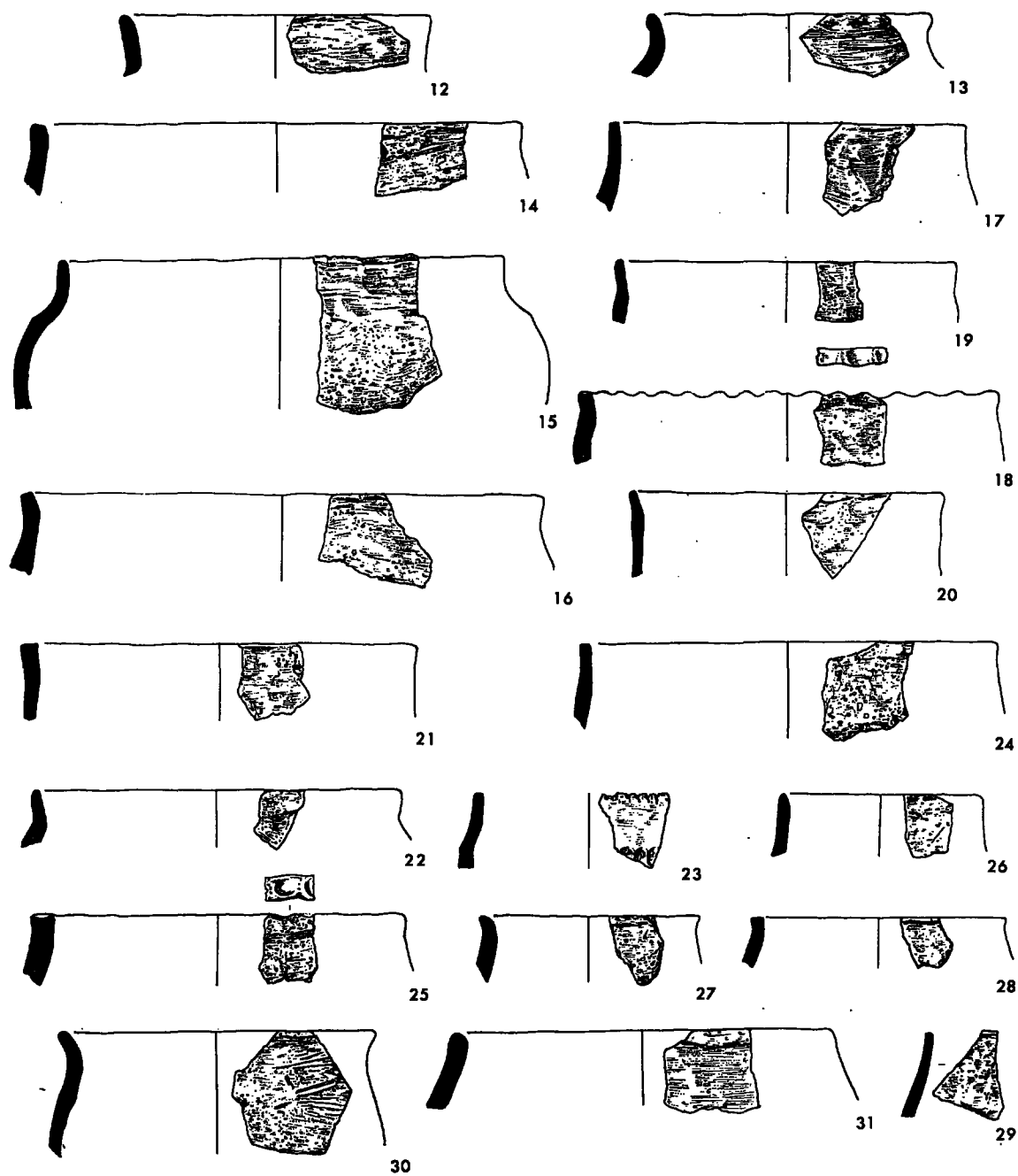


Fig. 15. Balksbury Camp. Iron Age pottery. Scale 1/4.

24. Bipartite jar of Ware A with upright neck and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
25. Bipartite jar of Ware A with upright neck and the top of the lip decorated with finger-tip impressions (BXIII, (3)).
26. Bipartite jar of Ware E with upright neck and simple lip (BXIII, (3)).
27. Bipartite jar of Ware D with everted lip (BXIII, (3)).
28. Bipartite jar of Ware D with short upright neck and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
29. Bipartite jar of Ware B with an upright, slightly concave neck and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
30. Jar of Ware D with slack shoulder and simple everted rim (BXIII, (3)).
31. Bipartite jar of Ware C with a straight neck and simple lip (BXIII, (3)).
32. Bipartite jar of Ware D with a short upright neck and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
33. Bipartite jar of Ware D with straight neck and simple lip. Not drawn. (BXIII, (3)).
34. Jar of Ware D with simple everted rim (BXIII, (3)).
35. Bipartite jar of Ware D with upright, slightly concave neck and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
36. Bipartite jar of Ware D with upright, slightly concave neck and flattened lip. Heavy finger finishing below the rim (BXIII, (3)).
37. Bipartite jar of Ware D with upright neck, slack shoulder and flattened lip. Heavy finger finishing below the rim. Not drawn. (BXIII, (3)).
38. Bipartite jar of Ware D with upright, slightly concave neck and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
39. Straight-sided jar of Ware D with simple rim (BXI, (3)).
40. Bipartite jar of Ware D with concave neck and flattened rim (BXI, (3)).
41. Bipartite jar of Ware D with upright concave neck and flattened lip. Heavy finger finishing below the rim (BVI, hearth).
42. Jar of Ware D with concave neck and simple rim. At least three vertically perforated strap-lugs are sited below the shoulder (BIV, hearth).
43. Bipartite jar of Ware D with upright neck and simple lip (BXIV, (3)).
44. Bipartite jar of Ware D with concave neck and simple lip (BXII, (3)).
45. Bipartite jar of Ware D with concave neck and simple lip (BVI, hearth).
46. Bowl of Ware B with slightly beaded rim (BXIII, (3)).
47. Bowl of Ware D with everted rim and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
48. Bowl of Ware C with upright neck and internally bevelled rim (BXIII, (3)).
49. Bowl of Ware C with slightly beaded rim (BXIII, (3)).
50. Bowl of Ware D with thin everted rim (BXIII, (3)).
51. Bowl of Ware B with a rounded shoulder and upright pointed rim (BXIII, (3)).
52. Straight-sided bowl of Ware D with a flat lip and finger finishing below the rim (BXIII, (3)).
53. Straight-sided bowl of Ware E with short everted rim (BXIII, (3)).
54. Straight-sided bowl of Ware D with beaded lip, decorated externally with finger-nail incisions (BXIII, (3)).
55. Bowl of Ware D with rounded shoulder and flattened lip (BXIII, (3)).
56. Bowl of Ware D with simple rim (BXIII, (3)).
57. Bowl of Ware D with a simple upright rim (BXIII, (3)).

