

The Wiltshire Archaeological & Natural History Magazine

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THE WILTSHIRE
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Number CCVI

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THE WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The Society was founded in 1853. Its activities include the promotion of archaeological work within the County and of the study of all branches of Natural History; the issue of a Magazine and other publications; excursions to places of archaeological and historical interest; collaboration with a Records Branch; and the maintenance of a Museum and Library.

The subscription rates for membership of the Society are at present as follows:—Entrance Fee 10s. Annual Subscription £1. Life membership £20. Enquiries about membership should be made to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. W. C. Merritt, Tawsmead, Eastleigh Road, Devizes, to whom also subscriptions should be paid.

The Magazine.

The Magazine is at present issued once a year. It is issued free to members of the Society; the price to non-members is 25s. The Hon. Editor is Mr. E. E. Sabben-Clare, and the Hon. Assistant Editors Mr. O. M. Meyrick and Mr. J. M. Prest. Contributions, editorial correspondence, and books for review should be sent to the Editor at Southfield, Marlborough.

Back numbers of Magazines can be obtained from the Hon. Librarian with the other publications listed below.

Publications to be Obtained from the Librarian, The Museum, Devizes.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE GREAT STONE MONUMENTS OF WILTSHIRE: STONEHENGE AND AVEBURY, by W. J. Harrison. No. LXXXIX (1901) of *W.A.M.* 5s. 6s.

A CALENDAR OF THE FEET OF FINES FOR WILTSHIRE, 1195 TO 1272, by E. A. Fry. 6s.

WILTSHIRE INQUISITIONES POST MORTEM: HENRY III, EDWARD I AND EDWARD II. 13s.

DITTO. EDWARD III. 13s.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF WILTSHIRE, THEIR INSCRIPTIONS AND HISTORY, by H. B. Walters. 16s.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF WILTSHIRE, by M. E. Cunningham, C.B.E. Fourth Edition, 1949, 6s. 6d. (by arrangement with the Publishers, C. H. Woodward, Devizes).

RECORDS OF THE COUNTY OF WILTS, EXTRACTS FROM THE QUARTER SESSIONS, GREAT ROLLS OF THE 17TH CENTURY, by B. H. Cunningham. 12s. 6d.

DEVIZES BOROUGH ANNALS. EXTRACTS FROM THE CORPORATION RECORDS, by B. H. Cunningham. Vol. II, 1792 to 1835. 15s. (Vol. I is out of print.)

THE WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY, 1853—1953. A Centenary History. 3s. 6d.

BRADON FOREST, by T. R. Thomson. 10s. 6d.

THE FLORA OF WILTSHIRE, by Donald Grose. pp. iv, 824. 1957. 42s.

BACK NUMBERS OF THE MAGAZINE. Prices on application to the Librarian.

The Society's Museum and Library, Long Street, Devizes.

The Curator is Mr. F. K. Annable; the Hon. Librarian Mr. R. E. Sandell.

All members of the Society are asked to give an annual subscription towards the upkeep of the Museum and Library collections. The Museum contains many objects of great local interest; and the Library a rich collection of books, articles and notes about the history of Wiltshire. Subscriptions should be sent to Mr. F. W. C. Merritt, Tawsmead, Eastleigh Road, Devizes.

Old *printed* material and photographs of Wiltshire buildings or other objects of interest will be welcomed by the Librarian at the Museum. The repository for records, e.g., old deeds, maps, plans, etc., is the Wiltshire Record Office, County Hall, Trowbridge.



The

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THE WILTSHIRE MAGAZINE

MULTORUM MANIBUS GRANDE LEVATUR ONUS

No. CCVI

1957-1958

Vol. LVII

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Magazine in its new form. This is the first issue of the Magazine in its new form. The page is larger and there is a fresh cover. As I told readers in the last issue, the decision to adopt a larger page was taken on the advice of prominent archaeologists and will enable us to achieve a higher standard of illustration. At the same time it was decided to have a new cover. The block of Stonehenge, which has done service there for over one hundred years, was worn out and the rest of the cover, in the course of years, had accumulated a good deal of unnecessary letterpress and become far less simple than that of Vol. I in 1854. We have attempted to produce instead something in accordance with the Society's traditions and yet more in harmony with present ideas of magazine cover design. Hence we have retained the central place of Stonehenge on the page but removed from it superfluous wording such as that 'The authors of the papers printed in this Magazine are alone responsible for all statements made therein.' (If that remark is meant to be a legal shield for the Editor, I doubt if it is adequate; if it isn't, I doubt if it is worth making.) The cover colours have been changed to green and white, as the colours of this county.

The designer of the new cover is Mr. Kenneth Lindley, who is at present teaching art at The College, Swindon. Mr. Lindley has produced a number of books and magazine covers for various publishers, including Penguin Books.

The Magazine will also appear only once a year, at any rate for the present, and while it will go free to members as before, will cost twenty-five shillings instead of half a guinea to non-members. The inevitable rise in production costs over the past few years have unfortunately made both these measures necessary. The first means that we have to decide on a suitable publishing date. My own view is that the late spring or early summer is the best time. To my mind two of the most important features in this Magazine are the annual review of archaeology in the county which I started last year and want to make a regular feature and the similar bird, plant, and entomological notes on the Natural History side. The copy of these can not be ready at the beginning of the year and I think it would therefore be a mistake to try to bring out the Magazine at that time. On the other hand, members will want it well before the Annual General Meeting.

Victoria County History. I am holding reviews of the latest Wiltshire volumes over to the next issue.

Contributions. With the exception of Mr. G. J. Eltringham of Nottingham University, all the contributors of main articles in this issue have written for the Magazine before. While the last thing I want to do is to discourage old and valued contributors on whom the Magazine must depend for much of its success I hope I may have more from new writers as well. Perhaps they will be encouraged by the following extract from the Preface to Vol. I of the Magazine 'Such a form of publication presents the advantage of being open not only to original and finished Articles . . . but also to communications of a less original and elaborate character . . . even to queries on obscure points such as may elicit an answer in some following number. Attention is particularly requested to the Rule which forbids the introduction of political, or religious discussions. It is hoped that such a work may not only be a means of providing popular amusement and instruction, but may serve as a valuable assistant to those who may hereafter undertake the more serious task of finishing the History of the County.'¹

E. E. SABBEN-CLARE.

¹ *W.A.M.*, I, iv.

EXCAVATION AND FIELD-WORK IN WILTSHIRE: 1957.

By F. K. ANNABLE.

SUMMARY.

During 1957 two important new groups have been formed to stimulate Wiltshire archaeology. The first of these is an Archaeological Sub-Committee under the aegis of the parent Committee of the Wilts Archaeological and Natural History Society. All who have communication with the parent body will not need reminding that it has possessed a tradition of active work in the field that is second to none. But since the death of B. H. Cunnington and his wife, archaeological research within the Society has lapsed, with the exception of Mr. Thomas's work on the Snail Down group of barrows, and the Committee feel that it is time interest was revived. The new Sub-Committee, with the Rev. E. H. Steele as Secretary, hopes to carry out one, or possibly two, small excavations in 1958. These, it is hoped, will attract energetic Society members interested in actively helping towards the rediscovery of the past. The Sub-Committee does not intend to confine itself to spade archaeology. Amongst other projects envisaged are a programme of field-work, that much neglected occupation in Wiltshire, and the re-examination of finds in the Museum from already excavated sites.

The second group is the Salisbury Museum Excavation Sub-Committee under the direction of J. W. G. Musty. Its main purpose is to hold a watching brief on sites affected by construction work, and, where necessary, to carry out rescue digging at short notice. The value of such a group of enthusiasts is apparent from the rescue excavations they have already carried out and noticed later in this article; their latest finds at Paul's Dene, for instance, are all but proof, previously indicated by last year's discoveries, of an Early Iron Age settlement in that area. Both groups are working in close co-operation. May they achieve the success and support they deserve!

It is also good news to learn that a start has been made on the publication of the long awaited reports of the great excavations carried out at Avebury and Windmill Hill by the late Alexander Keiller. The work of publication has been entrusted to Dr. Isobel Smith, who contributes a note on a supplementary excavation made at Windmill Hill in this connection. The Ministry of Works (Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments) has again been actively financing rescue work in the county. Of particular interest are the Earlswood Long Barrow dig, (the first excavation of a long barrow on Salisbury Plain since the days of Thurnam), a final season's work at Snail Down, and the mesolithic finds at Downton, which along with Mr. Tucker's additional findings in the north of the county are going a long way towards corroborating Mr. W. F. Rankine's statement in a recent paper that Wiltshire was not a mesolithic desert (*W.A.M.*, LVI, p. 149).

Two Iron Age sites have also been examined. These are on Cow Down, near Longbridge Deverell, and at Winterbourne Gunner. The examination of the latter was carried out by the Salisbury Field Club, whose archaeological section is still functioning, but now confines itself to work on sites not directly threatened with destruction. A further small, but useful, find is that of a Romano-British pottery kiln in Savernake Forest, the first of its kind to be excavated in Wiltshire; additional kilns representing a considerable industry must have certainly existed close to the kiln already found.

Finally, a fillip has been given to fieldwork in Wiltshire by Mr. Anthony Clark's discoveries made during flights over the county. New finds are always an event, and these particularly serve to suggest that there is still much to discover in Wiltshire without the need for that expenditure of energy and money so often demanded by the spade. A timely reminder in fact, in these days of economies. Mr. Clark's work on the Wansdyke is also noticed below, and it is more than fitting that this summary of the year's 'Excavation and Field-work' should end with an attempt to shed further light on so marked, but so enigmatic, a feature of the Wiltshire landscape.

The above matter, amongst others are dealt with in the detailed notes of work done which are given below. I am most grateful to the following for their contributions:—

Dr. Isobel Smith (Windmill Hill), P. Ashbee (Earlswood), N. Thomas (Snail Down), Miss Sonia Chadwick (Cow Down, Longbridge Deverell), J. W. G. Musty (Winterbourne Gunner, and rescue work in the Salisbury Area), P. Rahtz (Downton and Old Sarum), E. S. Higgs (Downton), Rev. E. H. Steele (Codford Down), J. H. Tucker (Mesolithic sites in N. Wilts), A. J. Clark (Air and ground reconnaissance, near Silbury Hill and Sandy Lane, and Wansdyke).

EXCAVATION.

Windmill Hill, Avebury. Neolithic Causewayed Camp.

In connection with work now in progress on the publication of the excavation of this site by the late Alexander Keiller, a small supplementary investigation directed by Dr. Isobel Smith was carried out during the summer of 1957 with the permission of the National Trust and the Ministry of Works. The primary purpose was to obtain fresh charcoals, samples of ditch siltings and other specimens for analysis by modern methods. Cuttings were made through untouched sections of the Inner, Middle and Outer ditches, and, on the north and east sides of the camp, through the bank inside the Outer ditch.

The ditch cuttings served to confirm stratigraphical observations previously made, save that no evidence was seen of any form of 'occupation' of the ditches at any stage in the silting. In these sections the siltings showed an entirely natural sequence of layers, incorporating potsherds, flints, and other refuse which had fallen or been thrown into the hollows. Immediately below the turf and humus was a ploughsoil which almost certainly represents the fairly recent cultivation referred to by Colt Hoare (*Ancient Wilts*, II, p. 96).

The two bank cuttings produced new evidence of neolithic occupation of the hill-top prior to the construction of the camp. On the north side the bank has been almost entirely destroyed by ploughing, but just enough of the structure remained, in the form of large blocks of chalk, to seal on the undisturbed level beneath a scatter of flint flakes, a leaf-shaped arrowhead, sherds of about a dozen pots, charcoal and animal bone.

On the east side of the camp the bank still rises to a height of about 3ft. 6ins. Excavation revealed no traces of sockets for revetments or palisade posts, and well-defined tip-lines of coarse loose chalk rubble, finer rubble mixed with earthy material, and occasional streaks of clean or dirty puddled chalk, indicated that no formal structure had been attempted. The bank was built simply by piling up material as it was dug from the quarry ditch.

Beneath the bank was a buried soil on which lay pottery and other debris. This soil has been examined by Dr. G. W. Dimbleby of the Imperial Forestry Institute, Oxford, who reports that it appears to be a cultivation soil from which the turf and humus zone has been artificially stripped. The presence of pollen from cereals and weeds of cultivation suggests that crops had been grown on or near the site of the bank, and Dr. Dimbleby has put forward the tentative theory that with primitive methods of agriculture it might be difficult to get a good tilth and to eliminate the overwhelming competition from weeds unless the turf and root mat were first removed.

The Earlswood Long Barrow.

This excavation was undertaken on behalf of the Ministry of Works by Mr. Paul Ashbee, with the kind permission of Major S. Christie-Miller of Fussell's Lodge Farm, Clarendon, the owner of the land. The barrow (SU/192324) was first observed from the air in July, 1924 by the late O. G. S. Crawford on one of his flights made during the compilation of 'Wessex from the Air' (Crawford and Keiller, *Wessex from the Air*, p. 31).

The excavation has proved that when first built the long barrow consisted of a ditch-flanked timber-walled enclosure of dimensions 140×40×20ft. (fig. 1). An entrance protected by a porch stood in the middle of its broad end.

Within this mortuary enclosure the skeletal remains of some 17-19 individuals had been collected together and interred beneath a flint cairn. Afterwards the rest of the enclosure had been filled in first with soil, and then chalk rubble dug from the deep flanking ditches, thus forming the barrow mound.

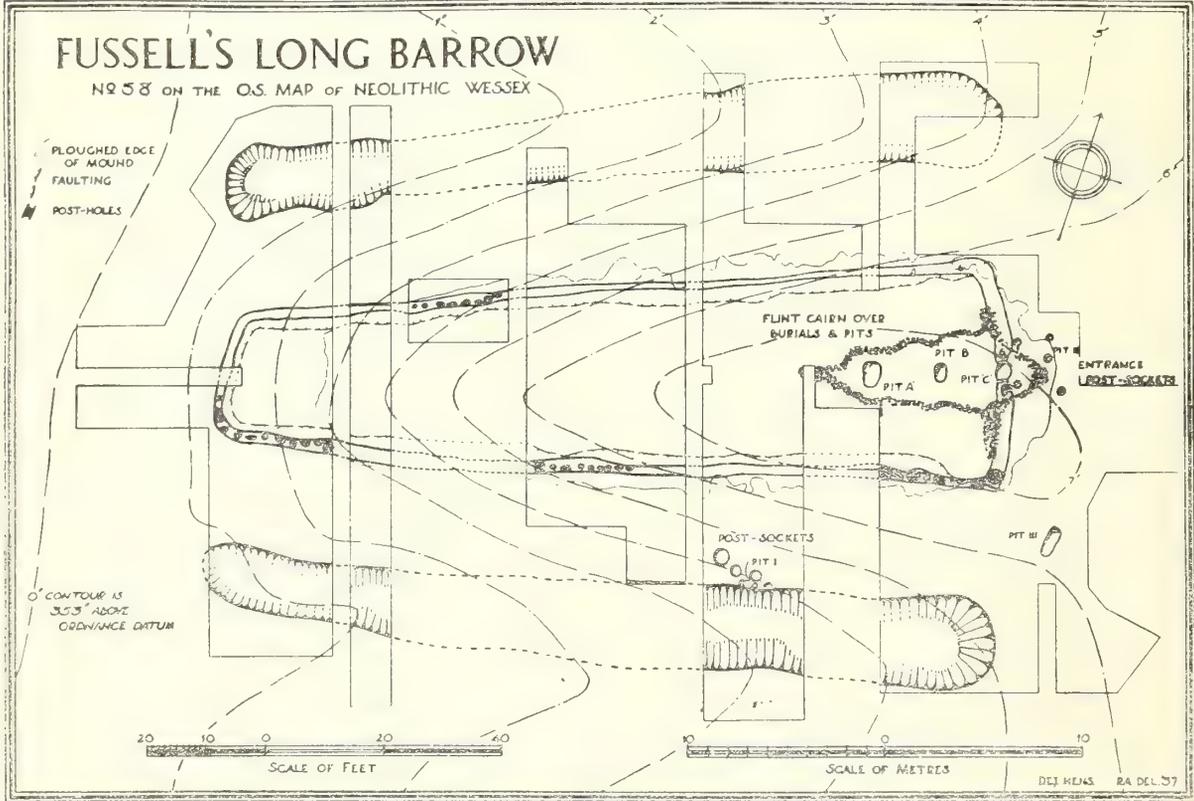


Fig. 1.

Earlswood Long Barrow, Fussell's Lodge Farm.

Evidence for the timber enclosures came from the palisade trench which was discovered under the chalk talus of the denuded barrow mound. This trench, about 1ft. 6ins. wide and dug to a depth of 5ft. below the ancient surface had held large timbers set 2ft. apart and originally standing to a height of 7 to 9 ft. The filling between these posts was probably wattle or horizontal connecting timbers. Four postholes outside the entrance to the enclosure indicated the existence of the porch.

Two pits (A and B in fig. 1) had been dug beneath the area subsequently occupied by burials. Both of these contained broken human bones, but pit A, at the western end of the cairn also contained a single crushed pot.

Immediately within the enclosure entrance was a single articulated contracted burial with a small broken pot at the knees and an ox skull at the feet.

The main burial area however consisted of a great wedge-shaped mass of bones extending from the entrance to beyond Pit A. From the disarticulate and fragmentary condition of the bones it was clear that, prior to their burial at the eastern end of the mound, the bodies had been removed when in an advanced state of decay from some previous place of storage, doubtless within the timber enclosure itself.

After the deposition of the bodies, which were of varying ages, a cairn of weathered flint nodules had been erected over the top. A further mass of blocking flints had been built simultaneously over the enclosure entrance. Discarded flint cores and flakes, and a number of axe rough-outs were found amongst the cairn material.

Two enormous ditches flanked the barrow but did not extend around its ends. At the eastern end they measured approximately 15ft. across, narrowing at the opposite end to about 10ft. Fragments of shed antler and flint flakes from knapping occurred in the rapid chalk silt of the ditch, whilst at a higher level was a mass of articulate ox bones representing the remains of meat joints. In the initial accumulation of humus, sherds of rusticated ware and Windmill Hill pottery were found, though apart from the pottery associated with the burials and stray plough sherds, nothing more was encountered in the barrow. The absence of beaker sherds in the upper layers of the ditch was particularly marked.

The Snail Down Barrow Cemetery. Bronze Age.

The third and final season of rescue-excavations among the barrows of this great cemetery took place from July 6th—August 8th. Once again the work was financed by a grant from the Ministry of Works. It was directed by Nicholas Thomas, released by the Wiltshire Archaeological Society for the purpose; he was assisted by Charles Thomas.

The work of 1953 and 1955 has been described briefly in *W.A.M.*, LVI, Dec. 1955. In 1957 we decided to complete our study of selected barrow-types by stripping a bowl-barrow (Site XVII) and a pond-barrow (Site XVI), and by surveying and examining the double bell-barrow (Site XIX), the peculiarly snail-like profile of which may have given Snail Down its name. In view of the discovery of a ring of post-holes around Site XV, dug in 1955, a mound which had no surrounding ditch, five similar mounds built between Sites VIII and III (plan, fig. 1, *W.A.M.*, LVI, Dec. 1955, p. 131) were examined in detail. These were our Sites X–XIV. A number of trenches were dug across the boundary ditch which skirts the Down on its north side, particularly where one barrow, (our Site XX) appeared to interrupt the course of this ditch (*W.A.M.* *ibid.*, plan, fig. 1) and also at a point about half-a-mile to the west where the ditch alters course and runs into another. Finally cuttings were made across the two other bowl barrows (Sites XVIII and XXI) to establish details of their structure and the presence of a ditch around each.

Sites X–XIV.

These five inconspicuous mounds are in a row extending westwards from the large bell-barrow, Site VIII. They do not conform to the general arrangement of barrows in the cemetery since they impinge upon the semi-circle of large mounds between Sites III and VIII. They were excavated by a grid system in which a continuous section was exposed along their main axis, together with a series of radial sections across individual mounds. In this way half of Site X (at the east end) almost all Site XI and much of Sites XII and XIII were stripped down to chalk. Site XIV (at the west end) was cleared completely, with much ground around it. Hoare had certainly examined some of these barrows in 1805 but his account (*Ancient Wilts.*, I, 183) does not establish which these were. Before our work began none of the mounds bore traces of a previous opening; Sites X and XII–XIII were riddled with rabbit holes.

Excavation revealed that each mound was composed of pale brown loam mixed with small chalk chips and flints. This material was paler, redder and a little more compact than the modern topsoil; beneath Sites XI–XIV a faint grey-brown layer containing less chalk indicated the presence of a land surface preserved beneath the barrows. These mounds must have been built by scraping up turf and soil from the

immediate area, without digging surrounding ditches. They differed from Site XV in that no ring of posts had been set up in lieu of a ditch around any of them. They had diameters of 28-60ft. and heights of 1-2ft.

The centre of each mound was cleared or examined, but only Site XIV yielded a burial; here, the pit which contained it was distinctly south of the centre, and for this reason was missed by Hoare. It is possible that the activity of rabbits can account for the removal of bones or other deposits beneath the other mounds in this row.

The burial beneath Site XIV was a large heap of cremated bone, probably contained in a bag, and placed at the centre of an oval pit dug 12ins. into the chalk. A flint round scraper had been placed with the bones; this was unpatinated.

A thin scatter of stake holes occurred under all these mounds. Under Site XIV, however, a maze of stake and post-holes was found. They made no recognisable plan but it was clear that they were not associated with the barrow, spreading as they did beyond its limits. They can only be interpreted as the remains of a flimsy tent, or tents, abandoned before the barrows were built.

It was noticed that Site XIV contained an unusually high proportion of potsherds from Beaker and allied wares, together with patinated flint implements and a flake off a battle-axe of Wessex Bronze Age type, identified as rock of Group XIV, from the area of Nuneaton. These wares closely resemble the fragments of pottery obtained from the mound of Site III, the bell-barrow situated a few yards to the south of Site XIV and excavated in 1955 (*W.A.M.*, *ibid.* p. 139). There were no post or stake-holes beneath Site III which were not associated with that barrow. Site XVII, a few yards north-west of Site XIV, yielded neither finds nor post-holes which did not belong to it. It seems, therefore, that those who built Sites XIV and III collected soil which was packed with the occupation debris of an earlier habitation site, and that this had been situated very close to Site XIV but clear of Sites III and XVII.

These postholes had been driven up to 12ins. into the chalk. Their ends were pointed and their diameters varied from 1-3ins. All had been rammed into the subsoil.

Site XVI.

This pond-barrow was discovered by Mr. H. C. Bowen earlier in the summer of 1957. It lies about 500ft. south of Site VIII. Before excavation it showed as a slight depression in the turf, roughly circular and about 40ft. in diameter.

The site was divided into four quadrants and cleared down to the undisturbed chalk. The chalk removed from this site to make the 'pond' had been piled around the edge of the depression to form a bank. This showed as an accumulation of chalky rubble 8ft. broad and 6ins. thick, covering the faint remains of an old land surface. Immediately within this bank a sub-rectangular enclosure had been built by driving in a ragged line of stakes and, we presume, linking them with some form of hurdling. In the space thus defined three pits had been dug, and then probably left open. Of these, two were basin-shaped (in the chalk subsoil), 6ins. deep and 1½ft. in diameter. Each was filled with a dark brown loam resembling the overlying topsoil. At the bottom of both pits a few chips of burnt bone were found. Close to the centre of the pond-barrow, a third pit occurred. This was of unusual interest and importance because in shape it was a small version of the two-burial pits in Site II, the saucer-barrow to the west (*W.A.M.* *ibid.*, p. 134). Like these it consisted of an upper pit, in the floor of which a smaller pit had been dug. The filling of the upper pit was a brown loam with some flints. A small quantity of cremated bone, presumably human, had been placed in the lower pit.

Site XVII.

This bowl-barrow lies a few yards north-west of Site XIV. Since we had not previously excavated a mound of this type, Site XVII was cleared completely. Before excavation its surrounding ditch was not visible and a slight depression at the centre suggested that it had been opened by Hoare.

We found that this barrow was untouched. Its sharply defined mound, 2ft. high, was surrounded by a ditch cut into the chalk to a depth of nearly 3ft., and about 5ft. wide at ground level. It had vertical walls and a flat floor, with an overall diameter of 49ft.

Post-holes and other features found at the centre of the barrow suggested that the corpse due for burial had been exposed upon a wooden platform for the flesh to decay. Beneath this structure a burial pit had been dug and a large collared urn put in it. When the remains of the corpse had been collected and burnt the urn was deliberately smashed and the cremation remains put in the pit, on top of the broken urn. The platform must have been dismantled but its uprights left in position, after which the barrow mound was built over the area.

Subsequently, three small pits had been dug into the mound on its west side. One contained brown loam and a few chips of cremated bone; a second was filled with charcoal. In the third some sherds of a small collared urn had been carefully packed. There were no bones or other objects with this pot.

The unusual discovery of two deliberately broken urns in one barrow suggests that both belonged to the same ritual act, although one may have been buried days or even months after the other.

Site XVIII.

This was a low mound, apparently without any surrounding ditch, situated immediately south of Site I. It had been a rabbit warren for several years. Hoare dug out its centre in 1805 and found a cremation in a very well-made collared urn (*Ancient Wilts*, I, p. 184; *D. M. Cat.* I, 255). This barrow has a diameter of about 90ft. and is 2ft. high.

A substantial radial section was cut from the centre of the mound southwards. It revealed a surrounding ditch which in shape and size can only be matched by that around Site XXI below. It was slot-like, 4ft. deep and with a flat floor 1-2 ft. wide. Its sides had originally been almost vertical. The filling consisted mainly of loose chalk rubble—probably the material dug out of it, because there was no sign of a chalk capping over the turf mound which it surrounded.

No burial-pit or other ritual features were found in our cuttings.

The plan of this barrow-ditch did not make a perfect circle and its shape is matched at Snail Down only by that of Site XXI (see below).

Site XIX.

The mounds of this double bell-barrow are of different heights and sizes. They are surrounded by a continuous ditch. The larger mound has a diameter of about 80ft. and a height of 9½ft. The other mound was 4ft. high and 40ft. in diameter. The ditch was flat bottomed and its sides originally almost vertical. It is 5ft. deep and 10ft. wide at the surface of the chalk. It is separated from both mounds by a flat space, or berm, 13-20ft. in width.

The larger mound had been built first. It has a core of earth and turves which had been kept in position by a ring of short stout stakes driven into the natural chalk. These timbers were 2ft. apart and would originally have projected about one foot above ground. They indicated that the turf core had been about 60ft. in diameter. The smaller mound also had a central stack of turf and soil, retained by a similar ring of stakes, set a little closer together and having a diameter of about 30ft. The stakes around both mounds had been bent outwards by the pressure of turf and soil.

Although a soil-profile indicating turf was preserved at the base of the larger mound, it was not visible beneath the smaller one. The turf and soil of the latter appeared to rest directly upon the natural chalk. This suggests that the larger mound had been built first,—that it had been augmented by turf and soil scraped from the place where the second mound was afterwards to be built.

The surrounding ditch had been dug last. The chalk from it provided a capping for the two stacks of turf and soil and concealed the stake rings.

Site XXII.

Immediately to the south of Site XIX there is a second bell-barrow. Their ditches almost touch. Site XXII has a maximum diameter of 175ft. Its mound is about 10ft. high and 120ft. in diameter. It is separated from its surrounding ditch by a berm some 25ft. wide. A small mound has been heaped up on the berm on the north side, opposite Site XIX.

A tank track cuts across Site XXII from north to south, distorting and damaging both its mounds. A plan of this barrow suggested that the smaller mound might have been a later addition. Unfortunately, the passage of tracked vehicles during the last war had done too much damage for this relationship to be established. However, trenches cut during the last week of the season exposed a secondary burial by inhumation in the upper part of the smaller mound.

This burial lay in a tightly crouched position, its head facing north-east. The bones were those of a youth. They had been placed in a shallow grave which did not penetrate the chalk, on the south-east side of the mound. Three tiny beads of amber and a perforated cockle shell beneath the chin of the skeleton suggested that it had been deposited here during the period in which this cemetery was in use—c. 1550-1250 B.C. This is the first inhumation of the Bronze Age to be recorded from Snail Down.

Sites VI, VII, XX and XXI.

The ditch which skirts the northern edge of Snail Down, Site VI, was excavated in 1953 and extensively in 1957. No dating evidence for it has yet been discovered, but it appears to have marked the boundary between a group of Celtic fields to the north and an area of pasture on which the barrows are located. This respect for the Bronze Age cemetery was seen more dramatically in 1957 when the ditch was shown to have altered course to avoid the barrow on its south side, our Site XX.

A little further to the east a second barrow (Site XXI) also lies close to Site VI. This had a deep, narrow surrounding ditch resembling that around Site XVIII (above). There was no need for Site VI to alter course here, since the two sites were sufficiently far apart; nevertheless a slight ditch was dug between the two to ensure that the barrow was not isolated.

Half-a-mile to the west, Site VI turns south, and then eastwards again to enclose the barrows. At its first turn it joins an earlier flat-bottomed ditch, Site VII, which runs from north to south. South of this junction Site VI has dug away Site VII.

It now seems clear that the apparent extension of Site VI to Sidbury Hill, cutting through a disc-barrow in its path, is not the same ditch. The ditch which joins Site VI to Sidbury Hill must be a mediaeval boundary ditch, hence the lack of respect for the disc-barrow which it cuts across.

Codford Down Barrow Group. (NGR 978427.)

Four barrows in this group were examined during the first week in January, 1957, by the Rev. E. H. Steele and a party of friends. The barrows are those referred to by Colt Hoare as the Ashton Valley Group (*Ancient Wilts*, I, p. 78), in which he records 11 tumuli. The group is interesting in that it is enclosed on three sides by a Celtic field system, the cemetery area having been respected by the cultivators. Goddard, (*W.A.M.*, XXXVIII, Dec., 1913, p. 228-9), noted that two barrows (1a, 1b), were no longer visible, and since his day No. 6 has been included in an arable field.

As a result of damage from rabbits, and military wartime activity, permission was given for the ploughing of part of the area including a large bowl barrow, (No. 5), and three small low barrows, (4a, b, c), one of which was barely visible. The proposal was brought to notice by Mr. R. H. Willoughby, and the very ready co-operation of the farmers, Messrs. J. & W. Collins, permitted a hurried examination during ten ain-soaked days before the plough began work.

Barrow 5 is a large bowl barrow, without ditch, and is now over 80 feet in diameter. It is of the scraped-up variety, the material of which has spread considerably southwards with the slope of the hill. The bar-

row material contained a number of Beaker sherds. Hoare records that much digging took place before the primary cremation was reached, rather south of the centre, accompanied by a hammer axe. (*D.M. Cat.*, Pt. I, 17). The cremation was not inurned, and has been recovered for examination. Near it lay a 1799 penny deposited by the earlier excavators. Just outside the line of Hoare's cutting, only eight inches under the turf, lay a flexed skeleton, without dating evidence. Mr. Collins reported the finding of a human jaw-bone in a rabbit scrape on this barrow, and the quantity of human bones in the many rabbit burrows gave evidence of a further secondary burial, but this, if it still existed, was not discovered in the time available.

The small low barrows were opened just before the ploughing started. 4a yielded a late Bronze Age urn substantially intact, in an inverted position, placed in a shallow socket in the chalk. The upper part, which projected into the humus above, was somewhat crushed. The urn is decorated with applied cordons bearing finger tip markings. 4b produced evidence of two urn burials of the same Late Bronze Age date, but in this case the urns were crushed as reported by Hoare. The area of 4c was dug, but although much burnt bone and many sherds were found, the centre of the barrow could not be satisfactorily determined in the time, and it had to be left to the plough to produce a further selection of fragments.

A full report on this interesting area will be written when all the material has been examined. The Late Bronze Age burials are a striking parallel to the urnfield on Heale Hill described by the late Dr. Stone and Mr. Musty (*W.A.M.*, LVI, June and Dec., 1956, p. 253-61).

Cow Down, Longbridge Deverell. Early Iron Age A Enclosures.

A group of enclosures on Cow Down, Longbridge Deverell (ST/887145) was excavated for the Ministry of Works by Miss Sonia Chadwick during the three separate months of October, 1956, and April and September, 1957.

The main site consisted of a D-shaped enclosure (A) surrounded by a ditch and bank enclosing roughly one acre. Its straight side was aligned on the north-south axis. Air photographs taken before the second season's digging showed however that this enclosure formed part of a much larger complex. To the east of Site A was a roughly circular enclosure (B) of the Little Woodbury type, some 3 acres in extent. The area inside the ditch was pock-marked with darker soil patches, visible from the air and on the ground, and interpreted as pits and working hollows. A further enclosure (C) of similar type to B was also partly visible on the photographs, approximately 100 yards north-west of A.

Enclosure A.

Sections were cut across the bank and ditch of this enclosure. The bank which was on the outside was only slight, and nowhere more than 18ins. high. The ditch was of V-section, measuring 20ft. across and 9ft. in depth, ending at the bottom in a narrow flat channel. Burnt flints and some bone occurred in the upper filling of the ditch; pottery fragments found in the primary silting made up the base of a coarse flat-bottomed jar of Early Iron Age A type.

Trenching within the enclosure entrance revealed a complex of post-holes indicating a circular house, 50ft. in diameter and very reminiscent of that found at Little Woodbury. Three concentric rings of post-holes were traced, the outer ring consisting of shallow and intermittent post sockets, oval in shape and filled with chalk packing material. The main ring comprised 27 post-holes ranging between 1ft. 6ins. and 2ft. 6ins. deep and representing a regular circle of timber uprights, each averaging 1 foot in diameter, set vertically and some 4ft. apart. The diameter of this ring was 38ft. The third and inner ring consisted of six smaller post-holes set in an irregular circle inside the main ring. A further 4 post-holes projecting beyond the outer ring represented the main timber supports for a square porch facing towards the ditch.

The main weight of the building was supported on the second ring of posts which also formed the framework of the principal wall of the hut, the filling between the posts probably being of cob. In the absence of heavy central posts, a feature employed at Little Woodbury, the roof was probably supported by substantial

crossbeams and smaller upright timbers on the crossbeams to provide the steep conical elevation necessary for a roof of reed or straw thatch. The outer ring of posts may have been only light timbers used to prop the projecting eaves and perhaps to carry an outer screen of wattle, thus forming a verandah or lean-to behind which cattle could be stalled in the winter.

No storage pits or working hollows were found, and the hut appears to have been completely isolated apart from a miscellaneous cluster of post-holes on its north side which may have belonged to a timber outbuilding. Chalk loom-weights and spindle whorls were found in the vicinity and Iron Age A pottery was present in the main ring of post-holes, and as a general scatter over the hut site.

Enclosure B.

The ditch of Enclosure B was found to be V-shaped in section and approximately 4ft. deep. Cuttings across the ditch at the north and south corners of Enclosure A also revealed that the ditch ends met A exactly at the corners and then curved outwards in a north-westerly and south-westerly direction respectively, the wide entrance (approximately 350 ft. across) being subsequently blocked by the straight side of Enclosure A. The south corner section further showed that the ditch of A had been cut down through B, and that B had silted up completely before A was dug. No trace of a contemporary palisade closing the entrance was discovered. Sherds of coarse and haematite coated wares from the ditch of B indicate an Iron Age A date for the construction of this enclosure.

Chronology.

The excavations have thus far shown the first occupational phase to be represented by the construction of Enclosure B. Subsequently Enclosure A was constructed after the final silting of the B ditch, but while it was still visible and still presumably a functioning boundary of the farmstead. It is difficult to assign the circular house with certainty to either of the two enclosures on account of its curious position, just outside Enclosure B and blocking the entrance to Enclosure A. Future excavation may shed further light on this problem. All three structures however on the present evidence appear to be of Early Iron Age A date.

Down Barn West, Winterbourne Gunner. A trapezoidal enclosure of probable Early Iron Age AB date.

This earthwork is No. 234 in the Victoria County History List of Enclosures and Hill-Forts (SU/167365). It is approximately half-an-acre in extent and consists of a single bank and ditch with an entrance in the south-east corner. The only other visible features are two or three shallow depressions inside the earthwork.

During the spring the Salisbury Field Club, under the direction of J. W. G. Musty, undertook a selective examination of the site to obtain dating evidence. In this excavation five ditch sections were cut, part of the entrance area was stripped, and one of the shallow depressions was examined.

The ditch was V-shaped, 6ft. wide at the top and 2ft. 6ins. deep. Unfortunately only one sherd of pottery was obtained from the ditch cuttings, and therefore definite dating evidence for the earthwork is still lacking. Excavation of the entrance showed that it had probably consisted of a 10ft. wide gateway, as two large post-holes were discovered at this spacing. In addition the post-holes of a palisade fence were found in the bank near the entrance. The posts had been set in a shallow trench, rammed in with chalk, and the bank had then been thrown up around them. A tumble of large flints into the ditch at the entrance is at present unexplained: they may have originally formed part of a bank revetment, but no similar feature was seen in any of the other ditch cuttings.

The shallow depression was found to be the top of a grain storage pit 9ft. deep and 8ft. in diameter. This pit when emptied produced a quantity of pottery which Mr. J. Brailsford has dated as Early Iron Age AB. The only other finds were a few animal bones and pieces of a corn-drying oven.

It is possible that the earthwork was constructed on ground already containing grain storage pits; on the

other hand the pottery from the pit provides strong presumptive evidence for provisionally dating the earthwork as Early Iron Age AB.

Savernake Forest. A Romano-British Pottery Kiln.

A note in Mrs. Cunnington's 'Romano-British Wiltshire', (*W.A.M.* XLV, p. 202) records the occurrence of quantities of broken pottery over an area of some 3 acres, approximately 100 yards south of Bitham Pond, near Column Ride in Savernake Forest. At the beginning of the year a small reconnaissance was made of the area in question when it was decided to pursue small-scale excavations over a number of weekends, in an attempt to locate one or more of the pottery kilns of Romano-British date surmised to exist in the area. The site chosen for trial trenching lay approximately 220 yards south-west of Bitham Pond (SU/222652).

With the kind permission of the Earl of Cardigan and the Forestry Commission trial digging over an area of some 300 square yards was carried out during the weekends of May and June by F. K. Annable, assisted by O. Meyrick, A. J. Clark, boys of Marlborough College, and other Society members. A kiln was eventually located in the south-east corner of the area under examination and proved to one of the type classified by W. F. Grimes as a 'horizontal-draught' kiln (*Y Cymrodor*, XLI, 129).

The kiln possessed three main features: (a) an oval oven, or firing-chamber 5ft. long, with a maximum width of 3ft. 9ins., carefully shaped in the natural subsoil, (b) a narrow tunnel at each end of the oven and connected with it, (the furnaces), leading out into (c) the stokeholes, which were simply two roughly circular, unlined depressions dug once again into the clayey sand. Clay was the main material used in the construction of the kiln. It was not obvious whether wall and floor of the oven had been deliberately clay-lined, or whether the natural clayey sand after a preliminary firing had proved sufficiently stable to act as an adequate lining. The furnace walls, on the other hand, were clearly clay-lined.

A number of flat, roughly circular plates of heavily baked clay, about 8ins. in diameter were found amongst the general debris of the site. Their precise use, at present unexplained, may either have been to reinforce the temporary oven roof, or to act as supports for the pottery load. Otherwise there was a noticeable absence of kiln furniture such as clay supports or firebars, which at other sites were commonly employed as a separate flooring over the central oven for the support of the load. It looks as if at Savernake the load was simply placed directly on to the oven floor, and the finding of a complete jar still standing upright on the floor would appear to confirm this suggestion.

Considerable quantities of pottery were recovered from the interior of the kiln and stokeholes. All of it is clearly early, and a tentative end first century A.D. date is suggested for the series on the summary examination so far carried out.

The presence of a 'horizontal-draught' kiln in Wiltshire, where the type was not previously known to have been in use, is particularly interesting. Close parallels have been excavated at Tilford, Surrey, (A. J. Clark, *Surrey Arch. Collns.*, LI, 1949, pp. 29-56) though noticeably in this case of 4th century date.

Rescue Work in the Salisbury Area.

Since its formation members of the Salisbury Museum Excavation Sub-Committee have undertaken a number of watching briefs on sites affected by large-scale construction work, and, where necessary, have carried out small excavations to recover occupational evidence. The excavations in the environs of Old Sarum and in Castle Street, Salisbury which are reported below, were directed by J. W. G. Musty.

East Suburb of Old Sarum and Bishopdown. Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval finds, including two 12th century lime-kilns.

Construction work was started on the Castle Hill Water scheme during 1957, when a pipe-line several

miles long was laid down. The trench for this ran through the east suburb of Old Sarum and for the whole length of Bishopdown. Numerous archaeological features were revealed. These occurred in three groups: (a) three Secondary Neolithic pits and a number of Medieval (12th century) cesspits, foundation trenches, etc., in the field between the Amesbury and Ford roads; (b) an extensive lime-burning area lying between the Ford roads and the top of Bishopdown, and (c) an Iron Age and Roman settlement on Bishopdown.

Neolithic.

The Secondary Neolithic pits were U-shaped holes approximately 2ft. in diameter and 1ft. deep with a grey earthy fill. The pits were buried under 3ft. of plough soil which had undoubtedly assisted their preservation, and also that of an associated old turf line.

A few small sherds of pottery decorated with finger nail ornament and (?) impressed cord were obtained from two of the pits, and pot-boilers from the old turf line. A careful search of the spoil removed in cutting the trench failed to reveal any other pottery or associated material.

Iron Age and Roman.

Details of Early Iron Age A2 pits discovered at Paul's Dene were given in 'Excavations and Field-Work,' 1956, (*W.A.M.*, LVI, p.241) when it was suggested that these were only part of a more extensive settlement area on Bishopdown. The pipe-line crossed the Paul's Dene Estate and the field immediately west of it.

Only one new pit was seen in the Paul's Dene area, but in the field fifteen further pits were found including a large grain storage pit. Two bead rims were obtained from the latter, and Roman pottery from its upper layers. Pottery of a similar type was obtained from a number of the other pits. The newly discovered pits, therefore, are later than those at Paul's Dene and probably date to the 1st century A.D.

This evidence lends increasing support to the idea that a large Early Iron Age settlement area lay on Bishopdown opposite the East gate of Old Sarum, and that occupation of the site persisted into Roman times.

Medieval.

The nature of the first group of medieval pits cannot be determined solely from the evidence obtained from the pipe trench. A building must have been associated with the pits as, in addition to the two cesspits, there were two foundation trenches showing in section. On the western side of the site was a V-shaped ditch also of twelfth century date, and possibly the boundary of the medieval area on that side. The O.S. large scale maps and plans identify the site as that of St. John's Hospital, but the reason for this identification cannot now be found.

The second group of pits (the lime-burning area) comprised a large chalk pit roofed across and two lime-kilns; in addition there were three smaller chalk pits and two cesspits. Pottery of twelfth century date was obtained from the two cesspits and from a cess fill in the top of one of the kilns. It is likely that lime was being made here for use at Old Sarum where much building work was being undertaken in the twelfth century.

Castle Street, Salisbury. (Construction of new City Car Park). Medieval and post-Medieval finds.

These finds came to light during the construction of a road and bridge on land (formerly the garden and site of No. 39 Castle Street) lying between Castle Street and the river Avon.

Before an archaeological watch on the site started, the mechanical excavator had already removed a considerable amount of spoil, and a number of objects were recovered and promptly handed to Salisbury Museum by the City Engineer's Department. The Museum Excavation Sub-Committee then carried out an examination of the spoil heap and obtained from it pottery of the 14th-18th centuries, and a number of other objects. These included a 15th century arrowhead, a number of keys (13th-15th centuries), and a gilded trap end. From a large quantity of broken sack bottles was obtained a fragment with a seal bearing the arms possibly of the family of Wolston of Latimer, Northants.

Downton.

A third season of excavations directed by P. Rahtz was carried out at Downton during the summer. An interim report on the previous year's findings was included in 'Excavations and Field-Work, 1956' (*W.A.M.*, LVI, pp. 246-50), when structural and occupational evidence from Mesolithic to Saxon times was noted. Further areas were opened up this year and the prehistoric and post-Roman periods were again represented. With the exception of a number of coins however, little was found to add to the considerable body of information already obtained from the Roman villa site on the Moot Lane Council Housing Estate, excavated in 1955 and 1956. Numerous Mesolithic finds were made, and these are separately reported on by Mr. E. S. Higgs of the Faculty of Archaeology, Cambridge University.

It is not planned to carry out any further excavations at Downton, but a watching brief will be kept on the site when building begins on the Estate.

Mesolithic.

In carrying out an exploratory survey of an area scheduled for house building, Mr. P. A. Rahtz found indications of a working floor and a possible occupation area of the Mesolithic period. The area was subsequently excavated under the direction of E. S. Higgs, with financial assistance from the Ministry of Works, and the Faculty of Archaeology, Cambridge University. Very willing assistance was also given by residents of the Salisbury and Downton areas, Mr. W. F. Rankine and Mr. Philip Rahtz.

The existence of a largely undisturbed chipping floor was established, and some 20-30,000 waste flakes and tools in mint condition were recovered. There was a heavy element of axes and axe sharpening flakes, a few burins and numerous scrapers were present, though end-blade scrapers were rarely represented. The micro-burin technique was also practised. Amongst the microliths were obliquely blunted points and various geometric forms, whilst the evidence from waste cores demonstrated a concentration on the production of narrow pointed flakes.

A man-made hollow, too small to represent an actual living site, was also excavated close to the chipping floor. Mesolithic flakes were present in the primary filling. At the northern end of the chipping floor twenty postholes originally containing sharpened stakes were traced. In the postholes area was a hearth and fireholes with minor concentrations of waste flakes, cores and tools; a further hearth to the south was also found heaped over with a layer of burnt and cracked flints and stones. Faunal remains were rare, fragmentary, and too decayed for actual identification, the only recognisable fragment being a pig's incisor, abraded to a sharp point.

Though the study of the evidence remains to be completed, the information obtained so far suggests there was an occupation site comprising flimsy hut structures, or perhaps windbreaks with associated hearths, and a flint chipping floor, all possibly of late Boreal date.

Neolithic B and Beaker.

Further trenches were dug where finds of Neolithic B and Beaker pottery had been prolific in the 1956 trial excavation. Many more Neolithic sherds and a very fine polished axe were found, though there were no associated structures. In the Beaker area however, eighteen postholes, some shallow pits, and a single hearth were discovered within an area measuring some 50 x 30 feet. The postholes do not form any convincing house-plan and may represent several hut or tent sites. Finds of coarse and fine B Beaker pottery were again plentiful.

*Medieval.**Old Court.*

A trial cutting on the island below the site known as 'Old Court' revealed a succession of strata of medieval and earlier date. The lowest stratum, a layer of clean gravel laid directly on to the alluvium may

well have come from the Saxon gravel pit discovered on the terrace in 1956, ('Excavations and Field-Work 1956,' *W.A.M.*, LVI, p. 248).

Old Sarum.

Trial excavations at Old Sarum were carried out for the Ministry of Works by P. A. Rahtz and J. W. G. Musty, assisted by the Salisbury Field Club. The work was in connection with a forthcoming volume 'A History of the King's Works', edited by H. M. Colvin.

Digging so far has shown that the curtain wall, previously assumed to encircle completely the outer bailey, does not in fact do so. During the major excavations at Old Sarum from 1909-15, the existence of a curtain wall was proved in the Cathedral sector (See plan, *Archaeological Journal*, CIV, p. 130). In the present dig, traces of the wall were found in the south-east sector as a core of masonry rubble, some 7 feet high; it was also attested in the south-west sector and between the northern radial banks by the presence of robber pits. In the north-east sector however, it was absent. The end of the curtain wall, a squared-off butt-end of masonry, was located behind the eastern of the two radial banks on the north side. It is not known yet why the circuit of the wall remained incomplete.

The tunnel previously discovered in 1795, but subsequently blocked, was also located during trial trenching in the north-east sector. It was entered for a distance of 52 feet, where it was found to be blocked, although at the time of the original discovery, it had been possible to explore the interior for a distance of over 30 yards, (*Gentleman's Magazine Library*, Pt. II, p. 351). The tunnel conformed roughly to the original description, and was approximately 8 feet wide, with a maximum height of 7 feet. The roof was arched and fine tool markings were visible on its surface; also visible on roof and walls were inscriptions covering the period 1801-22, though in all probability the tunnel is medieval and may well represent either a sally-port or a covered entrance. A survey made by the Royal Commission has shown that the tunnel must go under the outer ditch and rise to an exit in the ground beyond the outer bank.

Further finds in the trenches indicate earlier occupation in the Iron Age A and Roman periods. Samian ware, one fragment of which was dated to 30-40 A.D., and native coarse pottery from the Roman level suggest an intensive occupation from the 1st to 3rd centuries A.D.; other finds of Roman date include a fine brooch and fragments of roof-tile and building stone.

FIELDWORK.

Mesolithic Sites in North Wiltshire.

Two further Mesolithic sites have been discovered near Chippenham this year. The first is a riverine site in a ploughed field near Kellaways, (SU 945759); the second on a hill-top at Hardenhuish (SU/913747).

The Kellaways site yielded one very fine microlithic bladelet (fig. 2, No. 3) similar to those illustrated by Clarke from the Star Carr Excavations. Besides this, a tip of a broken microlith (No. 4) several utilised blades, some with notches, and two scrapers were found. At Hardenhuish, one blade with a blunted back (No. 5), a core rejuvenating flake and four other waste flakes were found in close proximity to each other. Two further artefacts (Nos. 1 and 2) are illustrated from the Christian Malford gravel pit site (*W.A.M.* LV, p. 330).

In spite of considerable search at these and the original Mesolithic sites, no vast accumulation of implements similar to those of the Surrey Mesolithic have come to light. This, and the fact that odd implements (possibly Mesolithic) have been discovered in several ploughed fields, seems to indicate a general occupation of the Avon corridor, though a more permanent living site has yet to be found. The possible exception is in the Peckinggell site where a fairly comprehensive set of artefacts has been discovered, (*W.A.M.* LVI, p. 250).

The implements so far discovered lack the uniformity of the Wealden series, consisting in the main of rather roughly shaped short blades. In this they seem to have much in common with the broad blade industries of the Pennine region.

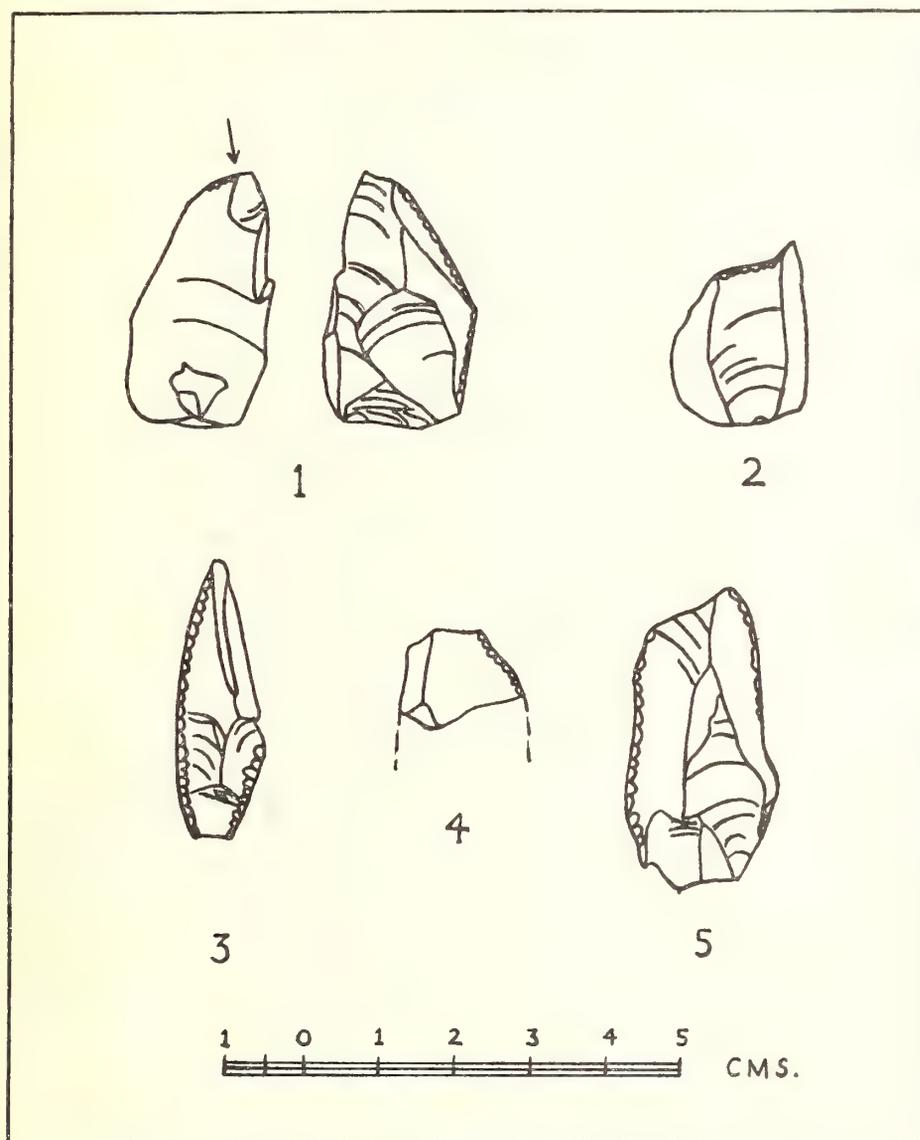


Fig. 2.

Finds from Mesolithic sites near Chippenham.

1. Graver.
2. Transversely blunted blade (Christian Malford).
3. Blunted bladelet.
4. A tip of broken microlith (Kellaways).
5. Blunted blade (Hardenhuish).

Air and Ground Reconnaissance near Silbury Hill and Sandy Lane.

The following notes contributed by Anthony J. Clark, are the outcome of air sorties made over Wiltshire whilst he was primarily engaged in a fresh study of the Wansdyke. He records the discovery of an entirely new promontory earthwork at Pewsham; field systems, enclosures, and also the rediscovery of 'lost' barrows south of Silbury Hill. A brief summary of his latest conclusions on the problem of Wansdyke is also included here.

Nash Hill Promotory Camp, Pewsham. Early Iron Age.

The only remains of this earthwork, (pl. 1) that still command attention are the cultivation-softened rise and fall of the single eastern rampart and ditch across the neck of the promontory, among the poultry houses of Nash Hill Farm: the rest of its perimeter has merged subtly into the landscape. On the south side the ditch curves west to converge with the modern lane at a farm gate; this lane, and the old Bath Road which it joins in a few feet, are slightly sunken and must mark the ditch as far as Nash Hill Farm pond. Here the parish boundary that has been following the old road turns north along a lynchet interrupted by the farmhouse itself, and presumably representing the west rampart of the camp. Tacklemore Wood slopes precipitously towards the Avon, less than half-a-mile away, and the wood's southern edge, the top of the slope, completes the circuit of the camp. On the eroded slope just inside the wood, fragments of Samian pottery and some undatable sherds of Romano-British coarse ware were picked up, sufficient to indicate that the occupation of the camp extended into the Roman period. The eastern rampart and ditch are much spread, and the dimensions are now of the order of 4 feet relief and 80 feet overall width. There seems to have been an entrance causeway about 150 feet from the edge of Tacklemore Wood. The area of the camp is about 11 acres. A plan (not reproduced) has been prepared from oblique air photographs; a ground survey would probably reveal traces of the south and west ramparts, as well as determining the eastern defences with greater precision.

Crop and Soil-marks south of Silbury Hill. Prehistoric and Romano-British.

During the flight to Nash Hill, in September, 1954, oblique photographs were taken of a newly ploughed downland a mile due south of Silbury Hill, (approx. SU/090668-102672). These showed, as soil-marks, three round-cornered rectangular earthwork enclosures and a field pattern with straight, parallel boundaries contrasting with the usual haphazard 'Celtic' pattern. The writer examined the area on the ground in January, 1958, when it was again under plough, and found Romano-British pottery, including Samian, scattered thinly everywhere. No definitely late pottery was found. The enclosures were slight, with ditches now rarely more than 3 feet across. The photographs also showed a similar, but more substantial, enclosure in a ploughed field at 107668, in the eastern angle between the parish boundaries, and another as a crop mark at approximately 076674.

Among the first-mentioned group of enclosures, the ditch of a round barrow was revealed at about 097670 and a group of four Wessex Culture barrows, described by the Rev. A. C. Smith (*British and Roman Antiquities of North Wiltshire*, Map Square F.VII, and p. 113), was rediscovered at 094672. Three of these, from west to east Smith's *h, e, f*, showed as crop marks close to the southern fence of the field south-east of Beckhampton Penning; the fourth, Smith's *g*, lies just on the other side of the fence. *H, e*, and *g* are bell barrows and still, in spite of ploughing, (*g* was under plough in January, 1958), show a relief of about one foot; *f* appears to be a disc barrow and was not perceptible on the fallow ground in 1958.

None of these remains is marked on the O.S. maps. Copies of the photographs have been deposited in Devizes Museum. The field pattern (part of an Imperial estate ?), which on the circumstantial evidence may be Romano-British, would probably repay study, and this would be greatly facilitated by vertical air photographs. Walking along the nearby Ridgeway, the writer has also observed apparently unrecorded 'Celtic' field systems centred on 114664, 117660 and, north of the Bath Road, on 128704 and 120720.



Plate 1. The newly discovered Nash Hill promontory camp from the air, looking S.W.

We pay a heavy price for these revelations of the plough. The stone circle at 097672, excavated by Smith, has been swept into a hole in the ground, and the innumerable 'waggon tracks' he shows wandering over the downs are yearly being eradicated by the plough, or blocked by fences of wire and railway sleepers; shell fire also ravages the turf just to the south under Wansdyke.

Wansdyke. A post-Roman linear earthwork.

In 1953, close observation of Wansdyke convinced the writer that there is no evidence that the earthwork was coincident with the Roman road from Sandy Lane (*Verlucio*) to Bath across the loop of the Avon as marked on the Ordnance Survey maps and generally accepted. Tactically and economically the Avon itself seemed a better link between the Wiltshire and Somerset stretches of the Dyke, and a lost portion of the Dyke connecting *Verlucio* with the Avon was therefore sought. The line of a disused stretch of the old Bath Road on Bowden Hill seemed likely: it is now known in part as Beech Walk (ST 941689-948686) and is followed by the boundary between Lacock and Pewsham parishes; it commands the ground to the north in a manner typical of Wansdyke, and has fairly heavy banks on both sides. Further, it was found to lead up to a hitherto undiscovered promontory camp (see above) of Early Iron Age type above the Avon on Nash Hill (935694) just as Wansdyke does in several other places. In 1954 the bank and ditch on the north side of Beech Walk were trenched in two places, but found to be too insignificant for Wansdyke; and in 1955 two trenches were cut across the old Bath Road itself, in the hope of picking up the silting of a ditch in front of the bank on the south side of the road, but with no success. As a constructed dyke, this line had therefore to be abandoned, but heavily wooded swampy clay outcrops all along the north side of Bowden Hill, and would have been an even more effective barrier.

The absence of Wansdyke from the Roman road west of *Verlucio* was confirmed by two trenches, cut in 1956-7, across the road in Spye Park (964976), and the road was found to have three structural phases. This work was neatly rounded off by Sir Cyril Fox, who discovered what is almost certainly the western termination of the Wiltshire Wansdyke at the corner of Smallgrain Plantation only 300 yards after the celebrated junction with the Roman road on Morgan's Hill, three miles from *Verlucio*.

These researches, combined with other evidence, finally show that the Wiltshire Wansdyke rests its left flank on land once forested, and that the Somerset Wansdyke makes use of the Avon to protect its right flank: thus we now have two dykes, each well conceived to block the open corridors of migration into Wessex from the north, and not necessarily of the same date; and we no longer have the weak middle section barring us from a thoroughgoing acceptance of the Wansdykes as defensive frontiers. This work has been briefly described, with possible historical interpretations, in an article which should appear in the June, 1958, issue of *Antiquity*, and the excavation of the Roman road in Spye Park will be reported in detail in a future *W.A.M.*

Scratchbury.

A third course in archaeological fieldwork organised by the Department of Adult Education, University of Bristol, was held in April at St. Boniface College, Warminster on behalf of the Council for British Archaeology. It was directed by Professor W. F. Grimes, assisted by A. L. F. Rivet, H. C. Bowen and H. Ross. Trial cuttings were made across the innermost earthwork and a full detailed survey of the site was begun. Iron Age pottery was found in the primary filling of the ditch which was some 9 feet in depth.

A further school is to be held again at St. Boniface College, from 8th to 15th April, when excavations will be continued at Scratchbury, and the survey will, it is hoped, be completed.

SECOND EXCAVATION OF THE STRIP LYNCHETS AT BISHOPSTONE, NEAR SWINDON, WILTS, JUNE, 1955.

By PETER WOOD.

This report¹ describes the section which was opened to continue southwards the line of Trench A, excavated in 1954.² The six strip lynchets of the system examined (Fig. 1) roughly follow the contours of a slight combe towards the head of the large dry valley at Bishopstone; and the bottommost line of the combe has now been trenched, to reveal a concave pre-lynchet hillside with a form typical of chalkland slopes. The new trench mounted the 'staircase' of strips to the fence at the edge of the Downs plateau, disclosing the structure of the remaining four terraces and the lithology of the rock beneath them. At 614 ft. O.D., underneath positive lynchet 4 (see Fig. 2), a well preserved belemnite, *Actinocamax plenus*, was found: it suggests that the *plenus* marls at the top of the Lower Chalk exist hereabouts.³ The solid chalk of this upper part of the hillside lacks the clear-cut contrast between homogeneous hard and soft layers which was characteristic in Trench A. It is moreover much more thickly covered by bands and lenses of decomposed chalk, so that the difficulty of working deep into the ground was less here than lower down the slope.

Movement of such material on a large scale has resulted in the formation of treads which slope gently back to risers that are inclined at 30° or 40°. Their general dimensions are shown in Figs. 3 and 4.⁴ Like the lowest two positive lynchets sectioned in 1954, accumulations 5 and 6 are of light brown soil; but they lie between positive lynchets (Nos. 3-4 and 7) which are composed of medium brown soil containing chalk pebbles and charcoals of oak and hazel.⁵ Each of the accumulations was of uniform character throughout its depth, except for a small part of positive lynchet 3. This showed faint traces of layering in which, while horizon *b* was the same as the body of the accumulation, horizon *c* contained larger lumps of chalk, and horizon *a* appeared to have a higher clay content.

With the completion of a section across the whole system, from valley floor to plateau edge, it becomes possible to estimate the relationship between the quantity of material removed as the negative lynchets developed and the accumulation represented by the positive lynchets. Allowances must be made for the original soil which, though it is not preserved as a turf line, may remain undistinguished beneath the positive lynchets; but it is extremely interesting that, with the exception of the northernmost pair at the foot of the valley side, nowhere does the cross section of removal equal that of adjacent down-slope accumulation. Indeed in aggregate there has, along the trench-line, apparently been three times as much accumulation (c. 600 sq. feet) as removal, a point which Fig. 5 demonstrates.

A number of other observations are worth making about the new section. First, the black and dark brown layers mentioned in the earlier report were not found elsewhere than under positive lynchet 3: here the black layer, containing shells (*Cepaea hortensis* and *Clausilia rugosa*, for example) and coniferous wood charcoals, overlies for about twenty feet a fairly level surface of the chalk. Similarly, the extended cutting into solid chalk at the foot of the riser noted in 1954 is not duplicated in the second section, nor have any vestiges been unearthed of walling stone which might conceivably have been quarried in such a cutting.

Secondly, a small ramp or 'semi-lynchet' about ten feet wide trends upwards from tread 5 in the east to tread 6 in the west, caught by the section about midway between the two levels. Its flattish top appears to be a remnant of the original surface, spared from any destruction as part of the negative lynchet 5, and not covered by material from positive lynchet 6. The risers at Bishopstone are sufficiently high and steep to make movement from one tread to another a matter of some difficulty, except at either end of the system where the terraces merge into the hillside; and it is possible that the 'semi-lynchet' was an access way, although this is the only occurrence of such a ramp.

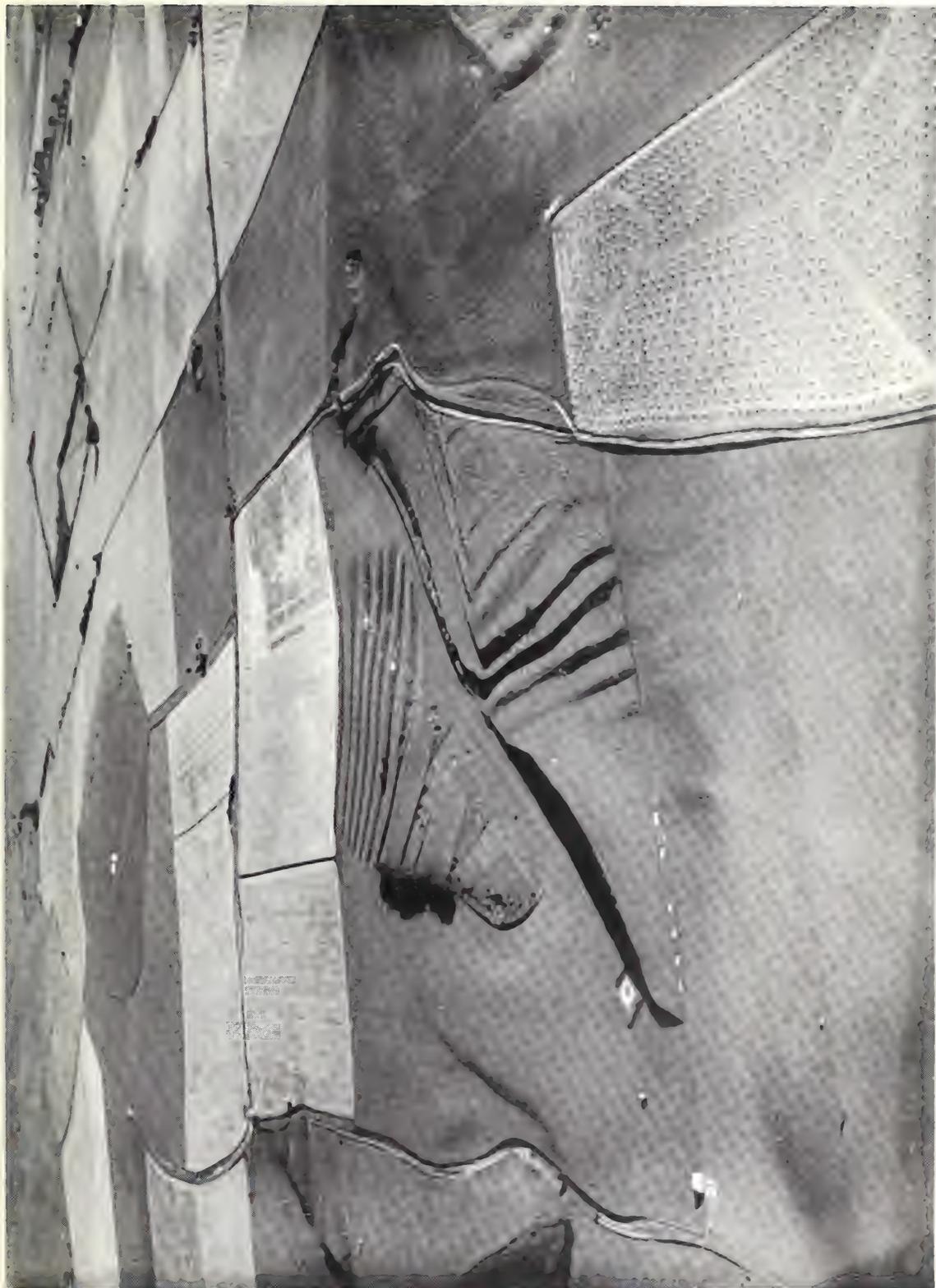


Photo Ashmolean Museum

Fig. 1. Aerial view of the Bishopstone Strip I mchets, looking south.

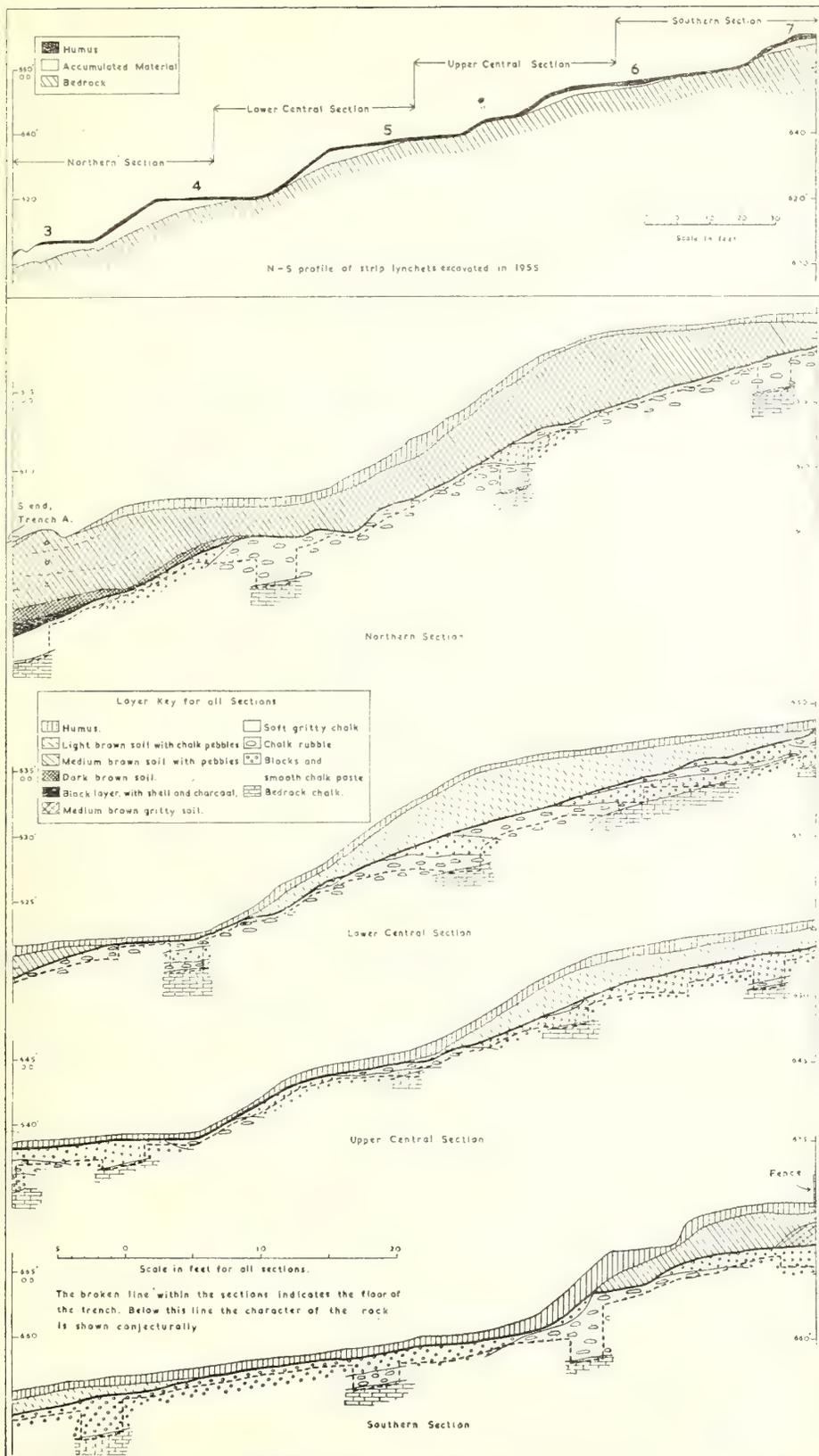


Fig. 2. Section through the upper strip lynchets, Bishopstone.

Thirdly, where the valley-side levels off to form the plateau surface at 670 ft. O.D., the topmost positive lynchet has been constructed without a superior negative lynchet. As far as the circumstances of the site allowed investigation, this accumulation appeared to consist of a core of medium brown gritty soil capped by medium brown soil with chalk pebbles; and like riser 3 its unconsolidated topsoil is greatly disturbed by burrows.

Finally, and perhaps the point most worthy of emphasis, positive lynchets 3 and 4 together represent a single enormous assemblage of medium brown soil, altogether half the total accumulated material, completely covering what is in fact a relatively large negative lynchet.

FINDS.

1. Eight sherds of pre-Saxon pottery, all of which were very weathered. One of them, lying on the undisturbed rock 12in. below the surface of Riser 6, was too minute for proper identification. Four of the remainder are considered by Professor C. F. C. Hawkes⁶ to be of Iron Age A date, earlier than 150 B.C., and these were found in

- (a) positive lynchet 4:—two pieces 12 feet apart and 38in. below the surface (24in. and 29in. above the undisturbed ground)
- (b) positive lynchet 6:—a sherd 40in. deep, lying on the original surface.
- (c) positive lynchet 7, in the medium brown gritty layer:— a piece 32in. deep and 7in. above the undisturbed chalk.

The final three sherds were thought by Professor Hawkes to be

- (d) Two pieces of Belgic or Romano-British ware, probably manufactured after the Roman Conquest:—from positive lynchet 3 (24in. deep and 46in. above the undisturbed layer) and from positive lynchet 5 (40in. deep and lying on the original surface).
- (e) a sherd of Roman-British date, of the first or second century:—from positive lynchet 4 (39in. deep and 13in. above the undisturbed rock).

