

Archæological Notes

Cave Lion from Goatchurch Cavern, Burrington Combe, Somerset. In 1962 an incisor tooth of cave lion was found on the spoil heap left by Boyd Dawkins and Sanford (1865) in the Dining Chamber at the head of The Traverse (*Fig. 6*, p. 33). This is a new species from this cave. Cave lion might have been expected to occur here in view of the other fauna from this particular part of the cave (Baker, 1924; Browne, 1925). See also p. 32.

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Sun Hole Cave, Cheddar, Somerset. Pleistocene Fauna. There have been several reports on the Pleistocene fauna from this cave (Davies, 1955; Jackson, 1955; Tratman, 1955; Bramwell, 1957). The material has recently been re-examined by Dr. R. J. G. Savage, who has identified two additional species from the 6th-ft. level of the Pleistocene, namely beaver and wild cat. In view of the variety of the reports a recapitulation seems necessary. Briefly, the remains from the Pleistocene levels were very scanty. The richest level was the 6th ft. Remains ceased to occur altogether below the 7th ft. and down to the 18th ft., the bottom of the sounding. Down to the 8th ft. the deposits were a solifluction deposit of angular gravel with comparatively little admixture of fine earth. The 8th ft. marked a fairly abrupt transition to a deposit with a considerable content of fine red earth, and the relative quantities of this increased fairly evenly with increasing depth.

Man was represented in the 5th ft. by a canine tooth of an old adult and a radius of a younger individual. Flint implements of Creswellian, now called Cheddarian (Bohmers, 1956, p. 24), type came from the 5th and 6th ft. Though few in number, they were quite typical (Tratman, 1955, p. 69, *Fig. 10*).

The table on the opposite page summarizes the fauna and details will be found in the reports quoted.

The presence of beaver in the 6th ft. shows that there must have been some development of woodlands, at least in the more sheltered valleys, and presumably the reindeer associated in the same layer would be the forest type. The mollusca suggest "a calcareous soil . . . and tall scrub vegetation" (Davies, 1955, p. 71) and the birds conditions with "some bushes and scrubland in sheltered valleys" (Bramwell, 1957, p. 39). Ollier (1955) found a very high proportion of silt grade, 0.1-0.01 mm., particles in soil samples, especially in the 6th ft. This suggests conditions suitable for the development of loess. On the other hand hyæna, mammoth and rhinoceros are all absent. On this evidence it is suggested that from the 8th ft. to the top of the Pleistocene the deposits were formed in late Glacial times from the Allerød Interstadial and on through the Younger Dryas. Most of the deposits, because of the local Cheddarian flint industry in the 5th and 6th ft., must belong to the Younger Dryas stage (cf. ApSimon *et al.*, 1961, p. 102). The fairly abrupt transition in the nature of the deposits at the 8th-ft. level suggests some erosion of an older deposit, but unfortunately there are no faunal remains to assist in dating these lower levels, though they are not likely to go back beyond the Younger Würm. This would be in accordance with the large amount of frost-shattered rock found when the west wall of the cave, near the mouth, was exposed. The shattering was most severe from the 6th to 18th ft. of the excavations. Only the west wall was exposed.

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Burrington Camp, Somerset. An unoccupied site. (O.S. 6 in. to 1 mile, Som. ST 45 N.E., N.G.R. ST 478588.) (*Fig. 3*.) The camp lies on the northward-facing slope of Burrington Ham. Its west side abuts on the east side of Burrington Combe. There are quite a number of references to the camp though only that by Allcroft (1908, p. 582) need be mentioned. He puts the camp into the nondescript group of religious and defensive structures, basing his view on the existence of a ditch inside