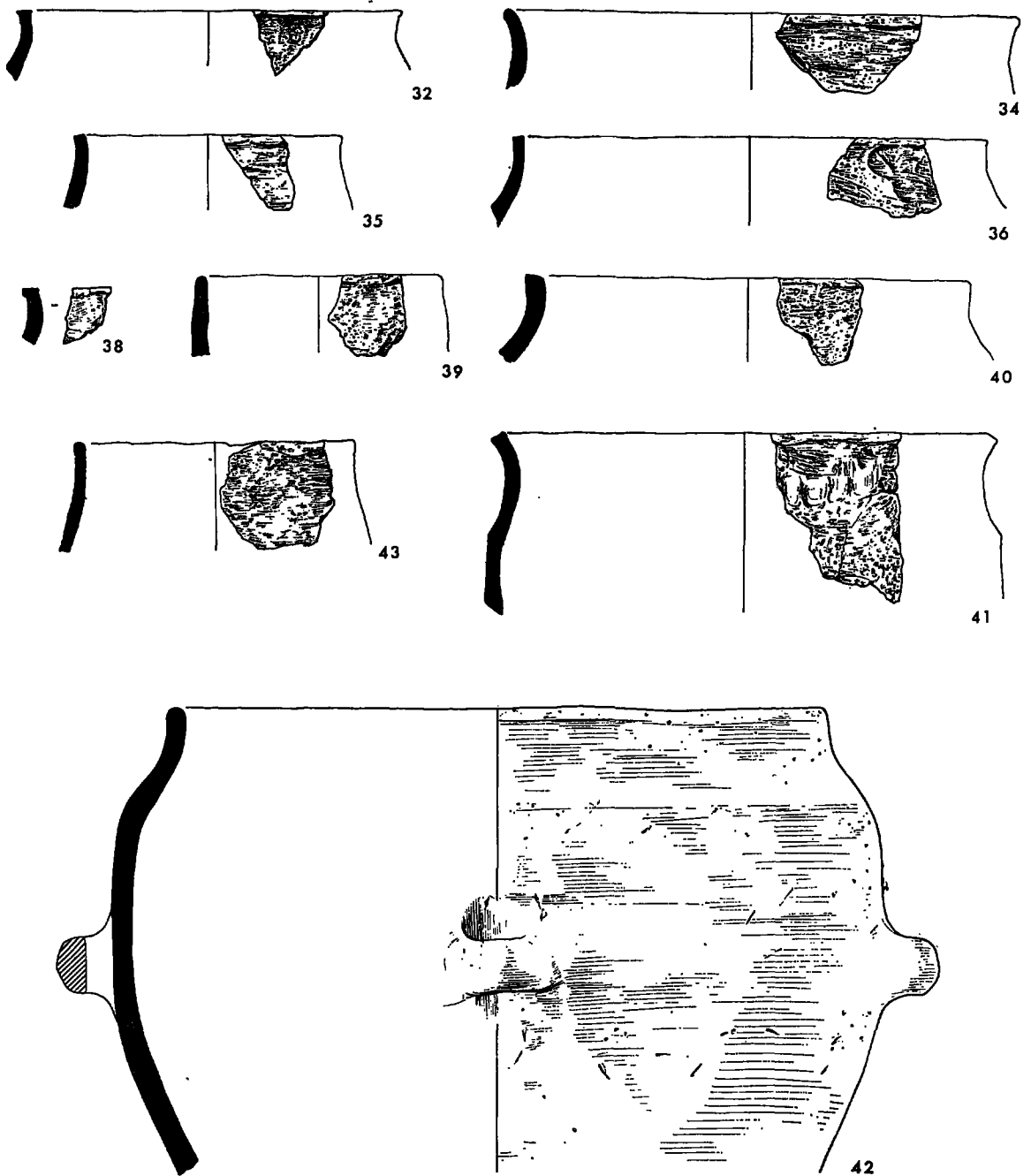


Fig. 16. Balksbury Camp. Iron Age pottery. Scale 1/4.

