

The Tynings Barrow Group—Second Report

BY HERBERT TAYLOR, M.C., M.B., CH.B.

At Tynings Farm on the high limestone plateau south of Blackdown, Mendip's highest point, there stand five barrows about the head of the combe known as Rowberrow or Dock Bottom.¹ They were built in the earlier Middle Bronze Age² and used again as a cemetery in Late Bronze or Hallstatt times. The settlements of their builders have not been identified; some of the neighbouring flint-littered areas may be their camping sites, but the cave habitations seem to be mainly earlier or later. On the other hand traces of the Late Bronze Age folk have been found in several caves and open sites and within about half a mile of the barrows are two small squarish earthworks—Rowberrow and Long Bottom "camps"—such as they were accustomed to build.³

Since the preliminary report⁴ the North, South, East, West and Central Barrows have been numbered T. 10 to T. 14 respectively by Professor Tratman. Their excavation was begun in 1924 by

¹ See survey and sketch map based on O.S. 6 in. map of Somerset, sheet XVIII S.W. Tratman, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 3, No. 1.

² About the second or Early Bronze Period of Phase I of the Bronze Age (Fox, *The Archaeology of the Cambridge Region*, p. 20). Dr. Fox does not claim that his chronology is applicable to burials, since it depends upon bronze and other rare objects. These are yet rarer in settlements. We have therefore adopted the following as a working scheme, based chiefly on pottery. It does seem to express three major events or changes in culture.

1. Early Bronze Phase. The full Beaker Period, distinguished from the Neolithic-with-Beaker by the A and B complexes of Abercrombie and Hawkes and by burial in round barrows and flat cysts, i.e., by fresh waves of immigration (?). Also the contemporary stages of the Food-vessel evolution. Approximately Dr. Fox's Transitional Period of Phase I.
2. Middle Bronze Phase, marked by an apparently complete disappearance of the Beaker ceramic, its replacement (at least in barrows) by food-vessels or pygmy cups and urns apparently derived from them, and the general adoption of cremation, i.e., the swamping of the Beaker element by the descendants of the Neolithic folk (?). Approximately Dr. Fox's Early and Middle Periods, completing Phase I.
3. Late Bronze Phase, that of the invading barrel, bucket, and globular urns and other finger-print ware complexes, and of contemporary native vessels. Dr. Fox's Phase II or Late Bronze Period.

³ O. G. S. Crawford, *Antiquaries' Journal*, Vol. II, No. 1, p. 27 ff.

⁴ R. F. Read, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. II, No. 2.

sinking contiguous pits, in accordance with an agreement to replace the spoil daily. Although stratigraphic records were kept, this method proved so unsatisfactory that little was done until 1930, when the owners, Messrs. Small and Sons, very kindly granted permission for full excavation and an entirely fresh start was made. Since that year T. 10, T. 11 and the greater part of T. 14 have been excavated. The first is described below.

METHOD OF EXCAVATION.

The barrow is staked for convenience in measurement and a plan is made. Next a trench is sunk 6 feet outside the periphery, parallel with a tangent. The nearer side of this trench forms a vertical working face, which is cut back 1 or 2 feet at a time until the whole tumulus has been dug away, together with its surroundings. The face is dug in steps consisting of natural stratigraphic divisions or fractions thereof (p. 72). It extends down to bedrock (which is proved by quarrying) wherever practicable, but where the soil is excessively deep it is carried 3 feet below the natural surface, or more if required to present a clear foot of intact stratified subsoil.⁵ This general plan is modified where necessary so that pits and ditches may be cleared out independently and structural details may be displayed. A watch is kept upon the face and the base of the excavation for these as well as for finds, and they are recorded with the help of plans, sections, and photographs. Needless to say, the parts dug previously are treated as intrusive pits. The material removed is examined closely. Radial trenches are driven outwards in search of a distant ditch or series of holes. Finally the barrow is restored as exactly as possible to its former shape and site, uneven sinking being corrected some months later.

It was satisfactory to find that no object of interest had been overlooked in the early work, and that thanks to the stratigraphic method and records, no information had been lost. Nevertheless the futility of incomplete excavation is well shown, for in three barrows opened by large central pits the following were undiscovered: two eccentric primary interments and four others, two almost barren pits, a mass of burnt logs, two ditches, a stone fence and a kerb.

⁵ Necessary because the "turf lines" beneath these barrows are their discoloured bases and not the vestiges of turf. Their presence does not prove the ground intact. Further, burials have been found apparently hidden in the bedrock.

THE NORTH BARROW, T.10.

SUMMARY.

T. 10 was a composite bowl-barrow without trace of a ditch or burial circle, whether under or around it. Beneath the original earthen mound, dated by coarse overhanging-rim ware and calcined human bone, were three cysts cut in the rock; one contained unburnt non-human bone, burnt limestone and ashy matter, one traces of charcoal, and one a burial by cremation with three pygmy cups, three bone pins, a bone hook, flint, a bead in pottery, and the bones of small animals, all highly burnt. The two latter cysts lay near the periphery and were probably secondary.

In shallow pits in this mound were: (a) An organic residue with flint implements and potsherds, some like the urns but some in coarse ware (Rimbury?); (b) A burnt burial in a finger-printed biconical urn. Covering the earthen barrow was a cap of stones, with a pit (?) which contained another interment in a similar urn.

There was some reason to suspect that preliminary burial or exposure had been practised before cremation. It was found that fragments of flint, pottery, and calcined human bone had been scattered in the stone cap, and in certain pits and almost certainly in the earthen barrow. Thus there were (probably) Middle and Late Bronze Age groups of artefacts. Unburnt bone, not human, was found on the natural surface and in the basal pits.

Two distant pits were not sources of the building material nor apparently connected with the tumulus.

EXCAVATION. Fig. 1.

The whole barrow was dug, bedrock being exposed everywhere and proved by clearing out its innumerable rifts and potholes and by actual quarrying, which led to the discovery of a hidden burial. Radial trenches were driven outwards a further 5 feet but no ditch was found, and the mound was replaced. Later, when T. 11 was shown to be ditched, it was decided to make further search and to look for the holes of a stone or timber circle. In shallow ground adjoining the barrow a pit measuring more than 20 by 35 feet was dug to bedrock, proving that no such structures existed within 66 feet of centre unless either discontinuous or less than 9 inches in depth—the maximum depth of the soil. Three radial trenches were driven where the soil was deep in case the builders had shirked quarrying. All the ground within 66 feet of centre was tested by probing for rock after “boosing,” or sounding with a rammer, had

been tried unsuccessfully on the known ditch of T. 11, and since probing might fail at a stone-filled pit small trenches were dug in doubtful spots. In this way pits Y and Z were found.

So heavy was the soil that more than 1200 hours were spent in the excavation, of which hired labour (always supervised except in rebuilding, etc.) made up 766½ hours.

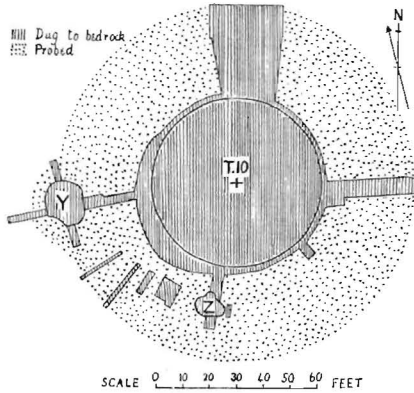


FIG. 1.—The North Barrow, Tynings Farm. Plan showing area probed and dug. The sites of pits Y and Z are marked.

STRUCTURE. Fig. 2.

T. 10 was an earthen bowl-barrow without trace of a ditch, rendered somewhat conical by a cap of stones. Its diameter was about 63 feet, its height 5, but it stood on the lip of a valley and appeared greater. It was undisturbed. The two parts were found to differ greatly in age.

Primary Barrow. Middle Bronze Phase (early stage). A bowl-shaped earthen mound 60 feet or rather less in diameter and 3 feet in height but rising more than 5 above parts of its circumference owing to its position. The section was laminated as if soil of various colours, but all obtainable locally, had been brought in baskets of a couple of gallons or more.⁶ Many tips were of clean red or yellow clayey loam not of superficial origin, containing streaks of the black fossiliferous substance that accumulates upon the decaying rock at the depth of 2 feet or so; thus probably the quarry pits were made as deep as possible, even the stiff subsoil being easier to dig than the thick turf. Here and there were darker brown laminæ conforming

⁶ Cf. Greenwell, *British Barrows*, Introduction.

with the slope of the mound, as if turf had been included (p. 105). These features enabled us to exclude disturbance by man and animals. Although sizeable stones are found almost everywhere in the soil of the neighbourhood there were none in this part of the barrow.

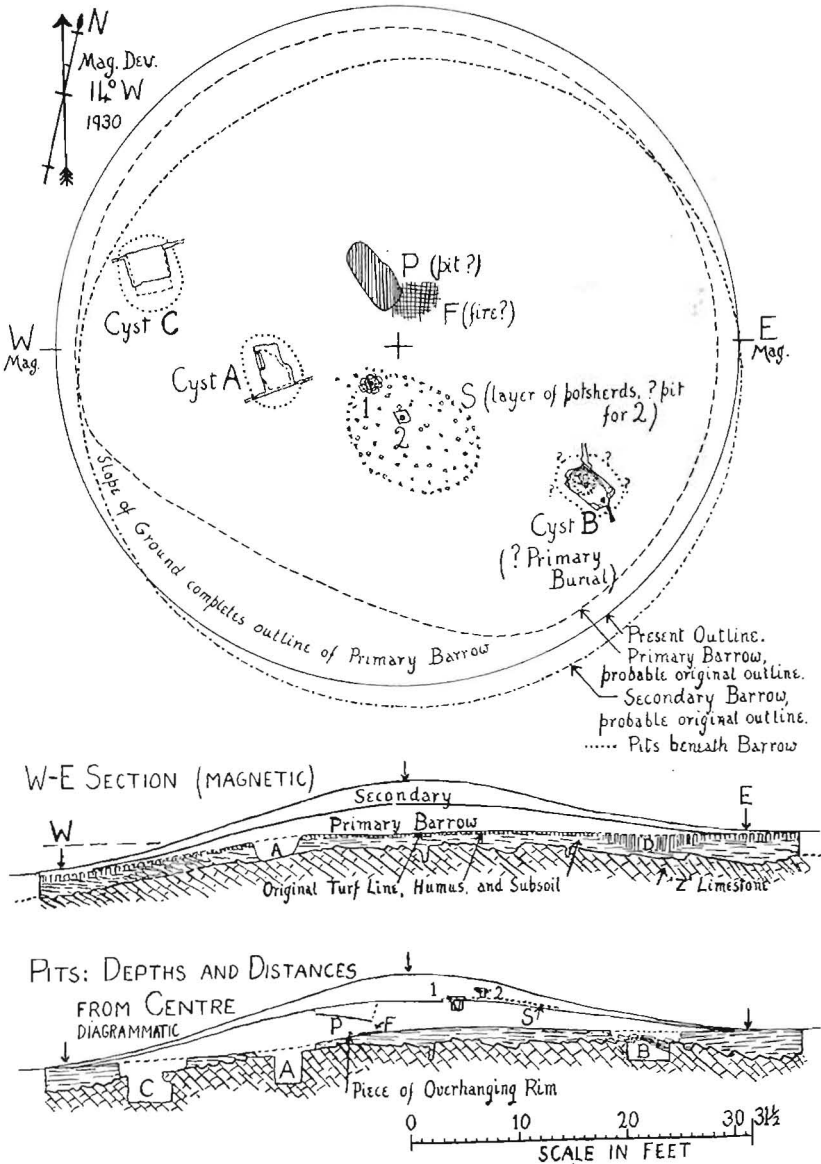


FIG. 2.—Plan and Section of the North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

Secondary Barrow. Late Bronze Phase or possibly Hallstatt. This cap of stones and sandy mould was about 2 feet thick south of the primary centre but was reduced to 6 or 8 inches on the slopes, probably by rolling, for many more or less rounded stones lay scattered beyond the continuous part shown in Fig. 2. Hence the conical profile. Originally it was a cairn, for there were still many air-spaces and the sand seemed to be Old Red Sandstone débris.

About 99 per cent of the stones were abraded fragments of Old Red Sandstone and tertiary conglomerate, the local limestone shale being represented scantily in the west and supplying the capstone of either late secondary interment. There are several deposits of broken limestone nearby, but O.R.S. and conglomerate boulders predominate in the soil and in the stream between the square earth-works and the tumuli.

STRATIFICATION. Fig. 2.

The following was found in the central third :—

1. Turf, 4 to 6 inches.
2. Stones with mould, 2 feet 0 inches, or less. Added after the first of the late secondary interments (1), but perhaps some after the second (2). Contents, Secondary Interment 2 in a pit (?), S; in the base many objects contemporary with the secondary burials; at all depths a little later rubbish.
3. Traces of a "turf line" with calcined bone, charcoal, etc., lying upon the surface of the primary barrow.
4. Mottled loam and clay with brown streaks, 3 feet 0 inches or less. The primary barrow. Contents, Secondary Interment 1 in a small pit; a large shallow pit, P; many objects scattered near the base and a few elsewhere.
5. Brown band, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to 2 inches. The "turf line" upon the natural surface, often hard and like rusted iron. It was a part of the barrow, not of the ancient turf.
6. Yellow loam, 4 to 6 inches. Original humus, of a paler, greyer tint than the soil above and below.
7. An inconstant, faint brown streak.
8. Red and yellow clayey loams, 6 inches to several feet. Subsoil.
9. Limestone shale (Z-beds), in which three cysts had been quarried.

EXTERNAL STRUCTURES.

No trace of interference with the rock or subsoil was found within 66 feet of the centre, twice the radius of the barrow, save

cysts A, B, and C (Fig. 2), and pits Y, Z (Figs. 1, 13, 14). Z was ancient but undateable, Y⁴ probably modern. D, shown in section in Fig. 2, was an ill-defined bowl-shaped patch of loam due probably to some accident of weathering or to the former presence of a bush.

Perhaps for the first time, the presence of any form of enclosure has been excluded as far as practicable; but it must be admitted that excavation cannot show any barrow to have been ditchless unless upon bare rock, for no trace of a very shallow ditch could remain unless it had been filled in with something distinctive, which evidently was not the custom. The fairly accurate plan of most barrows, long and round, does suggest that the ground to be built on was marked out, whether by a shallow cut, by a kerb as in T. 14,⁷ or otherwise. Such a boundary may have served the purpose of a ditch during the burial—for that such a purpose did exist may be inferred from the history of T. 11.⁷

INTERMENTS, CYSTS, PITS, ETC. Fig. 2.

Quarried in the limestone were three cysts, A, B and C. A was made before the barrow; B alone contained human bones, either the primary interment or an early secondary, but like C it was too near the edge for the stratification to be clear. There were two late burnt burials, 1 and 2, each in an urn laid in a pit high in the mound, a third such pit, P, and a hearth, F.

HEARTH F. Fig. 2.

In the early excavations a black lamina was found upon the natural surface approximately at F, which may have been the remains of a fire, but unfortunately the soil changes little when burnt. Its small size and the absence of burnt bone showed that it was not the site of cremation. Actual charcoal was not abundant and the identifiable scraps were probably hazel. (Dr. Skene has kindly examined the charcoal recovered from this barrow. The greater part is small and in bad preservation and except that from Cyst B, all the wood seems to have been small enough to be broken readily by hand).

CYST A. Plate I, a. Fig. 3.

Cyst A, the most nearly central, was situated 12 feet W.S.W. of the apparent centre. It was roughly rectangular, measuring about 4 feet 6 inches by 2 feet 6 inches in plan and 3 feet 6 inches in average depth. The rock had been exposed by an oval pit, the mouth of

⁷ To be published shortly.

which was defined by a gap in the "turf line" about 5 feet by 7 feet. Above it the mottling and lamination of the barrow were intact.

The face of a rift provided the south-east wall, a convenient joint much of the south-west; the others, seen in the plate, were irregular. The floor, which may have been pounded level, only the N.W. end sloping along the bedding-plane, was coated thinly with a red clayey loam like local subsoil. On this two slabs of limestone shale stood together against the S.W. wall, as if to match the shoulder opposite. There was no capstone.

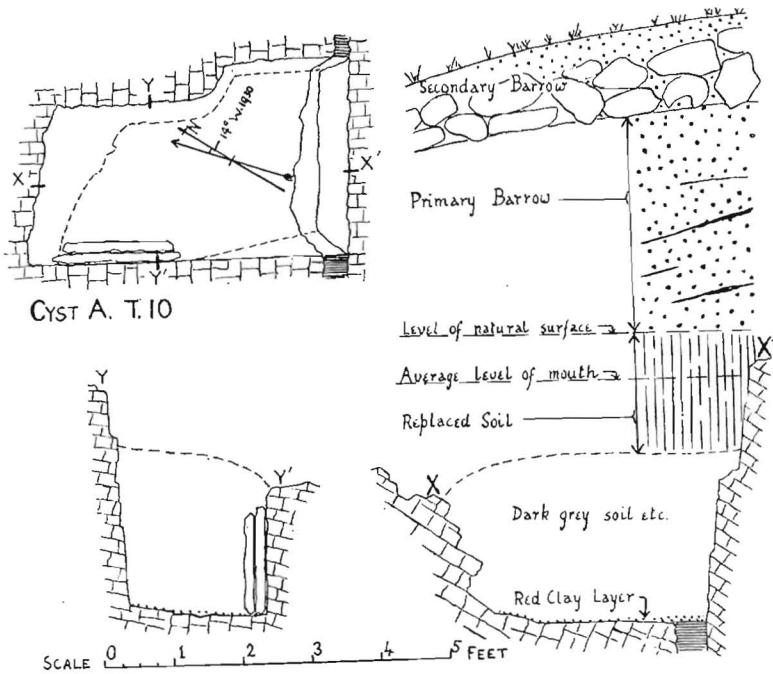


FIG. 3.—Cyst A. The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

The pit (as distinguished from the cyst cut in the rock) was filled with local soil containing a few scraps of charcoal, calcined and unburnt bone. The wood could not be determined. The burnt bone, not a quarter of an ounce in all, was human whenever identifiable. Of the unburnt none seemed to be human; it included the greater part of a small bovine (?) femur, hopelessly crushed upon the rock at the N.E. lip of the cyst, several pieces of red deer antler perhaps broken from a pick, and fragments of cancellous bones which show that the assemblage was not derived wholly, if at all, from excavating

PLATE I



a.—Cyst A. The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.



b.—Cyst B. The North Barrow, Tynings Farm. The entrenching tool marks the site of the heap of burnt bone.



tools. Dr. Wilfred Jackson has kindly identified the non-human bones and molluscan remains.

The actual cyst contained a mass of dark grey soil, burnt and blackened limestone, and a little broken and unidentifiable charcoal. Here and there were plates of soft carbonaceous matter, mostly on the floor where they reached a thickness of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and a diameter of 8 inches. They were structureless, irregularly rounded in outline, and amorphous under the microscope. Perhaps they were carbonized animal matter—food or apparel—for traces of ox(?)—hide have been found in cysts of the Early Bronze Age.⁸ The other contents were unburnt: an unpatinated flake of flint and one of red chert (?); five or six snail shells (*Helicigona arbustorum* and *Vitrea cellaria*); one mandible of a field or bank vole; a dozen splinters of ox bone, but no human bone, calcined or otherwise. Fossil crinoid segments from the local limestone were very abundant.

It is doubtful whether the snail shells were present originally, but the *single* vole mandible was probably so and may be compared with the small bones calcined like the human in B; none were found elsewhere in this barrow. Such bones as well as those of food-animals have been recorded from funerary deposits of all phases of the Bronze Age.

Unfortunately, the filling was not ordinary local soil, which preserves both burnt and unburnt bone very well. It had an ashy look. In such a soil in a late cyst of T. 14 the more isolated pieces of calcined bone presented all stages of decay from a superficial powdery softening to a faint stippled pattern in the earth, and undoubtedly parts of some had disappeared. Thus calcined bone is not indestructible, as has been supposed. On the other hand, we think that if an unburnt skeleton had decayed in the present cyst, the outline of the bones would have been visible and the harder parts would have been preserved, for the ox bones were identifiable, if soft. Probably, too, the grey earth would have been sunken rather than heaped up in the centre. The few scraps of burnt human bone scattered throughout the pit do not prove it a grave, for such were found in the barrow matrix.

Most probably this was the primary interment. It was contemporary with a cremation and with coarse overhanging-rim ware (Fig. 11 No. 3), but whether a diffuse or small deposit of calcined bone had disappeared from the cyst or whether it had been a cenotaph cannot be known. Some deposits free from human bone do seem to represent burials.⁹ On the other hand it may have held only supplies for the person, buried in B.