Thus each accumulation contained at least one sherd, the upper three with sherds lying on or just above the original valley-side surface. In the combined positive lynchet 3-4, four pieces were found at somewhat higher levels.

2. Ten pieces of post-medieval pottery, scattered through the length of the cut, and dated by Mr. Hurst to the period 1650-1750, except for one piece which he thought to be sixteenth century.

- (a) This earlier piece and one of the later sherds were found beneath the turf on the tread of the topmost negative lynchet, resting on the undisturbed rock.
- (b) One sherd came from positive lynchet 7, and two from positive lynchet 4, in each case from levels about 20in. above the neighbouring pre-Saxon pieces.
- (c) Five fragments were concentrated in positive lynchet 5 (18in. to 24in. deep) within 6 feet of one another.

3. Positive lynchet 5 in particular contained a number of other finds, including fragments of a clay pipe stem; a piece of very corroded glass; and the remains of a square-cut nail (probably of wrought iron) which lay on the undisturbed chalk. None of them was of use as precise dating evidence.

4. Positive lynchets 4 and 5 yielded sheep bones and, on the bedrock under positive lynchet 5, a deer bone; while a piece of antler, perhaps of red deer, came from the dark brown layer at the bottom of positive lynchet 3.



PHOTO R. A. BAKER

Fig. 4 Bishopstone, Trench B.

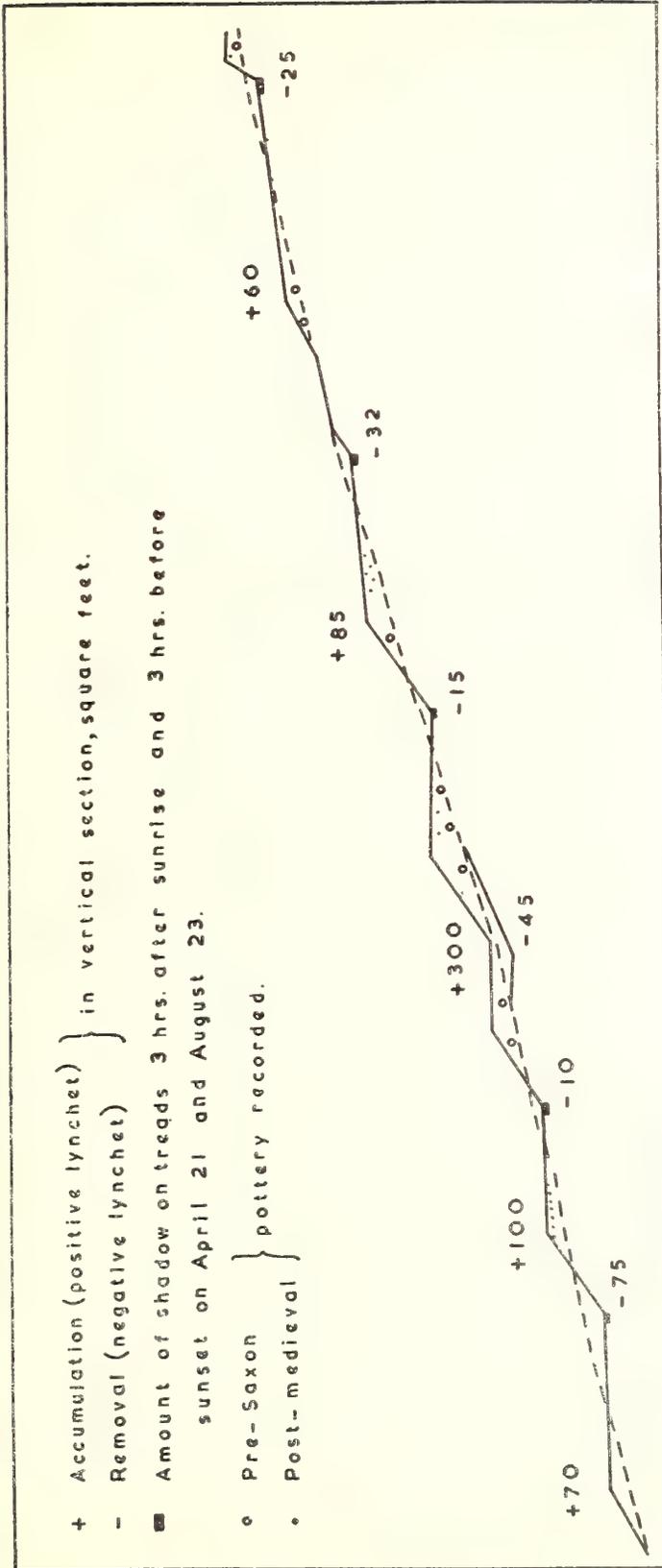


Fig. 5. Features of the Strip Lynchets.

CONCLUSIONS.

The examination of the remaining strip lynchets has done nothing to weaken the conclusions reached in 1954 that this series at Bishopstone comprised a system of north-facing cultivation terraces. They were designed to run more or less along the contours, but each tread has a tendency to dip down at the middle in sympathy with the form on the ground, so that straight rather than curved strips have resulted. At present they are down to grass, and their utilisation as pasture is not to be ruled out for former times. But these benches were certainly not constructed as livestock pens. On the other hand, the theory that they were cultivated raises the important issue of their microclimate and of the climatic factors which affected the crops grown on them.

They are to some extent sheltered from the prevailing winds by the lie of the Downs behind them, and they may very well suffer a reduced rainfall. Run-off, however, is also reduced on the terraces, and the soils of the positive lynchets, derived though they are from a porous parent rock, are quite definitely moisture retentive. It is interesting that, because of the disproportion of positive to negative lynchets, three quarters of the total width of tread surfaces are composed of such soils. Lack of water in fact was probably here not the problem for crop raising that it may sometimes be on the chalk lands. No signs of irrigation or drainage courses have been discovered, though (in view of the suggestions that strip lynchets may have been used for special crops like hemp, flax or vines) a watch was kept for unusual features.

It might be expected that sunshine amounts, like rainfall, would be reduced on the north-facing slopes; but calculations based on the slope of the risers and on the sun's altitude show that the sun's rays penetrate to almost the full width of each tread from three hours after sunrise to three hours before sunset at the end of April. This gives about eight hours of sunshine; and the daily total is greater thereafter until late August. The amount of early morning and evening shadow on the treads at the beginning and end of this four month period is shown on Fig. 5. Generally speaking, the availability of sunshine effective for plant development during the growing and ripening seasons (*e.g.* for spring wheat and barley) is not much less than on flat land unmasked by higher ground to the south.

The subsurface structure revealed in Trench B shows a number of features which may be related to the general question how these strip lynchets at Bishopstone were formed. Thus the topmost positive lynchets, 7, which merely carries northward the general level of the Downs, was very likely formed by moving top-soil forward from the plateau, probably from two distinct localities or in two main stages represented by the two layers. Developmental stages may also be reflected in the faint traces of horizons in positive lynchets 3, and in the manner, suggested in the first report, in which tread 1 was completed before riser 2 was finally formed. They are abundantly demonstrated by negative lynchets 3, which came into being before the combined positive lynchets were accumulated on top of it. This is an especially interesting part of the section, though the black and dark brown layers have yet to be explained. Possibly they are the remains of a pre-lynchets occupation site or of scrub clearance. Or it may be true that the black layer is the remnant of a turf barricade, behind and above which an initial positive lynchets (the dark brown layer) was formed, below a partially completed negative; and that this embryonic tread was finally covered by a new accumulation. The excessive amount of positive lynchets material is of considerable importance in this respect. The massive accumulation 3-4 accounts for much of the excess; it is very similar to the soil of positive lynchets 7, and may possibly have come from the same plateau-top source.⁷ The assertion cannot be denied expression that more than soil creep is involved in the formation of the Bishopstone strip lynchets, for they have all the appearance of deliberate terracing after careful laying out: and they fit rather neatly into the available slope.

The question of the date of the constructional stages is still unanswered: an Early Iron Age camp, a Roman villa, a Saxon manorial village have all existed within a mile or two of the site. The latter is on prebendal land, but the early hope that accounts of land-holding boundaries might exist within the

diocesan records has yet to be fulfilled. Meanwhile, it is not possible to see if the strips fitted into any phase of a manorial system. Nor do the recorded finds help very much. The early pottery is associated with the lower levels of the accumulations, while the post-medieval pottery lies in the upper parts quite distinct from the pre-Saxon sherds (Fig. 5). It seems likely either that the early pieces and the animal bones were distributed on the fields as household refuse (in which case the lower levels at least are more or less contemporary with the pottery): or that the sherds lay for an unknown period of time in the soil which was later to accumulate on the terraces. It is true nevertheless that the fragments of later pottery lend a little weight to the conclusion that, however early the Bishopstone strip lynchets may have been devised, they were still in use for agricultural operations at a relatively recent time.⁸

¹ The delay in writing it has been occasioned by a year's absence abroad. I wish to thank Mr. W. A. Smallcombe for the loan of equipment from Reading Museum; Mr. R. Wilson for his ready permission to excavate on his land; and all members of Reading University who helped to forward the digging and this report. The costs of the excavation and of reproducing Fig. 3 were borne by grants from the Research Board, University of Reading.

² See *W.A.M.*, LVI, pp. 12-16.

³ Positive lynchets—lynchet composed of accumulated material.

Negative lynchets—formed by removal of material.

⁴ These dimensions are dealt with more fully in the report on the 1954 excavation. The contour map was drawn by Mr. G. R. Lucas, and is reproduced here with his permission. It is based on a staff and level survey conducted by the Department of Geography, Reading University, in 1954.

⁵ Dr. G. W. Dimbleby has very kindly identified the charcoals mentioned in this report.

⁶ It is with considerable pleasure that I acknowledge my debt to Professor Hawkes for reporting on the early pottery; to Mr. J. G. Hurst for examining the recent sherds; and to Mr. W. A. Smallcombe for identifying the bones.

⁷ For the carrying of material to ancient fields in N.W. Germany, see Gudmund Hatt: *Oldtidsagre*. Copenhagen (1949) p. 143 and p. 169. It is a common custom in the terrace-lands of Europe and Asia.

⁸ Cf. the East Garston site (H. J. E. Peake and J. M. Birkbeck: *Trans. Newbury District F. C.*, VII (1934) p. 7). William Cobbett in his *Rural Rides* (London 1893, Vol. II, p. 114), described in 1826 the 'hundreds of acres of ploughed land in shelves . . . or steps' which he had seen on his travels through the Downlands of southern England. This early nineteenth century reference to cultivated terraces was brought to my notice by Mr. H. C. Bowen. His help, and that of Mr. H. J. Case and Mr. N. Thomas, has once again been of inestimable value in preparing this report.

A ROMANO-BRITISH SITE NEAR BADBURY, WILTS

By ALISON RAVETZ.

In 1956 builders digging a land drain on a new housing estate at Meadow Way near Badbury uncovered Roman roof tiles and wall foundations. The owner and builder of the estate, Mr. R. W. Johns, reported these finds to the Swindon Museum, and building operations in the area were suspended.

After an announcement in the local press many visitors came to the site and badly disturbed the ground. In an effort to save what was of value, masters and pupils from the Commonweal Grammar School, Swindon, organised an excavation, during which they uncovered a long stretch of the wall 1, shown in figure 3. This was again reported in the press, and the site continued to be much disturbed.

During the winter it became apparent that building would soon have to be resumed, and early in 1957 the site was excavated by the writer on behalf of the Ministry of Works.

The site (figures 1 and 2, O.S. ref. 41/194810, field 263 on 25in. map) lies just below the 400ft. contour at the bottom of Badbury Hill. Humus was 1-2ft. thick, and below that was an alluvial or recent lake clay, light grey in colour and very chalky. The wall foundations were dug into this, and at about 3ft. from ground surface it ceased to show signs of human disturbance. At the time of digging the site was badly flooded. The year had been particularly wet, but from its situation the site would seem to have been always prone to flooding.

The structures uncovered (fig. 3) are described as Wall 1 and Wall 2. Wall 1 forms three sides of a rectangle 76ft. long and about 40ft. wide. The short arms are of unequal lengths, and there is no sign of a fourth wall having existed. It is possible, however, that the foundations had been robbed wherever trenches were opened to find a fourth wall, and as they lay so close to the surface the robbing would have left no trace.

Wall 2 was apparently an addition to Wall 1, and abuts on to it. It forms an enclosure $11\frac{1}{2}$ by 25ft. against the eastern arm of Wall 1, and also extends to the south. At the southern extremity the ground was badly disturbed, and it is not possible to say whether the wall once continued further. There is some sign that it did not do so, but turned westwards at this point. Two large chalk blocks, bigger than any others of chalk on the site, are firmly embedded in undisturbed soil here, and may represent the foundations of a wall which has otherwise been destroyed. (The chalk blocks have been represented as 'Wall 2' on fig. 3).

The walls are of different construction. Wall 1 had a foundation, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. wide, of massive sarsens, packed with chalk to make them lie more regularly. The superstructure, a 2ft. wall which survived in place to three or four courses, was of chalk blocks, neatly laid and bound with mortar. Wall 2 was a 2ft. wall built entirely of chalk, the foundation of unmortared blocks and the superstructure of chalk and a whiter, finer mortar.

Though they are better known on the Marlborough Downs, sarsens occur commonly in the fields round about, and chalk is also a local building material. The method of using sarsens to serve as a damp course for a chalk wall was used locally until modern times.

No internal walls were associated with Wall 1, and no post holes indicating internal partitions. Wall robbing could conceivably have removed all trace of internal dividing walls, but it could not have obliterated layers of occupation, had any existed. Neither Wall 1 nor Wall 2, which made no provision against damp, can have had any domestic use. Indeed, it seems very unlikely that Wall 1 can have carried a roof, unless we think of it as the frame for a set of shelters with pent roofs—the timber supports resting on

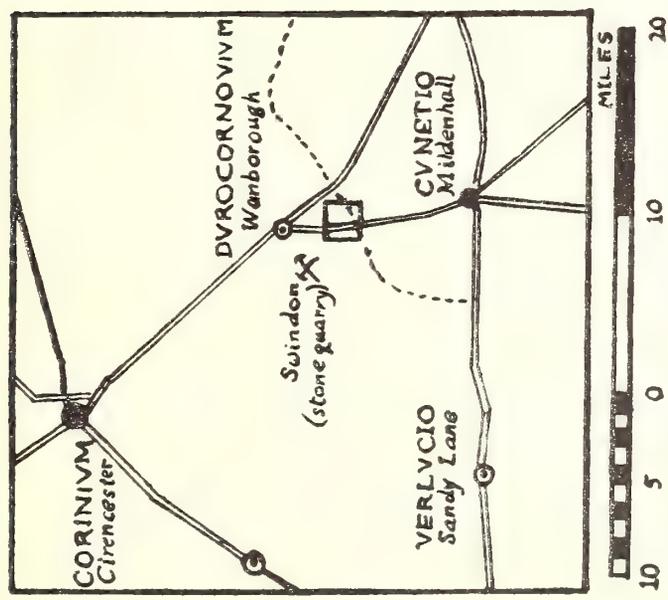


Fig. 1. Badbury in relation to Roman roads.

(Maps based on Ordnance Survey Map of Roman Britain and 1" map with the sanction of the controller, H.M. Stationery Office)

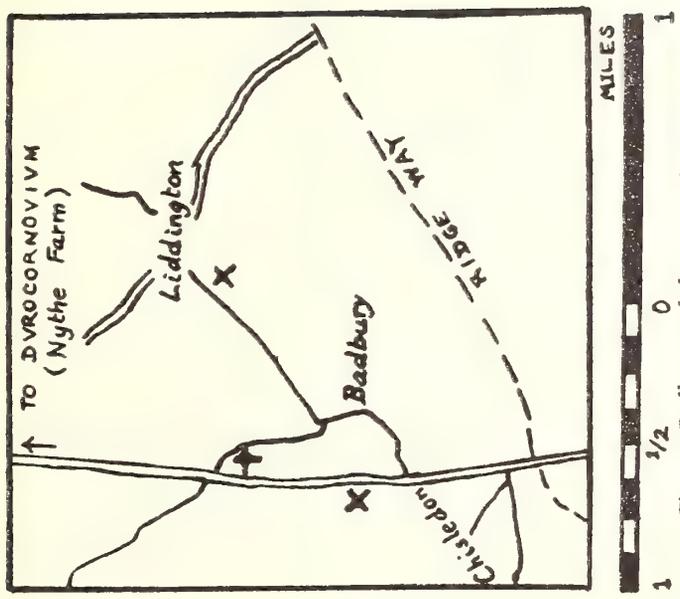


Fig. 2. Badbury and the excavation site.

† = Badbury site.
 X = Other Romano-British finds.

tylobates¹ which have been removed without trace²—but no kind of yard surface exists, and the northerly orientation seems unfavourable.

We are left to explain Wall 1 as an open enclosure of which the fourth side has been destroyed. Wall 2 had then, perhaps, some farmyard use, and we may note that bones of sheep and cow were found on the site, though not in significantly large quantities.

An alternative possibility is that the structures excavated represent a building which was planned and never finished. Chalk debris from the walls is widespread, though not dense enough to rebuild the walls to any great height. At least one massive sarsen was bedded in natural soil inside the enclosure, as though it had been dumped there and never used.

Whichever interpretation is preferred, it remains to explain the roof tiles, slates, building stones and flue tiles which were found frequently on the site. They cannot have been used in this structure, and can only have come from a dwelling house nearby. The most likely place for this is the field on rising ground to the south. The tiles were localised mainly to the south of Wall 1, and one trench inside the field showed substantial masonry and tile debris continuing at least 10ft. inside the fence.

The pottery found indicates a continuity of occupation on or near the site of over 200 years. In the absence of stratification it is impossible to date the structures with any precision. The bulk of the pottery and other finds came from the humus, and presumably reached the site after its disuse. Since the pottery series begins with Hadrianic types, the structures are most likely to have been built in the first or early Second century.

The site at Badbury is in an area of plentiful Romano-British remains. It lies 170 yards east of the Roman road from Cirencester to Mildenhall (fig. 1) and is only 2½ miles from an extensive settlement at Nythe Farm near Wanborough, which is conjectured to be the Durocornovium of the Antonine Itinerary.³ At Swindon, about 3½ miles away, stone was quarried in Roman times.

Badbury lies to the south of, and outside the Gloucester—Cirencester area, where there is a strong concentration of villas, and it is on the northern border of the Celtic field systems of the Marlborough Downs, where many upland settlements have yielded Romano-British remains. In the immediate vicinity, coins and pottery were found during the last century in a field at Liddington, and a Romano-British building has been excavated at the Plough Inn Chisledon.⁴ (Fig. 2.)

I am grateful to Professor K. C. Dunham, F.R.S., for identifying the building stone and giving me information about the geology of the region.

I wish also to thank those who came and helped me on the site, in very difficult working conditions.

THE FINDS.

Pottery. Samian Ware.

Forms 33, 18 and 35 are represented.

Coarse Pottery.

I. Dark grey or black, polished 'fumed ware.'

1. Jars with everted rims, often polished on the inner lip, and with a zone of lattice decoration on an unburnished zone on the body. Hadrianic, Antonine, third and fourth century forms are represented. Parallels are furnished by Leicester (*Society of Antiquaries Research Report XV*, K.M. Kenyon, Jewry Wall Site) fig. 26.3, 6, 10, 14 and 52.28.

¹ (Stylobate—continuous basement supporting a row or rows of columns. Concise Oxford Dict. Ed.).

² Cf. C. F. Hawkes, Iwerne, Dorset, Arch J. CIV, 1947, 55-7, and P. M. M. Cook, Asthall, Oxon., Oxoniensia XX, 1955, p. 32. I am grateful to, Miss M. V. Taylor for calling my attention to the Asthall excavation, which yielded an inexplicable wall much like my own.

³ A. D. Passmore, Roman Wanborough, *W.A.M.* XLI, 1920-2, 272-80, and 'The Roman Road from Caerleon to Silchester', Swindon, 1948.

⁴ A. D. Passmore, *W.A.M.* XLVI, 101.

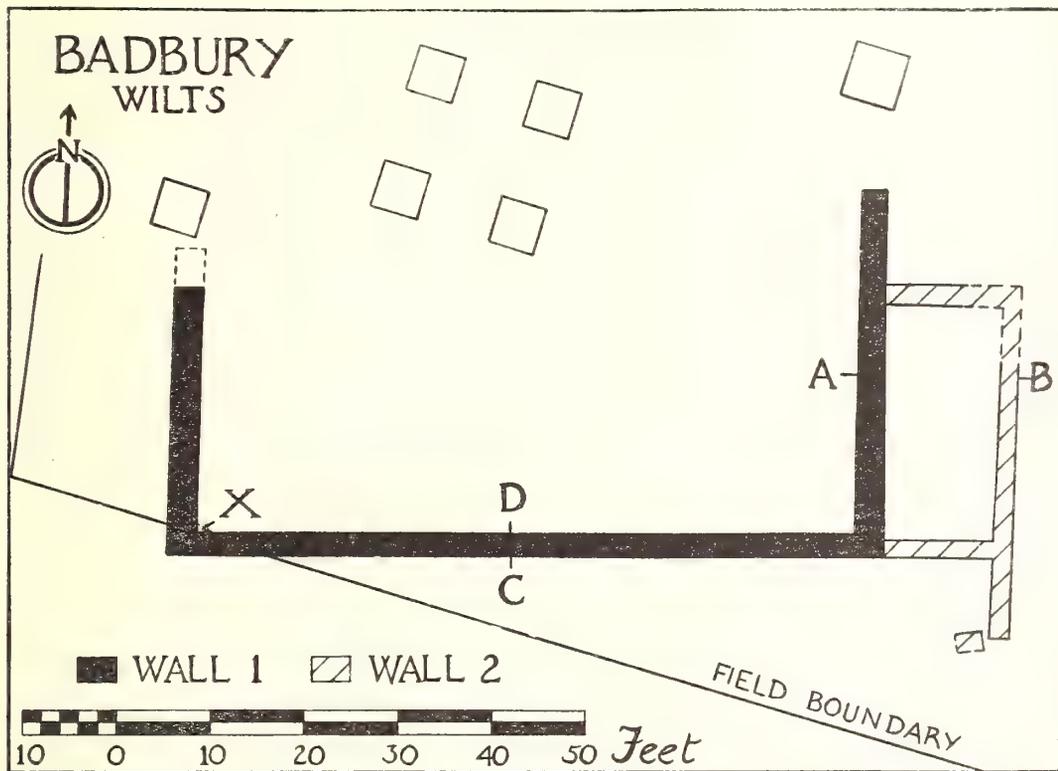


Fig. 3. Plan of Walls 1 and 2. (The point X occurs on the line of the southern boundary of field 263, and is approximately 214 ft. from the south east corner of the field, and 182 ft. from the south west corner.)

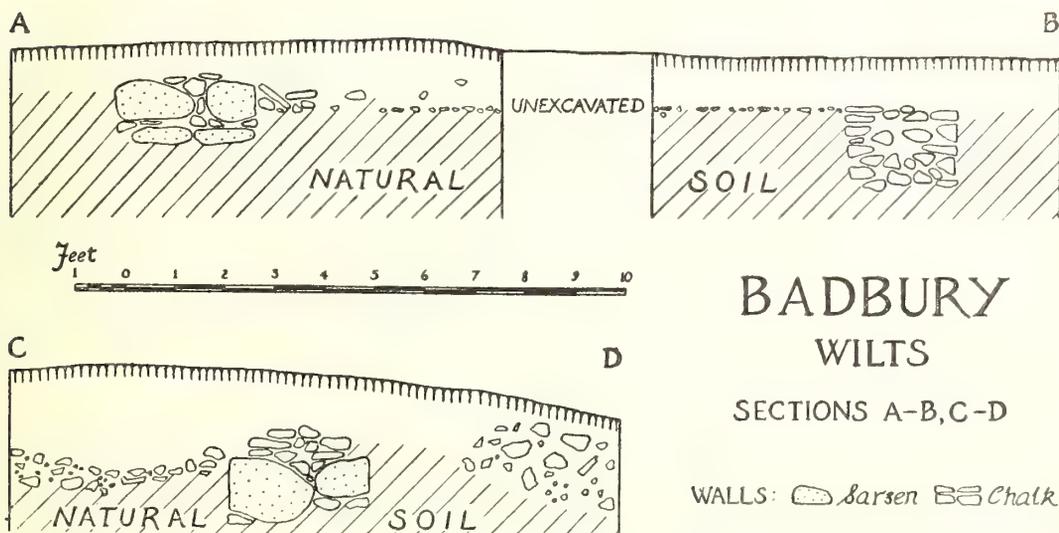


Fig. 4. Sections through Walls 1 and 2.

2. Flat bottomed platters with straight sides and lattice or wave patterns on the sides, and scribble patterns on the bottoms. The form is Hadrianic-Antonine, but has a long life. (Leicester, fig. 20.1). One platter with bead rim (Leicester, fig. 20.7).
3. Pie dishes or flanged dishes with flat bases and lattice or wave patterns on the sides. Hadrianic-Antonine and third —mid-fourth century forms are represented. (Leicester, fig. 46.4; 52.6, 19, 21-3).

II. Unpolished grey wares.

1. Necked bowls or jars, mostly of fine, very light grey ware. The rims are everted, and there is sometimes a slight carination where the rim joins the body. The forms are early second-third-early fourth centuries. (Leicester, fig. 24.2, 6, 9; 25.14, 23; 50.32; 52.47).
2. Walls of medium to dark grey jars with a groove or cordon at the base of the neck. One has a zone of combed lattice pattern below the cordon, and below that a zig-zag decoration in white slip between two parallel grooves. (Cf. Leicester, fig. 25.10, 16, 19).
3. Wall of a jar with lattice ornament on an unsmoothed zone.
4. Several fragments of a very fine, hard, smooth, whitish-grey ware. One is the flat base of a jar or bowl, with protruding foot.

III Storage jars.

1. Thick, red, gritty ware, smoothed on the outside, the rim and shoulder probably covered with brown slip, with a chevron pattern in the slip below the shoulder. The rim is rolled over and rounded. (A similar jar—Leicester, fig. 37.15, A.D. 75-80).
2. A thin grey ware, smoothed and with a soapy texture, and squarish angular rim. (A similar jar—Leicester, fig. 29.29, third century.)
3. A thin, very fine, smooth, light grey ware, with a thin, everted rim turned in towards the neck with a very sharp, tooled edge.

IV. Mortarium, pink-buff ware, close-textured, with small white and brown grits. The rim is vertical, slightly insloping, with two parallel grooves. The form is later fourth century. (Similar mortaria Ashley Rails, Heywood Sumner, *New Forest Pottery Sites*, pl. XA, 21; Crambeck P. Corder, *Ant. J. XVII*, 1937, fig. 3.9)

V. One fragment of Castor Ware, very fine, with pink core and lustrous brown coating inside and outside, and two zones of rouletted decoration.

VI. Two sherds of unpolished red ware, thin and fine-textured, with incised decoration, evidently imitating Samian 'cut glass' decoration.

VII. One fragment of colour-coated ware with pink body and dark brown slip on the outside.

VIII. A few fragments of very fine, hard, buff ware, and of thin, fine, red ware.

IX. Two bases of small jars or beakers, grey inside and white outside.

Fumed ware is commonly found on Romano-British sites in Wiltshire (Cf. Mildenhall, *W.A.M.* XLI, 1920-2, 159; Westbury, Devizes Museum Catalogue, Part II, 1934, pl. LVIII, 2, LX, 3.5.6.) Another pot frequently found on Wiltshire sites, the small, slip-coated beaker of New Forest type, has not been represented at Badbury.

Glass.

One fragment of pale green, thin glass: an oblique-angled junction between two walls, or between base and wall.

Flint.

Unfinished or waste blade-shaped flake, without secondary trimming. The blade is 2in. long and .5in. wide, and is typical of Mesolithic industry.

Building Materials.

Roof tiles, and flue tiles with combing on the outer faces were found in considerable numbers. Roofing shingles and worked pieces of medium grained, micaceous sandstone were also plentiful. They have been obtained from deposits of Old Red Sandstone, and these occur at Bristol, on the margins of the Forest of Dean and in the southern Mendips. Most have the purplish-red colour characteristic of Old Red Sandstone, and others are pale buff.

Iron. In addition to nails, cleats and hooks, a small socketed axe head was found. The blade is expanding in shape, 2.4in. long and 2.7 in. wide (at maximum).

Coins.

1. Follis of Diocletian, 284—304. Obv. : IMP DIOCLETIANUS AUG. Rev: GENIO POPULI ROMANI. Cohen type 85.
 2. AE 2 of Constantine I, 306—37. Obv: FL VAL CONSTANTINUS NOB C. Rev: GENIO POPULI ROMANI. Cohen type 228.
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THE ROMAN ROAD FROM OLD SARUM TO THE MENDIPS

THE GROVELY WOOD—OLD SARUM SECTION

By J. W. G. MUSTY, D. A. L. DAVIES, J. R. HUNTER and D. MORGAN

The Roman road from Old Sarum to the Mendips has received very little attention since it was first recognised and mapped by Sir Richard Colt Hoare in 1812.¹

The Ordnance Survey show its probable route over the entire length from the Mendips to Grovely on their maps,² and in 1906 sections were cut through it at Chewton Mendip.³ The most recent published description of the road is that of Margary⁴ who numbers it 45b in his classification.

In Grovely, there are definite traces of the road in the western end of the wood, and a characteristic agger can be seen running parallel to the Second Broad Drive. In the eastern end of the wood, the road appears to change direction, and the Ordnance Survey 6in. map shows it as following a linear earthwork for some distance, until it parts from this to leave the wood above Custom Bottom in South Newton parish. From this point to Old Sarum the route is completely lost. The Ordnance Survey on their earlier 1in. sheets adopted Colt Hoare's conjectural line, but this has since been deleted. As yet no surface remains have been discovered along this hypothetical route either on the ground or by means of aerial photography.

As a collateral study to investigations regarding the site of *Sorviudunum*, the writers, on behalf of the Salisbury Field Club, have sectioned the Roman road at a point west of Grovely Lodge and made a preliminary examination of the possible routes to Old Sarum. This paper reports the results and it is hoped that further work may reveal the course of the road from Grovely to Old Sarum itself.

History and Purpose.

One of the first Roman main roads to be built from London was that to the west. This ran to Silchester, at which point a branch led off to Winchester. The main road carried on to Old Sarum, and thence inclined southwards to Badbury Rings, Dorchester and Exeter. This road, the Portway, appears to have been well made, and follows a straight alignment over long stretches. Its method of construction has been demonstrated by excavation at Newton Toney by R. P. Wright⁵ and at Bokerly Junction by Gen. Pitt-Rivers.⁶

The road to the Mendips, on the other hand, is not of such elaborate construction, nor does it show the same careful alignment as the Portway. It is likely that it was a branch road linking the Mendips with the great west road, and the suggestion that it was built primarily for the transportation of lead and possibly coal from the Mendip mines seems reasonable. It is also possible that in its construction pre-existing trackways were utilised.

The lead ingot found in 1783 at Bossington in Hampshire, on the road from Old Sarum to Winchester, may have been brought along this Mendip road, and its intended destination may have been the Roman port of *Clausentum* (Bitterne). W. Dale records⁷ the findings of two lead ingots at *Clausentum* and gives their sources as the Mendips. He suggests that there was a shipment of this metal to Gaul or direct to Italy.

Construction.

At the point chosen for sectioning (400 yds. west of Grovely Lodge, N.G.R. SU 045343) the road runs parallel to and to the north of the Second Broad Drive at a distance from it of approximately 30 yds. The chalk here has a clay-with-flints capping and the ground slopes slightly from south to north.

¹ *Ancient Wilts*, Roman *Æra*, 38.

² Map of Roman Britain, 3rd Edn.

³ McMurtrie, James, *Bristol & Glos. A. S. Trans*, XXIX, 303.

⁴ Margary, I. D., *Roman Roads in Britain*, I, p. 93. Phoenix Press (1955).

⁵ *W.A.M.*, XLVII, (1936), 573.

⁶ *Excavations in Cranborne Chase*, III, 69—70.

⁷ *Proc. Soc. of Antiq.*, XXXI (2nd Ser.) (1918—19), 36.

Two full width cuttings were made; one exposed the metalling only, the other gave a section of the road. A further small cutting was made across the northern side of the road (60 yds. along the road to the west) to confirm rutting observed on this side in the other cuttings.

The method of construction of the road was shown to be as follows (see Fig. 1. Note the horizontal scale is half the vertical scale). Over the area of the road to a width of approximately 20ft. the clay had been removed down to the chalk, and a cambered bank of chalk rubble (1ft. 10in. high), derived from some other source, laid along the line of the road. The clay had then been replaced, and the flints carefully laid on it to give a metalled surface some 7in. thick. In replacing the clay, the builders left a drainage ditch on the south side of the road only (possibly to remove the surface water which might drain on to the road because of the slope of the ground), and this was revetted with large flints, presumably to give stability to the sides of the ditch.

Over the south side of the road the metalling showed little signs of wear, but a series of ruts were observed on the north side in all three cuttings. In the section illustrated only two ruts can be seen (at 24ft. and 29ft. respectively), but in the other two cuttings four were found; the distance between adjacent ruts was approximately 2ft. (centre to centre). It is not possible to decide on their origin, but it is unlikely that wheeled vehicles were used to any extent on this road; pack horses would have been more suited for the purpose of carrying lead.

The method of construction of the agger is similar to that found by McMurtrie at Chewton Mendip, excepting that local geology has dictated the choice of materials. The Chewton Mendip sections do not, however, show the presence of any drainage ditches.

A Possible Route.

The remains of the road uncovered during the excavation appear to be substantially as constructed, and no destruction of the agger had occurred. Through being in a wood this part of the road would have been protected from damage by cultivation in later times, but it is still surprising that all traces of the road should have apparently disappeared between Grovely and Old Sarum.

Although the present investigation has so far yielded little new evidence in support of any certain route between Grovely and Old Sarum, it is of interest to review the available information, as the final identification of the correct route may prove a lengthy process.

If one assumes that the road left the wood on the same bearing as that shown on the Ordnance Survey 6 in. map, it could have been aligned on the highest point of the opposite ridge (Camp Hill), and from there could have been sighted on the west side of Old Sarum. No direct evidence for this has so far been obtained, but suggestive facts are:— (a) the existence of a paved ford over the Wylve (removed in 1940; information from Mr. W. M. Chalke of South Newton) approximately on the line, (b) a Roman site at Camp Hill (discovered when the Camp Hill Reservoir was built) and (c) a sunken track now disused and overgrown running up the down from Avon Farm, Stratford-sub-Castle, in the general direction of Camp Hill.

A possible explanation for the disappearance of the road along this line may be that it fell into early disuse, through the diversion of the road to Wilton on account of the rising importance of this centre in Saxon times. Such a diversion could have been along the track marked 'Kings highe waie A.D. 1589' in Crawford's 'Our Debt to Rome'.¹ From Wilton it could have gone up the other side of the valley by the road now called Kingsway, and eventually descended to the Avon valley by the sunken track near Avon Farm. Alternatively, it might have continued along the side of the valley to join the Dorchester-Old Sarum road at or near Skew Bridge. This route would have enabled a common ford to be used across the Avon at a site where a ford is known to have persisted well into mediaeval times.

¹ *Antiquity*, II, (1928), 173.

The ROMAN ROAD from OLD SARUM to the MENDIPS.
Section cut in GROVELY WOOD, Winter 1955.

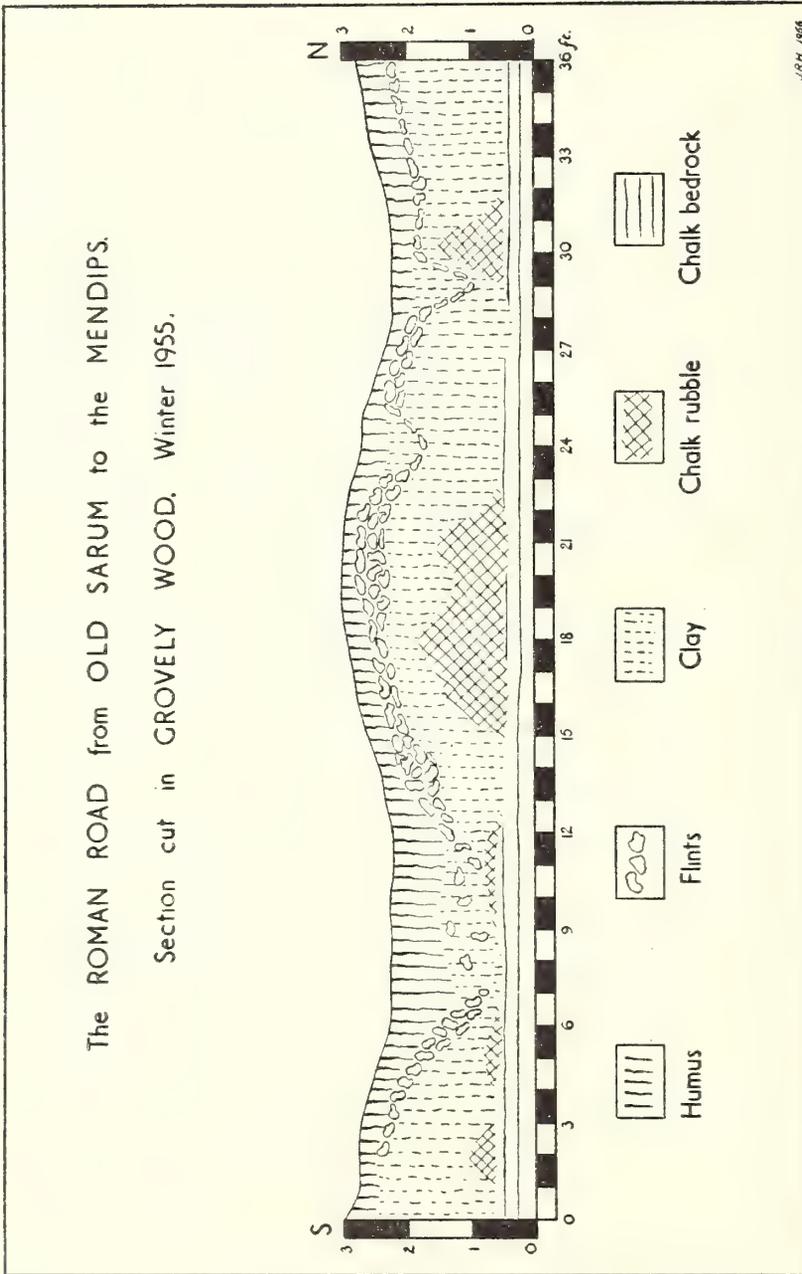


Fig. 1.

Prof. C. F. C. Hawkes has kindly pointed out¹ that there is an example of a road going into disuse in Saxon times in that which ran north from Silchester to the Thames and Oxfordshire. The road was cut through by the frontier between the territory of sub-Roman Silchester and the early established Saxons of the Oxfordshire district, was then unwanted and fell into disuse, and like our road has been very hard to trace in modern times.

Mr. C. W. Phillips also has pointed out² that the Old Sarum-Mendips road is not the only good road, obvious and well preserved for many miles across country, which proves to be very difficult to trace over the last few miles before it reaches an important objective. Another such road, he observes, is the Akeman Street between Tring and St. Albans.

It must be emphasised again that there is no direct evidence for the route via Camp Hill. Even if its disappearance can be explained by its falling into early disuse, it would be thought that some trace visible on land or from the air would be left, but although the whole of Custom Bottom was ploughed in 1955 after a lapse of a number of years, no scatter of large flints or other signs of a ploughed out road were observed.

A final possibility is that the made up road terminated in Grovely at the eastern end of the wood and that the rest of the journey was undertaken over pre-existing trackways which have since completely disappeared, or follow a less obvious meandering route.

Acknowledgements.

We are indebted to the Wilton Estate for permission to undertake this excavation, and to the late Dr. J. F. S. Stone for his advice and encouragement.

¹ Private communication.

² Private communication.

NOTES ON EISEY AND WATER EATON

By T. R. THOMSON

In the flat country through which the upper Thames flows rise three hills at the very river bank. Hailstone Hill marks a crossing place of the prehistoric trackway from the Cotswolds and beyond to Avebury.¹ It was marked by a stone pillar on the summit (*halig stan*) replaced by St. Helen's chapel² which was existent in the twelfth century. Eisey Hill is covered by an apparently systemless series of banks and ditches so far unexamined by the archaeologist. On its summit was St. Mary's church, in use in 1195, and probably much earlier. Below the hill is a ford and a bridge. The third hill is that of Castle Eaton, or Eton Meysi. On it is the ancient church, and next to it was the castle of the Zouches. Below is a bridge.

Eisey presents no striking features except Eisey Hill,³ the Thames beneath it, the Ampney brook, and a smaller stream from Marston Meysey falling into the Thames from the north.

Water Eaton, (Nun Eaton, West Eaton, Eton Mynchons, or Eton Monialum), a chapelry and tithing of Eisey parish, is separated by the Thames from Eisey proper and was connected to it by a series of large stepping stones said on Feb. 12th, 1306-7 to be in existence 'of olde time'.⁴ On geographical considerations one would expect Water Eaton to be part of the holding of Castle Eaton in the Hundred of Highworth. Its attachment to Eisey parish will be discussed below.

The Churches.

St. Mary's Church on Eisey Hill, as shown in Buckler's drawing of 1810, has a very ancient air. This building was pulled down, and the new church was consecrated on 4th September, 1844. This in turn was pulled down in 1953, and the graveyard is now a deserted tangle of thorns. The Inventory of Church Goods, temp. Ed. VI, shows a chalice of six ounces and four bells. Thacker (op. cit.) says 'under the chancel is said to be buried a Georgian font, belonging to the old church'. The Inventory of 1928, revised 1929, lists a nineteen ounce chalice, a 6½in. round paten of five ounces, and a square stone font. The chalice and paten are now at Latton, and the single bell remaining in 1953 is in the new church at Penhill, Swindon. The registers dating from 1571, the MS. notebook of the inscriptions within and without the church, and the churchwardens' accounts books, are at Latton, as is also a copy of the Tithe Award of 1849, with a map. Water Eaton is not shown, as the whole of that chapelry was then tithed free.

Little is known of the chapel of St. Lawrence at Water Eaton. The site is now covered by the cowsheds adjacent to Water Eaton House. Thacker (op. cit.) speaks of carved stones being found, and says 'An old man of Latton is remembered who in his youth saw the gravestones lying about in heaps.' Mr. Douglas Gantlett, formerly the owner, told the writer that he had come across such stones in this place,⁵ A note 'in the safe of Latton church says that Water Eaton Church was pulled down' about 200 years ago and that 'the only remains of the site are some tombstones in a farmyard.' The same memorandum, speaking of Latton, says that 'the piece of carved pillar . . . also the old Font near the Latton churchyard gate were found on the Vicarage premises when Canon Beadon came, and were supposed to have come from Water Eaton Church'. The larger of these is a drum of a fluted column of Coral Rag 2ft. 10in. in diameter and hollowed out, apparently to serve as a font.⁶ The second is a base and fragment of a shaft which might have served

¹ *W.A.M.*, LVI, 271.

² *Cart. Monast. Glouc.* I, 123, 246, 247,

³ Eisey means "island by the river": the termination *ig* or *eg* does not necessarily signify an island in the modern usage: it was used of high dry ground with fen or stream around it. Eisey Hill satisfies this meaning. See B. and T.

⁴ *Godstow Reg.* 857: for ease of reference I refer throughout to the English Register (E.E.T.S.). Some stones remained until recent years. One man I know has seen one or two. See Thacker, *F.*, *The Stripling Thames*, 1909, p. 404.

⁵ No date; possibly about 1870.

⁶ *W.A.M.*, L, 293 and LI, 373.



Eisey Church, demolished 1844, after J. Buckler.



Water Eaton Manor (demolished). (Photo by courtesy of D. Gantlett, Esq.)

as support for the first. Both are Roman. They must have come from an important building, possibly from Cirencester where, I believe, Coral Rag is hardly used at all.

It is reasonable to suppose that the original chapel of Water Eaton was built soon after the acquirement of the manor by Godstow Priory. A papal commission of about 1195 decided what obviously had been a dispute between the minchons and the Abbey of Cirencester which owned Eisey. Water Eaton was to be subject to Eisey but was to be served by the priest of Eisey. The men of Water Eaton were to have right of burial in their own churchyard, the great tithes was to go to Eisey, and the lesser tithes to Godstow, and land was assigned for the endowment of Water Eaton chapel.¹

Over a century later² a dispute arose between Adam de Bradfeld, vicar of Eisey, and the impropriators, the Abbot and Convent of Cirencester, about a manse called Poma, a curtilage and croft next Eton chapel, a hide of arable land and the great tithes in Eisey Parish belonging to Eton chapel. Both parties submitted themselves to the Bishop of Sarum, Roger Mortival, who awarded the whole to the Vicar of Eisey, he to pay annually to the Convent 20 marks for ever and to take an oath etc. He also to bear all burden, find books etc. and repair chancels both of Eisey Church and Eton Monialum chapel.

This dispute may be followed in some detail by those interested by referring to Godstow Register (855 and 856). Edward III seems to have confirmed to Cirencester Abbey 'in Lattona et in Eisey IX hides, et ecclesias earundem villarum, cum terra et capella de Eattona, quae pertinet ad ecclesiam de Eisi.'³

Latton and Eisey parishes—the latter including the tithing of Water Eaton—were amalgamated by order of the County Council, confirmed by the Local Government Board in 1897. Ecclesiastical union occurred in 1819. Water Eaton has been recently split off and joined to Castle Eaton and there is now a United Benefice of Cricklade and Latton.⁴ A list of incumbents follows. It derives, as to most of the entries, from Phillipp's Institutions.

<i>Incumbents of Eisey</i>	<i>Patrons</i>
1236 Nicholas	Abbot of Cirencester
1296 William Bracknell	" " "
1311 Adam de Bradfield	" " "
1349 Richard le Brut	" " "
Robert le White de Sutton Mandeville	" " "
1361 Richard le Porter	" " "
Robert Felawe	" " "
1409 William Amenity	" " "
1429 William (the 1428 assessment was s18/8d.)	" " "
1434 William Wyland	" " "
1434 Roger Hore	" " "
Richard Bell (appointed Vicar of Latton 1446)	" " "
1455 Richard Dye	" " "
John Warde	" " "
1469 Thomas Capron	" " "
1476 David Saut	" " "
1476 Thomas Pellyngton	" " "

¹ *Godstow Register*, 851 and 852.

² *Ordinatio*, 24 July 1325: see also F/F Wilts, 1313.

³ *Mon. Anglic.* VI, 179; also *Inq. Nonarum*, Ed. III, Com. Wilts (14 May 1341).

⁴ Containing the old parishes of St. Sampson Cricklade, St. Mary Cricklade, St. John Latton and St. Mary Eisey (without Water Eaton Chapelry).

	<i>Incumbents of Eisey.</i>	<i>Patrons</i>
1526	Aegidius (Giles) Test (mentioned in Valor Eccl.)	Abbot of Cirencester
1538	Thomas Massy, D.D., St. Mary's Coll. Oxon. (assessed to the subsidy, 1545)	" " "
	Humphry Gallymore	" " "
1570	Humphrey Smythe	John Pleydell and heirs of Virgil Pleydell
1623	Thomas Smart, in succession to the above	Edward Sheldon
1643	Walter Jones, d. 17.v.1666, buried Eysey	
1666	John Haugh, M.A., B.N.C. Oxon.	Ralph Sheldon of 'Beoly'
1683	Edward Head, B.A., New Inn Hall, Oxon. (appointed to Latton, 1710)	Sir Stephen Fox
1723	John Dart	Executors of Sir Stephen Fox
1731	Samuel Hill	Stephen Fox of Redlynch
1737	Richard Clarke (resigned)	" " " "
1737	Peter Lewis Willemin, 'a French clergyman of great merit and learning'	" " " "
1762	Robert Page, on the death of the above	Earl of Ilchester
1780	Hugh Price	" " "
1782	Richard Nicholas Goldesborough, M.A., D.D., Magd. Coll., Oxon.	" " "

-
- 1820 Henry Jonas Barton, M.A., B.N.C. Oxon.: Vicar of Latton cum Eisey
- 1838 Hyde Wyndham Beadon, Vicar of Latton cum Eisey, in plurality with other livings
- 1891 William Philpot Anderson, B.A., Jesus Coll. Camb., on the death of Canon Beadon

*Curates.*¹

The years given are those in which it can be shown that the curates were officiating

- 1599 Thomas G. . . .
- 1731-2 S. Wells
- 1738 Robert Page
- 1755 C. Harries (a Charles Harries was appointed Vicar of St. Sampson Cricklade in 1751, and in the same year Rector of St. Mary's Cricklade)

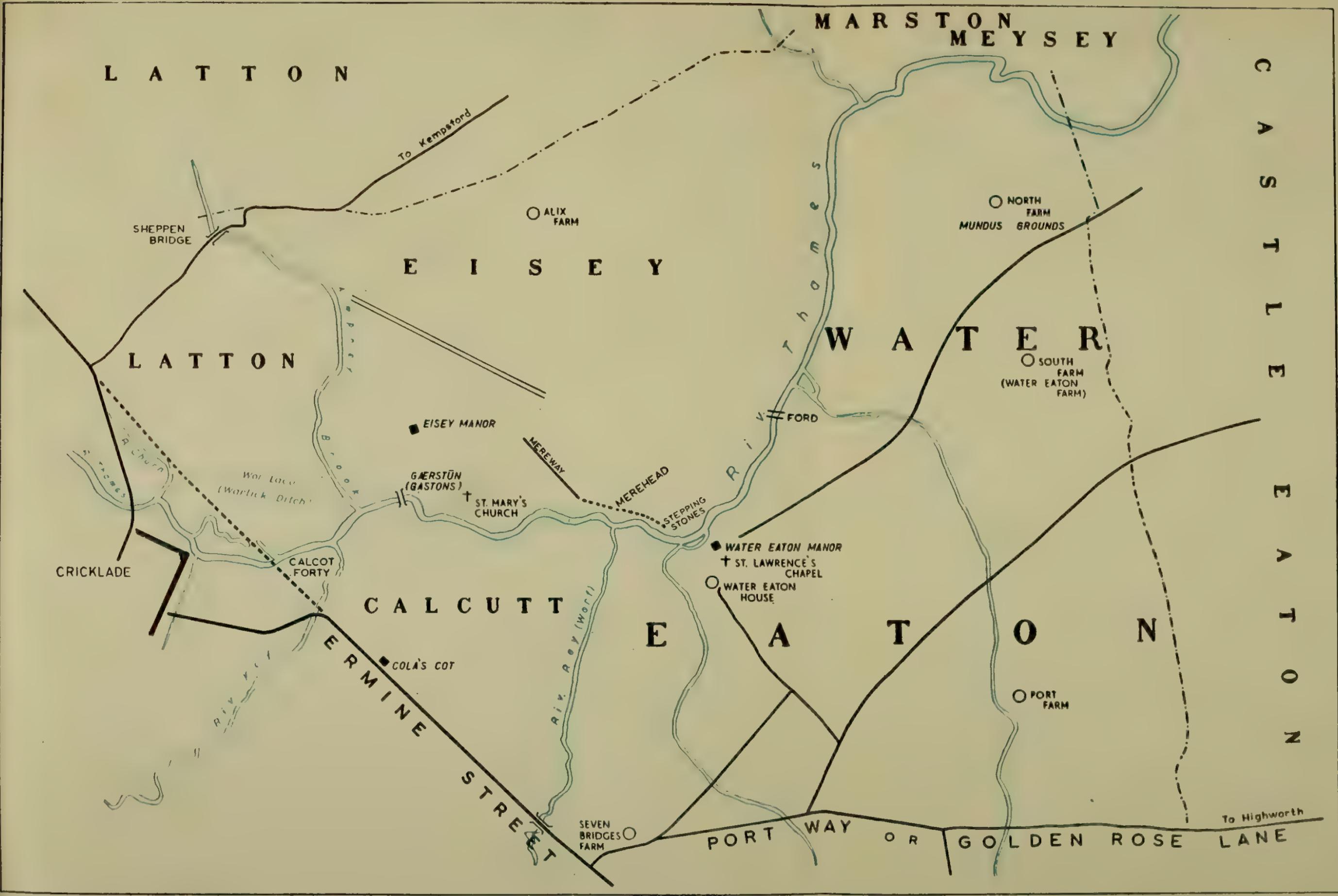
Topography

Both Eisey and Water Eaton are well defined in extent. They are separated from one another by the Thames. Eisey (1212 acres) is bounded on the west by the Ampney Brook, and on the north it is separated

¹ From the following will proved 4 May 1404 (*P.C.C.*, 6 March), it might be assumed that Godstow maintained, at times, a resident chaplain at Water Eaton.

'JOHN CLERK (no description or residence)

To be buried in Church of St. Lawrence, Eton Monial, Diocese of Sarum. To fabric of the Church of Sarum 12d. and to that of Eton afsd. 12d. To the Abbot of the latter church 4d. To Master Robert the Vicar, for celebrations and to the Clerk of the Church 4d. To Alice Dee, widow, 4d. Residue of goods to Exors., Master John Sanger Chaplain, and William Millewark, for "the health of my soul". Overseer, Symon Rusteler.'



Scale approx. 2½"—1 mile.

Based on Ordnance Survey, by permission.

EISEY AND WATER EATON

1520
1531

1570
1620
1640
1660
1680

1720
1730
1730
1730

1760
1780
1780

1820

1830

1890

1590
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1730
1750

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from Latton by a small and ancient watercourse. Except for the hill above mentioned, Eisey is flat and featureless. It is traversed by the Thames and Severn Canal. Apart from Eisey Manor with its cluster of cottages, it contains but one settlement of note, Alix Farm. At Sheppen Bridge is a rectangular enclosure by bank and ditch of unknown age. Air cover (Ashmolean Mus. 387 and 388) has disclosed two perfectly straight parallel lines (see map) which suggests the site of a road. The line runs from Cowleaze cottages to a bridge on the old canal. No continuations are indicated. Nothing is visible on the ground, and no section has been made. The Merehead and its grassy way (the mereway) leading north-west from the Thames is a long-forgotten bound mentioned in a thirteenth century Forest Perambulation.¹ Gastons,² the slope between Eisey Manor and the Church is the only other ancient name in Eisey. There are extensive meads beside the Thames.

Water Eaton contains 1605 acres. It is bounded on the west by the Thames and the Ray (Worf) and on the south for some part by the old Portway from Cricklade to Highworth. (This exists in part as Golden Rose Lane). The eastern boundary appears to be arbitrary until it is noticed that it is heading almost due north towards the northward-projecting Marston Meysey.³ It may well represent an ancient track which seems to be continuous with the road through Meysey Hampton to Ready Token on the Icknield Way. Most of the Water Eaton bank of the Thames is steeper than that on the Eisey side and does not exhibit much true mead. There is a copse at the south-eastern extremity which may represent ancient woodland. The road system has been considerably changed, and the map shows the pattern before the opening of the direct road between Seven Bridges and Castle Eaton. There are five farms,—Seven Bridges, Port Farm, South Farm, formerly Water Eaton Farm, and North Farm (which is probably not ancient). The fifth is the Manor. This was between the chapel and the Thames. It was pulled down, and replaced to the south by the present Water Eaton House. The old manor house was illustrated in the *Pall Mall Magazine* of August, 1899. Rubble remains on the site.⁴ This was the head of the manor. The ground around is much broken and the remains of a fishpond can still be made out. A few yards from the site of the Manor House is a backwater of the Thames which has served as a wharf. Ancient names are few. Vedermorfurlong, Beringersland, Ford Mead, Hide Mead, and Poma occur in the Godstow Register. Ford Mead may be identified, and Poma is probably the orchard near the Manor. Scores Ground can be identified by the peculiar system of selions and drainage near the present Scores Stalls. Mundus grounds are in North Farm and the name was recently in use.

Proprietors

Of the two early charters⁵ apparently referring to Eisey the first is a grant by Offa to Worcester Monastery of land at *Ductune* and *Esig*. *Ductune* is probably Doughton in Tetbury parish, and the second cannot be identified. The bounds as given seem to suggest that the properties were contiguous. I am convinced that they do not apply to our Eisey. The charter is probably a forgery.

The second is a grant by Burgred to Alhun, Bishop of Worcester, of *Esege* and various Gloucestershire properties not far from the Wilts border. The bounds are not given.

Neither charter is helpful, and we pass to Domesday Book where Regenbald the priest holds Latton and Eisey. 'Two thegns held them for 2 manors in the time of King Edward. Earl Harold united them into

¹ See my *Bradon Forest*, O.U.P., 1953.

² *Gaerstun* = paddock.

³ The other Wiltshire projection north of the Thames, Latton, is 'spined' by Ermine Street.

⁴ Some is Cotswold stone. It is known that Godstow employed Cotswold stone about 1176, and some may well have been left at Water Eaton in the course of its barge transport from Ashton Keynes to Oxford—see *V.C.H. Oxon*.

⁵ B.C.S. 226, c. 775; and B.C.S. 487, A.D. 855.

one manor, and it paid geld for nine hides.' ¹ The Geld Rolls suggest that the holding of Latton cum Eisey was in Cricklade Hundred.

In the V.C.H. Wilts II, under Domesday entry 429, is printed 'Herman de Drewes holds *Etone* [Water Eton (in Latton)] of the King. Edric held it in the time of King Edward and it paid geld for 2 hides. There is land for 2 ploughs. There is 1 plough in demesne and there are 2 bordars and 2 *coscez*, and 1 villein with 1 plough. There are 2 acres of meadow. The woodland is 2 furlongs long and 1 furlong broad. It was and is worth 30s.'

The entry in brackets is Professor Darlington's. . . There is no evidence that this holding, (if it does indeed refer to Water Eaton), was 'in Latton' at this time. The circumstances detailed above suggest most strongly the reason why Water Eaton was drawn to Eisey and became part of Eisey parish after its acquisition by Godstow Priory.

I believe that all Regenbald's manors went to Cirencester Abbey, and there is no evidence that Cirencester ever held Water Eaton.

Whether the small 2 hide holding of Herman de Drewes represents Water Eaton may never be known. At the present time, the history of the prioritorship of Water Eaton begins with the grant of Reginald FitzCount, son of Roger FitzWilliam Earl of Hereford, to Godstow in about the year 1143. The grant was confirmed by Reginald's son Reginald Ballon. It is possible that it belonged to Reginald's maternal uncle. ² Less than a hundred years later, Godstow was exempted from suit to the court of the Hundred of Staple which then belonged to Thomas de Sanford. ³ In 1259 it can be shown that Latton and Eisey were in the Hundred of Cricklade. ⁴ The union of Water Eaton and Eisey was ecclesiastical only.

At the Dissolution, Latton and Eisey were bought by Sir Anthony Hungerford of Down Ampney who held also the impropriate Rectory of Latton. The impropriation of Eisey, however, seems to have gone to the Pleydells who presented in 1570.

Water Eaton was bought by Sir John Brydges, afterwards Lord Chandos. His father Giles Brydges lived for a time at Blunsdon House. ⁵ The tithe of Water Eaton was bought by Sir Thomas Seymour. ⁶

The early leases of Water Eaton are unknown. John Goddard of Ogbourne St. George in his will dated March 16th 1500—01 mentions 'the yerres of my farm at Eton.' (No Goddard is mentioned under 'Easy' in the 1544 Subsidy Roll). His son Thomas was the father of John Goddard of Water Eaton who died in 1560. ⁷ John Goddard's assessment of 1545 was by far the largest in 'Water Yetton and Esye'. In 1576 there are five assessments given under 'Eesey'. No Goddard. Bishop Compton's census of 1676 gives for Eisey 54, no papists or Nonconformists.

At some time in the course of his long and distinguished life, Sir Stephen Fox (1627-1716), bought Water Eaton, and in his family it remained until the Local Act for Sale and Settlement of the estates of Henry Thomas, Earl of Ilchester. ⁸

¹ V.C.H. Wilts, II, D.B. 133, and p. 9: see also *Notification of Grant*, c. 1067, from Cirencester Cartulary printed in Davis, *Regesta Wm. I and Wm. II*.

² *Godstow Register* 847, 848, 849, 850: see also *Round*, 'Studies in Peerage and Family History'; 181—215. Godstow was founded about 1133 and surrendered in 1539.

³ *Godstow Register* 853, 854: F/F 16 Hen. III: for Thomas de Sanford, see pedigree in *Bradon Forest*. The adjoining manor of Calcut was in Staple Hundred.

⁴ F/F Wilts.

⁵ See *Wilts N. and Q.*, I, 371.

⁶ *Cal. State Papers*: 1540, (Grants), 942 (69) (two entries): ib 1541, 947 (44). Latton and Eisey passed to Dunch, Craggs, Elliott (*W.A.M.* XLII, 13) (Lord St. Germans was lord of the Manor in 1915).

⁷ See the Goddard Wills printed in *Crisp*, *Fragmenta Genealogica* VII; and *Monast. Anglic.* IV, 374.

⁸ 41 Geo. III, cap. 107.

Of the four farms of Water Eaton beside the Manor Farm I am inclined to think that North Farm and Seven Bridges Farm are relatively modern subdivisions. Water Eaton Farm (South Farm) and Port Farm are, I think, older and may even represent the sites of 'bordars' houses. A natural and almost equal division into halves by a water course is Manor Farm and Seven Bridges Farm together, and Port Farm, North Farm and South Farm together.

It appears that about 1600 Anthony Hungerford held '90 acres of land, meadow and pasture, in Water Eaton and Eysey called Jones Leaze'.¹ Sir Anthony Hungerford by deed dated 24 Aug. 1604 charged £10 annually on Eisey and Water Eaton land for an apprentice charity at Great Bedwyn. This is now paid by the proprietor of (what was) Manor Farm.²

North Farm, South Farm and Port Farm were sold in 1812,³ and the farm boundaries have since been altered as between all five holdings. There is in the County Record Office a quantity of eighteenth and nineteenth century farm leases, etc., also parts of the Eisey Court Books dating from 1579⁴.

¹ *I.P.M. Wilts*, Sir Anthony Hungerford (1628), the son of the above. Hen. VIII had granted to Sir T. Seymour (Lord Sudeley) a rent of 14/- reserved for closes called Jones Leaze. Seymours had held land in the neighbouring Eton Meysi before 1347. See *Cal. State Papers, Hen. VIII* 942, 69: 947, 44; 947, 83.

² *W.A.M.* VI, 290.

³ Sale Bill, Devizes Museum.

⁴ Acc. 54. 3; 79 b, 1; 84, 2; 177, 7; and some Land Tax Assessments.

AN EXCAVATION AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH, SALISBURY

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH CONSTRUCTION

By FAITH DE MALLET MORGAN

St. Martin's Church, Salisbury, stands on rising ground about 200 yards from the river, in the south-east part of the city, and is approached from St. Ann Street. It is situated in what used to be the parish of Milford before the city of New Sarum was in being.

The date of its foundation is not known: no mention of a church is made in the Domesday survey, which merely refers to a tenure of land in the village of Milford or Meleford. It is mentioned for the first time in 1217,¹ when the clergy from Old Sarum visited St. Martin's in their Rogationtide procession, and at this date it may have been in existence for some time.

The present chancel was built about 1230, and although it is the oldest recognisable feature of the present church, it would seem to be an addition to the original structure, since it is wider than the existing choir. Part of a wall plate above the arch in the north wall of the choir is perhaps a trace of an older church. In the late 13th or early 14th century the tower, which is not on the same alignment as the rest of the church, was built, and the spire was added. On the east wall of the tower there is a weather course indicating a small lean-to aisle to the south. It is probable that a chantry chapel was added at the east end of the south aisle late in the 14th century, but the easternmost arch of the south arcade is all that survives. It was in the 15th century that the church assumed its present form. A north aisle was added early in the century and this was later heightened together with the arcades of the nave. In conjunction with this work the south aisle and the chantry chapel were demolished, and the new south aisle built corresponding in size with the one in the north. Furthermore the chancel arch was moved one bay to the west and considerably heightened, forming the present choir with the earlier four-centred arches of the nave arcades to the north and south.

The whole building is chiefly of flint, although the tower and some parts of the west end are now faced with ashlar.

Excavation in Churchyard, 1956.

In April, 1956, an excavation was undertaken in the churchyard, following the appearance of some chalk footings while the foundations of the south wall were being investigated during repairs to the church. (See Fig. 1.) Two cuttings were laid out beside the south wall where these footings first appeared. The area was very much disturbed to some depth by successive burials and several brick-lined graves severely hampered the scope of excavation.

In cutting I (See Fig. 2) the westernmost of the two, a mass of rough chalk blocks appeared at a depth of 1ft. 6in., with a sharply defined edge running north-south for a distance of 12ft. 4in. nearly at right-angles to the church. At the south end this edge turned a right-angle to the east and formed a projection, 2ft. 6in. wide, from a second edge which ran west-east parallel to, and at a distance of 9ft. 9in. from, the church wall. This west-east line was picked up again as a few blocks of chalk in position in cutting II (See Fig. 2); although the angle had disappeared, the wall turned north towards the church as a clear edge, thus forming the outer perimeter of a rectangular foundation, most of which would appear to lie underneath or be obliterated by the present church. As the plan shows, the only inner edge of these foundations appeared in cutting II, running west from the approximate corner of their inner angle at a distance of 4ft. 4in. from the church wall, giving them a thickness of 5ft.

Most of the large chalk blocks used to form the edges of the footings were regularly laid and roughly

¹ *Register of St. Osmund* (Rolls Series, 1884) Vol. II, c. ii.

rectangular, but those in the centre were irregularly placed lumps of chalk of varied size and shape. In several places the upper surface of the wall had been cut away by grave digging.

In cutting II only one course of the wall remained, except for part of the less disturbed eastern edge where there were still two. Between the inner and south wall face most of the blocks had been robbed and only a chalky scatter remained where the side of the cutting crossed the wall. The whole of the wall at this its south-east angle, rested on red clay, except for a detached group of a few small chalk blocks further south which lay on disturbed mortar and rubble.

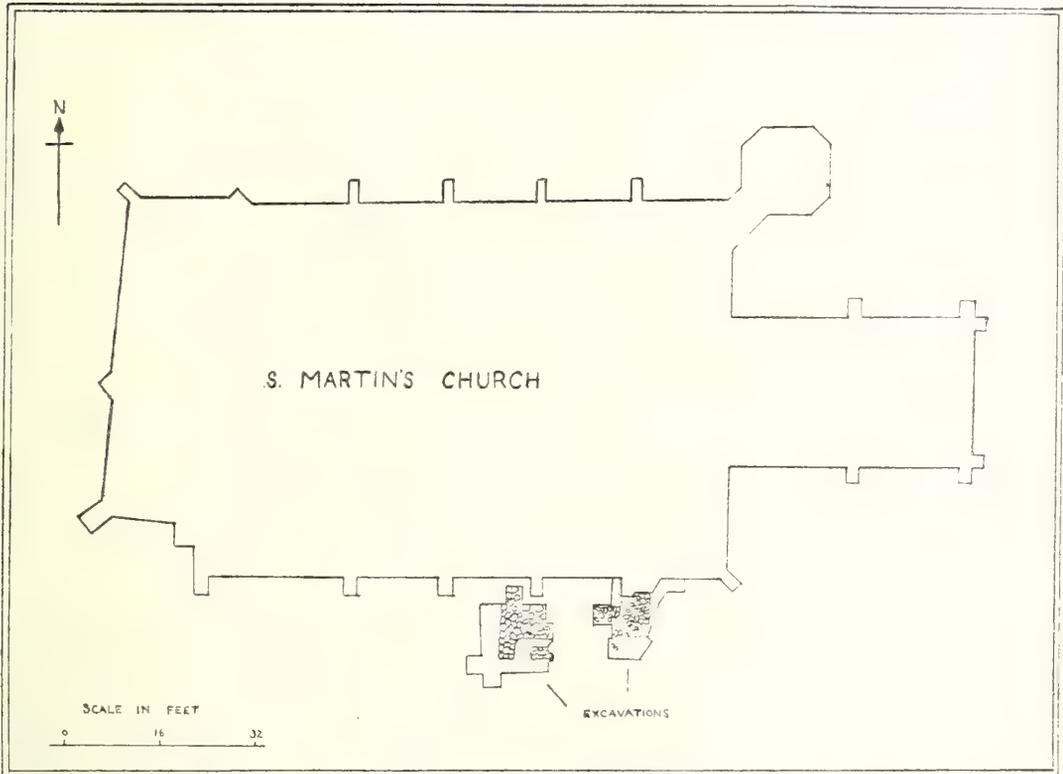


Fig 1. St. Martin's Church, Salisbury, showing site of excavations

In cutting I the structure was more complicated. Over most of the south-west angle two or three courses remained, but 8ft. from the church wall on the west face of the footings these increased to five or six, the lowest level dipping in a sharp curve to a depth of 4ft. 9in. and continuing on this level to the southern end. (Fig. 3, Section I.)

The whole of this projecting part of the structure was on the same massive scale. At the southern end the upper courses overhung the lower by an overall measurement of 1ft.: the top course, however, was set back giving the appearance of a plinth. Two large squared blocks of sandstone strengthened the extreme end at its base.

Adjacent to the east corner of the upper course at this point, a single oblong moulded stone, 11 in. \times 1 ft. 4 in. \times 6 in., lay on a dressed sandstone block about the same size. This stone was chamfered on two sides of its upper edge. Immediately below the chamfer the moulding consisted of a shallow recessed roll about 2 in. wide between marginal beads. It is thought to belong to the 12th century and was possibly the capital of the respond of a doorway. A squared corner was cut out of the green sandstone block on which it rested. Neither of these stones was in its original position as they lay on soft disturbed soil.

Of two other large sandstones, now incorporated in the bases of the adjacent buttresses of the church, it is possible that one is in its original position as a reinforcement for the inner angle of the south-west corner of the wall.

A further structure was found in cutting I, 1 ft. south of the main footings but apparently unrelated to them. This was a short length of walling, parallel to the rest, built of two double courses of squared chalk blocks, the upper courses consisting of two blocks and the lower of three. At its east end it had been disturbed by a modern soakaway.

Many pieces of rough red tile were found, including part of a glazed ridge tile probably of early 13th century date.

The complex stratification in the first cutting is shown in section 1. The natural subsoil, which was a sandy clay, can be seen to follow a curve or bank below the wall, until it dips sharply to a depth of over 8 ft. at a distance of 12 ft. 6 in. from the church wall. It was not possible, owing to water and subsidence, to excavate further at this point. On section 2 the natural clay is seen to flatten out for about 3 ft. 6 in. before it rises almost vertically and then more gradually to a depth of 5 ft. 5 in. at the south limit of the section. On section 1 the clay is more than 1 ft. lower here.

The course of the natural clay suggests the cutting of a flat-bottomed ditch, the soil from which, thrown up as a bank, may be indicated by the disturbed red clay directly underneath the stones of the wall at the north end of section 1. A scatter of flints lay on top of this bank.

Within the ditch there was a filling of dark clay (Fig. 3 Sections 1 and 2) in which were traces of ash and mortar, animal bones and many sherds of pottery. The greatest depth at which sherds were found was 7 ft. 7 in., below the extreme end of the wall, where several large pieces were grouped together; the other sherds were scattered in the same layer but not at such a low level.

The mortar on which the projecting part of the wall was bedded overlay this filling, and extended beyond the south end of the footings, where it appears to have collapsed into a robber trench. Where the mortar lay under the wall the clay bank had been cut back to allow the foundations to be built over the ditch at a constant depth. (Fig. 3, Section 1.)

A thick layer of black ash crossed from the west side of the cutting to just below the corner of the wall, overlying part of the mortar above the ditch filling. This contained blackened flints and a great quantity of large sherds. In section 2, this layer of ash was seen to be at the base of a pit, dug into the mortar laid as part of the bedding for the wall and therefore later than the wall itself. In the west extension to the cutting, which bisected the pit, the ash was intersected with layers of chalk or weathered lime, red sandy clay, chalk subsoil, burnt flints and burnt chalk. Altogether these layers were 15 in. thick and were very compressed and highly fired. There were a good many small sherds but only in the ash between the layers.

Three large sandstones were found at the base of the pit. These were dressed, squared stones, all about 2 ft. \times 1 ft. 6 in. \times 8 in., carefully laid to form a level platform. All three were blackened by fire, and were overlaid and surrounded by a thick layer of very highly fired flints. (See Fig. 2.) It was not possible to determine the extent of the flints as circumstances prevented further undercutting below modern graves.

The upper part of the pit above the compressed layers consisted of dark clay soil, with charcoal, animal bones and many sherds of pottery. This filling appeared to slope down towards the wall, but graveyard disturbance made the stratification indistinct near the foundations at this level. (Fig. 3, Sections 2 and 3.)