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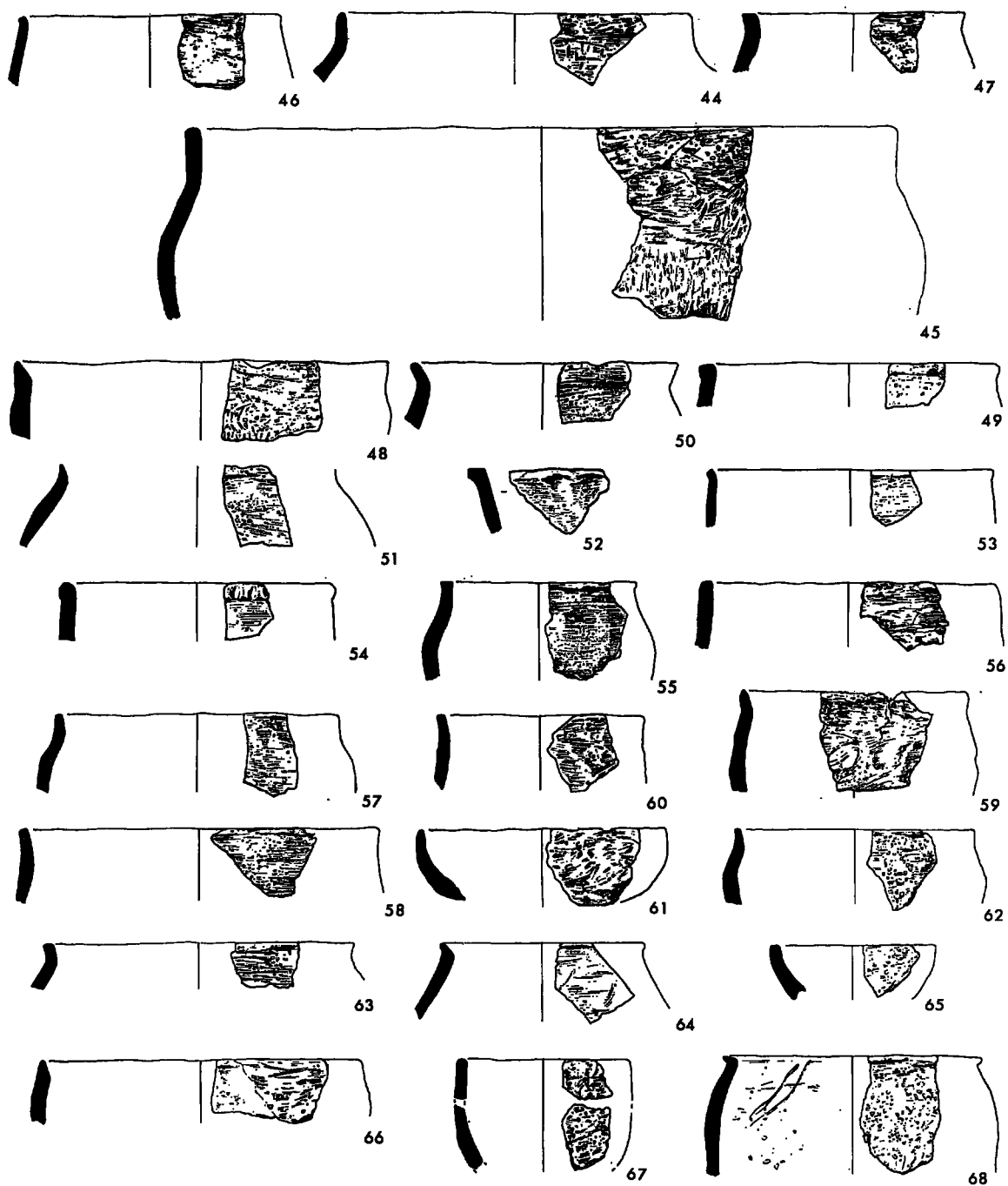


Fig. 17. Balksbury Camp. Iron Age pottery. Scale 1/4.



Fig. 18. Balksbury Camp. Iron Age pottery. Scale 1/4.

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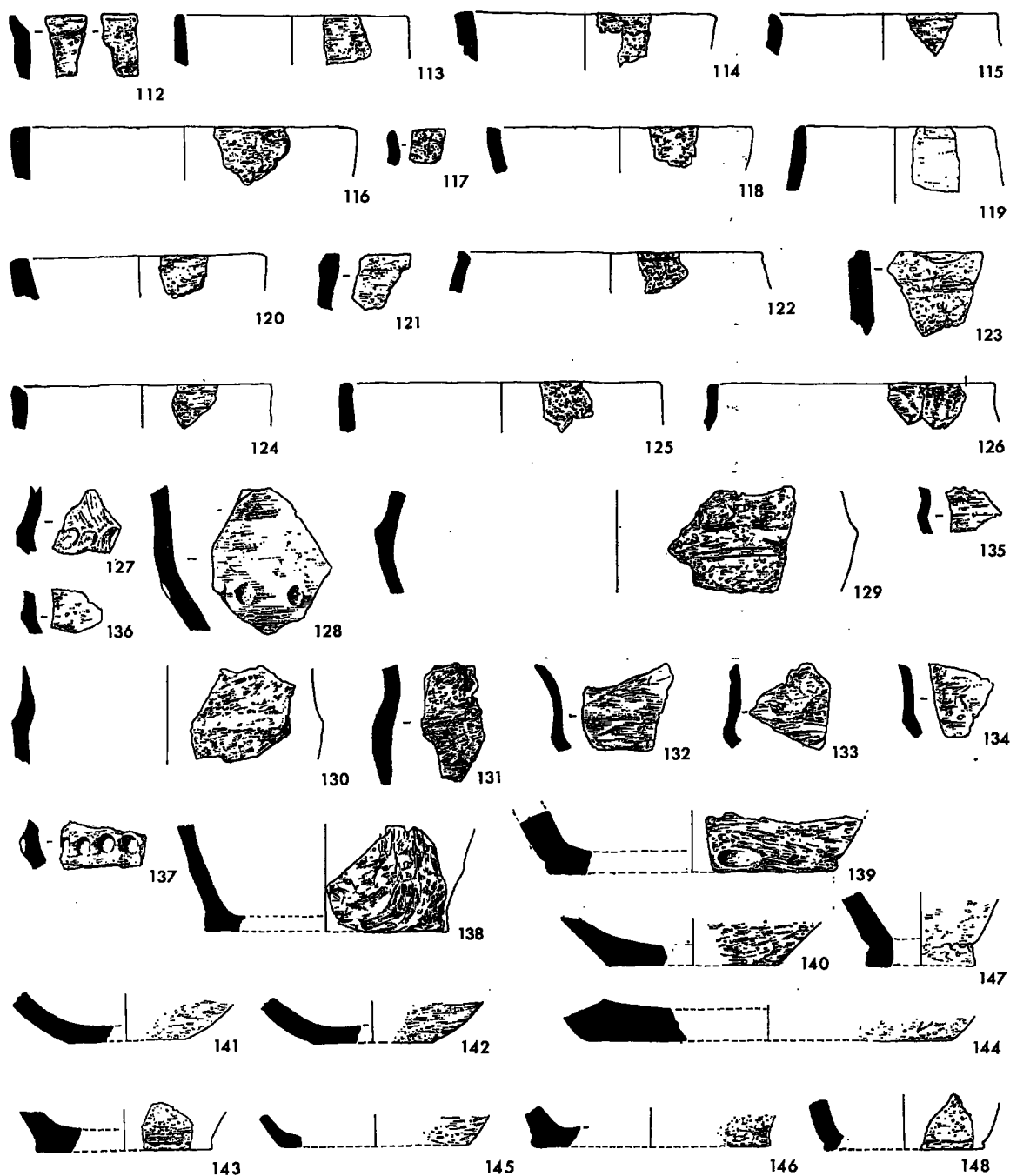