The method of quarrying is best studied here, for thanks to the lime-saturated contents of this cyst the fractures on the lower two-thirds of its walls were still sharp. On the Continent rock was blasted by fire and water even in the Bronze Age,¹⁰ but although the mass of

⁸ R. W. Reid, *Catalogue Anthrop. Museum*, Univ. of Aberdeen.

⁹ E.g., deposit C.10 in the Beacon Hill Barrow, Fox, *Comm. Camb. Antiq. Soc.*, Vol. XXVI. See also Greenwell, *op. cit. passim*. The central cysts of T.5 (Beaker), T.7 (late overhanging rim urn), T.13, and T.14 were more or less free from bone. These cases cannot be explained by its decay.

¹⁰ Childe, *The Bronze Age*, citing Andrée.

burnt stone, ash, and carbon in A and the cracked walls of C suggested some such process, the rock was not burnt nor blackened nor was there a trace of charcoal beneath the clay on their floors. This was true also of B and of the ditches of T. 11 and T. 14.

The north-west and north-east walls of A (Plate Ia, left and right) were made up of steps having fractured faces and sharp edges without recognizable tool-marks. This effect can be reproduced by splitting or levering up laminæ from the shale with pick or wedge, and breaking them across at the edge of the area to be quarried.¹¹ A cavity so made slopes gently down from the surface, along the bedding-plane, on one side, but this can be avoided by beginning the excavation at one of the many almost vertical fissures which run S.E. by S. or transversely. The three cysts were situated each on such a fissure; A and C (Figs. 3 and 6) seemed to have been made by peeling away the rock on one side only and making use of a joint or line of weakness for one lateral wall; B (Fig. 4), by quarrying on both sides of a fissure, and by picking or pounding, for its walls did not follow the lines of weakness and yet were not stepped. All the floors had been levelled, probably by pounding.

The stone quarried from these cysts had been removed from the barrow together with the excavating tools and their débris—a point noted again in T. 11. The walling slabs of A and B, the roofing of the latter and the scraps of antler, flint, and chert above-mentioned may be exceptions.

CYST B. Plate Ib; Fig. 4.

Cyst B was situated about 22 feet from the centre of the barrow or not more than 8 feet from its edge, and contained a burial which, though possibly primary, was probably an early secondary interment. The mouth of the cyst was only 2 feet 0 inches below the present surface, about 1 foot 8 inches below that of the primary mound and 8 or 9 inches below the natural surface. The base line of the stone cap was normal, but unfortunately the earthen mound was never stratified within a foot of its top. Thus although the interment was made before the secondary barrow, its relation to the primary could not be determined.

The pit in the subsoil was indistinguishable, but probably it contained the following objects, which were found, some at and some below the level of the natural surface, within 2 feet of the cyst:

(1) A few pieces of unburnt, non-human bone, including a fragment

¹¹ Dr. F. B. A. Welch, of the Geological Survey, reports that the limestone is Z and dips 30° due south.

of an ox femur, the petrous part of a temporal about the size of rabbit and a young vertebra possibly of sheep ; (2) Half a dozen scraps of calcined bone, perhaps human ; (3) Traces of charcoal ; (4) A rough flake of flint, burnt white.

The nearly rectangular cyst had been cut in the rock astride a fissure, an expansion of which was shut off by upright slabs (Fig. 4). The floor and walls presented a fairly even surface although not following the lines of weakness ; presumably they had been dressed ; the absence of tool-marks may be explained by weathering and by

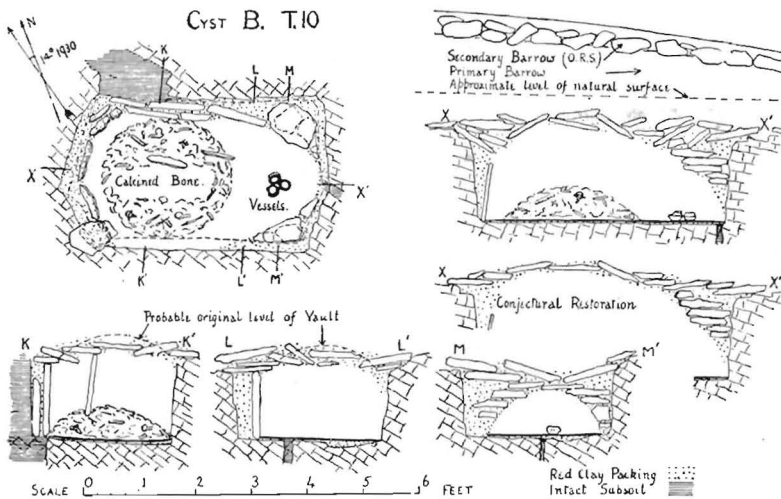


FIG. 4.—Cyst B. The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

the hardness of the stone. One end and one side of the cyst were lined by upright slabs, the other end being occupied by the base of an arch of overlapping stones ; all these were set in red clayey loam. Thus in plan the residual cavity was an ovoid of about 4 feet 3 inches by 2 feet 1 inch, its big end directed towards the centre of the barrow.

The roof of overlapping horizontal slabs packed with red clayey loam resembled a false corbelled vault, being surprisingly regular where not collapsed. It rested, however, upon the filling of the cyst and could not have stood alone ; the two small uprights upon the heap of bones had borne no weight and there was no trace of perishable supports. Only at the outer end, where it sprang direct from the floor and was largely of "clay," was it self-supporting. The stone used throughout was the local limestone shale, but the

red loam, though most probably local, was not derived from the site of the cyst.

The whole was hidden by stones, not shown in the figure, laid one on another with a uniform slope towards the south, thus resembling the laminated bedrock so closely that three-quarters were passed over before the routine testing. They may have been intended to conceal this burial in an exposed position.

On the floor was a layer of red loam about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in thickness and as smooth and compact as if trodden or rammed down. Within the ovoid cavity it was covered to the depth of one inch with broken oak charcoal not derived from a fire built in situ (there being little or no fine black ash, and the rock, clay, and stones being unburnt and unblackened). Probably this charcoal was brought from the funeral pyre, for amongst it were many scraps of calcined human bone together with burnt flint and bits of the pygmy cup No. 3, as in the main heap of bones. Some of the wood had been at least 3 inches in diameter. The three cups and the heap of bones stood upon it.

The cyst was filled with dark greyish soil which contained a few pieces of calcined human bone, a few unidentifiable scraps of charcoal, two snail shells (*Vitrea cellaria*) bearing no sign of fire, and very many fossil crinoid segments, some burnt. Scattered about the cups, but not on the floor, were four sherds in unburnt clay of which Fig. 5 No. 2 was the best preserved. The paste is fine but loose in texture, without stones, grit, or carbon, and resembles that of the pygmy cups 4 and 5 except, of course, in colour—a greyish brown. The outer surface has a smeared powdery appearance. The walls rise more or less vertically with slight outward convexity from a thick flat base possibly as much as 9 inches in diameter, but they are so thin and in so friable a paste that the height was probably not great.

In the larger end of the cyst was a pile of thoroughly calcined bone, probably the remains of a small woman about 25 or 30 years of age. Of course, deductions from calcined material must be taken with reserve, and in any case it is not clear how far modern data are applicable to prehistoric remains. Our President, Professor Fawcett, has kindly examined this and the two secondary deposits, and the comparatively definite information is due to his help.

All regions of the body are represented. There is no trace of a second individual. Compared, of course, with other calcined material, the limb bones are small and slender, both as to shafts and articular ends. The phalanges, carpals, metacarpals, metatarsals, facial bones and teeth are very small; some of the last are warped, falsely resembling milk teeth. The frontal bones, the small almost airless mastoid

process, etc., tend to confirm the sex. The reconstructed orbits are markedly rectangular but probably distorted. There seem to be three Wörmian bones. The age limits are fixed by the fusion of the epiphyses of all the long bones and by the cranial sutures, well represented, of which only the posterior part of the sagittal and the Wörmian show signs of fusion, and that only internal. The existing crowns of the teeth show considerable wear and the vertebræ traces of periostitic lipping, young as was the individual.

In the few known cases pygmy cups seem to have been given to women, and it may be conjectured that this was the rule, for they are accompanied so often by pins and personal ornaments.

In the pile of bones were many pieces of flint; flakes from the cup No. 3; a hook and three pins in calcined bone (Fig. 5 Nos. 6, 7, II, 12); a spherical bead in black pottery—reddish externally and much damaged, and a small roll of red paste (Fig. 5 Nos. 8, 9); crinoid segments in numbers out of all proportion to the soil included, amongst them a doubtful bead (Fig. 5 No. 10); a few bones of mole and shrew, and two incisors of rabbit,¹² all calcined; a fragment of burnt hæmatite and a small chalky mass, probably calcined limestone; three or four broken snail shells; but scarcely any charcoal.

Except for one flake, the flint was not merely crackled but made white and glistening by intense heat, unlike any in the barrow save the piece found close by; it seems likely that it was burnt in the pyre. Not one of the 170 or more fragments bears retouch or polish and only five or six are struck flakes, the remainder being very probably the débris of a single core or hammerstone.

The half-dozen tiny potsherds found amongst the bones were burnt to the same colour as the cup No. 3, from the surface of which they had been detached, most probably by excessive heat. Some of the less warped have been restored to place. Since such scraps were found in the other collection apparently brought from the pyre—the bed of charcoal with burnt flint and human bone—it is probable that the cup was burnt in the pyre, or perhaps actually fired there. Possibly Nos. 4 and 5 accompanied it, for they too were fully burnt. The great heat through which so many pygmy cups seem to have passed demands some such explanation.

The three pins or awls (Fig. 5 Nos. 7, II, 12) were made from small long bones split lengthwise and polished all over, the heads being formed by part of the articular end and in one case perforated

¹² The rabbit has been regarded as a recent immigrant. These incisors were calcined and embedded amongst human bones in a sealed cyst. They attest its presence quite early in the Bronze Age. They have been identified by Dr. Wilfred Jackson.

from one side. The bones were perhaps avian. They are calcined and have been reconstructed from fragments; repeated careful sorting failed to recover the missing parts. The type is an obvious one, found at most periods from the Upper Palæolithic onwards.

The hook or "dress fastener" (Fig. 5 No. 6) consists of a curved process arising from one edge of a flat rectangular plate. The opposite face of the plate bears parallel diagonal scoring, the angles and edges have been rubbed down. It is of very compact bone or less probably dentine, calcined.

The original shape may be seen in three unburnt specimens from Wiltshire,¹³ but No. 6 was smaller, relatively wider, shorter in the hook and rounded at the edges. Greenwell mentions four others in calcined bone, figuring one from Yorkshire,¹⁴ and there is yet another from Wiltshire, unburnt and having a greatly exaggerated plate.¹⁵ Of seven little is known except that each probably accompanied a burnt burial in a barrow and that with one was a small slightly curved bronze blade bearing two rivet holes. The eighth, that from Yorkshire, was found with burnt human bones, bone pins, a flint scraper and an arrowhead, in a broken urn, presumably a comparatively early example of Type 1 like its companions in the barrow. That they belonged to the period of cremation, and to an early phase, is confirmed by our specimen—apparently the first of which the associated vessels are known.

Greenwell suggested that these hooks were taken from the articular end of a bone, where, however, the compact shell is far too thin. The Wiltshire examples (described as of "ivory") seem to be transverse slices of the shaft of some long bone of plano-convex section and very compact structure, like the cannon-bone of a horse; an opening has been cut at one angle of the D-shaped ring thus obtained.

Before we pass to the pygmy cups, two questions may be discussed: (1) Whether the cyst was primary or secondary, and (2) Whether its radial direction had any significance.

1. In the absence of stratification, the following evidence is available.

- a. The marginal position of B does suggest that the barrow pre-existed.
- b. The barrow belongs to the cremation period, as is shown by the presence of scraps of calcined human bone and of large vessels with overhanging-rims in coarse ware (Fig. 11 No. 3). It is therefore of about the same date as cyst B, the contents of which seem to fall early in that period.

¹³ In Devizes Museum. Stourhead Collection, Cat. Nos. 103, 124, 124c, one being figured.

¹⁴ *Op. cit.*, Fig. 7 and p. 352.

¹⁵ Devizes Museum, Stourhead Collection, Cat. No. 338.

- c. There was no central grave.
- d. T. 11, a neighbouring barrow of similar age and structure, but ditched, sealed down three pits and a charred area; the eastern pit contained a burnt burial, the western traces of another, the northern nothing but a stake (?). Although these were not near the periphery, it may be that B, A, and C were an analogous group and all primary.
- e. The individual whose bone was scattered in the matrix was an adult, age and sex being indeterminable. About 98 per cent of his remains were missing unless buried in B, which then would be the primary burial. Attempts to confirm this by fitting fragments together and to disprove it by duplication were unsuccessful, those scattered being broken very small. However, bone laid in A may have vanished, and in any case it is quite common to find that little or none has been buried.

Thus the status of the cyst remains in doubt. If it were primary, the simpler structures A and C might be explained as store pits, repositories for organs buried separately as in the jars of some Egyptian burials,¹⁶ or subordinate but void graves. Equally, the three cysts may have stood for three independent burials, whether B and C were made before the barrow or not.¹⁷

2. A radial or axial direction is a sufficiently obvious one for a cyst whether primary or secondary. Although it does seem to have been chosen, it is not proposed to claim any especial significance for it nor for the south-easterly line and site. The majority of non-central burials in tumuli appear to be in the southern and eastern quadrants and one of the simplest explanations is the still existing preference for a sunny, sheltered aspect.

Nevertheless, perhaps recent criticism of the theory of orientation has gone too far.¹⁸ A round barrow was not always, if ever, a mere heap. Often the outline is fairly accurate, as if a plan had been marked out—compare some long barrows. Ditches, banks, walls, and kerbs are sometimes almost truly circular, as in T. 11 and T. 14; it follows that either a circle was described, which seems unlikely, or markers were set equidistant from a fixed central point. In such barrows a nearly exact radial alignment was possible, but whether it was wanted is another question.

¹⁶ This suggestion is due to Dr. C. B. Perry.

¹⁷ Cf. Greenwell, *op. cit.*, pp. 152-4, etc., and Mortimer, *Forty Years*, *passim*.

¹⁸ Cf. Engleheart, "Concerning Orientation," *Antiquity*, Vol. IV, No. 15, p. 340. Incidentally, it is very doubtful whether primitive dwellings did usually possess a sunny aspect or their entrances a sunward direction. The majority of occupied cave and pit entrances known to us are sheltered but not sunny, perhaps to avoid flies? The choice may have varied with the season.

Cyst B was cut obliquely across the lines of weakness in the rock although even those not marked by considerable fissures must have become obvious as soon as quarrying was begun. The true bearing of the long axis of the cavity was about 114° and that of the rock walls 108° – 112° , but that of the cracks, etc., about 153° or 243° . It seems that its plan was marked out and adhered to at the cost of much extra labour. Produced, the long axis passed within a few inches of the centre of the barrow, as supposed after excavation. No doubt this was not the original centre and the axis was less nearly radial. Indeed, if the cyst was secondary, its makers could only guess at or select a centre, but the error in so doing could not be great enough to destroy the general radial direction of the cyst. (Our own error in T. 10, T. 11, and T. 14 was about 4 feet, which would alter the bearing from the spot selected to the cyst by not more than about 10° .)

The easy line was avoided in favour of one at least roughly axial as well as leeward (Easterly) and sunward, but not directed towards any known landmark.

THE PYGMY CUPS.

In the outer end of the cyst were the three vessels shown replaced in their original positions in Plate *Ib*. They stood together upon the charcoal bed, Nos. 3 and 5 erect, No. 4 inclined slightly towards them. Each contained loam similar to that in the cyst and one or more tightly-fitting pieces of cherty limestone.

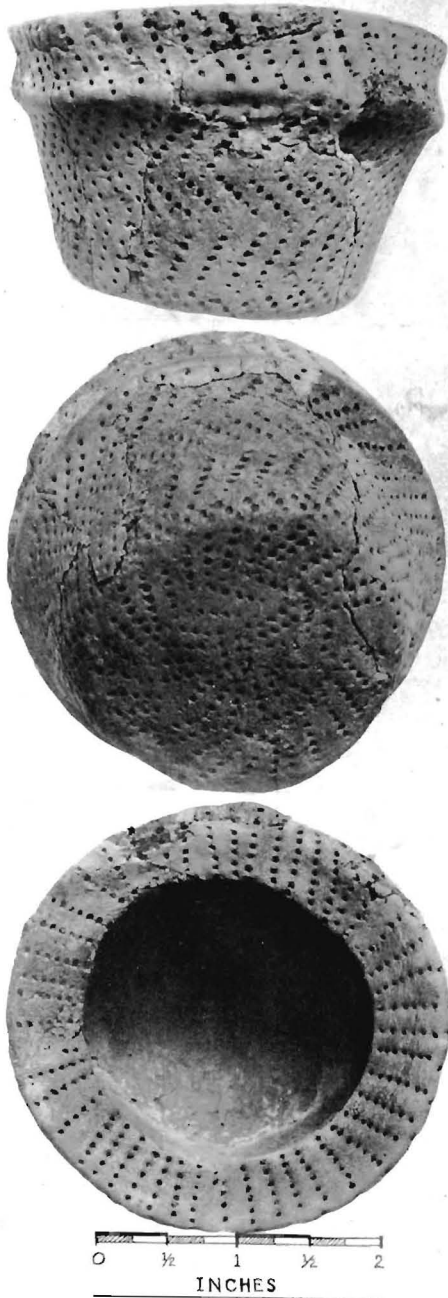
No. 3 (Plate II; Fig. 5 No. 3) may be regarded as a pygmy or "incense" cup of Abercrombie's subtype 4 (biconical with everted lip), or as a debased food-vessel—perhaps the same thing. It resembles many food-vessels of subtypes 3 (concave necked) and 4 (biconical), especially from Yorkshire, e.g., Nos. 203, 118¹⁹; No. 270 from Forfar comes very close in decoration too. Some of these are no bigger, but all are taller in proportion. It cannot be matched so closely or so often amongst Abercrombie's pygmy cups.²⁰

It is of a fine homogeneous paste almost polished externally, burnt reddish quite through and resembling overburnt beaker-ware from local caves. Scales have become detached from its outer surface, perhaps because fired too strongly. Its height is over

¹⁹ Abercrombie, *Bronze Age Pottery*, Vol. 1. Cf. Nos. 6 (Oxford); 8 bis (Berks); 24, 29, 30, 46, 72, 82, 88, 90, 118, 120, 121, 188, 196, 197, 201–3, 210, 211, 213 (Yorks); 199 (Lincoln); 124, 200 (Northumberland); 269, 270, 387 (Forfar); 388 (Roxburgh).

²⁰ *Op. cit.*, Vol. 2. The nearest seem to be Nos. 6a, 246, 247, 254 (Wilts.); 281 (Yorks).

PLATE 11



Pygmy cup (3). The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.



2 inches, its diameter 3 inches. The body, an inverted truncated cone, is separated by a moulding from a concave, vertical neck and is imperforate as far as complete. The rim is moulded into a broad flat surface sloping down and in, its inner lip overhanging the cavity, as in many food-vessels; the downward pressure has caused the outer lip to project.

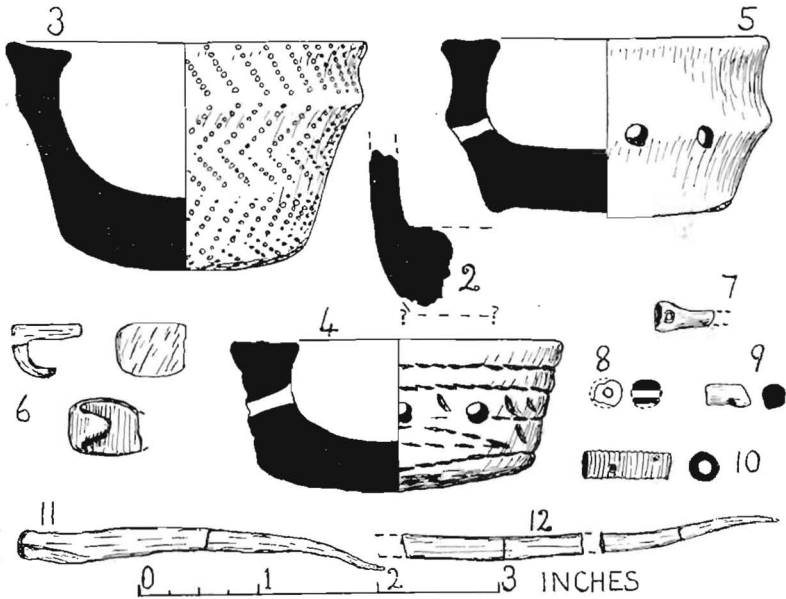


FIG. 5.—Contents of Cyst B. The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

Abercrombie seems to have used "everted lip" in the sense of "projecting lip," dividing the biconical pygmy cups into subtypes 4 and 6 according to its presence or absence. This is questionable typology, for the projection seems to be the result of making a wide flat-topped rim by downward pressure, sometimes aided by pinching out one or other lip. The wide flat rim should be the basis of classification.