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH. - SOUTH WALL -

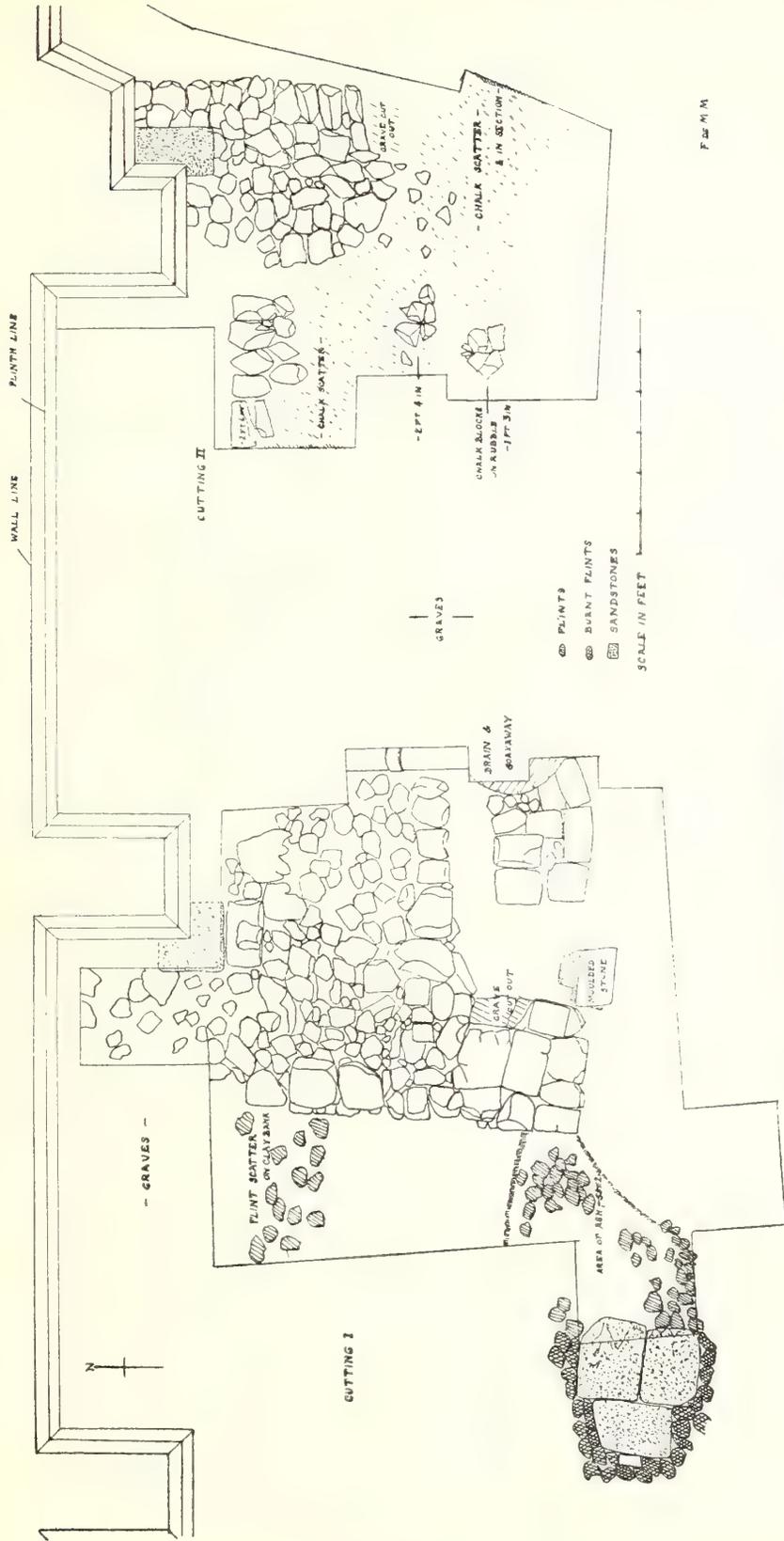


Fig. 2. St. Martin's Church, Salisbury. Plan of cuttings I and II

Towards the corner of the wall the graveyard rubbish merged with a layer of mortar, rubble and chalk which continued against the south end of the reinforced foundation filling the supposed robber trench and overlying the primary filling of mortar. (Section 1.) Here it was packed with many flints, which were not present in this layer further east, where there had been more disturbance.

The stratification below the main south wall face consisted of layers of mortar, clay, sandy gravel, chalk and greensand, which sloped down towards the south side of the cutting. (Section 3.) Although completely dissimilar to the ditch filling further west, it is probable that these layers nevertheless represent a filling, to obtain a more stable base in what was a particularly wet part of the ditch.

There were many large sherds of pottery in an area of charcoal beside the blocks of the detached structure and in the layer of dark soil on which they rested. This charcoal extended into the mortar layer below. More sherds were scattered in the mortar, and a rim (Fig. 4, No. 5) was found just under the stones of the main south face.

Finds, Pottery—(See Fig. 4. Numbers in brackets below refer to the illustrations in that figure).

Within the excavation there were four main areas of pottery; the ditch filling, the south lip of the ditch, the secondary pit and hearth, and the small hearth area south of the detached section of wall. There does not appear to be very much topographical sequence in the pottery from the different areas, but as the probable total time involved in the various phases is no more than about 100 years and perhaps less, that is hardly surprising.

With the exception of a few pieces of glazed ware, and plain sagging-base cooking pot, all the sherds consisted of scratch-marked pottery.

A. Scratch-marked pottery.

This ware consists almost entirely of fragments of cooking pots, usually globular, with a round base continuous with the curve of the sides, and with a wide mouth and strongly everted rim. Another form is that of a wide shallow dish with a flat, scratched base and inward-turning sides.

The technique is primitive; the pots are thrown on a slow wheel with much handworking, about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick at the sides, very gritty, the clay having been mixed with coarse sand. The colour ranges from dark grey to light brown and red.

The distinctive feature of this ware is the treatment of the surface, which is entirely covered, except for the neck, with scratch-markings. These markings are quite deeply scored, generally horizontal, often crossing, with loops and return strokes. They were probably made with a brush or tuft of coarse bristles rather than with the grit on the potter's fingers: in section the scratches are rounded and it is the angular grits which would catch on the fingers. Furthermore the grits would often be found sticking in the scratches.

Scratched-ware has been dated at two sites by coin evidence. At Old Sarum it was found in pits associated with a coin of William I, dated not earlier than 1080-2. Excavations at Southampton revealed a pit containing scratched-ware and a coin of Etienne, Comte de Penthièvre, 1093-1108, a cousin of the ducal house of Brittany, minted at Guingamp. This indicates a range between 1080 and, say 1130 for the date of scratched-ware, but the evidence is incomplete and until more is forthcoming it would be unwise to attempt closer dating.

The distribution is concentrated in South Wiltshire, Dorset and Hants. The ware is found sporadically to the west as far as Bristol and to the north as far as the Thames Valley; there is also one instance at Leicester.

At St. Martin's a great many large sherds were found, but no complete pot although it has been possible to reconstruct about a third of two pots. Most of the rims are of the strongly everted type belonging to the globular form. Probably these rim flanges were sometimes added to the globular pot, as there is

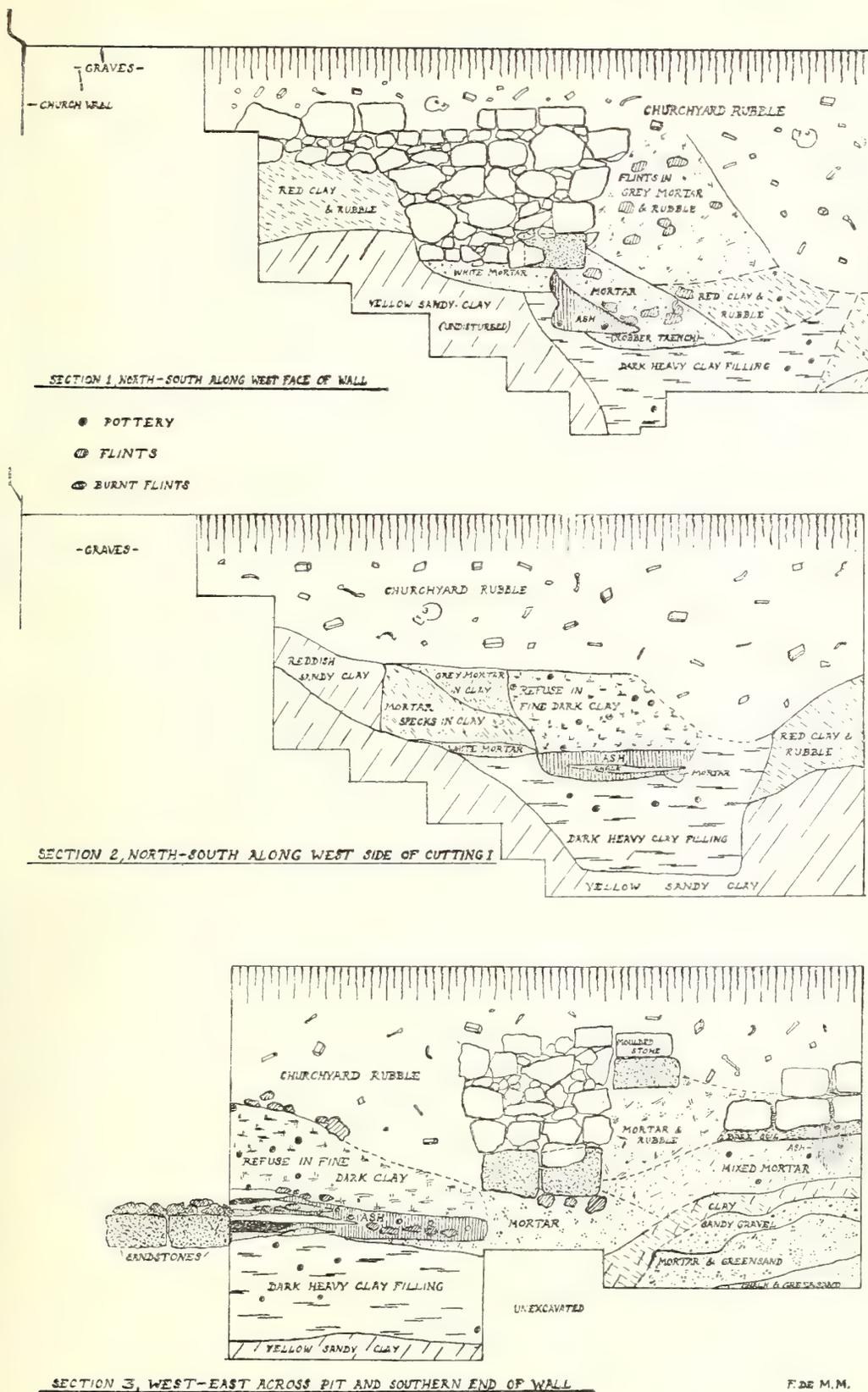


Fig. 3. Excavations at St. Martin's Church, Salisbury. Sections. (Scale 1 in. to 3 ft. 6 ins.)

a fairly general thickening at the neck (Fig. 4, No. 4). Some of the rims are plain (2, 5), or finger-pressed into hollows at intervals, raising the upper surface unevenly; this is the most common form (1, 4). Others are grooved (3), or moulded into more complicated forms; one or two appear to have been flattened with a knife (7, 10).

Some of the simple rim flanges and those with finger-pressed hollows are similar to the rims from the sequence of late 11th and early 12th century pottery from Whittington Court Roman Villa which is comparable with pottery of the same date from the Castle Mound at Oxford.¹ The finger-pressed rims may also be compared with one from the late 12th century well filling at St. John's College, in a shelly ware, which may date from earlier in the same century;² and with the similar rims in scratched-ware from the pits at Old Sarum.³

In a few cases the scratch-marks cover the outside of the neck immediately below the rim; and in two or three the brush has been used inside the neck and shoulder. I have however been shown sherds from the site excavated by Mr. J. G. W. Musty at Laverstock with scratches inside the body of the pot; and sherds from Mr. N. Teulon-Porter's field-site at Sedgell near Shaftesbury with intermittent yellow glaze on the inside.

There were two examples of an unusual type of wide bowl (13, 14), of which the larger sherd comes from immediately on top of the clay bank south of the ditch. The fabric is very coarse and gritty and heavily scratched. It may have analogies with the large pan from the late 12th century, well filling at St. John's College, Oxford, but the rim flange is more everted than the St. Martin's sherd. Similar in shape is the pan from Shilton, Oxon, but here the everted rim is more evolved and it is likely to be of early 13th century date. The distribution of these large unglazed pans with everted rims indicates that they are a West of England type. There is also a deeper pan from Grosmont Castle which may be analogous; this has a less everted rim, but others here of the same type have a definite shoulder angle and vertical sides.⁴

With these large pans various methods of strengthening the rims were used by medieval potters⁵. The earlier forms, late Saxon and 12th century, have a strongly inturned flange, but by the late 12th or 13th centuries the out-turning of the medieval cooking pot appears. The St. Martin's bowl, the rim of which is everted but curves upwards, may, Mr. E. M. Jope considers, be an early forerunner of the large pans, in shape and purpose, possibly of late 11th or early 12th century date.

Three sharply angled base sherds, (15, 16, 17), from the secondary pit and the small hearth area south of the wall, belong to a wide, shallow flat-bottomed form of vessel, with everted rim similar to a cooking pot, and datable to the late 11th or early 12th century. It is well known in the West Country⁶ and there have been examples found as far south as Poole: three similar sherds were found with the other scratched-ware at Old Sarum, in the pit containing the coin of William I⁷. Their use is unknown; some have holes halfway up the sides, made before firing (16); of two sherds of this type from a site at Laverstock one had a particularly large well-formed hole; possibly they were a kind of strainer. Mr. Jope says that the type was current certainly in the first half of the 12th century and probably for much of the 11th.

Most of the scratch-marked pottery is of similar fabric, hard, rough-textured and very gritty. The clay even contains an occasional small pebble or piece of grass, in the thicker walled coarser pots (4, 2, 14): in the

¹ *B.G.A.S.*, 71 (1952), 62, 7.

² *Oxoniensia*, XV (1950), 52—54, Fig. 18, 6.

³ *Antiq. Journ.* XV (1935) 187.

⁴ *Antiq. Journ.* XV (1935), 332, 28.

⁵ *Oxoniensia* VIII, IX (1943—4) 102—4.

⁶ *B.G.A.S.*, 71 (1952) 65, map.

⁷ *Antiq. Journ.* XV (1935) 189, fig. 5, 28.

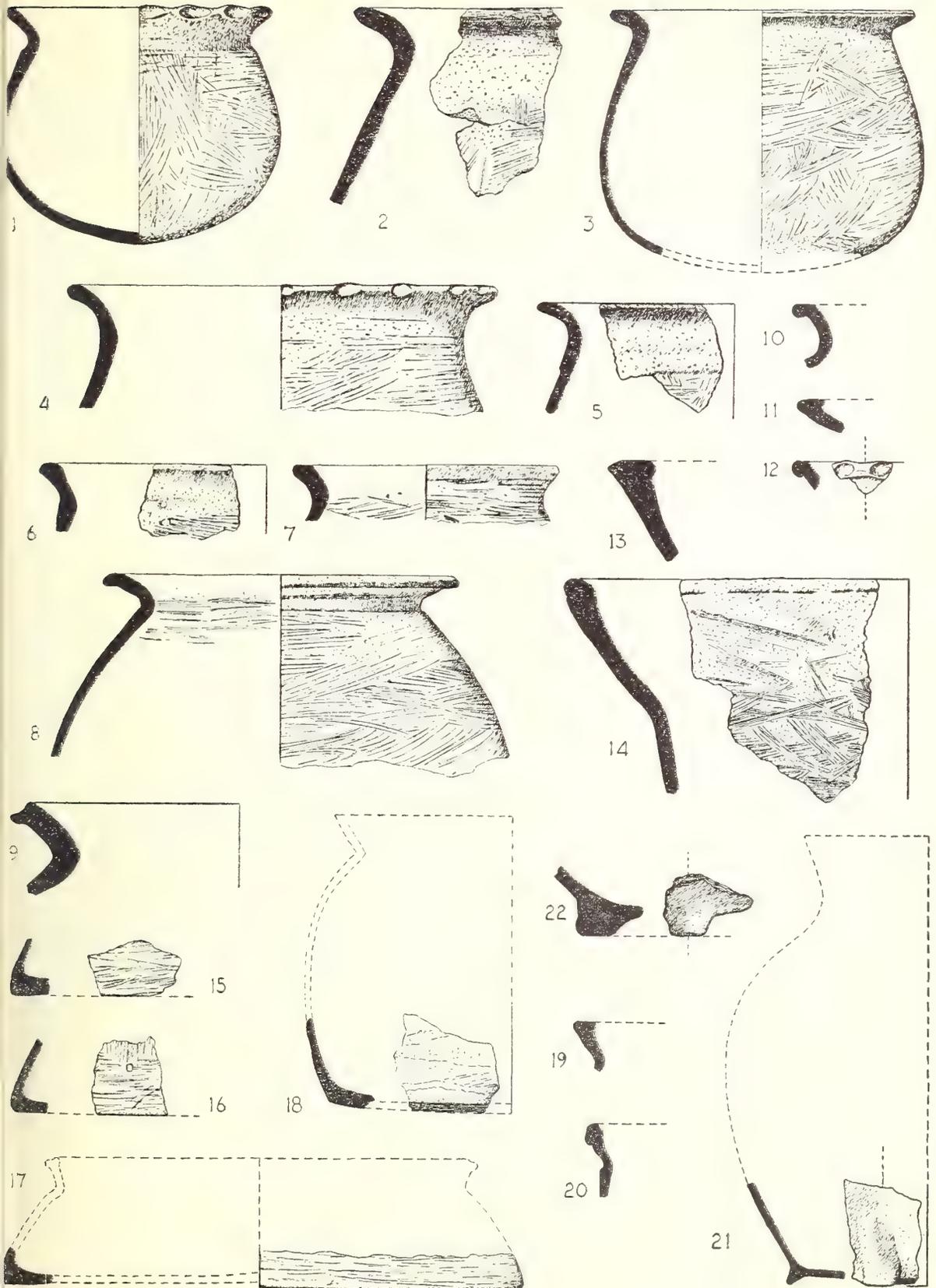


Fig. 4 Pottery finds in excavations at St. Martin's Church Salisbury

thin walled pots the fabric and the grits are much finer and the hardness has a metallic feel. The colour is mainly reddish-brown to black, with a grey core; some sherds are brick-red on both surfaces, and a few are grey throughout with an almost bluish-white surface.

B. *Plain unglazed ware.*

There are a few sherds of plain smooth ware in a fine sandy fabric which has a slight glitter and a soft feel. One of these, from the ditch filling, belongs to the sagging-base type of cooking pot; it is dark brown on the exterior, red on the inside, with a grey core, and has been knife-trimmed round the sides (18). It is similar to a pot from Lydney Castle, which has a simple everted rim¹, and also to those from the St. John's College well filling. Both this base-angle sherd and a rim (19) in the same fabric and colour except that it is red on both surfaces, may be paralleled exactly by sherds which I was shown by Mr. J. W. G. Musty from the site at Laverstock, and which appear to have been made by the same hand. This is particularly interesting in view of the fact that since 13th century pottery wasters were found on this site, there may have been a kiln in the vicinity earlier.

C. *Glazed ware.*

Two glazed sherds are of interest because they are of the same gritty fabric as the scratched ware. One, from the layers of ash in the bottom of the secondary pit, is part of the shoulder of a fairly wide pitcher, with patchy, greenish yellow glaze on a buff-grey surface, and four vertically curving grooves. The interior is black and it has a grey core. This is a piece of early glazed ware and may be compared with the pitchers from the St. John's College well filling.

The other is the foot of a tripod pitcher (22), pinkish-surfaced, with a patchy yellow glaze, from the clay and rubble overlying the south edge of the ditch. This belongs to a West Country type of pitcher with three stubby feet and a tubular spout, which, in the Oxford region, appears to have been in current use in the second half of the 12th and early 13th centuries, but may be earlier: these pitchers may be descended from late Saxon shapes and represent a persistent Saxon strain in potting after the Norman Conquest. A similar foot sherd was found in the cess-pit at Old Sarum, dated by the late Dr. J. F. S. Stone at about 1100. On grounds of fabric the St. Martin's sherd should belong to the 12th century. A typical tripod pitcher is illustrated from the site of the Bodleian extension.² Part of a tubular spout was also found at St. Martin's, in unglazed fine buff-pink clay. This should belong to the same type of pitcher, and is repeated at Old Sarum.³ This form of spout coalesces with the neck of the jug instead of standing clear of it, as in the Bodleian example.

Two base sherds in very much finer fabric (21), off-white throughout and glazed in speckled greenish-yellow with flecks of undissolved colouring matter on the outer, dimpled surface, belong to the same type of pitcher, either tripod or plain slightly convex base with thumb-pressed edge. It is likely that these, with their primitive, uneven glaze, date from the early 13th century.

Other finds.

The only other finds, besides animal bones, were a few large nails in a very corroded state. One of these came from the ditch filling and the rest from the base of the wall footings.

¹ *Antiq. Journ.* XI (1931) 258, 18.

² *Oxoniensia* IV (1939), 98, 117. For this type of tripod pitcher see also *Antiq. Journ.* XX (1940) 103.

³ *Antiq. Journ.* XV (1935), 189.

Animal bones.

Animal bones were found with the pottery in all areas, and were especially plentiful in the ditch filling and secondary pit. These were chiefly cattle, sheep, and pig bones, with a small proportion of deer. There were also a few oyster shells.

Summary and Interpretation.

There seem to have been five main phases of activity within the excavation at St. Martin's, separated, according to the pottery evidence, by no great length of time. This is borne out by the documentary evidence, which indicates that a church was constructed between the Domesday Survey and 1217.

The structure excavated does not bear any relationship to the layout of the chancel, built about 1230, or to any part of the present church. Therefore it is unlikely that the structure formed part of the church existing in 1217. If it were, there would have been less than thirteen years for its destruction and rebuilding on a completely different layout; the pottery found in the pit subsequent to the wall robbing would also have to be of later date than appears possible. It is more likely that the structure was part of a church built around 1100 and that it was a small affair, which did not last long before it was rebuilt in the form existing in 1217 from which the 1230 building developed. Alternatively, the structure may have been the end of a south transept of an altogether bigger 12th century church, still in existence in 1217, and to which the 1230 chancel would have been added. There is also the possibility that the early church was never completed.

It is unlikely that the foundations were secular: walls 5ft. thick would have meant a defensive building of some size, not earlier than the pottery in the ditch dated around 1100, and the building would have had to become obsolete very quickly for the church of 1217 to have been built on top of it. It is however odd that so much domestic pottery should be found in association with a church, and the possibility that it was a secular building should not be altogether excluded.

The first phase, that of the ditch, which cut through a previous occupation containing pottery little earlier than 1100, may have been a boundary or enclosure. There was possibly a spring at the bottom of it: it is very damp there still. In the second phase, the ditch was filled in, the bank cut away and the site made as level as possible for the third phase, the building of the foundations. These had to be substantially reinforced at the corner overlying the ditch as there was always the risk of subsidence. Later, the foundations needed no longer, a robbing trench was apparently dug. Finally, in the last phase, a pit of unknown dimensions was dug beside the wall, through the filling of the old robber trench, and a hearth used for some time and some purpose in the bottom, before it was filled up with refuse containing a great deal of pottery.

Acknowledgements.

I am indebted to a great many people. In particular I should like to thank Canon A. D. F. McKenzie for permission to dig in the churchyard; Mr. H. de S. Shortt for much helpful discussion and advice; Mr. E. M. Jope for kindly examining the pottery; and Mr. F. H. Edmunds for analysing the samples of material. I should also like to thank Professor Stuart Piggott who, with the late Dr. J. F. S. Stone, visited the site and gave me their valuable opinions.

A SHROPSHIRE GILD AT WORK IN WILTSHIRE

By E. G. H. KEMPSON

A chance reference¹ to some property in Marlborough owned in 1547 by 'the Yeeld or Fraternytie of Ludlow' has led to some interesting light being thrown on the workings of such a society. Gilds, as is well known, are usually divided into three classes: religious (and social), town or merchant gilds and trade gilds. This gild belonged to the first category. It was known as the Gild of St. Mary and St. John the Evangelist and had been renamed in 1284 as the Gild of Palmers. It met in the South porch of the parish church of St. Lawrence in Ludlow in Shropshire. In Edward III's day it was known to have existed from ancient days (*ab antiquo*) and was traditionally connected with Edward the Confessor. Its association with pilgrims is obscure, though comparable gilds in Lincoln laid down that their members should pay a halfpenny each to any of their number who went on pilgrimage to St. James of Compostella, Rome or Jerusalem.²

The purposes of the gild are recorded in ordinances that date from 1284, of which these are the main headings³:

Help to be given to members if in want through theft, fire, shipwreck, the falling down of their houses or such like, on not more than three occasions.

Release from false imprisonment to be obtained and illegal distraint of goods to be resisted by the gild, if possible at the charge of the member himself, but otherwise freely.

Relief to be granted to poorer members when sick; most especially when leprous, blind or otherwise incurable.

Dowries to be given to girl members either on marriage or on entry into a religious house, if they have no fathers capable of supplying them.

Services for dead members to be attended by all brethren and sisters.

If any man wishes to keep night-watches with the dead,⁴ it is allowed provided he does not set out either to conjure up evil spirits or play any practical jokes with the dead man or his reputation (*dumtamen nec monstra larvarum inducere, nec corporis vel fame sue ludibria, nec ludos alios inhonestos, presumat aliquantulum attemptare*).

No woman to keep night-watch unless she be of the household of the dead.

We do not know to what extent such ordinances as would nowadays come under the heading of insurance were carried out in practice, but it is abundantly clear that masses for the dead were duly sung: in fact a large proportion of the recorded expenditure was used for that purpose. The figures produced at the time of the Dissolution give us an idea of the amounts then involved, though considering the purpose for which they were collected they must clearly be treated with reserve. The gild expenditure included payments to 7 priests (£38-13-4), 2 (or 4) singing men (£6-13-4), 2 deacons (40/8), 6 choristers (34/-), a schoolmaster of grammar (£10), poor alms folk (27/-), the alms bellringer (2/-), the porter (44/4), as well as obits (£14-5-6), holy bread (12/3), lights (28/-), gifts to poor people (8/2), salaries of the Warden and clerk of the works (46/8) and of the treasurer (collector of possessions) (£5). The balance of £6-1-11½d. was available towards the repair of property. Other records show that the incidence of repairs to property was very heavy, but we are not here concerned with them.

The gild's income came from entrance fees, annual payments and rents. The entrance fee for a married couple was usually 13/4 and for a single person 6/8. It was common to join after death: thus William Bowyer of Marlborough and his wife, *defuncta*, were admitted in 1485 to the fraternity at a charge of 10/-. This represented a reduced risk for the woman and payment was only necessary for the singing of masses. It is not clear how large annual subscriptions were or what their purpose was but they may well have been for wax for lights to set before the altars: they seem to have varied from 4d. up to as much as 2/-.⁵

Many of the members lived in the neighbourhood of Ludlow and there was no difficulty in collecting their dues; but for more distant parts of the country there were two stewards, who worked on six different itineraries. For instance in the year 1538 (see map) there started off in Lent one Thomas Hore with his man. They were mounted and their circuit lasted for 60 days. Their daily allowance was 1/2. They covered the counties of Warwickshire, Derbyshire, Nottingham, Leicester and Northampton. Hore's second and third journeys were through North and South Wales and took another 60 days. His fourth journey only lasted 15 days; it covered Cheshire and Staffordshire. The other steward, William Philipps, also starting in Lent, took 30 days in passing through South Gloucestershire, Bristol, Glastonbury, Shaftesbury and across South Wiltshire possibly to Eton and London.

Philipps's second journey, which we shall give in more detail, started at Marlborough and continued through Marshfield, Painswick, Bishop's Cliff, Cirencester, Gloucester, Tewkesbury, Pershore, Evesham, Worcester, Hanley, Bodenham, Ross, Monmouth, Newland, Chepstow, Hereford, Leominster and Bromyard. It lasted 45 days and besides the daily charges there were other expenses, amounting to 42/1, and the steward's fee of 40/-, making a total of £6-14-7; this left a net gain of £1-3-4, for he had collected £7-17-11 on his rounds. Presumably this sum did not include any admission fees that he may have collected, but only the annual charges: it is described as being due to *finibus diversorum fratrum et sororum*.⁶

The general layout of these itineraries is confirmed by a list of admissions to the gild in 1520.⁷ There were two stewards, who divided out the area as the stewards of 1538-9 did, but the district marked P 1 (see map) was apparently not visited. Of the 1,500 persons admitted to membership in 1520, 42% came from Shropshire and Hereford, 25% from Gloucester and Warwick, 7% from Worcester and the remaining quarter from farther afield. Roughly one thirtieth of the members were admitted after death, at half-fee (3/4).

Confining our attention now to Wiltshire (see Appendix I) it appears that there were only two main groups of members, the larger at Marlborough and the smaller at Salisbury. Amongst some 2,100 admission fees received in nine separate years within the period 1485-1525, 26 were from Marlborough and 3 from Salisbury. Amongst the annual payments for 1513 and 1514 there were 25 further names from Marlborough and 15 from Salisbury. The main strata of society from which members were drawn may be typified by the Marlborough names; these included one gentleman,⁸ two merchants, a chandler, a saddler, a goldsmith, a fletcher, a brewer, an innkeeper, three bakers, a barber, two drapers, a glover, a tailor, a weaver and many of their wives. In one respect, however, these are not typical of the whole area for there are no clerics in the list; whereas in 1520 we find that one in fifteen of the entrants to the gild was a monk or a priest.

A great deal of property was owned by the gild in Ludlow and elsewhere, but in Wiltshire there was only one item. (See Appendix III.) In 1499 Robert Somerfeld, after arranging for a life interest for himself, left to the gild his two tenements in Marlborough. They now form 43 Kingsbury Street, which is the house at the lower corner of the Silverless Street turning. These houses brought in a rent of 33/4, which went to the gild after Somerfeld's death in 1518. There was an annual charge made for repairs which reduced this to 28/- net. There are records of the payment of this rent from 1525 onwards. However in 1552 the gilds were expropriated and the lands of the Palmers' Gild were handed over to the Town of Ludlow with the stipulation that thenceforward the Town would be responsible for running the grammar school and the almshouse. In 1616 the property was rebuilt as one house and became the home of Thomas Clerk, vicar of St. Mary's, Marlborough. By 1650 it had fallen into decay and the rent was owing by Clerk's executors.⁹ However, in 1653, immediately after the great fire which swept through the town of Marlborough, it was rebuilt with a tiled roof and let to one Richard Edney. Later the property was again divided into two and the tenants from 1679 to 1698 were Edney and Nathanie Proffit. It is not clear for how much longer it remained in the hands of the town of Ludlow.

It may be noted that Robert Somerfeld gave other land in Marlborough to the borough of Marlborough for somewhat similar purposes¹⁰: thus rent from Chiminage Close was to be used to discharge the town from payment of *chiminage*, that is, charges levied on passage through a forest (in this case the Forest of Savernake). Also rent from Cowlebridge Close was to be used for the repair of Cowle or Cow Bridge, the main road bridge leading towards London. He also gave other property, so that obits could be said for his soul in St. Peter's Church.

Marlborough had its own local gilds or fraternities. Four at least of the five chantries there¹¹ were fraternities. At St. Peter's were the Fraternity of the Blessed Name of Jesus¹² and that of the Blessed Mary;¹³ and at St. Mary's, two others of the same dedications.¹⁴ Nothing however is known of their activities to differentiate them from other chantries.

The remarkable feature of the Ludlow Gild is its country-wide membership. Nowadays we are somewhat slow to acknowledge what was possible, and indeed commonplace, in the middle ages; but long distances and slow travel seemed to offer small obstacles to the stewards of a gild such as this.

Acknowledgement.

I should like to express my grateful thanks for all the help given me by Miss M. Jancey, assistant archivist at Shrewbury where the Ludlow records are kept. Her very thorough knowledge of the documents made my visits far more profitable than they would have been otherwise.

APPENDIX I

Wiltshire names from *Stewards' Registers of Admissions to the Ludlow Palmers' Gild.*

1° Henry VII (1485) out of a total of 133 entries	
Nicholaus Long de Marleburgh defunctus admissus est in fraternitatem dat de fine	3/4
Johannes Stodeham de M' ¹⁵ et Margareta uxor eius admissi sunt et dant de fine	13/4
Margareta Long de eadem vidua admissa est et dat	6/8
Nicholaus Long de M' defunctus vir dum vixit prefate Margarete, solut' per eandem Margaretam	3/4
. de M' defunctus admissus est in fraternitatem inter defunctos orandos et dat	3/4
Willelmus Bowyer de M' et Margareta uxor eius defuncta admissi in fraternitatem dant de fine	10/-
Ricardus Malebroke de M' chandler et Editha uxor eius admissi dant	13/4
Johannes Heryott alias Pigeon de M' et Alicia uxor eius admissi dant	13/4
2° Henry VII (1486) out of 157 entries	
Thomas Skery de M' et Juliana uxor eius admissi et dant	13/4
3° Henry VII (1487) out of 95 entries	
Johannes Bowyer de M' et Editha uxor eius admissi et dant	13/4
4° Henry VII (1488) out of 79 entries, no Wiltshire names	
21° Henry VII (1505)	
Johanna uxor Johannis Bithewey de M' tannar admissa dat	[6/8]
Agnes Vynsam alias Tanner de M' in parochia beate Marie admissa dat de fine	[6/8]
Ricardus Drynkwater de M' apud signum penarii [draper] admissus	[6/8]
Ricardus Dyganson de M' sadler pro Katerina uxori eius admissi sunt et dant	13/4
Thomas Brodgate de Salusberi mercator et Katerina uxor eius admissi et dant	13/4
22° Henry VII (1506)	
Radulphus Lancaster [alias Somerfeld (M' 101)] de M' mercator et Alina	13/4
Willelmus Adys de M' sutor et Margeria	13/4
Thomas Whelar de Sarum generosus admissus est et dat de fine orandus	6/8

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3° F

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4° F

21° F

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A

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R

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22° F

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V

T

23° <i>Henry VII</i> (1507) out of 180 entries	
Margeria uxor Ric. Drynkwater de M' admissa est et dat de fine	6/8
Thomas Grandowne de Sarum vyntner et Emotta uxor eius	13/4
24° <i>Henry VII</i> (1508) out of 175 entries	
Johannes Avale de M' aurifaber et Isabella uxor eius admissi sunt et dant de fine	6/8 (sic)
From an undated document c. 1520 [Ludlow 8366] out of about 1030 entries	
Marleborowe	
Willelmus Busshell de Lokeriche et Amicia uxor eius concess'	[13/4]
Ricardus Hore alias Bowier de eadem [M'] mercator concess'	[6/8]
Ricardus Wothen de eadem Kerver [Ric. Wethen alias Carvar (M' 14)] et Margareta uxor eius	13/4
Johannes Matthowe apud signum le georg et Margaret uxor eius	13/4
Thomas Truslowe de Dauynsey paroch' prope Malmisbery et Isabella uxor eius concess'	13/4
Johannes Frangklyn de Polton prope ibidem [M'] et Agnes uxor eius	13/4
Thomas Heywarde de eadem [M'] pistor et Agnes uxor eius	13/4
Alicia uxor Willelmi Childe de eadem pistor concess'	6/8

APPENDIX II

Marlborough and Salisbury members.

Stewards' Receipts for 1513 and 1514 (?) from amongst many hundreds of names

Marlborough

1513		1514	
		Ric. Fermor de M'	16d
		Joh. Baily	8d
		Alicia Dobie widdow	4d
		Joh. Sawnders wever	12d
		Geo. Colls de eadem	4d
Will. Semon de M'	8d	Will. Semon de eadem	8d
Joh. Peche	8d	Joh. Peche generosus	12d
Agnes uxor Mr Tarrant	12d	Will. Child pistor	8d
		Thos Napper	8d
Ric. Dyganson	8d	Ric. Dycanson de M'	8d
Ric. Drynkwater	16d		
Will. Adye	20d	Will. Adye de eadem	10d
Reynold Browne	8d	Reynold Brown	8d
Thom. Morris	4d		
Margeria uxor Ric. Drynkwater	16d	Margeria uxor Ric. Drynkwater	16d
Joh. Lace ibidem flechar	8d	Joh. Lace flechar	8d
Joh. Avall	12d	Thos Avall aurifaber	12d
		Thos. West de eadem	16d
Joh. Lancaster 8d et 4d lo.	4d	Radulpus Lacestra	8d
Will. Persons absque debitis glover	4d	Will. Persons de eadem	8d
Joh. Poll	8d	Joh. Poll draper	12d
Joh. Smyth pistor	4d	Joh. Smyth pistor	4d

Joh. ap Hok	16d	Joh. ap Hok de eadem	12d
Marthen Morris	8d	Marten Amors	20d
dominus Nich. Patynson	4d	dominus Nich. Patenson	8d
Thos Parker	8d	Thos Pickett	8d
Agnes uxor quondam Galfridi Milleny de Remysbery	4d	Joh. Davis 12d et 8d loco.	4d
		Thom. Leicester sub M'	16d
		Alic. uxor Ric. Wiott de M'	4d
		Will. Clerk de Chypnam	2d

Salisbury (1514)

Thos Brekehed 8d, Thos Wheler gent. 12d, Thos Grondowne vyntner 16d, John Ludow mercator 12d. John Cuffe 20d, John Wagayn draper 2/-, Nicholas subdean 8d, Wm Love de Salusbery 16d. mr Ric. Whittok 12d, Wm Blanyhand 2d, Wm Mownshett 12d, John Weston 8d, Edith uxor W. Love 4/8. John Woodhall 12d, Atkyn James 12d, Johanna uxor Ric. Gor 12d, Thos Barker 8d.

APPENDIX III

Robert Somerfeld's Gift.

Deed of gift, 11 June 1495 (? but certainly betw. 1486-95) [Ludlow 808]

Alex. Darell lately of Polton gent. to Robert Somerfeld of his 2 tenements in Kyngsbury strete, bounded on E. by an empty site lately belonging to Wm Colyngborn next to St Mary's churchyard and on S. by a ten. lately belonging to Wm Chepman and Agnes his wife but now in tenure of Edw. Assheman by right of Agnes his wife.

Witnesses. Rob. Foster mayor, Jn Stone & Ric. Croke constables, Thos Wynter & Geoffrey Tanner bailiffs, Jn Mile & Jn a Paris underbailiffs, Jn Mermyn, Jn Childe, Ric. Austyn, Jn Spicer, Thos Bowier. 11 June,—H vii (*torn*) Two seals, one of the borough of Marlborough.

Deed of gift, 12 Aug. 1499 [Ludlow 1286]

Robert Somerfeld to Jn Heriett of same 2 ten. bounded on N. and W. by the street and on E. by empty site of Jas Loder [*son-in-law of Colyngborn*] and on S. by ten. of Wm Cosyn alias Chapman.

Witnesses. Thos Sley mayor, Hy Pengryf & Jn Fryse constables, Ric. Farmer & Jn Wever bailiffs, Jn Myle & Giles Payne underbailiffs, Rob. Forster, Wm Fysshier, Jn Stodham, Jn Bayle, Thos Edene.

Indenture, 31 Aug 1499 [Ludlow 1292]

Ric. Malybroke & Jn Heryott of M' of the same 2 ten. to Rob. Somerfeld for his life and after to Walter Morton Warden of the Gild of Palmers of the Blessed Mary & of St. John the Evan. and his brethren.

Witnesses. Wm Peche gentilman, Wm Fisser, Jn Stodam, Rob. Bengier, Wm Skery.

Grant, 13 June 1617. [Ludlow Corp. Minute Bk 1590- , f.116v]. To Thomas Clerke clerk & Mary his wife for 31 yrs, for a fine of £8.

Grant, 26 May 1653 [Ludlow Bundle 29]

To Ric. Edney of M' blacksmith those 2 meesplaces, tofts or late dissolved dwelling-houses here before converted into one ten. late in the poss. of Thos Clarke, clerk, betw. 2 meesplaces or tofts of Rob. Browne esq. on the N. & S, paying 30/- yearly and discharging all payments and taxes either military or civil hereafter to be imposed and also building on the same premises to the full extent thereof a good and substantial dwelling house within the next 5 yrs, the house to be covered with tyle or slatt.

¹ *Rents called Langable due to Princess Katheryne [Parr], Queen of England, Dec. 1547* (Savernake Bundle 98A: Wilts Record Office, Trowbridge).

² H. F. Westlake: *Parish Guilds of Mediaeval England*, Appendix.

³ Toulmin Smith: *English Guilds*, E.E.T.S., 1870, pp. 193—199.

⁴ Cf. Abp. Stratford's ordinance of 1345: *Statuimus quod, peractis a viris ecclesiasticis mortuorum memoriis, nulli in privatis domibus, in quibus mortuorum corpora usque ad sepulturam frequenter requiescunt, decetero receptentur ad consuetas nocturnas vigiliis peragendas defunctorum, amicis propinquis et his qui psalteria forsan pro defunctis dicere voluerint duntaxat exceptis, sub pena maioris excommunicationis*. Lyndwode: *Provinciale* (Paris, Bretton, 1506, f.93).

⁵ Stamford Gild charged 6/8 or 13/4 for admission in four quarterly instalments and 2d. or 4d. for wax each year. The gild of the Holy Cross at Stratford-on-Avon and the Gild of the Assumption at Westminster admitted many members after death (Westlake, *op. cit.*, pp. 42, 86, 115).

⁶ For the gild hospital of Roncesvalles near Charing Cross in 1520, Mistress Clerke, widow, was the proctor for the collection of alms for Hampshire and Surrey and she collected 33/4; Thomas Grove for Dorset, Wiltshire, Berkshire, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall collected £4. Other counties tapped were Lancashire, Cheshire, Lincolnshire, Kent and Herefordshire. For this gild the collections seem to have been farmed out, as they are always round sums of money. (Westlake, *op. cit.*, p. 96.)

⁷ This list is transcribed in *Trans. Shropshire Arch. Soc.*, VII, i, but its date is there left undetermined. However the entry under Leominster: "dominus Hugo Faryngton, monachus, nunc abbas de Redyng, vj^s viij^d" fixes the date, for Hugh Farington was elected Abbot in Nov. 1520 and the cell of Leominster was dependent on Reading. Incidentally the abbot was executed for 'high treason' nineteen years later, though the historian of Reading Abbey describes him as a martyr.

⁸ John Peche in 1547 held the freehold of the 'Mansion place', that is the site of the Castle, where now stands the nucleus of Marlborough College, but he lived at Knowle Farm (J. Bussell's will, 1552).

⁹ Ludlow bundle 29 and Marlborough Archives, no. 231.

¹⁰ *W.A.M.*, XXXVI, 570.

¹¹ For the chantries, see C. Wordsworth, *W.A.M.*, XXXVI, 571—583.

¹² *W.A.M.*, XXXVI, 572; Marlborough Archives, no. 15, p. 42 (1525), where a fraternity house is mentioned; no. 236, pp. 9, 73; and a deed of gift of 1529.

¹³ The wills of William Hows (1457) and John Wynter (1501), P.C.C.

¹⁴ *W.A.M.*, XXXVI, 572 and Marlborough no. 15, p. 11 (1524).

¹⁵ M' in this and succeeding entries means—Marlborough.

ALEXANDER FORT AND SALISBURY CATHEDRAL

By G. J. ELTRINGHAM

Fort's Life.

Although it is well known that Alexander Fort or ffort, son of Thomas Fort of Salisbury, held high office as Master Joiner in the late 17th century and was one of the most noted of Sir Christopher Wren's group there are relatively few records which give details of his works outside London. I am very grateful indeed to Dr. A. E. J. Hollaender of the Guildhall Library, London, and Honorary Archivist to Salisbury Cathedral for bringing to my notice a number of hitherto unprinted papers. Before describing these papers it may be helpful to recall some of the main events of Fort's career.

His date of birth and place of training are unknown, but he waited an unusually long time before taking up the livery of the Joiners' Company of London in 1689.¹ During his career he was closely associated with Wren, and undertook a considerable amount of work at royal palaces. In 1677 a royal warrant was issued for the grant to Fort of the office of Master Joiner in reversion after Thomas Kinward, and this was reaffirmed in the following year.² At Thomas Kinward's death the office became vacant, but in spite of his patent Ford was not immediately to occupy the place. In 1687 he asked Wren to intervene on his behalf, claiming that he had been misrepresented at Kinward's death because he was at that time employed in building the Duke of Monmouth's house in Soho.³

About this time he designed the Farley Almshouses in Wiltshire, for which he received £50, and about 1685 made a model for Sir John Lowther's house in Westmoreland. In 1691 he measured the carvers' and joiners' work at Chatsworth for a fee of £50.⁴ By now he was a man of some standing and wealth, so that in 1690 he and a Mr. Hayward agreed to lend £20,500 on the Temporary Excise, out of which they were to have £10,500 towards the discharge of the debt incurred on the royal works at Kensington. The outstanding amounts enumerated by the Paymaster of Works were £3,500 to Fort himself, £4,000 to Hayward (carpenter), £2,000 to Hughes (bricklayer) and £1,000 to Hill (mason).⁵ The salaries of most of the senior officers of the Office of Works were, as usual, sadly in arrears, but in September 1691 the royal warrant was issued for their 'fees and wages' for 1¾ years up to Christmas 1690. From the individual items it is interesting to note that Fort with £92. 1. 10½d., received more than even Wren (£79. 16. 10½d.) and almost three times as much as the Master Mason (John Oliver), Carpenter (Matthew Banks), Bricklayer (Maurice Emmet), Plasterer (John Grove) and Sergeant Plumber (Charles Atherton), each of whom received £31. 18s. 9d.⁶ This was no isolated piece of evidence; for, in 1692 the yearly salaries were Wren—£45. 12. 6d., Fort—£52. 12. 6d., and the others £18. 5. 0d.⁷

Although Fort was enjoying the full fruits of his office, he and Atherton, the sergeant plumber, made a petition in 1694 against the employment by the Royal Mint of master craftsmen other than themselves.⁸ This protest no doubt arose out of a desire for increased prestige rather than of a need for extra work, although the delay in settling accounts and paying official salaries must have been a source of annoyance, if not of actual embarrassment. In July 1696 the Auditor of Receipt was authorised to pay £1,000 out of the Hereditary and Temporary Excise to Fort in part settlement of 'a greater sum due to him in the Office of Works'.⁹ In the same year he was promised £47. 4. 4d. for work done in Mr. Keydell's lodgings and £58. 11. 1¾d. for work at the Office of the Secretary to the Commissioners of Trade.¹⁰ In the following year, the Paymaster of Works was ordered to pay out of malt dues allocated for works a further £1,000 in part payment.¹¹ Six months later, in December 1697, his petition for £500 was granted out of the malt lottery tickets.¹² But he had to wait until May 1698 for settlement of the £58. 11. 1¾d. approved eighteen months beforehand.¹³

From the same series of Treasury accounts we note that Fort, Grinling Gibbons, William Ireland, the glazier, and one John Luftus were engaged on the building of barges for the King, presumably for State



Photo—T. Sabben-Clare

Plate 1. The Dean's stall, 1672, Salisbury Cathedral. Probably Forts' work, except for the front which has been restored.

occasions, at a cost of just over £725. 1. 3d.¹⁴ Fort also presented an account in 1700-1 for £60 for making the coffin of Queen Anne's last surviving child, the Duke of Gloucester. The Declared Accounts of 1697-9 give a detailed list of main works on which Alexander Fort had been engaged which may be summarised as follows:¹⁵

Kensington House	—£123. 18.10d. for repairs to several lodgings, the Chapel and ante-Chapel. . .
St. James's	—£5. 1. 2½d. for joiner's work done in the footman's room under the Great Stairs.
Westminster Palace	—£4. 15. 10d. for joiner's work at a lodging.
Whitehall	—£76. 15. 1d. for making 'scutores' for several of the Treasury offices.
Windsor	—£398. 17. 2½. for work unspecified.

At the death of William III, when a reckoning was drawn up of the Civil List Debt (Office of Works Account), Fort's outstanding account was £1,614. 15. 10d., made up of 797 days' wages (£59. 15. 6d. or 1s. 6d. per day) and £1,555. 0. 4d. for bills.¹⁶ On the Exchequer Account he was shown as being owed £131. 11. 3d., which were the arrears over two years and two quarters (Midsummer 1699 to Christmas 1701) at a fee of £16. 2. 6d. per annum and a wage of 2 shillings per day.¹⁷ In July 1703 he was again shown on the Office of Works list receiving a salary of £13. 3. 1½d. per quarter. His petition of six months earlier, to be continued in the office of 'Master Joiner of the works for which he had a patent during the life of Charles II', had been successful.¹⁸

Fort himself died in 1706 and his wife, Elizabeth, was granted probate of his will. She spent a considerable time collecting the fees and monies owing to her late husband, but this was a common problem of widows of Government officials in the eighteenth century, as the Calendars of Treasury Books only too painfully show. His son, Thomas Fort, applied for his father's official post, but was unsuccessful, on the grounds that he lacked enough capital 'to carry on the works of the Crown, where often the business required is sudden and seldom ready money'.¹⁹ The examples of delay in paying his father's fees and bills bear witness that this was no overstatement.

Fort's work at Salisbury. Choir Alterations.

The papers on which the following account of Fort's work at Salisbury is based are in the Salisbury Cathedral Archives among a collection of bills and other papers of the 16th and 17th centuries. They relate principally to the alterations of the choir, and the making and carving of the Bishop's throne in 1671-2, and are important for a number of reasons. There is a well itemised set of Articles of Agreement between Dr. Ralph Brideoake, Dean of Sarum, and Alexander Fort, and then a shorter, much more informal document between the Bishop (the famous Setus Ward) and Fort, to which Christopher Wren was witness. Wren had been called upon to plan the choir alterations, and to design the Bishop's throne, which was the subject of the second agreement, and there was evidently a considerable amount of friendliness between the three men. In neither of the documents was there a penalty clause for failing to complete the work satisfactorily within a given period, although such clauses had been known in building trade contracts for a long period of time.

The full text of the agreement for the alterations to the choir is as follows:

Articles of Agreement Indented, made, concluded and fully agreed upon by and between the Reverend Dr. Ralph Brideoake, Deane of Sarum for himself and the Chapter of the one pte and Alexander fforte, Citizen & Joyner of London on the other pte the thirtieth day of November in the three and twentieth year of the Reigne of our Sovereign Lord Charles the Second by the grace of God of England Scotland ffrance and Irelande King, Defender of the faith etc Annoq̄ Doñi 1671. As followeth

- Imp^r. The above named Alexander ffort doth covenant pmise grant & agree to and with the said Deane to make and performe all the Carpenters worke, and Joyners worke & carvers worke in the repairaçon & new modelling & adorning the Quire of the Cathedral Church of Sarum according to the Modell already drawn upp by the Right Wořfull Dr Wren His Ma^{ties} Surveyor^r.
- Item He the said Alexander fforte Doth further covenant pmise grant & agree to and with the said Deane that he will finde and pvide all the timber for the said worke to be used by Carpenters, loyners & Carvers at his owne sole Cost & charges Excepting such Plancks & Boards & Seates of the old worke as may be usefulle and serviceable in the new.
- Item Hee doth covenant & agree to raise the Prebends Stalls & the ffloores of the said stalls one ffoote in the ffirst or highest seates ppendicular & pporçonably in the Lower & Second Seates.
- Item Hee doth covenant & agree from the Elbowes of the said stalls to work all upwards according to the Draught or modell directed by Dr Wren & Downward from the elbowes they are to remain as now they are onely raised & amended when they are amisse:—The Ante Seates or Desks before the Second Seates must be Decent and handsom according to the modell & directions given by Mr Surveyor.
- Item Hee doth covenant & agree to make two Rowes of Deskes of ffine oaken Wainscott in the Second or Lower [Seats:] & to raise up the singing mens Seates within twelve Inches as high as the upper or Prebendaries Seates & to make the front of the Lowest seate of fine Spanish Wainscott with an Ante Seate or Neale Bench wth Armes or Elbowes in equall Distance According to Directions Given. And a place under the singingmen on each side of the Quire for the Choristers to stand as high as the singingmen w(i)thin twelve Inches wth a movabe Deske before them.
- Item Hee doth covenant & pmise to make the Deanes seate very Decent and Handsome.
- Item Hee doth covenant & agree to finishe the said new worke in the Quire of the Cathedral Church aforesaid at or before the ffirst Day of September next ensueing the Date hereof.
- Item The said Deane of Sarum for himselfe and the Chapter Doth covenant pmise & agree to & wth the said Alexander fforte that for the said Worke to be finished completed & ended according to the modell & Direction of the Right Wořfull Dr. Christopher Wren his Ma^{ties} Surveyor Gen(er)all he will pay him the said Alexander fforte the sum of three hundred and thirty Powndes of Lawfull money of England in manner & forme following (that is to say) fifty pound parte thereof on the ffourth Day of Decemb(er) next & fifty pounds more the ffirst Day of January the next following and fifty pounds more on the ffive & twentieth Day of March next ensueing, fifty pounds the Sixth of May following thirty pound upon the twenty seaventh of May aforesaid And the Other hundred pounds residue of the said three hundred and thirty powndes of Lawfull money of England when all the worke is finished & approved of by two Skilfull Surveyors to be named in Case of any Dispute, one by the Deane or the President of the Chapter And the other by the said Alexander fforte And that such view or approbaçon be made within three weekes after the said worke is completely finished.
- Item It is further agreed that the Backs of the Prebends seates shall be of good choise Dram (?) Deale Dry & fitt for good worke, the carving worke to be of good Deale and to be as well pformed as the patterne already thereon & approved w^{ch} patterne of carving is to be reserved at Sarum till the worke be done. The Deanes seate to be pformed according to the modell given & sign'd (designed?) wth cheekes in pannells suitable to the rest and a shield between Palmes (?) well Carved with Loose ffestoones falling from the shields to the Scrowle of the

Cantilevers and soe falling Downe the edge of the Cheekes: the materialls of the Backs of the Prebends Seates to be good & yellow Dram Deales according to these scantlings ffollowing: The Stiles one inch and a quarter (:) The pannells halfe an inch and half a Quarter the said Aleaxnder fforte to Leave in both the upper and Lower seates Substantiall good ffloors of oaken Boards. The Wainscott before the second seates is to be of good Wainscott wth stiles of inch & a quarter mitred upp and downe with an Ogee and pannells raised of halfe an inch and Better one over against each Prebends seate wth moulding suiteable. The Cheeks of the Deske to be two Inch stuffe sawen out of Wainscotts and to beare up a vaus well carved & according to directions.

Item The said Alexander fforte is to ffinde all materialls, carriages, Journeys, Scaffolding, Glew nailes and all things apptaining to the Joyners, carpenters & carvers worke Excepting necessary Iron worke as cramps and holdfasts and is allowed all old materialls.

Item It is further agreed upon that the Cheeks & vaus above last mentioned is to be paid for over and above the foresaid Bargain as much money as any Skilfull & Judicious pson shall Judge them to be worth: In wisse whereof to the one pte of these psents remai(n)ing with the said Alexander fforte the said Deane of Sarum hath sett his hand & Scale & to the other pte remaineing with the said Deane the said Alexander fforte hath sett his hand & seale the Day and yeare above written.

Sealed & delivered in the presence of
Geo. Evans
Edw. Hardwicke

Ralph Brideoake DS
(seal)

The arrangement for paying Fort in six instalments is set out in another document, which is written in a mixture of Latin and English, presumably by Ralph Brideoake or his clerk. It contains a curious error in that the sum of £660 is given in the Latin preamble but this does not agree, of course, with the details as set out. A second undated note in Latin repeats the dates and instalments but also shows how tight was the Treasurer's budgeting for the work:

'Suñna taxato Reparando et Ornavo Choro—	£344. 7. 1½
Deme Taxationem Prebendarÿ de Shipton non solutam—	£11. 5. 0
Restat—	£333. 2. 1½

Qua suñna soluta est Alexandro ffort Fabro Lignario ut patet p Acquietancia per Mr Rich. Drake Cancell'.

The margin of income over expenditure was nothing like enough, and caused difficulties as will be seen later.

The agreement dealt, as might be expected, particularly with the woodwork and carving work of the Choir, and a separate contract had to be made on December 1st 1671 for the paving of the stalls. Fort agreed

'to lay or cause to be laid, White Purbeck stone well rubbed and dressed betwixt fourteen and eighteen inches square all equally sized except the border and to be laid in Mitchell Arrasse wise'.²⁰

The work had to be finished by May 1st 1672 'or as otherwise shall be fitt with all convenient speede as the said Deane shall agree to'. The rate of payment was 12d. the foot but the step to the Presbytery at 2s. 6d. the foot. Fort was to receive £30 on January 30th, or when the stone was brought into the Close, and the rest when the work was completed. The two witnesses to this were George Evans and Watkin Nicholas. Fort sub-contracted the mason's work, which was finished by August 1672. The bill came to £61. 5. 0., made up of 1,135 feet at 1s. 0d. for the main body of the Choir and 36 feet at 2s. 6d. for the step.

Of Fort's own work as a carver there are some details given in two undated notes, the first being possibly in his own handwriting:

(a) ' The King's shield	—	£10. 0. 0.
The Pop's shield	—	£2. 10. 0
The Deane's shield	—	£2. 0. 0.
The oke 2 li a peece	—	£4. 0. 0.
Flour de lui	—	15. 0.
King's shield on ye quire dor	—	£5. 0. 0.
String of leaves over ye quire dor	—	5. 0. a foot
The bedding moulding	—	6d. a foot
The pediment over ye quire dor	—	6d.
The freeze at 3s. a foot 8s. a yard		
The capitalls	(blotted)	£1. 0. 0. (?)
The cantilevers		3. 0.'

(b) ' An Acompt of Carven Woorck Don for ye quier at ye Cathederall Church in Sarum '

(The total of the account is £60. 10. 0. of which the principal items are as follows:)

" ffor 31 Rich flower doluges cut throw in foldige at ye End of every Deske at 18s.

ye peece £27. 18. 0."

" ffor a Chiribemes head and fesstones 9 foot long over ye quier Dore at £6. 0. 0."

" ffor 29 foot of ye Benches of Leaves & flowers Round ye Quier Dore at 3s. 6d.

ye foot £5. 1. 6."

Fort was to have received about two-thirds of the contract of sum £330 within six months of the signing of the agreement, which might lead one to assume that the whole of the work was expected to take about twelve months. It was hoped according to the contract that the work would be finished by Sept. 1 but it is was perhaps rather optimistic. However there is no evidence in the documents examined of the actual date of completion, although Fort received a £50 instalment on April 2nd 1673 (*not* one of the dates mentioned in the contract), and a final settlement on May 6th 1673 as follows:—

' Rd of ye Reverend Deane & Chapter of ye Cath. Church of Sar/ ye sume of nine pounds Fourteen Shillings being in full of ye general sume of ffoure Hundred ffifty Two pounds Sixteen Shills. e ffoure pence worke done in ye Quire of ye said Church. I say Rd in all by me—£452. 16s. 4d.

Alex ffort

Witness Mathew Houlden

(Houlden was a master carver, who on the same day received £40 as part payment of a total account for £60, subject to Wren's 'judgment').

Even if one ignores Houlden's account, which was probably incurred in the alterations to the Choir the final cost to the Dean and Chapter was well beyond the contract price, or indeed, the budget which had been prepared for the occasion. Without a complete set of records it is clearly impossible to determine what were the reasons for the overspending, but part of it may have arisen out of slow progress during the year 1672. In the document consisting of a single sheet describing 'The Charge of the Worke about the Quire' there are only 40 items (mainly wage payments to craftsmen for one or two days), between April and August. Moreover, only at this stage were poles being bought with which to make a joiner's workshop. In other words, the work must have moved somewhat slowly.

The Dean and Chapter, as one might expect, disputed the final account, and drew up a memorandum on the day of final settlement (May 6th 1673) of points to be raised with Wren. There are two copies of this memorandum, but one is particularly interesting, because at the side of each item is a pencilled comment



Photo—T. Sabben-Clare

Plate 2. The Dean's stall, 1672, Salisbury Cathedral. Details of the ends, punning on Dr. Brideoake's name

by an unknown person (perhaps by Wren himself?). In the transcript given below the pencilled notes are given in brackets.

May the 6th 1673

'Memorandm̄ the day and yeare above written it was agreed and concluded by and betweene the reverend Deane & Chapter of Sarū on the one ptie And Alexander Fort Joyner on the other ptie that it be referred to the right Worpll Dr. Wren his M̄tie's Sarveior Generall, whether payment for the works undernamed was not included in the generall sume for repairing the Quire, viz.

Impr. the brickwall laid under the seates instead of the old Groundsill of wood (Forts covenant is to rayse the Seates).

It. The three wings of the Charter's (?), the Chancellor's and Treasurer's Seates; put up new instead of the old wings of those seates.

(Noe mention of these in ye Articles.)

It. Whether the vaus under those wings at the severall corners or endes of the Quire were not included in the generall payment.

(These were in the Estimate and are particularly mentioned in the Articles to be pd. over and above).

It. Whether the Sd. Mr. Fort shall not allow for ye canteleveres etc. and all the other worke which should have been where the organ stands, the Deane and Chapter having pd. the sd. Mr. Fort for all the new worke about the Organ.

(fort is to allow it.)

It. Whether the Desks (undecipherable) seats should not have (been) of oke.

(They should have been of Wainscott).

It. Whether the Deane's Seate was not to be done according to Dr Wrens direccoñ in the Articles.

These things are submitted to Mr Surveyor by us.

Alex. ffort
Ralph Brideoake.

The Articles seemed to be detailed enough and it is not easy to see how the misunderstandings arose. Presumably Wren's inspection of the work in dispute took place before Fort received his final payment.

The Bishop's throne.

The second series of documents about Fort's work at Salisbury is the short but important set relating to the new Bishop's throne. The agreement, which is written on a single sheet measuring 12in. × 8in., is in strange contrast with the elaborate specification for the alterations to the Choir. Moreover, this is not a contract between the administrators of the Cathedral and an artisan, but a personal commitment between the Lord Bishop himself and a craftsman who was on friendly terms with his employer. Even the sum to be paid was altered after the agreement had been signed! Again, Christopher Wren was the witness and technical adviser. The agreement was as follows:—

Agreement Jan. 4th 1672

Mem^{dm}. it was then agreed between the Rt. Rev^d. Fath^r in god Seth L^d. Bp. of Sarū on the one part, & Alexander Forth on the other, that the s^d. Alexander Forth shall in the Quire of the Cathedral Church of Sarū erect a seat for the Bishop after the forme and modell allready agreed & directed & hereto annexed the lower part to the Deske to be of good wainscote, the upper part of Deale with the proper carvings & moultings already agreed & directed according to the sd. modell by Dr Christopher Wren his Maj^{ties} Surveigh^r. to whom for the well performance of w^{ch} according to the trew intent of what hath been discovered & directed concerning the sd. seat the sd. Alexander Forth doth

referre himselfe & doth agree to beare all charges of materialls carpenters worke Joyners worke Carvers worke and Smithes worke.

And the sd Rt Rd the L. B^p. of Sarū doth covenant for himself His Heires Execut^{rs} & Administrat^{rs}. to pay to the sd. Alexander Forth for the sd. seat well & workemanlike performed & approved according to the trew meaning of what hath been directed & discoursed the sume of fifty (written over what appears to be ' forty ') eight pound that is to say twenty poundes in Hand when the materialls shall be brought to Sarū & the worke sett in hand & the residue being thirty eight pound when the worke shall be compleated & ended. In witness heerof wee have heerto as alsoe to the modell annexed set our hands and seales

Signed sealed & del^d in

ye psence of

Chr. Wren

Fr. Bowman.

Seth (seal) Sarum

Alex (seal) ffort²¹

To this agreement are appended two memoranda. The first is a curious note to say that instead of fifty-eight pounds the Bishop promised to pay Fort sixty pounds. A possible reason for this addition is suggested later but it is strange that the correct sum should not have been written into the agreement in the first place. It suggests that the whole scheme was discussed in an informal manner as amongst friends. The second memorandum indicates that the design was handed over to Fort the same day, and for this reason it has been lost.

On the reverse of the agreement is the following rough estimate of the cost of the Throne, presumably in Fort's own writing, but some of the detailed measurements are difficult to understand.

' for 18 } foot <i>i.e.</i> 54 foot 6 yards of Base wainscote with proper mouldings raised pannells worke	
3 }	
& halfe at per yard 18s.	£4. 4. 0.
(next item all deleted)	
(for 9 } — i 3 yardes of the same single worke at per yard 12 s.)	£1 16. 0.
3 } —	
for 3 yards wainscote boards in deskes & benches with armes	£1. 10. 0
for 9 } — i 9 yardes of Deale wainscote with fair moulding at p yard 7s.	£3. 3. 0.
3 }	
for 18 foot of Architrave enriched & freese (' suffice' deleted) had been 18s. od.))	£1. 16. 0.
for 27 foot of Cornice enriched with modillions roses egges & lace at p foot 9s.	£12. 3. 0.
(had been £10. 3. 0.)	
for 4 yardes ½ of ceiling in deale wains(c)ote with fair pannells & mouldings at p yard 7s.	£1. 11. 6.
for 27 foot of moulding round the same	£1. 7. 0.
for ye floore and timber	£1. 0. 0.
for Iron worke & hinges	£1. 0. 0.
	<u>£27. 14. 6.</u>

The special carving is given in a separate addition, viz:—

' for 4 palmes	£16. 0. 0.
for 4 vases	£4. 0. 0.
for shield & palmes belonging	£5. 0. 0.
for enrichment of the back wainscote	£1. 0. 0.
for 18 foot of enrichment in ye freese	£4. 10. 0.

The total estimated was therefor £58. 5. 6. which was just over the first sum agreed upon. It was no doubt this quick calculation which prompted Fort to ask for more and persuaded the Bishop to add his first memorandum.

As with the Choir alterations, the first estimate did not make adequate provision for all eventualities and there is a second account in Fort's writing as follows:—

' The Joyners bill for the right reverend ffather in god Seth Lord bisshope of Sarum ffor Additionall work in my Lordse set 8 yards of base wainskot at 18 sh per yard	£07. 04. 00.
17 ffot of modillion cornish inriched with rapp (rope) & all proper members to it 9s. per foot. [Should be 19 feet]	£08. 11. 00.
2 ffot 6 inches of freeze at per ffot 5s.	£00. 12. 06.
for timber ffor the Carving & Caridge of it to Sarum	£04. 00. 00.
9 fot of Cornish without modillon 3s. per fot	£01. 07. 00.
for 40 fot of (?) at per ffot 2s. 6d.	£05. 00. 00.
for bringing up A brik wall for ffoundation	£01. 10. 00.

By strange coincidence this account totals £27. 14. 6d., the same as the first half of the original estimate. The extra wainscot and cornice work suggest that Fort's earlier calculations, no doubt taken from a measurement of the plan, had been too hurriedly made. Alternatively, there may have been material alterations to the design during construction but as the original plan is not with the papers all this can be nothing more than surmise.

Possibility of further papers regarding Fort's work.

These notes refer only to the account papers recently discovered. A full search of the fabric accounts should now be undertaken for the period to complete the story of the works as far as possible.²²

¹ In the *Joiner's Company Records* in the Guildhall, London, Fort is shown as being apprenticed to Henry Phillips for 7 years from 26 May 1659 and was admitted as a freeman on 12 November 1689. *Guildhall MSS.* 8052/1 fol. 78 recto and 8051/2 fol. 9 verso.

² *Cal. of Treasury Books*, Vol. V, Pt. II 1676–79, p. 747 and p. 970.

³ *Cal. of Treasury Books*, Vol. III, Part III, 1685–1689, p. 1652.

⁴ *Colvin H.M. Bibliographical Dictionary of English Architects*, 1660–1840, p. 209.

⁵ *Cal. of Treasury Books*, Vol. IX, Part II, 1689–1692, p. 390, p. 619.

⁶ *Cal. of Treasury Books*, Vol. IX, Part III, p. 1311.

⁷ *Ibid.*, Vol. IX, Part IV, p. 1827–8. Cf. also Vol. X, Part III, p. 1137 and Vol. XI, p. 260 for similar rates.

⁸ *Ibid.*, Vol. X, Part II, p. 778.

⁹ *Ibid.*, Vol. XI, p. 194.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 305 and p. 337.

¹¹ *Cal. of Treasury Books*, Vol. XII, p. 211.

¹² *Ibid.*, Vol. XIII, p. 45 and p. 188.

¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 343.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, Vol. XIV, p. 244.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, Introduction to Vols. XI–XVII, p. dxciv, p. dxcvi, p. dxcviii, Vol. XVII, Part II, p. 1069.

¹⁶ *Cal. of Treasury Books*, Vol. XVII, Part 2, p. 1061/2.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 958.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, Vol. XVIII, p. 332, Vol. XIX, p. 129.

¹⁹ *Publications of Wren Society*, Vol. XX, p. xxi, and Colvin, *H.M. op. cit.*

²⁰ Mitchells are Purbeck stones, probably from 15in.x15in to 24in.x24in. Arrasse wise means laid in diagonal fashion, as frequently in wooden floors.

²¹ Fort's seal was of a ship's rigging and sails.

²² How much of Fort's work exists to-day in Salisbury Cathedral is uncertain. The illustrations show the Dean's stall of 1672 restored in parts which is probably his. Perhaps its ends with their pun on Dr. Brideoake's name were the items referred to above as 'The oke 2 li a peece . . . £4.0.0'. If the work is Fort's, I think readers will agree that the fulfilled his promise 'to make the Deane's seate very decent and Handsome'.—Ed.

THE REVOLTS IN WILTSHIRE AGAINST CHARLES I.

By ERIC KERRIDGE

Until recently little attention has been directed to the agrarian revolts against Charles I in the years preceding the Long Parliament and the Great Rebellion.

There was a whole series of such revolts in different parts of the country and the years 1625-1640 can no longer be considered as ones of civil peace.¹ So far, however, there has been lacking an analysis of the various forces engaged in these outbreaks and of the way in which they operated. This task is here attempted solely for the revolts in and about the county of Wiltshire.

Arbitrary enclosure a cause of revolt.

Arbitrary enclosure was one of the immediate causes of the revolts. There was in Wiltshire, as elsewhere, much enclosure by agreement. Such enclosure sometimes gave rise to disputes that might in turn lead to levelling.² Nevertheless, even a disputed enclosure by agreement was radically different from arbitrary enclosure. John Norden, for example, heartily approved enclosure by agreement but took a different view of arbitrary enclosures which 'have depopulated the places and converted the soyle to such endes and uses as have bene neyther pleasinge to God, beneficiall to man, nor fitt for a Commonweale. Theis kindes of inclosures are not onlie not tollerable but grevously punishable. And although the frode of the Maiestrate passe by suche offenders, because they be commonlie great, yet doth the hande of God find them owt and suffereth seldome the issue of suche depopulators to enioye suche extorted reuenewes manie generations'.³

Arbitrary enclosure in Wilts, 16th and early 17th centuries.

Of the arbitrary enclosures in Wiltshire the most considerable were the emparkments and disforestmments. In the reign of Henry VIII there was a widespread movement for the formation of new parks and the enlargement of old ones.⁴ When Nicholas Snell bought Kington St. Michael, with money said to belong to Glastonbury Abbey, whose reeve he had been, he emparked the West Field there, either in whole or in part.⁵ Sir William Herbert emparked a large part of the fields at Washern Grange.⁶ Henry VIII enclosed into Vasterne Park some of the common lands of Tockenham and Wootton Bassett, the manor and park later being granted by Mary to Sir Francis Englefield.⁷ The king, however, allowed the former commoners certain grazing rights in the park at Vasterne.⁸ Similarly Sir John Thynne gave lands at Corsley in exchange for others taken into his park at Longleat.⁹ It was necessary for the Duke of Somerset to refrain from rounding out his great new park at Savernake, lest, as his agent says, 'the tenants of Wilton should have no maner of common for their rudder beasts in that side, which would have been to their utter undoing I brake with the tenants afar off therein, but I perceive that should be much grief to them. And as it is an old saying, Inough is as good as a feaste, I pray God we may finde owte land, medowe and something to satisfy them for that which they shall now forego'.¹⁰ Thus Somerset tried to satisfy at least some of the tenants dispossessed by emparkment.¹¹ In the troubles in Wiltshire at this time emparkment was nevertheless one of the main grievances. An outbreak at Potterne in 1542¹² was followed by a rising of levellers about Salisbury, directed in particular against the emparkment of Wilton by Herbert, who himself played the leading part in its suppression.¹³ The widespread nature of the discontent, not to be gathered clearly from contemporary accounts, is shown in the total absence of new farm takings and so of entry fines in 1549 in both the Herbert and Seymour estates; even on Crown lands only one entry is to be found.¹⁴

There were some emparkments in Wiltshire after the middle of the century, but these were probably outweighed by growing disparkment.¹⁵ Sir Francis Englefield, for example, let out the Great and Little Parks at Vasterne almost as soon as they were granted him. In addition to two large leaseholds in single hands, two large partnerships, composed mostly of Wootton Bassett burgesses, farmed 600 and 200 acres

respectively. The inhabitants of the town continued to hold 100 acres at will in Wootton Lawn, which they allotted among themselves to make up for the common of pasture lost at the parkment.¹⁶ According to John Rosyer *alias* Hooper, a later mayor, the burgesses had only agreed to take the tenancy at will from Englefield in lieu of their rights because he was a man of great power and their landlord. Francis Englefield, the grand nephew, cancelled the tenancy at will and Rosyer and his fellows then claimed the occupation of either Wootton Lawn or their former common of pasture in the disparked Great Park. A suit in Chancery did not prevent Englefield two years later leasing the whole of the Lawn for a peppercorn rent to John North, a yeoman freeholder of the manor. At the same time the townsfolk were induced to sign individual capitulations. Thus Jeffrey Henley, mayor in 1611, releases all claim in the Lawn to Englefield 'as belonginge or challenged or pretended to be belonginge to the said office of Maior for this yeare, and for the depasturyng of such cattle which I the said Jeffrey Henley (as Maior aforesaid) haue or shall haue in the said pasture grownd called the Lawne, I wholly submit myselfe to the will and pleasure of the said Francys Englefyelde . . . to be rated at suche some of money for the depasturyng of the cattle aforesaid for this yeare as the said Mr. Englefyeld' shall deem fit. Similar submissions were signed by a glazier, a tailor, a wheeler and others of the townsfolk. A running fight continued, the mayor and freemen eventually petitioning Parliament for redress. Their story is certainly an odyssey of misfortunes but as we shall see the blame does not lie solely with the Englefields.¹⁷

The commons of other boroughs also suffered. Jasper Moore and other lords surcharged and enclosed the common lands of the borough of Heytesbury.¹⁸ A glover of Malmesbury complains for himself and his fellows that some of the richer sort have 'late deuided and seuered the . . . Heath with ditches and hedges . . . to their own pryuate use. The enclosers ploughed up the common that they leased from the new and exclusive town government, but they had to defend it against a crowd 'of the meanest and basest sort of people.' These latter, led by a baker, a blacksmith and a strongwaterman, assembled and rioted, 'throwing downe gates and stiles, pulling downe hedges and fences.' The ringleaders were arrested but rescued by a keeper of Cole Park. Because 'the people did cry out att him,' a burgess gave up his close and resigned his freedom, while a glover refused for similar reasons to become a burgess. One Robert Berry organised the continued resistance of the townsfolk, who 'did furnish him clothes, shirts and money to inable him for that purpose as often as need required.' Although the ruling faction complain that the town 'is very full of poore people' and are not backward in ascribing the unrest to a paid agitator, the enclosures appear to have been opposed by most of the craftsmen of the town.¹⁹

Some enclosures were carried out by farmers or cultivating squires; such instances may be cited from Chalke, Coulston, Highway and elsewhere.²⁰ Edmund Ludlow enclosed a good deal of farm land in his manor of Hill Deverell. Since he continued sheep-and-corn husbandry, there was little or no depopulation, at least in the modern usage of the word, but 'whereas the ancyent tenants kept ploughes . . . the nowe cotagers do lyve by their hand labor.' A farmhouse is converted into a tenement for Ludlow's 'servantes in husbandry,' some of whom are employed in ploughing up the wastes of the township. Meanwhile the former family farmers 'lyve but barely, onely by their day labor.'²¹

Protests.