Fig. 19. Balksbury Camp. Iron Age pottery. Scale 1/4.

58. Bowl of Ware D with simple, slightly everted, rim (BXIII, (3)).
59. Bowl of Ware A with simple everted rim and slack shoulder which is decorated externally with shallow finger impressions (BXIII, (3)).
60. Bowl of Ware D with simple, slightly everted, rim (BXIII, (3)).
61. Shallow bowl or dish of Ware D (BXIV, (3)).
62. Bowl of Ware A with weak shoulder and upright pointed rim (BXII, (3)).
63. Bowl of Ware C with simple, slightly everted, rim (BXII, (3)).
64. Bowl of Ware B with short everted rim (BXII, (3)).
65. Undecorated cup of Ware D (BXII, (3)).
66. Bowl of Ware D with pointed rim (BVI, hearth).
67. Small bowl of Ware D with simple, slightly thickened, rim (BIV, (2)).
68. Bowl of Ware A with weak shoulder and flattened lip (BX, (3)).
- 69-126. Rim sherds from plain bowls and jars of unknown type (69-112, BXIII, (3); 113-120, BXII, (3); 121-124, BXI, (3); 125, BXIV, (3); 126, BVI, hearth).
127. Shoulder sherd of Ware D decorated externally with finger-tip impressions (BXII, (3)).
128. Shoulder sherd from a bipartite jar of Ware D decorated externally with finger-tip impressions (BXIII, (3)).
- 129-131. Undecorated shoulder sherds of bipartite jars (BXIII, (3)).
- 132-136. Undecorated shoulder sherds from carinated bowls (BXIII, (3)).
137. Shoulder sherd of Ware D decorated externally with finger-tip impressions (BXIII, (3)).
- 138-148. Base sherds of jars and bowls of Ware D. No. 139 is decorated externally with finger-tip impressions (138-144, BXIII, (3); 145-146, BXI, (3); 147-148, BXIV, (3)).

THE FLINTS

Neolithic

No implements were recorded from the Neolithic hearths in BX and artefacts were confined to 11 flakes from each of two of the four hearths. However, two artefacts from the ploughsoil in the interior may on typological grounds be associated with this occupation. These are a bifacially worked flint axe (no. 149) and a transverse arrowhead of Class A (no. 150).

149. A bifacially worked flint axe patinated a matt white (BXII, (2)).

150. A transverse arrowhead belonging to Class A of the typological scheme evolved by Professor Clark (1934, 37-40).

Phase I

The flint artefacts were scattered on the surface of the fossil soil beneath the successive banks (layer no. (9)) and sealed by material of Banks II and III (layers nos. (5) and (7)). They were therefore in the same stratigraphical position as the pottery assigned to Phase I.