The base, which is thick and bulges downwards, is not differentiated internally, the cavity being hemispherical.

The decoration is of punctate lines, parallel (radial) on the rim but arranged as lateral chevrons on the body. It covers the whole outer surface including the base, except a narrow plain zone on the walls which is not outlined and is doubtless accidental. A line comprises seven or fewer deep circular punctuations impressed by a convex row of rounded teeth, perhaps those of a comb like that

found in Merlin's Cave.²¹ Though quite possibly an imitation of the Beaker "cogged slip" technique, this seems to be rather characteristic of the pedestal or expanded pygmy cups and to be fairly common on food-vessels.

Except upon the restored surface, certain constant irregularities in the spacing of the punctuations may be seen. Where space was limited the latter are of full size and depth only at the middle of a row, shrinking towards either end; where space permitted the full number they were made more or less uniform, doubtless by rotating the tool along the line of the teeth.

No. 4 (Plate III, top; Fig. 5 No. 4) is a nearly vertical-sided cup with thick walls and thick convex base, of subtype 5 (straight-sided). The hemispherical cavity is overhung by the rim, which has been given a wide flat top by downward pressure. The height is $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches, the diameter $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Rim, base, and walls are covered with concentric circles or parallel lines in cord-pattern, producing the effect of basket-work. The impressions are fusiform, sharp, often angular on section, and make a variable but usually a small angle with the line. Occasionally they are erratic or angled or swollen to a dimple. Thus perhaps the cord was twisted of two or three stems of some knotted grass. Whilst still soft the wall was pierced by two holes, made from within as near the bottom of the cavity as possible and passing slightly downwards.

The smoothed outer surface varies from leaden to ochreous grey, the paste is yellowish, fine, homogeneous, burnt quite through but soft and friable.

In shape this cup may be compared with Abercrombie's 105c, from Yorkshire, and especially with 239 from Wiltshire but for the perforate base;²² in decoration with 288a from Yorkshire. Some truncated cone and cylindrical food-vessels might be the prototypes, though much taller in proportion.²³ The basket effect appears on beakers and food-vessels as well as pygmy cups.

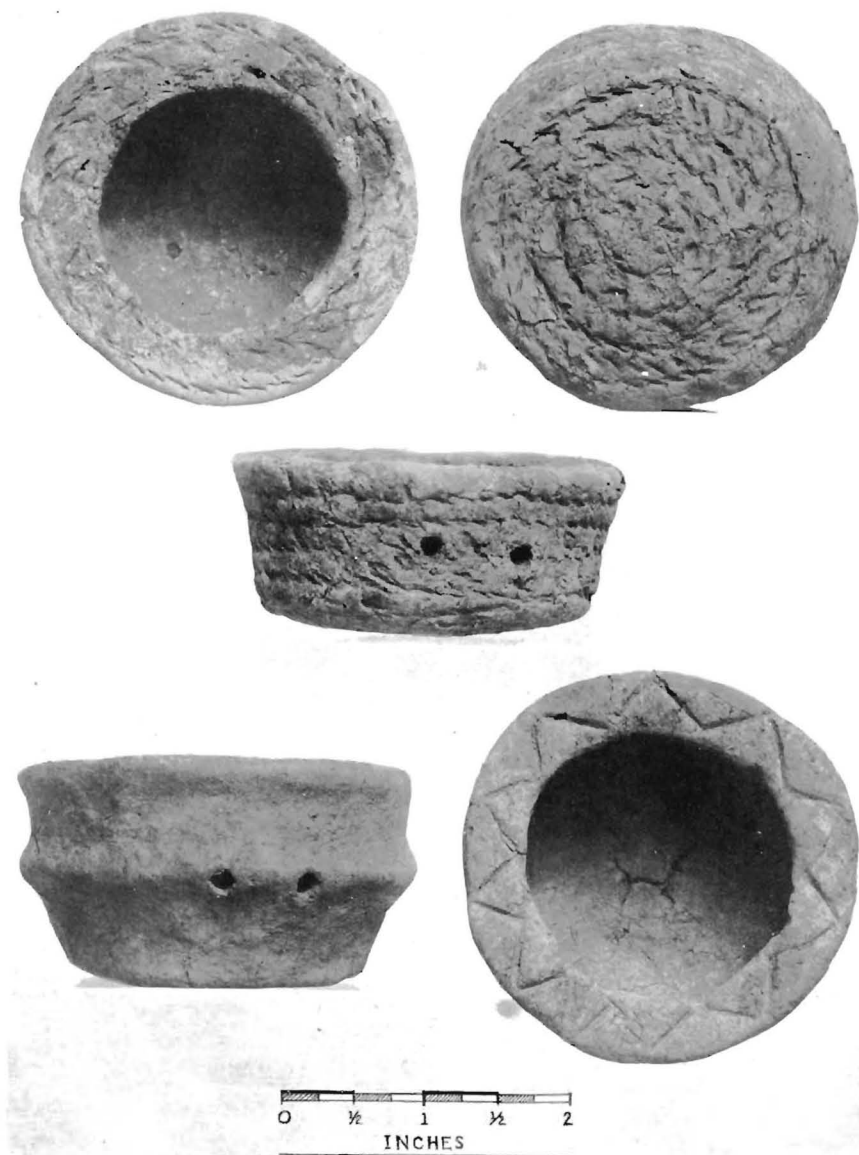
No. 5 (Plate III, bottom; Fig. 5 No. 5) is of the same ware as the last. It is a pygmy cup of subtype 4 in the sense of subtype 6 with rim pressed down to provide a wide flat top. The height is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, the diameter $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Externally it is biconical with a prominent shoulder and a slightly hollowed base, but the cavity is rounded and relatively small. On the flattened rim with projecting lips is the sole decoration, a boldly-drawn line-chevron. This motive

²¹ C. W. Phillips, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 4, No. 1, Plate 11, No. 10.

²² *Op. cit.*, Vol. 2. Cf. also 238 (Wilts.); 106d, 301, 304a (Yorks).

²³ *Op. cit.*, Vol. 1. Cf. 61, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. high (Yorks); 13, 2 in. high (Sussex); 96, 219 (Yorks), etc.

PLATE III



Pygmy cups (4 and 5). The North Barrow, Tynnings Farm.



occurs in the same position on Abercrombie's food-vessel No. 6, from Oxford, and commonly on the walls of food-vessels and pygmy cups. Two small holes pierce the wall almost at the bottom of the cavity, to emerge at the shoulder, thus showing the extraordinary thickness of the base; compare No. 4. They were made partly from within, partly from without, being narrowest halfway and in one case angled there.

The nearest pygmy cups seem to be Abercrombie's Nos. 246, 247 (Wilts.); 239 (Berks) and 106c (Yorks). A possible origin of the type has been suggested in Footnote 19, to which food-vessels Nos. 11, from a degenerate long barrow, and 12, only $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, both from Wiltshire, may be added.

These may be added to the food-vessel-like pygmy cups noted by Abercrombie. It seems probable that cups of subtypes 4, 5 and 6 are debased food-vessels, characterized by some or all of the following: small capacity, due to their unnecessarily small cavities as well as to their pygmy size; squatness; pressed-down instead of moulded rims; twin or multiple perforation; soft, fine paste, burnt quite through. Our cups, especially Nos. 4 and 5, are developed examples whose disproportionately small, undifferentiated cavities seem to signify long-lost function. They cannot stand at the beginning of the cup phase. Strangely enough, in some very late cups the walls have become thin again.²⁴

If pygmy cups served to carry fire, as has been suggested, these features may be due to adaptation and not to loss of function. There are several objections to this theory. The cavities should be blackened and the contents should differ from the surrounding deposit, unless of course the vessels were burnt in the pyre after use. The perforations have been explained as intended to assist combustion, as no doubt they would, but it is not easy to see why they are inconstant if they had so practical a purpose, nor why the usual arrangement is a close-set pair—by no means the most effective plan and distinctly suggestive of suspension. They might even be a vestige of the perforated lugs or "stops" of food-vessels or a means of "killing" the cup. In some cases they are clearly decorative. The occurrence of several cups together is against the chafer theory and suggests that they were simply conventionalized vessels for the use of the dead.

Notwithstanding the conventionalized form of our group, the food-vessel-like aspect of No. 3 is supported by a paste which resembles that of some early Type 1 urns,²⁵ of some food-vessels and even beakers, and of some early pygmy cups, e.g., the pedestal type, which also bear comb ornament. It seems to be supported also by the elaborate cyst, unduly large for a burnt burial. The roof, whether or no it was based on a corbelled model, resembled that of a "short cyst" of the Beaker Period at Catterline²⁶ and another at Corston (described in this number), though there was no evidence that the latter had been packed with clay. In the Corston cyst was a similar incomplete inner wall of stones

²⁴ *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 1, Plate 5, 3, found with the urn, Vol. 2, No. 2, Plate XI, 1.

²⁵ Fox, *The Archaeology of the Cambridge Region*, p. 39 and Plate III (Urn from Soham).

²⁶ R. W. Reid, loc. cit.

and a bed of red loam. The scattering of human bones and artefacts, if it was intentional, may be another link with the earlier cultures; compare Corston and Gorsey Bigbury.²⁷ The scattered material itself (domestic débris?) was suggestive, for amongst it were: pieces of two quite narrow overhanging rims, Fig. 11 No. 3, and another; chips of flint with polished surfaces as fresh as the fractured and a fragment of a ground celt or hammer in volcanic tuff, Fig. 8 No. 20, suggesting that polished tools were still in use; a tranchet, Fig. 9 No. 9; pygmy implements such as were still used locally in the Beaker Period (p. 112), Fig. 8 Nos. 14-19. These were not directly associated with Cyst B. Some might have been picked up in local caves, but no such pottery has been found in them.

Provisionally, a date not many generations after the latest beakers is suggested for our cups. The adjacent tumuli tend to confirm it, whether or no they may be regarded as a family burial ground covering about six or eight generations (in addition to the late group of burials). For instance, T. 14 is a palisade-barrow in stone, recalling some Bell-beaker tumuli of the Netherlands.²⁸ T. 11 yielded an overhanging-rim urn of distinctly early type.²⁹ The secondary burial of T. 12, perhaps the last of the series, lay in a similar urn which, despite maggot decoration, was a little later typologically and was associated with segmented beads of vitreous paste.³⁰

CYST C. Fig. 6.

The cyst, situated about 24 feet West of the barrow centre, was nearly 4 feet square and was sunk from 2½ to 3 feet into the rock. Its N.W. wall was provided by a rift, its N.E. by a cleavage plane, the others were like the quarried faces of A. The N.E. and S.E. were badly cracked, but this is common in natural fissures where no suspicion of fire can arise. The floor seemed to have been pounded level but not lined unless with local soil. No capstone was present.

So far as traceable, the pit in the subsoil was a rough oval about 6 feet by 7 feet. The depth was insufficient for the appearance of turf-line and laminæ; it was certain only that the cyst was earlier than the stone cap.

²⁷ A circular earthwork of the Beakerfolk near Charterhouse-on-Mendip, still being excavated.

²⁸ A. E. van Giffen, *Die Bauart der Einzelgräber*, reviewed in *Antiquity*, June, 1932, p. 352.

²⁹ Not yet published. In their table in *Antiquity*, June, 1932, Burkitt and Childe place the earliest Type 1 Urns before 1600 B.C., thus obliterating the gap between them and the late beakers. Abercrombie (op. cit.) and Fox (op. cit.) had suggested for the earliest a date between 1500 and 1400 B.C., agreeing that they fall in Montelius's Bronze Age II, but criticizing the dates assigned to it, 2000-1650 B.C. The not very late-looking urn from T. 12, however, was associated with segmented beads in vitreous paste, and if these were copied from Egyptian prototypes of the XII Century rather than from Mycænean of some four centuries earlier, all the above dates would seem to be too high.

³⁰ R. F. Read, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 2, Plates X.6 and XI.3. The shattered neck, convex in the profile of the reconstruction illustrated, was actually cavetto.

Pit and cyst were filled with clean local clayey loam. The pit was barren. In the cyst were 20 or 30 scraps of unidentifiable charcoal, a highly-patinated flint chip, seven or eight snail shells (*Helix hortensis* and *Vitrea cellaria*), a few pieces of limestone and many unburnt crinoid segments perhaps derived from the decaying stone, but no trace of a burial. We are confident that in this soil neither burnt nor unburnt bone would have disappeared.

The one point in favour of regarding C as primary is the doubtful analogy of T. 11. It resembled A and B in size and in being sunk into the rock, and B also in its peculiar marginal site. Perhaps most probably it was a secondary empty grave of the same period.

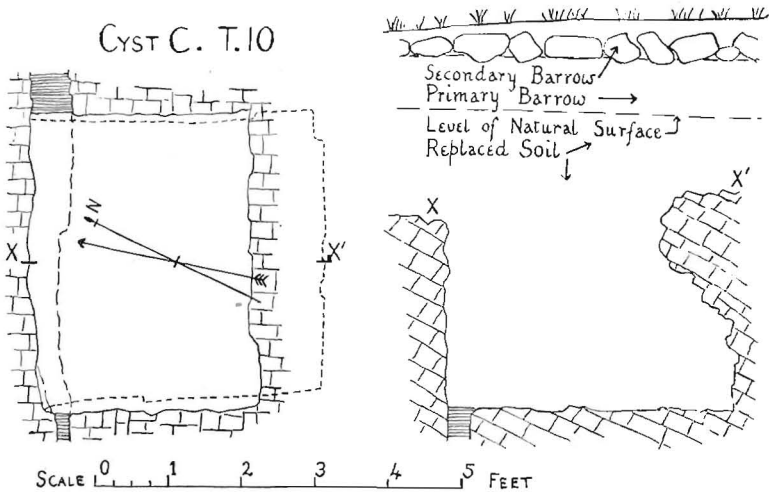


FIG. 6.—Cyst C. The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

PIT P. Fig. 2.

North by West of the centre was a level sheet of dark soil nearly an inch thick and about 7 feet long by 3 feet wide. Its depth beneath the surface of the primary mound varied from about 5 inches to 1 foot 2 inches. It differed from the brown laminæ in composition, flatness, regular abrupt edge, greater extent and slope, for it fell slightly towards the barrow centre. Undoubtedly it was the floor-covering of a loam-filled pit, the sides of which were indistinguishable. The stone cap was not distorted above it. The outline of its inner two-thirds, excavated in 1924-6, is only approximately correct.

The lamina consisted of blackish soil containing patches of: (1) A brown fibrous-looking substance; (2) A structureless carbonaceous one; and (3) A blue-grey clay (?) of unknown provenance.

These were of all sizes up to 2 feet in diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in thickness and did not mark out bones or a body. The depth was scarcely sufficient for an unburnt burial, and it is almost certain that at least the harder parts would have been preserved, and that calcined bone would not have vanished altogether. Possibly the patches were the remains of food, cloth, or hide. Both on the floor and in the filling of the pit were flint, pottery of two types, crinoid segments, and small pieces of hawthorn and (?) hazel charcoal—the charcoal rare except in the lamina or bed.

Of the six weathered, featureless sherds in the ware of the secondary interments, provisionally called "Hallstatt" and described below, three were embedded in the lamina.

Half a dozen formless sherds from the lamina and a rim fragment from the filling were in coarse thick friable ware. These, too, were widely separated, were weathered at the edges, do not fit together, and would form a very small part of a vessel. The rim, Fig. 11 No. 2, is doubly bevelled and slightly swollen and surmounts a high, slightly concave neck bearing a faint pinched-up rib. It is matched by Fig. 11 No. 1, on the neck of which is a pinched-up boss, perhaps a Lausitz feature. The boss and ware seem to connect these sherds with the Deverel-Rimbury ceramic, but we have failed to match the rims in it and amongst Iron Age material.³¹ A double-bevelled, swollen rim occurs on some encrusted urns,³² and, to judge by the photographs, on some "enlarged food-vessels" of the Late Bronze Age.

The outer surfaces are reddish or ochreous brown and smooth, although covered by fine cracks; the inner are blackish. The paste is black, coarse, soft and friable, containing carbon and a few stones probably native to the clay. Fig. 11 No. 1 was found in a small squatting-floor under the lee of the barrow but apparently earlier than the stone cap.

Of the 72 pieces of flint, 32 in the lamina and 40 in the filling, all were unworked flakes or waste except the following (Fig. 10).

From the lamina: a knife with straight regularly-retouched edge, No. 25; a very steeply chipped round-end-scraper, damaged in use, No. 26; a thin triangular scraper of which the edge provided by a hinge fracture was used in preference to the worked one, No. 27; a small flake struck from a polished implement, No. 28. Unlike the

³¹ Recently a rather similar rim was found in Cheddar Gorge. It is on the high, slightly concave neck of a bellied bowl (?), smooth and light brown externally, of a dark paste full of big white grit. Most of the ware from the site seems to be of La Tène III-IV, but the collection is not certainly contemporary and includes one flat-topped rim.

³² E.g., the Pennllwyn Urn. Fox, *Antiq. Journal*, VII, 2.

rest of the flint, which is almost or quite unpatinated, the last is of a uniform yellowish grey colour and was doubtless ancient when it came to lie in the pit.

From the filling of the pit: two round scrapers like No. 8, showing only incipient patination.

It may be admitted that any of these may have been in or on the mound beforehand, if the pit was filled with its own spoil, as seems to have been the case; but flint was rare and well patinated, and pottery was absent elsewhere so near the surface of the primary mound, except at the squatting-site low down on the eastern slope. The filling was not soil brought from some intensively-occupied site for it contained neither bone nor discoloured earth—excepting the bed itself—and it is almost certain that most of the artefacts in the pit were added deliberately, some before and some during the process of filling in. This question is discussed below.

Was this a burial violated by Iron Age folk?³³ The much-weathered edges of most of the sherds show that they were not newly broken when interred and therefore were not derived from vessels that had been recently thrown out; moreover, had the vessels been cinerary, almost certainly some burnt bone would have been left in the pit and some would have passed into its filling. Had a skeleton been removed, many of the smaller bones would have been overlooked. The surface of the primary barrow showed no sign of disturbance, thus P was dug and filled in accurately before the stones were present, but possibly immediately before. Further, the collection of "Hallstatt" sherds and comminuted calcined human bone which was scattered around, and apparently associated with, Secondary Interment 1, passed over the filling of P, thus setting a limiting date. A far limit was set by the similar ware in the lamina itself.

The deposit of sherds instead of a vessel occurred with undoubted burials in T. 11 and Gorseby Bigbury. P may be yet another deposit free from bone but representing a burnt burial.

On the other hand, the contents of a group of separate pits near the secondary interment of similar age in T. 11 were almost certainly associated with the burial. Since the urn and graves-goods of Secondary Interment 2 in T. 10 were given a very large pit, it is not unlikely that P may have supplemented the very small pit containing Interment 1; the two latter were of the same average depth, 9 inches.

It is of interest that dark patches without vessel or bones were found in the Hengistbury barrows side by side with Hallstatt or later interments.³⁴

To sum up. Potsherds, flint implements and waste and perhaps perishable objects, but not a burnt or unburnt body, were buried in P before the addition of the stone cap. It may have been a cenotaph; it may have contained goods connected with the first late secondary interment. Its contents seemed to be in part either native or Deverel-Rimbury, in part derived from some immigrant group related to those which introduced the use of iron.

³³ Cf. Clay, *Wills. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Mag.*, XLIII, 313, 548.

³⁴ Busche-Fox, *Excavations at Hengistbury Head*.

SECONDARY INTERMENT I. (Plates IVa ; IVb, 1 ; Fig. 7.)

The urn stood upright in a cylindrical pit about 14 inches across and 9 inches deep,³⁵ dug in the primary barrow about 4 feet 6 inches S.W. of the centre and sealed by a capstone resting on a circular pavement of flags. In the pit were small upright slabs, perhaps a vestigial cyst, and the following from below upwards :

Greyish brown loam, 5 inches to 6 inches.

Black carbonaceous matter with scraps of yellow ochre, 3 inches.

A dark brown substance, fibrous in appearance, 2 inches. This was packed between the inner ends of the stones, sealing both urn and pit.