Sometimes, as at Malmesbury, enclosures were followed by riotous levelling. Although encoppicement was legally sanctioned, the hedges of a coppice are thrown down under cover of a storm.²² At Winterslow a party of yeoman pull up 83 lugs of quickset and 180 of dead hedge in four hours of levelling.²³ At Cricklade enclosures are levelled again and again and a book of grievances is circulated for signature among the tenants.²⁴ The tenants of Dauntsey collect a common purse and level enclosures in twos and twos in order not to create a legal riot, while Sir Walter Long, to satisfy a private vengeance, encourages them with cried of 'Well done, Masters! This is the way. If you do not prevaile, I will give you as much land

out of my park. Hold together, for there was never multitude held together and failed of their purpose.'²⁵ At Great Wishford a party of levellers is organised into companies of ten, uniformed with red feathers and badges, put under the command of captains and paraded as an army in a disputed meadow.²⁶

Early Stuart enclosures in Wilts extensive and violent.

Judging by Laud's severity against persons accused, probably unjustly, of depopulating enclosure at South Marston,²⁷ one might suppose that the two early Stuarts were opposed to arbitrary and forcible enclosure. Nothing could be further from the truth. Of all the enclosures in Wiltshire in the hundred years preceding the Great Rebellion, those undertaken by the two Stuart monarchs were at once the most extensive and the most violent in their execution.

Melksham Forest.

The first Wiltshire forest to be enclosed was Melksham *alias* Blackmore. Preparations for this enclosure were being made already in 1607²⁸ and 1612 a complete survey of the soil of the forest was completed. Each assart was measured, the names of occupiers and owners noted and the holdings then sold off in fee-farm in return for compositions which ranged up to £200 a head and totalled well over £2,000.²⁹ Highways were laid out and lands granted to lords of manors in lieu of rights of pasture.³⁰ The commoners of the forest, however, appear to have suffered hardship. Before the disforested the inhabitants of Melksham had 300 beasts feeding in the forest and those of Rowde and Bromham 100 each, paying only sixpence per house. Over and above this, they had become accustomed to surcharging the forest, regularly paying the moderate amercements when the cattle were impounded. The modest allotments in lieu of common rights can hardly have been adequate compensation for the feeding previously enjoyed.³¹ To add insult to injury, the disforested forest was granted to Christopher Villiers, Earl of Anglesey, brother to Buckingham, to whom the erstwhile commoners paid their fee-farm rents from some 4,750 acres.³²

Pewsham and Melchet.

Next to be disforested was the adjacent but smaller Pewsham *alias* Chippenham, where just over one thousand acres were enclosed in 1623.³³ Here too the commissioners, including John Pym, then a receiver general of land revenue, treated with the claimants for common rights, without giving them complete satisfaction. The disforested forest of Pewsham's rents were also granted to Anglesey and at first everything passed peacefully. It was not until the bad harvests of 1630-1 that serious riots broke out in the neighbourhood of Chippenham and Melksham.³⁴ The enclosure of Melchet forest also led to disturbances. Already in 1577 the commoners had protested, without success, against emparkment and when the whole forest was now enclosed, the inhabitants of Plaitford broke down the rails.³⁵

Selwood Forest. Resistance at Cley Hill Farm.

In 1627 and 1628 it was arranged to enclose Selwood Forest, of which Gillingham formed part. The lands were to undergo tripartite division, one third going to the king, one third to the landowners and one third to the commoners. Of the landowners in the Wiltshire Walk of Selwood, Sir John Thynne was the most considerable.³⁶ At Corsley, in this walk, the Thynnes had already emparked a good deal of the forest soil. Here the Carrs were one of the leading farming families. Thomas Carr had a lease of Cley Hill Farm from Thynne. Now a dispute arose between Carr and one Hopton Haynes, the former being in debt to the latter and apparently giving his lease as security. Whatever the exact position, which is not at all clear, the matter ended in Haynes claiming and Carr denying the possession of the farm.³⁷ It is difficult to believe, however, that this disputed possession was the sole cause of the troubles that ensued. Certain it is that Carr claimed common of pasture in Whitmarsh, within the bounds of the forest, and put his cattle there from time to time.³⁸ The enclosure commissioners were already at work in Selwood in 1628, so there were probably already grievances over common rights

and only a spark was needed to lead to an outbreak of popular feeling. At all events, in October 1631, John Toppe, the sheriff, in response to a writ of *habere facias possessionem* out of Chancery, reports that Carr is defending possession by force of arms, assisted with a multitude of base persons and that possession is not to be gained without an effusion of blood. Since Hayne's estate is grounded on the life of Carr, the latter's death would be disadvantageous to both parties, but 'terror' might succeed. Since there is no ordnance in the county, Haynes intends to petition for guns to be brought from Bristol.³⁹ That field artillery was needed is to be explained by the conical eminence and precipitous slopes of Cley Hill itself. Some days later, Pembroke and Montgomery, Lord Lieutenant, is commanded to call out the trained band, since Carr is defending his position by musket fire, 'assisted with divers lewd and desperate persons' who are committing 'insolencies not to be suffered in a Civill State.'⁴⁰ The people of Warminster, however, were inattentive to the calling out of the band and even those who did put in an appearance were ill-equipped and so disinclined to the task that Toppe felt compelled to withdraw his force. According to Toppe's report about twenty Warminster men were summoned, 'of which foure or five came furnished, some of the rest of the better rancke did nott appeare and the rest came altogether vnfurnished and all seemed vnwilling of the service . . . Attendance . . . was verie carelessly performed by the said soldiers,' including Captain Wallis. The musketeers pleaded lack of powder, shot or match when called upon to fire. 'All apparently seemed vnwillinge, especially William Casseway, whoe beinge required by me to chardge answered he would chardge, butt he knowe yt would never come forth again vntill it were pulled forth.' The pikemen refused to put on their corslets. 'I rather thought fitt to excuse my departure, by reason of the foulness of the weather and the neereness of the night, then to go upon the service.'⁴¹ The Privy Council preferred to say nothing of disinclination when writing to Pembroke and Montgomery complaining that the directions 'haue beene so far neglected that the seruice could not be performed. For there was sent one onely company of fowerscore men vnder Capt. William Wallis, but the pikemen without corslets and onely foure of the shott well provided, the rest wanting either powder, or bullets, or both, and their match not fitt for seruice, so that if they within the house had made a saly vpon them, the ordinance which was brought for batterie might haue beene taken.' Copies of this letter were sent also directly to the deputy lieutenants.⁴² The people of Warminster were not alone in their refusal to fight. Toppe summoned Sir Edward Baynton and Sir Walter Vaughan to report at Warminster with fifty pike and fifty musket. As Baynton made no answer, Toppe sent him a second and personal summons. To this Baynton made only a verbal reply to the effect that he 'would willingly giue the Sherriffe a meeting att some other time, butt he did nott much fancy that service.'⁴³ In explanation of this answer, it should be borne in mind that for a deputy lieutenant to kill a man while suppressing riot was accounted murder at law, for the deputy had no legal standing. Shortly afterwards Baynton was arrested by a messenger of the Privy Council for failure to enforce the clothing regulations, though in this he was by no means the only offender.⁴⁴

Toppe now prepared to mount a fresh offensive, calling for more ordnance. George Gigger, a gunner of Wareham in Dorset, was persuaded against the service 'and he said that the voice of the country was against the business and every mann for Carr and against Haynes.' Nevertheless Toppe obtained two gunners from Bristol and appointed a day for the 'performance of the service.' But the Bristol gunners were averse from serving and Toppe had to apply for special powers exonerating them from possible charges of murder. Still refusing to serve, three gunners were arrested, though one of them in error. The Privy Council continued to discount Toppe's pleas of unwillingness and arrested him for 'remisse and negligent carriage, either through want of resolucion or cleere affeccion' and discharged him 'from any further proceeding or meddling therein.'⁴⁵ Although Cley Hill Farm presumably yielded to the next assault, the government must have been disturbed by the long defence, partly to be explained by the topography of the site, and also by the varying degrees of reluctance and hostility displayed by wide circles of the local population.

Gillingham Forest. Resistance from 1627.

To the South, in Gillingham Forest, there had been intermittent fighting ever since 1627. In that year a company of armed levellers, about one hundred strong, had filled in ditches, burnt the plants, sawn up the rails and fences and buried them in the ground. Privy Council messengers were 'whipped at a post' and letters and processes burnt. The sheriff of Dorset brought soldiers to fight the levellers but found 'them too strong and resolute to be meddled withall, for they are a great and well armed number and say "here we were born and here we stay." He was fain to leave them be.' The levellers here formed a veritable partisan band, with colonel, captain, lieutenant and corporal. Moreover, many of the rebels were mutinous soldiers stationed thereabouts.⁴⁶ Henry Hoskins, 'the colonell and cheife actor' in the first revolt in Gillingham Forest, remained at large and helped to organise the rebels in 1631, when the destruction of enclosures was resumed. John Phillips, a Gillingham tanner of good estate, the principal agent and actor at this time, was arrested, but bailed out by another Justice of the Peace. Among the other rebels were John Jessop, esquire, Morgan Cave, gentleman, Henry Hoskins, Christopher Phillips, Andrew Hoskins, John, William and another Morgan Cave, three married couples, a blacksmith, three innkeepers, a shoemaker and many cottagers and smallholders from Mere, a manor of the Duchy of Cornwall situate in the disforested forest. In all eighty-seven arrests were made and eighty were censured in the Star Chamber.⁴⁷ The troubles in Gillingham continued up to and after the outbreak of the Great Rebellion. At Mere, within the forest, the king made an unsuccessful attempt at enclosure in 1637.⁴⁸ In 1642, 1643 and 1644 the Lords ordered the suppression of rioting at Mere; but all in vain.⁴⁹ In 1645 the Committee of the West made an order in the same sense. Even in 1650 the enclosures were not yet all restored.⁵⁰

Braydon Forest. Resistance starts 1631.

Lastly, the enclosure of Braydon Forest also provoked a revolt. As soon as disforestation was decreed in 1630, disputes arose, the lords and freeholders refusing consent to enclosure on the king's terms and demanding a larger allowance in lieu of common rights.⁵¹ The commoners attached great importance to their rights, but in addition were accustomed, as elsewhere, to surcharging the forest with their own and agisted sheep and cattle, paying the light amerements as though they were rents. In the words of a surveyor, the forest 'hath but a small game of deere in yt; for that by reason of the surcharge of cattell, there is no feede for the deere, which groweth by meanes that all the borderers stock their commons adioyning to the forest with shepe, and so by that meanes their cattell do wholly feede in the Forest.'⁵²

Forces were joined in 1631. On May 25 the Privy Council writes to the Sheriff, Deputy-Lieutenants and Justices about 'sundrie riotous insolencies, and great disorders don and committed in the night season by persons unknown, armed with Musketts . . . meetinge in troopes and great multitudes, to pull downe and deface the ditches, gates, mounds and fences lately sett up and erected by his Maiesties farmors of his hignes lands.' The affair has already threatened to 'grow to a great head' and the arrest of the 'cheife actors' is ordered.⁵³ In June an agent of the farmers reports that the insurgents have 'chopt in sunder all the rayles and cutt up the copice hedges, soe that all things is nowe in comon, and they are not contented but they threatened to pull downe the greate lodge and to kill me'. An informer has given away seventeen of the principal offenders, for which the rebels have pulled down his house. No one will depose before the justices against the rebels and there are not six men outside the combination in eighteen townships. Even those who do not take up arms give victuals and money to those who do. The deputy lieutenants, Sir Edward Baynton and Sir Neville Poole, say they cannot call out the trained band, being themselves 'none of the best freinds and will not wagg but vpon sufficient warraunt'. Twelve men have been arrested, but the attacks are renewed without remission on the following day. The rebels have also eaten about a score of sheep depastured in the former enclosures. As for 'the bordering justices', they 'are vnwilling to be seene actors in anything against their neighbors.'⁵⁴ As in Gillingham Forest, the rebels burn the hedgerows.

When the sheriff arrives on the scene, he is met by an army of one thousand, armed and disguised, who abuse him and shoot at the under-sheriff and the king's messenger.⁵⁵ Another messenger is arrested in the borough court of Wootton Bassett upon an action of battery, is brought before the town clerk and committed to the gaol. When he is released, it is only to be misused and beaten.⁵⁶

Thanks to the informer, however, arrests had been made and the Star Chamber was able to extort some of the names of the principal offenders. Warrants were issued for their arrest.⁵⁷ Although the rising was suppressed, it was not without effect upon the general political situation and when the final division was made in 1636 more land was allowed to the commoners than had at first been offered.⁵⁸ The end of the troubles was not in 1631, however. There is a strong hint of disorders between that date and 1635,⁵⁹ and during the Civil War the mounds at Chelworth were thrown down again under cover of night, not being restored until 1656.⁶⁰ Thereafter the three thousand acres lay enclosed.⁶¹

From the lists of those arrested we are able to see what sort of people joined in the levelling revolt in Braydon. Of the 126 names, some only can be identified with anything like certainty. Richard Bathe, who beat and reviled the messenger Read, was of a prosperous Purton and Wootton Bassett family.⁶² Jeffrey Henley was the man who, as mayor of Wootton Bassett, had been forced to sign and seal the surrender of the pasture rights of his fellow townsmen to Englefield.⁶³ Thomas Lloyd was the rector of Wootton Bassett.⁶⁴ Edmund, Robert and Edward Maskelyne and Henry Maskelyne, gentleman, were of a landowning family in Purton and district.⁶⁵ John Rosier *alias* Hooper was probably the same man who had been a leading opponent of Englefield.⁶⁶ The participants appear to have come from every rank of rural society up to and including the gentry and women were involved as well as men. More exalted persons, like Sir Edward Baynton and Sir Neville Poole, participated only by their reluctance to move against the rebels, at least as far as overt actions are concerned. Of the general hostility of these two knights to Charles there can hardly be much doubt. In 1642 they emerged as adherents of Parliament. Lastly, if we are to judge from Christian names, there are indications of puritan beliefs among certain of the rebels. Mrs. Euphroditus New, for example, might suggest some such influence.⁶⁷

Lady Skimmington as code name for leader. Forest of Dean revolts.

As in Gillingham, the rebels at Braydon gave their leader the name of Lady Skimmington and we know that there was some liaison between the two bands. Henry Hoskins visited Braydon in 1631 with the declared intention of recruiting support there for the rebels in Gillingham Forest. It hardly seems probable that communication between the bands was confined to one chance visit. Now a Skimmington was an old traditional demonstration against nagging wives and scolds—'A Skimmington it is of course, Where the grey mare's the better horse'.⁶⁸ Thus, although the name Skimmington is traditional and might occur to rebels as a convenient code name for their leader, it would seem a remarkable coincidence that the rebels of Gillingham and Braydon should both have hit upon the same idea. This apparent coincidence is made more remarkable by the appearance of Lady Skimmington in the contemporary revolts in the Forest of Dean.

There had been periodic clashes in the Forest of Dean in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries between the commoners and royal officials and enclosures for timber were occasionally levelled. In the seventeenth century the first considerable outbreak occurred in 1612 when enclosures made by the Earl of Pembroke led to riots among those of the poorer sort who lived by the spoil of woods. In 1628 friction developed between the commoners and the Crown and enclosures were levelled on disforested lands in the hands of private persons. In 1631 there was an outbreak on the west side of the forest, when Sir Giles Mompesson put men to dig for coal in his enclosure. An effigy of Mompesson was thrown into the pits and five hundred persons armed with guns and pikes threw down one hundred perches of ditching, displaying ensign and beating drums. The deputy lieutenants had to be ordered into action and Charles found it strange that

' so foul a riot should be committed, and we never received any advertisement thereof from them; or so much as hear of any endeavours of theirs to repress the same '. The ringleader of this outbreak was a certain John Williams who preferred to operate under the name of Skimmington; but it was one William Vertue who was styled captain of the rioters. As in Wiltshire the Privy Council is at a loss to understand why its orders should have had such slight effect and chides the sheriff for his ineffectual efforts. In 1632 Williams was arrested but this did not prevent further riots in 1633, when the Justices of Assize were informed that the rioters had ' received private encouragement from some gentlemen of quality '. In 1641 the commoners petitioned against disforestation and during the Civil War mounds were again thrown down, the troubles persisting until 1643. In 1659 serious levelling riots again broke out and even after the restoration mounds and ditches were riotously thrown down in 1660.⁶⁹ Thus we find in the Forest of Dean much the same pattern of rebellious activity as in Wiltshire and Dorset. Furthermore another of ' Skimmington's lieutenants ' attempted in 1631 to extend the rebellion to the Vale of Berkeley in Gloucestershire.⁷⁰ In particular the standard of Lady Skimmington seems to have been generally adopted and we cannot entirely ignore a suggestion that there was some sort of co-ordination between the revolts in Wiltshire, Dorset and Gloucestershire, even if this were confined to those who merely encouraged the rebels.

Revolutionary atmosphere of affected area in Wilts before Civil War.

Returning to Wiltshire itself, it is not difficult to see that the atmosphere of the affected area was revolutionary in the last years before the Civil War. The outbreaks were ' in the nature of rebellions rather than riots ', constituting an ' insufferable insolency '. Charles and his Council were under no illusions about the nature of the rebellions or the isolation of the royal government. ' We yet vnderstand that thes riotters continue ther former outrages, which could not be if the High shiriff, deputy Lieutenants and Justices of peace, and vnder them the constables and other inferior officers, did in ther seuerall places effectually performe ther duitys, but ther remissnes in executing thes our commands geues incouragement to the inferior sort of people, who are but the actors of thes mischeifs which others of better quality doe vnderhand sett on foot or connyve at. The thinges therfore tendinge not only to the overthrowe of our iust revenue ' but much beside. Judges are to take order that ' thes notable offenders and ther incouragers ' be brought to book and also inform themselves ' of the negligence of those who being in place and authoritye doe remissly performe ther duityes '.⁷¹ When the mayor of Devizes requires an innkeeper to accompany the force preparing to march against the levellers of Braydon, he is answered with a contemptuous refusal, personal abuse of himself and of the constable and ' jeering and unbecoming speeches '.⁷² In 1633 a Warminster schoolboy, aged six, is arrested on the testimony of two schoolfellows for treasonable speech, ' tending to the takeing away of the life of his saied Maiestie '. The child ' hath received the impression from some other ill affected persons of more yeares ' concludes the Privy Council.⁷³ Not far away a royal messenger has a ' chamber-pott full of filthiness ' flung over him.⁷⁴ Desertion from the royal forces became a matter of common occurrence and the troops who had not deserted tended to become mutinous.⁷⁵ At Marlborough the trained band breaks open the gaol and releases those imprisoned for non-payment of coat-and-conduct money.⁷⁶

The Cheese and Butter areas of Wilts most affected.

In order to explain the location of the revolts in Wiltshire it is necessary to rehearse the agrarian history of the county. The Cheese Country of Wiltshire had become a deep enclosed country peopled with dairy-men and graziers who were in the nature of family farmers, and with part-time textile workers who were likewise small producers. In contrast the Chalk Country was a region devoted to the traditional English sheep-and-corn husbandry and the stronghold of agrarian capitalism, of gentlemen farmers and agricultural

labourers. This divergent agrarian development lent differing social characteristics to the two main regions of Cheese and Chalk. The Chalk Country enjoyed comparative social peace and the leaders of society were great landlords such as the Earl of Pembroke, who reigned in their manors as constitutional monarchs, cultivating squires like the Ludlows and gentlemen-farmers like the Franklyns of Marlborough. The Cheese Country on the contrary was the stronghold of the turbulent small masters and dairy farmers. 'In North Wiltshire, and the vale of Gloucestershire (a dirty clayey country)', says Aubrey, 'the *Indigenae* or Aborigines speak drawlinge . . . hereabout is but little tillage or hard labour: they only milk cows and make cheese: they feed chiefly on milk meats, which cool their brains too much and hurts their inventions. These circumstances make them melancholy, contemplative and malicious; by consequence thereof come more lawsuits out of North Wilts, at least double the number to the Southern parts'.⁷⁷ According to the same observer, the dismemberment of manors, a feature of the Cheese Country but not of the Chalk, has the result that 'the mean people live lawless, no body to govern them, they care for no body, having no dependence on any body'.⁷⁸ The spinners and clothing workers were paid only just enough even in good years and so 'were trained up as nurseries of sedition and rebellion'.⁷⁹ And lastly Aubrey notices the Cheese Country as a centre of religious dissent: 'It is a sour, woodser country, and inclines people to contemplation. So that, and the Bible, and ease, for it is all now upon dairy-grassing and clotheing, sett their with a-running and reforming'.⁸⁰ We are thus left with the impression of the people of the Cheese Country that conforms with all that may be learnt of their political activity in the last years of the old monarchy. It was in this region that there occurred not only emparkments such as those at Longleat and Vasterne and other arbitrary enclosures, but also all the forest enclosures in Braydon, Pewsham, Melksham and Gillingham.

The storm centres of popular revolt was clearly in the Cheese and Butter countries. The predominance of family farmers and of small producers generally, the dismemberment of manors and the growing division of landed property among the many—all these meant that social tensions developed not mainly between farmer and labourer, but between small masters and the royal government. Whereas for the large farmer of the sheep-and-corn country the burden of royal taxation was so much to be deducted from his entry fine when he next took an estate for lives, for the family farmer and small producer of the Cheese Country it was a diminution of livelihood.⁸¹ Similarly the burden of wardship tended to fall on the producers in the Cheese Country and the landlords in the Chalk country.⁸² Above all it was in the Cheese and Butter countries that the small producer was confronted with the new policy of disforested and enclosing. In such a situation the antagonisms developing against the Crown are understandable.

Effect of cereal prices on timing of revolts.

The timing of the revolts is partly to be explained by the dates of the enclosures and by the incidence of extra-parliamentary taxation, but another potent factor was the harvest cycle. The dependence of the population upon corn brought from a distance and so upon the vagaries of the market, the close affiliation between farming and rural industry, the comparatively small capital stocks employed in production—all these made the working population of town and country extremely sensitive to short-term economic fluctuations, to changes in the volume of production and price of the essential foodstuffs, especially of cereals.

If the year 1631 was especially turbulent it was at least partly because of the sharp upswing in the price of cereals, especially of wheat. Taking wheat prices by harvest years and calculating the deviation from the mean of a 31-year moving average, the resulting index of fluctuations from the mean is in 1626, 86.9; in 1627, 71.4; in 1628, 86.3; in 1629, 104.9; in 1630, 147.6; and from 1631 to 1634 between 104.0 and 110.6.⁸³ It hardly need be said that harvest failures or bad harvests penalised above all the family farmers and small producers and part-time clothing workers. Since nearly all available purchasing power was expended on cereals, little was left over for the purchase of cheese and meat, still less for clothing and household

utensils. As industrial workers, the people of the Cheese Country were confronted with unemployment. As dairymen and graziers they were confronted with a contraction of the market. As consumers they were faced with famine or famine prices. Hence harvest crises tended to bring to a head all the antagonisms of society in the Cheese and butter Countries.

Attitude to Charles. His limited success in implementing enclosure policy.

As we have seen, there are not altogether wanting signs that the humbler folk of the Cheese Country matched political with religious dissent and it is conceivable that this circumstance facilitated their leadership and organisation in what were to all appearances hazardous and dangerous activities. Although this side of the movement remains obscure, it is at least plain that the people were capable of concerted action and versed in the arts of organising irregular military bands and maintaining agitators, while levelling was their characteristic answer to social distress, which in turn manifested itself most plainly to them by way of arbitrary enclosure. In the event, although they were not opposed to enclosure in principle, and although they had suffered not a little in the arbitrary enclosures of other lords, their resentment and hostility was directed mainly against the authority of the Crown in the period immediately preceding the Civil War, and Charles, indeed, seems temporarily to have born the hostility aroused not only by himself but by others. At the same time it is clear that the rebels, although embracing all social types as high as the gentry, were encouraged by those of still higher rank and position whom the Crown regarded as enemies no less dangerous. Nor can it be said that the organs of government responded efficiently to the demands of rebellion. To all appearances, indeed, they were rendered relatively ineffective by the varying degrees of reluctance and disaffection displayed by the trained bands, by constables, by deputy lieutenants and by most of those on whom the task of suppression was directly laid. Nor would it be safe to draw the conclusion that royal government was able to cope, even with difficulty, with the series of rebellions. At the most Charles could claim to have avoided the worst and he was still unable to implement efficiently his policy of enclosure, while the attempt itself deprived him of popular support that he could ill afford to lose. If the armed rebellions died down, then this may well have been as much a function of improved harvests as of repressive action. Certainly opposition to the enclosures continued to be expressed in renewed outbursts and the final enforcement of the disforestation remained to be accomplished by the Commonwealth, in spite of the encouragement given to the levellers in the earlier period by those who later emerged as supporters of the parliamentary cause. Thus one is left with the impression, albeit, as yet a hazy one, of two streams of political activity. The one seems to have sought the solution of disorders in the commonweal in parliamentary action tending toward constitutional monarchy in some form. The other stream, drawing its main strength from the small producers, seems to have sought immediate remedies against immediate burdens in direct and armed action.

The illusion of Stuart beneficence.

It was these popular revolts that ushered in the Great Rebellion and the extreme discontent expressed in them must shatter all the illusions that have been conjured up of the beneficence and benevolence of Stuart absolutism.

- 1 See D. Allan, 'Agrarian Discontent under the two Early Stuarts', (London M. Sc. thesis, 1950).
- 2 E. Kerridge, 'The Agrarian Development of Wiltshire 1540—1640', (London Ph.D. thesis, (1951), pp. 582 *seqq.*)
- 3 P.R.O., Land Revenue, Misc. Bks., vol. 194, fo. 307.
- 4 M.F. Davies and L. Moffat, 'Social and Economic History of Wiltshire,' (V.C.H., unpublished MS., I.H.R.), pp. 73, 76 *seqq.*
- 5 J. Aubrey, *Wiltshire Topographical Collections*, (ed. J. E. Jackson, Devizes, 1862), pp. 130—3.
- 6 *Survey of the Lands of William First Earl of Pembroke*, ed. C. R. Straton, (Roxburghe Club, II, 1909, 2 vols.), II *seqq.*;
- cf. R. H. Tawney, *The Agrarian Problem in the Sixteenth Century*, (London, 1912), pp. 194, 326.
- 7 Davies and Moffat, *op. cit.* p. 79; *Calendars of the Proceedings in Chancery in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth*, (Record Commission, London, 1832, 3 vols.), iii. 131; cf. Tawney, *op. cit.* p. 251.
- 8 Tawney, *loc. cit.*
- 9 Longleat MSS., Thynne Papers, Court Books of Manors of Sir John Thynne Sen., 1567—1577, box liv, bk. 4, fos. 6, 8.
- 10 Davies and Moffat, *op. cit.* pp. 76—8; Cartwright Hall, Bradford, Swinton MSS., Urchfont, no. 46, fo. 2v. (now in Wilts Rec. Off.).
- 11 Wilts Record Office, Savernake Coll., survey bk. of Bedwyn Prebend; P.R.O., Req., P. and M., bdle. 20, no. 64; bdle. 24, no. 6.
- 12 W. H. Jones, 'Potterne', *Wilts Arch. Mag.* XVI (1876) p. 267.
- 13 F. Rose-Troup, *The Western Rebellion of 1549*, (London, 1913), p. 248; E. F. Gay, 'The Midland Revolt of 1607', *Trans. R.H.S.N.S.*, XVIII (1904), pp. 199—200, 203.
- 14 Kerridge, *op. cit.* p. 634.
- 15 E.g., P.R.O., Chanc. Proc., series I, bdle. M. 3, no. 41.
- 16 P.R.O., Exch., K.R., Sp. Comm., no. 2395; Aubrey, *op. cit.* pp. 204—5.
- 17 *Topographer and Genealogist*, III (1858), p. 25; P.R.O., Chanc. Proc., series I, bdle., W. 30, no. 53; Devizes Museum, unsorted deeds and documents relating to Wootton Bassett and Vasterne. Cf. Tawney, *op. cit.* pp. 148, 251—3.
- 18 *Acts of Privy Council*, 1589, p. 303.
- 19 P.R.O., Star Chamber, James, bdle. 93, no. 2; bdle. 138, no. 8; bdle. 290, no. 22; Exch. K.R., Deps. by Comm., 9 Chas., Mich. 75; *Acts of Privy Council*, 1613, pp. 92—3.
- 20 P.R.O., Req., Eliz., bdle. 121, no. 30; Star Chamber, P. and M., bdle. 10, no. 49; Henry VIII, bdle. 25., no. 34; Exch., K.R., Deps. by Comm., 30 Eliz., Hil. 3.
- 21 P.R.O., Star Chamber, Eliz., bdle. A. 58, no. 12; bdle. A. 11, no. 8; bdle. A. 34, no. 37.
- 22 P.R.O., Star Chamber, James, bdle. 303, no. 6.
- 23 P.R.O., Star Chamber, James, bdle. 310, no. 18.
- 24 P.R.O., Star Chamber, James, bdle. 63, no. 10.
- 25 G. M. Young, 'Some Wiltshire Cases in Star Chamber', *Wilts Arch. Mag.*, L (1944), pp. 447—8.
- 26 P.R.O., Star Chamber, James, bdle. 153, no. 16.
- 27 P.R.O., S.P. Dom., Charles, vol. 229, no. 112; vol. 497, no. 10; H. R. Trevor-Roper, *Archbishop Laud*, (London, 1940), p. 169.
- 28 P.R.O., S.P. Dom., James, vol. 51, no. 23.
- 29 P.R.O., S.P. Dom., James, vol. 71, no. 107.
- 30 P.R.O., Exch., K.R., Sp. Comm., no. 4577; *Records of the County of Wilts*, (ed. B. H. Cunningham, Devizes, 1932), p. 90.
- 31 P.R.O., Exch. K.R., Deps. by Comm., 11 James, Mich. 15; 13 James, Easter 14; 22 James, Mich. 26; 11 Chas., Mich. 30; Sp. Comm., no. 4577.
- 32 Davies and Moffat, *op. cit.* p. 113; J. E. Jackson, 'On the History of Chippenham', *Wilts Arch. Mag.*, III (1856), p. 35; P.R.O., S. P. Dom., James, vol. 71, no. 107.
- 33 P.R.O., Exch., K. R., Sp. Comm., no. 4577.
- 34 P.R.O., Exch., K. R., Sp. Comm., no. 4577; S. P. Dom., vol. 199, nos. 1—2, 4, 6; Aubrey, *op. cit.* p. 66; Jackson. James, *loc. cit.*
- 35 B.M. Lansd. MSS., vol. 24., no. 33, fo. 74 (70 v); P.R.O., Exch., K.R., Deps. by Comm., 17 James, Easter 21.
- 36 Davies and Moffat, *op. cit.* p. 118; J. J. Daniell, *The History of Warminster*, (London, 1879), p. 50; P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Chas., vol. 70, no. 33; M. F. Davies, *Life in an English Village*, (London, 1909), pp. 16, 31.
- 37 Davies, *op. cit.* pp. 16 *seqq.*; P.R.O., Chanc. Proc., Chas., Haynes v. Carr, H. 47, H. 69.

- 38 J. E. Jackson, 'Selwood Forest', *Wilts Arch. Mag.* xxiii (1887), p. 294.
- 39 Davies and Moffat, *op. cit.* p. 118; P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Charles, vol. 201, no. 5, fo. 9.
- 40 P.R.O., Privy Council Register, vol. 41, p. 199 (fo. 100); S. P. Dom., Charles, vol. 202, no. 6, fo. 39.
- 41 P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Charles, vol. 203, no. 106, fos. 225-6.
- 42 P.R.O., Privy Council Register, vol. 41, pp. 236-7 (fos. 118-9).
- 43 P.R.O., S.P. Dom., Charles, vol. 203, no. 106, fo. 225.
- 44 P.R.O., Privy Council Register, vol. 41, pp. 326-7 (fos. 163-4).
- 45 P.R.O., S.P. Dom., Charles, vol. 204, no. 2; vol. 210, no. 20; Privy Council Register, vol. 41, pp. 238 (fo. 119v.), 299-301 (fos. 150-2). Toppe was later released—pp. 325-6 (fo. 163).
- 46 *Acts of Privy Council, 1627-8* pp. 248, 495; J. Rushworth, *Historical Collections*, (London, 1680), App. p. 28; P.R.O. S. P. Dom., vol. 105, no. 61.
- 47 P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Charles, vol. 159, no. 28, fos. 51v.-52, vol. 193, no. 166, fo. 158, vol. 200, no. 42; vol. 205, no. 43; Court Rolls, General Series, bdle. 209, nos. 36-9, 41; Rentals and Surveys, General Series, no. 874; Land Revenue, vol. 207, fos. 23-4; Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Surveys, (Wilts), no. 40, fos. 12-3, 19-20, 24-6; no. 43, fo. 8; T. H. Baker, 'Notes on the History of Mere', *Wilts Arch. Mag.* xxix (1896), pp. 274-5, 327; T. Birch, *Court and Times of Charles I* (ed. Aikin 2 vols, London 1848), ii, 60-1; *Acts of Privy Council, 1627-8*, pp. 359, 371.
- 48 Baker, *op. cit.* pp. 332-3.
- 49 *Journals of the House of Lords*, iv. 209; vi, 15, 30, 42, 49, 118, 609; *Acts and Ordinances of the Interregnum*, i. 139; P.R.O., Exch., Augmentation Office, Parliamentary Surveys (Dorset), no. 6, fo. 2, 4-5.
- 50 P.R.O., Sp. Coll. Shaftesbury Papers, bdle. 32, no. 6; and fo. 4 of survey cited in previous note.
- 51 *Wilts Notes and Queries*, ii (1899), pp. 133 *seqq.*; P.R.O., S. P. Dom., vol. 288, no. 80; Duchy of Lancaster, Deeds and Orders, vol. 30, fo. 276; vol. 31, fos. 181-4, 266, 360, 377v.; Sp. Comm., no. 1099; Exch., K. R., Sp. Comm., no. 2470; Deps. by Commission, 4 Chas., Easter 8, 24; 6 Chas., Trin. 5, 9; F. H. Manley, 'The Disforestation of Braden', *Wilts Arch. Mag.*, xlv (1932), pp. 557 *seqq.*; 'Parliamentary Surveys of the Crown Lands in Braden Forest (1651)', *ibid.* xlvi (1933) pp. 176 *seqq.*
- 52 P.R.O., Duchy of Lancaster, Sp. Comm., no. 855; Forest Proceedings, bdle. 4, nos. 23 *seqq.*; bdle. 5, nos. 1 *seqq.*; Exch., K. R., Forest Proceedings, bdle. 2, no. 40; Land Revenue, Misc. Books, vol. 194, fo. 31.
- 53 P.R.O., Privy Council Register, vol. 40, pp. 545-6 (fo. 270); S. P. Dom., vol. 288, no. 80.
- 54 P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Chas., vol. 193, no. 11.
- 55 Rushworth, *op. cit.* App. p. 73.
- 56 Devizes Museum, Deed Room, B. F. 10.
- 57 B.M., Add. Ch., 40105; P.R.O., S.P. Dom., Chas., vol. 203, no. 96; Privy Council Register, vol. 41, pp. 303-4 (fo. 152).
- 58 Manley, 'The Disforestation of Braden', p. 559; Devizes Museum, Deed Room, B. F. 13a, 14.
- 59 P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Chas., vol. 299, no. 73.
- 60 P.R.O., Exch., K. R., Sp. Comm., no. 6117.
- 61 Manley, 'Parliamentary Surveys', pp. 176 *seqq.*
- 62 P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Chas., vol. 203, no. 96; Devizes Museum, Deed Room, B. F. 10; *Wilts Arch. Mag.* L (1943) p. 167; Bassett Down MSS., Neville Maskelyne's Account Book, fo. 112. Robert Bathe was also arrested—B. M., Add. Ch. 40105.
- 63 *Ibid.*; Devizes Museum, unsorted deeds and documents relating to Wootton Bassett and Vasterne.
- 64 P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Chas., vol. 203, no. 96; list of rectors in Wootton Bassett church porch.
- 65 B. M., Add. Ch. 40105; P.R.O., S.P. Dom., Chas., vol. 203, no. 96; Bassett Down MSS., Maskelyne's Account Book, *passim*; *Wilts Notes and Queries* ii (1896), p. 49; Devizes Museum Deed Room, Pt. 1/ab.
- 66 Devizes Museum, unsorted deeds Wootton Bassett.
- 67 B. M., Add. Ch., 40105; P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Chas., vol. 203, no. 96.
- 68 *Wilts Arch. Mag.*, L (1943), pp. 278-80; xlv (1931), pp. 498-9. ('Meaning that the most master goeth breechlesse; i.e. when the silly husband must aske his wife whether it shall be a bargain or not' John Smyth, *The Hundred of Berkeley* (The Berkeley MSS. III, Gloucester 1885), 27.
- 69 C.E. Hart, *The Commoners of Dean Forest*, (Gloucester, 1951), pp. 11-12, 20-1, 24 *seqq.*, 46, 54; W. B. Willcox, *Gloucestershire. A study in Local Government 1590-1640* (Yale Historical Pubs., Miscellany xxxix, New Haven 1940), pp. 192 *sq.*, 202; *Journals of the House of Lords*, iv, 219, 262.
- 70 P.R.O., S. P. Dom., vol. 194, no. 60.
- 71 P.R.O., S. P. Dom., Chas., vol. 196, no. 56, fo. 101.
- 72 Privy Council Register, vol. 41, p. 304 (fo. 152v.), vol. 204, no. 30.

- 73 P.R.O., Privy Council Register, vol. 43, p. 247 (f 126).
- 74 P.R.O., S. P. Dom., vol. 215, no. 26, fo. 45.
- 75 B. H. Cunnington (ed.), *Records of the County of Wilts* (Devizes 1932), pp. 73, 76-7, 102-3.
- 76 A. Dryden, *Memorials of old Wiltshire*, (London, 1906), p. 138.
- 77 Cited in Anthony Powell, *John Aubrey and His Friends* (London, 1948), p. 38.
- 78 J. Aubrey, *An Introduction to the Survey and Natural History of the Northern Division of the County of Wiltshire in Miscellanies on several Curious Subjects*, ed. E. Curll, London, 1714, p. 30; *Wilts Topographical Collections*, p. 9.
- 79 Bodleian Library, Aubrey MSS. ii, f. 122. See also B. M., Royal MS. 7c, xvi, f. 238.
- 80 *Ibid.*, f. 266; J. Aubrey, *Natural History of Wiltshire* (ed. J. Britton, London, 1847), p. 10.
- 81 We can see a farmer deducting ship money from his rent in Wilton MSS., Surveys of Manors, 1631, vol. i, Survey of Broad Chalke, fos. (3), 2 (6). Hence ship money affected adversely the landowners, indirectly as well as directly.
- 82 P.R.O., Wards, Feodaries' Surveys and Books of Surveys (Wilts). Of 227 wardships in the Court assignable to farming regions in the period 1540-1640, 146 pertain to the sheep-and-corn countries and 81 to the Cheese and Butter countries. More of those for the latter related to small proprietors.
- 83 I.H.R., Beveridge Price Material, J. 35.

NOTES

The Broad Stones. (*W.A.M.*, LVI, 192). A reference in Mr. D. W. Free's *Marlborough and District* to the Stukeley passage quoted by Professor Piggott was unfortunately overlooked. In this Mr. Free placed the stone circle at the Clatford cross-roads known as Broken Crosses on the south side of the Kennet, a position which does not tally with Stukeley's other description of the circle, which was not known to Mr. Free. He holds the view that the various accounts may refer to more than one circle. Yet if there were one at Broken Crosses and one on the Bath Road near Plough Cottage they would be barely a quarter of a mile apart, and it is odd in that case that each of the passages quoted only mentions one circle.

O. MEYRICK.

Unrecorded Barrow on Manningford Bruce Down. A bowl barrow, 30 ft. in diameter and about 2 ft. high, was found in 1953, too late for inclusion in the *Archaeological Gazetteer, V.C.H.* Vol. I, 70 yards west of the east belt of Grant's Firs, N.G.R. 163564. A sherd probably of M. B. A. date lay exposed on the east side of the barrow, which was on unploughed downland.

O. M.

Barrow Circles near Lockeridge. From the Lockeridge-Alton Barnes road two rings showed up in August, 1957 in the corn on the opposite slope across the National Trust property in Lockeridge Dene. About 50 yards N.E. of the south end of The Belt plantation, they were a few feet apart, lying S.W.—N.E., each estimated at 25-30 feet in diameter, and are assumed to be barrow circles (N.G.R. 139672). Two other barrows (Goddard's Overton 10 and 11) are known near by, one in The Belt and one just west of it.

O. M.

Prehistoric Objects from Wiltshire in the Lukis Museum, St. Peter Port, Guernsey. The following information was obtained by the writer of this note from the Lukis MSS. and collections in the Lukis Museum, Guernsey, too late for inclusion in the *Victoria County History of Wiltshire*, Vol. 1.

1. Lukis. 'Collectanea Antiqua,' vi, 112. Rough flint axe, 3.8 in. long, with white patina. From 'Colloingbourne.'
2. Lukis. 'Collectanea Antiqua,' vi, 112. Polished-edge axe 4in. long. From East Grafton (now Grafton parish—L. V. G.).
3. Lukis. 'Collectanea Antiqua,' vi, 144. Cutting-edge of (re-chipped ?) flint axe, 3in. long, from Colloingbourne. 'Destroyed by M. Towler in a fit of madness.'

All three specimens are drawn in the Lukis MSS., and 1 and 2 are in the Museum.

L. V. GRINSELL.

FOUR ANCIENT BRITISH COINS FROM NORTHWOOD, COLERNE

Whilst the writer was being shown the finds from Colerne, described in the note on p. 78, Mr. Morrison produced four early British silver coins from among his collections. These, he stated, had been given to him by a labourer with the information that they were found in Northwood, approximately two miles north-west of Colerne, in the parish of that name. It is noteworthy that the northern limits of the wood flank the northern line of defence of the Iron Age earthwork known as Bury Wood Camp.¹

The writer is grateful to Mr. Morrison who kindly lent the coins temporarily to Devizes Museum for examination². Sincere thanks are also due to Mr. Derek Allen who examined the coins, and for his comments which are included in this note.

¹ A. Shaw Mellor. *Notes on Bury Wood Camp, Colerne, Wilts, W.A.M.*, Vol. XLVII, pp. 504-512.

² All four coins have been purchased by the *Wilts Arch. Society* and are now in Devizes Museum.



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Plate I.

British Coins from Northwood, Colerne.

Above illustration approx. twice actual size.

The coin types are as follows: (Pl. I)

(1) Possibly a very base example of an 'EISV' coin.

Obv. Crude head in profile to right, face outline portrayed by a crooked line terminating in a pellet, and bifurcating to form the mouth. The back of the head and hair are represented by arcs of beading, and crescents with pellets in the centre of each crescent. Two ring ornaments form the eye and ear with a cross in between. In front of the face is an S-shaped figure with crescents, pellets and ring ornaments in the field.

Rev. Three-tailed horse to the left, tail and part of the head missing. Ring ornaments below head and body. The only portion of letter visible is the S of SV below the body. The inverted V above the body is in place of the EI of EISV.

Wt. .8635 gms. Diam. 12 mm.

It is possible that these EISV 'forgeries' are in fact the latest coins of silver or bronze of the mint which produced the series from Colerne. The Dobunnic coins which are typologically later are probably the product of another mint. A similar plated EISV 'forgery' was recently discovered near Sandy Lane.¹

(2). Obv. Crude head in profile to right as (1).

Rev. Three-tailed horse to left; the head is missing. There is a cross above the back which looks like a crescent; below the body is a ring ornament. The 'flower' below the ring ornament is typical of the late version of this variety. Further ring ornaments occur below tail and head.

Wt. .8874 gms. Diam. 12 mm.

(3). A good example of a coin of *Antedrigus*.

Obv. Crude head to right as (1) and (2).

Rev. Three tailed horse to left. There are pellets above the back and below the head, and a ring ornament below the body. The visible legend is A)NTE(D. Wt. 1.0781 gms. Diam. 14 mm.

(4). Obv. Bloated looking head in profile to right.

The hair is represented by a number of crescent shaped bosses. The eye and chin are represented by pellets, the mouth by two projecting lines ending in pellets. One or possibly two S-shaped figures occur in front of the face, with small pellets and crescents in the field.

Rev. Three-tailed horse to left. Above the body is a crescent and a ring ornament, with two limbs springing from it; below, a 'flower'. A pellet and crescents in the field.

Wt. .8505 gms. Diam. 15 mm.

All four types are typical examples of the coinage of the Dobunni, the two inscribed coins no doubt referring to successive rulers of the tribe, of whom ANTED was the earlier; little or nothing is known however concerning them.

The Dobunni were a tribe of native stock whose territory, indicated by coin distribution, extended from the Thames to the Severn, and southwards included Somerset, Wilts, and Dorset. All four coins may be regarded as the same though progressively degenerating in type and fabric. Further examples have been found at Marlborough, and a hoard containing about 180 of the types illustrated was found at Nunney, near Frome.²

The coins from Colerne are interesting in that they cover pretty well the same range as those from other sites such as Camerton, Somerset. The range of date is from about the beginning of the 1st century A.D. or a little earlier to c.A.D. 40, the date of burial of the Nunney hoard as indicated by the Roman coins it contained.

F. K. ANNABLE.

¹ *W.A.M.*, Vol. LVI, p. 391.

² *Numismatic Chronicle* (new Series) vol. I, p. 1, ff.

A ROMAN SITE AT COLERNE

In January, 1957, Mr. H. Morrison, a farm worker at Euridge Farm, Colerne, Wilts. informed the Devizes Museum that he had discovered a Roman site during deep ploughing in a field to the south of the farm buildings. The site was visited shortly afterwards by the writer and Dr. A. Shaw Mellor.

Euridge Farm lies one mile north-east of Colerne in Colerne parish, O.S. 1in. Sheet 156, 833717, and is flanked by the Fosse Way approximately two miles to the west. The field in which the discovery was made is 500 yards due south of the farm. Here abundant signs of one or more substantial masonry buildings were apparent at the centre of the field and extending over an area of roughly six acres. Heavy slabs of building stone and broken flue and roof-tiles turned up by the plough were profusely scattered over the surface; an area of heavy stone flooring still in situ had also been uncovered by Mr. Morrison whilst working in the field.

The finds from the site constitute in themselves a quite small museum. There are considerable quantities of Samian and coarse pottery, including stamped mortaria and amphora rims, a number of bronze objects and coins in quantity with a date bracket of 2nd to late 4th century A.D. A further interesting find is a small sculptured slab of Bath stone, though the carving is almost entirely effaced.

The site is in no immediate danger of destruction, but as the field is due to come under crop this year information has been supplied to Dr. K. St. Joseph, Curator in Aerial Photography, University of Cambridge. Dr. St. Joseph has kindly offered help in photographing the area from the air should a suitable opportunity arise during the summer.

F. K. ANNABLE.

NOTES ON THE PLACE NAMES OF WILTSHIRE, E.P.N.S.

These notes follow the late Mr. Brentnall's review in *W.A.M.* XLIX, 364 and notes in *W.A.M.* LI, 611-2, LII, 116, LV, 70-74 and LVI, 196. The numbers follow from the previous series.

- 14 for Wanborough, *W.A.M.*, XVI, 196, read Wroughton.
- 15 Highworth, p. 26; Cricklade Road is *not* the Cryckeladys way of 1463. The old Cricklade road, or Port Way, ran through Hampton, and than as Staplers lane and Great Rose Lane, past Port Farm, to join Ermine Street just south of Seven Bridges. This 'Portway' gives its name to Port Farm.
- 16 Highworth, p. 27; it is by no means certain that this is the Sevamentone of D.B. See *V.C.H. Wilts.* II. Sevenhampton is certainly *not* the property described in K.C.D. 767.
- 17 Latton, p. 45; *B.C.S.* 226 does *not* refer to Eisey, Wilts.
- 18 Wanborough, p. 497; Popplechurch and Chestercombe omitted. The first may refer to a flint church. (The site of St. Katherine's is lost.) For a discussion of these names see J. B. Jones, 'A New View on Ermin Street,' 1950 and *Journ. Arch. Assn.* XXXVII (1881) 143, 144.
- 19 Cricklade, p. 42; the second element, gelade, is generally accepted as referring to a Thames crossing. The first element may be 'creek, wharf, or hithe', but if indeed it derives from a pre-English word denoting 'hill', the original 'Cricklade' was at Hailstone Hill where there is reason to suppose that there was a pre-Roman Thames crossing place. The present Cricklade cannot be said to be on a hill. Possibly an example of transference.
- 20 Cricklade, p. 44; Bourne Farm takes its name from the streamlet, here the parish boundary, and not from a person.
- 21 Cricklade, p. 44; King's Barn (now demolished) was so called because it was on the Royal demesne of Bradon Forest as finally accepted in the seventeenth century. It has no connection with King's Marsh, the wet land lying below Kingshill the probable hundredal meeting place.
- 22 Cricklade, p. 44; Cox Hill takes its name *not* from William le Cok but from a much later holder, who appeared after the deforestation of Bradon.

- 23 Cricklade, p. 44; Abingdon Court takes its name *not* from a Robert de Abendon, but from Abingdon Abbey. The line of the 'haga' of the grant of A.D. 1008 can still be traced, (*K.C.D.* VI 1305).
- 24 Latton, p. 460; Mundus Ground, and Scores Stalls omitted. The second derives from the field whose system of selions is most striking.
- 25 Aldbourne, p. 292; High Strete Waie can hardly be said to be lost. The D/L survey of 1591 gives this as a bound of the manor. It is the Cunetio-Wanborough Roman Road.
- 26 Aldbourne, p. 292; it is now known that Sugar Way (strung with Bronze Age barrows) runs along the spine of Sugar Hill. It probably takes its name from Segur a local grantee of land c. 1150. *Sceocera Wege* runs east and West. Where it forms the hundred boundary it was called the Folks Dyke.
- 27 Wanborough, p. 283. Little Hinton, p. 287. Totterdown omitted. This name occurs in 1828 O.S. on the N.E. side of Fox Hill cross roads. In Colt Hoare's A.W. it is apparently the name of a cottage on the W. side. Foxhill, above the cross roads, is a magnificent view point and the name might well be from *totaern*, a lookout tower.
- 28 Purton, p. 39; Barstroppe Ford; to associate this with a John de Barstrop, juror in 10 Ed. 1, is eponymy run riot! Surely boar trap (*Bars traeppe*) is a reasonable origin for a forest name?
- 29 Little Hinton, p. 287; The Grove omitted. There are heathen burials one mile south (*W.A.M.* XLIV, 542), and at 834236 (BCS 479). It is possible that the name perpetuates a heathen grove.
- 30 Chisledon, p. 282, Hodson; 901 (11th) B.C.S. 576, Hordestan, Horestan. If this is indeed Hodson, which from the context seems most probable, the eponymous Hodd must go, and the name must be taken to be 'hoard stone'.

T. R. THOMSON.

ERMINE STREET IN WILTSHIRE.

In the review, *W.A.M.*, LVI, 72, of Mr. Margary's excellent book 'Roman Roads in Britain' Pt. 1, it is rightly said that section 41B owes much to Mr. A. D. Passmore. Mr. J. B. Jones' equally tenable opinion (*A New View on Ermine Street*, 1950), that the missing station was near Popplechurch, is not given. The coin evidence does not prove that the Covingham-Nythe site was other than a large squalid settlement which sprang up at the road junction.

Mr. Margary tells me that he has noted for the emendation of p. 122, foot, that the road was at one time carried over the marshy ground N.E. of Cricklade, as demonstrated in *W.A.M.*, LVI, 164-5.

As regards the approaches to Corinium the excavations of our Gloucester friends, now in progress there, may elucidate the relative dates of the six ancient roads approaching the town, and may indeed lead to the re-casting of pp. 135-137.

A general point may be made about the exceptionally high aggers when roads cross high and open ground. To my mind the reason is to make the line of the road visible after heavy snowfall.

T. R. THOMSON.

PROBATE JURISDICTIONS AND RECORDS FOR THE DIOCESE OF SALISBURY

For those in search of Wiltshire Wills we feel that a comprehensive list such as we have endeavoured to give below may prove of some use.

The Wiltshire wills proved in the P.C.C. were listed some years ago in Wiltshire Notes and Queries. In our limited experience we have found this to be a comprehensive index. The wills listed in *W.A.M.*, XLV pp. 36-67 remain with the Diocesan Registrar at Salisbury.

In what follows the word 'wills' means wills, administrations, or other probate records, whether separate or in registers. Bouwens, B.G., 'Wills and Their Whereabouts' (Soc. Gen.), quoting the return of 1830 (Cd. 205, Vol. XIX, p. 50), states that there are gaps in many of these series of wills for the Civil War period; these gaps have not been shown except where they have been recently verified.

The extent of jurisdictions has been taken from Bouwens except that minor corrections of spelling or county have been made. The abbreviation P.P.R. means Principal Probate Registry, Somerset House, C.R.O. means the Wiltshire County Record Office, Trowbridge; and D.P.R. means the District Probate Registry at Winchester.

The Sarum Peculiars earlier than 1800 are indexed under separate headings in one volume. There are a few separate Registers, but most of the entries relate to Original Wills only, these being in bundles and sometimes in boxes.

<i>Name and Extent</i>	<i>Dates of Wills, Locations, Access</i>
<u>Episcopal Consistory of Sarum</u> Extent:—Archdeaconry Courts of Berkshire, Sarum, Wilts and Sub-Dean of Sarum, during triennial inhibition; all rectors in diocese; Bishop's Peculiars—Berwick St. James, Devizes St. John and St. Mary, West Lavington, Marlborough St. Mary and St. Peter, Preshute, Potterne, Stert, Trowbridge with Staverton.	1526-1799 at C.R.O. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-1858 at C.R.O. <i>Index</i> under first letters, and chronological <i>Catalogue Book</i> .
<u>Archdeaconry of Sarum.</u> Extent:— Southern part of Wiltshire except peculiars. Inhibited triennially by E. C. of S.	1528-1799 at C.R.O. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at C.R.O. <i>Index</i> under first letters and chronological <i>Catalogue Book</i> .
<u>Archdeaconry of Wilts.</u> Extent:— Northern part of Wiltshire except peculiars. Inhibited triennially by E. C. of S.	1557-1799 at C.R.O. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at C.R.O. <i>Index</i> under first letters and chronological <i>Catalogue Book</i> .
<u>[Archdeaconry] Court of the Sub-Dean of Sarum.</u> Extent:— Salisbury St. Edmund, St. Martin and St. Thomas; Milford; and Stratford-sub-Castle; all Wiltshire. Inhibited triennially by E. C. of S.	1581-88 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1611-41, 1660-1799 at P.P.R. Chronological <i>Catalogue</i> , entries alphabetical within years. 1800-58 at D.P.R.

*Name and Extent**Dates of Wills, Locations, Access*Peculiars (not prebends):—

Dean of Sarum. Extent:—

Baydon, Heytesbury, Deverell Hill, Horningsham, Knook, Mere, Ramsbury, Salisbury Close and Swallowcliffe, Wiltshire; Arborfield, Blewbury with Upton and Ashton, Hurst, Ruscombe, Sandhurst, Sonning, Upthorpe and Wokingham, Berkshire; Alton Pancras, Anderson, Bere Hackett, Bere Regis, Bloxworth, Long Bourton, Castleton, Caundle Marsh, Charminster, Nether Compton, Over Compton, Folke, Haydon, Hermitage, Holnest, Kingston Chapel, Lillington, Maperton, Clifton Maybank (united 1824 with Bradford Abbas in dioc. of Bristol), Turners Puddle, Ryme Intrinseca, Sherborne, Stockwood, Stratton, Thompson [Winterbourne Tomson], Thornford, Winterbourne, (W)obourne [Osborne], North Wootton, Dorset; also—during triennial inhibition—over parishes in jurisdiction of D. and C. Windsor, Lord Warden of Savernake Forest and Prebendal Peculiars.¹ Uninhibited.

1558–1645, 1661–1799 at P.P.R. *Index* under first letters.

1800–58 at D.P.R.

Royal Peculiar of Gillingham, Dorset. Extent:—Gillingham, with Motcombe and Bourton, Dorset. Uninhibited.

1660–1799 at P.P.R. *Chronological Catalogue*, entries alphabetical within years.

1800–58 at D.P.R.

Perpetual Vicar of Corsham, Wiltshire. (Bp. of Sarum and Archdeacon of Wilts. have concurrent jurisdiction.) Uninhibited.

1720–99 at P.P.R. *Chronological Catalogue*, entries alphabetical within years.

1800–58 at D.P.R.

Castle Combe, Wiltshire. Uninhibited.

1669–1786 at P.P.R. *Index* under first letters. 1800–58 missing.

Dean and Chapter of Windsor. Extent:—

Hungerford, West Ilsley and Wantage, Berkshire; Ogbourne St. Andrew, Ogbourne St. George, and Shalbourne, Wiltshire. Inhibited triennially by Dean of Sarum.

1668–1799 at P.P.R. *Chronological Catalogue*, entries alphabetical within years.

1800–58 at D.P.R. according to Bouwens.

¹ Including Faringdon, Berks, once a Prebendal Peculiar of Salisbury Diocese. Its records, and those of the Archdeaconry of Berkshire transferred from Salisbury Diocese to Oxford Diocese subsequent to 1836, are held separately at P.P.R.

<i>Name and Extent</i>	<i>Date of Wills, Locations, Access</i>
<u>Peculiars (not prebends):— continued</u>	
Dean and Chapter of Sarum. Extent:— Bishops Cannings with Southbroom, Britford and Homington, Wiltshire; Stourpaine, Dorset; Bramshaw, Hants. Uninhibited.	1604–30, 1662–1799 at P.P.R. Chronological <i>Catalogue</i> , entries alphabetical within years. 1800–58 at D.P.R.
Precentor of Sarum. Extent:— Westbury with Bratton and Dilton, Wiltshire. Uninhibited.	1613–1641, 1661–1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800–58 at D.P.R.
Lord Warden of Savernake Forest. Extent:— Great and Little Bedwyn, Collingbourne Ducis, Wiltshire. Inhibited triennially by Dean of Sarum.	1617–1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. None have been found for the years after 1799.
<u>Prebendal Peculiars (inhibited for six months triennially by Dean of Sarum:—</u>	
Lyme Regis and Halstock, Dorset.	1664–1799. Chronological <i>Catalogue</i> , entries alphabetical within years. 1800–58 at D.P.R.
Durnford, Wiltshire.	1634–1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> by all letters. 1800–58 at D.P.R.
Treasurer of Sarum in Calne Prebend. Extent:—Alderbury with Farley and Pitton, Berwick Bassett, Blackland, Cherhills and Figheledean, Wiltshire. ¹	1610–1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800–58 at D.P.R.
Chardstock, Dorset. Extent:— Chardstock and Wambrook.	1639–1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800–58 at D.P.R.
Netherbury in Ecclesia. Extent:— Netherbury and Beaminster, Dorset.	1608–1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800–58 at D.P.R.
Yetminster and Grimston. Extent:— Yetminster with Leigh and Chetnole, and Grimston, Dorset.	1654–1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800–58 at D.P.R.
Preston. Extent:—Preston and Sutton Poyntz, Dorset.	1761–1798 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800–58 at D.P.R.
Fordington. Extent:— Fordington, Dorset, and Writhlington, Somerset.	1660–1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800–58 at D.P.R.

¹ Bouwens is not clear whether the Treasurer's Prebend was inhibited by the Dean of Sarum or not.

<i>Name and Extent</i>	<i>Date of Wills, Locations, Access</i>
<u>Prebendal Peculiars</u> —continued	
Netheravon, Wiltshire.	1660-1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at D.P.R.
Uffculme, Devon.	1545-1648, 1662-1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at D.P.R.
Bishopstone, Wiltshire.	1625-1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at D.P.R.
Burbage. Extent:— Hurstbourne, Hampshire, and Burbage, Wiltshire.	1635-1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at D.P.R.
Chute and Chisenbury. Extent:— Chute, Chisenbury, Winterbourne Daunt- sey, Wiltshire.	1607-1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at D.P.R.
Wilsford and Woodford, Wiltshire.	1615-1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at D.P.R.
Combe and Harnham. Extent:— Coombe Bissett, Harnham, Wiltshire.	1648-1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at D.P.R.
Highworth. Extent:— Highworth, South Marston, Sevenhampton, Broad Blunsden, Wiltshire.	1623-1799 at P.P.R. <i>Index</i> under first letters. 1800-58 at D.P.R.

T. R. THOMSON
M. G. RATHBONE

CRIME IN WILTSHIRE 1825.

The following list of sentences on prisoners tried in Wiltshire in 1825 is copied from a printed sheet stuck inside a small oak chest, standing on four legs, bought at an auction sale in 1956.

It throws an interesting light on the more shady side of the countryman's life 130 years ago and the wide variation in punishments meted out for very similar crimes. Perhaps these differences might not seem so strange if we had any means of knowing about previous convictions.

In the three years ending 1820 the executions in England and Wales amounted to 312. In the three years ending 1830 they were 178. (Haydn 1881 edition).

They may be divided as follows:—

1818	—	107	1828	—	60
1819	—	104	1829	—	59
1820	—	101	1830	—	59

Wiltshire must therefore have had more than its fair share.

SENTENCES OF THE PRISONERS

Who were tried at the Wilts Lent Assizes 1825, before the Hon. Justice Park and the Hon. Justice Burrough.

Elizabeth Smith, 19, for stealing a Gown at Preshute	..	..	Death
Wm. Maltman, 18, for stealing a watch, etc., at Winsley	..	..	Death
George Hayter, 24, Robert Emery, 30, for stealing a mare and a Gelding at Standlinch	..	..	Acquitted
James Densley, 14, for stealing a pair of Gaiters at Steeple Aston	..	..	12 Months
Robt. Emmett, 16, Anthony Bateman, 16, for stealing a coat etc. at Box.			
Robert Emmett—Death		Anthony Bateman	Acquitted
J. Ballinger, 18, for assaulting Ann Reynolds	..	..	No Bill
John Barnard, 22, for stealing a coat, etc., at Hankerton	..	..	Death
Wm. Lake, 23, for stealing Bacon at Little Dunford	..	..	Death
John Crowther, 27, for stealing a Greatcoat, etc., at Compton Chamberlain	..	..	Acquitted
Wm. Roberts, 21, for stealing a Saw, etc., at North Bradley	..	..	7 Months
Walter Hedges, 15, for stealing two Umbrellas at Devizes	..	..	7 Years
William Bailey, 15, for picking a pocket and stealing two Sovereigns etc., at Devizes	..	..	14 Years
James Orchard, 18, James Asher, 20, George Ward, 21, for robbing Thomas Stacey of Trowbridge on the highway of four £1 notes, etc.	..	..	Acquitted
Isaac Bullock, 17, for stealing a silver tablespoon and teaspoon at Staverton	..	..	7 years
Anthony West, 25, for stealing a watch, etc., from Edward Reem at Beanacre	..	..	Death
Wm. Long, 16, for stealing a pistol at Trowbridge	..	..	No Bill
John Smith, 20, for stealing an ass at Liddington	..	..	—————
— Henrys, 20, for stealing leather at Codford	..	..	—————
Charles Harwood, 23, for stealing two £10 notes, with gold and silver coin, silver articles, etc., at Marlbro'	..	..	Death
Robert Golding, 19, Maria Golding, 19, for stealing two shifts at Long Newnton	..	..	Death
George Rance, 19, for stealing a coat at Wokingham	..	..	Death
Henry Brocway, 24, for stealing sheep at East Knoyle	..	..	Death
Isaac Hudd, for stealing bacon etc. at Lacock	..	..	No Bill
Wm. Mundy, 30, for stealing a ram sheep	..	..	—————

T. Williams, 25, Stephen Williams 19, for stealing five sacks of wheat at Bishopstone	T.W.—4. S. W.	12 Months
Samuel Barret, 25, James Barret, 30, James Smart, 27, John Barret, 18, for stealing Beef at Hatch. James Barrett—Death. The others acquitted.		
Wm. Hayward, for stealing bread and cheese at Wroughton	.. ..	7 Years
Thomas Bailey, 21, Paul Amber, 26, for assaulting Rachel Wordley at Bishops Cannings	.. ..	No Bill
Philip West, 24, for stealing a brass milk pan at Melksham	.. ..	Acquitted
J. Moss, 24, for stealing cheese at Luckington	.. ..	Death
William Cooper, 21, for burglary at Corsham	.. ..	Death
John Bishop, 23, for stealing from the house of James Hillman 2 cwts. of bacon	.. ..	7 Years
Samuel Harris, 38, for stealing 24 lbs. of worsted at Trowbridge	.. ..	10 Months
James Barnes, 23, for stealing a donkey from James Fisher on Beckhampton Downs	.. ..	—————
George Capel, 34, for stealing two loaves of sugar at Warminster	.. ..	7 Years
Robert Brown, 17, Shadric Bryant 18, for stealing Knives etc. at Bradford. R. Brown—7 years.	S. Bryant	No Bill
Thomas Price Roberts, 18, for stealing six half crowns at Warminster	.. ..	7 Years
Thomas Jeffrey, 24, for stealing a silver spoon at Fisherton	.. ..	3 Months
William Rowlings, 25, for stealing a sheep at Potterne	.. ..	Death
W. Ellis, 19, R. Asher, 24, for stealing silver and copper coin at Market Lavington	.. ..	Acquitted
W. Cannings, 18, John Witters, 20, for stealing two iron wedges and brass milk pan at Br. Gifford	.. ..	Acquitted
T. Bull, 42, W. Kite, 26, Isaac Kite, 27, for stealing four ducks and a fowl at Tilshead	.. ..	7 Years
Thomas Sartain, 26, for stealing potatoes at Bradford	.. ..	3 Months
Wm. Godwin, 26, for wounding John Shaw at Melksham	.. ..	No Bill
Ann Stone, 14, for stealing a cotton Shawl at Bradford	.. ..	One Month
Richard Hughes, 30, for stealing breeches at Carnham St.	.. ..	Death
Wm. Goslet, 19, for stealing Bacon at Sherton Magna	.. ..	Death
T. Flower, 42, for uttering a forged receipt to defraud the Commissioners of the Melksham turnpike	.. ..	7 Years
James Brown, 17, for stealing a watch from Samuel Pain at New Sarum	.. ..	No Bill
George Martin, 16, James Brice, 25, for stealing two flutes at Melksham. Martin Death.	Rowles (<i>sic</i>)	Acquitted
Thomas Boxell, 18, for stealing a greatcoat at Colerne	.. ..	One Month
Joel Hall, 18, for robbing James Holden of four half-crowns on the highway at Colerne	.. ..	One Month
John Nicholas, 22, for stealing two sides of bacon at Coote	.. ..	12 Monhs
Mary Ann Morgan, 25, for stealing three five pound notes at Milford	.. ..	18 Months
Sarah Vincent, 21, for stealing two half crowns and three shoe brushes at Bradford	.. ..	6 Weeks
Robert Gale, 17, for stealing a silver watch at Melksham	.. ..	12 Months
H. Smith, 24, for stealing two ducks at Calne	.. ..	6 Months
John Billett, 24, William Billett, 22, for stealing two mares from Easton Saint Catherine, Somerset	.. ..	Death
John Snow, 15, for a Burglary	.. ..	Death
Elizabeth Drew, 24, for stealing four silk handkerchiefs etc, at Devizes. Easton. Printer. Endless St. Sarum.	.. ..	12 Months

BOOK REVIEWS

Stonehenge by R. J. C. Atkinson. $8\frac{3}{4} + 5\frac{3}{4}$ ins. Pp. xv+204, 26 pls., 8 figs. London: Hamish Hamilton. 16s.

Stonehenge is Wiltshire's and northern Europe's most renowned prehistoric monument, and as a West-Countryman I welcome this up-to-date account.

Mr. Atkinson's aim has been to write primarily for the ordinary visitor, in whom he has assumed 'an inquiring interest in the history and purpose of the monument, but no knowledge either of the details of its structure or of its archaeological background in terms of prehistory.' He has brought to this task thorough and original knowledge, gained in the full course of recent excavations in which he collaborated with Professor Stuart Piggott and the late Dr. J. F. S. Stone.

A long initial chapter is given to describing the stones and other features. Then follow two on 'The Sequence of Construction' and 'The Dating of the Sequence'. Three main stages of building are described in an account both more detailed and convincing than any previously given.

Stonehenge I comprised the ditch with inner and outer bank, the Aubrey holes, and possibly some central wooden structure. To the north-east, outside the entrance stood the Heel stone; two upright stones flanked the entrance. *Stonehenge I* was a Secondary Neolithic monument, dating to early in the second millennium B.C.

In its second stage, the axis of the monument was re-aligned slightly towards the east, and the entrance widened. The main new features were the Avenue sweeping up from the Avon, and 82 bluestones standing in a double circle, in the newly discovered Q. and R. holes. *Stonehenge II* was the work of Beaker people, more towards the middle of the second millennium B.C.

Three phases characterize the third constructional stage recognized by Atkinson and his colleagues. The main and initial features were the Circle and Horseshoe of sarsen trilithons, with two uprights flanking the entrance, one of which was the now recumbent Slaughter stone. The four Stations are believed to belong to this phase, but the possibility is admitted that 'they may have been part of an earlier circle of widely-spaced sarsens, lying just outside the Aubrey Holes'. Two further phases are held to have featured re-use of the bluestones of *Stonehenge II*. These were firstly set partly within the sarsen Horseshoe, and partly outside the sarsen Circle in the Y and Z holes; and then, in the final phase, set in their present positions.

Stonehenge III is held to have been the work of the Wessex culture. This view is justified more on general grounds than any other. Some of the carvings on sarsens convincingly represent native Early Bronze Age axes, but if they were carved after the stones were erected they form strictly *termini ante quos*. The same applies to the carving of the dagger; Mr. Atkinson plainly believes that it represents a Mycenaean dagger, but, generously and characteristically, admits this belief to be a matter of opinion. Bearing in mind the limitations of the material, another opinion is worth expressing—that the carving shows a bronze-hilted dagger (*vollgriffdolch*) of Oder-Elbe type; the implications are hardly less interesting.

Besides the three stages of construction, a stage of destruction is argued, of Roman or medieval date.

Mr. Atkinson has a keen awareness of technology and his chapter on 'The Techniques of Construction' is full of interesting facts and reasoning. He argues for a sea passage for the blue-stones from Milford Haven to the Bristol Channel, thence up the Bristol Avon to Frome and down the Wylye to the Wiltshire Avon; with typical thoroughness he has had boats and sledges made and set them in motion.

He writes, 'It is now generally agreed by archaeologists and geologists that the origin of the Stonehenge sarsens must lie on the Marlborough Downs', and has prospected a route by which they may have come. One should be cautious in questioning figures based partly on experiment; but some readers may feel that the requirements of manpower for moving the sarsens (up to 50 tons in weight) have been exaggerated. Mr. Atkinson believes that 1,000-1,500 men may have been needed. Gradient and conditions underfoot are very important factors, and figures obtained in different parts of the world are not strictly comparable; but, it is worth noting that Thor Heyerdahl is reported as having shown that comparatively fewer men were required to move the Easter Island sculptures, and only 172 are shown on a XIIIth Dynasty Egyptian tomb-painting pulling a colossus weighing possibly nearly 60 tons. Mr. Atkinson gives strong reasons for believing that the lintels were raised by cribs and not ramps; possibly a rougher crib would have served than the type he describes.