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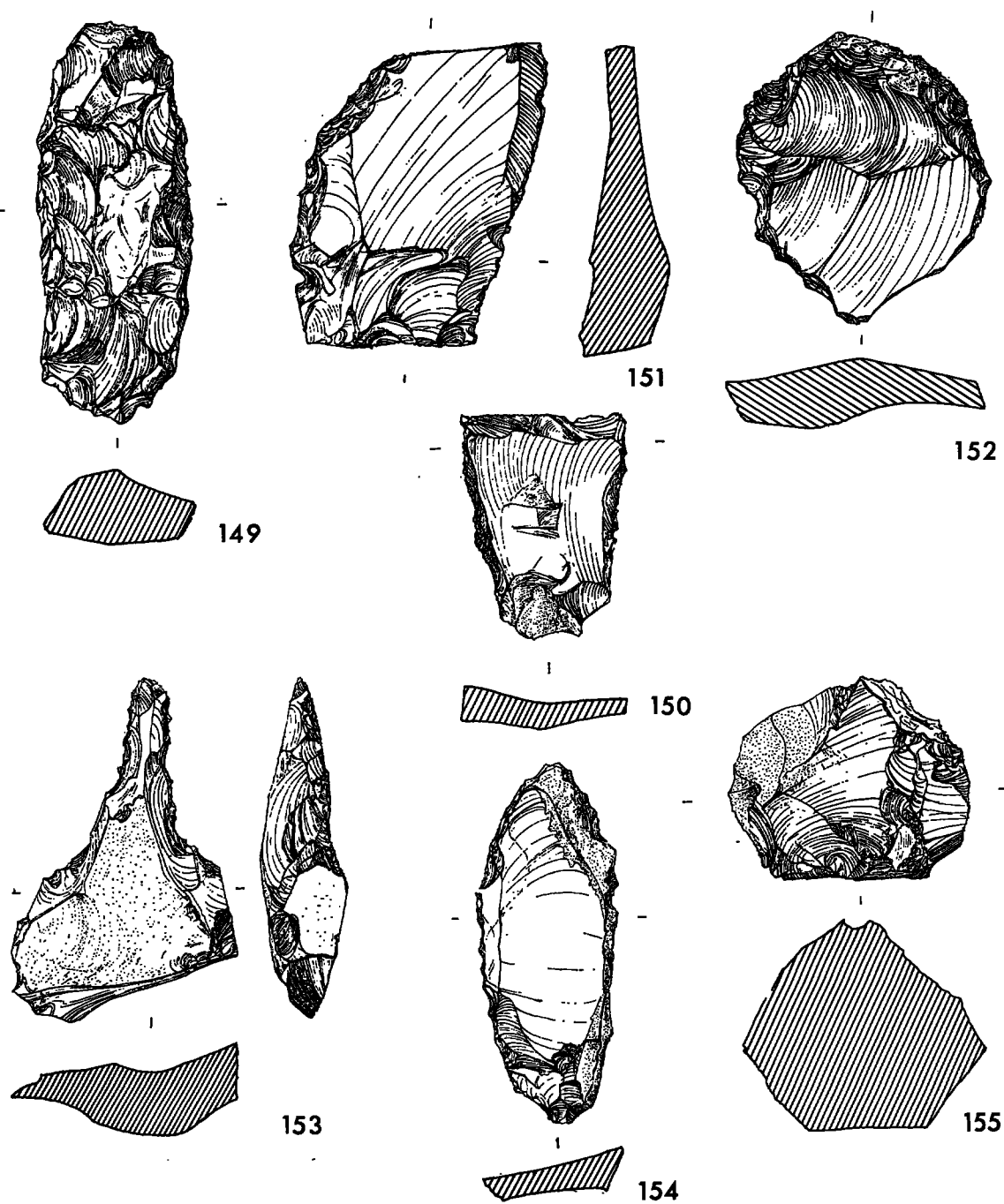


Fig. 20. Balksbury Camp. Flint implements. Scale: 149, 1/2; 150-5, 1/1.

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TABLE III: DISTRIBUTION OF PHASE I FLINT ARTEFACTS

TRENCH	FLAKES	CORES	SCRAPERS	TOTALS
BI	18	1	1	20
BII	58	—	—	58
BXII	49	1	—	50
Totals	125	2	1	128

Of the 128 artefacts, 125 are waste flakes whilst two are single-platform cores and the only implement is a side-scraper (no. 151).

151. One side-scraper or a broken flake with flat retouch along one edge (BI, (7)-(9)).

Phase III

As in the case of the pottery, the flint artefacts were recovered principally from the accumulation of human refuse to the rear of Bank III (layer no. (3)), although a thin scatter was obtained from the ploughsoil hearth in the interior of the hill-fort.

TABLE IV: DISTRIBUTION OF PHASE III FLINT ARTEFACTS

TRENCH	FLAKES	CORES	IMPLEMENTS	TOTALS
BI	12	1	—	13
BII	11	—	—	11
BIII	22	—	—	22
BIV	15	—	—	15
BV	1	—	—	1
BVI	4	—	—	4
BX	16	1	—	17
BXI	289	3	—	292
BXII	237	3	2	242
BXIII	315	5	3	323
BXIV	62	1	—	63
Totals	984	14	5	1,003

Of the 1,003 artefacts only five or .5 per cent of the total are recognisable implements and this is a very low percentage. The implements include three short end-scrappers (no. 152), an awl (no. 153), and a fabricator (no. 154). The cores are principally of single platform type (no. 155), the remainder being multi-directional or unclassifiable. In addition a high proportion of the flakes possess intermittent edge retouch.

152. An end-scraper on a short flake (BXIII, (3)).

153. An awl or a large flake which retains cortex on its upper surface (BXIII, (3)).

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154. A fabricator on a flat flake with marks of utilisation at its tip (BXIII, (3)).
155. A single platform core with flakes removed around the greater part of its perimeter (BXIII, (3)).

BONE OBJECTS

Phase III

Two bone pins and a bone awl were recovered from deposits of Phase III.

156. A bone awl much worn at its tip (BXIV, (3)).

157. A polished bone pin with a simple head (BXIII, (3)).

Not drawn A second bone pin, rather fragmentary (BXIII, (3)).