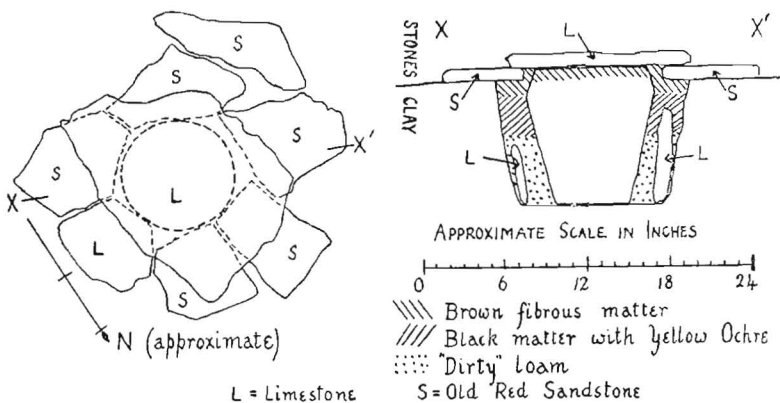


FIG. 7.—Late Secondary Interment I. The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

The vessel (Plate IVb, 1), though almost intact, was broken at the mouth before it was sealed, for fragments were found inside it and one about 3 feet away to the west. It is 10 inches in height, biconical, with a plain rounded rim. The shoulder angle is rounded off and bears a row of large "thumbmarks" with faint nail groove around two-thirds of its circumference ; on the remaining third they may have been obliterated by handling whilst soft, for there are a few hollows. The two truncated cones were made in one piece, but the base separately as in some local Overhanging-rim Urns as well as some Iron Age pots.³⁶

The urn is in the rather characteristic fabric here provisionally

³⁵ Not recognized in 1924 but evident in the photograph and from the excavator's notes.

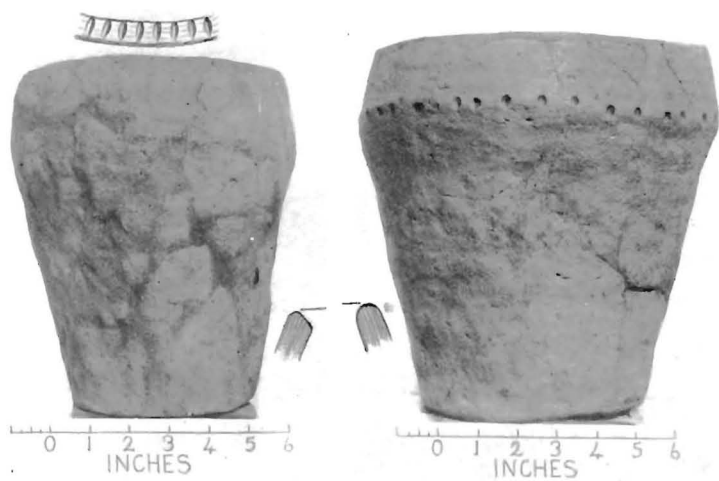
³⁶ E.g., E. 107, of La Tène I (?), from St. Catherine's Hill. Hawkes, Myres and Stevens, *Proc. Hamps. Field Club*, Vol. XI.

PLATE IV

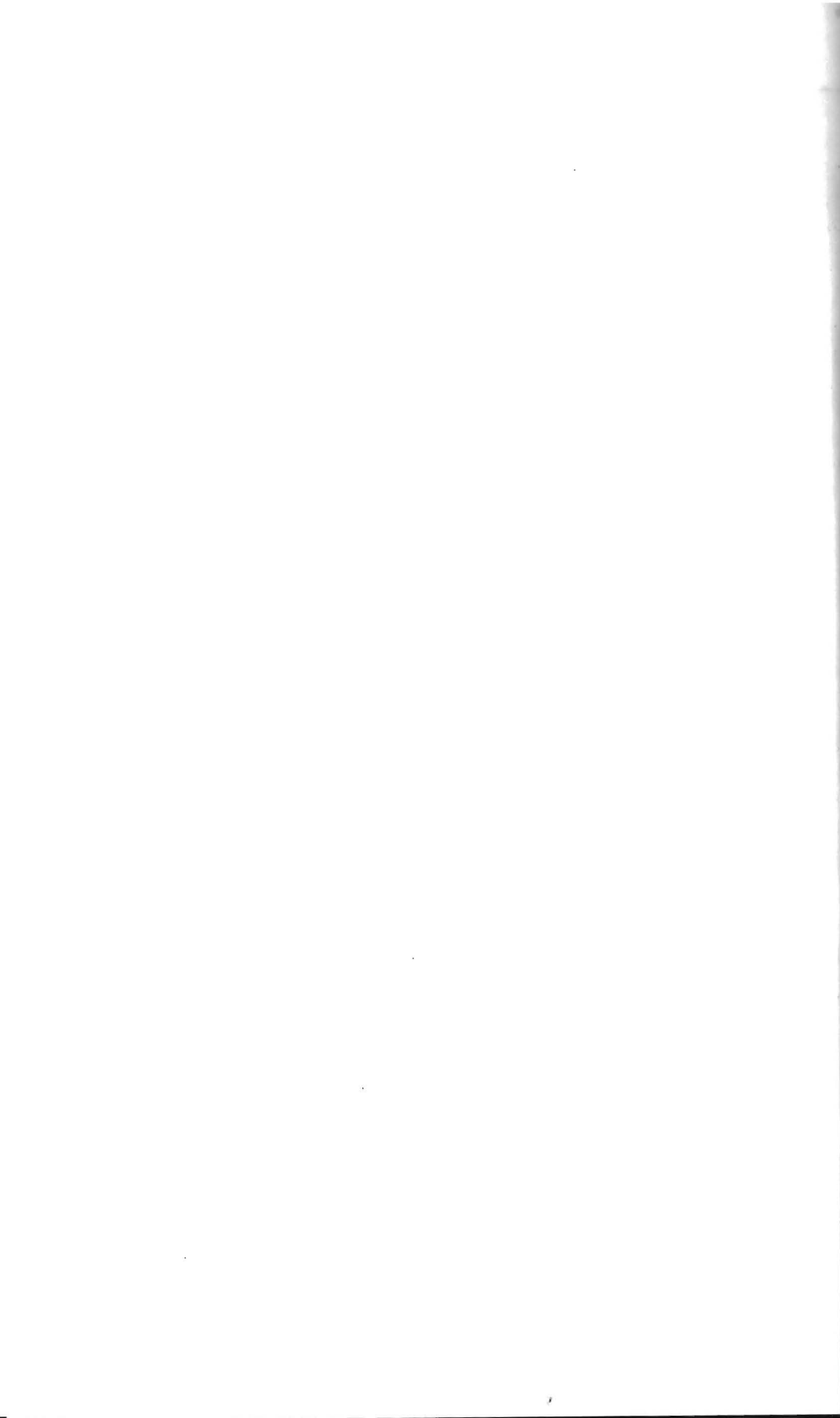


a.—Secondary Interment 1. The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.
(Retouched.)

Two paving stones have been displaced and the pit opened from the side.



b. Urus No. 1 (right) and No. 2 (left). The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.



called "Hallstatt": ochreous externally, dark brown to black internally, of a fine, homogeneous, blackish brown paste containing finely-divided carbon but neither sand nor grit; much harder than any local Bronze Age ware but softer than that typical of the Iron Age, especially when wet. The outer surface is smooth but untooled.

Abercrombie's Deverel-Rimbury group contains similar vessels, the nearest being from barrows, not flat cemeteries, e.g., 455f (Berks); 426, 427 (Wilts.). The gap in the band of decoration is seen on 447 (Dorset) and on a Hallstatt sherd from All Cannings Cross.³⁷

Nevertheless, it may be doubted whether this pot belongs to the Deverel bucket-and-globular-urn complex since it is markedly biconical and in comparatively fine ware. There are biconical urns from which it could be derived direct, native "enlarged food-vessels" and Continental Urnfield forms. The flattened rim of Urn 2, finger-nail printed on top (Plate 4b, 2), and the hard ware, seem to indicate the latter. Further, the sherds in this ware scattered around Urns 1 and 2 (and certainly contemporary with them in many cases) seem to be related to Hallstatt material from St. Catherine's Hill,³⁸ All Cannings Cross, Hengistbury Head, etc. (Fig. 11, Nos. 4-28, Fig. 12). There being traces of at least twenty-six vessels, they must be regarded as domestic, not cinerary. They may represent a Hallstatt ceramic debased by the loss of its more typical elements and by the inferior technique of captive native women employed as potters, as perhaps at Scarborough,³⁹ or a related but perhaps purely Late Bronze Age ceramic.⁴⁰

Similar biconical urns, but sharp-angled and in hard, dark, gritty ware, have been found in barrows at Kilpaison⁴¹ and at Kingsweston Down near Bristol,⁴² the latter, though very imperfect, being almost certainly Hallstatt. They seem to be uncommon at Iron Age dwelling sites. The vessels resembling Urn 2 from Hengistbury, All Cannings and especially Swallowcliffe (La Tène 1),⁴³ seem to be of concave-necked, not biconical origin.

The urn contained, beneath the seal of brown "fibrous" matter: calcined human bone, almost filling it, one piece stained green probably by copper; a splinter of a large, unburnt bone, not human; traces of charcoal; several pieces of itself; a sherd with punctate decoration like Fig. 12 No. 15, burnt to a pinkish colour; several unburnt chips of flint; two lumps of black-and-yellow matter like

³⁷ Mr. and Mrs. Cunnington, All Cannings Cross, Plate 29, 1.

³⁸ Hawkes, *Proc. Hamps. Field Club*, Vol. XI.

³⁹ R. A. Smith, *Archæologia*, 77.

⁴⁰ Burkitt and Child (loc. cit.) place the first Late Bronze Age invasions after 1000 B.C., the finger-tip urns about 600 B.C. and the All Cannings site a little before 400 B.C. It seems that our urn may fall anywhere between these dates. If the dates given for overhanging-rim urns be brought down three or four centuries to conform with an Egyptian origin of the segmented beads, our Late Bronze Age or Hallstatt burials might follow directly upon the earlier group. The cemetery might cover 10 to 14 generations.

⁴¹ Fox, *Arch. Camb.*, June, 1926.

⁴² Tratman, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 3, Fig. 3 and p. 241.

⁴³ Clay, *Wilts. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Mag.*, XLIII, p. 59 ff.

that in the pit ; some 200 crinoid segments of local origin, none of which seem to have been worn as beads.

These fossils are far too numerous to be explained by the traces of soil in the vessel and very many have been burnt, as in Urn 2 and Cysts A and B. The inference is that cremation was carried out in the presence of limestone, perhaps on a built hearth. The little cylinders were certainly collected and added deliberately, for the ashes were not swept up wholesale but picked over, as is shown by the absence of fine ash and the rarity of charcoal. They may have been mistaken for calcined bone, but this does not explain their abundance in such deposits as P. Possibly in some cases they were supplied for use as beads.⁴⁴

The stained bone is of a true green, not the bluish green with which calcined bone is often spotted. A rough test for copper was negative ; iron was present, but it was found in the soil.

The bones, less crushed than usual, represent a person of about 40 to 45 years of age, probably a man. They are larger and more robust than those of earlier burials in these barrows, supporting the evidence of the pottery that there had been at least an infusion of new blood. As in B and Urn 2, some fragments look as if broken before they were burnt and some are almost free from cancellous tissue, as if it had been scraped away. Professor Fawcett noted this independently. Much more evidence is needed, but it is not improbable that the flesh was allowed to decay and the bones alone burnt. Preliminary burial or exposure was practised in the Neolithic and full Beaker Periods⁴⁵ and a custom so convenient to a cremating people was likely to persist. Of course ceremonial violence is equally a possibility.

All parts of one individual seem to be represented, but probably about half the ashes were missing or scattered about. All the bones are thoroughly calcined, a few are stained yellowish. A scrap of the sciatic notch is unfortunately too small to determine the sex. Comparison with the female (?) bones from Urn 2, themselves much larger than those from B, suggests very strongly that the present group is male. It emphasizes the stouter long bones, the stronger muscular impressions and the greater size of the articular ends ; the marked curve of the clavicle ; the much larger phalanges, carpals, orbital ridges, malar bones, and especially, mastoid process and teeth. However, none of these points are conclusive.

All the epiphyses have fused with their shafts. The sagittal suture

⁴⁴ Segments of fossil encrinite stems have been found several times with Middle Bronze Age burials. (Devizes Museum.)

⁴⁵ Crawford, *The Long Barrows of the Cotswolds*, pp. 13-15, and *Antiquity*, June, 1932, p. 214. For the Beaker Period see the Corston Report in this number.

is obliterated excepting external traces in the anterior third. The lambdoidal is obliterated at the top, elsewhere open at least externally—calcined material cannot be relied upon to show incipient internal fusion. The crowns of the teeth are much worn but the vertebræ show little or no periostitic lipping.

Strewn at the base of the stone cap within 6 or 8 feet of this burial were many scraps of "Hallstatt" ware, flint, calcined human bone and charcoal, and a bead. Some lay in positions which they could not have reached by falling after the stones were in place but it was often difficult to separate those associated with the next interment. None certainly of this group were worth figuring, but most of Fig. 10 Nos. 15-18, 20, 29, and a few of Fig. 11 Nos. 4-24, and Fig. 12 Nos. 1-4, 6-19, probably belong here. They are described together below since the two burials seem to be almost contemporary.

The roughly spherical bead with perforation of uniform bore, Fig. 12 No 20, is in a highly-polished jet (?) like that from T. 12. Lying upon the filling of Pit P amongst scattered human bone and potsherds it was most probably contemporary with these and with Urn 1, but it may have been derived from the spoil of the pit, having been amongst the original building material or having been dropped upon the primary barrow before the pit was dug. It may have been lost by those who filled the pit, or at any time afterwards, for it was not sealed down.

Some, and probably all, the scattered bone belonged to the individual buried in the urn, for no identifiable piece was duplicated and we succeeded after many hours' search in fitting a fragment of a parietal to one from the vessel.

SECONDARY INTERMENT 2.

About 6 feet 6 inches south of the centre were the fragments of an urn that had stood erect, having its base about 3 inches above that of the stone cap. Amongst them was much calcined human bone, many burnt crinoid segments, traces of charcoal, a few scraps of other vessels in "Hallstatt" ware (one, burnt pink, so embedded that it must have been in the pot), and lumps of the black-and-yellow and brown "fibrous" substances that doubtless had sealed it. Exceptionally, three pieces of charcoal were sizeable, representing branches of hazel (*Corylus Avellana*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter.

Upon the vessel had been placed in turn a small plate of limestone shale, a large, very thin slab of the same and a flag of O.R.S.

No doubt these were once supported by the stones around, but not by a pavement nor by upright slabs.

In the area S (Fig. 2) abundance of "Hallstatt" potsherds and calcined human bone and a little charcoal marked out a nearly flat layer about 3 inches above the base of the cap. Much had fallen between the lowest stones. This very definite concentration ended abruptly in a regular oval outline. Evidently its top was the floor of a large shallow pit excavated nearly to the base of the stone layer, and strewn with sherds, etc. In a cairn, the sides might well be invisible. It was about 13 feet long, 10 feet wide, and from 9 inches to 1 foot 9 inches deep. The urn was placed almost centrally on its floor. The outline of the inner half, excavated in 1924-6, is only approximately correct.

Two other explanations may be considered: (a) That the sherds, bone, etc., were dropped upon the completed cairn; and (b) That the original stone cap was about 3 inches deep, that the urn was placed upon it either before or after objects had been dropped at S, and that many more stones were then added. Neither theory explains the flat top and sharp regular outline. As regards (a), if the material had been dropped upon the cairn a proportion would have been intercepted by the stones, but although there were some 500 sherds and many thousand scraps of bone in and below the layer, there were none above it. Many of both classes were definitely sealed down by slabs. Some sherds were in contact with calcined human bone both above and below and were, therefore, dropped together with it or before the one part and after the other. Now such bone is not likely to have been available except at the time of a burial and this was the last in the barrow; indeed, we were able to show that at least some of the scattered bone did belong to the person buried in the urn. Finally, all the ware was of one type—that of the urns. It is certain that the sherds and bone were dropped in relation with Urn 2 and not upon the finished cairn.

As regards (b), the plane top of the layer bearing the concentration could have been prepared on the surface when only a few stones were present instead of at the bottom of a pit. But its sharp edge showed that something limited the spread of the fragments; what but the walls of a pit? Every other burial in these barrows was laid in a pit. It is possible, of course, that the cairn was enlarged afterwards. It will be shown later that the sherds were not due to occupation of the barrow.

The even distribution of bone and pottery at S was remarkable and only to be explained by deliberate action; they were placed or sown.

Since it was impossible to distinguish sherds fallen from S from those previously at the base of the stones, around Urn 1, they will be described together below. Most of the ware black in section, like Urn 2, was found here. Fig. 11 Nos. 25 and 28, Fig. 12 No. 5 and another like 18 were at the supposed level of the floor and distant from Urn 1; almost certainly they belong to this burial.

The urn (Plate IVb, 2), 9 inches in height, resembles Urn 1 but is carelessly made or perhaps assimilated to the bucket type. It is more nearly cylindrical, the angle and upper segment of the biconical prototype being represented by an inward curve near the rim. The walls are rather uneven. The flat top of the rim slopes downwards and inwards and bears a row of transverse finger-nail impressions, said to be a Hallstatt feature and an early one.⁴⁶ The ware differs from that of Urn 1 only in its greater carbon content, being black on section, almost black internally, reddish externally. Amongst the nearest vessels figured by Abercrombie are 469d, from a flat cemetery in Middlesex; 473, 473a, from the ditch of a circular earthwork near Oxford; 421, 424a, from Dorset barrows.

The urn was probably not more than half filled by bone. The fragments are small but all may belong to one person, almost certainly female, between about 20 and 35 years of age. After long search, a piece of tibia was fitted to one from the outer end of the pit. The bones of these two groups are similar in all respects, including state of cranial sutures and size of teeth, and no piece is duplicated. Probably all belonged to one individual.

All regions of one body are represented, very incompletely. The bones are less stout and definitely smaller than those from Urn 1, notably the facial bones, phalanges, and a head of a radius, but larger than those from B. The few teeth are much smaller than the former and only a little larger than the latter group. A piece of sciatic notch of fairly reliable size confirms the sex. All the epiphyses have fused with their shafts. The cranial sutures are patent, at least externally, but unfortunately the first to close, the part of the sagittal between the parietal foramina is missing or unrecognizable. The teeth are well worn. There is no obvious periostitis. As in Urn 1, some long bones show a curious absence of cancellous tissue and some look as if broken when fresh.

OTHER CONTENTS OF THE BARROW.

T. 10 yielded about 870 pieces of flint and 650 isolated potsherds. Some were in pits, but about 470 and 100 respectively were in the intact matrix along with countless scraps of bone and a few of charcoal. Most were small; despite fairly close search, undoubtedly a great number were missed in the sticky loams so like the pottery in colour.

This débris must be explained in one of the following ways: as an accidental content of the building material, as spilt therein during excavation or transport, as scattered during the construction of the tumulus, or as introduced afterwards.

⁴⁶ Hawkes, loc. cit., p. 105; cf. Nos. E. 126 and E. 129.

1. Was the débris an accidental content of the building material? This is the most obvious explanation. It cannot be true of the stone cap. Formerly the writer accepted it as regards the earthen barrow, though it was necessary to suppose the soil brought from the site of a settlement and a funeral pyre, and not from the immediate neighbourhood. Thus the attractive simplicity of the hypothesis vanished. It was soon found that the matrix of the barrow contained no ash, dark earth or food refuse, for every scrap of bone was calcined and either possibly, probably or certainly human. The absence of food-bones and discoloured earth would indicate that the supposed settlement had been a very ancient one, which was impossible for most of the flint was unpatinated (though capable of patination) and the pottery was of overhanging-rim urn type. The human bone could not be explained by supposing that soil had been brought from the site of the pyre, for the ashes were not brought, but only selected fragments; there was no fine ash and charcoal was very much less abundant than bone.

2. Was the débris spilt in the building material during excavation or transport? This is possible, but it is difficult to explain its introduction as accidental owing to its abundance, its distribution and other matters discussed below.

3. Was it scattered during the construction of the tumulus? The same may be said.

4. Was it dropped upon the barrow, slipping amongst the stones or being carried into the earthen barrow by animals or roots? This could not explain its presence (still less its concentration) in the undisturbed core of the earthen barrow, nor its occurrence directly beneath great slabs in the stone cap.

If the flint and pottery were added independently of soil, even accidentally, it is a reasonable assumption that they were contemporary with the part of the barrow in which they lay, forming an early Middle Bronze Age and a Late Bronze Age (or perhaps Hallstatt) series. If they were brought in soil from a distant settlement the presumption is that it was a contemporary one. In either case, of course, some older material may be present.