A chapter on 'The Builders of Stonehenge' gives an admirable short account of the relevant prehistory of southern England. But, on a minor point, the assumption that our Mesolithic inhabitants 'built no houses' is a little rash; so is the statement on a previous page that 'During the second millennium B.C. there were no wheeled vehicles' in the British Isles. Some readers may feel that any contact which Britain had with the Mycenaean civilization was via Central Europe through many intermediaries. Not enough is likely ever to be known of the form above-ground of previous and possibly contemporary British timber monuments to warrant the suggestion that the 'refinements' of

Stonehenge III were learnt in a civilized school; and the dressing of stone by abrasion, as Mr. Atkinson brilliantly points out, was widely known in Britain through quern manufacture.

Despite the attractive writing, too much seems made of the contribution of the Wessex culture to Stonehenge III in arguing that the monument provides evidence for the 'concentration of political power' (presumably in Wessex) 'in the hands of a single man'. Even the Secondary Neolithic people of Stonehenge I could handle very heavy sarsens. The bluestones of Stonehenge II carry perhaps still more remarkable sociological implications than the sarsens of III, suggesting links of Beaker culture kinsmen throughout southern Britain, perhaps owning the paramouncy of one family in the most favoured region. And the graves of the Wessex Culture seem to carry that interpretation better than one of 'a concentration of political power . . .'. The quite problematical Silbury Hill must be left out of account.

Nothing but praise may be given to the two final chapters on 'The Meaning of Stonehenge' and 'Stonehenge and the History of Antiquarian Thought' full of insight and ingenious ideas presented with exemplary restraint.

There remain the illustrations and here one must salute the work of genius. However familiar the monument may be to the visitor, Mr. Atkinson's photographs will show him something fresh and re-awaken his spontaneous first impressions, and, to one who has never seen Stonehenge, will lay its very essence before his eyes. Here is a triumph of that 'wandering and passively receptive regard' of which Mr. Atkinson eloquently writes, and a triumph of technique in the use of low lights which must have been forced on him. I sincerely hope that he will consider putting out an edition of these photographs with a large format to preserve them in worthy fashion.

Finally, this book raises a challenge to Wiltshire's field archaeologists. It argues the great resources and achievements of the Wessex culture. Now, Stonehenge apart, it is hard to believe that men and women, buried in the richer graves, lived on a small scale. Somewhere in Wiltshire's soil surely lie the traces of their great houses or agglomerations of huts. Systematic field-work should narrow the search.

HUMPHREY CASE.

Progress Notes of Warden Woodward for the Wiltshire Estates of New College, Oxford, 1659-1675. Edited by R. L. Rickard, Hon. M. A. Assistant Librarian of New College (Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, Records Branch. Vol. XIII for the year 1957.) Pp. 144.

This volume, skilfully edited by Mr. R. L. Rickard, reproduces the Progress Notes made by Warden Michael Woodward, one of the few notable Wardens of New College in its long history. The Progress, a medieval institution, was a visit by the lord of the manor, usually accompanied by the steward, to churches and property within the manorial jurisdiction, in order to collect rents and dues, to conduct courts, to inspect premises, to consider applications, usually for permission to cut timber, and to hear complaints. Woodward insisted on the regular performance of these duties, and for this purpose he was accompanied by one of the fellows, called the Outrider. Business was combined with social pleasures, as it was usual for the most substantial landlord or farmer in the parish to entertain the Progress, the Outrider being usually entrusted with the duty of paying gratuities (called the Regards) to the servants after the receipt of hospitality. Obviously such a body of men, usually in holy orders, might be expected to have substantial sums in their custody as they made their way back to Oxford, and so they were fair game for highwaymen. The College of All Souls still possesses a pair of blunderbusses, with the help of which the Progress of that College protected the rent money in its possession. In days when holidays were few and far between, admission to the Progress must have been welcomed by those Fellows who wanted a breath of fresh air. In this volume there are accurate transcripts of Woodward's notes for Alton Barnes, Stert and Colterne. Court Rolls for these manors are printed as appendices.

Woodward, who had some of the naïveté of Pepys, but little of the vital humanity of the diarist, kept his business memoranda of progresses in three small volumes, which appear to have remained untouched until the nineteenth century, when they were examined by Warden Sewell, who was Warden from 1860 to 1903. Sewell used this and other material for his valuable register of the members of the College; otherwise the volumes remained unnoticed until 1931. A successor of Woodward and Sewell, the present Warden, Dr. A. H. Smith, has produced a fascinating history of the College, based mainly on shrewd deductions from close inspection of the fabric, but the study of the literary evidences for College history, to be found mainly in the muniments, has devolved on Mr. R. L. Rickard, who has made himself a master of this interesting but tricky subject. Not many foundations have the good fortune to have so rich a treasure of medieval material as New College, nor the good fortune to have such a keen and skilful interpreter as Mr. Rickard. A reading of this book recalls old memories. The present writer was privileged to accompany the late Warden Spooner on Progress in the year 1923. He was much impressed by Spooner's technique in handling awkward requests, such as for reduction of rent; after smiling with patriarchal benevolence on the applicant he would inform him that the matter would have to be settled by the Fellows in Oxford. Woodward had the same approach, without the benevolence. In May 1666, at Colerne he had to deal with a copyholder, 'one Odam' who, contrary to covenant, had committed a major manorial offence—he had cut down some timber without consent, and so was liable to forfeit his copyhold. The Outrider insisted on forfeiture; Woodward was inclined to be more lenient, but did not like to show

it. 'When Odam yet entreated that he might pay for the trespasse and enjoy his lease I told him (to fright him the more) that I could say nothing unto him till I knew the mind of the company at home, and in the interim he was to expect' (i.e., to wait). So this reference back to 'the company at home' was as useful in the seventeenth century as it was to prove in the twentieth.

DAVID OGG.

Swindon Review. Swindon. 1s. 6d.

The subtitle, *A Local Miscellany of the Arts*, gives a good idea of the contents of *Swindon Review*—, which is published each December by the Libraries, Museum, Arts and Music Committee of the Swindon Borough Council. Number 8, 1956, contains among other good things two short stories, two articles inspired by Church monuments, and an article by R. J. Gates on Edward Thomas, the poet. Thomas' work, in its childlike simplicity of expression and depth of thought, would stand comparison with that of Walter de la Mare. The quotations printed here also provide a yardstick by which to measure the original poetry in the *Review*, some of which does not fall far short of Thomas' high standard.

The contributors to the *Review* are mainly, but not wholly, amateur: their inspiration is mainly, but not wholly, local and from the country rather than the town. Thus Liddington and Ridgeway feature in two of the poems, while the sad peacefulness of Marguerite Johansen's *The Green Abode*, and R. M. Hillman's stern *Sower*, belong to the countryside as a whole. With *Newton's Third Law*, by Paul Weir, we come to a change of mood. Here is a poem written, one supposes, as a direct result of the manufacture of single-seater Swift jet aircraft at Swindon. As with the poetry, so with the illustrations. There is the familiar pattern of tree trunks, and the conventional homestead, but the editors are to be congratulated on having selected the industrial *Power and Beauty*, the jagged *Swindon Skyline*, and the drawing of the Pressed Steel Factory (whose medium, incidentally, is not given). Even the ugliest industrial scenes often make fine black and white photographs, machinery has its artistic moments, and steel scaffolding makes a harmonious pattern against the sky. Can Swindon, which is surrounded by beautiful countryside, and which has already given a lead to other towns by producing the *Review*, go further, and uncover the artistic merits of industrial landscape and workshop interiors!

The *Review* is well printed on good paper, and every page reveals the care with which the editors have arranged their material and read their proofs. At 1s. 6d. it is a bargain.

J. M. PREST.

The Place Names of Cricklade by T. R. Thomson. O.U.P., 1957. Pp. 8. 1s.

Dr. Thomson continues his good work on the History of Cricklade. This well-produced pamphlet of some 300 place-names must be the result of years of careful compilation. It is arranged in the form of an eight-page index and may be considered as an extension of the material already to be found in the *Place Names of Wiltshire*. The information is set out with enough chronological apparatus to satisfy the antiquarian; in particular a symbol is used to denote property named after its former owners. This should prove a boon to those who seek to avoid the fancy derivations so much beloved by the amateur of previous generations.

E. G. H. KEMPSON.

OBITUARIES

DR. J. F. S. STONE. The sudden death of Dr. J. F. S. Stone in June, 1957, was a major loss to British archaeology, and to that of Wiltshire in particular. For twenty-five years he had been one of the most vigorous and active field archaeologists working in the county, but with a reputation which reached far beyond its boundaries.

Stone was a Somerset man, educated at Monkton Combe and trained as a scientist and chemist at Oxford, who late in the 1920's came to work in what are now the Ministry of Supply's research laboratories at Porton. He lived first at Ford, moving to Winterbourne Gunner shortly after, and began his archaeological work in that immediate region. His excavations in the flint mines and the adjacent Beaker period settlement on Easton Down, carried out and published in this *Magazine* when he was in his very early thirties, immediately established him as a field worker of outstanding capability. In these publications, as in all his work, one saw an original mind trained in scientific disciplines tackling archaeological problems with elegance and precision, and presenting the results with economy and clarity, aided by his talent as a draughtsman.

The bibliography which follows this memoir shows clearly enough how from 1930 onwards such spare time as a busy scientist and administrator could command was increasingly devoted to excavations in South Wiltshire, and their prompt publication. Having contributed in a most notable degree to our understanding of the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age flint mining in Wiltshire, he turned his attention to what was to be perhaps his most important contribution in the field archaeology of Wessex, the investigation of the Late Bronze farming settlements in the southern part of Salisbury Plain. At the end of the last century, Pitt-Rivers had first established the existence, in Cranborne Chase, of enclosures attributable to people of what was later defined as the Deverel-Rimbury culture, but it was Stone who first recognised the existence of analogous sites in Wiltshire, and by his brilliant excavations advanced our knowledge far beyond that provided by Pitt-Rivers' pioneering work. At Boscombe Down he was able to link such a Late Bronze Age cattle-enclosure to the ditch systems that define what appear to be large estates of grazing land, and gave us a new insight into the agrarian economy of the early first millennium B.C.; at Thorny Down he completely uncovered, week-end by week-end and virtually single-handed, the ground plan of a farmstead of the same period, with the post-holes of its timber-framed buildings.

His main interests, however, were in the archaeological problems of the Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age peoples in Wessex, within the first half of the second millennium B.C. Here his excavations of Bronze Age burials were to lead him to another line of research in prehistory, that of the imported beads of faience, of which more must be said at a later stage: the impetus to what became a protracted investigation spread over many years was provided by his discovery of such beads when excavating a small Middle Bronze Age cremation-cemetery on Easton Down. But his field-work had also led to the excavation of a very remarkable miniature 'Henge Monument' in Fargo Plantation near Stonehenge, and he became fascinated by the problems of such structures, not least Stonehenge itself, and the nearby Durrington Walls.

It was inevitable therefore that about 1949 he, the writer of this memoir, and Mr. R. J. C. Atkinson, should have joined forces as an informal committee to make a new attack on the Stonehenge problems, and that Stone continued to play a constant and important part in the subsequent work which was carried out by the Department of Prehistoric Archaeology in the University of Edinburgh and the Ministry of Works on the site of Stonehenge and its ancillary monuments. The definite monograph on Stonehenge, embodying all the results from old and new excavations, which will be published by the Society of Antiquaries was to be a tripartite work, and Stone's contribution, already massive when brought to a close by his death, will be a posthumous tribute to his research in this field.

From the study of the manufacture of flint axes at the Easton Down mines, Stone turned naturally enough to a parallel phenomenon, the use of axe-blades of igneous rocks in south-west England. He took over, after the war, the Secretaryship of the Sub-Committee of the South-Western Group of Museums on the petrological identification of Stone Axes, and worked indefatigably on a task which was both tedious and laborious, but productive of some of the most important results bearing on Neolithic trade in Britain that post-war research has produced.

Stone's most significant piece of research, other than that conducted in the field, was however his study of the questions raised by the presence, during the Bronze Age, both in the British Isles and in Continental Europe, of beads and other ornaments of faience, a substance of complex composition, invented and manufactured in the Ancient Orient. With the late Horace Beck, he published in 1936 the first systematic treatment of the British material, in a paper which is a landmark in the literature of British prehistory. He continued the study, widening his scope until he was taking account of the Continental and ultimately the Oriental evidence as well, and just before his death published a definitive paper discussing the problems on an Old World basis. He left, too, the text and illustrations of a book summarising his Wessex researches to be published in 1958 under the title of *Wessex Before the Celts*.

The amateur in British archaeology has received, from time to time, unmerited blame and unmerited praise. The

word itself is unfortunate: the difference between the so-called amateur and the so-called professional in archaeology is not one of status, but of standards. If the spare-time archaeologist carries out his work to the standards of professional competence, the distinction ceases to exist. Stone was perhaps the most outstanding 'amateur' of his generation whose work was throughout of a quality consistent with the highest requirements of modern archaeological disciplines, his status as a prehistorian recognised in this country and abroad. To achieve such a position is no easy task, and it is characteristic of the man that he treated the situation with disarming modesty and humour.

It is impossible for the writer to end this memoir on an impersonal note. A close friendship over a quarter-century forges stronger bonds than a share in a common field of study, and one remembers the man himself first, the fellow-scholar and research colleague second. One remembers 'Marcus'—that absurd nickname we all used with such affection—and his wife, unobtrusively but constantly sharing in and contributing to his life and work, remembers not only the archaeological talk, but the alert and vivid approach he brought to any intellectual problem, the lucid sanity and unassuming wisdom he showed in human affairs, the keen sense of the ridiculous and the balanced view.

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OSBERT GUY STANHOPE CRAWFORD, C.B.E., LITT.D., F.S.A., died on Nov. 28th, 1957, aged 71. Son of Judge C. E. G. Crawford, of the Indian High Court, he was educated at Marlborough and Keble College, Oxford. Though he did not fit happily into the curriculum of a public school he acquired at Marlborough the interest in field archaeology which was to be the mainspring of his career and which led him at Oxford to switch from Classics to the Geography Diploma course. About this time he made the acquaintance of H. J. E. Peake, with whom he excavated a disc barrow at Botley Wood near Grafton in 1910, and who further encouraged his archaeological bent. There were few openings then in this field, but he secured a post as assistant to Reisner in excavations in the Sudan. Joining the Army in 1914, he transferred to the R.F.C., being shot down and taken prisoner in 1918.

In 1920 he was appointed first Archaeology Officer of the Ordnance Survey, a position admirably suited to him which he held until after the second World War. Here, in face of carping opposition, his independence and resolute character stood him in good stead; besides revising the inaccuracies of the previously published O.S. Sheets he introduced a Map of Roman Britain and other period maps. His flying experience as an observer in the war was now put to good account. In 1923 a paper read to the Royal Geographical Society, later published under the title *Air Survey and Archaeology*, launched a new line of study which was to be of the utmost importance. Many of the photographs used were taken by R.A.F. aeroplanes flown on sorties from Old Sarum at his initiative. This publication was the forerunner of a sumptuous volume *Wessex from the Air* (1928), which he compiled with Mr. A. Keiller, who had been inspired by the earlier work to finance the air reconnaissance of a large number of sites. These productions added enormously to the knowledge of many familiar sites, besides revealing others, such as the Early Iron Age farm at Woodbury which was later to be the scene of a classic excavation under Professor Bersu. Air photography played its part too in leading Crawford to distinguish between the Celtic field system with its chequered pattern and the long strips of Saxon cultivation methods. His project of mapping the Celtic fields of Salisbury Plain was cut short by the second World War, when

only the Old Sarum sheet had been issued. None more than he deplored their wholesale destruction through the ploughing of ever larger acreages of downland, and he succeeded in getting field systems accepted for scheduling as ancient monuments, thus saving some at least from being wiped out.

In 1927 he founded the quarterly *Antiquity*, which he edited till his death. Primarily devoted to field archaeology the world over, this filled a gap. He travelled widely in his spare time in N. Africa and elsewhere, and his own contributions were frequently based on his acute observation of primitive tribes whom he had visited. His activities in these varied spheres of work earned him an international reputation. To him is largely due the development of the distribution map as an aid to prehistoric research. He also, to quote Stuary Piggott, 'constructed, out of the old and honourable tradition going back to Aubrey and Stukeley, a new discipline of field-archaeology, concerned with the accurate record and informal interpretation of the ancient monuments of the countryside; chambered tomb or medieval park boundary, strip lynchets or Roman roads'.

Other published works were *Man and His Past, Long Barrows of the Cotswolds* (1925), *Archaeology in the Field* (1953), his autobiography *Said and Done* (1955), and the *Eye Goddess* (1957).

For 20 years from 1919 he served on the committee of this Society. His contributions to W.A.M. included *The Anglo-Saxon Bounds of Bedwyn and Burbage* (June, 1921), *Field Work round Avebury* (Dec., 1922), and *The East End of Wansdyke* (Dec., 1953).

Obit.: *Times*, Nov. 30th, 1957.

DR. WALTER BYRON MAURICE, M.B.E., of Lloran House, Marlborough, died on Sept. 13th, 1956, aged 84. Fifth son and last surviving member of the family of thirteen of Dr. J. B. Maurice, he was educated at Marlborough and qualified as a doctor in 1895. After serving as a naval surgeon 1897—1905 he joined the family practice at Marlborough, which he kept on for 50 years, and until 1947 was on the staff of Savernake Hospital and medical officer of the Children's Convalescent Hospital as he had been from its inception. For his work in charge of the local V.A.D. Hospital in the 1914—18 War he was awarded the M.B.E. He took an active part in public affairs and was regarded with universal respect and affection. For some years on the town council, he was elected Mayor in 1912; he sat on the County Bench 1917—47, for many years as vice-chairman, and was long a Governor of Marlborough Grammar School. Outside his medical work his greatest interest lay in scouting; taking over the local troop in 1912 he attended summer camps for nearly 40 years and was County Commissioner 1927—34. In 1929 he received the Silver Wolf, the highest honour of the Scouting Movement. Apart from this he did a great deal for the youth of the town and helped many boys to join the training ship *Arethusa*. He married in 1911 Caroline Edith Tosswill, who survives him with two sons, both carrying on the family practice started in 1792.

Obit.: *Marlborough Times*, Sept. 21st, 1956.

MAJOR SAMUEL FRANK ALDERSON ARCHER, O.B.E., died at Castle Eaton on Feb. 11th, 1957, aged 85. As Capt. Alderson, a regular officer in the R.A., he inherited from his uncle, Lt.-Col. D. Archer, considerable estates in N. Wilts in 1912 and left the Army to manage them, assuming the family name of Archer. Recalled in 1914 he did garrison duty in the Channel Islands. When the war ended he settled permanently in Castle Eaton. He was a keen sportsman, took an active interest in the life of the village and was held in the highest esteem. He leaves one son.

Obit.: *Wilts and Glos. Standard*, Feb. 16th, 1957.

B. J. WALLIS, F.S.A., died on Feb. 15th, 1957, aged 56. Educated at St. Lawrence Coll., Ramsgate and Merton College Oxford, he was for many years a master at Epsom. He put in much work in Wiltshire in the preparation of the sixteen 6in. O.S. sheets illustrating the bounds of Brokenborough, and in field work on the bounds of Norton as given in K.C.D. 355. He also gave valuable advice and assistance on the determination of the Walls of Cricklade during the recent years of excavation.

Obit.: *Times*, Feb. 25th, 1957.

REV. BERTRAM L. LAMPLUGH, died at Littleton Drew on April 29th, 1957, aged 79. He was ordained at Canterbury in 1916, later holding curacies at Maidstone, Mayfield, Taunton and Wellow before going to Malmesbury as curate at the Abbey Church in 1934. In 1944 he was appointed Rector of Littleton Drew and held the living till his death. He was deeply interested in church architecture, and many will recall with pleasure his admirable talk on Malmesbury Abbey when it was visited by this Society in 1951.

Obit.: *Wiltshire News*, May 3rd, 1957.

REV. CANON ARTHUR FREDERICK SMETHURST, PH.D., died on Sept. 15th, 1957, aged 53. Educated at Marlborough and the Imperial College of Science and Technology, he later trained for the priesthood at Westcott House, Cambridge. He was Rector of Compton Abbas (Dorset) 1938—40; Vicar of Market Lavington 1940—4; Rector of West Dean and East Grimstead 1944—9. On the death of Canon Quirk he became Residuary Canon at Salisbury; in 1953 he became

Chancellor of the Cathedral, relinquishing the appointment in 1956 to become Treasurer. From 1942—52 he was diocesan secretary for higher education; since 1946 editor of the *Chronicle of Convocation*, Synodical Secretary, and examining chaplain to the Bishop of Salisbury. In these duties he displayed wide knowledge without officiousness. In 1955 he published a book on the relation between modern science and Christian belief, on which he was particularly well qualified to write. He married, in 1935, Gwynyth Beatrice, daughter of G. N. Hallett.

Obits.: *Times*, Sept. 17th; *Wiltshire Gazette*, Sept. 19th, 1957.

MISS DOROTHY SCOTT BAKER died at Bath on Oct. 16th, 1957, aged 65. She came to Trowbridge as Assistant Education Officer for Wilts in 1934; and in the absence on service during the 1939—45 war of the Director of Education herself acted in that capacity. In December 1956 she was appointed Chief Education Officer, being the only woman in the country to hold such a position. She combined great administrative ability with charm of manner and was highly esteemed by all with whom she came in contact.

Obit.: *Wiltshire Gazette*, Oct. 17th, 1957.

MAJOR VALENTINE STEVEN BLAND, M.C., died at The Warren, Aldbourne on Nov. 9th, 1957, aged 70. Educated at Shrewsbury, he started farming in Norfolk and served with R.F.A. in 1914—18 War. On leaving the Army he was for eight years estate agent to Mr. James White at Foxhill, later farming on his own account at Foxhill and Aldbourne Warren. He bred pedigree Hampshire Down sheep, winning several championships, and also had a high reputation as a poultry farmer. For two years chairman of Wilts N.F.U., he also served on the Wilts War Agricultural Executive Committee. He took a prominent part in village affairs, having been chairman and secretary of Aldbourne British Legion and chairman of the Village Hall committee, and for many years represented Aldbourne on the County Council. He leaves a widow, two sons and a daughter.

Obit.: *Marlborough Times*, Nov. 15th, 1957.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1957

The Annual General Meeting of the Society took place at Lacock Abbey on September 21st, 1957. The President first expressed the Society's sense of loss in the deaths of Mr. C. W. Pugh and Mr. G. L. Peirson. He referred to Mr. Pugh's generous bequest of £250 to the Society.

He then mentioned the resignation of Mr. N. Thomas as Curator on his appointment to Birmingham and the appointment of Mr. K. Annable, the Assistant Curator, to take his place. He paid tribute to the excellent work done by Mr. Thomas while he had been with the Society,

The Society's finances, the President said, were not very strong and the Inland Revenue was still refusing to admit claims for refund of Income Tax under Covenant Schemes pending the issue of a case regarding this point in which the National Book League were a party.

The Magazine was now, the President continued, on a sound basis and the Lecture Hall reasonably well equipped. Excursions had been well attended and popular; Mr. Meyrick and Mr. Ross were to be congratulated on their success. The President believed that that Society now had a very efficient set of officers and that its affairs should continue to run smoothly.

He concluded by warmly thanking Miss Talbot and Col. and Mrs. Bennett Brown for putting the Abbey at the Society's disposal.

The Society's officers then made their reports. Those concerning the Natural History Section, the Museum, the Magazine and the Records Branch are covered in the various notes by the officers responsible elsewhere in this issue. An account of Summer Excursions and the Treasurer's and Librarian's reports are reproduced below.

E. E. SABBen-CLARE.

SUMMER EXCURSIONS, 1956

On June 2nd a visit to Bristol drew a rather sparse attendance. This was the more regrettable, as a most interesting and varied tour had been devised. In the morning Dr. R. Perry acted as guide on a visit to many of Clifton's noted architectural features and in the afternoon led a party round the old part of the city; on each occasion his exposition won universal appreciation from his audience. For the others the morning was spent seeing St. Mary Redcliffe, the Cathedral and the Mayor's Chapel; later they went to the Folk Museum at Blaise Castle with its large collection of bygones. Lunch was taken at Bright's Hotel and tea at the City Museum, which had on view as a special feature the Lillian Lunn exhibition of historical figures. To Mr. Harry Ross goes the credit for working out the whole programme to a well-planned timetable.

The excursion of July 4th was taken up till tea with a tour of Salisbury. St. Thomas' Church, with its great Doom painting, was the starting point. After a preliminary welcome by the Vicar (Rev. P. J. Hayes), Mr. Hugh Braun dealt expertly with the architecture. Next to be visited were the Hall of John Halle, now the foyer of the Gaumont Cinema, and the Church House, now containing diocesan offices; to both these 15th century merchants' houses Mr. G. E. Chambers proved an admirable guide. Following lunch at the Assembly Rooms, the afternoon was given up to a tour of the Close. Many of those present must have wished for the opportunity to go over some of its houses, and on this occasion five were thrown open and the King's House, now a Diocesan College, was also visited. The houses, Mompesson House, Hemynsby, Nos. 68, 15 and 21, were well chosen for their varied styles and periods, and no better guides could have been found than Mrs. Dora Robertson, the authority on the history of the Close, and Major J. H. Jacob, Diocesan architect, who had between them planned the afternoon's programme down to the last detail. Thanks are due also to Major Jacobs and the other occupants of the houses visited for permission to go over them. After tea at the Red Lion Hotel the party, numbering about 150, left for Stonehenge to see the excavations in progress. Here Professor Stuart Piggott gave a most lucid account of the extremely complex develop-

ment of the monument as revealed by the excavations of recent years, the last that are likely to be undertaken there for a considerable time to come.

The last outing to Cricklade and district was held on August 18th and attracted an attendance approaching 150. A start was made at Inglesham Church, barely large enough to hold such a gathering. This is almost unique in having escaped the restorer's hand, and its many interesting features were admirably described by Mr. Oswald Brakspear. Crossing the county boundary to Fairford Church, we were lucky to have in the Vicar (Rev. E. Keble) an enthusiast who knew every detail of the architecture and in particular of its far-famed glass and brought the stories portrayed in it vividly to his hearers. The party then dispersed for lunch, to meet again at Down Ampney House by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Dennis. Dr. T. R. Thomson spoke on the history of this Elizabethan house, which was then open for inspection with its impressive gate-house. The adjacent church could also be visited albeit with discretion, as a wedding was about to take place. From here the road was taken to Cricklade where the rest of the day was spent. Dr. Thomson again acted as guide to St. Sampson's Church, where also a display of local finds and documents aroused keen interest. A lavish tea, prepared by Mrs. Thomson and the Women's Branch of the British Legion, which it was hoped to have in Dr. Thomson's garden, was served instead in the Village Hall, owing to a strong wind and the chance of rain. Afterwards Cricklade Museum was visited, and Group Captain G. M. Knocker and Dr. Thomson led parties to sections of the old town walls where the results of recent excavations were discussed. This brought a fitting finish to the day, which owed its success very largely to Dr. Thomson's unsparing work.

REPORT OF THE HONORARY TREASURER FOR 1956

Review of finances for the year ended 31st December, 1956. During the previous year the Trustees had made considerable changes in investment but during the year under review no such changes have been made. Due to the unfortunate economic situation the market value of the Society's investments show a steady decline in value (£17,597 for 1954; £16,045 for 1955; £13,825 for 1956). From these investments the income in 1954 was £539; 1955 £544; and 1956 £576, so at least the Society's income is still being maintained and even slightly increased despite the fall in the market value.

Income. Subscriptions in 1954 were £39; 1955 £562; and 1956 £595. Despite this it is becoming increasingly difficult to collect members' subscriptions and even now despite two additional reminders many members have not paid. It is hoped that with the regular issue of *W.A.M.* members will be more punctual. It is very necessary to have these without too much demand owing to the cost of collection. Income Tax remains about the same but there is in abeyance some £400 tax claimed in respect of covenanted subscriptions which the Inland Revenue have not yet agreed to repay owing to the dispute with the National Book League. It might well mean that the Society will not get this and that the question of covenants will need revision but the matter will receive the attention of your Committee. Admissions to the museum remain steady and the sale of books continues to be a source of income. We have been fortunate in receiving the very substantial support from the Wilts County Council which has enabled us to at least pay our way. We also received a very generous donation of £50 from Mr. Sandell to help towards the Natural History Room. The overall Income is as you will see very similar to last year.

Expenditure. With the issue of *Magazine* CCIII and the payment on account of CCIV this item shows an increase. With the regular issue of the *Magazine* this item should stabilise itself. Salaries show a slight increase accounted for by increases made to your Curator and his Assistant. The Committee continue the policy of spending a certain amount on renovations and during the year under review some £171 was

spent. Some chairs have been purchased for the Lecture Hall but the response to this appeal was not at all satisfactory and more equipment for the Lecture Hall could be provided if the funds were available. The other items are essential to the running of the Society and remain very similar to the previous year.

From the remaining accounts you will see that your Committee spent a considerable amount of capital on Repairs to the Society's premises, it being the policy of the Committee to put the buildings in first class repair over a period of years. It will be appreciated that these buildings were by necessity neglected over a period and the Committee are now only beginning to reach the end of capital expenditure. To sum up, income must be maintained. Members can help by paying promptly and recruiting more members. We are grateful to the County Council for their continued support, without which we should be in some difficulty. Your Committee whilst keeping a close eye on expenditure will continue their policy in making the Museum worthy of the Society and available to as many people as possible at a very modest entrance fee.

REPORT OF THE HONORARY LIBRARIAN FOR 1956

The Society's Library continued to be in constant use throughout 1956. The number of enquiries made by visitors was 386, while postal ones came to 95 making a total of 481. One of the privileges of membership of this society is free use of the Library, and members availed themselves of this on 256 occasions. Of the remainder, 50 visits by non-members resulted in a total receipt of £4 11s. od., while 62 students as well as members of 18 branches of the Women's Institute were admitted free. We admit students free as part of our policy to encourage education in Wilts, and it is gratifying to be able to provide assistance to so many of them in writing their theses. The reference to the Women's Institute relates to a most interesting competition run during 1956 in which each village branch had to make a scrap book of information about its own parish. Many of the members of the Society were interested in this and one of the Committee, Mr. H. Ross, was the judge. Eighteen Branches used the Library, some of them on several occasions, and although we did not charge them, the donation box in the Museum benefited considerably.

The Librarian was privileged to see the finished scrap books, which were exhibited at the Spring Conference in the Town Hall, Devizes, and he is happy to be able to say that the members of the Market Lavington Institute have deposited their book on loan in the Society's Library.

In addition to the above activities the normal routines of the Library have been carried on. The collection of newspaper cuttings has been continued although we are held up by lack of a suitable album large enough to take them. It would appear that the only answer to this problem is to have one made, but the Library fund cannot at the moment afford this.

Accessions. During the past year the Library has received 67 new items, of which 18 were bought at a cost of £24 3s. 6d. They are listed periodically in *W.A.M.* but some of them deserve special mention. Certain books of reference have been purchased to assist the Curator in his day to day work of identifying objects brought into the museum. These books include works on Iron and Brass Implements, Coins, Pottery and Porcelain. Another acquisition is the new authoritative work on the Preservation of Works of Art by H. J. Plenderleath. Various collections of papers and memoranda have been deposited here, and whilst the task of going through them entails no little time and labour, the results are often rewarding. Mr. S. Soames has deposited on permanent loan an interesting collection of notes on the history of Mildenhall made by the late Reverend C. Soames. Other Collections include those from the Reverend R. G. Bartelot and Miss Alice Dryden, also a set of papers relating to Devizes Elections from Miss Gillman and Mrs. Chester. A Chambers Encyclopedia of 1788 has been presented by Mrs. M. E. Ferris through Mr. Ernest Rendell. Mr. E. H. Lane Poole deposited the Overseers Accounts for the Parish of Martin for 1792-1804 and 1813-1820. Martin was at that time part of Wilts.

Mr. Halcomb has been a constant benefactor to the Library and amongst his donations in 1956 were 'Notes on the Contents of Rowde Parish Chest', and four photostat copies of interesting maps of Rowde. Mr. E. R. Pole has added to his previous gifts some papers and photographs relating to Ramsbury. During the year a History of Chicklade and Pertwood was published and the authoress, Miss E. R. Barty, presented a copy. This contains a sketch of one of the Buckler drawings. Perhaps the most handsome accession during 1956 was a fine set of 13 Wiltshire books which belonged to the late Dr. G. H. Waylen and were given by Mrs. Waylen. Mr. L. G. Dibben added to our collection of transcripts of Parish Registers by presenting those of Aldbourne, and Mr. T. W. Tilley of Potterne has given his collected Items of Potterne History, a fascinating volume containing much little known information about the village. Natural History is not well represented in our Library, nor for that matter do many Natural Historians use it, but a welcome addition is a transcript of the Ornithological Notes made by the Reverend G. T. Marsh who was vicar of Sutton Benger in the thirties and forties of the last century. Dr. Thomson has generously presented to the Society a map he has constructed of the boundaries of the Saxon and Domesday Manors in N. E. Wilts. He also bore the cost of framing it.

In recent years the Society has a steady income from the sale of publications, but this must unfortunately become less in the near future. There are no copies left for sale of All Cannings Cross or of the Catalogue to the Devizes Museum: and the Introduction to the Archaeology of Wilts, which we sell by arrangement with the publishers Messrs. Woodward, is now down to a few copies. On the other side we have a stock of Braden Forest presented by Dr. Thomson.

Our collection of magazines has been kept in order and we have arranged an exchange with the Bristol University Speleological Society which publishes in its magazine many articles of archaeological interest. A gap has been filled in the run of the Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and this is now complete.

I mentioned last year that I was trying to catalogue the maps of Wilts possessed by the Society. These are scattered in 22 different volumes, and I have succeeded in tracking down, identifying and dating most of them. Their whereabouts are now entered in a special copy of *W.A.M.* No. 116 which contains T. Chubb's list of the Maps of Wilts.

I cannot finish this account of the work of the Library during the past year without reference to the late Mr. C. W. Pugh. Mr. Pugh became your Librarian in July, 1933 and served the Society faithfully in that office to within a few weeks of his death. His quiet competence and great knowledge made him an ideal man for the post. The Card Index and the Centenary History are two of the many memorials of his industry which remain. I was fortunate enough to receive my earliest education at school under Mr. Pugh and I should like to end by saying that it makes me feel both proud and humble when I remember that he also spent the last year of his life in training me to follow him as the Society's Librarian.

R. E. SANDELL.

ACCESSIONS TO THE WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY'S LIBRARY (AT THE MUSEUM, DEVIZES) BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1956 AND DECEMBER 1957

Donors	BOOKS
Bought.	English Place-Name Elements. A. H. Smith. Cambridge University Press. 1956.
Bought.	The Conservation of Antiquities and Works of Art. H. J. Plenderleith. Oxford University Press. 1956.
Bought.	Inventory of British Coin Hoards. J. D. Thompson. Royal Numismatic Society. 1956.
Bought.	The Plaisted Family of North Wilts. A. H. Plaisted. Westminster Publishing Company. 1939.
	(An account of the Plaisted Family who settled at Castle Combe, Mildenhall and Chilton Foliat.)

- Donors*
- Bought. The Great Chartulary of Glastonbury Volume III. Edited by Dom. Aelred Watkin. Somerset Record Society. 1956.
This is the third and final volume of the transcription of the Chartulary of Glastonbury Abbey, which is in the Library of the Marquess of Bath at Longleat. Volume III deals with estates in the following Wiltshire parishes Badbury, Christian Malford, Grittleton, Idmiston, Kington Langley, Kington St. Michael, Nettleton, Winterbourne Monkton. It also contains the index to the three volumes.
- Bought. Life at Fonthill. Edited by Boyd Alexander. Hart-Davis. 1957.
- Bought. The Flora of Wilts. J. D. Grose. T. Buncle & Co., 1957.
This is the first county flora of Wilts since Preston's work published in 1888. There are very comprehensive Plant Records ranging over more than 1,000 years and a supplement on the vegetation of the county with special reference to distribution and ecology.
- Bought. The West of England Cloth Industry. K. G. Ponting. Macdonald. 1957.
- Institute of Historical Research. Victoria County History of Wiltshire, Volume V. Edited by R. B. Pugh and Elizabeth Crittall. Oxford University Press. 1957.
The volume on the administrative and parliamentary history of the County.
- Institute of Historical Research. Victoria County History of Wiltshire, Volume I, Part I. Edited by R. B. Pugh and Elizabeth Crittall. Oxford University Press. 1957
The Archaeological Gazeteer. Contains also an article on the Geology of Wilts.
- Publishers,
Phoenix House Ltd. Bones for the Archaeologist I. W. Cornwall. 1956.
- J. Pole and E. R. Pole. Pole's Book. Privately printed. 1954. A life of Sir Felix Pole of Bedwyn.
- Dr. T. R. Thomson. Catalogue of British Family Histories. Compiled by T. R. Thomson. Beck. 1935.
- Dr. T. R. Thomson. Index to Pedigrees in Herald's Visitations. G. W. Marshall. Hardwicke. 1866.
- Publishers,
Hamish Hamilton. Stonehenge. R. J. C. Atkinson. 1956.
- Miss F. M. Isborn. 'These maintain the city'. Mary Wiltshire.
- Author. Philip Massinger. Dr. T. A. Dunn. 1957. Thomas Nelson & Sons.
Philip Massinger the playwright was born in Salisbury in 1583. His father held a position of authority in the household of the Earl of Pembroke.
- R. Sandell. British Regional Geology Handbooks for The Hampshire Basin and Bristol and Gloucester Districts. H.M.S.O. 1948.
- PAMPHLETS.
- Author. A Wiltshire Family of Clothiers; George and Hester Wansey, 1683-1714. Miss J. de L. Mann. Economic History Review, Vol. ix, No.2.
This article written by a noted authority on the Wiltshire Cloth Trade deals with the fortunes of the Wansey family of Warminster.
- Author. Some Notes on the History of Fovant. Dr. R. C. C. Clay, F.S.A.
The author has spent over 30 years in the collection of these full and detailed notes and has presented a typescript copy to the Society.
- E. R. Pole. Little Bedwyn School Centenary, 1854-1954.
- F. E. Brinkworth. Nonconformity in Malmesbury. G. L. Jenkins. 1895.
- F. E. Brinkworth. Souvenir of the 100th anniversary of the building of Christian Malford Congregational Church. G. L. Jenkins. 1936.
- Rev. K. S. Rich. Additional transcripts of the Parish Registers of Hilmarton. 1600-1640.
- R. W. H. Willoughby. Transcript of Parish Registers of Berwick St. James.
- H. Ross. Transcript of Ramsbury Enclosure Award 1727.
- J. W. Gale. History of Marlborough Congregational Church. 1957.
- T. J. Saunders. Railways to Devizes. Articles from Railway Magazine October 1957 containing 6 illustrations and a map.
- T. R. Gee. Catalogue of Local History Exhibition at Pewsey, September 9-18th, 1957.

- Donors*
- National Trust. On loan. MSS., ETC.
Collection of papers, note books, memoranda, etc. from the Stourhead archives, deposited on loan by the National Trust.
Many of the papers included in this collection are in the handwriting of Sir Richard Colt Hoare and are to do with the publication of 'Modern Wilts.' They are arranged in bundles according to the different Hundreds and in addition there are many of the original bills from the printers and engravers.
- Donor
There are also a number of note books and papers connected with his journeys both in this country and abroad.
- Sir Anthony Rumbold.
On loan. A collection of papers and notes made by the late Lt.-Col. J. Bennett-Stanford of Pyt House, Tisbury. Placed on loan by Sir Anthony Rumbold of Hatch House, Tisbury.
This voluminous collection contains not only very full notes on the Bennett family of Pyt House and Norton Bavant, but also on the Wiltshire families connected with them.
Included are manuscript histories of the following parishes: Berwick St. John, Boyton, Fonthill, Knoyle Episcopi and Sedgell and notes on Semley and Alvediston. Much of the information was collected and written up by the Reverend W. Goodchild, Rector of Berwick St. John.
- Women's Institutes.
On loan. Scrap books of Village History made for the competition organised by the Women's Institutes.
The following branches have deposited their scrap books on loan:—
Kennett Valley, Market Lavington, Semley.

PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

- Dr. T. R. Thomson. Two air photographs of sites at Latton and Highworth.
- Mrs. Brettle Jolands. Watercolour of the tower near Longleat, by the Reverend E. H. Evans.
- J. Smith. Map of Roundway Park, surveyed and drawn by J. Smith in 1957.
- Lt.-Col. R. H. Cunnington. Original Crocker drawing of Huish Hill earthworks.
Plans of Woodhenge.
Original letter from J. A. Wanklyn to Alfred Cunnington about Devizes water supply.
- L. V. Grinsell. Two drawings; (i) a potsherd from Winterbourne Stoke. (ii) a spearhead from Winter-slow.

CURATOR'S REPORT, 1956-57.

RESIGNATION OF CURATOR.

In August 1957 the Society Committee accepted with sincere regret the resignation of Mr. Nicholas Thomas, Curator of the Museum, who left on September 1st to take up the post of Assistant Keeper, Department of Archaeology, at the Birmingham City Museum. Mr. F. K. Annabie was appointed Curator in his place, and the post of Assistant Curator remains vacant.

At the beginning of his curatorship in 1952 Mr. Thomas set to work on a scheme for the complete re-organisation and re-display of the Society's museum collections, which for many years have lain neglected. Now, as he leaves us, three new permanent display rooms, a picture gallery, and a Lecture Hall are available to the public, and though much remains to be done before the reorganisation is complete, it is largely due to his energy and flair for arrangement that this museum now holds a high reputation throughout the south-west for the excellence of the display of its collections. To his successor he has left the difficult task of maintaining a similar high standard.

To his abilities as museum curator he has also added whilst at Devizes those of a widely known lecturer and first-rate excavator, and in connection with the latter, we look forward to the full report of his three seasons excavations on the Bronze Age barrow cemetery at Snail Down, near Everleigh. It should be a notable addition to our knowledge of the period.

We cannot regretfully let him go without congratulating him on his achievements and wishing him every success at his new post.

CARNEGIE GRANT

It will be recalled that in June, 1956, the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust decided to make a grant of £1,500 towards the construction of new display cases within the proposed new Bronze Age room situated on the first floor of the Museum. In making the grant, consideration was paid to the estimates of cost provided by Messrs. Edmonds & Co., Birmingham, who generously prepared designs for the showcases. Specification for this work was put out and the tender of W. S. Hurst & Co., museum fittings specialists of Cheltenham, was finally accepted.

In January delivery of prefabricated showcases was made and the work of installation was carried out during the early part of the year by workmen of Messrs. Hurst & Co. Each case is internally lit, is dust-proof, and has considerable depth, thus giving plenty of scope for diversity of display. Storage space is also available beneath the cases and it is intended to make this room an entity where displayed and stored material will be immediately available to the serious student.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We have once again received valuable voluntary help from members and friends over the past year. One task of particular importance has been the listing of every individual specimen from our large geological collection, necessitated by the transfer of this material from its former home on the first floor of the Museum to the new Natural History room on the ground floor. This has entailed the numbering of every fossil, and over 2,000 entries on a separate ledger. Much of the work was done by voluntary labour and the Curator is indebted to the following for their efforts:—

Miss Beatrice Gillam, Mrs. Fisher, Miss Caroline Peall, Messrs. David and Paul Pickering, and Mr. R. Sandell, our Hon. Librarian. Mr. Paul Pickering is also doing a further valuable job in sorting out from our mass of geology a comprehensive students collection. The residue of the geology, when display and student material has been arranged, will finally be stored in the museum cellars.

Thanks are also due to Mr. Graham Connah for his work on the Bronze Age grave groups, to Miss Stopford Beale for valuable help just before going into residence at Bristol University, and to Mr. N. U. Grudgings, who in addition to supplying us with laboratory supplies free of charge, has most generously carried out a good deal of photography within the Museum, once again at his own expense. Our library has been particularly enriched by the donation of a number of his brilliant flower photographs.

In all matters concerning the Museum the Curator is grateful to Miss Beatrice Gillam (Natural History Representative) and Mr. R. Sandell who consistently give him support. To Mrs. Cole our caretaker we are also grateful for another year of devoted service. Not least amongst our exhibits is her weekly provision of flowers.

MUSEUM ACTIVITIES, 1957.

Repairs to Fabric

By the end of 1956 the major part of the Society's substantial programme of repairs and alterations to the Museum fabric was completed. During August of 1957 however, it was discovered that the roof pediment on the front of the Museum building had become unsafe, and a consequent danger to pedestrians. Speedy repair was imperative, and the work was carried out in the same month by Messrs. J. J. Stevens of Devizes.

It has long been the Committee's intention to re-decorate the Museum exterior, but so far it has not been possible to meet the heavy cost of such a commitment. Nevertheless a compromise was made this year when all the windows and doors of the front of the building were repainted. Messrs. King of Market Lavington were the decorators and a colour scheme of black and off-white was chosen.

The Museum building continues to receive its regular annual inspection by Mr. D. A. S. Webster, Hon. Architect to the Society, to whom we are greatly indebted for valuable assistance.

Bronze Age Room (Plan, on p. 177 *W.A.M.*, No. CCIII, room 4).

Since the installation of the prefabricated showcases the Bronze Age room has been decorated in an attractive two colour scheme of pale grey and lemon by Messrs. F. Rendell & Sons Ltd., Devizes. Since then, the entire Bronze Age material with the exception of skeletal material has been moved from the attics into the storage cupboards below the display windows. Suitable display mounts have also been constructed inside the cases save for two large cases in which dioramas will be built illustrating Wiltshire barrow groups and a late Bronze Age farmstead site. A start has been made in displaying finds from some of the more spectacular of our grave groups, the so-called royal graves of the Wessex Culture.

It should perhaps be emphasised that the arrangement of this room may take some time, first because there is now only a single curator, and secondly, because the outstanding nature of our Bronze Age collections demands that every effort be put into the display worthy of the material. Nevertheless, it is hoped that the room will be completed by the end of 1958.

Natural History Room (Plan, p. 177 *W.A.M.* No. CCIII, room 8).

Following the completion of the bird display, considerable progress has been made in providing for the display of our very remarkable geological material. The eastern side of the room has now been divided up into three bays designed to accommodate fossils illustrating the geological formations of the county. Space has again been allotted beneath the display windows for storage, and eventually a separate students' collection will be available on request within the room. A further feature will be a relief map of the county constructed on a scale of 1 in. to the mile, intended to illustrate once again the geological structure of Wiltshire. Work has already begun on this map which will be built up in quarter inch plywood and finally surfaced with a plaster covering before being painted in accordance with the Geological Survey colourings. Our collections of Wiltshire *lepidoptera* and *mollusca* will also be on display at the far end of the room.

High praise must go to Mr. A. Cole who has carried out the whole of the constructional work here, making economic use of the old Stourhead cases. When completed, this room will undoubtedly be one of the most attractive in the Museum.

Museum Laboratories.

The electrolytic tanks used in cleaning iron and bronze objects have now been fitted with stainless steel electrodes to replace the graphite types which had become extremely worn. This is a definite improvement since the steel coil will last almost indefinitely.

A small electrically driven buffing machine has also been purchased to replace the old foot-driven polisher so generously given by Mr. R. J. C. Atkinson of Edinburgh University. This will shortly be fitted into the metal cleaning laboratory.

Further progress has been made in cleaning a number of iron objects mainly from our little noticed but fine collection of Roman tools from the settlement sites of Stockton and Cold Kitchen Hill. We look forward to the time when these most interesting objects will be seen to better advantage than at present obtains in the old Roman room. More pottery has also been restored; this includes a fine tripartite Middle Bronze Age urn, Iron Age and Roman-British vessels, and a remarkable circular dish-cover with strap-handle of medieval date, all of which have been assembled and restored for Salisbury Museum. Sincere thanks are due to Mr. Harold Timperley for his help in pottery restoration during this year.

Museum Catalogue.

The task of cataloguing every museum exhibit has also been going forward. Three sections of this comprehensive work are now largely complete, namely the Bronze Age, Saxon and Recent History periods.

Where possible and necessary rough scale drawings of each object have been made and included with details on the catalogue forms. In the case of our more important Bronze Age finds, actual photographs taken by the British Museum have been included in the catalogue. This catalogue is incidentally being prepared in duplicate and duplicate copies of the above periods as far as they are completed have now been deposited at Lloyds Bank, Devizes for permanent custody, thus ensuring at least a full record of our collections in the event of their possible destruction by fire or other agencies.

Museum Publicity

The small series of experimental talks given by both Curators on each second Saturday of the month ended in February with a talk by F. K. Annable on his excavations at Mildenhall. An average of 15 adults and children attended each lecture for which a small additional charge was made. The talks which centred on the Prehistoric and Roman periods in Wiltshire were held in the Lecture Hall, being followed on occasion by a conducted tour of the relevant section of the Museum.

The display window in the entrance porch also continues in use as an inducement to passers-by to look inside the Museum; our latest display consists of two extremely interesting sculptural fragments and a fine bronze cockerel, all recent Roman finds from North Wiltshire.

Loans

A number of Schools have once again received temporary loans of duplicate material for teaching purposes. Loans were also made to the Bath Academy of Art for their exhibition entitled 'The Artist and the Nature of Things', and to Mr. T. R. Gee for the Pewsey Exhibition, held in September. A group of late Neolithic pottery from the latest West Kennet excavations has also been lent to the Birmingham City Museum for temporary display in their galleries. In February an exhibition of prehistoric pottery was held at Swindon Museum, which included a number of pots from the Museum, notably from the Early Iron Age site at All Cannings Cross.

Fieldwork

A final season's excavation was carried out under the direction of Mr. Nicholas Thomas this year at Snail Down, when more of the barrows of this important group were examined. An interim report of his findings appears in this issue. Now, with the completion of his work there we can look forward with keen anticipation to the appearance of his full report in this magazine.

A series of small weekend excavations were carried out by F. K. Annable on a reputed Romano-British kiln site in the Savernake Forest during May and June. This was by kind permission of the Rt. Honourable the Earl of Cardigan and the Forestry Commission. The dig resulted in the discovery of a single pottery kiln in good condition, with attendant pottery suggesting a date of end 1st to early 2nd century A.D. for the working period of the kiln. Its discovery was particularly satisfactory since nothing was previously known about the construction and methods of firing Romano-British kilns in Wiltshire. For their help during the dig sincere thanks are due to Mr. O. Meyrick and other Society members, to boys of Marlborough College and Marlborough Grammar School. To Marlborough College and Devizes Grammar School we are grateful for a generous loan of tools.

MUSEUM ATTENDANCES

School Parties in 1957.

Thirteen groups of schoolchildren visited the Museum and were given guided talks by one or other of the Curators. The total number of children in these groups, 345 in all, is a noticeable decrease as compared

with the 1956 totals of 560. Petrol rationing was however in force at the beginning of the year and continued until May; this may well account for the drop in attendance as the majority of schools have to travel to the Museum by coach. Travel difficulties may also account for the general decrease in museum visitors as seen below.

Museum Visitors:

1956		1957	
Jan.—March	340	Jan.—March	466
April—June	679	April—June	585
July—Sept.	1131	July—Sept.	1225
Oct.—Dec.	422	Oct.—Dec.	255
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals	2572	Totals	2531
	<hr/>		<hr/>

MUSEUM ACCESSIONS, 1957

The Museum continues to increase its collections either by outright gift, permanent loan, or purchase of objects. Amongst the more noteworthy of our acquisitions this year are Neolithic pottery from the latest excavations at the West Kennet Long barrow, and the finds from a Romano-British site at Nettleton on the Fosse Way, which included a particularly interesting sculptural fragment and a small bronze cockerel of excellent native Romano-British workmanship. We are not particularly rich in sculpture of the Roman period, and the Nettleton find is a welcome addition. The Museum was also recently offered four early British silver coins of the Dobunnic tribe found at Bury Wood Camp, near Colerne. These were purchased for the sum of nine pounds from Mr. Morrison, a farm worker at Colerne.¹ Our Early British coin section

¹ See Plate opposite p. 78 of this issue and Mr. Annable's note.

is now considerably implemented by the purchase of these pieces, all of them in fine condition. Needless to say, we are always ready to increase our collections with objects which possess some definite historical or archaeological connection with Wiltshire.

GIFTS:

Geology

Large iron pyrites nodule with crystal of gypsum embedded in its centre. Found on Tan Hill. L. G. Mitchell. 2/57/273.

Prehistoric

Stone shaft-hole hammer (Petrological Identification No. 977); a dark fine-grained sandstone. Market Lavington. Master Gordon Haywood. 2/57/271.

Flint axe, flaked but not polished. This is probably a Neolithic rough-out rather than anything earlier. Near Castle Copse, Great Bedwyn. A. H. Vernon. 2/57/272.

Sherds of Iron Age?A pottery. Found in the course of rescue work by the Ministry of Works. Battlesbury Camp. Ministry of Works, per Salisbury Museum. 3/57/277.

Sherds of Neolithic or Bronze Age pottery; one sherd, a possible rim, has grooved decoration. Also two sherds of flint-gritted ware, possibly Late Bronze Age. From ploughed-up soil in the area of an earth-work between Danes Bottom and South Down, 1 mile south-west of Kingston Deverill. Miss Sonia Chadwick. 4/57/279.

Blue-glass bead with white meander inlay. Possibly Iron Age or Romano-British. North Farm, Aldbourne. Mr. Cook. 6/57/283.

Part of upper half of a quernstone of sandstone, heavily embedded with quartz pebbles. Surface find inside the Iron Age hill-fort known as Bury Wood Camp, 2 miles north of Colerne. A. Shaw Mellor. 6/57/287.

Polished Stone axe, both faces heavily abraded; cutting end only of a polished stone axe, and three further possible polished stone axe fragments. (Petrological identification Nos. 550-554). All from neighbourhood of Box. A. Shaw Mellor. 8/57/294.

Pottery lug-handle of Neolithic A type and a white flint saw blade found on Windmill Hill, Avebury. A brown flint leaf-shaped arrowhead, found at Christian Malford. J. H. Tucker. 8/57/295.

Neolithic pottery of Windmill Hill and Peterborough type comprising the finds from excavations carried out on the West Kennet long barrow in 1955. Ministry of Works. 8/57/297.

Barbed and tanged white flint arrowhead of Early Bronze Age type. Surface find. Slaughterford. Master Richard Ashman. 9/57/298.

Roman

A small iron object and sherds of coarse and Samian wares found at Westbury. City Museum, Gloucester. 5/57/281.

Large series of iron objects, coarse and Samian wares, glass and tile fragments; also a fine bronze cockerel, and sculptured figures of Mercury and Rosmerta in oolitic limestone. Found during excavations at a supposed temple site carried out by the late W. C. Priestly. Bath City Museum. 5/57/280.

Bronze fragments, iron nails and an iron staple, coarse and Samian pottery. Colerne Park. A. Shaw Mellor. 6/57/285.

Small bronze bell, clapper missing. Found in a garden which is part of the site of the Roman villa at Box. A. Shaw Mellor. 6/57/286.

Pottery beaker of New Forest type. Longcroft Estate, Devizes. B. Wilkinson. 7/57/289.

Sherds of coarse grey and orange wares. Found during deep ploughing on Sugar Hill, North Farm, Aldbourne. Miss M. C. Foster. 7/57/290.

Sherds of thick, coarse grey/cream wares including a few bead rims, suggesting a 1st-century date. Found when a pit was dug on Cowcroft Farm, Aldbourne at a depth of approximately 6ft. Miss M. C. Foster. 7/57/291.

Two flint lathe tools used in the shale industry for turning armlets. Kimmeridge, Dorset. J. L. Guthrie. 9/57/300.

Two bronze coins (late 3rd and 4th cent.) coarse and Samian pottery and Bone fragments. Found when pits were being dug for telegraph poles on the site of the Roman settlement at Wanborough (*Durocornovium*). O. Meyrick. 10/57/301.

Head of female figure in oolitic limestone, probably belonging originally to a group. An incised cross is visible on the forehead. This head originally found on the Roman settlement at Easton Grey (Hoare's 'Mutuantonis') was thought to be lost. Major J. G. Wilder. 10/57/303.

Sherds of coarse orange and grey wares. Found during tree felling in Greenlands Wood, Great Cheverell. Mrs. Hooper. 12/57/306.

Medieval:

Iron nail 11¼ ins. long. Medieval or probably later. Found nailed on to a beam in Stratford-sub-Castle Church. Master B. Miles. 8/57/296.

Recent:

Iron table knife with wooden handle-plates and decorated brass strips down the edges of the handle. Found when the Lacock Town Bridge was being widened. Wilts County Council and Lacock School. 3/57/274.

Small bronze model of a parrot with wings half spread. Traces of red paint on the back of the body. Montechello Farm, Potterne. Probably 17th century. Miss N. Matthews. 1/57/266.

Two stone paint grinders with wooden handles attached. These two pieces may be some of the original equipment used when H. & G. Chivers began business about 1850. Messrs. H. & G. Chivers. 1/57/265.

Wine bin label from the cellars of William Cunnington & Sons, Wine Merchants, established 1836. R. Sandell. 1/57/267.

Framed cutting from the Illustrated London News showing the burning of the toll-gates on the Green, Devizes. Mrs. J. Offa. 1/57/269.

Two photographs of B. H. and M. E. Cunnington, framed and mounted. Col. R. H. Cunnington. 2/57/270.

Cast-iron baker's lamp, inscribed 'Carron, No. 1. & B.L.' Used for lighting the interior of large bakers' ovens to see how the baking was progressing. Found in a gravel pit in Wilts. 19th cent. R. T. Christopher. 3/57/275.

Pin-fire revolver, marked ^E_{LG} P. A. Smith. 3/57/276.

Glass bottle for feeding babies embossed with the name 'Nurse Margery's Feeder' c. 1900. Found in the cellar of a house in the Market Place, Devizes. Mrs. K. Jones. 5/57/282.

Set of iron cluck sheep-bells given to the donor in Kent by a shepherd who had originally brought them from Wiltshire. Mrs. Lamb. 7/57/292.

'COUNTY' Fire Insurance Mark. Date c. 1807-10. Originally fixed on the front of the Pembroke Arms, Fovant. Messrs. Mallen & Co. 8/57/293.

Coins and Medals:

Four early British silver Dobunnic coins. Found by a labourer while digging in North Wood which flanks one side of the defences of Bury Wood Camp. H. Morrison. 6/57/288.

Gifts:

Canterbury Half-groat of Archbishop Warham (1503-1532) R. *Civitas Cantor*. WA beside shield. m.m. Cross Patonce. Found in the garden of Wedhampton Cottage, Devizes. Brigadier K. M. F. Hedges. 6/57/284.

A sixpence of Elizabeth I, dated 1601. m.m. 1. Found at Rowde, Miss F. M. Isborn. 9/57/299.

*Natural History:**Gifts:*

Skull of badger. (*Meles taxus*.) Found at Westbury. Mrs. Deverell. 4/57/278.

Skin of Water Rail. (*Rallus aquaticus*.) E. H. Jelly. 10/57/304. Stuffed specimen of Common Red-Shank (*Tringa totanus*.) City Museum, Bristol. 10/57/305.

On Loan:

Large collection of birds eggs, complete with cabinet, assembled by the owner's grandfather. W. R. Trumper. 10/57/302.

Lecture Hall Equipment:

Thirteen lantern slides of the West Kennet excavations. Department of Prehistoric Archaeology, Edinburgh University. 1/57/268.

ENGLISH FOLKLORE SURVEY

I have been asked by the English Folklore Survey carried out by London University to draw attention to their aims and their wish to recruit new assistants and correspondents. I reproduce accordingly below an extract from a pamphlet which they have sent me. Would anyone who is interested in acting as a collector or informant in the survey write direct to Mr. J. McN. Dodgson, English Folklore Survey, University College, Gower Street, London, W.C.1.—*Editor.*

‘ University College, London—A Survey of English Folklore.

A survey of English Folklore with its recording in an archive of folklore materials is being made by the English Department of University College London under the guidance of Professor A. H. Smith with the assistance of Mr. J. McN. Dodgson. The purpose of this note is to invite people who are interested in this aspect of English life and history to assist voluntarily in the collection of folklore materials in England, either as collectors or informants or both.

2. For the purposes of the present survey folklore may be defined as the study of the traditional elements in the life and customs of England and will therefore include many topics such as folk-tales, anecdotes, beliefs and superstitions, customs associated with a variety of circumstances and occasions in the life of the people, traditional plays, games, pastimes and amusements, and the like. But in this survey it is not intended to cover folk-song, folk-music and folk-dance, as these are already dealt with by the English Folk Dance and Song Society. Information about the traditional culture will be recorded and illustrated, but primarily as a background against which folklore may be properly examined. Similarly, dialect terminology will be recorded but it is hoped to pass relevant information on this to Professor H. Orton in Leeds for his dialect archive.

3. The two major sources of English folklore materials are
- (a) living people and
 - (b) literary and historical documents.

Both these sources are being used, but it will be obvious that the former, the ‘live’ material, is the one in most urgent need of collection and examination. During and after the Industrial Revolution in the nineteenth century with its great movements of population and the evolution of many great urban communities and in our own time with similar shifts of population as well as the creation of entirely fresh social conditions, none can doubt the oblivion into which much folklore has fallen or the urgency with which the remnants—often extensive remnants—must now be recorded. Some existing folklore is of course secondary material which in part owes its present existence to a revival of interest in folk-song and dance and in folk-custom. The literary material, especially that to be found in local histories since the eighteenth century or in the press, is a valuable supplement to the live material and often provides an effective control on it. Whilst the great urban areas cannot be neglected, there is little doubt that the best regions for the traditional folklore materials are the villages and smaller urban areas of rural England.

4. The procedure for the collection of existing folklore material may be briefly set out thus:
- (a) A short general set of instructions on collecting will be sent to collectors and informants.
 - (b) Questionnaires, each dealing with a separate major topic and suggesting lines of inquiry under various headings, will be sent at intervals to collectors and informants, who will be asked to supply a few biographical details as well as the information asked for, since localisation is an important historical aspect of this study. It is hoped that collectors and informants will not regard the questionnaires as restrictive but will make their answers as full as possible even if the material may not at first sight be entirely relevant. It is hoped that collectors will be prepared to answer supplementary questions.

- (c) Collectors and informants may often find it possible to provide sketches or photographs of material objects or information on their localisation which would allow photographs to be made; some informants may also be worth recording (especially for song, anecdote, tale and dialect) and if details are provided arrangements can be made for this to be done.
- (d) On return the material supplied, which usually contains information on many aspects of folklore besides the particular topic, will be analysed and indexed, both by topic and locality, and any dialect terms will also be indexed.
- (e) The object of this survey is to prepare an archive of folklore materials and not to prepare, in the early stages, studies and monographs on particular aspects of folklore, but it is hoped to issue to collectors from time to time a short report on the progress of the survey.

5. The first questionnaires being sent out include Leechcraft and folk-medicine, drinks and drinking customs, bread and bread-making, trapping and snaring and hunting, and these will cover a great many aspects of both custom and material culture, and often recall old tales and anecdotes, and in the sense that they all depend to varying extents on the local countryside and its products, on the seasons of the year, on local botanical knowledge and belief, etc., they will at once provide a broad view of much folk-lore and tradition.

6. A large and representative number of voluntary collectors and informants is needed for all parts of the country.'

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY RECORDS BRANCH Honorary General Editor's Report, 1956-7

1. *Volume for 1956. Collectanea*, edited by N. J. Williams, with a Foreword by T. F. T. Plucknett, was issued last November as Volume XII.

2. *Volume for 1957: Progress Notes of Warden Woodward for the Wiltshire Estates of New College, Oxford, 1659-75*, ed. R. L. Rickard, with a frontispiece, was issued during March as Volume XIII.

3. *Volume for 1958: Mr. C. A. F. Meekings' edition of the Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre, 1249* is to be sent to the printer this autumn, complete with introduction and indexes. It is hoped to distribute this long-awaited volume in September, 1958.

4. *Volume for 1959: It is planned to issue Mr. Farr's edition of the Ministers' Accounts of the Lands of Adam de Stratton*, as Volume XV.

5. *Other Future Volumes: Work has proceeded with editions of (a) Hemyngsby's Register (Dr. Helena Chew); (b) The Charters of Lacock Abbey (Miss Joan Gibbs); (c) The Rolls of Highworth Hundred, 1275-85 (Mrs. Brenda Farr); (d) The Wiltshire Forest Eyre, 1257 (The general editor); (e) The Diary of Thomas Naish (Miss Doreen Slatter); (f) Eighteenth Century Apprenticeship Indentures (Miss C. V. E. Dale); and (g) Documents illustrative of the Wiltshire Textile Trades in the Eighteenth Century (Miss Julia Mann).*

6. The editorial programme of the Branch was fully discussed at a committee meeting held in Oxford in November, 1956. Various projects were suggested, including the preparation of a *Collectanea of Wiltshire Documents for the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries*. These are being investigated.

7. The Chairman and General Editor represented the Branch at a meeting of editors of record-publishing societies for the discussion of common interests, held at the Institute of Historical Research, London, in July. Volumes III to XII of the Branch's publications were on display at an exhibition of historical works published between 1947 and 1957, staged for the Anglo-American Historical Conference, during the second week of July.

10th September, 1957.

N. J. WILLIAMS.

Honorary Secretary's and Honorary Treasurer's Report for 1956-7

1. *Annual General Meeting 1956.* The Annual General Meeting for 1956 was held at County Hall, Trowbridge, on Wednesday, 17th October, 1956. After the formal business meeting members and friends inspected a display of some of the original records listed or abstracted in the Records Branch series, and visited the work and muniment rooms of the County Record Office.

2. *Membership.* The Branch now numbers 161 personal and 74 institutional members, a total of 235.

3. *The Reserve Fund.* As a result of the Chairman's appeal, a total of £132 10s. 2d. was given by 40 members whose names appear below. This amount, less the cost of printing and posting the appeal circulars, has been deposited in the Special Investment Department of the Somerset and Wilts. Trustee Savings Bank, where it has earned interest at 3½% and will, from November 20th this year, earn 4%.

The Countess Badeni
C. Barrington-Brown
Capt. A. H. Batten-Pool
N. P. Birley
Mrs. W. de L. Brooke
J. M. Buckeridge
S. C. Chamberlain
T. H. Chandler
H. F. Chettle
Capt. C. C. Craig
Miss E. Crittall
Sir Cyril Flower
Sir Geoffrey Fry
H. M. Gimson

Sir Robert Grimston
R. F. Halcomb
H. P. Hoare
R. A. U. Jennungs.
M. Jolliffe
M. J. Lansdown
E. S. Liddiard
Miss V. London
J. M. Monteath
G. C. Moody
J. H. P. Pafford
Sir Michael Peto
F. C. Pitt
W. R. Powell

R. B. Pugh
G. D. Ramsay
Miss M. E. Reeves
Mrs. E. Riddick
K. H. Rogers
R. E. Sandell
Dr. R. J. Saunders
Mrs. L. G. Shadbolt
Dr. A. S. Shaw Mellor
N. J. Williams
G. M. Young
W. E. V. Young

4. *Legacy from the late Mr. C. W. Pugh.* At the beginning of 1957 a sum of £200 was received from the executors of the late Mr. C. W. Pugh, formerly Hon. Secretary of the parent Society, being a bequest to the Branch under the terms of his will. As soon as our financial position allows, it is hoped that this sum, too, may be deposited in the Savings Bank as an addition to the Reserve Fund.

5. *Present Financial Position.* The year 1957 began with credit balances at Lloyd's Bank and the Savings Bank totaling, to the nearest pound, £732. Total income received during the first nine months of 1957 was £595. Expenditure in the same period has amounted to £918, including payments of £525 for the printing and distribution of Volume XII (for 1956) and £373 for Volume XIII (for 1957). Balances in the Savings Bank now amount to £333 and at Lloyd's Bank to about £75. Assuming that the normal income from subscriptions, grants and donations for 1958 is received before it becomes necessary to pay for the volume to be published in 1958, it should be possible to leave the Savings Bank deposits untouched during 1958.

6. *Covenant Scheme.* Claims for the refund of Income Tax for the years 1955/6/7 are not at the moment being allowed by the Inland Revenue authorities, in view of the decision in a test case over the similar claim of the National Book League. It is understood that a further appeal is pending in that case. If the appeal is allowed, we may expect to recover about £150 in round figures. If not, the Branch has the right to ask for its case to be considered separately on its merits. In simple terms, the case turns on the question whether the amenities enjoyed by members of the National Book League in return for their subscriptions are such as to deny the League the status of a 'charity' entitled to claim a refund of tax under a Covenant Scheme.

7. *Sales of Volumes.* The most noteworthy aspect during the period under review has been the sending of a circular to all graduates of New College, Oxford, offering them copies of Volume XIII (The Progress Notes of Warden Woodward) at a reduced rate if paid for in advance of publication. This resulted in an advance sale of 32 copies at £1 6s. 6d. each

Of sales direct to countries overseas during 1956, Japan took 46 volumes, the U.S.A. 3, and Australia and New Zealand 3. So far this year, 6 volumes have gone to Japan and 3 to the U.S.A. One result of the great interest taken in Japan, especially in Vol. IX (Surveys of Pembroke Manors), is that the Branch has gained three Japanese members.

8. *Details of Subscriptions and Income from Sales of Volumes, 1956.*

Subscriptions:

	£	s.	d.
1955	7	0	0
1956	195	0	11
1957	9	0	0
1958	1	0	0

Sales to Members:

Vol.		£	s.	d.
I	(2)	2	0	0
II	(—)	—	—	—
III	(2)	2	0	0
IV	(1)	1	0	0
V	(1)	1	0	0
VI	(2)	2	0	0
VII	(1)	1	0	0
VIII	(11)	12	7	6
IX	(3)	3	0	9
X	(8)	9	1	9
XI	(6)	6	0	0
XII	(2)	2	0	0
XIII	(—)	—	—	—
	(39)	£41	10	0

Sales to Non-Members:

	£	s.	d.
(1)	1	2	0
(—)	—	—	—
(3)	3	17	0
(1)	1	2	0
(1)	1	2	0
(5)	5	16	0
(5)	5	14	9
(4)	5	1	6
(12)	14	6	9
(6)	7	16	0
(11)	15	8	7
(—)	—	—	—
(32)	42	7	6
(81)	£103	14	1

£212 0 11

3rd October, 1957.

M. G. RATHBONE.
M. J. LANSDOWN.

ACCESSIONS TO THE COUNTY RECORD OFFICE

Parishes: Parish and parish council meeting minutes: Cherhill and Yatesbury, 19th and 20th cent.; survey and valuation of Minety parsonage, 1802.

Militia: note book of Militia payments, 1809-14, farming matters, 1824-26 and 1828, fragments of general accounts and rates, 1823-30.

Societies and Associations: Women's Unionist Association, Potterne Polling District, minutes, 1927-35; Potterne, Worton and Marston Nursing Association minutes, 1913-43; Potterne Mothers' Meeting records, 1918-35.

Family and Estate:—

Holford and Jones: Letters and other Documents relating to an estate at Avebury, of the Holford and Jones families, and personal letters of General Adam Williamson and of his wife, niece to Arthur Jones. Seventeenth to twentieth centuries.

Earle and Sartain: Fourteen deeds and wills relating to property in Holt, and to the families of Earle, and Sartain, 1714-1810; schedule of deeds of property in Holt and Trowbridge, 1833.

Richmond: Small paper volume containing 'A Briefe Collection of the Old Rents of all ye Manors and Farmes . . . now in Joynture to the Duches of Richmond and Lenox' in Somerset, Wiltshire and Berkshire, 1631.

Bonham: Exemplification of an 'Inspeximus' of James I of the Interrogations and depositions made and taken in a cause relating to land in Box reputed to be in the manor of Hazlebury, 1607; water-colour map being 'The Plot: And: Survaye of: The: Mannors: Hayselbury: Box: And: Ditchredg.—', 1626.

Manorial: Heale in Woodford, court roll, 1600-12; Keevil with Bulkington, court roll, etc, 1602-26, 1643-64, 1673-97.

Deeds, etc.: Chapell Bramshaw, 1733 (1); Chute Forest, Prebend of Durnford and Salisbury Close, 1641 to 1707 (16); Codford St. Mary, 1655-83 (5); Minety, 1661-1722 (6); Potterne, 1782-1856 (23); Quemerford in Calne, 1858-94 (9); Rowde, 1800 (1); Salisbury, 1338 (1); Sevenhampton in Highworth, 1542 (1); Steeple Ashton, 1642 (1); (1); Whiteparish, 1855 (1); Winterbourne Stoke 1763 (1).

Business:—

Three volumes relating mainly to the sugar and rum trade carried on by Caleb and Ezekial Dickinson of Bowden Park, Chippenham, with Jamaica.