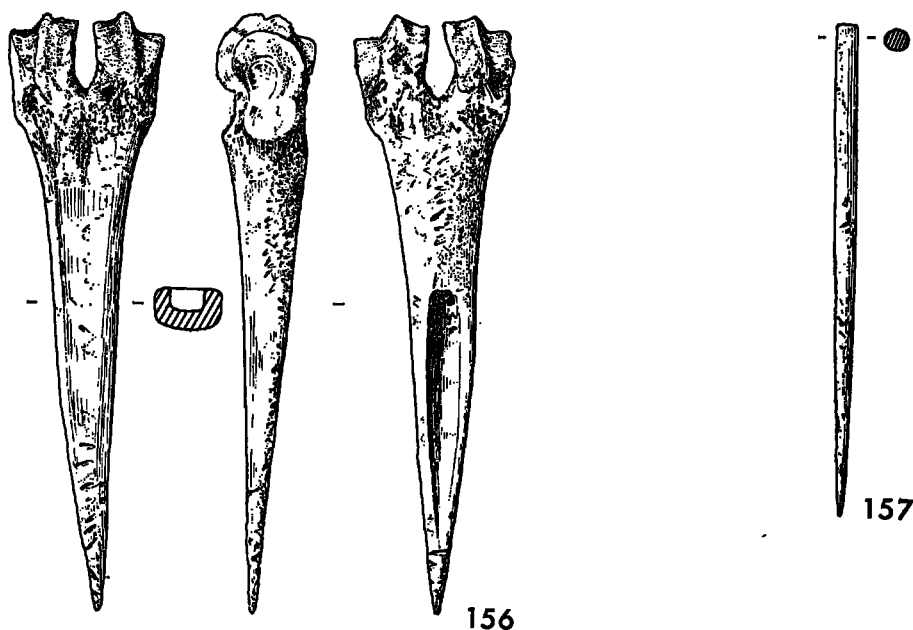


Fig. 21. Baulsbury Camp. Small objects. Scale 1/2.

METAL

A small lump of copper or bronze slag was recorded from Phase III deposits to the rear of the bank in BXIII (layer no. (3)).

THE GENERAL DISCUSSION

A feature of the Baulsbury excavations is the large scale on which they were conducted and the extensive areas of the interior which it was possible to clear with the use of machinery. It is widely recognised that in the past hill-fort excavations have tended to concentrate excessively on sections through the defences which, when dug by hand, are expensive in terms of labour. The result is that excavations in the interior of hill-forts have not been very extensive and in the lowland zone, where structures were of timber, very little is known of the internal organisation of these fortifications. It is

therefore of some interest to have even the negative evidence from Balksbury, that despite the extensive internal excavations only slight timber structures, not necessarily of a domestic character, were found in the lee of the rampart, whilst the only indication of occupation elsewhere was the occasional hearth.

However, one cannot assume from the absence of structures in these excavations either that the hill-fort was not permanently occupied or that the remains of domestic buildings do not occur in the 40 acres or so which remain unexplored. The author has drawn attention to a small group of large univallate hill-forts in excess of 60 acres in southern England of which 50 per cent occur in the Cotswolds (Wainwright, 1967, 56-57). The slight dating evidence and techniques of rampart construction suggest an Early Iron Age date for this series, whilst their large size and lack of internal buildings imply their use as stock enclosures. However, it must be stressed that very little internal excavation has been performed within hill-forts of this group and one is not likely to obtain a satisfactory answer to this problem until a 60 acre hill-fort has been entirely excavated. It seems unlikely, however, that Balksbury is to be assigned to this group as it is comparatively of modest size and the quantity of human debris and the timber structures within the rampart would seem to preclude its sole use as a stock enclosure.

Indeed, the excavations within Balksbury Camp do not prove or disprove theories concerning the use of univallate hill-forts. They do emphasise, however, that the only way which these problems will be resolved is by the total excavation of a hill-fort such as Balksbury, for only then will one be certain that all the evidence has been obtained. In addition, the necessity of excavating a number of cuttings through the defences has already been emphasised. In a sense this negates what has been stated above concerning the need for more extensive internal excavation but a number of such trenches can be excavated by machinery with no loss of knowledge and a great saving in time and money.

The age of Balksbury relative to Bury Hill, half a mile to the south across the valley of the River Anna, is of some interest (fig. 6). As established by the excavations of Professor Hawkes in 1939, Bury Hill was built in three stages:

Bury Hill I: An univallate contour fort of 22 acres which produced a very little pottery of Early Iron Age type including a scrap of haematite coated ware from beneath the rampart. It was a short-lived fortification which according to Hawkes was built in response to hypothetical La Tène invasions of about 250 B.C., in company with forts such as Quarley Hill, Figsbury Rings, Ladle Hill and St. Catherine's Hill, as well as forts on the Sussex Downs such as The Trundle, Cissbury and Hollingbury.

Bury Hill II: A bivallate fort enclosing $11\frac{3}{4}$ acres within the area of Bury Hill I and impinging on its rampart in the south-east and east and sharing its one entrance in the south-east. It was suggested that the building of the fort took place around 50 B.C., the pottery differing from that of the preceding phase by virtue of its superior fabric. The sherds of 20 vessels include some bead-rims.

Bury Hill III: Some repairs were carried out to the rampart and the entrance was re-conditioned in 20-15 B.C. during an intensive settlement by the Belgae, which continued beyond the Roman Conquest with a gradual romanisation of its culture