The question is discussed more fully below. The conclusions are that flint, pottery and calcined human bone with traces of charcoal were scattered in either part of the barrow at an early stage of building and in the filling of certain pits, in fact, probably after every burial; that this cannot readily be explained as other than intentional; and that the bone was probably gathered from the funeral pyre and the pottery and most of the flint from the rubbish of contemporary stations.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SCATTERED DEBRIS.

In the primary parts of T. 10 and T. 11 a notable concentration of flint with all the scattered calcined human bone, pottery and charcoal, lay in an inverted saucer-shaped zone between the heights of about 4 inches and 9 inches at the centre. It sloped down to the natural surface on all sides and ended usually between 5 and 8 feet away. This does not seem to have been recorded elsewhere. It was

not associated with the use of more humus or of a different soil or of one containing the dark earth and kitchen débris of a settlement. Apparently, after a few inches of earth had been heaped up, flint, pottery, calcined human bone and charcoal were cast on the mound whilst it grew to the height of about a foot and diameter of 12 or 14 feet. They were evenly distributed, as if sown broadcast or thrown upon every tip. Unburnt bone occurred only on the natural surface below the tumuli, not limited to the central area, and in pits, e.g., those of A and B beneath T. 10; it was all certainly or probably non-human.

In the stone cap of T. 10 the concentration, again central, was upon the pre-existing surface and the bottom-most stones, except at S. It was central and in the base of the earthen cap of T. 11. These contained much more pottery and calcined bone than did those of the primary barrows.

Such a concentration was present in the filling of pits—potsherds, calcined human bone, a little charcoal, and perhaps flint in S, potsherds, charcoal and flint in P, a very little flint, charcoal, and calcined as well as unburnt bone in the pits above cysts A and B, charcoal in C. All these things, except unburnt bone, were present in the secondary burial pits of T. 11 and T. 14.

EVIDENCE OF THE DELIBERATE SCATTERING OF DEBRIS IN BARROWS.

This is best sought in barrows built of stones or quarried chalk, in tips of deep subsoil, etc. We shall anticipate a forthcoming report in order to describe a test case.

T. 14 was a cairn bounded by a kerb and encircled at a little distance by a ditch. It covered a fence of upright stones enclosing a circular space about 23 feet in diameter.⁴⁷ Throughout this space comminuted calcined human bone representing the greater part of a skeleton had been spread,⁴⁸ less than a quarter of an ounce being in the small central cyst. The bone lay upon the soil covering the cyst, upon many of the basal stones, upon the natural surface between them and on and amongst the stones placed to support the peristyle internally. Thus it was not present beforehand. The cremation was not performed upon the site nor were the ashes scattered without selection, but discrete fragments of bone almost without charcoal and without earth, at least in appreciable quantity. Obviously the bone was not derived from the building material, stones only. It was not dropped upon the cairn—an improbable event—for three reasons:—

a. If so dropped, it could not have littered the entire enclosure

⁴⁷ Cf. the "palisade-barrows" of the Bell-beaker folk in the Netherlands, A. E. van Giffen, *Die Bauart der Einzelgräber*, reviewed in *Antiquity*, June, 1932, p. 352.

⁴⁸ Cf. T. 5 (beaker) and T. 6, "Barrows Nos. 1 and 2, Blackdown", *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 1, p. 65 ff, etc.; T. 10 and T. 11.

right up to the buried palisade without some having fallen outside. The palisade was much too weak ever to have bounded a small, earlier cairn.

b. It was present in spaces free from mould beneath slabs that lay flat and sealed it down in the most definite way, whether upon the natural surface or upon the bottom-most stones.

c. None was lodged in the body of the cairn; contrast that near a secondary interment outside the palisade, where calcined bone and pottery had been dropped at the edge of the pit made in the barrow and three-fourths of it had been retained upon stones at depths varying from 3 inches to 1 foot 6 inches.

With two exceptions, only crumbs of pottery were found near the base, but within 6 feet of the centre were a number of flint implements, again on the lowest stones and the ground between them. This area was dug by the late Mr. J. A. Davis, a reliable observer, who stated that not a few could neither have reached their positions by falling, being sealed down by large slabs, nor be ascribed to the natural surface, being upon the lowest stones.

A dozen rough pieces of flint and half a dozen scraps of Roman and later pottery were found in the cairn at varying depths, but only two sherds had fallen to within 6 inches of the base.

There is no doubt that the bone, most of the flint, and perhaps crumbs of pottery, were added deliberately after the peristyle had been erected and after the enclosure had been littered with stones. The bone, at least, was spread evenly, as if sown.

The pottery (of a fine soft reddish paste) is insufficient to date the barrow, but the palisade and flint implements possibly connect it with the Beaker culture.

The cap of T. 10, too, was a cairn. The following relates to the part within 16 feet of its centre, beyond which it soon became a single layer of stones. Within 8 feet of the centre, upon the old barrow-surface between the lowest stones and beneath some of those stones but upon others, were "Hallstatt" pottery, flint, calcined human bone, charcoal, and a bead. Above and beyond (except in S), there was no pre-Roman ware, no bone or charcoal, and very little else.

Now this was a true cairn; the little sandy soil found here and there amongst the stones was undoubtedly derived from them and did not supply the débris, which often lay in free spaces. Many scraps of all four classes were not dropped upon the completed cairn, for they could not have reached their positions beneath slabs. Many of all classes were not dropped before or during the burial for they lay upon many of the lowest stones, including the capstone and pavement sealing the pit of Urn 1. The débris as a whole cannot be explained by a combination of these theories, for: (1) Some fragments of all classes which lay upon stones were sealed down by slabs above; (2) The débris was never found on and under the same slab, except of course beneath Pit S; (3) No bone, no charcoal, no

pre-Roman ware and little flint was intercepted higher in the cairn. The last fact alone is sufficient to show that little or nothing but flint and late pottery was dropped upon its top; the remainder was dropped when only a few stones were in place.

The artefacts could not be attributed to an occupation of the barrow (even at a time when a few stones were present) for the following reasons. Many sherds were weathered and some were burnt on all edges; now no fires had existed in, on, or under the cairn, for there were no burnt stones nor black ash and charcoal was scarce and widely scattered; the fragments, therefore, were not broken *in situ* but brought as sherds. They represented many vessels and no two could be fitted together. Some of the flint, too, was badly burnt. Like the bone, the artefacts were evenly distributed.

In short, the débris consisted of domestic rubbish brought from elsewhere and calcined *human* bone; the former was contemporary with the urns, all the pottery being of that type; the latter belonged at least in part to the buried person. Both were added without any appreciable quantity of soil after the burial of Urn I and when a few stones were already in place. We cannot see how this could occur accidentally.

Admittedly, a few pieces may have been present before any of the stones, but there is no evidence. Some flint and Roman and later ware was dropped upon the finished cairn.

The following additional points deserve record. The five or six Roman and later sherds (doubtless the result of occupation) were at all depths but mostly well above the base. None were burnt and several did fit together, few as they were, thus confirming our reasoning. Weathered and burnt "Hallstatt" sherds were found in the base of the almost contemporary earthen cap of T. II, although they could not have fallen through it. No bone, no pre-Roman pottery and not much flint had been dropped upon the neighbouring earthen barrows, nor upon T. I₄ except around a burial pit.

The same practice was evident in certain pits. P. was filled with what was most probably its own spoil. It yielded a dozen sherds and seventy-two pieces of flint, almost all unpatinated. Elsewhere within 16 feet of the barrow centre—the well-stratified region—the surface slice of the primary barrow yielded no pottery and only fourteen pieces of flint, all well patinated, although it was of about the same average depth and some thirty times greater in volume (p. 87). A similar proportion held good for the secondary burial pit of T. II. Quite certain was the addition of the human bone and 500 sherds or so spread evenly at S, the former derived, at least in part, from the person buried in the urn, and the latter all similar to the urn, none fitting together, most being weathered and some burnt (p. 94); they were covered only with stones and a little sandy mould apparently derived from them, amongst which was neither bone nor pottery. Compare, too, the Corston cyst.

Earthen barrows present a different problem. Let us take first the primary parts of T. 10 and T. 11, which were stratified and free from disturbance, unless of the slightest degree. The objects in their cores cannot have been introduced after they were built.

Although flint does not occur naturally in the district, flakes are common in the surface soil; doubtless some were present in the building material and in fact a few were distributed throughout either barrow. But in the small saucer-shaped basal mass, already described, their concentration was at least 400 and probably 600 times greater. Pottery, bone, and charcoal were confined to it. The analogy with the cairns is obvious.

In T. 10 the "basal mass" yielded more than 200 pieces of flint, the rest of the inner zone (within 16 feet of centre) only 27, though it was some 53 times greater and was sorted quite as carefully; thus the mass was about 400 times richer than the rest and perhaps 600 times richer than the building material, for of the 27, 14 were near the surface and doubtless some had been dropped upon the barrow. The proportion was about the same in T. 11.

The part beyond 16 feet from centre is excluded because not so sharply laminated, but it confirms these figures. It contained about as much flint as we should expect to find in the volume of soil, but neither bone nor pre-Roman pottery, except four or five sherds at the squatting-site low down on the sheltered side. In this outer two-thirds of the tumulus, the secondary and primary barrows and natural humus together yielded 161 pieces of flint, but their volume was more than 210 times that of the basal mass, thus the relative concentration of flint was about as 1:260. Sixty-one flakes were definitely above the primary barrow, seven in it, a dozen below, the rest uncertain; the maximum possible content of the primary barrow, 88, would make the concentration 1:120 of that of the basal mass, since the volume was about fifty times greater. Almost certainly, however, most of the 88 were dropped upon it, three-quarters being low on the sheltered eastern side. Excluding this region and making a further deduction because the natural surface soil should have contained not 12 but 28—its area being four times that of the inner zone with 7—we find about a dozen in a bulk about 40 times as great as the basal mass, or a concentration about 1:660 as intense.

The basal mass was far richer in flint than any known local surface site, about 100 times richer than the surface soil around the tumuli and 300 to 600 times richer than that below them. This suggests that flint was added and incidentally that most of the neighbouring surface finds are later than the primary barrows.

The marked concentration of flint cannot be explained by the use at one stage of soil from some occupied site; it was not in the material first deposited, which seemed, naturally enough, to be mostly humus; it lay in a mixture of humus and subsoil (the latter apparently predominating) not differing visibly from the rest of the mound. It was not practicable to excavate the small and often ill-defined tips independently but it was deduced from the earth adherent to the finds that in this basal region only, as much flint had lain in the tips of subsoil as in those of humus, and that it was in the same average state of patination. Of course local subsoil contains no flint; any embedded in it was added after it was dug. The point was investigated further in T. 11 and flint was picked from a tip of undoubted subsoil in the working face and from between two such tips. It seemed to occur chiefly near the boundaries of tips, as might be expected if it was thrown on independently.

Five flakes were picked from the working face of T. II, clear of pits, by the writer. Three were on the lines of division and two in the tops of tips. Of the former one lay between red sand or silt (either deep or rift subsoil) and loam with small black-mottled stones (found at depths of two feet or so in the field); one was between probable humus and loam of doubtful, perhaps intermediate origin, and one between two doubtful loams. Of those in tips, one was embedded in certain deep subsoil—dark red clayey loam with streaks of fossiliferous sludge from the surface of the limestone shale—one in loam of uncertain depth.

This proves that some of the flint in T. II was added. In both barrows its proportions in the several soils, to judge by adherent matter, were what we should expect if practically all was thrown in.

Potsherds were inconspicuous and rather rare and none were found *in situ* in the face, but the earth adherent to several seemed to be subsoil. Very little ware of the type occurs in the soil of Mendip.

Needless to say, calcined human bone is not found in the soil. It had in the barrows the same distribution as the flint and pottery, but a little more widespread. In T. II at least it tended to occur between tips, often of subsoil; in both barrows the adherent earth seemed to be subsoil oftener than humus. The same was true of the charcoal. If these had lain on the ground around the funeral pyre and had been present simply because soil was taken thence, the charcoal would not have been so scanty compared with the bone and they would have occurred in the barrow in groups and usually in relation with traces of turf, humus, fine black ash and perhaps bone dust; but they did not. The absence of visibly-burnt soil is of little value as evidence in this district.

It seems impossible to explain the bone except as a deliberate addition. That the flint and pottery had the same distribution, both as regards position and even spreading, suggests that they attained it in the same way.

Probably the soil of the barrows was not from an occupied site, for, pits excepted, there was neither dark earth nor the bone of food-animals in them.

The evidence for the secondary earthen cap of T. II is similar.

DEBRIS WITH BURIALS IN OTHER DISTRICTS AND OF OTHER AGES.

Industrial and other débris occurs in a large proportion of barrows, perhaps throughout Britain.⁴⁹ Undoubtedly, many were built of soil already containing it. In recent years, where the local soil has been barren the contents of a barrow have been explained by supposing that earth was brought from a distance; the reasons suggested for such a task have been that the soil was of a type called for by custom or ritual but not found locally, or that its source was a sacred place, the deceased's dwelling or the builders' settlement. The evidence we have given, however, seems to confirm Greenwell's conclusion that in some cases the débris was added deliberately.⁵⁰ When the builders of a barrow have been made to bring from a distance soil identical with that on the spot, solely in order to explain the artefacts, the bringing and scattering

⁴⁹ Comminuted calcined human bone, at least, was scattered beneath or in some Irish barrows. Macalister, *The Archaeology of Ireland*, p. 204. Amongst more recently excavated tumuli the Hengistbury Head group (Busche-Fox, *op. cit.*), the Beacon Hill Barrow (Fox, *op. cit.*), and the Lexden Barrow (Colchester Museum Catalogue) may be mentioned.

⁵⁰ Greenwell, *op. cit.*

of the latter independently of soil deserves consideration both as a less laborious means of attaining the same end and as an alternative and not less probable rite.

Perhaps the custom began in the full Beaker Period, when after preliminary burial or exposure many of the broken bones were placed in the filling of the grave as at Gorsey Bigbury,⁵¹ or Corston (p. 132) where flint and pottery were added too. Perhaps it goes back to the Neolithic, for the pottery in long barrows may represent a small part of many vessels, as at West Kennett.⁵² Apparently it existed still in Hallstatt times (T. 1, T. 2, T. 3,⁵³ whatever may be the date of the finger-tip ware of T. 10, T. 11, and T. 14). The Lexden tumulus seems to carry it into the Roman era.⁵⁴ Greenwell deduced that it was remembered in Shakespeare's day as a pagan, if possibly foreign, burial rite appropriate to a suicide (Ophelia), but it is possible that the poet had it from some early archæologist.

SOURCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DEBRIS.

The flint and pottery seem to have been gathered from some source of contemporary rubbish, no doubt the settlement if not the dwelling of the dead; they were not tools made *ad hoc* nor vessels broken upon the barrow. The flint consisted of chippings and waste, together with a few implements some of which were spoilt—well worn or burnt. The sherds, derived from many vessels, were often weathered or burnt after fracture and no two could be fitted together; they were not abundant in the primary barrows, possibly because pottery played little part in the life of the nomadic Middle Bronze Age folk, being replaced by skins or wooden vessels. The calcined bone was, so far as can be determined, of the buried person. Like the less abundant charcoal it occurred as discrete, widely-separated fragments, which may have been gleaned from the ashes of the pyre.

This débris, a great part of which was added independently of soil, can hardly be meaningless. The scattering of flint and pottery might signify the equipment of the dead for an after-life or arise in a taboo on his possessions—customs which still exist, it is said. If so, however, the practice had become conventional for it was not necessary to provide or to discard in the barrow an actual set of tools or vessels. Again, perhaps the pieces were sown to yield a harvest for the dead. Perhaps the scattering symbolized the return of all things to the Earth that bore them—"ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

The burnt human bone was not simply the surplus that could not be packed into a cinerary vessel or cyst; witness the half-empty Urn 2, the roomy cysts, and the case of T. 14.

The unburnt bone beneath the barrows—insignificant fragments of several animals—does not suggest sacrifice or augury. Nor does it seem to be the remains of food provided for the dead, for few pieces exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length, the bigger do not suggest jointing, and many are not derived from edible parts but from the foot, etc. Such explanations as

⁵¹ Cf. the burnt human bone beneath T. 5 (beaker), though this was in a "hearth." R. F. Read, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 2, p. 132.

⁵² Thurnam, *Archæologia*, Vol. 38, p. 405 ff.

⁵³ Tratman, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 1, p. 78 and No. 3, p. 238 ff.

⁵⁴ Colchester Museum Catalogue. The barrow substance contained calcined human bone and many dateable objects, including fragments of chain-mail, perhaps torn deliberately.

follow seem to be more likely : that it was left from the meals of grave-diggers or a ritual feast, or that it was " seed " sown before building began.

THE DATE OF THE DEBRIS.

A little flint may have been collected when the ground was being tilled, but it may be doubted whether there was much agriculture in this district in the Bronze Age or indeed before Roman times. Some flint may have been picked up in caves, though their Bronze Age and Neolithic deposits are far from rich in it ; their Palaeolithic are richer, but both worked implements and flakes are recognizable by type and dense patina and are almost absent from the barrows. Such more ancient material is not likely to be important numerically. This is confirmed in several ways.

1. About 98 per cent of the basal flint was almost or quite unpatinated and double patination was rare, being found once in the primary part of T. 10. It is capable of the change, which has begun since excavation in some exposed to sunlight. Now ancient flint discovered by Bronze Age man probably lay near the surface for the most part and was probably more or less patinated whenever capable. It is true that on Mendip comparatively little change has taken place in the surface flint as a whole ; still, the greater part of that found beneath T. 10 was quite white and so were 11 of 13 pieces found in its (primary) body outside the basal mass. Thus when it was built most of the flint in the soil was either already changed or of a different quality from that in use. Even that apparently dropped upon the earthen barrow has become distinctly patinated in many cases.

2. The definitely older types including parallel-sided flakes—are all but absent from the basal mass. Similarly, beaker ware is missing, although perhaps the commonest pre-Iron Age domestic ware in this district.

3. The readiest and only considerable source of waste flint and pottery likely to have been available to the builders is the débris of their own occupation. Why should they go further afield ? For pottery they did not ; it was of a type contemporary with the part of the barrow in which it lay. Their settlement may, indeed, have been upon the site of an earlier, without pottery, but probably such exposed flint as was patinable and appreciably older was distinctly more patinated. Even if many of the artefacts had been brought accidentally in soil from a settlement, the pottery and the predominantly fresh flint would show it to have been a contemporary one.

It is suggested that when a type is well represented in the basal masses of both primary or both secondary barrows, T. 10 and T. 11, most of the examples were from a contemporary station and the type was in current use. Obviously there can be no certainty regarding a given specimen unless dateable in itself.

It should be noted that probably the secondary earthen cap of T. 11 contained a greater number of older artefacts. Probably much of the surface flint of to-day was dropped in the interval between the two burials, and since the building material was perhaps all surface soil it may have contained several times as much as did that of the primary barrows. This is confirmed by the finds. The concentration at the centre near the base was only 50 to 60 times greater than that in the body. Of the added flint, more may have been already ancient, for doubtless there was more in the soil and perhaps cultivation was more extensive. Much more was patinated. All the pottery, nevertheless, seemed to be contemporary with the burial.

CONCLUSIONS.

1. Flint, pottery, comminuted calcined human bone and charcoal were scattered in the barrows during the early stages of their building, both in the primary and secondary periods, as well as before and during the filling of certain pits; in fact, probably after every burial yet found in this group. It does not seem possible to explain this scattering except as deliberate.

2. The chief source of the flint and pottery was contemporary rubbish. Types that are of regular occurrence in the concentrations may be taken as having been almost certainly in current use; in the case of flint, this is supported if the examples be consistently unpatinated. Of any given object not itself dateable, this can be said: (a) The stratigraphy may prove it not later than the barrow; (b) If in the basal mass of a primary barrow the chances that it was contemporary seem to be about 50 to 1, and that it was placed there deliberately at least 400 to 1. If in that of a secondary barrow the odds are much less, possibly about a tenth of these.

3. Some ancient flint was present in the building material, but so little in that of the primary barrows that the basal masses of T. 10 and T. 11 should have contained one piece between them. Some may have been collected and thrown into the tumuli, about 2 per cent of that in the primary basal masses being appreciably patinated.

NOTES ON THE STRATIFICATION AND INDUSTRIAL REMAINS.

Only objects found within 16 feet of the barrow centre will be described with their respective layers, because beyond this the stratification became progressively less clear. The remainder will be classed as "Marginal."

SURFACE SOIL.