Seven volumes of business and personal accounts, and other personal papers of the Wansey family of Warminster, clothiers and dyers, seventeenth to nineteenth centuries.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956

BALANCE SHEET

				£	s.	s.					£	s.	d.
31st December, 1955:—							31st December, 1956:—						
Cash at Lloyd's Bank	..	..		402	1	7	Cash at Lloyd's Bank	..	..		398	16	0
Cash in hand	..	..			3	2½	Cash in hand	..	..			11	7
P.O. Savings Bank	..	..		155	18	4	Trustee Savings Bank:—						
							Special Dept. (3½%)	..	..		127	4	10
Balance increased by	..	..		175	18	7½	Ordinary Dept. (2½%)	..	..		206	9	4
				<u>£734</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>					<u>£734</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>

STOCK ACCOUNT

				£	s.	d.					£	s.	d.
31st December, 1955:—							31st December, 1956—						
Vol. I	17	..	..	16	0	0	Vol. I	11	..	..	11	0	0
II	1	..	..	1	0	0	II	nil	..	..	—	—	—
III	90	..	..	89	10	0	III	83	..	..	83	0	0
IV	191	..	..	189	10	0	IV	188	..	..	188	0	0
V	76	..	..	76	0	0	V	73	..	..	72	10	0
VI	83	..	..	81	10	0	VI	73	..	..	71	10	0
VII	94	..	..	94	0	0	VII	87	..	..	87	0	0
VIII	150	..	..	150	0	0	VIII	132	..	..	132	0	0
IX	57	..	..	57	0	0	IX	36	..	..	35	10	0
X	85	..	..	85	0	0	X	62	..	..	61	0	0
Increase during 1956	..	..	..	47	0	0	XI	49	..	..	49	0	0
							XII	96	..	..	96	0	0
				<u>£886</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>					<u>£886</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>

EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

EXPENDITURE				£	s.	d.	INCOME				£	s.	d.
Postage and Secretarial	..	..		45	5	9	Subscriptions	..	..		*212	0	11
Printing, typing, stationery, etc.	..	..		27	15	11	Donations to Reserve Fund	..	..		129	7	2
Hire of room for committee meeting	..	..			10	0	Grant, Swindon Corporation	..	..		125	0	0
Cheque Book	..	..			5	0	Grant, Wiltshire County Council	..	..		150	0	0
Cost of printing and distributing Vol. XI				513	17	0	Sales of volumes to Members	..	..		*41	10	0
Refund, one Vol. X returned	..	..		1	10	0	Sales of volumes to Non-members	..	..		*103	14	1
Subscription passed to W.A.N.H.S.	..	..		1	1	0	Subscription received for W.A.N.H.S.	..	..		1	1	0
Transferred to Trustee Savings Bank—							Small donations	..	..			4	3
Special Dept.	..	..		126	6	8	Balance at Lloyd's Bank reduced by	..	..		3	5	7
Ordinary Dept.	..	..		49	11	8							
				<u>£766</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>					<u>£766</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>

*for details, see report of Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct in accordance with the books and vouchers, and the explanations given.

(Sgd.) F. C. PITT, *Hon. Auditor.* 5th October, 1957.

(Sgd.) M. J. LANSDOWN, *Hon. Treasurer.*

NATURAL HISTORY SECTION¹

LEWIS GUY PEIRSON

LEWIS GUY PEIRSON, who died on August 25th, 1957, was born in 1897 at Exford in Devon, of which his father was Rector. He was educated at Oundle and Cambridge and in 1919 joined the staff at Marlborough College where he taught science until his retirement in 1954.

Readers of this magazine need no reminder of his knowledge of many branches of Natural History and his especial interest in birds. He was the first chairman of the Natural History Section and it is no exaggeration to say that its successful launching in 1946 was largely due to his wise leadership, forethought, and, above all, tact. He continued as chairman until 1951 in which year he became President of the Society, and his presidential address will long be remembered by those who heard it. He continued to serve on the Committee of the Section until 1953. From the beginning he had acted as one of the Recorders of the Annual Report on Wiltshire birds.

He was a modest man who made no parade of his activities: but his correspondents never doubted them. For he was a good letter-writer, who obviously enjoyed writing, and it is in his letters that his character can best be read. He could observe all men shrewdly but with kindly tolerance; and any subject however dull he could make sparkle with his wit.

'I really think I had better keep Mr. A's letter to consider. It makes me slightly giddy and I have to ride a bicycle shortly,'

or

'I have small use for stuffed birds unless the stuffing is sage and onions.'

Nor were his letters confined to the business in hand. He could never resist some anecdote or observation germane to his or his correspondent's situation or doings—

'We believe it is the proper thing to send a postcard from the sea-side, (a) to persuade yourself you are having a good time and (b) to make the recipient envious.'

Or, more likely, he would give a thumb nail sketch of some scene which had delighted him. Thus in January, 1949:

'Coate was magical, the water like a mirror and the duck moving over its face. Drake Teal within 5 yards of us; a snipe quietly feeding for a long while in full view 10 yards away. Wigeon saying whee-oo like excited small boys; the Goosander moving in line astern and the great crested grebes head shaking and bowing and advancing on each other like submarines, and once doing the full breast to breast rise out of the water. "O all ye Fowls of the Air, Praise ye the Lord".'

How quick he was to recognise the magic in what he saw, his heart so transparently filled with delight and his soul with humble thankfulness. The re-reading of a note on willow warblers, contributed by him to the Dorset Bird Report 'called back a morning when he saw through the gates of Paradise. We also found *Leucojum* growing wild a few minutes later.' But he had a quick eye too for the ridiculous.

'Nine bar-tailed Godwits stood in a row on a minute patch of mud and looked as though they were waiting for the Red Lion to open.'

At his home at the top of Granham Hill birds had responded generously to the way in which he had planted his garden for them. Thus in June, 1951:

'I write the address with hesitation; do we still own this house? If we go out of the front door the Jackdaws in the chimney swear at us; if we go out of the back door, we are execrated by the great Tits feeding young in the coal cellar ventilator, this really is ingratitude, we have run out of bread this week in an attempt to keep the bird table supplied and when they have cleared it, the Tits boldly enter the kitchen and scrounge. What go-getters and bullies the great Tits are: as far as Coal Tits are concerned I fear that the meek do not inherit the bacon rind!'

His health, at no time robust, was never mentioned, unless it was impossible to avoid doing so, when it would be relegated like doubtful records to square brackets. But Marlborough winters proved an ever increasing strain and in 1954 he felt obliged to retire. After that he settled at Kingsbridge in Devon, in a house which could not have been better placed, for from its windows he could keep the estuary under constant observation. Waders had always been a special joy; 'I hope there will be waders in Heaven!' In spite of illness he was just able to carry through his last and in many ways most important work for the Society by completing the draft of the 'List of Wiltshire Birds.' It is good to know that such work gave him pleasure too:

'I find it distinctly rejuvenating to be at work on a list again. It has the same effect on me that the return of good petrol had on our old car. "Ah" said Methuselah as it drained its first carburettor—full of Shell "now that's more like the stuff they used to give me when I was young".'

It is hoped that this note with its few extracts from his letters—so hard to select when so much is quotable—will give some picture of a kindly, gentle and most lovable character who served well in this life Marlborough College and this Society. May he have found his waders waiting for him!

He had married in 1923 Eveline Clifton who survives him with their only child John. Her interests were closely allied to his and to the full she shared his delight in the world of nature he had always found so wise and wonderful.

¹ The 1956 material is given first as a whole, and is then followed by that for 1957. The Plant Notes however are given in one article, which covers both years.

FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES, 1956.¹

Report by the Hon. Meetings Secretary, BEATRICE GILLAM.

During 1956, the Section held twenty-three meetings. These were well attended and their success was largely due to the help of many able and willing leaders and lecturers to whom the Section is most grateful.

Two ornithological meetings in February were held outside Wiltshire for the purpose of observing Wildfowl both in their natural habitat and in captivity. Chew and Blagdon Reservoirs were visited in near blizzard conditions; many species of swans, geese and ducks unknown to most members present were seen and identified by the experienced leader, Bernard King. A week later many of these birds were seen at close quarters at the Wildfowl Trust, Slimbridge.

At Coate Water boats were successfully used to watch wildfowl. In the spring this neighbourhood was re-visited to listen to the songs of some of the summer migrants. At an evening meeting in May nightjars and woodcock gave a splendid performance to the large audience.

Meetings with a predominantly botanical flavour included visits to a marsh near Oaksey, where some rare plants were found, and to an area of varied flora near Alderholt, Hampshire. Both districts were formerly within the Wiltshire boundary. The Weavern Valley, Axford, Robin Hood Ball and Sunton Heath were also explored at different times.

As in 1955, various ecological aspects of Natural History were introduced by leaders. A fascinating bee-keeping demonstration by Mr. Weddell and Mr. Farrar was related to the flora of the surrounding area covered by the worker bees in their search for pollen. The close relationship between geology and botany was traced by Mr. Barron and Mr. Goldstraw on a journey made across the changing strata from the chalk near Erlestoke northwards through the clays to the iron-bearing lower greensand at Seend.

Mr. Owen and Mr. Grose combined to continue the survey of the flora of the Knap Hill rabbit warrens. A list of plants that have re-colonised an excavated sand-pit at Compton Bassett was compiled for the second year by a group of botanists.

Other subjects studied at field meetings included moths, badgers, fungi and rock identification.

Indoor activities too were varied. Two Natural History courses were held at Urchfont Manor. The lecturers and some of the students were members of the Section. An increasing number of members took advantage of the generous invitation of the Bath Natural History Society to attend their excellent lectures. Mr. H. G. Hurrell's visit to Marlborough College to show his coloured films of pine-martens and blue-tits was very much enjoyed by all who were able to accept the College's invitation.

In October Miss Balme, from the Furzebrook Research station, spoke at Devizes Museum of the work of Nature Conservancy with special reference to Wiltshire. With the aid of beautiful coloured slides she explained some of the experiments being carried out on land owned or leased by the Conservancy.

The Annual General Meeting was held at Marlborough College on 23rd June. The Secretary's report was read by Mrs. C. Secombe Hett and the statement of accounts by Mr. G. W. Collett. Miss E. M. Gliddon, the Press Secretary and the Meetings Secretary read their reports. In the absence of Mr. Grose, Mr. Collett reported on the progress of the Wiltshire Flora publication and Mrs. Barnes reported that all the material for the Bird Check List was now in Mr. Peirson's hands. The Chairman, Mr. J. H. Halliday, reported that the re-casing of the stuffed birds in the new Natural History Room in the Museum was complete.

The year's programme was brought to a close with another successful and enjoyable meeting at the Devizes Museum. Bird and flower photographs, pressed flowers and grasses, snails, fairy water shrimps, lichens, mosses and mice skins were amongst the exhibits. Tea was followed by four short talks and a show of coloured slides.

¹ For 1957 Field Meetings see p. 135.

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1956.¹

The Section has 230 members, including 107 full members of the Society. It was in 1947 that the first Report of the Section—newly formed in 1946—was published in *W. A. Magazine*. It is also noteworthy that of the original committee, the following continue to serve:—Mrs. E. G. Barnes as Bird Recorder, Mr. D. L. Grose as Plant Recorder, Mr. B. W. Weddell as Lepidoptera Recorder, and Mr. G. W. Collett as Hon. Treasurer. It is largely due to their unflagging interest that the Section continues to thrive. The new Flora is imminent. The Check List for Wiltshire Birds awaits final editing and work on the Entomological List continues. A successful and widely varied Programme of Meetings is regularly enjoyed by all who take part.

C. SECCOMBE HETT.

¹ For 1957 Report see p. 136.

THE WEATHER OF 1956¹

By R. A. U. JENNINGS.

This year was on the whole disappointing though it had some interesting meteorological features. There was an excess of rain in January which was a blessing to the springs, and February in many places showed a lower mean temperature than any years in the past century other than the 'classic' 1895 and 1947. The three Spring months were pleasant, dry, sunny and a little cold; so upland farms and gardens were backward.

So far so good; but the three summer months were unattractive, though not so dismal as those of 1954. The only cheerful feature was a little burst of warmth at the end of July, with one day on which the county's maxima were generally above 80°F. August was a wretched month. Rain fell on nearly every day, and though not heavy enough to ruin the harvest, it seriously delayed it. Few places had a maximum of more than 70°F during the whole month, and there was scarcely any thunder throughout the summer.

The first twelve days of September followed the summer's pattern, but were followed by a very dry autumn. There is good evidence for thinking that the period from mid-September to mid-December was the driest in the century. Even on the bleak chalk roses were in bloom nearly until Christmas. There was a snowstorm on the afternoon of Christmas Day, and that was the only snow of the winter.

Some readers have found that the simplified notation for the months used in the past two years is confusing in the matter of rainfall. This year a plus sign equals 'more' and a minus sign 'less' than normally. An O means that the figure was normal, or nearly so.

	T.	R.	S.	
Jan.	O	+	+	Normal
Feb.	—	—	+	Very cold
March	O	—	+	Dry
April	—	—	+	A beautiful month
May	+	—	+	Another good month
June	—	—	—	Cool and dry
July	O	+	—	Dull, with a late warm spell
August	—	+	+	Cool and wet
Sept.	+	+	—	Rather better, and warmer than August
October	—	—	+	Still and dry with scarcely any screen frosts
Nov.	—	—	+	Very like October
Dec.	+	+	—	Still and dry; then wet and windy
Whole year	—	—	—	

¹ For the Weather of 1957 see p. 137.

WILTSHIRE BIRD NOTES FOR 1956.¹

Recorders: RUTH G. BARNES, M.B.O.U., GUY PEIRSON AND GEOFFREY L. BOYLE.

Last year's notes were the tenth in the series. Now in the eleventh year it is worth while glancing back at the first. Three changes are at once obvious: the order of species follows the British Ornithologists' Union Check list, not that of the *Handbook*; fewer migration dates are printed and are no longer given separately; the number of observers has doubled.

Although some areas are still without an observer, or are difficult of access, the county as a whole is now much more thoroughly covered than it was, and these Notes are only a small selection of the great and welcome mass of observations received, all of which are filed and are available for study. As in similar publications the attempt has been made not merely to maintain but to raise the standard of evidence demanded for sight records of rarities.

The record of the Night Heron at Longford is welcome; that for the same place in 1954 could be given as probable only. 1956 was a good year for records of the unusual ducks: that of the Red-Breasted Merganser is only the second since 1881.

As would be expected, an unusual number of 'grey geese' were seen during the bitter weather in February, but very unexpected was the astonishing number of Bewick's Swans. This Species was first recorded for Wiltshire in 1954 and a single bird again in 1955. In 1956 something like 40 were reported from six different waters in the first four months of the year. Some of these may have moved and been counted twice but it is clear that Wiltshire shared in the spectacular influx reported from other parts of England. Almost as remarkable were the nine birds that visited two waters in the mild December.

Fewer Buzzards were seen than last year and far fewer nested or brought off young. The same decrease was noticed in many other counties. The Buzzard has not long re-established itself as a breeding species in Wiltshire and it will be interesting to see how it fares in the future. An Osprey spent a fortnight on the Salisbury Avon in October.

There is a fine crop of wader records. Oystercatchers, Ringed Plovers, Wood Sandpipers, a Knot and many Dunlin are all most unusual in Wiltshire, and the Little Stint seen at Coate Water in September is the first recorded for the county. The Curlew now breeds regularly, if very locally.

A brief life story that catches the imagination is that of an Arctic Tern that was hatched in Esthonia, flew round the Iron Curtain to England and perished in a remarkable accident in Wiltshire. There are very few previous records of Little Terns.

Under the entries for Skylark, Swallow, and House Martin will be found observations which look like the detection of an autumn migration route for passerines.

Some of the rarities listed above were as their dates show brought in by the cold of February: to this same cold may perhaps be attributed the way in which some winter flocks of finches and buntings did not break up until well into April.

¹ For 1957 Bird Notes see pp. 138.

CONTRIBUTORS

H. G. Alexander	H.G.A.	T. Horner	T.H.
A. R. Angell	A.R.A.	E. L. Jones	E.L.J.
Countess Jan Badeni	J.B.	W. P. Lawrence	W.P.L.
David Barnes	D.G.B.	J. R. Lawson	J.R.L.
Mrs. Barnes	R.G.B.	Mrs. Lawson	V.C.L.
Miss E. Batchelor	E.B.	Miss M. K. Luckham	M.K.L.
F. D. Birtwell	F.D.B.	R. E. Matson	R.E.M.
G. L. Boyle	G.L.B.	F. H. Maundrell	F.H.M.
E. Browning	E.B. 2	J. G. Mavrogordato	J.G.M.
J. L. R. Burden	J.L.R.B.	Miss Newton Dunn	D.N.D.
Miss M. Butterworth	M.B.	Squadron Leader N. Orr	N.W.O.
J. M. Buxton	J. M. B.	Dr. D. B. Peakall	D.B.P.
W. A. Chaplin	W.A.C.	C. M. R. Pitman	C.M.R.P.
H. J. Clase	H.J.C.	R. H. Poulding	R.H.P.
D. S. C. Clouston	D.S.C.C.	Countess of Radnor	I.R.
G. W. Collett	G.W.C.	C. Rice	C.R.
Major W. M. Congreve	W.M.C.	P. Roberts	P.R.
J. E. Cooke	J.E.C.	A. C. Sawle	A.C.S.
Mrs. Cox	D.C.	Mrs. Seccombe Hett	C.S.H.
E. J. Cruse	E.J.C.	A. Smith	A.S.
C. A. Cutforth	C.A.C.	W. Sommerville	W.S.
G. Elliott	G.E.	Major General Sparks	H.P.S.
Mrs. Forbes	E.V.F.	R. J. Spencer	R.J.S.
Miss M.C. Foster	M.C.F.	Colonel J. K. Stanford	J.K.S.
Brigadier Fowle	F.E.F.	B. M. Stratton	B.M.S.
D. Fry	D.F.	Miss Temple	V.T.
J. F. Fry	J.F.F.	Miss Thouless	E.T.M.
Mrs. Gandy	I.G.	R. L. Vernon	R.L.V.
Miss M. J. Gibbs	M.J.G.	G. L. Webber	G.L.W.
Miss B. Gillam	B.G.	C. A. White	C.A.W.
J. H. Halliday	J.H.H.	R. Whitlock	R.W.
G. W. Hemming	G.W.H.		

4. RED-THROATED DIVER. A single bird was seen on Clarendon Lake by E.L.J. on Mar. 25th and on several occasions up to Apr. 2nd by D.F., T.H., H.J.C. and P.R. Each observer gave a full description and referred to the up-turned bill.

5. GREAT CRESTED GREBE. One pair on Corsham Lake brought off young at their second attempt (G.W.H.). Two families with 3 and 2 young on Bowood Lake, Aug. 5th (B.G.). One nest with young reported by keeper at Longleat (M.B.). On Braydon Pond 3 birds were sitting and 2 other pairs present, Apr. 27th. One of these nests was swept away in a storm in May. A family of 2 and another of 3 young noted Aug. 5th, while a pair had 1 small young in down, Sept. 2nd (R.G.B.).

9. LITTLE GREBE. Many pairs with young on the Kennet and Avon Canal between Great and Little Bedwyn (B.G.). A pair building in rushes on Lacock gravel pits, Apr. 25th, were seen to mate on the nest, May 1st (G.L.B.).

28. CORMORANT. Four were perched in trees by the Avon between Clarendon and Alderbury, Jan. 15th (P.R.) and 11 were seen near Alderbury, Jan. 21st (C.M.R.P.). Two or three seen from time to time near Longford (M.K.L., H.J.C.) and one noted at Downton as late as Apr. 10th (E.B.). Single birds seen in several localities near Salisbury during the winter (I.R., G.E., M.K.L.). Twenty-seven were perched in trees by the Avon at Charlton-all-Saints, Dec. 30th (E.B.).

30. HERON. There were 16 occupied nests at Bowood, May 8th, some with well grown young while nesting material was being added to certain nests (G.L.B.). Five nests were occupied in Savernake Forest beech trees, Apr. 8th (J.H.H.) a further nest being used by May 6th (W.P.L.). A nest high up in a dead tree at Britford contained 2 large young, June 3rd, apparently the first year nesting has occurred in this locality (H.J.C., C.M.R.P.). An increase was reported in the colony at Bradford Wood, 24 nests being occupied May 2nd (R.J.S.). One, possibly two, nests in Conkwell Wood (Dr. C. N. Vaisey).

36. NIGHT HERON. An immature bird was flushed from a tangle of weeds, nettles and willows by the Avon near Longford, Oct. 7th. In size it was considerably shorter and more stocky than a Heron. Its general appearance was brown above with whitish spots and streaks. The underparts were darker and streaked with brownish grey. The legs were yellowish green and the bill dark. Observed at a range of 30 yards in flight and 100 yards when perched on a willow. It was very shy (D.B.P.).

45, 46, 50, 56, 57. Winter records of Mallard, Teal, Wigeon, Tufted Duck and Pochard are filed and it is hoped to publish a summary of them after some years.

47. GARGANEY. A drake on Braydon Pond, Apr. 25th (H.G.A.).

49. GADWALL. A drake was seen in shallow water with several Mallard at Longford, Dec. 8th (E.B.).

52. PINTAIL. A drake on Wilton Water, Jan. 7th—15th (J.H.H., V.C.L., J.R.L.). Two flew down and rested in a field at Coombe Bisset, Feb. 26th (H.J.C.). One was shot at Gt. Durnford, Sept. 17th and three had been seen coming in to stubble in early September by Mr. D. Cannon (J.K.S.).

53. SHOVELER. A male seen in flight at Odstock, Feb. 23rd (E.B.). On Coate Water there were 2 males and 1 female, Mar. 2nd—11th (G.W.C., J.H.H., E.M.T.) and 1 male and 2 females, Mar. 31st (G.L.W.). Single birds on Clarendon Lake in March (R.W.) and at Longford, Apr. 3rd (M.K.L., E.B.). In autumn single birds were seen at Coate Water, Bodenham and Corsham (G.L.W., E.B., J.L.R.B.), 7 birds in flight at Clarendon, Nov. 18th (C.M.R.P.), and 2 males and 1 female on Braydon Pond, Dec. 31st (R.G.B.).

56. TUFTED DUCK. A pair bred at Clarendon Lake and young were seen, June 30th (R.W., T.H., D.F.). The keeper at Longleat reported that several pairs bred there successfully and brought off an average of 7 young each (M.B.).

60. GOLDEN EYE. Single drakes were seen on Wilton Water, Feb. 14th—17th (I.G., B.G., J.H.H.) and standing at edge of frozen floodwater near Odstock, Feb. 25th (E.B.). At Chilton Foliat 2 drakes were seen, Feb. 26th (J.H.H., V.C.L., J.R.L.) and 3 on Mar. 4th (V.C.L., J.R.L.). Two drakes were seen at Littlecote on the same day (J.H.H.).

69. RED-BREASTED MERGANSER. One 'Red-headed' bird was to be seen on the Avon near Longford Castle from Feb. 17th to 20th. It moved to the Southampton Road gravel pits on Feb. 21st, and remained until Feb 25th (E.B., H.J.C., D.N.D., M.K.L.).

GREY GESE. Heard calling in flight over Harnham, Jan. 5th (E.B.) and several seen flying north over Inglesham, Jan. 30th (F.H.M.). Single birds near Melksham, Feb. 5th (R.J.S.) and on frozen Coate Water Feb. 19th (V.C.L., J.R.L.). Thirty circled over Beanacre, Feb. 23rd (R.J.S.) and nine flew down the Avon near Longford Feb. 26th (M.K.L.). In autumn, 6 probable white-fronts flew N.E. from Wilton Water, Oct. 27th (J.R.L.) and 6 birds were seen at Inglesham, Dec. 3rd (F.H.M.).

76. WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE. An adult seen at very close range at Coate Water, Jan. 28th (G.L.W.). Four birds stayed in the water meadows between Odstock and Coombe Bisset for about five days from Feb. 23rd during severe frost. They were surprisingly tame (E.B., H.J.C.).

86. BEWICK'S SWAN. An exceptional year for Bewick's in the county. At Coate Water from Feb. 12th to 16th up to 17 birds were seen on the ice or in flight (M.C.F., G.L.W., V.C.L. et. al.). Numbers fluctuated by the Salisbury Avon; 6 at Longford on Feb. 27th (I.R.), 4 at Britford, Mar. 3rd (W.A.C., D.F., T.H., P.R.); later 8 were seen at Downton, Mar. 24th and Apr. 2nd (E.B., M.K.L., C.M.R.P.) and 5 were the last seen on water meadows there on Apr. 3rd (H.J.C., D.F., T.H.). One bird, possibly injured, stayed in a meadow at Little Durnford, Mar. 23rd (J.K.S.). Thirteen birds remained on Braydon Pond from Apr. 5th to 16th; at times they were heard to call, a soft, musical 'hoo-hoo' (N.W.O., R.G.B., D.G.B.). Two adults were seen on Coate Water, Dec. 1st (G.L.W.); and nine birds, including two juveniles, on Braydon Pond, Dec. 31st (R.G.B., D.G.B.).

91. BUZZARD. One definite record of nesting, although no confirmation of successful rearing of young (M.B.). In another area a young bird almost fully fledged but not yet able to fly and weak for lack of food was picked up on July 13th and handed over to J.G.M. It made a good recovery. Six other records from different localities of birds in flight during the breeding season (G.L.B., M.C.F., R.H.P., B.M.S., R.J.S.). Several observers reported that birds were seen less frequently than in former years (G.L.B., H.J.C., G.E., R.W., J.G.M.).

100. HEN HARRIER. A 'ring-tail' at Roundway Down, Jan. 12th when white rump showed clearly (J.L.R.B.) and another was clearly seen near Savernake Forest, Apr. 1st and 9th (M.C.F.). An adult was seen at Stichcombe, Mar. 8th (J.H.H.) and a male near Chilton Foliat, Apr. 8th (M.C.F.). Two birds at Axford, Dec. 2nd and 9th (W.P.L., R.E.M.).

102. MONTAGU'S HARRIER. A male was seen several times between Mar. 26th and Apr. 10th near West Amesbury (J.K.S.). A 'ring-tail' which flew over Harnham, Aug. 24th, was probably of this species (H.J.C.).

103. **OSPREY.** One was seen at Great Durnford by Lord Tryon and Hon. A. Tryon on Sept. 30th. J.K.S. saw it with a fish on Oct. 1st and it remained in the district for about a fortnight.
104. **HOBBY.** First seen Apr. 29th by J.K.S. who also observed pairs in two different localities on May 29th and 30th. A nest was found with a sitting bird, July 8th; the eggs did not hatch (J.K.S.). Single birds were reported by seven observers. On June 15th an adult male was caught in a garden in very poor condition with feet clenched and unable to fly or stand. It was apparently starving and after good feeding flew away strongly, June 21st (G.L.W.). An immature bird, fully fledged, was picked up by a soldier and handed over to J.G.M., Sept. 28th. It was in the last stage of starvation but made a good recovery. It had probably been abandoned by migrating parents before it was self-supporting. Last bird seen, flying high, Sept. 22nd (J.G.M.).
105. **PEREGRINE.** An adult male shot at Ashton Keynes, Jan. 8th, reported by C. M. Swaine. Single birds seen over Roundway Down, Jan. 10th (J.L.R.B.) and pursuing a Wood Pigeon near Swindon, Feb. 27th (G.L.W.). On Feb. 26th and Mar. 23rd a bird was seen to circle and perch on the spire on Salisbury Cathedral (H.J.C.). A pair were 'stooping and zooming' over East Knoyle, June 18th (B.M.S.). There were seven later records of solitary birds.
107. **MERLIN.** One was seen perched on a wisp of straw in a stubble field near Shrewton, Nov. 2nd. It allowed approach in a car to within 20 yards before taking wing. Either a female or immature bird (J.G.M.). Another, also female or immature, seen flying low by the Avon at Bodenham, Nov. 22nd (E.B.).
115. **RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE.** Noted at Axford in January (J.H.H.). At Clearbury Ring five were seen in March and thirteen in October (E.B.). A pair at Odstock and another at Charlton-all-Saints in April (E.B.). Also seen near Pitton (R.W.) and a clutch of 17 eggs hatched successfully in June at Great Bedwyn (E.J.C.). A bird which had been running about under cars parked in Salisbury Market was taken to the Police Station and released later (P.R.).
117. **QUAIL.** Fewer records than last year. First seen near Porton, Apr. 27th (D.B.P.) and heard calling in wheat near Tan Hill, May 14th (R.J.S.). Heard calling subsequently as follows: on Allington Down, May 28th and Aug. 8th and on Roundway Down, May 30th (B.G.); near Pitton, June 6th (R.W.); in mowing grass near Colerne, June 26th, and in barley near Tinhead, July 26th (R.J.S.); near Aldbourne in August (M.C.F.). Two parties, 5 and 4, flushed on Larkhill Ranges, July 8th (B.G., H.J.C.). A bevy of 9 seen near Odstock by harvest workers in the field where Lord Radnor saw a pair in May (I.R.).
118. **PHEASANT.** A pure albino cock bird was seen near Corsham on May 8th (G.W.H.).
120. **WATER RAIL.** Six widely distributed records from January to April (G.E., H.J.C., M.C.F., E.B., G.L.W.), but none for the summer months. Sixteen records from September to December, of these 11 were from the Salisbury Avon and 8 in the month of November. This may indicate an influx into that valley in autumn (G.E., I.R., P.R., et. al.).
125. **CORNCRAKE.** One heard and flushed near Great Bedwyn in June (E.J.C.).
127. **COOT.** On Jan. 15th there were 149 on Braydon Pond. Some were carrying weed and some slightly aggressive (R.G.B.).
131. **OYSTER CATCHER.** Two came down and rested for a few minutes on a mud bank by the Old Deanery garden in Salisbury, Apr. 14th (M.K.L.). A single bird seen flying S. over Staverton, Aug. 14th; the call was heard and the pied plumage and long bill noted (A.R.A.). One at Coate Water, Nov. 24th (G.L.W.).
133. **LAPWING.** Winter flocks of c. 600 in Melksham area (R.J.S.). Four young birds eleven days old (hatched May 29th) at Lacock gravel pits were seen to feed like the adults by holding one leg slightly forward and vibrating the foot on the ground. These chicks fed regularly on tadpoles. Their method was to wade into the water, select a tadpole and bring it to dry land and beat it on the ground several times before swallowing. So far as is known this is the first record of tadpoles being included in a Lapwing's diet (G.L.B.) cf. British Birds Vol. XLIX, p. 502 Dec. 1956. A melanistic bird was seen by Mr. D. Cannon, Oct. 26th, in a large flock near Druid's Lodge. There was no white on it at all. The back and wings were darker than a normal bird, while the head, nape and mantle were black or dull blackish green. The undertail coverts were deep black as were the underparts and rump. No crest was visible. With good glasses the lower edge of the bib was just noticeable (J.K.S.).
134. **RINGED PLOVER.** Four, with Dunlin, at Coate Water, Aug. 18th and one on Aug. 26th (G.L.W.).
140. **GOLDEN PLOVER.** A flock of c. 300 near Odstock during January (E.B., H.J.C.); c. 40 in Old Sarum valley, Jan. 6th (P.R., R.W.). Flocks noted at Chisbury and Ramsbury, Jan. 15th, and Rudge Hill, Jan. 18th (J.H.H., V.C.L., J.R.L.). From 300 to 400 on Zeals airfield, Jan. 28th (M.B.). Last seen in spring, Apr. 8th, Stonehenge (B.G.), Apr. 14th, New Court Down (P.R.), and Clearbury Down (E.B.). First seen in autumn at Old Sarum, Aug. 21st, where numbers increased to c. 300 by Oct. 7th (P.R.). Large flocks in several places in November and December, including Stourhead (R. S. Fitter), Britford (E.B. and c.200 at Bishops Cannings (B.C.)).

145. **SNIFE.** Several drumming together over a field where they were breeding near Ramsbury, Apr. 22nd (G.L.B.). As many as six displaying at Bemerton during June evenings (G.E.). Drumming heard at Bemerton up to July 3rd (E.B.).
147. **JACK SNIFE.** A single bird flushed from Holt Marsh, Jan. 1st and Dec. 23rd (A.R.A.). At Coate Water there were two birds on Feb. 18th and Mar. 24th, and three on Mar. 31st; single birds on Oct. 21st and 28th (E. Browning); two feeding with Snipe, Nov. 17th and one, Dec. 1st (G.L.W.). Single birds were seen on Rodbourne sewage farm, Jan. 28th (G.L.W.), and at Homington, Feb. 4th (E.B.).
148. **WOODCOCK.** Several winter records. Fair numbers seen 'roding' in Clarendon Woods in spring (R.W.).
150. **CURLEW.** A nest with 4 eggs at Seend Cleeve, Apr. 28th, only 50 yards from a breeding site of 1953. Eggshell found in Sandridge Vale, May 5th, but nest not located (R. J.S.). A nest with 4 eggs near Patney Station, May 8th, the chicks hatching May 25th (B.G.). A nest at Marden contained 3 eggs, May 18th, another nest had been robbed and a third breeding pair was located (J.K.S.). Bred successfully near Urchfont (E.J.C.). Reports of birds calling and in flight during April received from eleven observers.
156. **GREEN SANDPIPER.** A wintering bird near Ramsbury, Jan. 29th (V.C.L., R.J.L.) and two at Britford, Feb. 20th—28th (E.B., H.J.C.) and Mar. 3rd (P.R.). Single birds seen near Salisbury, Apr. 3rd, 10th and 27th (E.B.). Seen at Lacock gravel pits, Mar. 22nd and Apr. 11th (G.L.B.). Several records from July 22nd onwards. Winter records: near Hants border, Nov. 23rd (J.K.S.); at Charlton-all-Saints, Nov. 11th and Dec. 2nd, two (I.R.); and at Britford, one or two, from Nov. 11th to Dec. 15th (G.E.).
157. **WOOD SANDPIPER.** Two were watched at close range feeding at Lacock gravel pits by G.L.B., May 16th, and later that day C.R. and Mrs. Rice saw the birds and heard them call when flushed. A single bird was seen on water weed in a stream at Salisbury, May 17th (H.J.C.). Full description given. These are the second and third records for the county in this century.
159. **COMMON SANDPIPER.** The earliest record is of a bird by a paddling pool in Trowbridge Park, Mar. 12th (A.S.). Many reports of single birds in April. On July 9th there were 18 together at Coate Water (G.L.W.). An unusually large number was seen at Bowood, Aug. 2nd, when 6 were at one end of the lake and later 25 were circling and calling before settling on the branches of a fallen tree in the water. Last seen in autumn at Coate, Oct. 20th (G.L.W.).
161. **REDSHANK.** In the breeding season pairs were seen from April 12th at Manton (A.C.S.), Clatford (B.G.) and several near Ramsbury (G.L.B.). Several pairs had young of varying ages near Littlecote, June 9th (B.G.) and July 22nd (I.G.). Common near Longford in spring (M.K.L.). A breeding pair seen at Bowerchalke in May (J.K.S.), and another with young at Hurdcott, June 15th (G.E.).
165. **GREENSHANK.** Two birds were very active in a pool at Lacock gravel pits, May 19th (G.L.B.).
169. **KNOT.** One was feeding with Lapwings by Coate Water, Nov. 3rd. The call note was heard (G.L.W.).
171. **LITTLE STINT.** Two at Coate Water with Common Sandpipers, Sept. 1st. They were very tame and allowed approach to 3 yards. 'The V on back clearly seen. Grey upper parts, white eye-stripe, smudge on upper breast, underparts hite. Legs and bill black.' (G.L.W.).
178. **DUNLIN.** The following were seen at Coate Water: two feeding at edge of ice, Jan. 8th (V.C.L., J.R.L.); a flock of 30/40, Jan. 29th (M.C.F.). Two with Ringed Plover, Aug. 18th; single birds on Aug. 25th and 26th when one was seen 'pattering' while feeding (G.L.W.). Fifteen feeding in shallows by the Avon south of Melksham during severe weather, Feb. 4th, and two in the same place, Feb. 11th (R.J.S.).
189. **STONE CURLEW.** First heard calling Mar. 13th (E.B.); Mar. 23rd (J.K.S.); Mar. 29th (R.W.). A nest with sitting bird found May 3rd (J.K.S.). Another nest containing 2 eggs, May 15th, both eggs hatching June 7th (B.G., R.J.S.). Further records of successful breeding from E.J.C., J.K.S., V.T. A pair with young seen in late July and early August (M.C.F.). Notes of birds calling or in flight from B.M.S., M.B., G.E. et al. Last seen Oct. 20th (J.K.S.).
198. **GREATER BLACK-BACKED GULL.** Noted in January and February and again from September to December near Salisbury (E.B., H.J.C., M.K.L.). Single birds at Coate, Mar. 3rd, and Rodbourne sewage farm, Sept. 8th (G.L.W.). Two at Britford, June 3rd (H.J.C.).
199. **LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL.** Winter records came from many districts. One near Salisbury, Jan. 3rd (H.J.C.), two at Corsham Lake, Jan. 7th (B.G.). Single birds seen at Longford, Nov. 4th (D.B.P.), Corsham, Nov. 19th (J.L.R.B.), Salisbury, from Nov. 13th to Dec. 10th (G.E.), and Britford, Dec. 30th (E.B.). One, sometimes two birds at Bemerton from Nov. 11th to Dec. 15th (G.E.).

200. HERRING GULL. Small numbers, under ten, seen as follows: in January at Liddington, Wanborough and Hodson (M.C.F.), on New Court Down (E.B.); in February near Odstock (E.B.); and at Rodbourne sewage farm in March and April, (G.L.W.).
201. COMMON GULL. c. 600 on ploughed land with c. 10 Blackheaded Gulls at Cole Park, Mar. 11th (J.M.B.). Large flocks also noted in Pewsey Vale, Mar. 12th—19th (B.G.) and near Salisbury during the last part of the year (J.K.S., E.B., H.J.C.). Last seen in spring at Druid's Lodge, Apr. 29th (J.K.S.).
212. BLACK TERN. A single bird was seen at Coate Water, Apr. 20th—21st (M.C.F., J.H.H.).
- 217/218. COMMON OR ARCTIC TERN. A single bird over gravel pit at Clarendon, July 7th (C.M.R.P.). The following were noted at Coate Water: July 8th, 2 immature birds in which the tail when at rest was longer than the closed wings (M.C.F.); Aug. 11th, 2 birds; Aug. 18th, 4; Sept. 2nd, 14; Oct. 6th and 7th, 1 bird (G.L.W.). A single bird over the canal at Rowde, Aug. 28th (J.E.C.); and one in winter plumage over Braydon Pond, Sept. 8th (H.G.A.).
218. ARCTIC TERN. A bird ringed as young, 20.6.56 at Pukhtu, Estonia—58.34 N/23.34 E, Ring No. Moskwa F. 301152, was recovered on the Avon at Little Somerford, Sept. 4th. It dived at a fisherman's plug, rose sharply and struck his rod, breaking its wing (J.F.F.).
222. LITTLE TERN. An adult in full summer plumage with Common/Arctic Terns at Coate Water, Aug. 18th (G.L.W.).
235. TURTLE DOVE. First heard May 3rd, near Tollard Royal (V.T.); May 4th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); May 6th, Calne (E.M.T.). Last seen Sept. 16th, at Ford (G.E.).
237. CUCKOO. First heard Apr. 11th, Marlborough (J.H.H.); Apr. 12th, Bodenham (H.J.C.); Apr. 13th, Pitton (R.W.). Last seen Sept. 9th, a juvenile at Downton (E.B.).
248. LONG-EARED OWL. One seen near Marlborough, Mar. 24th (F.D.B.). One in a pine on Hackpen Hill, Apr. 4th; over 100 pellets on the ground below (A.C.S.).
249. SHORT-EARED OWL. One at Totterdown, Mar. 4th (R.E.M.). Two birds flew from sarsen stones on Fyfield Down, Apr. 2nd (A.C.S.). Noted near Salisbury in winter (J.K.S.).
252. NIGHTJAR. First noted at Great Bedwyn, May 22nd (F.D.B.) and at East Grimstead, May 26th (H.J.C.). Usual numbers seen at Clarendon (R.W.). Last seen flying at dusk at Clarendon, Aug. 22nd (D.F., T.H.).
255. SWIFT. One flying over Coate Water with Swallows and Martins, Apr. 4th, an early date (B.G.). Other spring arrivals, Apr. 24th, Downton (E.B.) and Bemerton (H.J.C.). A very large flock, too big to estimate numbers, was moving S.W. over Salisbury Plain near Tilshead, July 15th. Possibly a weather movement since there were heavy storm clouds about (R.G.B.). Last seen Sept. 4th, Bemerton (G.E.); Sept. 7th, Malmesbury (J.M.R.); Sept. 9th, Harnham (H.J.C.).
261. HOOPOE. One calling repeatedly and singing at Druid's Lodge in the early morning of April 26th—the second year in succession it has appeared here. (Mr. Cannon per J.K.S.). Mr. Blakeley saw one at Rockley, May 11th. A bird was found with a damaged wing in a garden at Hindon and photographed. It died later. (K.G. Smith, *Country Life* 23.6.56). One was seen flying from fence post to fence post on downs above Ansty, June 19th, raising its crest each time it alighted. The observer was familiar with the species in India (Mrs. Aileen Still, *Western Gazette*). One was feeding on worms on the lawn at Longford Castle for several hours, Sept. 10th (I.R., W.A.C., M.K.L. et al.).
262. GREEN WOODPECKER. In the evening of Aug. 31st one was seen to alight on a yew hedge at Norton, and eat the flies which were abundant. Presently it left the hedge and fluttered quite high in the air in pursuit of the insects. It was a most uncharacteristic movement. There is no mention of it in the 'Handbook' (J.B.).
264. LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER. All records are of single birds—seen in March at Pewsey (F.E.F.); in April at Longleat (R.H.P.) and Littleton Drew (G.L.B.); drumming at Bodenham in May (E.B.). Seen in June at Atworth (C.S.H.); in July near Salisbury (H.J.C.); East Knoyle (B.M.S.) and Seagry (R.G.B.); in September at Coate (G.L.W.) and Westbury (A.R.A.).
271. WOODLARK. One singing in parkland at Longleat, Apr. 1st (R.H.P.). Breeding confirmed in Spye Park (E.J.C.).
272. SKYLARK. For note on passage see also under Swallow. On Oct. 13th between 0800—1100 hours c. 150 larks passed over Coate and Swindon towards W.S.W. flying in small groups and singly. On Nov. 4th c. 200 were flying N.E. at Coate (G.L.W.).

274. SWALLOW. First seen Apr. 3rd, Odstock (E.B.); Apr. 4th, Bemerton (H.J.C.) and Clarendon (C.M.R.P.). Last seen Oct. 22nd, Harnham (H.J.C.); Oct. 23rd, Ford (J.K.S.). In spring the general passage of *hirundines* near W. Amesbury appears to be S. to N. but in autumn it is nearly always E. to W. or W.S.W. (J.K.S.). On Sept. 26th between 14.15-16.45 hours E.L.J. counted 458 Swallows and 676 House Martins passing S.S.W. or S.W. from Berks into Wilts along the Inkpen—Ham Hill scarp. On Sept. 27th between 09.35-11.40 hours in rain and against a strong wind c. 550 Swallows crossed the scarp at Inkpen flying S.S.W. with c. 150 House Martins, c. 70 Skylarks, c. 75 Linnets and c. 380 Meadow Pipits. In 1957 it is hoped to organise a close observation of what appears to be a probable autumn passage route.
276. HOUSE MARTIN. First seen Apr. 1st, Longford (M.K.L.); Apr. 10th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); Apr. 11th, Notton (G.L.B.). A pure albino seen at Inglesham, Aug. 30th (F.H.M.). For movement on passage see under Swallow. Last seen Oct. 28th, Longford (E.B.); Nov. 7th, Marlborough (F.H.M.).
277. SAND MARTIN. First seen Apr. 3rd, Longford (E.B.); Apr. 7th, Salisbury (H.J.C.); Apr. 10th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.) and Braydon Pond (R.G.B.). Last seen Sept. 4th, Harnham (H.J.C.); Sept. 6th, Longford (E.B.).
279. RAVEN. Two seen by Mr. Blakeley near Totterdown, Mar. 15th.
281. HOODED CROW. Single birds at Coate Water, Dec. 2nd, and at Rodbourne Sewage Farm, Dec. 29th (G.L.W.).
288. GREAT TIT. A nest box from which the first brood had very recently flown contained a second clutch of 5 eggs on June 7th (W.M.C.).
293. WILLOW TIT. Near Alderbury a pair was identified, Jan. 15th (P.R., C.M.R.P.), and Sept. 8th (E.B.).
300. DIPPER. One, in full song, by Broadmead Brook, Jan. 22nd (R.J.S.). One successful hatch and one nest destroyed by boys in the Castle Combe district (E.J.C.). A single bird by the R. Ebbel, Mar. 5th (P.R.). A pair by the R. Nadder near Dinton (B.M.S.), and an immature bird seen there, Aug. 24th (G.E.). October records from Quidhampton (E.B.), H.J.C.), Wilton (H.J.C.) and Bemerton (C.M.R.P.). Noted twice at Salisbury in winter (W.A.C.). One by the Avon at West Amesbury, Nov. 22nd, the first seen there by J.K.S.
302. FIELDFARE. Last seen in spring, Apr. 21st, Hullavington (E.J.C.); Apr. 24th, Seend Cleeve (R.J.S.); Apr. 28th, Marlborough (W.P.L.); May 1st, Sandridge (R.J.S.). First in autumn, Oct. 13th, Coate (G.L.W.); Oct. 27th, Wilton (E.B.); Nov. 3rd, Cole Park (J.M.B.), and Staverton (R.J.S.).
304. REDWING. Last seen in spring, Apr. 1st, Ramsbury (C.A.W.) and c. 100 in babbling song, Westbury (A.R.A.); Apr. 3rd, Upavon (F.E.F.); Apr. 11th, Petersfinger (H.J.C.). First in autumn, Oct. 9th, Bishopstone (P.R.) and heard flying over Swindon at night (G.L.W.); Oct. 15th, Keevil (R.L.V.).
307. RING OUZEL. An adult male at Yarnbury Castle dodging behind clumps of gorse, Mar. 30th (G.E.). The following note for 1955 was omitted in error—one seen by Professor. M. F. M. Meiklejohn and J.K.S. on an open down west of Middle Woodford, Mar. 28th.
308. BLACKBIRD. Seen and heard singing at Keevil on the evening of Nov. 6th, a sub-song but with most of the familiar notes and loud enough to attract attention (R.L.V.); sub-song heard at Britford, Dec. 9th (E.B.).
311. WHEATEAR. First seen Mar. 30th, Barbury Castle (A.C.S.); Mar. 31st, Pitton (R.W.); Apr. 2nd, Laverstock (H.J.C.). Last seen, Sept. 25th, Ramsbury (M.C.F.); Oct. 14th, Downton (E.B.) and Porton (D.B.P.).
317. STONECHAT. Single birds were seen near Great Somerford, Mar. 11th (J.M.B.), and near Marlborough, Mar. 18th, (J.H.H.). An adult with young just out of the nest near Hales Purlieu, May 7th (J.K.S.). A pair feeding among kale near Horton, Sept. 28th (B.G.). In autumn a single bird was seen near Bemerton, Oct. 22nd (H.J.C.), and near Netheravon, Nov. 3rd (J.K.S.). A pair were at Devil's Den, Nov. 15th (W. S.).
318. WHINCHAT. First seen, Apr. 28th, near Salisbury (H.J.C.). One or two pairs apparently nested in upland field north of Pitton (R.W.). Frequent records on passage in late August and September. Last noted, Sept. 18th, Keevil (R.L.V.); Sept. 23rd, Old Sarum (H.J.C.); Sept. 26th, Conholt Hill (E.L.J.).
320. REDSTART. First seen Apr. 15th at Littlecote (C.A.W. and J.R.L.), Ramsbury (C.A.W.), and Corsham Park (G.W.H.). Also noted later in April, probably on migration near Everleigh (B.G.); Little Somerford (J.M.B.), Littleton Drew (G.L.B.), West Amesbury (J.K.S.), Bemerton (H.J.C.), and in Swindon (G.L.W.). A pair seen near Castle Combe in May (E.J.C.), and Mr. Doel reported about 6 pairs at Longleat (M.B.). Nest and eggs found in an outhouse near Eaton Weir, May 22nd (G.L.W.). Last seen early September, Lockeridge (C.A.C.); Sept. 7th, Trafalgar (E.B.); Sept. 15th, Westbury, (A.R.A.).

321. BLACK REDSTART. A male seen on waste ground in Bemerton, Mar. 21st, where it had been identified by a local resident on the two previous days (H.J.C.). A female in allotments near the Avon above Salisbury, Mar. 31st (H.J.C.). A male seen flying along a roadside wire fence at Aldbourne, Sept. 14th (M.C.F.).
322. NIGHTINGALE. First noted, Apr. 17th, Alderbury (H.J.C.) and Clarendon (C.M.R.P.); Apr. 21st, Sandridge (R.J.S.).
327. GRASSHOPPER WARBLER. First heard Apr. 18th, Clarendon (R.W., C.M.R.P.); Apr. 26th, Middle Woodford (H.J.C.); Apr. 28th, Coate (G.L.W.) and Britford (E.B.). Later records from the following places: the Kennet and Avon Canal at Allington, Chisbury Wood and Great Bedwyn (B.G.); in Bowden Park, below the Westbury 'White Horse', in Great Ridge Wood and near Heaven's Gate, Longleat (R.J.S.); near Little Somerford (J.M.B.); Stratford-sub-Castle (G.E.). Last seen Sept. 20th at Downton (E.B.).
333. REED WARBLER. First heard May 7th, Downton (E.B.); May 12th, Coate Water (G.L.W.). Over 20 nests found at Coate (G.L.W.). Last seen Sept. 15th, Coate Water (G.L.W.).
337. SEDGE WARBLER. First noted Apr. 17th, Salisbury (H.J.C.) and Clarendon Lake (C.M.R.P.); Apr. 21st, Netherhampton (G.E.). J.K.S. notes the tendency for pairs to haunt fences some way from water. A bird in corn far out on Salisbury Plain, Aug. 8th, was probably a passing migrant (J.K.S.). Last seen Sept. 16th, Rodbourne (G.L.W.); Sept. 22nd, Amesbury (J.K.S.); Sept. 30th, Downton (E.B.).
343. BLACKCAP. There are two records of 'wintering' birds. At Whiteparish a male spent most of Jan. 30—31st just outside a kitchen window in a hedge or on a bird table where it appeared to eat mostly bread. It was friendly with other birds and was often there with Robin, Chaffinch, Great and Blue Tits (H.P.S.). A letter in the *Field* of Feb. 9th signed M. C. Anson reports a female on a bird table in Salisbury 'yesterday' (sic). First noted in spring Apr. 13th, Clarendon (C.M.R.P.); Apr. 15th, Little Durnford (G. E.); Apr. 17th, Wilton (E.B.). Last seen Sept. 10th near Alderbury (H.J.C.).
346. GARDEN WARBLER. One seen at Upton Lovell Mar. 31st, an early date (G.E.). Next noted Apr. 28th, Seend Cleeve (R.J.S.); Apr. 29th, Tollard Royal (V.T.).
347. WHITETHROAT. First noted Apr. 14th, Dinton (G.E.); Apr. 21st, Odstock (E.B.), Marlborough (J.H.H.) and Coate (G.L.W.). More birds seen than in the previous four years, Amesbury (J.K.S.). Last noted Sept. 9th, Trafalgar (E.B.); Sept. 16th, Rodbourne (G.L.W.); Sept. 23rd, Old Sarum (H.J.C.).
348. LESSER WHITETHROAT. First noted Apr. 26th, Camp Down (H.J.C.); Apr. 28th, East Knoyle (B.M.S.); Apr. 30th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.). Last seen Sept. 10th, Old Sarum (H.J.C.); Sept. 20th, Downton (E.B.).
352. DARTFORD WARBLER. In South Wilts a male was seen in song several times on May 7th (J.K.S.).
354. WILLOW WARBLER. First noted Mar. 21st, Clatford (R.E.M.); Mar. 28th, Britford (E.B.); Mar. 31st, Coate (G.L.W.). Last noted Sept. 24th, Amesbury (J.K.S.); Sept. 30th, Downton (E.B.) and Rodbourne (G.L.W.).
356. CHIFFCHAFF. First noted Mar. 11th, Farley (W.M.C.); Mar. 20th, Harnham (H.J.C.); Mar. 21st, Box (C.S.H.) and Bodenham (E.B.). Last noted Oct. 6th, Harnham (H.J.C.); Oct. 7th, Trafalgar (E.B.) and Coate (G.L.W.).
357. WOOD WARBLER. First noted Apr. 13th, Farley (Mr. Haskell per W.M.C.); Apr. 26th, Little Durnford (H.J.C.) and East Knoyle (B.M.S.).
366. SPOTTED FLYCATCHER. First seen May 6th, Ramsbury (M.C.F.) and Clarendon (C.M.R.P.); May 7th, Amesbury (J.K.S.); Last seen Sept. 2nd, Coate (G.L.W.); first week of Sept., Amesbury (J.K.S.); Sept. 13th, Stratford-sub-Castle (H.J.C.).
368. PIED FLYCATCHER. A male in Boreham Wood, Apr. 22nd (G.W.C.). One was watched for some time flitting about beside a backwater of the Kennet, Apr. 27th (I.G.). In Savernake Forest one was seen on May 1st (R.E.M.) and two, July 7th (W.P.L.).
373. MEADOW PIPIT. For note on passage see under Swallow.
376. TREE PIPIT. First noted Apr. 7th, Coate (G.L.W.); Apr. 18th, Castle Combe (G.L.B.). Last noted Sept. 14th, Amesbury (J.K.S.).
381. GREY WAGTAIL. Many records show that it is well distributed by streams and rivers throughout the county.

382. **YELLOW WAGTAIL.** First seen Mar. 30th, Coate (J.H.H.); Apr. 1st, Rodbourne (A.C.S.). Parties on migration in mid-April at Odstock (P.R.) and at Rodbourne Sewage Farm in April and September, 39 there on Sept. 9th (G.L.W.). Frequented upland pastures near Pitton in late August (R.W.). In breeding season seen near the Salisbury Avon at West Harnham (G.E.) and West Amesbury (J.K.S.). At least 4 pairs near the Bristol Avon between Melksham and Holt (G.L.B.) and another near Sutton Benger (R.G.B.). Pairs also at the gravel pits at Compton Bassett (B.G.) and Dauntsey (J.M.B.). A 'variant' bird with grey head and back, light throat and breast on Rybury Camp, Aug. 30th (B.G.), and another male with lightish grey head tinged with blue, a pale indistinct eye-strip and yellow chin near Salisbury, Apr. 10th (H.J.C.). Last seen Sept. 26th, East Harnham (E.B.); Oct. 6th, Coate (G.L.W.).

384. **GREAT GREY SHRIKE.** One was at East Gomeldon near Porton on dates from Oct. 26th to Nov. 11th seen by G.E., D.B.P., P.R. and C.M.R.P.

388. **RED-BACKED SHRIKE.** Notes on this species will be included in the results of an Enquiry in a future Report.

389. **STARLING.** Birds returned to the Clench Common roost between Dec. 15th and 20th, 1955, and in early January 1956 it was impossible to estimate their numbers. Birds did not return there in autumn but a new roost was found at Crooked Soley near Chilton Foliat (J.H.H.).

During July a roost of about 3,000 was found in a 3-acre wood near High Post. Numbers gradually increased and estimates in November vary from $\frac{1}{4}$ million (G.E.) to $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 millions (P.R.). Flocks came in chiefly from N.E. and S. At Teffont Magna in December it was a daily occurrence for the sky to appear dark with birds in the late afternoon. They were flying E.N.E., presumably to the High Post roost (B.M.S.).

393. **GOLDFINCH.** A flock at West Amesbury, May 3rd, a late date (J.K.S.).

394. **SISKIN.** Two, with goldfinches, in alders at Bodenham, Jan. 22nd (E.B.) One, with finches, at Rodbourne sewage farm, Feb. 26th (G.L.W.). Many in a mixed flock with Redpolls in tops of larches in Alderbury Woods, Feb. 26th (P.R.). Several in Boreham Wood, Apr. 22nd (G.W.C.).

395. **LINNET.** For passage movement see under Swallow.

367. **REDPOLL.** One feeding on willow herbs seeds near Alderbury, Jan. 2nd (H.J.C.). Two, in sedges at Longford, Jan. 22nd (E.B.). Some feeding with Siskins in larches near Alderbury, Feb. 26th (P.R.). One on Ansty Down, Oct. 16th, and at East Knoyle four were seen, Oct. 31st, and one, Nov. 12th (B.M.S.).

404. **CROSSBILL.** A flock of 20—30 were seen daily from mid-July until July 31st flying about a plantation of spruce and larch near the county boundary at Redlynch. They were clearly seen twisting and pulling off young spruce tips; there were no cones this year (M.J.G.). A female near Kingston Deverill, Aug. 10th was perched on wire fencing near pine plantations (D.C.). A flock of c. 60 was seen at New Park, Stourton on Nov. 19th (reported by Mr. G. Coyne to P.R.).

407. **CHAFFINCH.** Flocks, mainly of males, seen near Amesbury as late as Apr. 29th (J.K.S.). A flock of c. 40 at Hodson, Apr. 30th (G.L.W.).

408. **BRAMBLING.** Last seen in spring, Mar. 25th, Salisbury (H.J.C.) and Savernake Forest (V.C.L., J.R.L.); Apr. 1st, Upavon (F.E.F.) and Rodbourne (G.L.W., A.C.S.). In large flocks of mixed finches and buntings 250—300 remained in fields near Salisbury, Jan. 6th—Mar. 4th; c. 200 near Old Sarum, Feb. 29th (H.J.C.); and c. 100 near Aldbourne. Feb. 24th (M.C.F.).

First seen in autumn, Oct. 20th, East Knoyle (B.M.S.); Nov. 22nd, Britford (E.B.); Nov. 24th, Cole Park (J.M.B.).

410. **CORN BUNTING.** A large party on Larkhill sewage farm, Apr. 29th (J.K.S.). A male singing from a telegraph wire near Lower Inglesham, May 22nd (G.L.W.); about 15 noted in song within the triangle between Lopscombe Corner, the Pheasant Inn and East Winterslow (E.L.J.). No observer reported on either of these two last mentioned areas in the Corn Bunting Enquiry 1955.

415. **CIRL BUNTING.** A flock of 9 males and 15 females on rough ground N.E. of Salisbury, Jan. 5th (P.R.). A pair at Harnwood, Jan. 21st (E.B.) and near Salisbury, Apr. 12th (P.R.). Also noted at Bodenham and Nunton from Mar. 23rd. (M.K.L.). One visited a bird-bath at Farley, June 1st (W.M.C.).

424. **HOUSE SPARROW.** A large flock, nearly all males, was seen on corn near Wilsford with a gathering of other males, Chaffinches, Yellow and Reed Buntings, and Greenfinches, Apr. 26th; the Sparrows and Yellow Buntings still in flocks, Apr. 30th, a late date (J.K.S.).

425. **TREE SPARROW.** Seen at Rodbourne Sewage Farm in winter with finches, c. 20 in cold weather, Feb. 19th (G.L.W.). Breeding noted near Chippenham and Somerford (E.J.C.) and at Totterdown (R.E.M.).

CHECK-LIST numbers of those species which, though not mentioned in these notes, were recorded in 1956: 84, 93, 110, 116, 126, 208, 232, 234, 241, 246, 247, 258, 263, 280, 282, 283, 284, 286, 289, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 299, 301, 302, 325, 364, 371, 380, 392, 401, 409, 42

Corrections to 1955 Bird List.

117. QUAIL. Reported by Mr. R. J. Spencer from Tinhead, not Tilshead.
 140. GOLDEN PLOVER. c. 600 Lapwing recorded in a field in the Wylve Valley should be Golden Plover.
 150. CURLEW. Nest found at Littleton Mill, not Littleton Drew.

CENSUS OF MUTE SWANS.

A national census of this species was organised by the British Trust for Ornithology in 1955. As part of this census a count was made in Wiltshire in the spring of that year.

The number of breeding pairs recorded in 1955 was as follows:—

In Vice-county 7 (N. Wilts): R. Thames tributaries, Cole and Derry Brook, 2; R. Avon (Bristol) main stream, 9; Rivers Marden, Biss and Bybrook, 3; R. Kennet, 4; lakes and ponds, 18.

On the Vice-counties boundary, Kennet and Avon canal, 11.

In Vice-County 8 (S. Wilts): R. Avon, above Salisbury, 17; R. Avon, below Salisbury, 16; R. Till, 1; R. Bourne, 3; R. Wylve, 13; R. Nadder, 1; lakes and ponds, 19. Total number recorded for county, 117 breeding pairs.

On account of their movements, numbers of non-breeding birds were difficult to estimate. Maximum numbers noted in the four herds found were: on the R. Thames county boundary at Hannington Bridge, 22; on the R. Kennet at Chilton Foliat, 55; on the R. Wylve at Stoford, 40; on the Salisbury Avon at Britford, 100. In addition to these herds there were many small parties and single birds scattered throughout the county on rivers, canal, lakes and ponds.

Final figures are not yet available, but it is likely that only Dorset, Norfolk and Somerset recorded more nests than Wiltshire.

RUTH G. BARNES.

WILTSHIRE PLANT NOTES(18)
(First Supplement to The Flora of Wiltshire)
compiled by

DONALD GROSE, Downs Edge, Liddington.

The Flora of Wiltshire was published on August 1st, 1957, and included the records of Plant Notes (17). The present list of species notified in 1956 and 1957 should be regarded as a first Supplement to the Flora.

Additions to Bibliography

- (252) *Cheltenham and District Naturalists' Society Report, 1953-1954.* 1956.
(253) *Wiltshire Plant Notes-(17),* Donald Grose in (113), 1957.
(254) *The Flora of Wiltshire,* Donald Grose, 1957.

Additions to Recorders

Barrett	T.	Warminster	c.1937	Warminster Journal
Bartlett A.		Broughton Gifford	1957	Wiltshire Times
Browning	E.	Swindon	1957	
Buxton	Mrs. J.	Malmesbury	1956	
Coombe P.	Mrs.	Salisbury	1956	
Crowdy	Mrs. B.	Atworth	1956	
Cruse	H. J.	Chippenham	1957	
D. M.		Swindon	1957	Evening Advertiser
David	R. W.	London	1956	
Dransfield	M.	Purley, Surrey	1956	
Gibbs	Miss M. J.	Hale, Hants	1957	
Gillam	Miss B.	Allington	1957	
Grudgings	N. U.	Melksham	1957	G
Hancock	G.	Devizes	1957	
Hughes R. A. C.		Marlborough College	1956	
Jefferies	H. S.	Bradford-on-Avon	1957	Wiltshire Times
Pickering	D. W.	Devizes	1957	
Roseweir	A.	Southampton	1956	
Salisbury	Sir Edward	Kew, Surrey	1922	
Scott	Miss D. M.	Marlborough College	1956	
Sell	E. L.	Cheltenham	1954	252
Seth-Smith	Miss	Edington	1956	G
Sutton	S. L.	Marlborough College	1956	
Thompson E. J.		Trowbridge	1956	Wiltshire Times
Ward	P.	Gutch Common	1957	G

Additions to Herbaria

HU The Grass Book of H. J. Hunt, Chippenham.

WN The herbarium of H. C. Watson at Kew.

The following list adds two new native species to our Wiltshire flora and no fewer than twelve aliens. A few plants are now marked 'frequent' for particular botanical divisions indicating that additional notices have been received since the publication of the Flora to bring the total records to the frequency standards there described (254, p.76). Entries given for adjoining counties are for localities which were formerly in Wiltshire (254, p. 59). The sign '!' denotes that the writer has seen the plant growing in the locality mentioned. Colour-forms have been excluded; it may be possible to treat these separately later.

Thalictrum flavum L. Common Meadow Rue. 8. Fisherton Delamere, Stratton. Sherrington. 10. Frequent.

Ranunculus peltatus Schrank. 1. Poulshot.

R. bulbosus L. Bulbous Buttercup. Form with double flowers. 4. Down above Sound Bottom.

Helleborus viridis L. Green Hellebore. 10. Homington, Dransfield.

Eranthis hyemalis (L.) Salisb. Winter Aconite. 2. Escape, Bradford-on-Avon, E. S. Smith.

- Aquilegia vulgaris* L. Columbine. 4. South border of Hens Wood. 10. Wiltshire Coppice, *Stratton*.
Delphinium orientale J. Gay. Larkspur. 2. Rubbish-tip, Chippenham, *Collett*.
Mahonia aquifolium (Pursh) Nutt. Oregon Grape. 3. Hedge, Wanborough Plain.
Fumaria micrantha Lag. 7. Roadside below Beacon Hill, Bulford.
Rorippa sylvestris (L.) Besser. Creeping Yellow Cress. 2. Cultivated ground, Seagry, *Barnes*.
Arabis hirsuta (L.) Scop. Hairy Rock Cress. 2. Long Dean.
Lunaria annua L. Honesty. 4. Man's Head. *R. A. C. Hughes* and *Sutton*. Border of Love's Copse, *Whiting*.
Hesperis matronalis L. Dame's Violet. 2. Roadside near Braydon Pond, *Barnes* (G). 4. Man's Head, *R. A. C. Hughes* and *Sutton*. 8. Roadside between Tilshead and Chitterne, *Goldstraw*.
Sisymbrium orientale L. 2. Bremhill.
Erysimum cheiranthoides L. Treacle Mustard. 3. Old Swindon.
Brassica rapa var. *sylvestris* H. C. Watson. Wild Turnip. 1. Bank of River Frome near Rode Bridge (Som), (G).
Erucastrum gallicum (Willd.) O. E. Schulz. 5. Roadside near Beacon Hill, Bulford.
Diplotaxis tenuifolia (L.) DC. Wall Rocket. 4. Roadside near Ogbourne Station.
Coronopus squamatus (Forsk.) Aschers. Swine's Cress. 8. Breach Hill.
Lepidium campestre (L.) R. Br. Field Pepperwort. 10. Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*.
Cardaria draba (L.) Desv. Hoary Cress. 1. Edington, *Seth-Smith*! 2. By the old mill, Long Dean.
Thlaspi arvense L. Penny Cress. 7. Roadside below Beacon Hill, Bulford.
Raphanus raphanistrum L. Wild Radish. 8. Breach Hill.
Reseda luteola L. Dyer's Rocket. 7. Redhorn Hill.
Viola tricolor L. Wild Pansy. 3. Stratton Park, *Whiting*!
V. arvensis x *tricolor*. 2. Sand-pit, Compton Bassett, *Frowde*! 4. Mildenhall Borders, *Scott*!
Polygala serpyllifolia Hose. Heath Milkwort. 6. Collingbourne Wood, *Sandell*! 8. Great Ridge Wood (G).
Saponaria officinalis L. Soapwort. 2. Roadside between Sutton Benger and Kellaways, *Barnes*. 3. Wall, High-worth, *Arke*ll. 7. Roadside, Salisbury, *Bryden*.
Silene anglica L. English Catchfly. 10. Lopshill (Hants), *Timperley*!
Melandrium noctiflorum (L.) Fries. Night-flowering Catchfly. 1. Tinhead Hill, *Hughes*. 3. Frequent. 10. Frequent.
M. album x *rubrum*. 10. Ox Drove near Winkelbury Hill.
Cerastium tomentosum L. 1. Poulshot, *Sandell*!
Stellaria neglecta Weihe. 10. Coombe Bissett, *Dransfield*.
S. graminea L. Lesser Stitchwort. Form with minute petals. 8. Grassland near Stockton Wood, *Gibbs*. Miss Gibbs points out that this male-sterile form appears to be associated with large purple anthers. It may be caused by the smut, *Ustilago violacea*.
Sagina apetala Ard. Annual Pearlwort. 4. Ride in Hens Wood.
S. ciliata Fries. Fringed Pearlwort. 6. Track on Sunton Heath. Ride in Collingbourne Wood.
S. nodosa (L.) Fenzl. Knotted Pearlwort. 6. Track on Sunton Heath.
Spergula arvensis L. Corn Spurrey. 8. Tilshead Down.
Spergularia rubra (L.) J. & C. Presl. Sand Spurrey. 1. Track, Yarnfield Gate.
Hypericum humifusum L. Trailing St. John's Wort. 3. Field between Coate Water and Hodson, *Timperley*. 9. Frequent. 10. Lopshill (Hants), *Timperley*!
Malva moschata L. Musk Mallow. 8. Butler's Cross.
M. neglecta Wallr. Dwarf Mallow. 2. Bank of Avon near Chippenham Bridge, *Hunt*. Bremhill, *Hunt*! *Devizes*, *Pickering*.
M. verticillata L. 2. Bremhill, *Hunt* (G) !
Geranium sanguineum L. Bloody Crane's-bill. 9. Opposite the chalk-pit, East Knoyle, *Stevens* and *Stratton*.
G. phaeum L. Dusky Crane's-bill. 1. Roadside, Gare Hill (v.c.6), (G). 2. Atworth, *Crowdy*.
G. pratense L. Meadow Crane's-bill. 8. Frequent.
Erodium cicutarium (L.) L'Hérit. Stork's-bill. 10. Frequent.
Oxalis corniculata L. 7. Salisbury, *Stevens*.
Impatiens capensis Meerb. Orange Balsam. 1. Near Rode Bridge (Som). 9. Water-meadow east of Wilton Park, *Newall*.
I. glandulifera Royle. Himalayan Balsam. 10. Coombe Bissett, *Dransfield*.
Genista tinctoria L. Dyer's Greenweed. 9-10. Frequent.
Sarothamnus scoparius (L.) Wimm. Broom. 7. In gorse scrub on Rushall Down.
Ononis spinosa L. Spinous Rest Harrow. 8. Butler's Cross.