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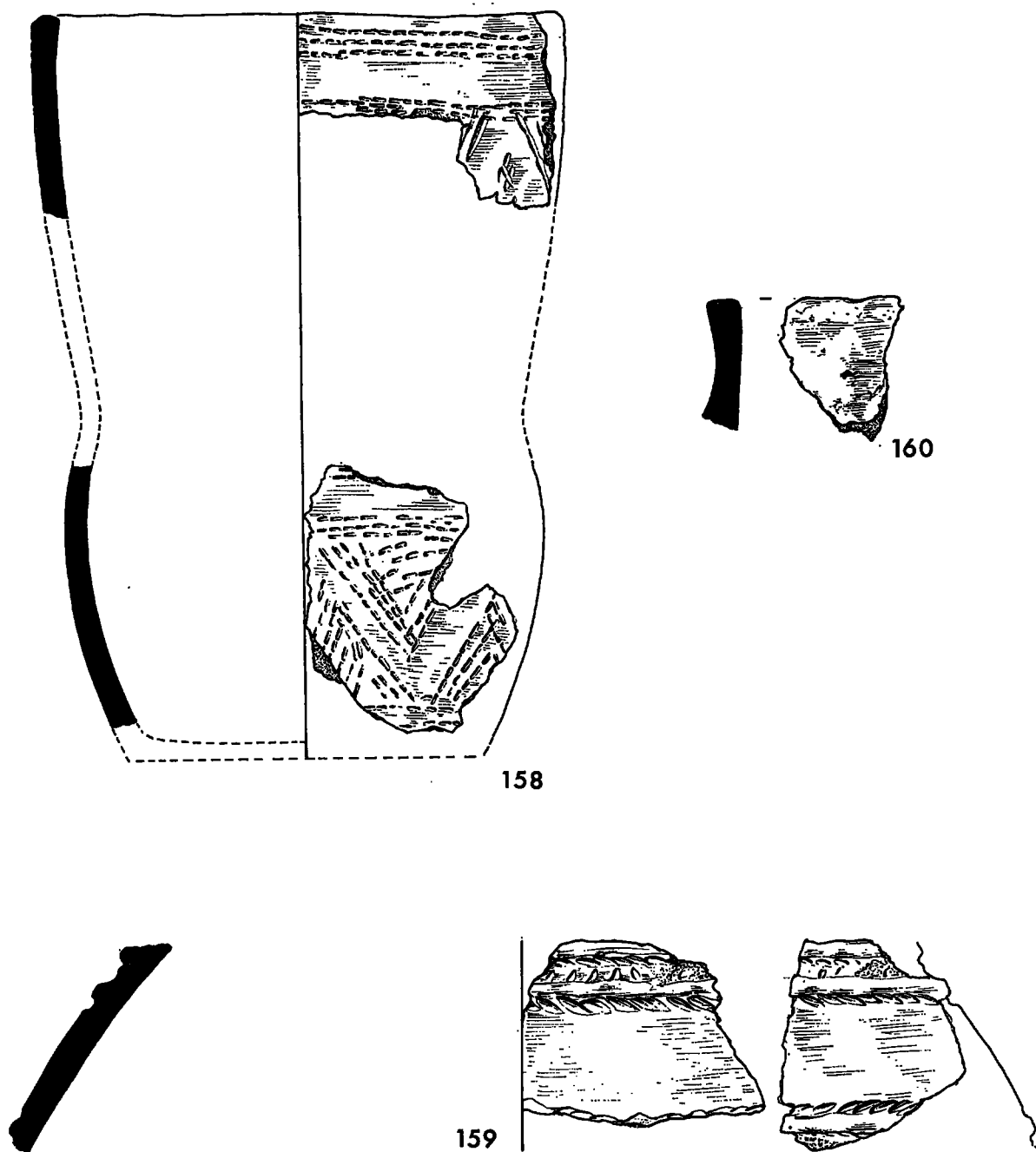


Fig. 22. Balksbury Camp. Bronze Age pottery. Scale 1/2.

until A.D. 70-75. The material includes wheel-made pottery with predominantly bead-rims together with pedestal bases and Gallo-Belgic types.

In terms of structural similarities Baulsbury is clearly to be associated with Bury Hill I - both are univallate forts with simple 'dump' ramparts, and although the Bury Hill fort is smaller this is due to topographical factors. Owing to the dearth of finds from Bury Hill I very few comparisons can be made in this respect. Sherds of 16 vessels were found (Hawkes, C. F. C., 1940, 324-6, fig. 13, 1-5) which did not include any rims and only a few shoulders. However, the fabric is similar and there is no reason to suppose that if more material had been obtained from Bury Hill I that it would not have been comparable to that from Baulsbury. However, unlike Bury Hill, Baulsbury was not converted into a bivallate fortification nor re-occupied in the first century B.C. It was abandoned and settlement was transferred south across the river.

Both Bury Hill I and Baulsbury can be compared structurally with excavated hill-forts elsewhere in the area, notably Quarley Hill where a simple dump rampart enclosed an area of 8.5 acres (Hawkes, 1939) and St. Catherine's Hill which also possessed a dump rampart with no internal timber revetment. The pottery from St. Catherine's Hill is not particularly diagnostic but that from Quarley includes haematite coated bowls and bowls with foot-rings as well as coarser jars. Unless they can be explained by differences in the character of the respective hill-fort occupations, the presence of the finer wares at Quarley and their absence at Baulsbury should indicate a difference in age between the two hill-forts despite their superficial similarities in rampart construction. However, information concerning cultural groupings amongst Early Iron Age communities in the area is as yet too slight to permit such deductions to be made with any degree of certainty. Nevertheless, solely in terms of rampart types, the absence of the timber 'box' or Preist type in the area of the Test and Itchen valleys is noteworthy.

As a group the pottery from Baulsbury is not distinguished by any bowls in fine wares with omphalos bases or foot-rings and sharp shoulders decorated with incised geometric pattern or grooved lines, which distinguish the mature Early Iron Age ceramic groups in southern England. The main types are essentially jars with rounded or slack shoulders and flattened lips, which are rarely decorated with finger-nail or finger-tip impressions, and bowls in similarly coarse fabrics with upright or slightly everted rims and rounded shoulders, which are also rarely decorated with finger-tip or finger-nail impressions. The bases of both jars and bowls are invariably flat with no foot-rings or omphaloid forms. Furthermore there appears to be virtually a complete absence of the technique of haematite coating.