Seven pieces of flint, all highly patinated, were found below the "turf line," some above and some below the fainter brown band 5 inches lower. Clearly these were older than the barrow. Fig. 8 No. 10 is most probably but a "burin de fortune"; the edges show a little fine chipping. No. 11 is part of a small serrated flake. No. 12 is a small triangular knife, two edges of which bear fine blunting retouch. No. 13 is a fragment of a boldly-chipped tool. Potsherds, bone and charcoal were absent.

Found in the barrow but more or less certainly of this earlier group were: Fig. 8 No. 1; Fig. 9 Nos. 1, 3, 18; Fig. 10 Nos. 28 and 20, though the last has been re-chipped.

BASAL "TURF LINE."

This dark brown layer, sometimes 2 inches thick and as hard as a floor of rusted iron, lay upon the natural surface. It faded gradually as it approached the edge of the barrow, vanishing when the depth fell to about 18 inches. It was missing above pits, with some exceptions in T. II.

At the edges of the basal concentration it contained two or three bits of unpatinated flint and traces of charcoal and calcined human (?) bone. A few scraps of non-human or unidentifiable unburnt bone lay in and under its base.

Though regarded at first as the residue of turf, it was found upon the burnt herbage surrounding a fire beneath T. II; this was a black lamina containing charred grass stems and bracken (?). The "turf line," therefore, was the base of the made earth or barrow.

That it was not made by the addition of foreign soil, ochre, etc., was shown by the perfectly even way in which it became paler and thinner as the depth of cover decreased. Perhaps it was due to some change induced in the ochreous loam by contact with turf decaying in a restricted supply of air. The greyish or pale yellow humus below it may have been incapable of the change, through exposure to weather and plant growth. Alternatively, perhaps the "turf line" was due to the arrest at the natural surface of water that had become charged with iron salts in its passage through the barrow. Neither theory explains the thin parallel lamina in the natural soil, about 5 inches below, which was less extensive, requiring more cover for its development, but was equally sharp and straight in section.

THE PRIMARY BARROW.

The brown laminæ, irregularly rounded in plan, were of all sizes up to 2½ feet across and 1½ inches in thickness. They lay roughly parallel with the surface of the barrow, between but not sealing down tips of soil. They became fainter as the surface was approached, to disappear in the uppermost 18 inches, whether owing to root-action, too free a supply of air, or solution. In composition they appeared identical with the "turf line."

The inner zone of the barrow—that within 16 feet of centre—yielded about 230 pieces of flint and 25 potsherds, in addition to those in pits and cysts. They may be divided into three groups.

1. Over 200 pieces of flint, mostly unpatinated, and all the pottery, bone, and charcoal were in the "basal mass." They are described below.

2. Thirteen simple flakes and the "pygmy," Fig. 8 No. 15, were in the uppermost 6 inches. Doubtless some had been of the building material and some dropped upon the barrow, their moderately heavy patination being explained by exposure.

3. Thirteen flint flakes were distributed evenly in the remainder, and probably had been in the building material. Two were slightly patinated, eleven densely. Only two were worked implements, both white and almost certainly older than the barrow: Fig. 9 No. 3, an incompletely retouched angular gravette "point" (?), and Fig. 9 No. 18, the bulbar end of a broken flake used as a scraper, as was not uncommon in this district.

INDUSTRIAL REMAINS FROM THE BASAL MASS.

Pottery. Besides crumbs, there were 25 sizeable sherds. Nineteen lay between 5 and 8 feet N. by E. of centre, from 1 inch to 4 inches above the turf line—an exception to the rule of uniform scattering. The laminæ above them were intact. Though some look as if burnt since fracture and though they do not fit together, they may possibly be from one vessel, but they would form scarcely a twentieth part of it. One is a fragment of a narrow overhanging rim like that of some early Type 1 Urns (Fig. 11 No. 3). It bears three oblique gashes on the lip. Unfortunately a part has crumbled away since it was found, but the dotted lines are approximately correct. The coarse flaky black paste contains charcoal but no added grit, resembling that of local Type 1 Urns; the dark brown surface may bear a slip of fine clay. Another is a fragment of a plain flat base. A second rim, similar but slightly thicker, lay about 4 feet E. of centre and 2 inches above the turf line. The remainder were derived from the walls of large vessels in the same paste, but reddish or yellowish externally, dark grey to black internally. The rims of local Type 1 Urns tend to be darker than the bodies, as if they were fired mouth downwards.

Stone other than Flint. The following have been identified by Dr. Wallis:—

A fragment of a ground celt or hammer in volcanic tuff probably from near Shepton Mallet (Fig. 8 No. 20).

An almost spherical pebble of compact crinoidal limestone (No. 21).

A brick-red pebble of local ferruginous quartz.

Half a doubtful grindstone suitable for a saddle-backed quern, in O.R.S.

A large O.R.S. pebble used as a hammer and another possibly so used. No other sizeable stones were found in the earthen part of the barrow.

Flint. Most of the two hundred odd pieces are waste. All those worked are shown in Fig. 8 Nos. 1-9, 14, 16-19, and Fig. 9 Nos. 2, 4-17, 19-27, except about a dozen duplicates or very rough and atypical tools.

Series of the Middle or post-beaker phase of the Bronze Age are rare. The present is as well authenticated as is reasonably possible in a district previously occupied. The same sources of error exist even in a grave, a hut floor or an intact, sealed cave stratum—the use of ancient tools and their accidental presence in the soil. As has been said, they may be regarded as introduced deliberately in almost every case and as contemporary with the barrow in most cases, but without certainty as regards any given specimen. Nevertheless, when a type is represented by several unpatinated specimens its current use is all but certain. In all cases the barrow sets a late limit.

The following provisional conclusions may be drawn from this series and from that of T. 11. The types are those most abundant on the surface of the Mendips and South Cotswolds, but without recognized weapons. The facies differs from that of local Neolithic and Beaker Period groups (e.g., those from Chelm's Combe,⁵⁵ Soldier's Hole⁵⁶ and Sun Hole⁵⁷ at Cheddar, Rowberrow Cavern,⁵⁸ T. 14, Gorsey Bigbury, etc.) in the following ways.

1. There are no sharp knives with backs blunted for the finger, for the "dos rabattu" flakes have blunted edges which will scrape or perhaps slit up skins but will not cut. It is suggested that they were replaced by simple flakes backed in wood and perhaps by bronze.

2. Awls and piercers are rare, except accidental points used as such. Replacement by metal is suggested.

3. The thumb scrapers are, apparently, never worked all round.

4. The workmanship is less careful and low-angle-flaking ("scaling") is much less common.

5. There are no arrowheads.

The following are missing also, unless as microliths, the few exceptions being densely patinated; they seem to be Palæolithic or Mesolithic in this district, though the first five or six may be Neolithic elsewhere: prismatic cores, flakes struck therefrom, tools showing bold but regular retouch, core scrapers, typical end-scrapers (straight and round ended), notched scrapers, burins, blunted-back pointed knives of the curved and angular gravette types, parallel-sided flakes with straight blunted edge, shouldered flakes. There are no typical hollow scrapers—a very rare type on Mendip at any age.

The lack of suitable flint may explain the rarity of fine workmanship, good cores and large flakes, but obviously the parallel-sided flake was not attempted unless for microliths. Large, valuable, and very

⁵⁵ Balch and Palmer, "Excavations at Chelm's Combe," *Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc.*

⁵⁶ R. F. Parry, *Proc. Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc.*, LXXVI, p. 49 ff.

⁵⁷ E. K. Tratman and G. T. D. Henderson, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 3, p. 84 and Fig. 4.

⁵⁸ *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 3, No. 2, p. 190 and Fig. 4, etc.

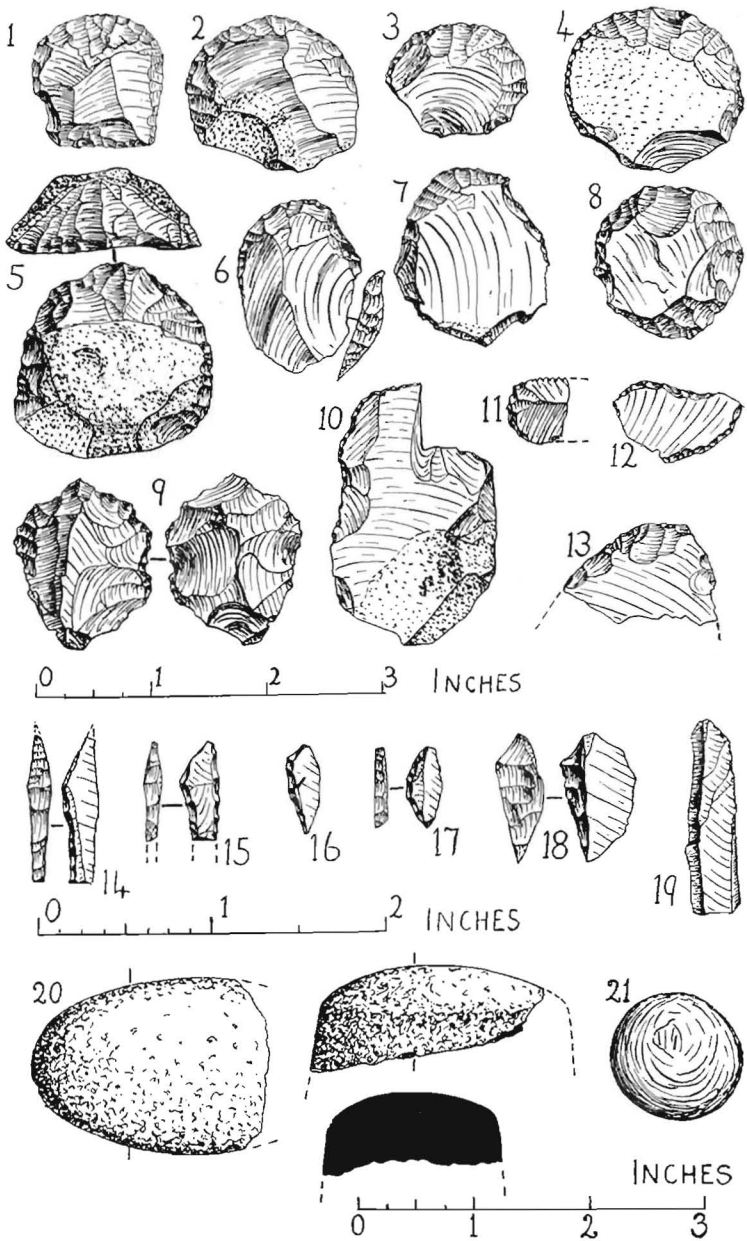


FIG. 8.—The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

Nos. 1-9, 14-21 Primary Barrow, No. 1 probably older;
Nos. 10-13 Natural Humus.

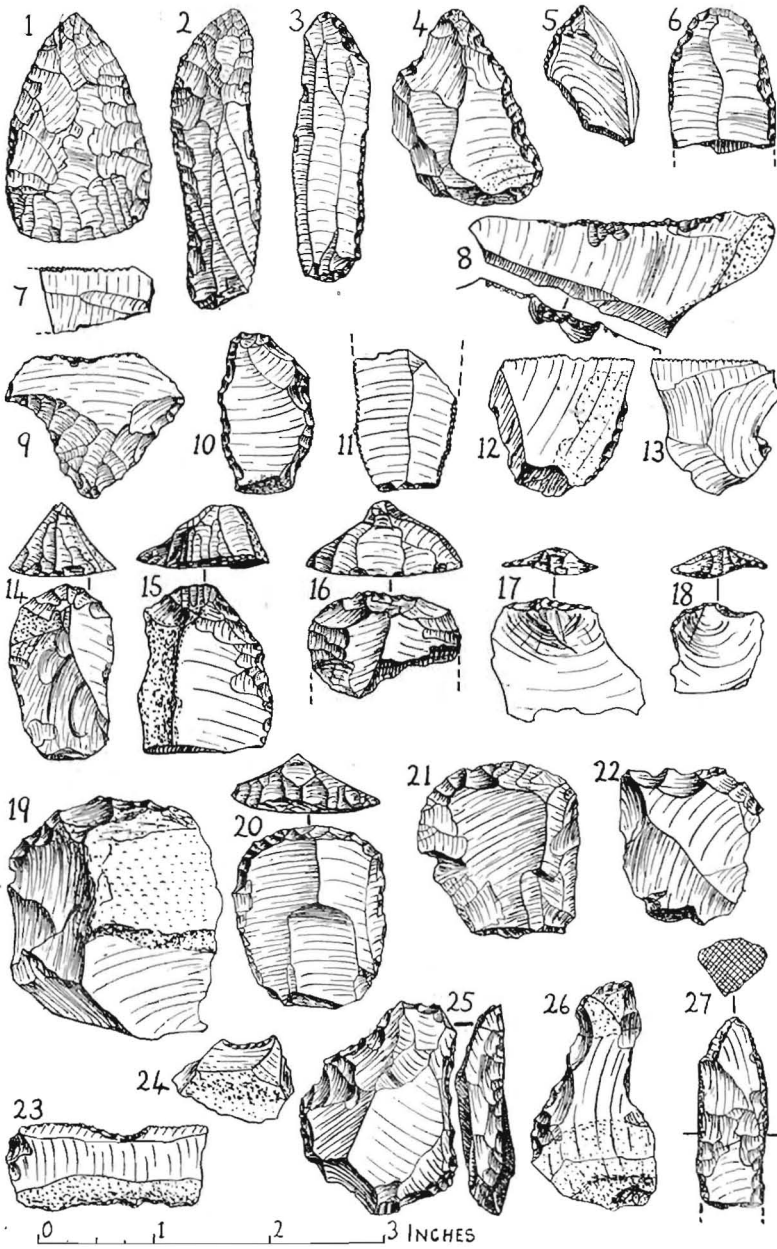


FIG. 9.—The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

Flints from the Primary Barrow. Nos. 1, 3 and 18 are probably older.

well-made tools are not to be expected, since the material is mainly rubbish; it may be regarded as a sample of the waste flint of the settlement. It is possible that certain types were not needed by the dead, but there does not seem to have been much selection of the material unless in so far as the better tools were kept for use. The absence of arrowheads seems to require one or other explanation.

The following, from the basal mass of T. 10, show little or no trace of patination unless the contrary is stated:—

Polished Flint. Of two fragments one was unchanged, the other showed incipient patination, but the polished surface no more than the rest. Since the flint used patinates very readily, probably the builders possessed newly-made polished celts.

Pointed Knives (often called "Points"). Fig. 9 No. 2 is a long knife carefully chipped. It is unpatinated and may be contemporary with the barrow, but it is a single specimen and the scale-flaking is unusual. Nos. 4 and 5 may be knives, but their peculiarly battered backs suggest use as fabricators, being worn, not blunted for the finger by chipping. The latter is in an unidentified rock.

Knives. Fig. 9 No. 10 is a blunted-back tool with regularly blunted edge—a slitting tool or sidescraper, not a true knife. There are no sharp-edged "dos rabattu" flakes, pointed or otherwise, common as they are in older deposits. Many of the unworked flakes seem to have been worn by use as knives and four have been resharpened by poorly-executed low-angle chipping; perhaps they were backed in wood, replacing the "dos rabattu" type.

Tranchets. Fig. 9 No. 9, unpatinated, of the halberd type,⁵⁹ is similarly "scaled" on either face. As is usual locally, wear is seen only on the unworked edge and resembles that produced by use as a knife. Their great width renders these tools impossible as arrowheads, whatever may be the case as regards the triangular "petit tranchets" or "transverse arrowheads." Their shape suggests some such primary destination as that of barbs for harpoons or teeth for sickles; their lack of polish seems to be against the latter.⁶⁰ That they were apparently used as knives is not of much significance, for so were most of the suitable sharp-edged flakes in the district. Like the pygmy implements to be described, they may be of Mesolithic origin, but the "scaling" is a later technique. They were certainly in use in the

⁵⁹ J. A. Davis, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 2, p. 168.

⁶⁰ But Curwen finds that many sickle flints are unpolished. *Antiquity*, June, 1930, p. 179.

Neolithic and Beaker periods, and probably at the time of these barrows, for almost unpatinated examples occurred in T. 11 too. Points. In the functional sense, only two were present—stout pieces of accidental form. No shaped piercers, awls, or weapons were found.

Saws and Serrated Flakes. Fig. 9 Nos. 7, 11, 12, 13, found within a radius of 18 inches, and 8, found 2 feet away, are the only such tools from the primary barrow. No. 11 is a broken double saw, more highly patinated than the average; the teeth of one row are worn and polished. Nos. 7, 12, and 13 are very finely serrated, the edges of Nos. 7 and 12 showing slight wear and polish. Possibly they were sickle teeth (?). No. 8 is roughly but purposely chipped from one face only and may be a saw. The worked finger-platform on the back is better adapted to the left hand.

“Fabricators.” Fig. 9 No. 6 may be a broken example of Dr. Clay’s first type.⁶¹ Only the scraper-like end is worn; in some specimens it is quite rounded and polished by use, without the detachment of chips, like some scrapers which, it has been suggested, were used to polish flint and like Palæolithic burins. The right-hand edge of No. 4 is battered, chips having been detached in all directions. No. 27 is a finger of flint presenting two similarly battered edges and a splintered, unpolished point, which may have been used as a fabricator, a strike-a-light, or both, but seems to resemble Dr. Clay’s Type 3. A very stout flake shows an oval area about $\frac{2}{3}$ inch across, pitted with minute scars at one end of a naturally convex face.

Convex Scrapers. The convex end-scrapers are on very short flakes and pass insensibly into the thumb-scrapers by extension of their worked edge (horseshoe type) and through double and composite forms. The thumb scrapers themselves are rarely worked around much more than two-thirds of the edge; they might often be called end-scrapers, the middle of the worked segment being at the end of the flake, being more carefully worked and bearing most of the wear. Since the wear is of the same character, the three types may be classed together functionally as well as morphologically. The wear of Fig. 9 No. 6 suggests that it was a fabricator, but Fig. 9 Nos. 14–21 belong to the end-scraper part of the series. Nos. 14–16, 19, 20 are steep and more or less

⁶¹ R. C. C. Clay, “Flint Implements from the Nadder Valley,” *Wilts. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Mag.*, XLIII, p. 156 ff.

keeled, No. 21 is low-angled, No. 17 is a short flake the faceted striking platform of which has been touched up and used. Fig. 8 Nos. 2-9 are thumb-scrapers, but only No. 8 is worked all round; it was made on a patinated flake and the bulb on the under surface was chipped down. The lower face of No. 9 has been flattened by rather unsuccessful "scaling." Nos. 3 and 7 are on thin flakes, No. 5 on an exceptionally stout one. No. 6 has a scraping edge at either end, one chipped inversely. Fig. 8 No. 1 is a composite tool, a round-end-scraper on a straight racloir or knife with strengthened (not blunted) edge; it may be older than the rest, being more fully patinated and of finer workmanship; as has been said, one or two older tools may be expected even in the basal mass.

Hollow Scrapers. There are no typical specimens. Fig. 9 Nos. 23, 24 and one not figured are thin flakes in which shallow bays have been worked. Their backs retain patches of cortex which improve the grip.

Sidescrapers. Fig. 8 No. 1 with straight, fairly sharp worked lateral edge and Fig. 9 No. 10, a "dos rabattu" "knife" with blunted edge, have been mentioned. The other possible sidescrapers are so rough that they seem to be accidental forms, slightly adapted. The business edge of Fig. 9 No. 25 is partly convex, partly concave, the former segment worn; its steeply chipped back was perhaps blunted for the finger. No. 26 has a natural finger-platform opposite the scraping edge. A very rough convex sidescraper (?) completes the group.

Cores. The one specimen is irregular, having been struck from all directions to the limit of its usefulness.

Simple Flakes. Like the worked, these are small and were struck from short pyramidal or irregular cores.

Pygmy Implements. Fig. 8 Nos. 14, 16, 17, and 19 were found three or four inches above the turf line, scattered throughout the north-west of the basal mass. No. 14, quite unpatinated, is a subtriangular microlith, to adopt Mr. J. G. D. Clark's terminology.⁶² No. 16 of the same type, No. 17 a "crescent with blunted arc" (the chipping is carried around one point, "penknife-blade" fashion) and No. 19 a microlithic parallel-sided

⁶² J. G. D. Clark, *The Mesolithic Age in Britain*. In our district the subtriangular microlith is found side by side with the long scalene triangle both in Mesolithic and Bronze Age deposits. The point between the longer sides of the triangle is carelessly made or replaced by a short unworked edge, thus there is no real difference between the two types.

flake with nibbled edge, are very slightly patinated. No. 18, unpatinated and unusually stout, is a "crescent with blunted chord"; it lay about 3 inches above the base and 5 feet S. of centre. No. 15 was found in the top of the primary mound about 6 feet S. of centre; it is a broken "subtriangular microlith" having three worked edges and is fairly well patinated like most of the flint from that level.