- Medicago sativa* L. Lucerne. 3. Frequent.
- Melilotus alba* Desr. White Melilot. 3. Wanborough Plain. 7. Redhorn Hill. 8. Urchfont Hill.
- M. officinalis* (L.) Lam. Field Melilot. 2. Bremhill, *Collett!* 8. Urchfont Hill.
- Trifolium medium* Huds. Zigzag Clover. 7. Railway bank, Beechingstoke. 8. Great Ridge. 10. Lopshill (Hants), *Timperley!*
- T. incarnatum* L. Crimson Clover. 2. Bremhill. 10. Witherington, *Stevens.*
- T. arvense* L. Hare's-foot Trefoil. 2. Bremhill, *Hunt!*
- T. fragiferum* L. Strawberry-headed Clover. 8. On chalk, White Sheet Hill (v.c.6).
- T. dubium* Sibth. Lesser Yellow Trefoil. Proliferous form. 1. Erlestoke Woods, *Grudgings* (G).
- Lotus tenuis* Waldst. & Kit. Narrow-leaved Bird's-foot Trefoil. 10. Harnham, *Dransfield.*
- Galega officinalis* L. Goats' Rue. 8. Roadside between Tilshead and Shrewton, *Grudgings.*
- Coronilla varia* L. Crown Vetch. 1. Wall, Edington, *Seth-Smith!*
- Vicia tenuifolia* Roth. 9. Roadside west of Stockton Wood, *Stratton*; det. J. E. Lousley.
- V. tetrasperma* (L.) Schreb. Smooth Tare. 6. Collingbourne Wood, *I. M. Grose!* 10. Damerham (Hants), *Timperley.*
- V. sylvatica* L. Wood Vetch. 4. Tawsmead Copse, *Gillam.*
- Lathyrus aphaca* L. Yellow Vetchling. 1. Potterne Field, *H. W. Timperley.* 4. Canal bank west of Wilcot, *H. W. Timperley.*
- L. vernus* (L.) Bernh. 8. Stockton Wood, 1955, *Stratton*; det. R. D. Meikle.
- Prunus cerasifera* Ehrh. Cherry Plum. 8. Fisherton Delamere, *Stratton.*
- Potentilla norvegica* L. 3. Gravel-pit, Somerford Keynes (Glos), 1954, *Sell* (252).
- P. recta* L. 2. Rubbish-tip, Chippenham, *Hunt* (G).
- Aphanes microcarpa* (Boiss. & Reut.) Rothm. 8. Ride, Great Ridge Wood. 9. Fonthill Abbey Wood. 10. Lopshill (Hants).
- Alchemilla vestita* (Buser) Raunk. Lady's Mantle. 3. Jennings Moor (Glos); now destroyed.
- Agrimonia odorata* (Gouan) Mill. Fragrant Agrimony. 10. Whitsbury Wood (Hants), *Timperley!*
- Mespilus germanica* L. Medlar. 2. Hedge, Cocklebury, *Collett* (G)!
- Cotoneaster prostrata* var. *lanata* Schneid. 9. Fonthill Terrace, *Sandell* (G)!
- Saxifraga umbrosa* L. London Pride. 8. Naturalized on chalk bank at foot of White Sheet Hill, *Collett* (G)!
- Sedum telephium* L. Orpine Stonecrop. 2. Great Wood, *Grigson.* 10. Whitsbury Wood (Hants).
- S. reflexum* L. Reflexed Stonecrop. 2. Kingsdown, *Pickering.*
- Epilobium roseum* Schreb. Pale Willow-herb. 1. Edington. 3. Liddington.
- E. obscurum* Schreb. 10. Lopshill (Hants).
- E. palustre* L. Marsh Willow-herb. 9. Fovant Wood, *Wallace.*
- Foeniculum vulgare* Mill. Fennel. 2. Roadside near Easton, *Hunt.* 3. Chalk-pit, Bishopstone, *Whiting.*
- Oenanthe pimpinelloides* L. 10. Lopshill (Hants).
- Silaum silaus* (L.) Schinz & Thell. Sulphurwort. 7. Damp field near Stanton Dairy.
- Galium pumillum* Murray. Slender Bedstraw. 10. Grassy chalk down north of Manwood Copse, *Collett* and *Grose* (G). New for Wiltshire.
- G. palustre* var. *witheringii* (Sm.) Rouy & Fouc. 6. Dry bank, Collingbourne Wood (G).
- G. uliginosum* L. Bog Bedstraw. 3. Jennings Moor (Glos), *Sandell!* 10. Lopshill (Hants), *Timperley!*
- Valerianella dentata* (L.) Poll. Narrow-fruited Corn Salad. 3. Somerford Keynes (Glos), *Sandell!*
- Scabiosa columbaria* L. Small Scabious. Proliferous form. 4. Mildenhall Warren, *Whiting* (G).
- Solidago virgaurea* L. Golden Rod. 10. Whitsbury Wood (Hants), *H. W. Timperley!*
- Aster novi-belgii* L. Michaelmas Daisy. 4. Roadside near Beckhampton (G). Riverside, Knighton.
- Erigeron canadensis* L. Canadian Fleabane. 1. Roadside between Potterne and Devizes, *Timperley.* 2. Cocklebury. Bremhill, *Hunt!* 7. Railway bank, Milkhouse Water.
- E. acris* L. Blue Fleabane. 6. Collingbourne Wood, *I. M. Grose!* 8. Penning Down.
- Filago germanica* L. Cudweed. 2. Bremhill, *Hunt.*
- Gnaphalium sylvaticum* L. Heath Cudweed. 6. Collingbourne Wood, *I. M. Grose!*
- Pulicaria dysenterica* (L.) Bernh. Fleabane. 6. Dry track, Collingbourne Wood, *I. M. Grose!*
- Bidens cernuus* L. Nodding Bur-marigold. 4. Riverside, Knighton.
- Anthemis cotula* L. Stinking Chamomile. 8. Tilshead Down.
- Matricaria chamomilla* L. Wild Chamomile. 10. Lopshill (Hants).
- Artemisia biennis* Willd. 9. Goods yard, Salisbury Station, 1922, *Salisbury.*

- Senecio vulgaris* var. *radiatus* Koch. 3. Near Stratton Park Halt. 4. Chilton Foliat. 7. Railway track, Beechingstoke. 8. One plant in stubble, Breach Hill.
- S. sylvaticus* L. Heath Groundsel. 10. Lopshill (Hants).
- S. viscosus* L. Stinking Groundsel. 5. Railway track south-east of Newton Tony.
- S. erucifolius* L. Hoary Ragwort. 4. Chisbury Wood, Wallace. 6. Sunton Heath. 10. Lopshill (Hants).
- Carduus nutans* L. Musk Thistle. 3. Gravel-pit, Somerford Keynes (Glos).
- Cirsium eriophorum* (L.) Scop. Woolly-headed Thistle. 7. Redhorn Hill. 8. Frequent.
- C. tuberosum* (L.) All. Tuberous Thistle. 7. Redhorn Hill. 8. Brouncker's Down. Both these localities are in the army area.
- C. caule x tuberosum*. 8. Stoke Hill. Brouncker's Down. Near Brouncker's Well. Abundant on these slopes.
- C. dissectum* (L.) Hill. Meadow Thistle. 2. Sheldon, Cruse.
- Onopordum acanthium* L. Cotton Thistle. 4. Hackpen Hill, Collett! Man's Head, R. A. C. Hughes and Sutton. 6. Collingbourne Ducis.
- Silybum marianum* (L.) Gaertn. Milk Thistle. 1. Edington, Timperley. Little Cheverell, Nurse. 5. Clarendon, Stevens.
- Cichorium intybus* L. Chicory. 6. Crawlboys Farm, I. M. Grose! 8. Great Ridge. Breach Hill.
- Picris hieracioides* L. Hawkweed Ox-tongue. 7. Rushall Down. 8. Frequent.
- Crepis biennis* L. Rough Hawk's-beard. 3. Somerford Keynes (Glos).
- Hieracium bladonii* Pugs. 7. Railway bank, Milkhouse Water.
- H. brumneocroceum* Pugs. 4. Near Bitham Pond. O. Meyrick. 6. Ride in Collingbourne Wood (G).
- Cicerbita macrophylla* (Willd.) Wallr. 1. Roadside between Imber and Bratton, Hughes. 4. Man's Head, R. A. C. Hughes and Sutton.
- Phyteuma tenerum* R. Schulz. Round-headed Rampion. 4. Easton Down, Gandy. Form with leafy stem and all flowers converted into bracts. 4. Knoll Down (G); det. N.Y. Sandwith.
- Campanula trachelium* L. Nettle-leaved Bellflower. 1. Castle ramparts, Devizes, Hancock.
- Erica cinerea* L. Fine-leaved Heath. 10. Whitsbury Wood (Hants).
- Primula veris x vulgaris*. 3. Railway bank, South Marston, Whiting.
- Anagallis arvensis* ssp. *foemina* (Mill.) Schinz & Thell. Blue Pimpernel. 2. Fields between Atworth and South Wraxall, Pickering.
- Vinca major* L. Greater Periwinkle. 3. Ladder Lane.
- V. minor* L. Lesser Periwinkle. 9. East Knoyle, Stratton.
- Blackstonia perfoliata* (L.) Huds. Yellow Centaury. 8. Coulston Down.
- Gentianella anglica* (Pugs.) E. F. Warburg. 4. Frequent. 10. Near Manwood Copse. Trow Down. Monks Down.
- Phacelia tanacetifolia* Benth. 2. Casual in fodder crop, Seagry, Barnes (G). Bromham, E. M. Wright (G).
- Symphytum peregrinum* Ledeb. Prickly Comfrey. 1. Murhill, Packer. 8. Waste ground at foot of White Sheet Hill (v.c.6), Collett!
- Borago officinalis* L. Borage. 2. Dunkirk, Sandell!
- Pentaglottis sempervirens* (L.) Tausch. Evergreen Alkanet. 8. Lane opposite Codford St. Peter Church, Stratton. 9. Churchyard, East Knoyle, Stratton.
- Myosotis cespitosa* K. F. Schultz. Tufted Forget-me-not. 7. Damp field near Stanton Dairy.
- Echium vulgare* L. Viper's Bugloss. 8. Tilshead Down. 10. Frequent.
- Calystegia sylvestris* (Willd.) Roem. & Schult. 6. Burbage. 8. Willoughby Hedge, Stratton. 9. Donhead St. Andrew and Chadenwyche, Stratton.
- C. dahurica* (Herbert) G. Don. 9. East Knoyle, Stratton; det. S. M. Walters.
- Solanum nigrum* L. Black Nightshade. 7. Potato field, Foxley Corner.
- Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill. Tomato. 1. An abundant weed in a field of kale near Rode Bridge (Som). 7. Potato field, Foxley Corner, I. M. Grose! Cabbage field, Milkhouse Water. Previously known in Wiltshire only as a casual of waste ground: the recent records may indicate a change in status.
- Datura stramonium* L. Thorn-apple. 1. Trowbridge, E. J. Thompson. 2. Bradford-on-Avon, Jefferies. Broughton Gifford Common, A. Bartlett. Roadside near Morgan's Hill, Hancock; Collett. 3. Liddington Wick, Whiting. 8. Warminster, c. 1937, Barrett. The first three and the last records were brought to light by the 'Flying Saucers' correspondence in the *Warminster Journal* and *Wiltshire Times*, August and September, 1957.
- Hyoscyamus niger* L. Henbane. 1. Bratton, Hughes. 2. Island by Chippenham Bridge, Hunt. 6. Collingbourne Kingston.

- Verbascum blattaria* L. Moth Mullein. 1. Murhill, *Packer*!
- Antirrhinum orontium* L. Lesser Snapdragon. 10. Near Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*.
- Scrophularia vernalis* L. Spring Figwort. 1. Garden weed, Edington, *Seth-Smith* (G).
- Mimulus guttatus* DC. Monkey-flower. 3. Ampney Brook, *Grigson*. 4. River, Knighton.
- Veronica polita* Fries. Grey Field Speedwell. 1. Frequent. Form with three-lobed capsules. 3. Gravel-pit, Somerford Keynes (Glos).
- V. filiformis* Sm. 2. Colerne Park; Melksham and Bowden Hill, *T. G. Collett*. 7. Lane near Salisbury, 1954, *David*.
- Euphrasia anglica* Pugs. 10. Lopshill (Hants), *I. M. Grose* and *Timperley*!
- Melampyrum pratense* L. Common Cow-wheat. 2. Between Upper Wraxall and Colerne, *Collett*.
- Orobanche elatior* Sutton. Tall Broomrape. 9. Frequent.
- O. minor* var. *compositarum* Pugs. 4. Roadside, Broad Hinton, *Grudgings*, on *Crepis capillaris*.
- O. hederæ* Duby. Ivy Broomrape. 10. Harnham, *Dransfield*.
- Verbena officinalis* L. Vervain. 2. Roundway Hill, *Pickering*.
- Mentha rotundifolia* (L.) Huds. Round-leaved Mint. 7. Salisbury, *Stevens*.
- M. spicata* L. em. Huds. Spearmint. 4. Streamside, Knighton.
- M. piperita* L. Peppermint. 3. Liddington, *I. M. Grose*!
- Nepeta cataria* L. Catmint. 2. Roadside between Sherston and Foxley Green, *Barnes*.
- Scutellaria minor* L. Lesser Skull-cap. 9. Fovant Wood, *Wallace*.
- Stachys arvensis* L. Corn Woundwort. 10. Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*. Whitsbury (Hants), *I. M. Grose*!
- Lamium hybridum* Vill. Cut-leaved Dead-nettle. 7. Potato field, Foxley Corner (G).
- Scleranthus annuus* L. Knawel. 8. Abundant, Breach Hill.
- Amaranthus retroflexus* L. 2. Bremhill, *Collett*!
- Chenopodium polyspermum* L. All-seed Goosefoot. 7. Railway bank, Beechingstoke.
- C. hybridum* L. Maple-leaved Goosefoot. 10. Manor garden, Homington, *Farquharson*.
- C. rubrum* L. Red Goosefoot. 9. Roadside near Stourton.
- Atriplex patula* var. *bracteata* Westerlund. 3. Jennings Moor (Glos). 8. Tilshead Down.
- Salsola pestifer* A. Nels. 2. Rubbish-tip, Chippenham, *Hunt* (G).
- Polygonum dumetorum* L. Copse Buckwheat. 10. Still in Whitsbury Wood (Hants) where it was found by Rev. E. F. Linton in 1891, *I. M. Grose* (G)!
- P. convolvulus* var. *subalatum* Lej. & Court. 4. Hens Wood. 10. Whitsbury Wood (Hants), (G).
- P. rurivagum* Jord. 8. Near Brouncker's Farm.
- P. nodosum* Pers. Spotted Persicaria. 3. Cultivated field, Hodson. 8. Fallow field, Kilmington (v.c.6).
- P. cuspidatum* Sieb. & Zucc. 8. Shear Water, *Stratton*.
- Viscum album* L. Mistletoe. 3. On hawthorn in the middle of Swindon, *D.M., Evening Advertiser*, Oct. 15th, 1957.
- Euphorbia lathyris* L. Caper Spurge. 1. Waste ground, Bradford-on-avon, *Packer*.
- Mercurialis annua* L. Annual Mercury. 4. Garden on north bank of canal, *Wilcot*.
- Quercus petraea* (Mattuschka) Liebl. Durmast Oak. 9. Two trees in Fonthill Abbey Wood, *Ward* (G)! Wardour Park, c.1940, *Floyd*.
- Salix alba* var. *vitellina* (L.) Stokes. 2. Roadside near Lan Hill, *Sandwith*; det. R. D. Meikle.
- S. aurita* L. Round-eared Sallow. 4. Chisbury Wood.
- Elodea callitrichoides* (Rich.) Caspary. 1. Kennet & Avon Canal near Dundas Aqueduct, *Brenan* and *Sandwith* (G)!
- Neottia nidus-avis* (L.) L. C. Rich. Bird's-nest Orchid. 1. Penstones Wood (v.c.6), 1916, *E. Milne-Redhead*.
- Spiranthes spiralis* (L.) Chevall. Lady's Tresses. 8. Hill north of Kingston Deverill, *Stratton*, 9. Summit of Mere Down, *Stratton*.
- Cephalanthera damasonium* (Mill.) Druce. Large White Helleborine. 4. Common. 10. Common.
- Epipactis helleborine* (L.) Crantz. Broad-leaved Helleborine. 8. Arn Hill, *Godden*. 9. Holloway, *Wallford*.
- E. phyllanthes* G. E. Smith var. *phyllanthes*. 8. Stapleford Plantation, 1876, *Rogers* (WN). Deptford, *Roseweir*. Var. *vectensis* (T. & T. A. Steph.) D. P. Young. 7. Little Durnford, *Roseweir*. 8. Berwick St. James and Stapleford *Roseweir*. All det. D. P. Young.
- E. leptochila* Godf. 5. Winterslow, *Roseweir*; det. D. P. Young. New for Wiltshire.
- Anacamptis pyramidalis* (L.) L. C. Rich. Pyramidal Orchid. 3. Ladder Lane.
- Orchis ustulata* L. Burnt Orchis. 6. Between Ham Hill and Rivar Hill, *Partridge*. 8. Stockton Down.
- O. morio* L. Green-winged Orchis. 10. Frequent.
- O. praetermissa* var. *juniialis* (Vermeulen). 2. Weavern, *Collett*. 10. Near Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*.
- Ophrys insectifera* L. Fly Orchid. 2. Murhill, *Packer*.

- Gymnadenia conopsea* (L.) R. Br. Fragrant Orchid. 9. Track south of Middle Hills, *Bryden*. 10. Common.
G. conopsea x *Orchis fuchsii*. 2. Beacon Hill, Heddington, *Timperley* (G).
Coeloglossum viride (L.) Hartm. Frog Orchid. 9. Frequent.
Platanthera bifolia (L.) L. C. Rich. Lesser Butterfly Orchid. 9. Track south of Middle Hills, *Bryden*. 10. Valley by Manwood Copse, *Bryden*.
P. chlorantha (Cust.) Reichb. Greater Butterfly Orchid. 2. Stanton Park, *Hunt*. 8. Stockton Down. 10. Alec's Shade and Wiltshire Coppice, *Stratton*.
Narcissus pseudonarcissus L. Daffodil. 2. Meadow north of Littleton Drew, *Collett* and *Frowde*. 10. Near Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*.
Allium vineale L. var. *vineale*. Crow Garlic. 7. Milton Hill.
A. paradoxum G. Don. 1. Lane between Potterne and Devizes, *Sandell*.
Ruscus aculeatus L. Butcher's Broom. 10, Whitsbury Wood (Hants), *Timperley*.
Convallaria majalis L. Lily of the Valley. 9. Fonthill Abbey Wood (Hants), *Sandell*.
Muscari comosum (L.) Mill. 2. Cole Park, Malmesbury, *Buxton*.
Ornithogalum umbellatum L. Star of Bethlehem. 1. Cornfield, One Tree Hill, *H. W. Timperley*.
O. narbonense L. 1. Murhill, *Packer*; det. R. D. Meikle.
Tulipa sylvestris L. 2. Meadow north of Littleton Drew, *Collett* and *Frowde*.
Colchicum autumnale L. Meadow Saffron. 3. Meadow by Flagham Brook at Poole Keynes (Glos).
Paris quadrifolia L. Herb Paris. 9. East Knoyle, *Stratton*. 10. Frequent.
Juncus effusus x *inflexus*. 3. Jennings Moor (Glos), *Sandell*!
J. conglomeratus L. Common Rush. 6. Collingbourne Wood.
J. bulbosus L. Lesser Jointed Rush. 9. Fovant Wood, *Wallace*.
J. kochii Schultz. 10. Lopshill (Hants), *Sandell*!
J. subnodulosus Schrank. 3. Marsh near Owl's Copse, abundant.
Luzula forsteri (Sm.) DC. Narrow-leaved Hairy Woodrush. 6. Coldridge Wood. 10. Whitsbury Wood (Hants).
L. forsteri x *pilosa*. 10. Whitsbury Wood (Hants), (G).
Typha latifolia L. Great Reed-mace. Form with forked spike. 3. Coate Water, *Browning*.
Lemna polyrrhiza L. Greater Duckweed. 7. Canal, Milkhouse Water.
Triglochin palustris L. Marsh Arrowgrass. 3. Jennings Moor (Glos); now destroyed. 7. Marsh near Milkhouse Water.
Potamogeton bertholdii Fieb. 3. Gravel-pit, Somerford Keynes (Glos), *Sandell*!
Zannichellia palustris L. Horned Pondweed. 3. Somerford Keynes (Glos), *Sandell*!
Isolepis setacea (L.) R. Br. Bristle Club-rush. 9. Near The Convent, Stourton Woods.
Schoenoplectus lacustris (L.) Palla. Bulrush. 1. Near Rode Bridge (Som).
Scirpus sylvaticus L. Wood Club-rush. 3. Between Broome and Coate, 1942.
Carex pulicaris L. Flea Sedge. 3. Jennings Moor (Glos), *Sandell*! Now destroyed.
C. disticha Huds. 8. Sherrington. 10. Near Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*.
C. paniculata L. Panicked Sedge. 10. Near Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*.
C. divulsa Stokes. 6. Frequent.
C. ovalis Gooden. 9. Fonthill Abbey Wood. 10. Near Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*.
C. nigra (L.) Reichard. Common Sedge. 10. Near Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*.
C. humilis Leyss. Dwarf Sedge. 5. Pepperbox Hill, *P. Coombe*.
C. pilulifera L. Pill Sedge. 6. Coldridge Wood.
C. pallescens L. Pale Sedge. 6. Ride in Collingbourne Wood, *Frowde*!
C. panicea L. Carnation Sedge. 10. Near Damerham (Hants), *Timperley*.
C. pendula Huds. Pendulous Sedge. 9. Frequent.
C. strigosa Huds. 2. A new locality in the south-west of Colerne Park, *Fitter*.
C. riparia Curt. Greater Marsh Sedge. 8. Sherrington.
Echinochloa crus-galli (L.) Beauv. 2. Rubbish-tip, Chippenham, *Hunt*.
Setaria viridis var. *major* (Gaud.) Koch. 2. Rubbish-tip, Chippenham, *Hunt*.
Phalaris canariensis L. Canary Grass. 3. Wall, The Planks, Old Swindon.
Milium effusum L. Millet Grass. 10. Stonedown Wood.
Phleum nodosum L. 2. Chippenham, *Hunt*. 4. Frequent.
Agrostis gigantea Roth. Black Bent Grass. 6. Grafton Down. 10. Whitsbury (Hants).
A. stolonifera var. *palustris* (Huds.) Farw. Marsh Bent Grass. 4. Rubbish-tip, Marlborough.
Calamagrostis epigejos (L.) Roth. Wood Smallreed. 3. Frequent.

- Aira caryophyllea* L. Silvery Hair Grass. **6.** Sunton Heath.
- Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *parviflora* (Thuill.) Coss & Germ. **2.** Hardenhuish, *Hunt* (HU). **3.** Wood, Old Swindon.
- 4.** Bristow Bridge, *Timperley*.
- D. flexuosa* L. Wavy Hair Grass. **1.** Tynning Wood (v.c.6).
- Holcus mollis* L. Creeping Soft Grass. **7.** Hedge-bank, Milkhouse Water.
- Avena strigosa* Schreb. Bristle Oat. **2.** Morgan's Hill.
- Helictotrichon pubescens* (Huds.) Pilger. Downy Oat-grass. **8.** Frequent.
- Sieglingia decumbens* (L.) Bernh. Heath Grass. **10.** Frequent.
- Molinia caerulea* (L.) Moench. Purple Moor Grass. **9.** Fonthill Abbey Wood, *Sandell*.
- Melica uniflora* Retz. Wood Melic. **1.** Wood by river south of Vagg's Hill.
- Poa nemoralis* L. Wood Meadow Grass. **3.** Wood, Old Swindon.
- P. compressa* L. Flat-stemmed Meadow Grass. **3.** The Planks and Dammas Lane, Old Swindon. Wall near Stratton Church.
- Glyceria plicata* Fries. **2.** Bank of Avon, Chippenham Bridge, *Hunt*.
- G. declinata* Bréb. **2.** Pond between Corsham and Chippenham, *Hunt* (HU).
- Desmazeria rigida* (L.) Tutin. Hard Poa. **6.** Sunton Heath.
- Vulpia bromoides* (L.) S. F. Gray. Squirrel-tail Fescue. **4.** Frequent. **6.** Collingbourne Wood.
- Festuca arundinacea* Schreb. Tall Fescue. **2.** Bremhill and Stanley, *Hunt*! **8.** Tilshead Down. Lavington Down.
- x Festulolium loliaceum* (Huds.) P. Fourn. **2.** Rubbish-tip, Chippenham, *Hunt* (HU).
- Bromus thominii* Hard. **2.** Thingley, *Hunt* (HU).
- Lolium multiflorum* x *perenne*. **2.** Rubbish-tip, Chippenham, *Hunt* (HU).
- L. temulentum* var. *arvense* Lilj. **2.** Chippenham, *Hunt* (HU).
- Chara vulgaris* L. Common Stonewort. **3.** Jennings Moor (Glos).
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ENTOMOLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1956¹

By B. W. WEDDELL.

Conditions for the study of Lepidoptera during the past season have been far from favourable. The early part of the year was mostly dry and clear with cold nights and frequent frosts. It was not until we were into July that it began to warm up, but with the rise in temperature came rain and plenty of it. Soon after September opened, we felt we were already into winter, having had precious little sunshine to help us on our way.

It is remarkable how in such a season many species manage to maintain themselves with hardly any suitable flying and mating conditions. They do fluctuate, of course, and recover with astonishing rapidity from a setback. The Blues particularly suffer from a wet season. Yet the Chalkhill Blue was in abundance in August and September though variety hunters had a thin time.

Two of our correspondents, Brigadier Lipscombe and Captain Jackson, succeeded in rearing the variety *Syngrapha* in the third generation from ova laid by a 1954 female, a notable and almost unique achievement.

Probably the most important event of the season was the vast immigration of Death's Head and Convolvulus Hawks which invaded our Eastern shores in September. They were less numerous in the Southern counties but penetrated to the Northwest of Scotland. Several were observed in Wiltshire, some of which are noted below.

Thanks again to the keen observers for their notes. I hope they will have more to report next year. May it be the best ever.

CONTRIBUTORS

G.W.	Mr. Geoffrey L. Webber, Swindon.
M.C.	Marlborough College N.H.S.
M.C.F.	Miss M. C. Foster, Aldbourne.
J.B.	Mr. John Buxton, Malmesbury.
G.W.C.	Mr. G. W. Collett, Chippenham.
D.R.	Mr. David Rees, Bradford-on-Avon.
C.F.	Mr. Charles Floyd, Holt.
B.W.	Mr. B. W. Weddell, Trowbridge.
R.A.J.	Capt. R. A. Jackson, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.) F.R.E.S., Codford.
C.M.R.P.	Mr. C. M. R. Pitman, Salisbury.
V.T.	Miss Vere Temple, F.R.E.S., Tollard Royal.

PHENOLOGICAL REPORT

	Average Date	1956	
Large White	20.4	12.5	-22
Marbled White	27.6	6.7	-9
Meadow Brown	23.6	23.6	=
Cinnabar	17.5	3.5	+14
Garden Carpet	5.5	6.5	- 1
Brimstone Moth	18.5	6.5	+12
Large White	<i>Pierus brassicae</i>	M.C. 12.5, B.W. 12.5	
Small White	<i>Pierus rapae</i>	M.C. 6.5, C.M.R.P. 10.5	
Greenveined White	<i>Pierus napi</i>	C.M.R.P. 17.3, C.W.C. 11.4, V.T. 10.5	
Orange Tip	<i>Euchloe cardamines</i>	M.C. 6.5, C.W.C. 6.5, V.T. 10.5	
Silver Washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	M.C. 6.5	
High Brown Fritillary	<i>Argynnis cydippe</i>	R.A.J. 10.7, plentiful	
Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaia</i>	R.A.J. 10.7, plentiful	
Pearl Bordered Fritillary	<i>Argynnis euphrosyne</i>	M.C. 13.5	
Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary	<i>Argynnis selene</i>	M.C. 26.5	

¹ For 1957 Entomological Report see p. 147.

Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinea</i>	C.M.R.P. Larvae started feeding on honeysuckle 28.2, pupated 17.4. (Normal foodplant is Devil's Bit Scabious)
Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	V.T. 22.7, var. <i>Hutchinsoni</i> J.B. 15.10
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	C.L. 8.7, 2 of rare <i>ab. nigra</i>
White Admiral	<i>Limenitis camilla</i>	M.C. 7.7.
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Migrants arriving M.C. 28.5, C.M.R.P. 4.6, M.C.F. 31.8
Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathia</i>	M.C. and C.M.R.P. 6.7.
White Letter Hairstreak	<i>Strymon w. album</i>	C.L. 24.7. Extreme almost unique form
Small Copper	<i>Lycena phlaeas</i>	J.B. 31.8
Chalkhill Blue	<i>Lysandra garidon</i>	M.C. 24.7, C.M.R.P. 21.9. Long period of emergence
Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	C.M.R.P. reports large area cultivated where this insect flourished
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	M.C. 6.5, C.W. C. 14.5, V.T. 20.8
Eyed Hawk	<i>Smerinthus tiliae</i>	V.T. 12.6
Death's Head Hawk	<i>Acherontia atropos</i>	M.C. 29.7, G.W. 11.9, 14.9, R.A.J. 7.9, C.M.R.P. 20.9
Convolvulus Hawk	<i>Herse convolvuli</i>	M.C. 5.56
Hummingbird Hawk	<i>Macroglossum stellatarium</i>	C.M.R.P. 31.1(!), M.C. 9.7
Poplar Kitten	<i>Cerura hermelinea</i>	M.C. 8.7
Plumed Prominent	<i>Ptilophera plumigera</i>	R.A.J. 10.11 and 17.11. Well within Wilts S.W. boundary
Buff Tip	<i>Phalera bucephala</i>	C.M.R.P. reports birches defoliated by larvae in Sept.
Scarlet Tiger	<i>Panaxia dominula</i>	C.M.R.P. end Apl. larvae found in many localities
Four-dotted Footman	<i>Cybosia mesomella</i>	M.C. 24.6
Scarce Footman	<i>Eilema complana</i>	D.R. 21.7
Cinnabar	<i>Callimorpha jacobaeae</i>	C.M.R.P. 29.3—4.9., M.C.F. 3.5
Miller	<i>Apatele leporina</i>	M.C. 11.6
Poplar Dagger	<i>Apatele megacephala</i>	M.C. 15.7, R.A.J. 28.8, 2nd brood unusual
Alder Dagger	<i>Apatele alni</i>	B.W. 30.5, M.C. and R.A.J. 11.6, D.R. 23.6
Light Feathered Rustic	<i>Agrotis cinerea</i>	R.A.J. 2.6 Black form white masked. A mile from breeding ground
Dotted Rustic	<i>Ryacia simulans</i>	R.A.J. 16.7
Dark Brocade	<i>Eumichtis adusta</i>	M.C. 28.5
Confused	<i>Apamea furva</i>	C.M.R.P. 22.6
Poplar Quaker	<i>Orthosia populeti</i>	M.C. 5.5
Northern Quaker	<i>Orthosia advena</i>	R.A.J. 1.1, 2.5. Scarce this year
Bordered Orange	<i>Pyrrhia umbra</i>	M.C. 28.7, R.A.J. 16.7
Bordered Straw	<i>Heliothis petigera</i>	M.C. 15.7
Scarce Tissue	<i>Calocalpe cervicalis</i>	R.A.J. 25.5
Oblique Carpet	<i>Orthonama lignata</i>	M.C. 24.5
Pinion-spotted Pug	<i>Eupithecia insigniata</i>	M.C. 8.5., R.A.J. 4 and 8.5
White-spotted Pug	<i>Eupithecia tripunctaria</i>	M.C. 25.5.
Satyr Pug	<i>Eupithecia satyrata</i>	M.C. 15.6
Tawny Speckled Pug	<i>Eupithecia icterata</i>	M.C. 18.7

FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES, 1957¹

Report by the Hon. Meetings Secretary, BEATRICE GILLAM.

At the beginning of 1957 it seemed likely that, owing to petrol rationing, field meetings would be poorly supported. However, the challenge was met and the winter meetings were exceptionally well attended. This increase in attendance continued throughout the year with an average of twenty compared with fourteen in previous years. Once again the weather was good on most occasions.

Ornithological meetings dominated the first five months of the year when many habitats of water and marsh birds were visited—Coate Water, the River Avon at Staverton, Blagdon and Chew Reservoirs and gravel pits and a sewage farm near South Cerney. The increase of wildfowl at Chew since last winter was very noticeable. Three evening meetings to help less-experienced members to identify summer migrant bird-songs were successful. In the autumn the dawn study of Passerine Migration and Migratory Routes across the county was re-opened and will be continued in 1958.

Botanical meetings included the third year of the survey of the re-colonisation by plants of sand-pits at Compton Bassett. The flora of Silbury Hill was listed for comparison with Prof. J. Buckman's list made in 1857. Sedges, marsh plants, fungi, mosses and liverworts were collected and identified at summer and autumn meetings. Westonbirt Arboretum was visited in October sunshine.

A summer walk in Cranbourne Chase where pockets of clay occur in an otherwise sandy soil led to the discovery of unexpected and interesting plants, a variety of butterflies and an unusual scarcity of bird life. During an autumn day spent at Fonthill Abbey Estate Mr. P. Ward, the agent, demonstrated the ecological aspects of successful forestry. A further visit will be made in the spring 1958 to learn more of this work.

The Geological Section of the London Natural History Society came to Wiltshire at Easter and three of our members gave their services as leaders. Eight other members took part in some of their excursions.

A survey of the distribution of badgers in the county has been started. . . Badgers were seen by most of the fourteen members who visited a very large colony one evening in July. Several species of bat were found in hibernation in the grottos at Fonthill early in March.

The Annual General Meeting of the Section was held at the Museum on 22nd June. Mr. G. W. Collett, the Hon. Treasurer, read the statement of accounts. Reports were given by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. C. Seccombe Hett, the Hon. Meetings Secretary and the Hon. Press Secretary, Miss E. M. Gliddon. It was with great pleasure that, in the absence of Mr. J. D. Grose, Mr. Collett announced that 'The Flora of Wiltshire' would be published on 31st July. Mrs. Barnes gave the good news that she had just received the complete draft manuscript of the Bird Check List from Mr. L. G. Peirson and that it would shortly be sent to several notable ornithologists for scrutiny. In Mr. B. W. Weddell's entomological report, read in his absence by Mrs. C. S. Hett, he said that thanks to valuable assistance from Mrs. D. Owen the first two hundred species on the entomological list had now been typed, but more information was still required.

In a short speech the retiring Chairman, Mr. J. H. Halliday, surveyed the work done by the Section over the past ten years and paid tribute to the Officers particularly during his own term of office. Mr. C. E. Owen in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Halliday spoke of his expert knowledge of natural history and of his humour and humility.

Only one lecture was arranged in 1957. Mr. Halliday spoke on 'The Senses of Birds with special Reference to Owls' illustrating his talk with outside models of the principal sensory organs. Members have again attended lectures arranged by the Bath Natural History Society.

A wide variety of natural history pursuits followed by members was revealed at the November *Conversazione*. Mosses and liverworts, local geological finds, the status of the Nightjar in Wiltshire, herbarium sheets, bird and plant photographs were amongst the exhibits shown and explained by members.

¹ For 1956 Field Meetings, see p. 112.

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1957.¹

The membership of the Natural History Section rises slowly but steadily, and the proportion of full members of the Society claiming an interest in the Section is now 105, almost half the total membership (of 229).

It was in 1947 that the first Report of the Section newly formed in 1946, was published in the *W.A. Magazine*. It is also noteworthy that of the original committee the following continue to serve, Mrs. E. C. Barnes, Bird Recorder; Mr. J. D. Grose, Plant Recorder; Mr. B. W. Weddell, Lepidoptera Recorder; and Mr. G. W. Collett, Hon. Treasurer. It is largely due to their unflagging interest that the Section continues to thrive. A successful and widely varied programme of meetings was again planned by Miss Gillam, and regularly enjoyed by all who take part. A series of 20 outdoor and 3 indoor meetings is almost concluded and contrary to expectations a greater number of members attended during petrol rationing than previously!

The new Flora of Wiltshire, by Mr. Donald Grose, was published by the Section in July, and has been received with much pleasure and interest, both public and private. Over 300 copies have been sold to date.

The manuscript of the Wiltshire Bird List was completed this summer by the late Mr. L. G. Peirson, whose recent death we so deeply regret to record. Mr. Peirson was chairman of the Section Committee for the first five and a half years of its being and his advice as a committee member has been greatly missed since his retirement from it in 1953. Work on the Entomological List continues—Mr. E. C. Barnes is now Chairman of the Section committee, instead of Mr. J. H. Halliday, who reluctantly retired owing to pressure of work. Some progress had been made in the Natural History Room and it is hoped that the arrangement of the Geology display cases will begin shortly.

C. SECCOMBE HETT.

¹ For 1956 Secretary's Report, see p. 113.

THE WEATHER OF 1957¹

The year was not memorable. We have to go back to 1947—8 to find as mild a winter. 'If ice in November will bear a duck the winter will be all rain and muck' found confirmation for the only sharp frost was then. March was probably the warmest for more than 90 years, though the temperatures were not dramatic. The high mean temperature was the result of consistently highest daily maxima and nightly minima. April was very dry and May uninteresting. June shewed two unusual features: at Marlborough six days had a maximum of over 80°F—probably an unprecedented occurrence so early; and for 10 days at the end of the month and the beginning of July, high wet temperatures produced many sticky collars and a few thunderstorms.

The rest of the year was uneventful, and the harvest and holiday months had no really warm days to look back upon. St. Luke anticipated his annual bounty by a fortnight for the benefit of the many who were suffering or recovering from 'the Asian.' There was a strong gale on the night of November 3rd/4th. The year was at least slightly warmer, drier and sunnier than the average.

In this simplified summary '+' = excess; '-' = deficiency; 'O' = nearly normal

	T	R	S	
Jan.	+	-	O	Mild
Feb.	+	+	+	Mild
Mar.	++	+	-	Exceptionally warm
Apr.	+	--	+	The driest since 1899
May	O	-	+	Rather cool
June	+	-	++	A beautiful month
July	+	+	-	Cool, except for the first week
Aug.	O	+	O	Cool, except for the first week
Sept.	-	+	-	Cool, dull, and rather wet
Oct.	+	-	-	First half fine and warm
Nov.	O	-	+	
Dec.	O	O	++	Short cold spell in the middle
1957	+	-	+	

R. A. U. JENNINGS.

¹ For 1956 Weather, see p. 114.

WILTSHIRE BIRD NOTES FOR 1957¹

Recorders: RUTH G. BARNES, M.B.O.U., AND GEOFFREY L. BOYLE.

The recorders must preface these notes with a tribute to the work in previous years of the late Guy Peirson. His wide knowledge of Wiltshire birds, his sage advice and critical judgement were alike invaluable in the preparation of these notes.

As before, no localities are given for certain breeding species. The necessity for this precaution was underlined in the prosecution of an egg-dealer, when it was stated in Court that Stone Curlews' eggs had been taken in Wiltshire.

The number of known heronries has increased by six, two of two nests and four of one nest only.

The following are among the notable records for the year: the first Shag since 1926; the first Barnacle Goose, although possibly an escape, since 1865; sixteen Bewick's Swans; a Crake, very probably Spotted; two Wood Sandpipers and three Ruffs; a Hoopoe, a Wryneck and two Golden Orioles; two single Waxwings, strays from an autumn incursion.

The county had its share of the mass invasion of tits from the Continent in the autumn.

The number of autumn records of Stonechats is also noteworthy.

CONTRIBUTORS:

A. R. Angell	A.R.A.	Mrs. Leech	M.L.
G. Atchinson	G.A.	Miss Mary Luckham	M.K.L.
David Barnes	D.G.B.	Marlborough College Natural History Society	M.C.
Mrs. Barnes	R.G.B.	F. H. Maundrell	F.H.M.
Miss E. Batchelor	E.B.	J. G. Mavrogordato	J.G.M.
A. E. Billett	A.E.B.	Owen Meyrick	O.M.
Geoffrey L. Boyle	G.L.B.	H. W. Neal	H.W.N.
E. Browning	E.B.2	Dr. D. B. Peakall	D.B.P.
John Burden	J.L.R.B.	Col. G. F. Perkins	G.F.P.
Miss M. Butterworth	M.B.	M. W. Pickering	M.W.P.
John Buxton	J.M.B.	R. H. Poulding	R.H.P.
P. J. Chadwick	P.J.C.	Countess of Radnor	I.R.
W. A. Chaplin	W.A.C.	Peter Roberts	P.R.
H. J. Clase	H.J.C.	Brigadier Searight	E.E.G.L.S.
G. W. Collett	G.W.C.	Mrs. Seccombe Hett	C.S.H.
Major W. M. Congreve	W.M.C.	A. Smith	A.S.
H. W. J. Cuss	H.W.J.C.	R. J. Spencer	R.J.S.
C. A. Cutforth	C.A.C.	Col. J. K. Stanford	J.K.S.
Gordon Elliott	G.E.	B. M. Stratton	B.M.S.
Mrs. Forbes	E.V.F.	Miss E. M. Thouless	E.M.T.
Miss M. C. Foster	M.C.F.	H. W. Timperley	H.W.T.
D. W. Free	D.W.F.	R. L. Vernon	R.L.V.
David Fry	D.E.F.	G. L. Webber	G.L.W.
Mrs. Gandy	I.G.	M. A. Wright	M.A.W.
Miss Beatrice Gillam	B.G.		
J. H. Halliday	J.H.H.		
G. W. Hemming	G.W.H.		
Anthony Horner	A.G.H.		
E. H. Jelly	E.H.J.		
E. L. Jones	E.L.J.		
J. R. Lawson	J.R.L.		
Mrs. Lawson	V.C.L.		

Abbreviations used in the text:

British Birds Magazine	B.B.
Gravel Pits	G.P.
Sewage Farm	S.F.

¹ For 1956 Bird Notes, see p. 115.

5. GREAT CRESTED GREBE. A bird still in first winter plumage, head-shaking with an adult in breeding plumage on Braydon Pond, Feb. 25th (R.G.B.). Breeding Records: Coate—total of 10 young (G.L.W.), Braydon Pond (R.G.B.) and Longleat (Mr. Doel per M.B.). A pair with two young on Fonthill Lake, Aug. 19th. (B.M.S.) and two pairs and five young on Bowood Lake, Sept. 22nd (C.S.H.).

28. CORMORANT. Present along the Avon from Salisbury to Downton from January to early April with a peak figure of 26 birds in a single tree at Charlton, Feb. 23rd (E.B., P.R.). Two in flight near Salisbury Cathedral, Jan. 11th and two immature birds at Fonthill Lake, Jan. 13th (G.E.). Odd birds seen in the Salisbury area during the winter (E.B., H.J.C., P.R.).

29. SHAG. A single bird on Coate Water, Aug. 13th (E.B.2.). It is unusual for Shags to appear so far inland. The last record for the County was near Salisbury in 1926.

30. HERON. Breeding reported from the following places: Tockenham, one nest in poplar (D.G.B.); Leigh, solitary nest in hedgerow elm (J.M.B.); Bowood, 17 occupied nests in elms, of which young still calling from several, July 8th (G.L.B.); Conkwell Wood, three nests in beech trees (Dr. C. M. Vaisey); Great Bradford Wood, 16 nests definitely occupied with six further probables in oaks (R.J.S.); Staverton, two nests in elms close to a rookery by the Avon (R.J.S.); Savernake, six nests in beeches at edge of small wood (J.H.H.); Longford Castle, one nest in willow at 40ft. (I.R.); Britford, five nests in tall pines, Mar. 23rd; only one pair bred successfully, the others having deserted owing to disturbance from farming operations (P.R., D.E.F.); Hurdcott, this heronry was affected by winter gales in 1956 when several of the nesting trees were blown down. Only three old nests were occupied in 1957, but four new nests were built and occupied not far away (G.F.P.); Boyton Bridge, two nests near the Wylye (E.V.F.); one nest three miles South of Salisbury, Apr. 2nd, and young birds heard calling in it, June 21st (E.B.) Six of these heronries have not been reported before.

45, 46, 50, 56, 57. Winter records of Mallard, Teal, Wigeon, Tufted Duck and Pochard are filed for later analysis and report.

45. MALLARD. A drake ringed at Celle. Lower Saxony, in August, 1956 was shot near Salisbury, Dec. 16th, 1956 (A. E. Harris—*The Field*, 21.3.57).

49. GADWALL. A male seen in a ditch with a pair of Mallard in the Longford water-meadows, Jan. 13th (E.B.). A bird possibly of this species was seen on the river Kennet at Axford, Oct. 3rd. It was a 'drab looking duck with a distinctly white speculum', the dark tail was also noted (M.C.).

52. PINTAIL. A drake in close company with drake Wigeon at Ramsbury, Jan. 17th; a single bird also seen on Wilton Water, Jan. 18th (J.R.L., V.C.L.). Five birds on Coate Water, Mar. 2nd (G.L.W.); three birds on the Avon at Longford, Nov. 24th (M.K.L., I.R.). Five birds on Clarendon Lake, Nov. 23rd-30th were seen by many observers (P.R.). A single female on Coate Water, Dec. 14th (G.L.W.).

53. SHOVELER. A male on Braydon Pond, Jan. 28th (R.G.B.), a pair on Coate Water, Feb. 3rd (V.C.L.), a pair also seen on flood water near Hornington, Feb. 24th (E.B.). Two pairs on Braydon Pond, Feb. 5th (J.M.B.), and a male, Feb. 25th and Mar. 23rd (R.G.B., C.W.H.). A pair on Coate Water, Feb. 3rd-Apr. 14th (J.R.L., G.L.W.). A pair on Clarendon Lake, Apr. 25th, and a female there June 8th-15th (D.E.F., A.J.H.). Finally two on Coate Water, Aug. 25th (G.L.W.).

55. SCAUP. Two females seen with six Tufted Duck on Coate Water on April 13th, their large white face patches, vermiculated backs, greater size and complete lack of any crest noted (G.L.W.).

56. TUFTED DUCK. In the spring at least 19 pairs and odd males were scattered over the lakes at Longleat, constituting the largest potential breeding population seen in this area (R.H.P.). Later the Water Bailiff estimated a total of 18 occupied nests. A pair with 17 young seen near Ramsbury in late summer (J.R.L., V.C.L.).

60. GOLDEN EYE. A male and two females at Bowood on Nov. 23rd and a male with a possible juvenile on Dec. 22nd, (B.G.). A single bird on Corsham Lake, Dec. 25th-26th (J.L.R.B.).

70. GOOSANDER. Two 'Red-heads' on Corsham Lake, Dec. 15th, and one there, Dec. 21st (G.W.H.), but two were again seen Dec. 26th (J.L.R.B.).

73. SHELDUCK. From Aug. 30th to Sept. 2nd two immature birds on the Avon at Longford (I.R.).

GREY GESE. Two skeins of c.30 each flew over Trowbridge, Feb. 20th (A.S.). Two large skeins flew high over Bratton from the east, Oct. 19th (E.E.G.L.S.). Seven over Chilton Foliat, Dec. 27th (M.C.F.).

81. BARNACLE GOOSE. A single bird was swimming with Coot on Bowood Lake on Jan. 27th. The Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge confirmed that they had not lost any of this species, but as it is easily kept in captivity the possibility of an escape must not be ruled out (B.G.).

86. **BEWICK'S SWAN.** A juvenile, possibly of this species, was seen on a strip of flood water by the Ebble near Coombe Bissett, Jan. 19th (E.B.). Sixteen birds (14 adults, two juveniles) walking on the ice on Coate Water, Feb. 16th (B.G.).
91. **BUZZARD.** Only two definite breeding records (G.L.B. and P.R.). But the species seems to be firmly established in the county and numerous reports came in of birds seen in flight during the breeding season.
100. **HEN HARRIER.** Two 'Ringtails' seen in flight near Salisbury, Mar. 17th (G.E.).
102. **MONTAGU'S HARRIER.** A brown harrier which flew over Harnham, Aug. 24th (H.J.C.) and another bird seen at Rockley, Nov. 2nd (M.C.F.) were probably of this species.
104. **HOBBY.** A nest containing two young and one addled egg found in a Scots pine, Aug. 4th (P.J.C., H.W.N., and M.A.W.). A pair, first seen May 9th, bred in an old carrion crow's nest in an oak tree, and reared at least two young (R.L.V.). The parent birds were also seen by R.G.B. and G.L.B. Two birds in flight, one chasing swallows and martins Aug. 25th (G.E., P.R.). Single birds seen on the wing during July and August by nine observers. On Sept. 18th a male bird was found injured near Lacock and later successfully tamed (G.L.B.).
105. **PEREGRINE.** J.G.M. saw single birds on four occasions in flight over Salisbury Plain between Jan. 6th and Jan. 27th and E.B. also reported one at Downton, Jan. 5th. At Britford a juvenile stooped to within a few feet of a Heron standing on a nest, Jan. 23rd (G.E., P.R.). Another juvenile seen at Coate Mar. 2nd (G.L.W.) and a pair also seen there Feb. 17th (H.W.J.C.). Single birds reported near Homington, Mar. 2nd (H.J.C.); at Alderbury, Mar. 30th (C.M.R.P., G.E.); at Clarendon, Apr. 16th, and at Stratford Tony Aug. 29th (D.E.F., A.G.H.); and circling Salisbury Cathedral spire in July and August (G.E., W.A.C.).
107. **MERLIN.** A male found hanging in a plantation near Little Durnford, Mar. 24th. It had presumably been shot (G.E., P.R.). A female seen hunting over Bodenham water-meadows, Feb. 22nd. One seen mobbed by Starlings in the same area, Mar. 21st (E.B.). One seen by Lord Radnor and others on Odstock Down, Oct. 19th (I.R.).
110. **KESTREL.** A pair were nesting on Overton Down, Apr. 2nd (R.L.V.) and a nest contained three young on Salisbury Plain, May 17th (J.G.M.), both early dates. A nestling ringed near Everleigh, July 21st, was shot, Nov. 3rd, near Baccon (Loiret), France, 47° 53' N—10° 38' E (P.J.C.).
116. **PARTRIDGE.** On June 30th an unmated cock was seen to pick up and savage a week-old chick belonging to another pair (J.K.S.).
117. **QUAIL.** Two reported by a keeper at Clarendon last week in March—an early date (G.E.). A chick found June 6th on Clatford Down (B.G.). Records of calling: Allington, June 6th and Aug. 8th (R.J.S.); Britford, June 14th (E.B.); Aldbourne, repeatedly June 9th–30th; Baydon, June 25th (H.W.J.C.); Everleigh, July 6th, where two adults and three young seen, Aug. 7th (M.C.); Beckhampton, Aug. 4th (P.J.C., H.W.N., M.A.W.).
118. **PHEASANT.** A pure white cock in Longford Park, Apr. 2nd. The only trace of colour was the red on the head (E.B.).
121. **SPOTTED CRAKE.** In mid-Nov. a bird was brought to Mrs. Ridley by her dog, when she was walking in the water-meadows near Stockton. After examination in the hand she released it. The following details lead one to suppose it was a spotted crake: 'Bill short, blue-grey on head and chin very marked, neck short, back and wings speckled with brown, light under tail and on the breast, barring not well marked, legs greenish-brown.'
125. **CORNCRAKE.** Noted on Baydon Hill, Aug. 31st, by C. Hale and heard in early September (per I.G.). Also heard near Alton Barnes (Miss J. Young per I.G.). One in garden at Shrewton, Aug. 16th (M.L.).
131. **OYSTERCATCHER.** A bird of this species, at first reported as an Avocet by a farmer at the end of November was seen by C.A.C. on December 2nd by the river at West Kennett. It had a habit of following a plough and the ploughman, who did not like this, asked a keeper to shoot the bird, which he did!
133. **LAPWING.** The following record is taken from B.B. Vol. LI, p. 63: Bird ringed as a chick, May 21st, 1951, at Höyland, Norway (58° 26' N. 5° 45' E) was found dead at Malmesbury, Apr. 1st, 1952.
140. **GOLDEN PLOVER.** Largest winter and spring flocks: c.130 at Harnwood, Jan. 12th (E.B.); 200+ on ploughed land near Salisbury, Mar. 15th, (P.R.). On Apr. 17th 40–50 showing breeding plumage of the Northern race were seen near Salisbury (H.J.C.). Largest autumn and winter flocks: c.200 at Old Sarum airfield (E.B.), c.100 near Norton with Lapwings on ploughed land, Nov. 20th (B.G.); c.200 at Zeals aerodrome, Nov. 21st (B.M.S.); c.300 at Old Sarum, Dec. 15th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).
145. **SNIPE.** Two nests with eggs near Chilton Foliat, Apr. 13th (H.W.J.C.). On Apr. 22nd three young had hatched and one egg remained in nest near Downton (G.E.). Forty-nine flushed at Coate, Mar. 9th, and numbers in winter rose to 64, Dec. 7th (G.L.W.).

147. JACK SNIFE. Single birds seen at Coate on dates between Jan. 13th and Feb. 27th (J.H.H., B.G. et al.), and again on Apr. 13th and 19th (G.L.W.). Two near Ramsbury, Mar. 3rd (J.R.L.). First autumn records at Coate, Sept. 26th and Oct. 13th (H.W.J.C.), and five birds were seen there Dec. 7th (G.L.W.).

148. WOODCOCK. One 'roding' near Farley, May 23rd (G.E.); one flushed from dead bracken in Savernake Forest, May 26th (B.G.). A single bird seen in flight on many evenings in June near Ramsbury (V.L., J.R.L.). Reported breeding between Blunsdon and Hannington where they definitely bred in 1952-3 (G.L.W.). Several winter records.

150. CURLEW. Breeding records from Coulston (G.L.B., R.L.V.); Steeple Ashton and Keevil (R.L.V.); Sandridge (R.J.S.); Patney (J.K.S.). Four half-grown young seen with parent birds, in Wootton Bassett area, June 14th ((R.G.B., D.G.B.).

156. GREEN SANDPIPER. Single birds seen by many observers in January and in each month from March to October with the exception of June.

157. WOOD SANDPIPER. At Coate Water a single bird was first seen feeding on the mud, Aug. 25th. When flushed it was joined by a second bird, both flying round before resuming feeding. Two were again seen, Aug. 29th, and a single bird Aug. 31st (G.L.W.). One exceedingly tame bird still there, Sept. 7th-8th (B.G., H.W.T., G.L.W.). Full details of calls and plumage filed.

159. COMMON SANDPIPER. One or two birds seen in April and May, and from July to September, in usual haunts by several observers. Last reported from the Avon at Britford, Oct. 13th (P.R.).

161. REDSHANK. Birds regularly heard or seen by several observers between February and June. One pair with young seen at Longford, June 12th (E.V.F.). On June 19th near Ashton Keynes a bird's prolonged agitation at presence of observer indicated probability of young in unmown grass nearby (R.G.B.). Breeding noted near Froxfield and four nests found at Chilton Foliat (H.W.J.C.).

165. GREENSHANK. One flying up the Avon at Charlton, Apr. 2nd (E.B.). A single bird seen at Coate Water, Aug. 17th-25th (G.L.W., E.B.2). One feeding with Green Sandpiper by the Thames above Cricklade, Sept. 22nd (H.W.J.C.).

178. DUNLIN. A single bird at Stratton St. Margaret S.F., April 21st (E.B.2). One-four seen at Coate Water from Sept. 12th-22nd (M.C.F., G.L.W.); single birds were present, Oct. 27th (M.W.P.) and Nov. 3rd (E.B.2) and c.10 on Dec. 15th (M.C.F.).

184. RUFF. A single bird of this species was seen at Coate, Sept. 7th-8th (G.L.W.). Three birds were present, Sept. 14th-15th, of which two were possibly Reeves (E.B.2., H.W.J.C., C.S.H., G.L.W.). Only one previous record this century.

189. STONE CURLEW. Broods from two nests successfully hatched (J.K.S., B.G., R.J.S.). Three unsuccessful attempts: one probably robbed by a fox; one destroyed by crop spraying (D.E.F., A.G.H.); the third nest had two eggs in it on May 25th. A photographer was seen approaching it on June 1st, his empty hide was still standing within five feet of the nest the next day and the surrounding wheat flattened. The birds deserted and the young died in the shell (Eds.).

190. WATER RAIL. A bird, which wintered at Stratford-sub-Castle, was seen on one occasion swimming strongly across the river (P.R.). A live bird was brought in by a cat near Chapmanslade, Jan. 26th (E.H.J.). Four sight records in Salisbury area in early spring (E.V.F., E.B., H.J.C., I.R.). Heard squealing at Coate, Aug. 22nd (M.C.F.) and at Corsham Oct. 9th (J.L.R.B.). Nine sight records in autumn and winter from Braydon Pond, Westbury and Salisbury area (L.R.B., E.B., M.C., D.E.F., A.R.A.).

198. GREATER BLACK-BACKED GULL. Seen regularly near rivers from January to April, in June, and from September to December by many observers.

199. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL. Seen in small numbers every month in the year by many observers. At Keevil airfield Jan. 6th, c.30 were feeding on worms stranded on the runways. By Feb. 3rd numbers had risen to c.180 and fluctuated throughout the winter. The birds left in the late afternoon towards N.N.W., which indicated roosting at Chew Valley Lake in Somerset (G.L.B., R.L.V.). Eighty-two adults and 83 juveniles fed in a field in Semington in winter, and considerable increase from first wintering numbers reported there in 1954 (G.L.B.). From 100-200 with Herring and Black-headed Gulls near Bradford-on-Avon, Feb. 2nd (R.J.S.).

200. HERRING GULL. Flocks visit downs and rubbish dumps in the Salisbury district and are also frequently seen on rubbish dumps at Beanacre (E.B., G.L.B., P.R.). Odd birds reported throughout the year by many observers.

211. KITTIWAKE. Remains of an adult found by Westbury Lake, Mar. 30th (A.R.A.) and the remains of another adult by a lake at Longleat, Apr. 26th (R.H.P.). It is interesting to note that in 1953, 1955 and 1956 a dead Kittiwake was found in the same district by R.H.P. Part of a wing was also found near Tockenham, May 1st (D.G.B.). A bird, possibly of this species, was at Coate Water, Feb. 10th-12th when it died. Unfortunately it was destroyed before it could be examined (G.L.W.). These birds probably were involved in a considerable 'wreck' of Kittiwakes which occurred in England and Wales early in the year.

212. BLACK TERN. One at Coate Sept. 8th; two at Bowood Sept. 21st (B.G., C.S.H., H.W.T.); two at Corsham Sept. 22nd (G.W.H.). At Coate on Sept. 22nd numbers had increased to 11 birds some of which still showed traces of summer plumage (M.C.F., G.L.W.), but only one bird there Sept. 23rd (M.C.F.).

217/218. COMMON/ARCTIC TERN. Four sea Terns with two Black Terns at Bowood, Sept. 21st (C.S.H., B.G.). Two birds were seen to have dark shoulder patches and dark patches on the back of the head (B.G., G.W.T.). A single bird at Coate May 2nd, species not determined (G.L.W.). A single bird also at Coate, Aug. 8th, and two there on Aug. 10th (G.L.W.).

235. TURTLE DOVE. First seen May 5th, Baydon (M.C.F.) and Ogbourne Down (P.J.C.); May 7th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); May 10th, Malmesbury (J.M.B.). Last seen Sept. 5th, Bishopsdown (P.R.); Sept. 16th, near Salisbury (J.K.S.).

237. CUCKOO. First noted: April 17th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); Apr. 18th Bemerton (G.E.), and Aldbourne (M.C.F.); Apr. 19th Coate (G.L.W.), Seagry (R.G.B.) and Dunscombe (G.A.), Last seen, a juvenile, at Walcot, Aug. 30th (G.L.W.).

248. LONG-EARED OWL. A nest in larches on the Downs, contained six eggs, already being incubated on Mar. 17th, but it was empty a week later. On Mar. 31st three eggs were being incubated in the same nest (H.W.J.C.). Three young of another brood, on Salisbury Plain were fairly strong on the wing on May 21st, but still had traces of down on the head (J.G.M.). A pair bred in Marlborough area, Apr. 22nd, and when visited on May 12th two young had left the nest and two were still in it (G.L.W.).

249. SHORT-EARED OWL. One bird at Totterdown, Mar. 21st (M.C.); two on Salisbury Plain from Mar. 31st-Apr. 27th (M.W.P.); one hunting stubbles above Odstock, Sept. 18th (I.R.); three together at Shrewton, Nov. 20th (C.A.C.). Despite plague of mice not as many as usual and only one seen at Lake, Sept. 28th (J.K.S.).

252. NIGHTJAR. Notes on this species will be included in the results of an Enquiry in a future Report.

255. SWIFT. First seen: Longford, Apr. 17th (E.B.); Lacock, May 1st, (G.L.B.); Melksham and Swindon, May 2nd (G.L.W., R.J.S.); Shaw and East Knoyle, May 3rd (C.A.C., B.M.S.); Great Bedwyn, May 5th (B.C.). Last seen Malmesbury, Aug. 21st (J.M.B.); Coate, Aug. 29th (G.L.W.); Rudloe, Aug 30th (G.W.H.); Harnham, Sept. 9th: (H.J.C.).

261. HOOPOE. A bird of this species seen at the foot of Roundway Hill, Devizes on Apr. 29th. It was watched in good light in flight and on the ground. From very full description submitted there is no doubt as to its identity (B.G.).

262. GREEN WOODPECKER. On two occasions a bird was seen on a lawn at Ramsbury holding a windfall apple with one foot and apparently eating it (O.M.).

263 GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER. A nest with young on Morgan's Hill, June 8th (G.W.C.).

264. LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER. Notes on this species will be included in the results of an Enquiry in a future Report.

265. WRYNECK. A single bird seen on the road and in a tree at Dunge near Bratton, Oct. 2nd (R.L.V.). This is the first Wiltshire record since 1952.

271. WOODLARK. One on Porton Range, Feb. 24th (D.B.P.). Two on ploughed land near Pepperbox, Mar. 9th (E.L.J.), and two near West Dean, Apr. 20th (G.E.).

272. SKYLARK. Westerly migration along south edge of Downs at East Knoyle began Sept. 27th and continued off and on for six weeks (B.M.S.).

274. SWALLOW. First seen Mar. 26th, Easton (G.W.H.); Mar. 27th, Corsham Lake (J.L.R.B.); Mar. 30th, Corsley (E.H.J.) and Bulkington (R.L.V.). Last seen Nov. 5th, Nunton (E.B.); Nov. 10th, two at Longleat (Bright); Nov. 15th, Marlborough (M.C.); Nov. 21st, two at Corsley (E.H.J.). One young bird was found exhausted at Britford, Dec. 2nd, and died the following day (P.R.).

276. HOUSE MARTIN. First seen Mar. 23rd, Longford (M.K.L.); Apr. 2nd, Devizes (B.G.); April. 7th, Devizes (G.L.B.). A juvenile was seen being fed in mid-air by an adult, July 27th (G.L.W.). Last seen Nov. 3rd, Marlborough (M.C.); Nov. 5th, Nunton (E.B.); Nov. 15th, Upavon (J.L.R.B.).

277. SAND MARTIN. First seen Mar. 17th, Longford (E.B.); Mar. 19th, Southampton Road G. P. Salisbury (H.J.C.); Mar. 29th, Great Bedwyn (B.G.). About six pairs nested in drainage pipes in a concrete wall forming the bank of the Avon in Salisbury (P.R., H.J.C.). A new colony nesting in holes only a few feet above water at Lacock G.P., May 19th (G.L.B.). Last seen Sept. 19th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); Sept. 22nd, Coate (G.L.W.); Sept. 23rd, Salisbury S.F. (E.B.).
278. GOLDEN ORIOLE. One seen at Totterdown (J.H.H.). On June 1st W.M.C., who knows the species very well on the continent heard the unmistakable notes of an Oriole near his garden at Farley. The bird moved in a wide circle but remained unseen. The calls were mainly quiet and subdued, the full 'weela-weeco' of the *Handbook* was only rarely heard, and never the harsh alarm note of a nesting bird.
279. RAVEN. One seen at Manton, Jan. 10th (J.H.H.); One hanging in a gamekeeper's gibbet in the Clarendon district, June 8th. A crow was also hanging there and the difference between the two noted. (D.E.F., A.G.H.).
286. JAY. A movement noted on Sept. 9th when 24 were seen on Bishopsdown in parties of 8, 4, 4, 5 and 3; and another party of five were seen on Porton Down (P.R.).
- 288, 289, 290, 294. GREAT TIT, BLUE TIT, COAL TIT, LONG-TAILED TIT. The following notes refer to the mass invasion of foreign tits in the autumn of this year. Many Coal Tits on Porton Down, Sept. 19th (P.R.). A great many Blue Tits were seen at Calne in autumn: they tore paper, pecked milk bottle tops (even inside the house) and pecked putty off windows (E.M.T.). At a house in Swindon Blue Tits opened milk bottles on most days in autumn (G.L.W.). At Coff Park a Great Tit opened a milk bottle, Nov. 30th, the first time this was seen there since April, '55. A flock of at least 30, possibly 50 Long-tailed Tits seen in a thorn hedge, Dec. 27th (J.M.B.). About 25% increase of Great and Blue Tits was noted at East Knoyle in November (B.M.S.). Exceptional numbers of Great, Blue, Coal, Marsh and Long-tailed Tits visited a bird table in Salisbury in November and December (W.A.C.). (Marsh Tits were not noted in the invasion from overseas.) At Amesbury at least twice as many Great Tits as usual were seen, and from early November remarkable numbers of Blue Tits. They were very destructive and entered the house. They 'swarmed' all along the Avon valley (J.K.S.).
293. WILLOW TIT. Two with flock of Great and Blue Tits in a hedge on Ham Hill (E.L.J.). One at Bodenham, July 22nd (E.B.). One nest found, and several pairs probably breeding, near Swindon (H.W.J.C.).
294. LONG-TAILED TIT. On Mar. 1st nest building was seen at Keevil (R.L.V.) and Alderbury (B.G.), an early date.
298. TREE CREEPER. One roosting in the bark of a Wellingtonia tree at Cole Park, Dec. 9th (J.M.B.); this is the first time that this type of roosting site has been reported in the county. Increased numbers noted in and about Salisbury in November and December (W.A.C., E.B.). This last record probably refers to the autumn invasion with tits from overseas.
300. DIPPER. Birds seen on Broadmead Brook and Bybrook in January (R.J.S.). Nest with 4 eggs, possibly incomplete and another, with 5 incubated eggs, on Bybrook, Mar. 4th; two other pairs seen but no nest found (H.W.J.C.); 4 pairs with young seen there, May 19th (G.E.). Three young birds seen on the Nadder in July and August (B.M.S.). Seen on the Ebble in summer (W.A.C.).
302. FIELDFARE. Last seen in spring Apr. 9th, High Post (D.E.F., A.G.H.); Apr. 22nd, c.90 on Preshute Down (G.L.W.) May 4th, c.20 at Blunsdon travelling westwards (H.W.J.C.). An excellent view of a single bird near Druid's Lodge, June 9th (M.K.L.). First seen in autumn Sept. 30th, Box (C.S.H.); Oct. 19th, Great Chalfield (R.J.S.); Oct. 23rd, Lockeridge (C.A.C.).
304. REDWING. Few records early in the year. Last seen in spring Mar. 2nd, Fonthill (G.E.); Mar. 9th, Bradford Wood (R.J.S.); Mar. 21st, Petersfinger (H.J.C.). First seen in autumn Oct. 6th, Stratton St. Margaret (E.B.2); Oct. 13th, Shaw (C.A.C.), Tinhead Down (R.L.V.).
307. RING OUZEL. A female in a garden near Lockeridge, Apr. 11th, was being mildly mobbed by the resident Black-birds (C.A.C.). On Oct. 13th, a female was seen at close range perched on a small bush 450ft. up on Coombe Bissett Down (E.B.).
308. BLACKBIRD. A nest with young in a hedge at Codford, Jan. 8th (E.V.F.). A nest with two eggs at Bodenham in first week of February (M.K.L.). A pair feeding young in nest at Semington, Feb. 15th (G.L.B.).
311. WHEATEAR. First seen Mar. 12th, Porton Down (D.B.P.); Mar. 15th, Valley of the Rocks (M.C.); Mar. 22nd, Tan Hill (B.G.). Decrease noted, probably due to the absence of rabbits (J.K.S.). A nest with eggs found in grass under an old sheet of galvanized iron, near Heytesbury (E.H.J.). Last seen Sept. 28th, Colerne airfield (J.L.R.B.); Oct. 5th, Britford Down (E.B.); Oct. 15th, Bishopsdown (P.R.).

317. **STONECHAT.** An unusual number of autumn records this year. A pair at Stratford-sub-Castle, Feb. 15th (P.R.); one near Dinton Mill, Aug. 31st (G.E.). Two near Horton, Sept. 30th, feeding among kale (B.G.); three near Liddington Hill, Oct. 6th (B.G., H.W.T.); one pair at Imber and another at Amesbury, Oct. 13th (G.L.B.). A pair on downs at Netherhampton, Oct. 19th, and one still there, Nov. 28th (E.B.). A pair were seen at Walcot near Swindon, from Oct. 20th onwards, and a search there on Dec. 28th produced four pairs and one male (G.L.W.). One at Odstock, Nov. 16th (I.R.). Two at Old Sarum, Nov. 24th (D.E.F., A.G.H.), and two in sedges at Downton, Nov. 27th (E.B.). Single birds seen in December in Milford and Bishopsdown (P.R.) and at Westbury (A.R.A.).
318. **WHINCHAT.** First seen Apr. 22nd, Hackpen (M.C.); Apr. 25th, Allington (B.G.) and Salisbury (E.B.); Apr. 27th, Erlestoke (G.L.B.). No breeding records. Last seen Sept. 26th, near Salisbury (E.B.); Oct. 5th, Old Sarum (D.E.F., A.G.H.) and Ford (P.R.); Oct. 15th, Knoyle Hill (B.M.S.).
320. **REDSTART.** First seen Apr. 20th, Clatford (B.G.); Apr. 21st, Stratton St. Margaret (E.B.2); Apr. 23rd, Grovely (M.L.); Apr. 24th Bowood (G.L.B.). A nest and seven eggs at Blunsdon, May 8th (H.W.J.C.). A bird seen entering an old woodpecker hole in Savernake Forest, May 26th (B.G.). A pair at Coate, May 16th, and a young bird seen there in August (G.L.W.). Nine pairs nested in Longleat district (E.H.J.). A pair bred successfully near Littleton Mill (R.L.V.), and a family was seen near Stockton Wood, July 29th (B.M.S.). More passage records received than usual. Long migration noted near Lockeridge from July 14th to Sept. 8th, never many birds together but they kept passing through, especially during the last weeks of August and early September (C.A.C.). Unusual numbers also noticed at Bishopsdown between Aug. 29th and Oct. 2nd (P.R.).
321. **BLACK REDSTART.** A male seen at 10 yards range at Stratton St. Margaret, Aug. 25th (E.B.2). One on a building at Porton, Nov. 21st (A.G.H.).
322. **NIGHTINGALE.** First heard Apr. 17th, Sandridge Vale (R.J.S.); Apr. 20th, Coate (G.L.W.), Farley (G.E.), West Ashton Woods (R.L.V.), Alderbury (H.J.C.).
325. **ROBIN.** Nest containing five eggs at Langley Burrell, Mar. 29th, an early date (M.W.P.).
327. **GRASSHOPPER WARBLER.** First noted Apr. 14th, Great Bradford Wood (R.J.S.); Apr. 20th, Britford (E.B.) and Chisenbury Wood (B.G.); Apr. 26th, near Lockeridge (C.A.C.). Last seen Aug. 10th, Coate (G.L.W.).
333. **REED WARBLER.** First noted Apr. 19th, Clarendon (G.E.); Apr. 29th, Coate (M.C.F.). Several on the Petersfinger G.P. June 9th (H.J.C.). Very few on the Avon below Amesbury and no nests found (J.K.S.).
334. **MARSH WARBLER.** On June 1st a bird was only glimpsed, which appeared like a Reed Warbler, and was heard singing in a hawthorn and bramble clump. The very varied song 'contained notes of the Chaffinch, Sedge Warbler, Blackcap and long trills like a canary, and a twitter like a greenfinch but quicker and longer' (G.L.W.).
337. **SEDGE WARBLER.** First noted Mar. 20th, Ford, and Mar. 23rd, Clarendon (D.E.F., A.G.H.); April 5th, West Harnham (E.B.) and Salisbury (H.J.C.). Last noted Sept. 15th, Coate (G.L.W.); Sept. 28th, Stratford-sub-Castle (E.B.). A bird ringed as full grown on 27.8.55 at Dungeness, Kent, 50° 55' N. 0° 59' E. found dead 12.6.56 at Amesbury, 118 miles westward.
343. **BLACKCAP.** A 'wintering' female seen in a garden in Salisbury, Feb. 25th (Mr. W. E. Hayward per Salisbury Field Club). First seen in spring Mar. 27th, East Knoyle (B.M.S.); Mar. 28th, Homington (E.B.); Mar. 30th, Alderbury (G.E.). Last seen in autumn Sept. 12th, Coate (G.L.W.); Sept. 29th, Downton (E.B.). A 'wintering' male watched for five minutes in a garden in Trowbridge, Dec. 18th, feeding on the ground among cabbages (A.R.A.).
346. **GARDEN WARBLER.** First noted Apr. 6th, Iford, and Apr. 13th, Great Ridge Wood (R.J.S.); Apr. 22nd, Weavertown (G.W.C.). Last noted Aug. 29th, Bishopsdown (P.R.); Sept. 10th, Coate (G.L.W.).
347. **WHITETHROAT.** First noted Apr. 16th, Woodfalls (H.J.C.); Apr. 19th, near Swindon (G.L.W.) and Devizes (J.L.R.B.); Apr. 20th, Chisbury Wood (B.G.) and Seagry (D.G.B.). Last noted Sept. 8th, Rodbourne S.F. (G.L.W.); Sept. 12th, Harnham Hill (E.B.).
348. **LESSER WHITETHROAT.** First noted Apr. 3rd, Lacock (G.W.C.); Apr. 20th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); Apr. 22nd, Keevil (R.L.V.). Last noted July 26th, East Harnham (E.B.); Aug. 31st, Aldbourne (M.C.F.); Sept. 15th, Coate (G.L.W.).
352. **DARTFORD WARBLER.** A pair watched for several hours and nesting suspected in South Wiltshire, May 6th (H.W.J.C.).
354. **WILLOW WARBLER.** First noted Mar. 15th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); Mar. 16th, Harnham (H.J.C.); Mar. 28th, Britford (E.B.) and Inglesham (F.H.M.). Last noted Sept. 19th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); Sept. 22nd, Coate (G.L.W.); Oct. 8th, Sandridge (R.L.V.).

356. CHIFFCHAFF. First heard Mar. 10th, East Knoyle (B.M.S.); Mar. 12th, Alderbury (H.J.C.) and Treacle Bolly (M.C.); Mar. 13th, Coate (M.C.F.). Last noted Sept. 23rd, Coate (M.C.F.). Oct. 7th, Bodenham (E.B.); Oct. 10th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.).

357. WOOD WARBLER. First noted Apr. 14th, Stratton St. Margaret (E.B.2); May 2nd, Keevil (R.L.V.); May 5th, Fosbury (B.G.). Later noted in Great Ridge and Stockton Woods (B.M.S.), and near Great Durnford (H.J.C.). Last seen near Coate, Aug. 10th (G.L.W.).

266. SPOTTED FLYCATCHER. First seen Apr. 20th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); May 12th, Salisbury (H.J.C.); May 10th, Semington (G.L.B.). Last seen Sept. 18th, Britford (E.B.); Sept. 19th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); Sept. 22nd, Cole Park (J.M.B.). A single bird stayed in a garden at Ramsbury, Oct. 19th-21st, some weeks after the local breeding birds had left (O.M.).

368. PIED FLYCATCHER A female seen in a small oak wood near Swindon, May 19th, the characteristic wing-markings and tail clearly seen (G.L.W.).

371. HEDGE SPARROW. A nest with a clutch of pure white eggs at Corsley was later robbed by boys (E.H.J.).

376. TREE PIPIT. First noted Apr. 20th, West Dean (G.E.); Apr. 21st, Great Ridge Wood (R.J.S.); Apr. 22nd, Weavern (G.W.C.). A marked decrease in Longleaf district of late years due to increasing height of trees (M.B.).

380. PIED WAGTAIL. A bird was sitting on eggs in a hollow stump, May 17th. A few days later the eggs were missing and a Grass Snake was curled up in their place (G.L.B.).

381. GREY WAGTAIL. Near Keevil a hen was sitting, Mar. 31st, an early date (R.L.V.). A pair at Upper Woodford had five eggs on Apr. 9th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

382. YELLOW WAGTAIL. First seen Apr. 5th, Bemerton (H.J.C.), and West Harnham (E.B.); Apr. 6th, Rodbourne S.F. (G.L.W.); Apr. 15th, Stratton St. Margaret (E.B.2). Unusually abundant on the marshes of the Salisbury Avon (J.K.S.). Fourteen roosting in reeds at Coate, Aug. 29th (G.L.W.). Last seen Sept. 14th, Wroughton (G.L.W.); Sept. 25th, Lacock (G.L.B.); Sept. 29th, Salisbury S.F. (E.B.).

383. WAXWING. One near roadside at Amesbury eating berries, Nov. 17th (Mr. J. R. Hancock per P.R.). One spent many hours in a garden at Bishopsdown, Dec. 25th-26th (A.G.H.).

384. GREAT GREY SHRIKE. One at Hackpen, May 2nd (M.C.). On Dec. 6th one flew low over the Britford water meadows and perched on top of an oak where it was watched for several minutes at c.30 yards through field glasses (E.B.).