To find similar ceramic traditions it is necessary to turn to what Professor Cunliffe has defined as the West Harling group (Cunliffe, 1968, 175-7; Clarke and Fell, 1953). This group, which is distributed along the east coast of England from Yorkshire to Kent, is characterised above all by jars and bowls in an indigenous coarse ware tradition decorated only rarely with finger-tip and nail impressions. The technique of haematite coating is also only rarely found in the West Harling tradition and in these general aspects the comparisons with the Baulsbury series are quite close. In some points of detail, however, notably the absence at Baulsbury of bowls with sharp shoulders, differences do occur. The West Harling group is dated by metal associations at Staple

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Howe to the sixth century B.C., additional evidence being provided by the radiocarbon determination of 530 ± 150 B.C. (BM-63).³

South and west of Balksbury there is some evidence that the lack of haematite coating might be an early feature. The assemblage from Bindon Hill in Dorset does not include one scrap of haematite coated ware but yet is related more to the Kimmeridge II group as defined by Cunliffe (with Phillipson 1968, 235) than to any other. The ceramic style of this group includes the extensive use of haematite and Cunliffe suggests that the lack of this technique at Bindon may be explained by this site lying at the very beginning of the Kimmeridge II series before the use of haematite coating had evolved.

A similar argument may be applied to the material from Balksbury, particularly as the Kimmeridge assemblage is a variant of other Early Iron Age groups, including the West Harling group, which have a predominantly coastal distribution around Southern and Eastern England. Cunliffe assigns the Kimmeridge II assemblage to the sixth and fifth centuries B.C. on the grounds of distinctive bowls of the group which are found at Staple Howe along with bronzes of the sixth century B.C. A date early in the sixth century B.C. may therefore be suggested for Balksbury as for Bindon Hill on the basis of the stylistic arguments which have been outlined above.

APPENDIX I

THE ANIMAL REMAINS FROM BALKSBURY CAMP

By R. HARGOURT

The total number of identifiable specimens was 210 and the species present, with the minimum number of individuals of each shown in brackets, were cattle (4), sheep (6), pig (2), horse (2), dog (3) and red deer (2). There was in addition one lower third molar which was probably from wild boar and one canid mandible which might be wolf.

*Cattle*⁴

The measurable specimens were:

Humerus – distal width 63 (1)

Radius – proximal width 64 (1)

Metacarpal – t.l. 179, p.w. 49, m.s.d. 27, d.w. 52. Ht. 107 cm. (42 ins.)

Calcaneum – total length 126 (1)

Tibia – distal width 47–50 (2)

Astragalus – lateral length 58–61 (3)

Prox. Phalanges – p.w. 22–28 (5)

Lower Third Molar – length 40

Measurements are in millimetres and extremities of bones are measured across articular surfaces. Shoulder height is derived by the method of Fock (1966).

These dimensions are typical of the small Iron Age cattle (Harcourt, in prep.), although the 40 mm. lower third molar is unusually large and was perhaps that of a bull.

³ Revised according to the most recent half-life of 5730.

⁴ t.l. = total length; p.w. = proximal width; m.s.d. = mid shaft diameter; d.w. = distal width. The numbers in brackets indicate the number of specimens measured.

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Sheep

The measurable bones indicated small slender animals.

Humerus - d.w. 25-28 (6)

Radius - p.w. 24-26 (5)

Tibia - d.w. 20 (1)

Metacarpal - t.l. 117, p.w. 19, m.s.d. 10.

Pig

The total number of specimens was only 25 and they were very fragmented. There were three lower third molars (lengths 30, 32 and 41 mm.). It is possible that the 41 mm. specimen, which was very heavily worn, was from a wild boar. Bones and teeth of wild and domesticated pig are, rightly or wrongly, distinguished by size but there is considerable overlap in the dimensions. Clason (1967, 63) in her study of the prehistoric fauna of Holland, regards any lower third molar of more than 40 mm. as being that of wild boar.

Horse

The only complete long bone, out of a total of 19 specimens, indicates an animal of about 13 hands, about the usual size for Iron Age ponies (Harcourt, in prep.).

The measurable specimens were:

	t.l.	p.w.	m.s.d.	d.w.
Radius	306	69	33	58
	—	—	—	54
Tibia	—	—	—	50
Prox. Phalanx	79	51	31	39

Dog/Wolf

There were only three canid specimens, all mandibles.

The dimensions were:

Length of tooth-row	76	—	86
Length of carnassial	23	22	25

The two smaller mandibles are similar to others from the Iron Age and are definitely of dog but the biggest was markedly larger and falls within the size range of the wolf. In the absence of the skull, large dog and wolf, particularly early dogs, many of which may well have been part wolf anyway, are not easy to distinguish. The teeth showed a slight degree of crowding which is a characteristic of the domestic dog, but as it is not known to what extent this feature is present in wolves this was no help (Clutton-Brock, 1963, 269).

Red Deer provided only eight scrappy specimens.

Pathology

The proximal articular surface of a bovine metatarsal showed deep erosion and pitting and the anterior portion bulged outwards. This is a fairly common site for inflammatory lesions of this sort but in this case had possibly not been present for long because no fusion had occurred with the adjacent tarsal bone.

Discussion

The horse is often well represented on Iron Age sites and it has been suggested that during this period it was not necessarily fully domesticated but at least feral and that, from time to time, round-ups took place, suitable animals being retained for training and the rest slaughtered for food (Harcourt, in prep.).

THE EXCAVATION OF BALKSBURY CAMP, ANDOVER, HANTS

This may be the explanation of an observation from Grimthorpe, where Jarman and his colleagues (1969, 148), expressing surprise at the prominence of the horse, noted that some were dead by 24 months of age and suggested that they were not solely draught animals. Presumably the number of such horses was more than could reasonably be explained by the bones in question being those of animals which had died a natural death, a category for which allowance must always be made especially on a farm as opposed to an urban or ritual site.

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