The above may be matched by implements definitely of Beaker age from Rowberrow Cavern⁶³ and Gorsey Bigbury. These Bronze Age groups are clearly derived from the Mesolithic industry as seen at King Arthur's Cave,⁶⁴ all the microlithic types of which are represented. They differ in being made more frequently from bad (i.e., twisted or curved) flakes, perhaps in the greater frequency of very minute chipping, and in the relative abundance of subtriangular microliths and long scalene triangles as compared with rods and "obliquely blunted-backed points."

In passing, attention may be called to the apparent origin of these "obliquely blunted-backed points" and rods (including very long narrow crescents) from native Developed Aurignacian forms, possibly under influence from the Continent. It may be seen in the several Upper Palæolithic levels at Mother Grundy's Parlour⁶⁵ and King Arthur's Cave,⁶⁶ and in that of Aveline's Hole dated Magdalenian 6b.⁶⁷ The former seem to appear as the final stage of the angular-backed gravette "point" series, along with full-sized tools also having only a part of the back worked. The rods may be traced, as thinner and slightly wider straight blunted-backed flakes with bolder secondary chipping, as far back as the Protosolutrean, although those of Aveline's Hole are unusually short and wide. On the other hand, triangular, subtriangular, and typical crescentic and other geometric microliths do not seem to appear here until the Mesolithic, with one exception at Aveline's Hole which differs in patination and workmanship from almost all the rest of the flint and may be later, for it is uncertain when the deposit was sealed. Thus presumably they were not of local origin, though whether they were brought by Tardenoisian or Maglemose or other immigrants or developed in some other part of this country has yet to be determined.

Of about fifty triangular, subtriangular, crescentic, and rod microliths in this Society's possession none are worn at all. Now in this district practically every tool or fragment of flint is worn. The "pygmies" are thus isolated along with the arrowheads, and doubtless the view that they were the barbs of harpoons or fish-hooks is correct.

Thanks to Mr. Clark's work, it is unnecessary to give a list of microliths apparently of Neolithic and Bronze Age dates, but since such a survival is disputed and since the evidence from the earthen barrows

⁶³ *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 1, p. 46 and Fig. 11, and No. 3, p. 201, Fig. 5.

⁶⁴ *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 3, No. 2, Fig. 4.

⁶⁵ Armstrong, J. R. A. I., XXVIII, p. 146 ff. Clark, *op. cit.*, pp. 29-30.

⁶⁶ T. F. Hewer, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 3, No. 2, Fig. 8, No. 2; Fig. 7, No. 4; Fig. 6, Nos. 4, 6, 8-12.

⁶⁷ J. A. Davis, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 1, No. 2, Fig. 10, Nos. 3, 18; Fig. 11, Nos. 7, 8; Vol. 1, No. 3, Fig. 16, No. 15; Vol. 2, No. 1, Fig. 2, Nos. 6, 7, 9; Vol. 2, No. 2, Fig. 1, Nos. 4, 5, 6.

is necessarily somewhat uncertain, we shall quote two sites, Rowberrow Cavern and Gorsey Bigbury. These have yielded evidence as conclusive as any that can be imagined, short of the discovery of a "pygmy flint" made from a polished fragment, and no doubt Mendip will yield that some day.

A typical subtriangular microlith, unpatinated, was taken from the undisturbed Beaker deposit near the back of Rowberrow Cavern and later on the same day a small lozenge-shaped bronze awl was found about 6 inches below and within a foot laterally. Both were found *in situ* in the presence of the writer. They were associated with the remains of sheep—unknown before Neolithic times—which ceased to occur about 3 inches below the awl and 9 inches below the pygmy flint. On the previous day a similar unpatinated microlith had been found in sorting material from the slice, 6 inches thick, above that containing the awl and from the same square—i.e., within about 4 feet at most. The tenacious clay which made it a rare event to find such objects *in situ* had prevented disturbance in the inner half or more of the chamber. In this cave there was no Mesolithic deposit. The poor Upper Palaeolithic contained no microliths and all its flint was densely patinated, thus the microliths could not have been derived from it even had it not been largely sealed down by stalagmitic matter and separated everywhere from the Beaker horizon by a barren layer. The latter seemed to be undisturbed everywhere.

Mr. Jones has found pygmy implements with chipping débris and a core in the Beaker Period "hearth," or occupied fraction of the ditch, at Gorsey Bigbury, but not in the unoccupied sectors and levels nor in the soil around. They are in the same average state of patination as the rest of the flint, which includes barbed and tanged arrowheads and polished fragments. The date is confirmed by pottery.

It is most unlikely that either Neolithic or Beaker folk immediately exterminated their Mesolithic predecessors. Doubtless the latter lived on for centuries in remote districts and in tracts unsuited to grazing and agriculture, and if so some contact was almost inevitable, through slaves or otherwise. Indeed, the presence of petit tranchets at Windmill Hill and Whitehawke Camps suggests that contact was not confined to remote districts.

T. 10, T. 11, and the Beacon Hills burnt burial in which a "long triangle" was found,⁶⁸ are not necessarily much later than the Beaker Period. All that can be claimed is that the pygmy implements in them were almost certainly handled by the builders. If their use was forgotten, they might well be endowed with magic properties (as were flint arrowheads in after times) and become especially liable to be deposited in barrows. Nevertheless, several facts suggest that they were derived from the same source as most of the flint and pottery, the rubbish of the community, and even that they were used after the barrows were raised.

In T. 10 and T. 11 we are dealing with a group, not an isolated specimen, and a group confined to the basal mass with one exception in either barrow. This is very strong evidence that they were deposited by the builders. Their slight or absent patination and the similarity of their flint to the rest of that from the basal masses suggest that they were of the same age; contrast the highly-patinated state of the ancient

⁶⁸ Fox, *Comm. Camb. Antiq. Soc.*, Vol. XXVI. Bateman found a burnt specimen in a Beaker interment in Staffordshire.

types, e.g., all the parallel-sided flakes of normal size and the angular gravette point (?), Fig. 9 No. 3. The exceptions, the presence of one microlith in the top of either barrow though there were none in the body, may be yet more significant, for they were in the same moderately-patinated state as the rest of the flint, much of which was dropped upon the mounds if we may judge by its proportionate concentration. It does not follow that flint so dropped was very much later than the tumulus, as has been supposed; Chinese customs demonstrate that it is not inconsistent with ancestor-worship to rest upon a family tomb.

Pygmy implements are relatively uncommon on the surface of Mendip; we have seen half a dozen in the extensive collection of Mr. Selly, and a few others are known, but the scrapers, for instance, must run into hundreds of thousands. No such pygmy implements have been found in the fields near Tynings Farm, despite special search. The chances that six were present in the soil of T. 10—five in the small basal mass—are very small. It is almost as improbable that they were picked up during tillage, for they are not likely to be noticed unless looked for; further, the "obliquely blunted backed" type, which is less uncommon and does occur at Tynings Farm, was not collected and thrown into the barrow. If the microliths were from the Beaker deposit of Rowberrow Cavern or Gorse Bigbury, they were collected there, for the soil was not brought, as is shown by the absence of discoloration, fine charcoal, bone splinters, etc. In that case it is strange that other characteristic industrial débris was not collected also.

SURFACE OF THE PRIMARY BARROW.

Actually upon the surface of the earthen barrow was a part of the two secondary concentrations of calcined bone, "Hallstatt" pottery, flint and charcoal already described.

The jet bead has been mentioned (Fig. 12 No. 20).

Of the fifty-odd potsherds two-thirds were beneath S, from which many seemed to have fallen, the remainder being on the other sides of Urn 1. Doubtless some of those beneath S were associated with this urn-burial, but those that could be separated were not worth individual description. The whole will be treated below.

Of the seven flints, two (neither worked) may belong to the second urn-burial, five to the first, or all may be earlier or later. It is known that many groups of Hallstatt folk used flint. Two are implements. Fig. 10 No. 18 is a knife with blunted back, so much patinated that probably it had lain long upon the primary mound. Fig. 10 No. 29 is a stout prismatic unpatinated flake having a retouched or much used straight scraping edge.

THE STONE CAP.

At all depths were a few Roman and later sherds, doubtless fallen, and a few flint flakes. The remainder of the contents—calcined bone, "Hallstatt" sherds, flint, and charcoal—formed part of the two concentrations: (1) That within 6 or 8 feet of Urn 1,

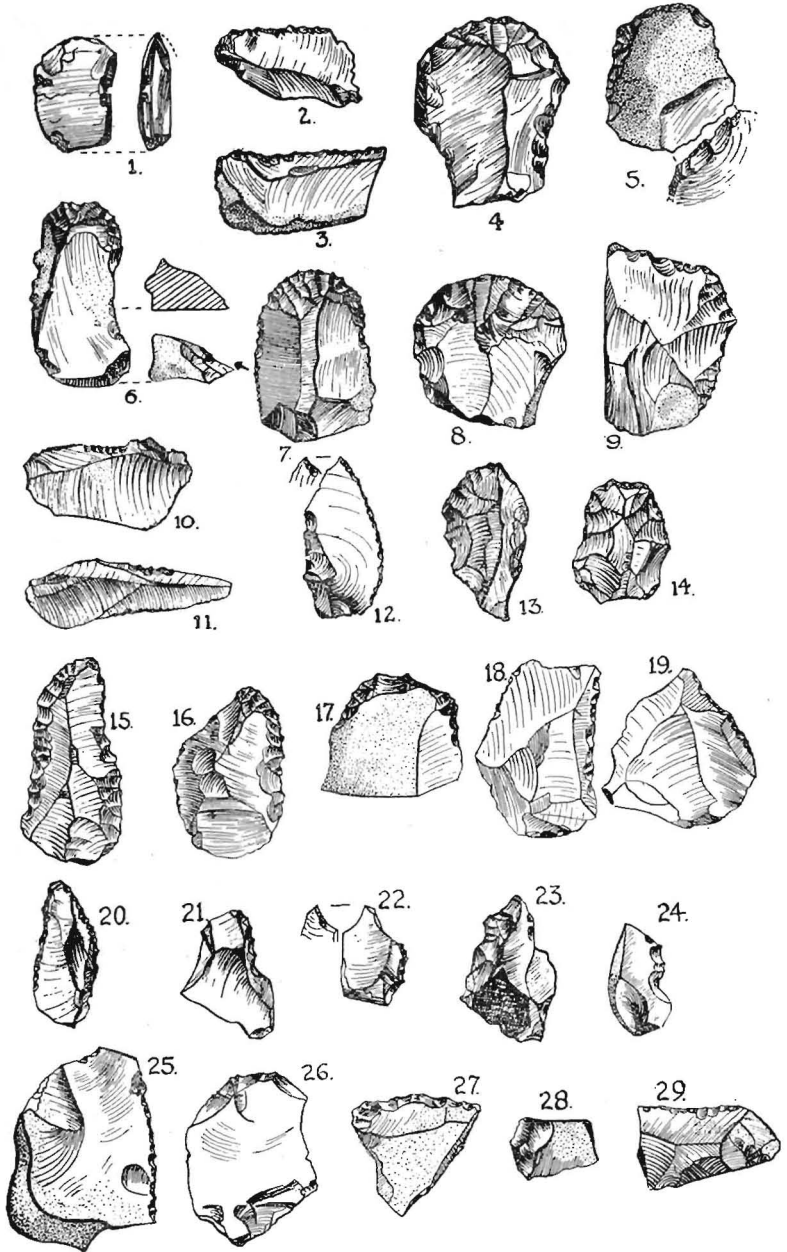


FIG. 10.—The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

Flints $\frac{3}{4}$ Natural Size.

Nos. 25-28 from Pit P.

,, 18, 29 upon Primary Barrow.

,, 15-17, 20, from Stone Cap.

No. 19 from present turf.

Nos. 1, 3, 5 from marginal zone.

,, 2, 6-14, 21, 23, 24, Late squatting site.

passing over its capstone and platform and some of the lowest stones, but beneath other such stones and on the earthen mound between them; (2) That at S, a well-marked layer about 3 inches above the base of the cairn, but here and there spreading down to the extreme base.

Of the 550 potsherds some 500 were at S, about half at the level of its floor and half below; the remainder were around Urn 1. The fifty actually upon the earthen mound are included in the following account.

The sherds do not fit together. Scarcely any fractures are fresh, some are burnt. Pieces of several vessels were mingled everywhere, at least twenty-six in all. Presumably these were domestic pots. So small are the fragments that altogether they would not suffice to build one urn of the size of Urn 1.

Ware. The paste, which is fine and well mixed, is dark brown, greyish-brown, or black with carbon, perhaps finely powdered charcoal. Carbon is especially abundant in the thinner and most of the later sherds, i.e., those from S, including Urn 2 itself. Internally the ware is almost black, externally it is usually a reddish brown, sometimes red or ochreous, rarely dark brown and never black. The surface is smoothed but not tooled nor polished and sometimes seems to bear a slip of finer clay but not a hæmatite glaze, although sometimes distinctly red (e.g., Fig. 12 Nos. 12, 15, 16, and Fig. 11 No. 26). Some sherds show excrescences due probably to the expansion of iron-bearing granules, or the pits from which they have fallen away, as at All Cannings Cross, but such granules are found in the local soil.

Rims (Fig. 11). The few specialized rims can be matched in the earliest series at St. Catherine's Hill, near Winchester, in which the three commonest types of decoration, finger-tip, punched and incised, are the same. Our series, however, resembles the All Cannings in the absence of swollen rims. According to Hawkes, these do not become a prominent feature until the close of La Tène I and are numerous in La Tène II. The following are slightly thickened in the shaping, not definitely swollen: Fig. 11 Nos. 13, 14, 17, 22-25, 28. There are no "incipient" beaded rims such as occur in La Tène II, that effect being produced in the section of the very roughly-made No. 28 by a shapeless roll of clay. Five rims are flattened, but on the slope; the rarity of horizontal flat rims being rather characteristic of this ceramic. Fig. 11 No. 5 slopes outwards (cf. E. 77, St. Catherine's) and four slope inwards, Urn 2, Plate IVb, 2 (decorated

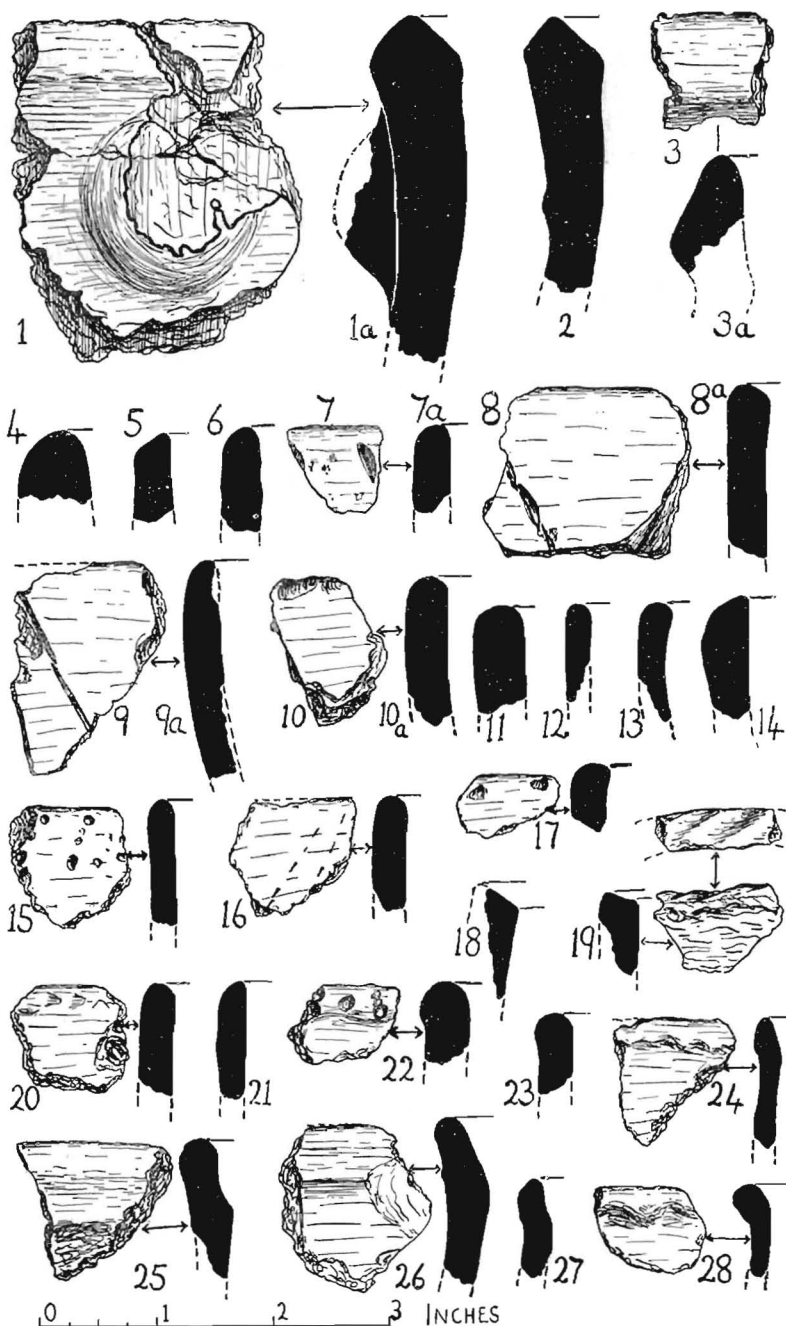


FIG. 11.—The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.
Rim Forms.

No. 1 from late Squatting Site. No. 2. from Pit P. No. 3 from Primary Barrow.

Nos 4-28 from upon Primary Barrow or in Secondary Barrow.

with a row of parallel finger-nail impressions like several from St. Catherine's Hill), Fig. II No. 18, another like it, and No. 19 (grooved obliquely as if by the side of the finger, like Fig. II, A. 113, from St. Catherine's). The majority are simply rounded—Fig. II Nos. 4, 6-13, 15, 16, 20, five not figured and Urn 1,

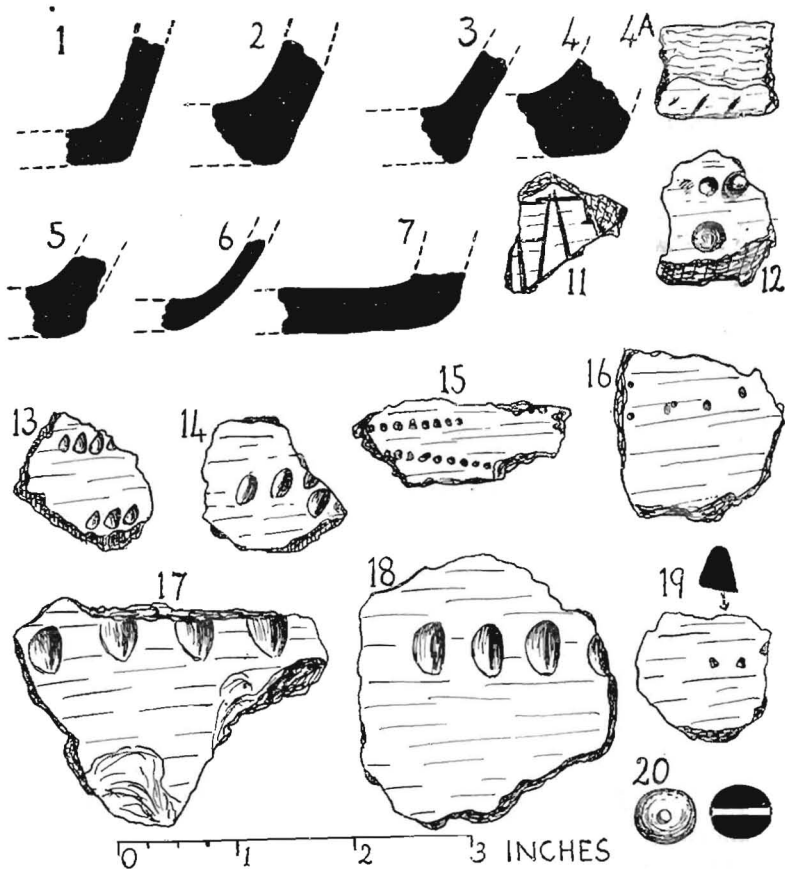


FIG. 12.—The North Barrow, Tyuings Farm.

Bases, decorated pottery, etc., from upon the Primary and in the Secondary Barrow. No. 20 from the surface of the Primary Barrow.

Plate IV*b*, 1. Some possess a fairly sharp lip nearer the inner face, e.g., Fig. II Nos. 14, 17, 21, and to a less degree 4, 6, 7. Slightly everted rims are represented by Nos. 24-28; 25 and 26 were associated with Urn 2. No. 25 is dark brown in colour and shows an internal shoulder between neck and body (cf. Mis. 3 from St. Catherine's). A thicker rim of the type was

seen on the All Cannings site by the writer. No. 26, red externally, is similar but rougher and has a small external rib.

Neck and Shoulder Forms. Of these there is little evidence. Fig. 11 Nos. 24-27 may be from vessels with slightly concave necks (cf. Nos. 1 and 2, in other ware but apparently contemporary). Urn 1 (Plate IV*b*, 1) is biconical. There is one well-marked shoulder, Fig. 12 No. 17, but the size of the angle is indeterminate. Their very absence suggests that the dominant form was a bucket or a slightly biconical or concave-necked vessel with indefinite shoulder (cf. Urn 2).

Bases (Fig. 12 Nos. 1-7). These are all simple. No. 4 bears parallel oblique nail impressions, probably accidental.

Decoration. Little but the technique is available for study.

a. Punchmarks are the commonest device. They may be pip-shaped (Fig. 12 No. 13); subtriangular (Fig. 12 No. 19; Fig. 11 No. 17, the latter on the outer edge of a rim); rounded, marking out oblique lines below the rim (Fig. 11 No. 15), on its outer edge (Fig. 11 No. 22) or placed irregularly (Fig. 12 No. 16); chisel-edged, arranged end to end in oblique lines (Fig. 11 No. 16). The v-marks on the edge of the rim No. 20 are of doubtful origin. The circular impressions on Fig. 12 No. 12 are probably the craters from which nodules have fallen.

b. Finger-tip markings are next in frequency, being found on more than a quarter of the decorated sherds. They may be set parallel to form lines passing horizontally around the vessel, e.g., Fig. 12 Nos. 4 (?), 14, 18, on the walls; No. 17 and Urn 1, on the shoulder; Urn 2, on the flat top of the rim; Fig. 11 No. 7, directly below the rim. Those on the outer edge of the rim, Fig. 11 No. 10, are unusual in being directed along, not across it.

c. The incised lines are made up of long gashes, another rather characteristic feature, for in the parallels quoted they seem to be continuous. The motives are: (1) Narrow triangles or a chevron crossed by horizontal lines (Fig. 12 No. 11, cf. Fig. 11 Nos. S. 1 and E. 70 from St. Catherine's Hill); (2) Oblique lines or a chevron below a simple rounded rim in dark brown ware (Fig. 11 Nos. 8, 9, and two others, representing two or three vessels, cf. Fig. 12, K. 1 from St. Catherine's).

d. Comb pattern is seen on Fig 12, No. 15 and another, both red externally, and on a fragment found inside Urn 1. (Cf. Mis. 9, Fig. 11, from St. Catherine's.)

e. The wide, shallow, oblique grooves on the flat top of the rim Fig. 11 No. 19 have been noticed.

f. Cordons, ribs, and bosses. A scrap probably of an applied cordon about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch square in section was found separated from its vessel. Fig. 11 No. 26 and possibly No. 25 show slight pinched-up ribs. Nos. 1 and 2 present respectively a pinched-up boss and a narrow rib, and though they are in another fabric No. 2 was associated with this ceramic. The biconical secondary urn of T. 11 has at its shoulder a high, pinched-up cordon, finger-printed and swelling out as four lugs, as well as a rounded rim with a scalloped effect produced by finger-prints.⁶⁹

This small series is supplemented by material from T. 11, T. 14, and occupation sites, in the same fabric. Provisionally it has been called "Hallstatt" (in quotation marks) because its rim forms and decoration may be matched at All Cannings Cross, at Hengistbury Head, and in the pre-rampart series at St. Catherine's Hill, and the ware at least at the first site. The most characteristic Hallstatt features and finer wares are missing; there are no hæmatite-coated sherds, none scratched after firing, no specialized bases, no carinated bowls. The flat-topped rims are not horizontal, the line-decoration is often made up of gashes, and the paste is almost always free from grit and sand.

From known Middle and Late Bronze Age pottery, including Deverel-Rimbury, it is separated by the hardness, fineness, and uniformity of the paste; from that of La Tène I and later by its relative softness (especially when wet), the absence of black sherds, of grit and sand, of tooled surfaces and of characteristic body, base and rim forms and decoration.

It is not known whether its makers worked or even possessed iron, nor whether (if they were a mixed group) the newcomers among them had ever done so; they may have been a Late Bronze Age folk. But in T. 11 a few hard gritty sherds, a turned spindle-whorl in shale and possibly an iron object were associated with the same ceramic. Its comparative softness may be due to a peculiarity of the local clay or to the survival of an earlier technique, for instead of grit or sand, carbon (perhaps powdered charcoal) tempered the clay of some Type 1 urns. Mr. Reginald Smith has suggested that native Bronze Age features in Hallstatt pottery may be due to the employment of captive native women as potters,⁷⁰ and this may apply equally to native features in immigrant Late Bronze Age pottery. The general effect is that of a degenerate All Cannings ceramic. As has been said, it cannot be explained as a cincerary one.

Decorated sherds in the same ware from Sun Hole⁷¹ have been identified as Hallstatt in character by Dr. Fox and others. A little similar material has been found at Soldier's Hole, Gough's Cave and Chelm's Combe, all at Cheddar; at Rowberrow Cavern; at Merlin's Cave on the Wye⁷²; at Ham Hill⁷³ and other Western sites. These do not help to determine its exact age, the deposits being too poor or too ill stratified. A fairly typical Iron Age A ceramic is found at Little

⁶⁹ *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 2, Plate XI, 4.

⁷⁰ *Archæologia*, 77, p. 186.

⁷¹ *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 3, No. 2, pp. 88-9.

⁷² C. W. Phillips, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 4, No. 1, p. 31, etc.

⁷³ St. George Gray, *Proc. Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc.*, Vol. LXXII, pp. 55-68.

Solsbury near Bath,⁷⁴ and apparently at Cheddar; it reached the coastlands both north and south of Mendip, at Kingsweston Down near Bristol,⁷⁵ and at Brean Down near Weston-super-Mare.⁷⁶

Stratigraphically, the forty-eight pieces of flint found in the stone cap cannot be earlier than Urn 1 and doubtless some are much later, having been dropped upon the completed barrow. Four are implements. Fig. 10 Nos. 15 and 16 are delicately-scaled pointed knives, the former unpatinated, the latter densely so—patination is very variable amongst stones. No. 17 is a round-end scraper, almost unpatinated, on a cortical flake. No. 20 is a highly-patinated microlithic knife with oblique blunted back, of gravette type; since the business edge has been re-chipped after patination, it is an ancient tool discovered and used again.

Three pebbles of O.R.S. may have been used as hammers, but the rock is so soft that little reliance can be placed on its scars. There were many suitable pebbles in the cairn.

TURF.

Twelve scraps of flint were dropped after the sandstone had weathered enough to support vegetation. This was to be expected, for the use of flint continued at Rowberrow Cavern until at least the fourth century A.D.⁷⁷ The one worked implement (Fig. 10 No. 19) is a thin slightly patinated knife presenting a regular "nibbled" retouch of one edge.

MARGINAL ZONE.

This was taken as the area between 16 and 31½ feet from the centre of the barrow. It contained 161 pieces of flint and a few of pottery (all the latter and the greater part of the former being low down on the eastern slope of the mound), but no charcoal nor bone, calcined or otherwise. Twenty-one scraps of flint were in the turf or the stone layer, 7 were certainly in the primary mound and 12 in the natural surface soil below. Of the remainder, 32 were either in the earthen mound or the top of the natural soil and 49 were quite uncertain; near the edge of the tumulus the "turf line" had faded out and the divisions between ancient humus, earthen barrow and stone cap were not clear. As is shown by the figures already given, it is not likely that any were deposited purposely.

⁷⁴ A note will be published shortly.

⁷⁵ E. K. Tratman, *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 1, p. 78, and No. 3, p. 238 ff.

⁷⁶ A note will be published shortly.

⁷⁷ *Proc. Spel. Soc.*, Vol. 2, No. 3, p. 193.

The squatting site. Low down on the sheltered eastern slope, at the depth of about 8 inches, was a small concentration of pottery and flint which seemed to be associated and to lie between the primary and secondary barrows. The four or five sherds may have belonged to one large vessel in coarse ware—reddish externally, black internally, of a coarse friable black paste containing carbon but no added grit. The rim fragment (Fig. 11 No. 1) differs only from No. 2 of Pit P in being slightly thicker and in bearing on its slightly concave neck a pinched-up boss. With it was a piece of the edge of a plain flat base not far from 4 inches in diameter. There were at least 40 pieces of flint, mostly waste but including 13 of the 18 implements found in the marginal zone. The 11 next following bear scarcely a trace of patination. Fig. 10 No. 6 is a double tool—a round end-scraper and a very steep keeled scraper that would almost pass for a burin in some contexts. No. 7 is a round end-scraper, No. 8 a thumb-scraper, No. 9 a rough straight-edged scraper and No. 24 a small side-scraper (of accidental form?). Nos. 10, 11, and 21 are very shallow concave scrapers, the bays being a little deeper than appears in plan. No. 13 is like a poor example of the Beaker Period "slug." No. 14 is a scaled knife. No. 23, which is fire-crackled, may be a fabricator or a very rough scraper. Fig. 10 Nos. 2 and 12 were densely patinated and may have been from the building material of the primary barrow or may have lain exposed upon its surface or elsewhere. No. 2 is perhaps a worn-out saw; No. 12 is an awl having typical alternate retouch at the point, a blunted edge and a trimmed bulb of percussion.

The following were from other regions of the marginal zone. Fig. 9 No. 1 is perhaps a javelin-head. One face is beautifully scaled, or flaked at a low angle, almost all over, but the other is scaled only at the site of the bulb of percussion and at the point. Patination is moderately well advanced. It was found 24 feet N.E. of centre, at the depth of over a foot—probably in the natural humus. It is the only probable weapon found except two well-patinated, broken leaf-shaped arrowheads, which lay quite outside the barrow.

Fig. 10 No. 4 is a densely-patinated composite tool, a round-ended scraper and a straight side-scraper. It was probably from the natural humus. Fig. 10 No. 1, a fragment of the edge of a polished axe, burnt and highly patinated, was in the earthen barrow.

Fig. 10 No. 3, a flake the slightly serrated edge of which bears a narrow band of polish, and No. 5, a round scraper with straight scraping edge prepared by inverse retouch at the opposite end, may be of any date later than the primary barrow, but they are

unpatinated and are not likely to have lain exposed for any great length of time.

PIT Y (Fig. 13).

Pit Y, situated 35 feet west of the barrow edge, was betrayed by an oval depression some 9 inches in depth. A hole 16 feet 9 inches by 14 feet 4 inches in plan and 4 feet deep had been quarried in the limestone; it was bounded on the south-west and west by a vertical face of rock, but its other sides sloped gently. Below thin turf it contained:—

1. Limestone scales, amongst them a few small pieces of O.R.S., a very little black soil, and half a hundredweight of rubbish. The latter was chiefly thick red "flower-pot" ware, perhaps tile, but included four pieces of thinner red ware with green internal glaze; fragments of three or four bricks, purplish or brown externally, brown and laminated on section; half a dozen iron nails or spikes of 3 inches and upwards in length; pieces of a thick cylindrical iron cauldron or flanged pipe; a few burnt and unburnt bones of ox and pig; traces of charcoal. A few stones were burnt but no fire had been built on the spot. This layer, 18 inches thick at the centre, lay in a saucer-shaped hollow about 2 feet 6 inches deep, roughly paved with slabs of O.R.S. which passed into a sloping "wall" on the east. The slabs were unburnt. Three or four pieces of the red ware turned up beneath them.

2. Clean loam with a few O.R.S. and conglomerate boulders, apparently local soil, varying from 2 inches to 1 foot 9 inches in thickness. One small piece of the red ware and two or three of flint were found in it.

3. Limestone fragments, mostly small angular pieces, with calcite and clayey loam. This was banked against the west wall of the pit and was barren.

It is suggested that Y was a miners' trial pit. The neighbourhood has been worked from Roman times. Probably the bottom layer consisted of spoil thrown back again, the next of loam thrown in deliberately or by the plough. As to the topmost, Father Horne tells us that in some districts children gather in heaps the potsherds and other débris from the fields; perhaps rubbish left by the miners around the pit was collected both to clear the ground and to fill what was still a considerable hollow. This would account for the limestone shale; such a collection made in the field to-day would consist of conglomerate and O.R.S. and very little recent pottery. The hypothesis fails to account for the stone floor and sloping "wall."

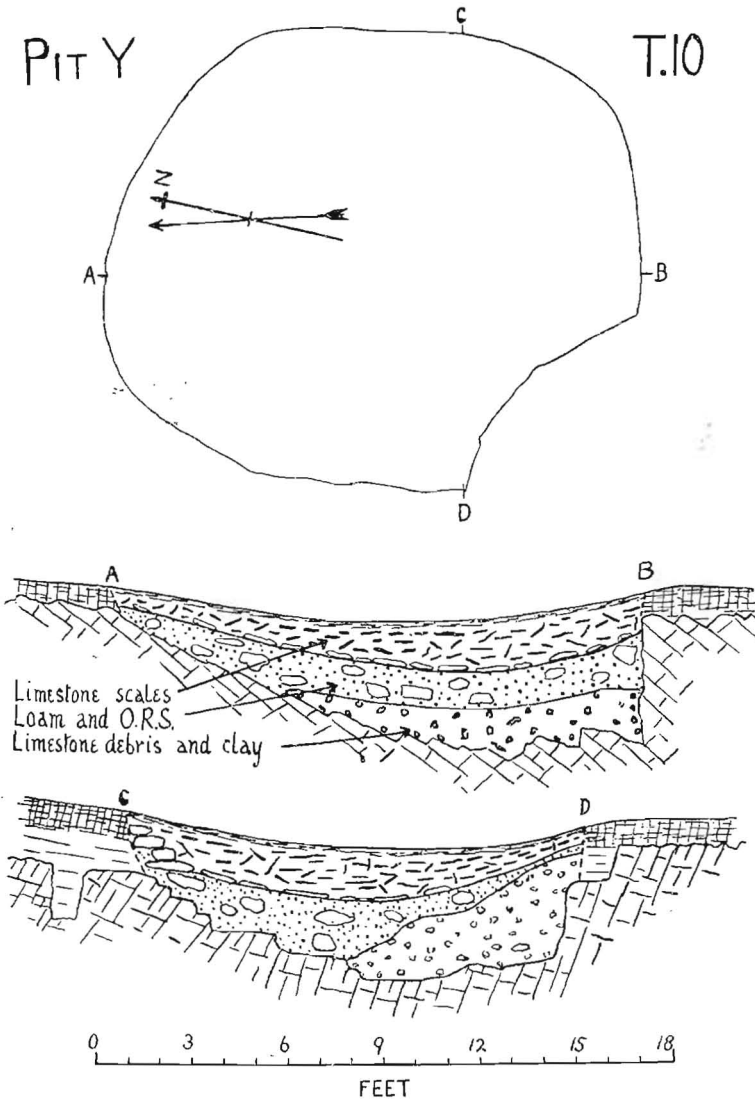


FIG. 13.—Pit Y. The North Barrow, Tynings Form.

PIT Z (Fig. 14).

Pit Z was not visible on the surface and was found by excavation. Its outline proved exceedingly difficult to trace; it was situated in a fissure, the subsoil of which was not clearly stratified; it was filled with identical soil, scarcely less compact; no darker layer

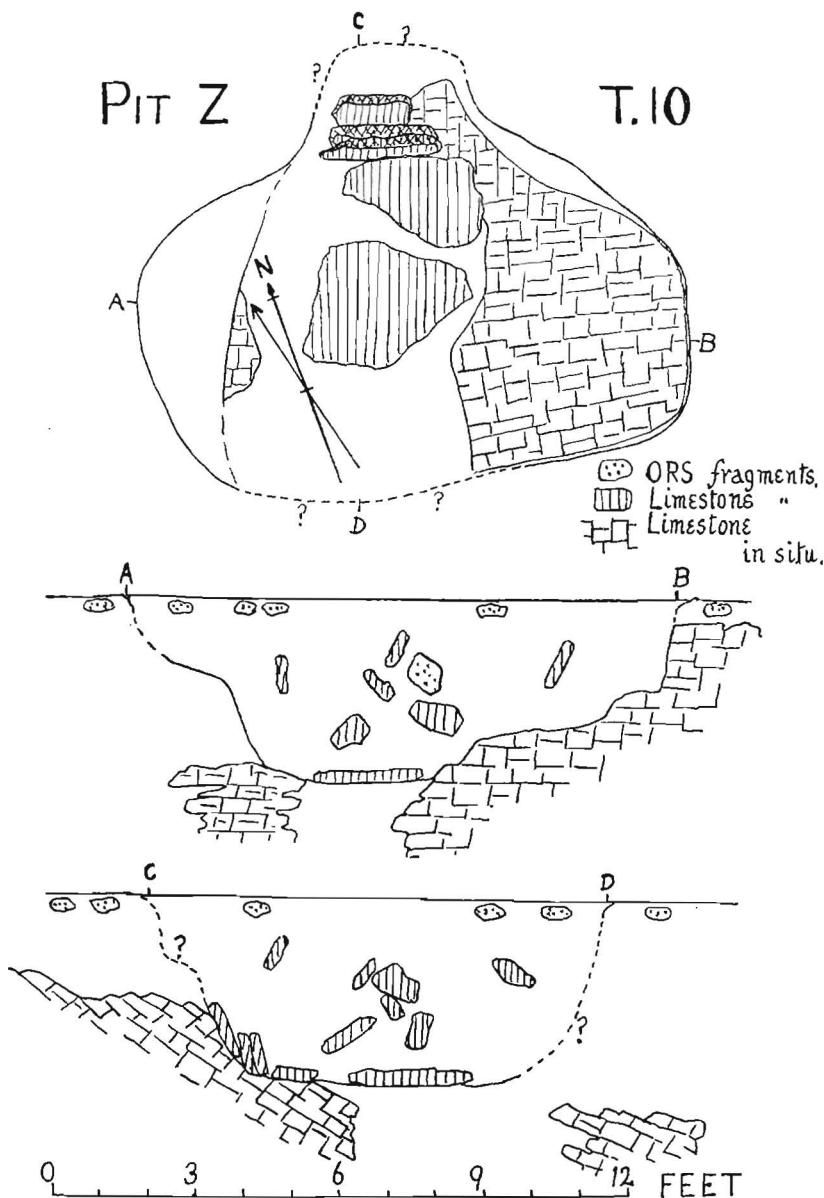


FIG. 14.—Pit Z. The North Barrow, Tynings Farm.

existed upon its floor. It was just visible in section; aided by texture and by stones lying at unnatural angles we were able to make out the approximate shape. The east and the bottom of

the north wall were cut into the rock, which was exposed also in the floor on the west. Dr. Adams succeeded in identifying the western limit. The dotted lines in the plan may be taken as correct within about 6 inches. The rift was cleared out to the depth of 9 feet to ensure that nothing be missed.

The pit was situated 47 feet south of the apparent centre of the barrow and measured 11 feet 6 inches by about 9 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 9 inches in depth. On the north side was a narrow adit having stones set on edge as if to form steps; on the west, a broad shelf 2 feet 3 inches above the floor. On the east the rift had been widened by quarrying. The floor was formed in part by bedrock, in part by rift subsoil on which two large slabs of limestone had been laid.

It had been filled in deliberately, and perhaps almost at once as shown by the absence of dark earth and detectable silting on the bottom. In the filling were a score of pieces of limestone shale (suggesting that some of its own spoil had been thrown back), a few O.R.S. boulders, etc., and one flint flake. In the humus upon it, besides six or eight scraps of flint, was more than the normal quantity of O.R.S. and conglomerate, doubtless derived from the barrow. The excess of O.R.S., the flint and the absence of a visible sinking, however, are of little significance, the field having been ploughed. The compactness of the filling showed it to be of considerable antiquity. Such a pit filled to-day with local soil would contain Roman and other pottery and more flint; its barrenness suggests an early date.

It resembled a pit dwelling, but it was filled in either unused or after the most thorough cleaning; compare pits at St. Catherine's Hill.

Our sincere thanks are due to Messrs. Small and Sons, the owners of Tynings Farm, for permission to excavate. We are especially indebted to Mr. and Mrs. G. Small for help in very many ways and for their keen interest. Our thanks are not less due to Professor Fawcett our President, to Dr. Wilfred Jackson, Dr. Skene and Dr. Wallis, who have identified the human and non-human bones, charcoals and geological specimens respectively; to Dr. S. B. Adams, who has prepared Fig. 10, and to Dr. F. B. Welch and others for much assistance.