388. RED-BACKED SHRIKE. Notes on this species will be included in the results of an Enquiry in a future report.

389. STARLING. The flight in to the west at High Post was at its most spectacular on Jan. 26th (G.E.). Summer fighting first noted on June 23rd. In autumn the roost had moved to a conifer plantation about two miles N. from that of the previous winter and numbers were much smaller (P.R.).

The roost lately at Crooked Soley moved to Knighton early in the year. In October it was found near Lambourn, Berks, 12 miles N.E. of Marlborough but gradually decreased in numbers while the roost at Clench Common steadily increased (M.C.).

A bird ringed as a nestling, May 30th, 1954, at Pisz, Poland, 530 35' N. 210 31' E. was killed by a cat, Dec. 6th, 1955, at Pewsey 510 20' N. 10 46' W.

391. HAWFINCH. Four seen near Clarendon, Jan. 24th (J.K.S.). Ten seen flying towards Clarendon Lake and one near Alderbury, Mar. 9th (E.L.J.). One in the Close, Salisbury, Nov. 22nd (D.E.F.), and one in downland bushes near Ford, Dec. 26th (E.B.).

394. SISKIN. On Jan. 1st, 12-15 seen in fog at Cole Park (J.M.B.); c.six feeding on larch cones in Alderbury Wood and the males singing, Mar. 3rd (G.E., B.G.). One feeding with a large flock of tits on alders by the Avon at Bodenham, Mar. 8th (E.B.).

395. LINNET. Pairs returned to garden at Seagry, Mar. 18th (R.G.B.) and pairs at Rodbourne S.F., Mar. 23rd (G.L.W.). A colony of 10-12 pairs started to build in a garden at Amesbury in late March, an early date. Due to the destruction of nearly all low nests by mice, voles or birds, breeding continued until August (J.K.S.). Flocks of c.1000 at Walcot Aug. 4th (G.L.W.), and on Roundway Down, Oct. 12th (H.W.T., B.G.).

397. REDPOLL. Four at Petersfinger G. P., Oct. 12th-19th (D.E.F., A.G.H.). Three near East Knoyle, Nov. 28th, and on Dec. 21st one bird larger in size which may have belonged to a northern race (B.M.S.).

404. CROSSBILL. A male bird seen near Clarendon Park, Feb. 16th (Mr. J.M. Dorling per Dr. K.B. Rooke). Six birds seen flying out of Holloway Wood, East Knoyle, Mar. 4th and 29th (B.M.S.).

407. CHAFFINCH. A bird ringed when full-grown, Oct. 6th, 1951 at Kemmel, West Flanders, 50° 47' N. 20° 50' E. was recovered, 22nd Feb., 1953 at Salisbury, 51° 04' N. 10° 47' W.

408. BRAMBLING. Very small numbers reported in winter. Last seen Feb. 28th, Notton (G.L.B.); Mar. 3rd, Netherhampton (G.E., B.G.); Mar. 23rd, Marlborough (M.C.). First seen in autumn Oct. 23rd, Lockeridge (C.A.C.); Oct. 29th, Stock Close (M.C.F.); c.50 in a flock of chaffinches at Petersfinger, Nov. 30th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

409. YELLOWHAMMER. Two birds were singing near Swindon Feb. 24th, using houses as song posts, one on guttering and the other just below the roof ridge. This behaviour was noted regularly during spring, once in July and once again in August (G.L.W.).

410. CORN BUNTING. Noted near Colerne in May and June (G.A.). This area was not included in the Corn Bunting Enquiry, 1955.

415. CIRC BUNTING. Seen and heard singing in spring: near Bishops Cannings and Devizes (B.G.); Idmiston (H.J.C.); Ford (E.B.); Bishopsdown and Stratford-sub-Castle (P.R.); and in the Devizes Road Cemetery, Salisbury (H.J.C.). Also in ten other areas south and south-east of Salisbury where frequently reported in other years (E.B., H.J.C.). A pair with four young seen in a hedgerow tree near Wootton Bassett, June 16th, a new area (G.L.W.).

425. TREE SPARROW. c.25 feeding amongst stubble at the foot of the downs near Horton, Jan. 12th (B.G.). Six at Rodbourne S. F., Mar. 3rd, and several at Walcot, Aug. 25th, both parties with a mixed flock of finches (L.G.W.). Several with finches at Cole Park, Dec. 23rd (J.M.B.).

Checklist numbers of those species which, though not mentioned in these notes, were recorded in 1957:-9, 82, 84, 93, 115, 126, 127, 201, 208, 232, 234, 241, 246, 247, 280, 282, 283, 284, 292, 296, 299, 301, 303, 364, 373, 392, 393, 401, 421, 424.

MAMMALOGICAL NOTE

Daubenton's Bat. On the 8th December, 1957 Mr. Blackmore of London whilst exploring Fonthill grottos found a female Daubenton's Bat (*Myotis daubentoni*) Kuhl. This species although reasonably common has never before been recorded from Wiltshire and the only south-western county now without a record is Somerset.

Mr. Blackmore also recorded the following species at Fonthill, Natterer's, Lesser Horseshoe, and Greater Horseshoe Bats.

GEOFFREY WEBBER.

ENTOMOLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1957¹

By B. W. WEDDELL

1957 has been a thoroughly poor year in the realm of Lepidoptera and that is not merely a local experience. Reports from all over the country bear the same stamp, with hardly a bright spot anywhere.

January, February and March were unusually wet months followed by a very dry and often hot spell during April, May and June. Then July, August and September showed a rainfall much above average with lots of blustery winds. Many pupae must have been shrivelled in the ground by the drought, or else imprisoned and unable to emerge. Results show that generally even on favourable nights the number of moths attracted was only a fraction of what should be expected in a normal season, many regular species never showing up at all.

Butterflies seem to have fared slightly better, some species being exceptionally early, though migrants were practically unknown.

July began to promise with two Purple Emperors being seen on the 5th by Mr. Pitman. On the 3rd Chalkhill Blues started flying, which was very early. They were abundant locally but the coveted varieties were hardly to be found. The other Blues were well below average.

We must admit that the last two years have shown a deterioration in numbers of Lepidoptera and one is faced with the possibility of them taking some years to recover. But recover they will for Dame Nature has had lots of experience of such weather cycles as we have suffered. So let us be patient and keep on observing and recording. In time we shall see the pattern working out.

CONTRIBUTORS

M.C.F.	Miss Muriel Foster.
M.C.	Marlborough College N.H.S.
G.W.C.	Mr. G. W. Collett, Chippenham.
D.R.	Mr. David Rees, Bradford-on-Avon.
C.F.	Mr. Charles Floyd, Holt.
B.W.	B. W. Weddell, Trowbridge.
G.H.W.C.	Mr. G. H. W. Cruttwell, Frome.
R.A.J.	Capt. R. A. Jackson, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), F.R.E.S., Codford.
C.M.R.P.	Mr. C. M. R. Pitman, Salisbury.
V.T.	Miss Vere Temple, F.R.E.S., Tollard Royal.

PHENOLOGICAL REPORT

	Average Date	1957	Difference
Large White	22.4	13.5	-2I
Marbled White	27.6	27.6	-
Meadow Brown	22.6	11.6	+
Cinnabar	17.5	14.5	+
Garden Carpet	6.5	10.5	- 4
Brimstone Moth	20.5	3.6	+

Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>	M.C.F. 20.10., C.M.R.P. 14.10
Silver Washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	M.C. 18.6, exceptionally early date
White Admiral	<i>Limonitis camilla</i>	M.C. 1.7
Purple Emperor	<i>Apatura iris</i>	C.M.R.P. 5.7
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	C.M.R.P. 30.7 (unique var.)
Chalkhill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	R.A.J. 17.7, very early date
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erinnes tages</i>	C.M.R.P. 26.8 (2nd brood)
Death's Head Hawk	<i>Acherontia atropos</i>	V.T. 6.57

¹ For 1956 Entomological Report, see p. 132.

Pine Hawk	<i>Hyloicus pinastri</i>	C.M.R.P. 15.9 (larva)
Hummingbird Hawk	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	C.M.R.P. 4.4, M.C.F. 11.8
Sallow Kitten	<i>Cerura furcula</i>	D.R. 15.6
Lobster	<i>Stauropus fagi</i>	D.R. 7.6
White Satin	<i>Leucoma salicis</i>	M.C. 5.7
Four-dotted Footman	<i>Cebosia mesomella</i>	M.C. 18.6
Poplar Dagger	<i>Apatele megacephala</i>	R.A.J. 28.8, unusual 2nd brood
Alder Dagger	<i>Apatele alni</i>	D.R. 7.6, numerous
Coronet Dagger	<i>Craniophora ligustri</i>	M.C. 4.6.
Autumnal Rustic	<i>Amathes glareosa</i>	R.A.J. 16.9
Common Marbled Coronet	<i>Hadena conspersa</i>	M.C. 4.7
Hedge Rustic	<i>Tholera cespitis</i>	R.A.J. 2.9
Dusky Sallow Rustic	<i>Eremobia ochroleuca</i>	G.H.W.C. 31.7
Double-lobed	<i>Apamea ophiogramma</i>	G.H.W.C. 31.7
Brown Crescent	<i>Celaena leucostigma</i>	G.H.W.C. 31.7
Downland Wainscot	<i>Oria musculosa</i>	M.C. 23.7
Southern Wainscot	<i>Leucania straminea</i>	R.A.J. 2.8
Common Shark	<i>Cuculla umbratica</i>	R.A.J. 17.8, 20.8, rare 2nd brood
Bordered Orange	<i>Pyrrhia umbra</i>	D.R. 9.9.
Marbled Clover	<i>Heliothus dipsacea</i>	R.A.J. 17.7
Burnet Companion	<i>Ectypa glyphica</i>	R.A.J. 30.7, rare 2nd brood
Netted Pug	<i>Eupithecia venosata</i>	D.R. 15.6
Map-winged Swift	<i>Hepialus fusconebulosa</i>	R.A.J. 2.6

NATURAL HISTORY SECTION

Annual Statement of Accounts 1957

RECEIPTS	£	s.	d.		PAYMENT	£	s.	d.
Balance to 31st Dec., 1956	84	16	11		Postages and Stationery:—			
Members' subscriptions—127 at 7/6	47	12	6		Hon. Secretary	3	15	3
Reprints	10	4			Hon. Treasurer	3	8	6
Donation	2	6			Printing and Typing	10	17	1
					Wiltshire Archaeological Society, 1/- per member	5	14	0
					Hire of Rooms	15	0	
					Press Reports	17	0	
					Flora of Wiltshire	1	16	0
					Cheque Book	4	0	
					Affiliation Fees:—			
					British Trust for Ornithology	2	0	0
					South Western Naturalists	12	0	
					Magazine Reprints	14	15	0
					Balance 31st Dec., 1957	88	7	7
	£133	2	3			£133	2	3

Audited and found correct

DONALD KENDALL,

Audley House, Marlborough.

2nd Jan., 1958

Hon. Treasurer:

G. W. COLLETT,

31st Dec., 1957.



The Records Branch.

Founded in 1937 for the publication of original documents relating to the history of the county. The subscription is £1 yearly. New members are urgently needed. Hon. Secretary, Mr. M. G. Rathbone, Craigleith, Snarlton Lane, Melksham Forest, Wilts.

The Branch has issued the following. Price to members of the Branch £1, and to non-members 30s.

ABSTRACTS OF FEET OF FINES RELATING TO WILTSHIRE FOR THE REIGNS OF EDWARD I AND EDWARD II. Edited by R. B. Pugh. 1939.

ACCOUNTS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY GARRISONS OF GREAT CHALFIELD AND MALMESBURY, 1645—1646. Edited by J. H. P. Pafford. 1940. (Out of Print.)

TWO SIXTEENTH CENTURY TAXATION LISTS, 1545 and 1576. Edited by G. D. Ramsay. 1945.

CALENDAR OF ANTROBUS DEEDS BEFORE 1625. Edited by R. B. Pugh. 1947.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS IN SESSIONS, 1563, 1574—1592. Edited by H. C. Johnson. 1949.

LIST OF WILTSHIRE BOROUGH RECORDS EARLIER IN DATE THAN 1836. Edited by Maurice G. Rathbone. 1951.

THE TROWBRIDGE WOOLLEN INDUSTRY as illustrated by the stock books of John and Thomas Clark, 1804—1824. Edited by R. B. Peckinsale, D. Phil. 1950.

CALNE GUILD STEWARDS BOOK, 1561—1688. Edited by A. W. Mabbs. 1953.

ANDREWS' AND DURY'S Map OF WILTSHIRE, 1773. A reduced facsimile. Introduction by Elizabeth Crittall. 1952.

SURVEYS OF THE MANORS OF PHILIP EARL OF PEMBROKE AND MONTGOMERY, 1631—2. Edited by Eric Kerridge, Ph. D. 1953.

WILTSHIRE QUARTER SESSIONS AND ASSIZES, 1736. Edited by J. P. M. Fowle. 1955.

COLLECTANEA. Edited by N. J. Williams, with a foreword by T. F. T. Plucknett.

PROGRESS NOTES OF WARDEN WOODWARD FOR THE WILTSHIRE ESTATES OF NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD. 1659—1675. Edited by R. L. Rickard. 1957.

Natural History Section.

The object of this Section is to promote the study of all branches of Natural History in the County by encouraging field observations, maintaining records, arranging field and other meetings and by putting observers in touch with each other. Members and others who wish for particulars of the Section and its activities should write to the Honorary Treasurer of the Section:—

Mr. G. W. Collett, 174, Sheldon Road, Chippenham.

Membership of the Section does not entail any further subscription from those who are already members of the Society.

Observations should be sent to the recorders:

BIRDS. Mrs. Egbert Barnes, Hungerdown, Seagry, Chippenham, Wilts.

FLOWERS. Mr. J. D. Grose, Downs Edge, Liddington, near Swindon.

LEPIDOPTERA. Mr. B. W. Weddell, 11, The Halve, Trowbridge.

MAMMALS, REPTILES AND AMPHIBIA. Mr. G. L. Webber, 200, Queen's Drive, Swindon.

Back numbers of the Report of the Section can be obtained from Mrs. Egbert Barnes. Prices on application.

Copies of the Flora of Wiltshire, by Donald Grose, published by the Natural History Section, can be obtained from the Librarian at the Society's Museum, Devizes. 1957. pp. iv, 824. 42s.

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THE WILTSHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY
MAGAZINE



Number CCVII November 1959 Volume 57

THE WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The Society was founded in 1853. Its activities include the promotion of archaeological work within the County and of the study of all branches of Natural History; the issue of a Magazine and other publications; excursions to places of archaeological and historical interest; collaboration with a Records Branch; and the maintenance of a Museum and Library.

The subscription rates for membership of the Society are at present as follows:—Annual Subscription £1 12s. 6d. Life membership £20. Enquiries about membership should be made to the Hon. Secretary, c/o The Museum, Devizes

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Patron:

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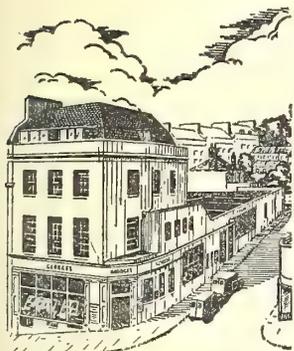
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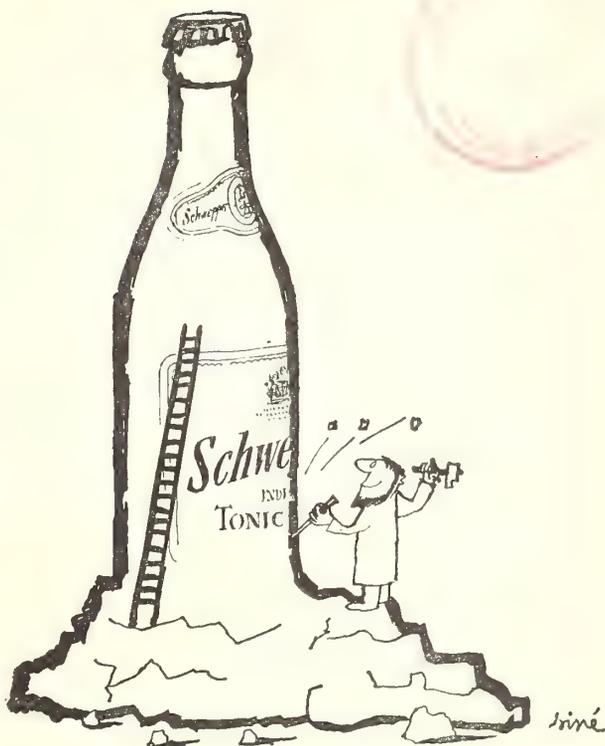
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THE WILTSHIRE MAGAZINE

MULTORUM MANIBUS GRANDE LEVATUR ONUS

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Vol. LVII

EXCAVATIONS AT WINDMILL HILL, AVEBURY, WILTS, 1957-8¹

By ISOBEL SMITH

SUMMARY

Recent excavations in the Neolithic causewayed camp on Windmill Hill have produced much new information. Cuttings through a well preserved bank have revealed not only the method of construction, but also evidence of pre-camp settlement on the hill and concerning Neolithic agricultural techniques. Ditch cuttings have shown that the use of the camp continued until the ditches were nearly full of silt. For the first time a cutting was made through a ditch undisturbed by ploughing; an intact Late Neolithic layer, containing Beaker, Rinyo-Clacton and developed Peterborough pottery was found near the top, and sherds of a vessel of Ebbsfleet type at a low level.

INTRODUCTION

The dimensions of the three approximately concentric ditches of the camp vary in proportion to the sizes of the areas they enclose (see fig. 1). No trace now remains of the banks which formerly stood inside the Inner and Middle Ditches, and the unexcavated parts of the ditches themselves are only just detectable on the surface. The wider and deeper Outer Ditch is more easily seen, and its bank can still be traced round much of its course, though it has been reduced to a mere vestige except on the eastern side. It is clear from Stukeley's description² that even before the ploughing mentioned by Colt Hoare³ the only conspicuous features were the Outer Bank and Ditch. The Inner and Middle Ditches were first noticed in 1923 by the late Rev. H. G. O. Kendall and the late O.G.S. Crawford, then Archaeology Officer of the Ordnance Survey. By this time Kendall had amassed a large collection of flints from the surface of the hill and had excavated a small part of the Outer Ditch.⁴ Crawford had been invited to see the section and confirm the fact that the ditch and the objects in the lower levels must be earlier than the Beaker sherds which occurred near the top⁵. Shortly thereafter Crawford was instrumental in having the camp scheduled and in drawing it to the attention of the late Alexander Keiller, who purchased most of the area it occupies during the following two years.

In 1925 excavations began under the direction of Mr. H. St. George Gray, F.S.A., and continued until 1929, for the last three seasons under Mr. Keiller's personal direction. During these years, 16 segments of the Inner Ditch, 11 of the Middle Ditch, and 3 of the Outer Ditch were completely excavated, together with the intervening causeways and the eastern half of the area enclosed by the Inner Ditch.⁶ The finds from these excavations are housed in the museum at Avebury and summary accounts have appeared in the *Proceedings of the First International Congress of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences* (London, 1934, 135-8) and in Professor Piggott's *The Neolithic Cultures of the British Isles* (Cambridge, 1954). Work is now in progress on a detailed report, to be published as a monograph together with accounts of Mr. Keiller's excavations at the West Kennett Avenue and Avebury. The excavations described below were undertaken in connection with this work.

THE 1957-8 EXCAVATIONS

Under the direction of Mr. W. E. V. Young and the writer, five-foot cuttings were made through previously unexcavated segments of the Inner and Middle Ditches (at the points marked XVII and XII
VOL. LVII-CCVII

on fig. 1), two through the Outer Bank and Ditch (marked IV and V; the bank cutting at IV was extended to a width of 10 ft.), and a fifth (marked VI) was confined to the Outer Bank only. The numbers assigned to these cuttings follow upon those used for the ditch segments excavated in 1925-9. This account will be concerned almost entirely with the first four cuttings listed above, with special emphasis

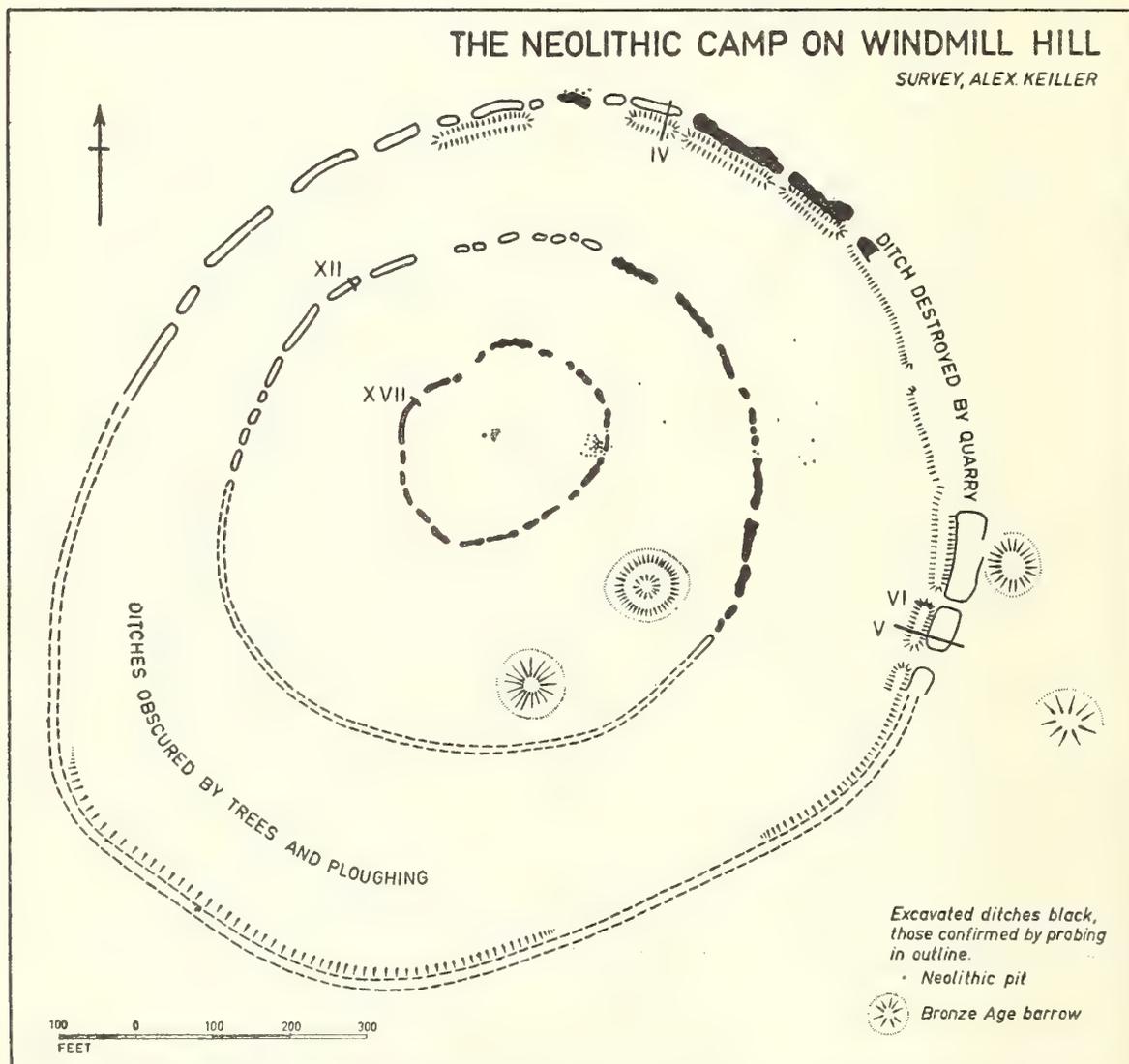
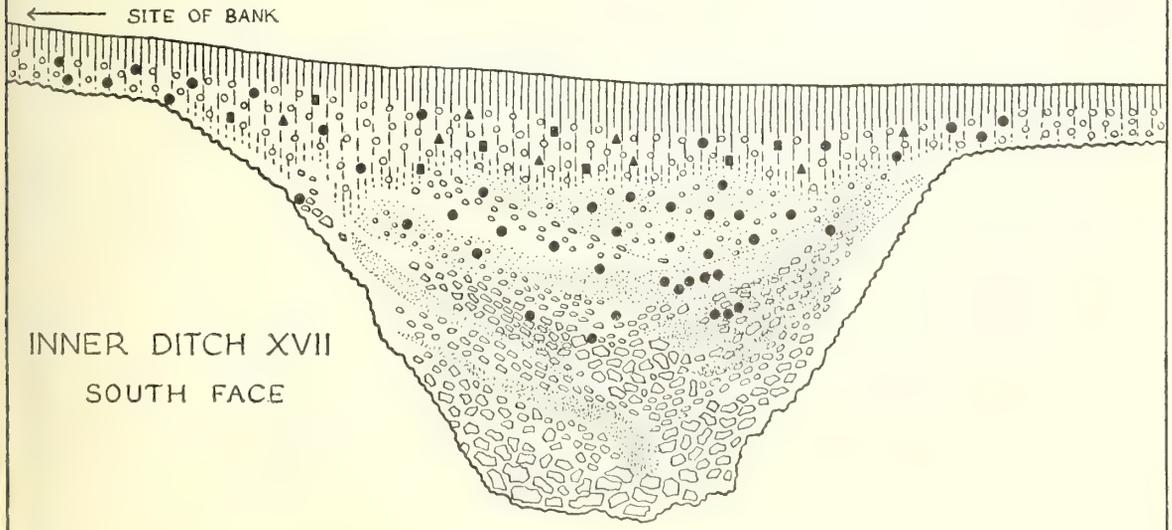
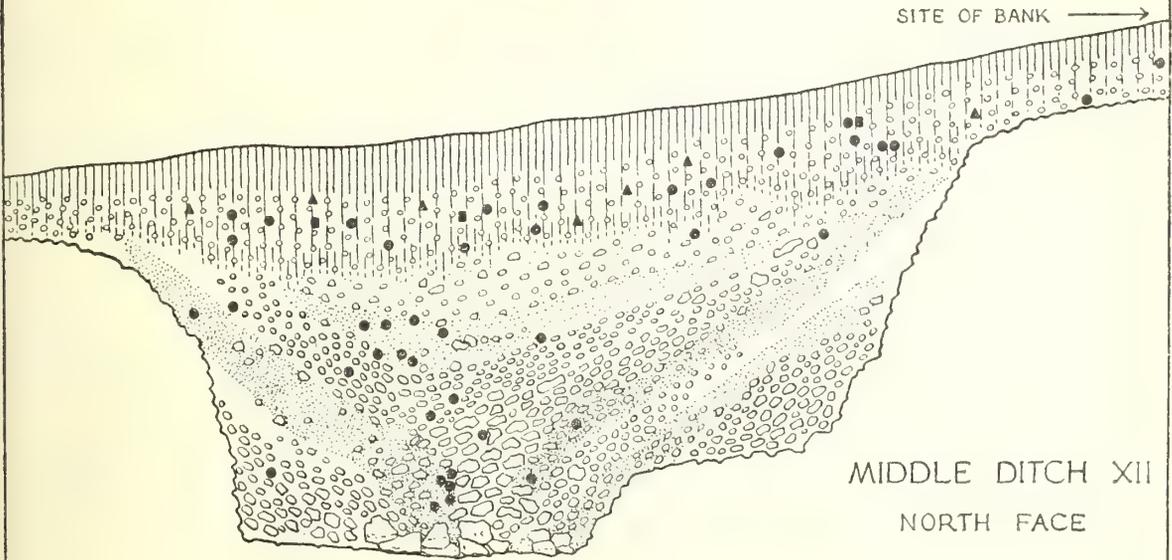


Fig. 1. Plan of the camp. The Roman numerals indicate the positions of the cuttings made during the 1957-8 excavations.

on the new information derived from the bank sections and the undisturbed stratigraphy of Outer Ditch V. The cutting at Outer Bank VI, made in the hope of finding traces of wooden structures connected with the camp, revealed instead a series of features belonging to the pre-camp occupation and further excavation will be required before these can be fully interpreted⁷; reference will, however, be

WINDMILL HILL - SECTIONS 1957



- ▲ ROMANO-BRITISH WARE
- LATE NEOLITHIC WARE
- WINDMILL HILL WARE

Fig. 2.

made to finds from the buried surface which were not directly associated with these features.

Detailed reports on the flint industry, animal bone, soil and pollen analyses, etc., will be published in the final report, when it is hoped also to present the results of radio carbon dating.

Inner Ditch XVII and Middle Ditch XII (fig. 2).

These two cuttings may conveniently be described together. The Inner Ditch (width at top 10ft., at bottom 3ft., depth 5½ft.) is here unusually deep—twice as deep as some of its other segments. The dimensions of the Middle Ditch (about 11ft. wide at top, 4½ft. at bottom, or nearly 8ft. at the level of the step on its inner side, and 5½ft. deep) are normal for this ditch.

In both cuttings the layer immediately below the present turf-line was found to be a plough-soil consisting of weathered chalk fragments of fairly uniform size lying in a dark brown soil with a high humus content.⁸ Sherds of Romano-British, Late Neolithic⁹ and Windmill Hill wares, flint implements and animal bones were distributed throughout this layer. The Windmill Hill sherds had been displaced by the ploughing from their original positions outside the ditches; some of them must formerly have lain beneath the banks. The ploughing had completely disturbed the upper ditch fillings to a depth of about 18in., mixing together the Romano-British and Late Neolithic layers. It is clear that both these ditches were full to their upper edges by Late Neolithic times, and that the turf-line which then formed must have been at the level now occupied by the plough-soil.

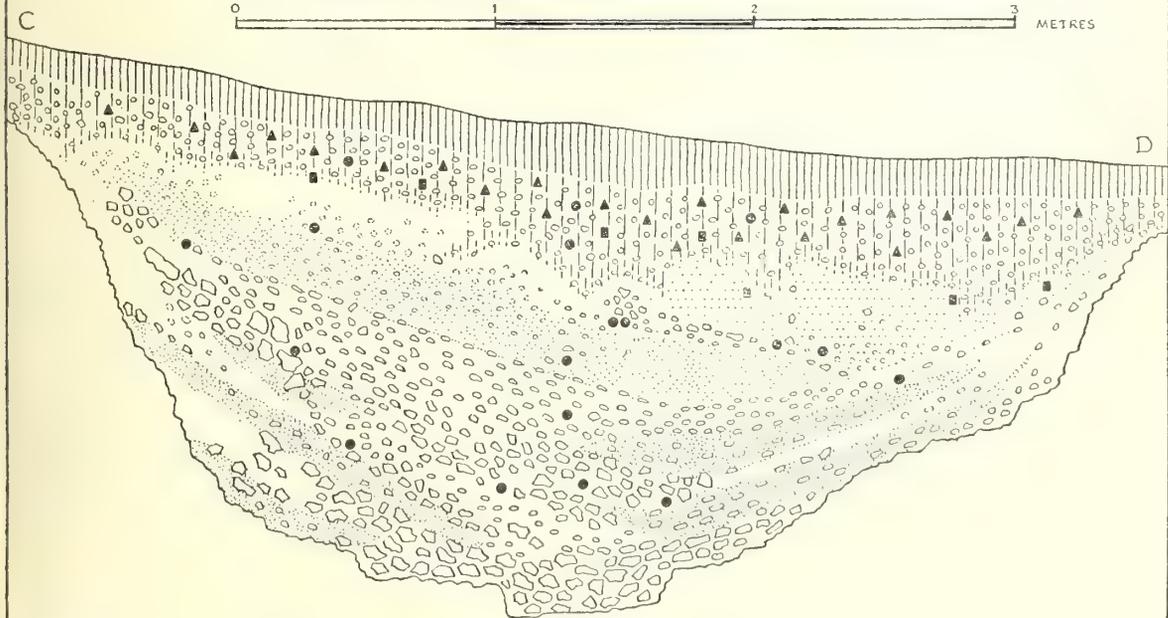
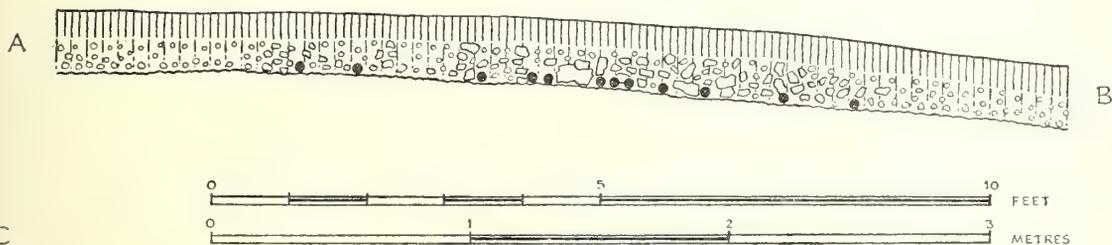
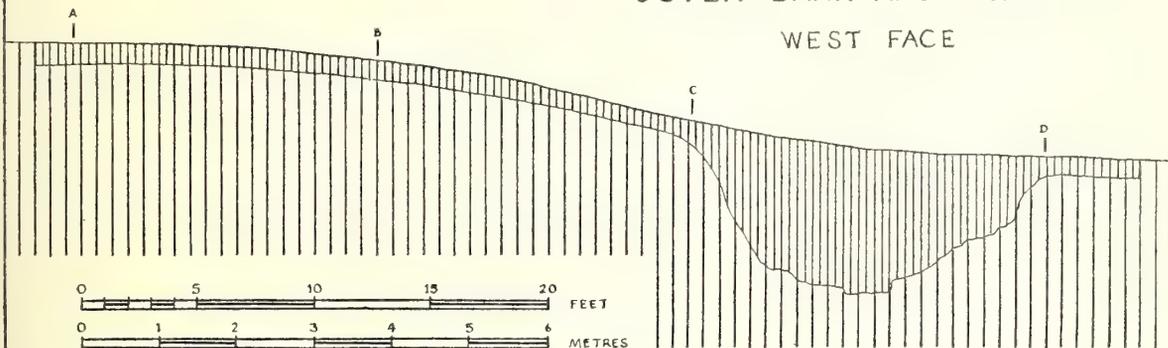
In the trough of each ditch below the plough-soil was a layer of soft grey silt, about 12in. in maximum thickness and containing evenly distributed and rounded fragments of chalk. The upper surfaces of these layers were very irregular as a result of the activities of burrowing animals as well as of the ploughing. The weathered condition of the chalk fragments and the comparatively high humus content show that these deposits represent a slow silting with incipient soil formation. In the Middle Ditch only one sherd of Windmill Hill ware occurred in this layer, but in the Inner Ditch such sherds were present up to the top. In both ditches, however, the quantity of animal bones and flints distributed throughout the slow silting indicated continued use of the camp.

These upper layers were separated from the chalk rubble by runs of compact rain-washed silt of varying degrees of cleanness. The rubble filling in both ditches occupied about one-half of the total depth; it consisted of large angular pieces of chalk, with many air-spaces, interspersed with streaks of fine loose dark material, evidently representing turf or topsoil undermined by erosion of the former upper edges of the ditches. The nature of this filling was such as to suggest that its formation had been rapid, occupying a decade or less. Although erosion from the ditch edges was responsible for much of the rubble, it is clear that a large quantity had come down from the banks. The distribution of the largest blocks of chalk, directly on the clean bottoms and mainly towards the inner sides, suggests that these banks, which must have consisted almost entirely of quarried chalk, had begun to collapse soon after construction.

As is usual in this camp, the filling of the Inner Ditch yielded refuse of all kinds in considerably greater quantities than did the Middle Ditch. Each ditch contained pottery, flint waste, charcoal, broken animal bones and fragments of rubbers, pounders and querns made of sarsen, as well as a few small sarsen boulders. Other finds included (a) fragments of a human skull and the butt-end of a polished flint axe of pointed oval cross-section from the primary rubble; (b) from a higher level, several slabs of Lower Chalk. One of these slabs had been artificially shaped and incised with a series of parallel lines arranged in groups to form a rhomboidal design.

Fragments of about 20 individual pots were recovered from the undisturbed layers of the Middle Ditch and of about 30 from the Inner Ditch. The great majority of sherds are similar to those found beneath the Outer Bank and described below (p.158). The Inner Ditch, however, also yielded two

WINDMILL HILL — SECTIONS 1957

OUTER BANK AND DITCH IV
WEST FACE

▲ ROMANO-BRITISH WARE

■ LATE NEOLITHIC WARE

● WINDMILL HILL WARE

Fig. 3.

T-shaped rims of shell-gritted ware and two ornamented rims. One of the latter came from a small cup with transverse notches on the rim. The other belongs to a slightly carinated bowl with vertical strokes from rim to shoulder and oblique strokes on the everted and thickened inner side of the rim; a larger fragment of this bowl, found during the previous excavations in the segment of Inner Ditch immediately to the north, is now on loan to the Society's Museum in Devizes.

Outer Bank and Ditch IV (fig. 3).

As the section shows, the vestiges of this part of the bank appear as a barely perceptible irregularity in the contour of the hill-side. Excavation revealed a spread of large blocks of chalk extending over an area 8ft. in width, and resting directly on the solid chalk. The thickness of this deposit was no greater than that of the normal weathered chalk zone on either side, and the apparent height of the bank is due to a slight rise in the level of the solid chalk where it has been protected from erosion.¹⁰ In the 10ft. wide area excavated no sockets were found which might have held the posts of a revetment or palisade; the only disturbances of the solid chalk were two shallow irregular scoops which had been made by rabbits burrowing in the bank.

A thick scatter of occupation refuse lay between the remains of the bank and the undisturbed chalk. In addition to much flint waste, animal bone, and some charcoal, there occurred two broken leaf-arrowheads and sherds belonging to about a dozen pots. The finds are described on p.158.

The ditch was 6½ft. deep, 15ft. wide at the top, and had a series of steps down the sides, ending in a narrow channel at the bottom. Here, too, ploughing and burrowing animals had disturbed the upper part of the filling to a depth of up to 2ft. from the surface. A few Windmill Hill sherds were mixed with the Late Neolithic and Romano-British wares in the plough-soil. However, as may be seen in fig. 3, three Late Neolithic sherds were still *in situ* in the soft dark grey upper silt, which in this case was almost entirely free of chalk fragments. One sherd is of Rinyo-Clacton Ware, the others have belonged to Beakers. Two sherds of Windmill Hill Ware occurred in the lowest part of the layer.

The silting sequence in this ditch was essentially similar to that in the other sections examined, but considerably more chalky rainwash was present throughout, even among the primary rubble. The difference is probably due to the position of the ditch on the northern slope of the hill.

Sherds of 11 individual pots came from the lower levels; these and the rest of the small finds are comparable with those from under the bank and from the corresponding levels in the Inner and Middle Ditches. As is usual in the Outer Ditch, the quantity of sherds and other refuse was less than in the Inner and Middle Ditches.

Outer Bank and Ditch V (fig. 4).

This part of the bank now rises to a maximum height of 3½ft. above the old surface and is about 36ft. wide. It is separated from the inner edge of the ditch by a steeply sloping berm now about 7ft. wide. The width of the ditch is 25ft., but, as both plan (fig. 1) and section show, the apparent width is much greater. This is due to the fact that topsoil and weathered chalk had been scraped up over an area extending some 18ft. beyond the outer side of the ditch in order to gain additional material for the bank¹¹. The steep slope of the berm indicates that here too the surface had been stripped over an area more than 10ft. wide, part of which is now covered by forward spill from the bank. The presence of large quantities of soil and weathered chalk in the bank make-up, and the absence of streaks of collapsed topsoil in the ditch filling show that the general lowering of the surface on either side of the ditch was not solely the result of the agricultural practices for which evidence is adduced below, although it is highly probable that the turf had already been removed from these areas at an earlier date.

The bank was of dump type, with alternating tips of quarried chalk from the ditch, scraped up topsoil and weathered chalk, and occasional runs of clean puddled chalk. Its present state of preservation can

WINDMILL HILL — SECTIONS 1957-8

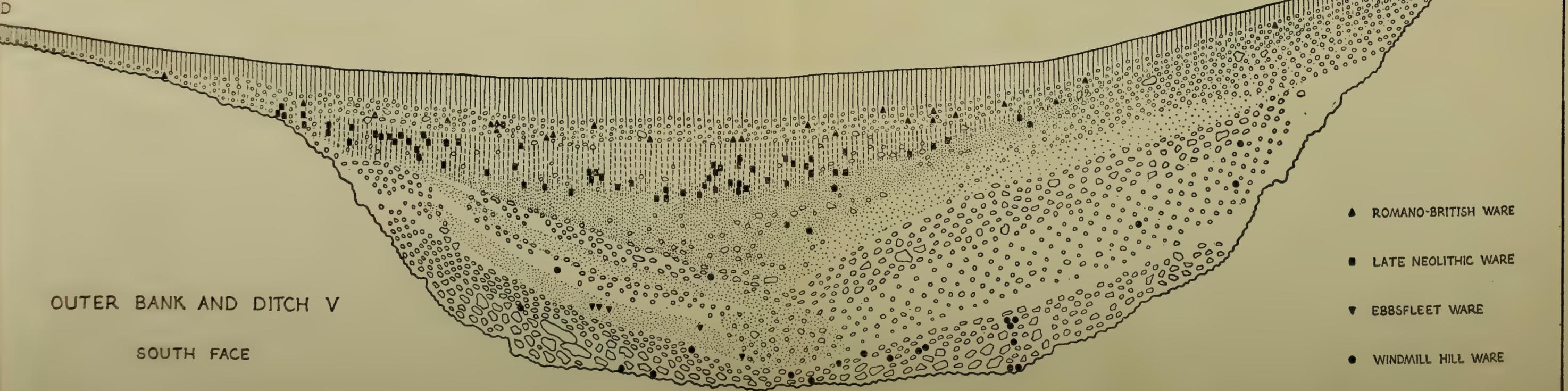
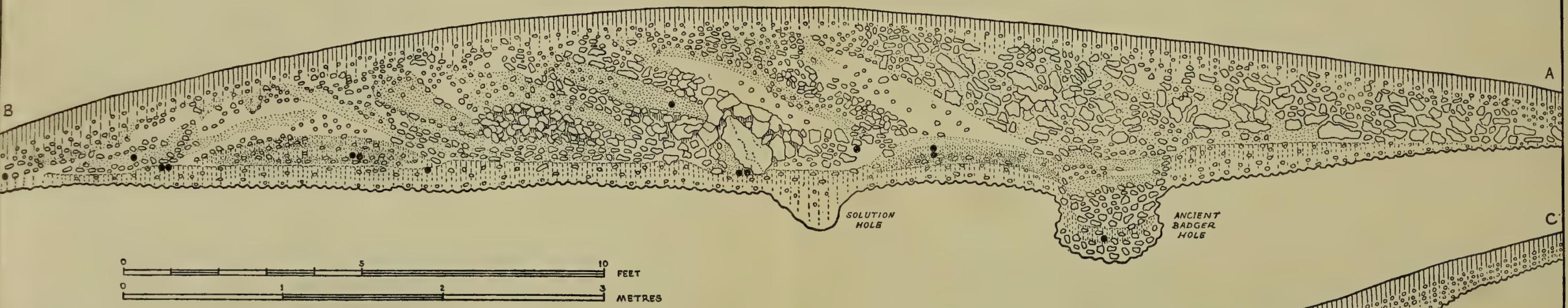
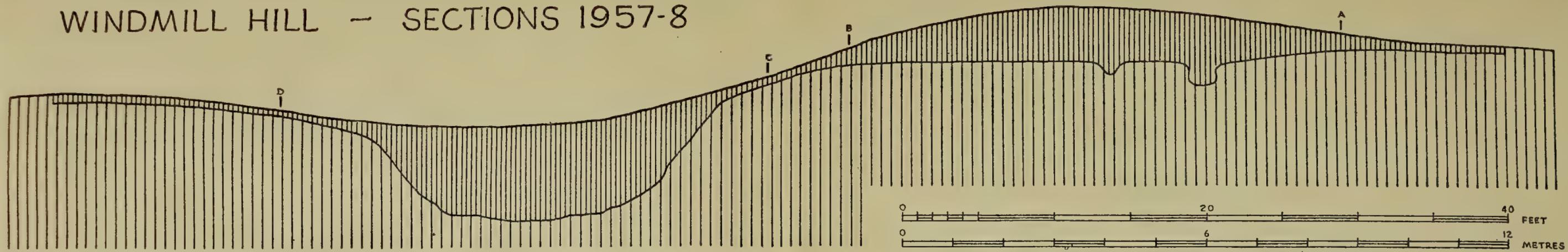


Fig. 4

be attributed to the use of so much relatively fine and cohesive material, particularly on its outer side. This prevented the rapid disintegration which seems to have affected banks composed mainly of quarried chalk.

Lying parallel with each other and with the long axis of the bank, and 9ft. apart, were two low heaps of soft dark material, 4 to 5ft. in width. Each was made up of layers of topsoil, and they had probably served as guides to the planned course and width of the bank. (It may be noted that these marking-out lines did not extend along the whole length of this bank, for they were absent in the section examined at the northern end, cutting VI.) A few sherds were found in these heaps, as well as in the tips of soil in the bank. No signs of palisade or revetment posts were found in, under or near the bank.

Beneath the bank a buried soil survived wherever the thickness of protecting material exceeded 15in. Potsherds, animal bones, flints and charcoal lay scattered on its surface. The upper part of the soil was dark grey in colour and contained much fine charcoal and organic matter; it merged gradually into the paler weathered chalk beneath. The surface of the solid chalk was very uneven, with a soft, smeared appearance. As was to be expected, its level began to rise under the first few feet of the inner side of the bank, but beyond this a marked lowering of the level coincided with the area covered by the buried soil. The explanation is probably to be found in a combination of circumstances involving the original contour of the hillside and the activities of both human beings and animals on the site prior to the construction of the bank.

Five holes were found in the chalk underlying the inner half of the bank. Of the two shown on the section, one was a solution hole with smooth sides, and had possibly been produced by the roots of a bush or small tree. The buried soil continued uninterrupted over its top. The other, a large hole with jagged undercut sides, seems best interpreted as an ancient badger hole. Groups of frog or toad bones lay among the chalk rubble against the sides, suggesting that the animals had crept into the hole and died there. It would appear that at an early stage in the building of the bank the chalk roof and overlying soil (containing a small fragment of pottery, an animal vertebra and charcoal) had collapsed into the hole. The cavity was then hand-filled with rubble up to the edges of the solid chalk and the level raised to that of the surrounding soil by the addition of layers of clean and earthy puddled chalk. Two of the remaining holes had also been dug by badgers, but the third was a small funnel-shaped pit, 13in. in diameter at the top, 8in. at the bottom, and 7in. deep. This hole may once have held a post, the forcible removal of which could have broken away the upper edges. However, it contained no obvious packing material, and had been filled with broken animal bones (some partially burnt), flints (including two serrated flakes), and a well-used sarsen pounder which had also done service as a rubber. Whatever the original purpose of the hole, these objects had been placed in it before the bank was built.

The buried soil has been examined by Dr. G. W. Dimbleby of the Imperial Forestry Institute, and the following information is based on his preliminary report. The presence of fragments of weathered chalk throughout, and the shallowness of the profile indicate that this is a truncated soil from which the stone-free turf and humus zone have been removed. This may have been done to facilitate cultivation, since with primitive agricultural equipment it would have been difficult to obtain a tilth in the top layer of vegetation and matted roots, and competition from weeds would have been serious. The presence of many small flecks of charcoal may indicate that burning preceded the stripping, which left only about 6in. of rubbly soil for cultivation.

The hypothesis that this soil had been cultivated is supported by the finding of small numbers of cereal pollen grains in one of the samples taken. Cereal pollen does not appear to be widely distributed by wind, and as three grains were found adhering together it would seem that the cereal had grown in the immediate vicinity and that the pollen had been deposited at the level at which it was found.

Among other pollens present, those of grasses and weeds of cultivation were predominant and the

percentage of tree species represented (excluding hazel) amounted to only 2.2 per cent. of the total, indicating the absence of high forest. The soil had of course been thoroughly mixed by earthworms so that, apart from the obvious fact that all the pollen present must antedate the bank, it is impossible to establish accurately the relative date of construction in terms of the climatic sequence.

The presence of chalk fragments in the top of the buried soil shows that no considerable interval had elapsed between the cultivation of the site and the erection of the bank. Abandonment for even a few years would have allowed time for the formation of a perceptible stone-free zone.

The buried soil from cutting VI was similar to that just described. Details of finds from cuttings V and VI will be found on p.158.

The relatively wide and shallow Outer Ditch V (25ft. wide at top, 11ft. at bottom, and slightly under 6½ft. deep) produced a section which differed in several respects from those of the other ditches examined. These differences resulted from the undisturbed condition of the upper levels, from the proportions of the ditch, and from the fact that little, if any, of the primary coarse rubble had been derived from the bank. After the initial erosion of coarse rubble from the ditch edges, silting from the outer side was almost entirely in the form of rainwash, with only two thin layers of rubble. On the inner side, however, most of the fill above the primary rubble consisted of weathered chalk fragments, with one run of larger and more angular pieces. This rubbly filling persisted to a high level, indicating that it had taken a long time for a stable turf structure to form on berm and bank.

Most of the pottery from the lower levels was concentrated on the bottom of the ditch and in the primary rubble. Both flint- and shell-gritted wares were present, all in the form of wall-sherds, and varying greatly in finish and hardness. The most important finds were fragments of a pot of Ebbsfleet type (fig. 5:15) in the layer of rainwash which overlay the primary rubble on the outer side of the ditch (see fig. 4 for positions). The few sherds lying between the layer containing this pot and the Late Neolithic layer were all plain wall fragments, but there is no reason to suppose that they belong to other than normal Windmill Hill pots. Considerable quantities of other refuse did, however, occur in these middle layers.

The contracted skeleton of an infant 7 to 7½ months old¹² lay 2ft. 10in. above the bottom of the ditch on the surface of the uppermost run of rubble from the outer side. There was no sign that a grave had been dug in the filling, and it appears that the body had simply been placed in the open ditch and perhaps lightly covered with earth. The bones had been partially disturbed; a few fragments were found near the skeleton, but some of the leg bones were missing. Part of the frontal bone of a more mature individual was found in the primary rubble.

At the top of the ditch, below the turf and humus, was a layer of weathered chalk pebbles which resembled in appearance the plough-soil in the equivalent position in the other ditch sections. It is clear however, that no modern ploughing has taken place here¹³ and, unlike the plough-soils elsewhere, this layer yielded exclusively Romano-British material, with the exception of one Beaker sherd, and a few flints.

Beneath this layer was a thick ancient turf-line which had developed on the surface of the slow silting. When dry it resembled in colour and texture the modern topsoil. It contained only occasional pieces of chalk, but much charcoal, numerous bones of domesticated animals, pieces of burnt sarsen, and Late Neolithic sherds and artifacts. Unfortunately, no reliable internal stratigraphy could be established for the layer, since it was evident that displacement of objects had been caused not only in a downward direction by earthworms, but probably both downward and upward by moles, which had worked freely in the fine loose material. The finds are described on p. 160.

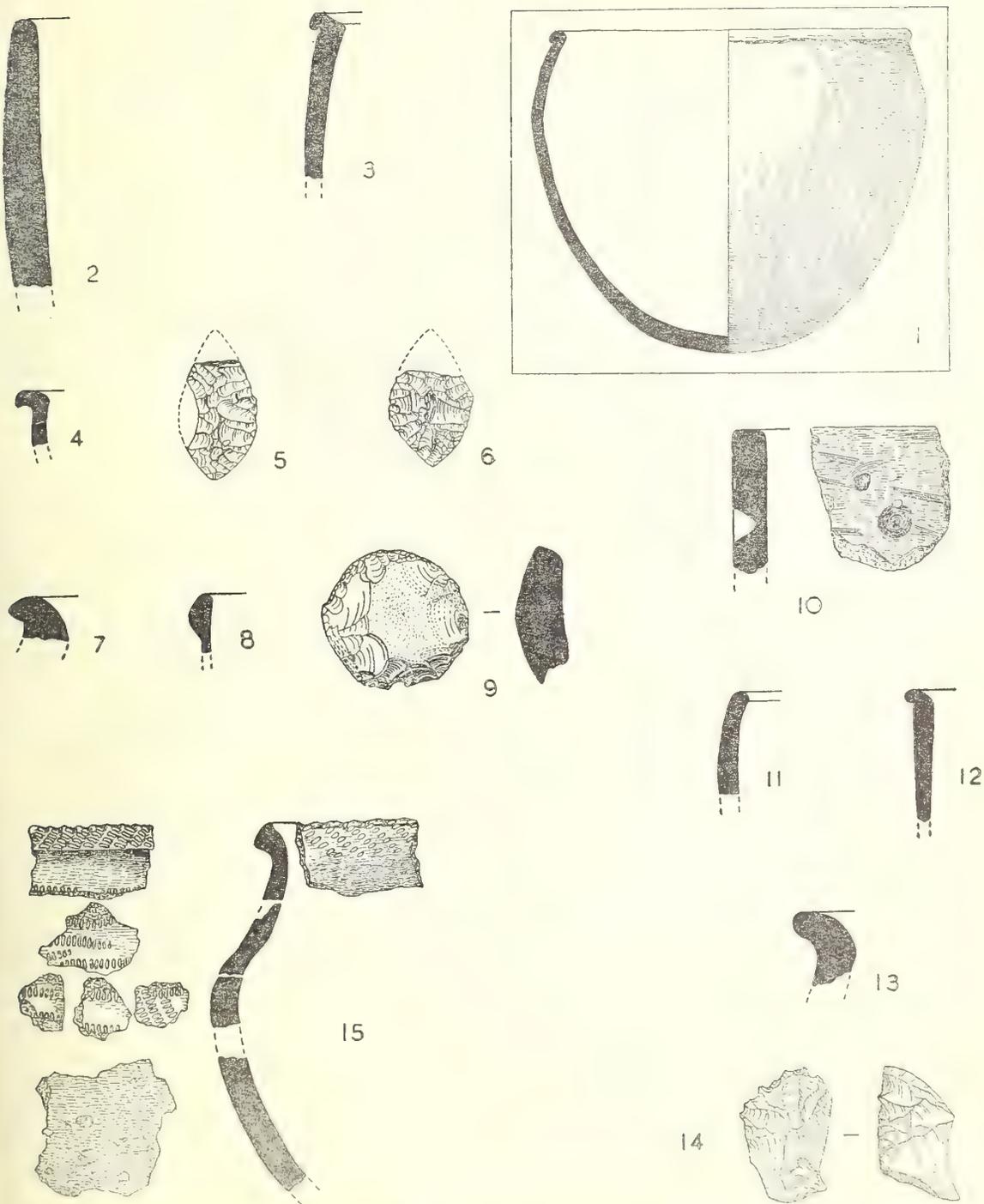


Fig. 5. Finds from the buried surface beneath the Outer Bank in cuttings IV (1-6), VI (7-9), and V (10-14) and sherds of Ebbsfleet ware from Outer Ditch V (15). (1, $\frac{1}{4}$; the remainder $\frac{1}{2}$.)

Finds from the Buried Surfaces beneath the Banks. (See fig. 5—the numbers in brackets refer to illustrations in that figure.)

The flints and pottery to be described below are all of types which occur in the lower levels of the ditches. Special attention is drawn to the presence of shell-gritted wares, since these were formerly thought to have appeared on the site slightly later than flint-gritted wares.¹⁴

Outer Bank IV. Fragments of 12 pots were found under this bank, but only one can be reconstructed (1). It is represented by 24oz. of hard reddish ware, sparingly tempered with flint particles varying from 4mm. to 1cm. in size, together with a few fragments of chalk and a high proportion of sand. The surfaces are uneven, but sufficiently well smoothed to conceal the grits. A large thick-walled vessel with simple upright rim (2) and round base 1.4cm. thick is represented by 44oz. of sherds, but hardly any that join. The ware is dark red, with abundant fine flint grits, few exceeding 3mm. in size, and a small proportion of sand. A thinner-walled pot of the same type is represented by a few sherds, one of them bearing the edge of a lug. Traces of a lug also occur on one of the sherds belonging to a pot with a hook-shaped rim (3); this is of hard black well-smoothed ware, sparingly gritted with flint and sand. A similar rim of red ware (4) contains very little flint but much sand. Among the stone-gritted wares are two more simple rims. Two shell-gritted pots are represented by very small fragments. One was a vessel with a hooked or rolled rim and slight rounded shoulder; the fragments of shell are up to 1.1cm. in size. The other was a bowl of black ware with a simple rim, and contained sand as well as shell. One of the broken leaf-arrowheads (5) came either from the buried surface or from the lowest part of the bank material; the other (6) lay on the solid chalk beneath the bank.

Outer Bank VI. Fragments of 7 pots came from the buried soil under this part of the bank. The everted rim (7) is of black ware with abundant fine flint grits. The externally enlarged rim (8) is also black, containing much sand and a little flint. This type of rim is most commonly found among the Ebbsfleet series, often with incised or cord-impressed decoration. But, as in this instance, it sometimes occurs without ornament, in association with normal Windmill Hill forms¹⁵, and at Ebbsfleet itself was found together with ornamented rims.¹⁶ However, the sherd in question is very small and it would be unwise to attach too much significance to it. The scraper (9) appears to have been made on a flake detached by thermal action, and has been trimmed round the whole circumference.

Outer Bank V. Fragments of 15 pots occurred on the buried surface and in the bank material. The straight rim sherd (10) is of fine-textured, well-finished ware, sparsely gritted with particles of flint averaging 3mm. in size. The colour is reddish brown throughout; the surfaces have been lightly burnished, but a series of fine parallel scratches made during the preliminary smoothing are still visible. The two pits have been drilled after firing and probably represent an unfinished attempt to repair a crack. The small bowl or cup with slightly inturned rim (11) is black externally, red internally; the ware is good, sparsely gritted with very fine flint. The rolled rim (12) is of roughly finished, hard, brownish-black ware, containing flint grits up to 4mm. in size as well as sand. The everted rim (13) is of fine-textured red ware, sparsely tempered with particles of shell up to 2mm. in size. The remaining pots are represented by wall-sherds; of these three more are shell-gritted, one appears to contain crushed quartz, and the rest flint and occasionally sand as well.

Among the flints was a small spurred core-scraper or plane (14), a fairly common type on the site; there was also a scraper trimmed round the whole circumference. As in the ditches, most of the flint appears to be similar to that obtainable from the Upper Chalk within a mile or less of the site, but there are also a few flakes of a different flint, evidently brought from elsewhere.

Ebbsfleet Ware from Outer Ditch V (fig. 5:15).

The form of this pot (15) is well paralleled among the vessels from Ebbsfleet.¹⁷ While of course the

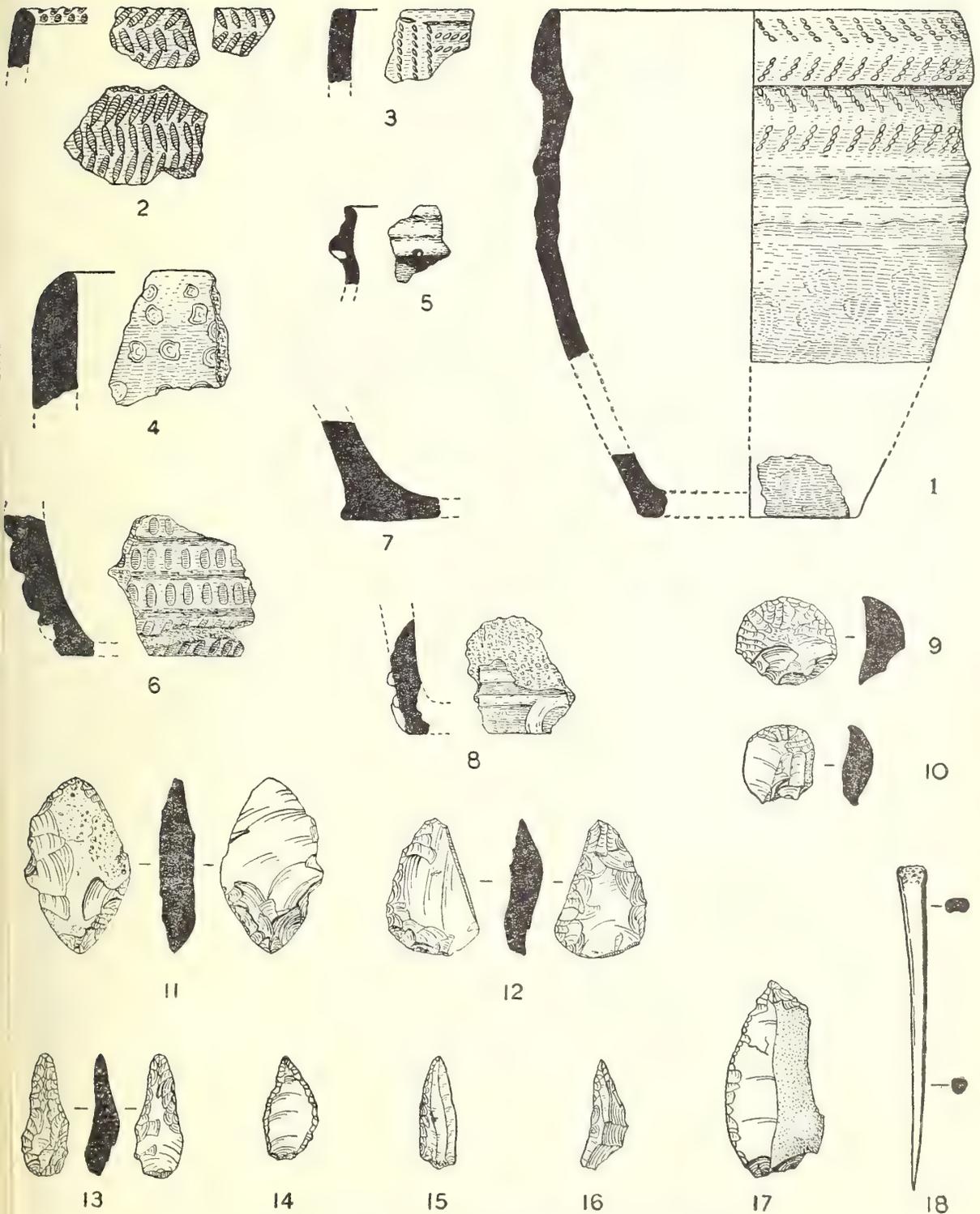


Fig. 6. Finds from the Late Neolithic level in Outer Ditch V (4).

whipped cord ornament is characteristic of Peterborough ware in general, this particular type, produced by lengths of loosely whipped cord rather than short oval 'maggots', seems more typical of the Ebbsfleet variety. The impressions have been made quite regularly on and inside the rim, but form no recognizable pattern on the lower neck and shoulder. The surfaces are a warm brown in colour and fairly well finished; the flint grits are up to 4mm. in size. The core is black and rather flaky, but the quality comes well within the range of variation found in Windmill Hill ware.

Finds from the Late Neolithic Layer in Outer Ditch V. (See fig. 6—the numbers in brackets below refer to illustrations in this figure.)

The great majority (83%) of sherds from this layer are of Peterborough type, representing some 15 vessels. Although few of the rim profiles are complete, it is evident that all had belonged to the elongated overhanging type which the writer has elsewhere named Fengate Ware.¹⁸ These pots, which also have flat bases, often splayed and of very small diameter, are the prototypes of the later Cinerary Urns. A further distinctive characteristic, seen only in well-preserved specimens, is a tenuous pinkish or reddish skin (probably not a true slip) which covers the normally dark fabric. Most of the sherds described below possess this feature.

Only one of the pots (1) can be reconstructed; there are twisted cord impressions on and beneath the rim, and the neck is encircled by two low ridges¹⁹ above a slight shoulder. Both ridges and wall retain numerous shallow depressions made by the potter's fingers. The base has been broader and thinner than is usual with pots of this type. The ware is fairly good, tempered with sand only. A similar, but larger and heavier, pot is represented only by fragments from the ridged neck, the wall and the base; this had been tempered with crushed potsherds and sand. The tops of two rim-sherds and a fragment either from the lower part of the rim or the wall (2) bear whipped cord maggots, and are tempered with sand only. Part of the rim of another pot was similarly decorated, but with end-to-end fingernail impressions on the inner edge.²⁰ Fingernail impressions in the same arrangement form the uppermost horizontal line on the rim with part of a hurdle pattern in twisted cord (3). Shallow irregular impressions, probably made with the end of a bird's leg-bone, decorate a thick rim (4)²¹. A shorter rim (5) belonged to a small vessel, probably with a series of deep narrow pits in the overhang, and with lines of end-to-end fingernail impressions above.²² The unusual sherd with whipped cord maggots across the ridges (6) seems to come from the junction of wall and base. In form, ornament and ware (yellow, soft and almost grit-free) this piece so closely resembles sherds found elsewhere in the upper levels of the Outer Ditch during the earlier excavations that both are likely to have been made by the same potter. The last-mentioned sherds have been reconstructed to form a dish 12in. in diameter and 3in. deep, with a flat internally projecting rim. A fragment from a splayed base (7) illustrates a characteristic feature of Fengate Ware—the relative thinness of the base in relation to the wall. Other fragments include a few with plaited cord impressions and some from a heavy flat based pot with a zone of whipped cord maggots ending somewhere below the shoulder.

Rinyo-Clacton ware is represented by a fragment from junction of wall and base of a vessel of typical flower-pot shape (8); the lower of the two applied cordons is partially overlapped by a semicircular fillet.²³ Two wall sherds with rusticated surfaces belong to this or to a similar pot. All are of red ware, sparsely tempered with potsherds.

Seven or eight beakers are represented by 15 very small fragments. Most seem to have belonged to Bell Beakers in varying stages of devolution and only one is attributable to a Necked Beaker.

An object of particular interest is part of a rectangular block of potters' clay, accidentally fired. It now weighs 10oz., and at the one intact corner is 50mm. thick. The edges show that the missing parts had been pulled away while the clay was still plastic.

Some of the other artifacts from this layer (11, 12, 17, 18, and others not illustrated) are of types which first appeared in the earlier Windmill Hill culture. But it seems unlikely that all can be intrusive, especially in view of the absence of earlier types of pottery. The flints include two small scrapers (9, 10) trimmed by the removal of long narrow parallel flakes, a technique frequently employed on arrowheads of the ' *petit tranchet* derivative ' class. The two leaf-shaped points (11, 12) are of the type usually referred to as javelin-heads; although a few specimens come from the lower ditch levels, the great majority from this site have been found near the tops of the ditches. Like those illustrated, the javelin-heads from the upper levels are on the whole heavier and more crudely trimmed than the earlier ones. The four pointed implements (13-16) were presumably used as awls or borers. The knife (17) has the convex edge bevelled and the distal end worked to a point. It should be noted that the bone pin (18) does not belong to the class of skewer pin described by Atkinson²⁴; it is only 105mm. long, about half the length of a typical skewer pin, and it lacks the characteristic circular section towards the head. Other finds include three ordinary scrapers, a burnt fragment of a unifacially trimmed discoidal knife, the cutting-edge of a polished flint axe, and a barbed-and-tanged arrowhead.

CONCLUSIONS.

No significant differences can be detected between the pottery and other artifacts dating from the pre-camp occupation of the hill and those contemporary with the primary use of the camp. During both phases shell-gritted wares were already current, though in smaller numbers than the classical types of Windmill Hill ware (baggy stone-gritted pots with simple or rolled rims). In view of the small areas investigated, no significance should be attached to the absence of ornamented or heavy rims of Abingdon type²⁵ from the surfaces beneath the banks. Typical Abingdon ware was in fact found under the Outer Bank during the 1925-9 excavations, and earlier still by Kendall on the bottom of the Outer Ditch, in this case with twisted cord impressions on the rim. It thus appears that this causewayed camp belongs to a late rather than an early stage of the culture to which it has given its name.

It has also become clear that no attempts were made to keep the banks in repair or the ditches open; yet visits to the camp continued until the ditches were full of silt. Further, so far as can be judged from the general nature of the refuse they left behind, the Late Neolithic visitors were there for the same purposes as their predecessors, and at a time long after the banks and ditches could have served any practical purpose. This implies an unbroken continuity of tradition which receives much support from the recent excavations at the West Kennet Long Barrow.²⁶ There it was found that the periods of construction and primary use of both tomb and camp could be correlated; now it is possible to correlate the ritual blocking of the tomb with the Late Neolithic layer in Outer Ditch V. It should be noted that the relative proportions of Peterborough, Rinyo-Clacton and Beaker wares were the same in both cases.²⁷

Again, evidence for bone-robbing in the long barrow suggests an alternative hypothesis to account for the fragments of human bones found scattered from bottom to top in the camp ditches. These fragmentary bones have hitherto been thought to imply cannibalism of some sort. But none of them bears cut marks and nearly all are parts of skulls and long-bones, precisely the bones removed from the skeletons in the long barrow. It is not suggested that the human bones from Windmill Hill were necessarily taken from the West Kennet barrow, but they could have come from one or more of the other chambered tombs which formerly existed in the vicinity. It is quite possible that ancestral bones as well as chalk figurines and other ritual objects were thought to have protective or thaumaturgic powers and were used in ceremonies held within the camp.

In view of the presence of an early form of Peterborough ware at a low level in Outer Ditch V, and of the absolute predominance of Peterborough over other forms of Late Neolithic wares both in the upper level of the ditch and in the blocking of the long barrow, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the community identified by this ware was responsible for the continuity of tradition at both sites.

¹Grateful acknowledgement is made to the National Trust and the Ministry of Works for permission to carry out these excavations, and to the latter for enabling Mr. W. E. V. Young to participate as co-director; to the British Academy for a generous grant from the Reckitt Archaeological Fund; to all those who assisted with the digging and with advice; and especially to Mr. D. Grant King, for the meticulous care and long hours of work he devoted to the field drawings upon which figs. 2, 3 and 4 are based.

²*Abury* (London, 1743), 45.

³*Ancient Wilts*, ii (1821), 96. From this it appears that the hill was first ploughed during Colt Hoare's life-time, presumably during the Napoleonic wars when extensive areas of downland were broken up. Most of the hill-top must have reverted to pasture fairly soon, but the southern part of the Outer Bank and Ditch were almost continuously under cultivation until about 10 years ago.

⁴This was the small area on fig. 1 at the northern end of the part marked 'Ditch destroyed by quarry'. The important series of sherds recovered is in the Society's Museum in Devizes.

⁵At this time hardly anything was known of the pre-Beaker Neolithic cultures in Britain and causewayed camps had not yet been recognised as a special type of earthwork enclosure.

⁶In 1937 the excavated ditch segments were re-emptied in order to afford visitors some idea of the general appearance of a causewayed camp; the Outer Ditch segments have, however, recently been re-filled. In 1942 the ownership of the site passed to the National Trust, under the guardianship of the Ministry of Works.

⁷A preliminary description may be found in *Antiquity* No. 128 (Dec., 1958), 268-9.

⁸A preliminary chemical analysis of samples from the layers in these ditches has been undertaken by Dr. I. W. Cornwall and Miss J. M. Sheldon of the Institute of Archaeology.

⁹For convenience the term 'Late Neolithic' will be used to designate Beaker, Rinyo-Clacton and the more developed forms of Peterborough Ware.

¹⁰*Cf.* Atkinson, *Antiquity* No. 124 (Dec., 1957), 219 ff.

¹¹A similar observation was made in connection with the ditches of the Neolithic camp on Whitesheet Hill. Piggott, *W.A.M.*, liv (Dec., 1952), 408.

¹²The age was kindly determined by Miss J. Weyman, B.D.S., F.D.S.R.C.S., of the Sutherland Dental School, University of Durham.

¹³The fragments of chalk had probably been spread on the surface at various times—during the construction of the nearby Bronze Age barrows, the Romano-British occupation, and doubtless when the causeway immediately to the south was enlarged to make a roadway to the windmill which had been situated on one of the barrows inside the camp.

¹⁴*Cf.* Piggott, *Neolithic Cultures*, 72.

¹⁵*Cf.* Scott, *P.P.S.* xx (1954), 212 ff., fig. 6:30, 31, and 227 for list of other occurrences.

¹⁶Burchell & Piggott, *Ant. J.* xix (1939), 405 ff., fig. 8:19, 25.

¹⁷*Cf.* Burchell & Piggott, *loc. cit.*, figs. 3:1; 5:3; 7:5.

¹⁸In an unpublished thesis. The name is derived from that of the actual site at Peterborough where Mr. G. Wyman Abbott recovered numerous specimens of this developed type of Peterborough Ware. See Leeds, *Ant. J.* ii (1922), 221.

¹⁹For similar ridges see *Ant. J.* v (1925), 431, and Leeds, *Oxon.* v (1940), Pl. II: C.

²⁰These must have been almost identical in form and decoration with a rim from the Avebury ditch; *cf.* Gray, *Arch.* lxxxiv, 99 ff., fig. 7:167.

²¹For similar ornament on Fengate Ware, see Leeds, *op. cit.*, Pl. I: A, C.

²²This technique is particularly characteristic of Fengate Ware. For examples from Peterborough, see Leeds, *Ant. J.* ii (1922), 220 ff., figs. 8b and 9.

²³Compare Cunnington, *Woodhenge* (Devizes, 1929), Pl. 26: 1, 2.

²⁴*Excavations at Dorchester, Oxon.* (Oxford, 1951), 72.

²⁵See Case, *Ant. J.* xxxvi (1956), 19.

²⁶Piggott, *Antiquity* No. 128 (Dec. 1958), 235 ff.

²⁷The absence of the Ebbsfleet and Mortlake varieties of Peterborough Ware at the top of Outer Ditch V may be accidental; they have been found together with Fengate Ware in other ditches.

THE INVESTIGATION IN 1957 OF STRIP LYNCHETS NORTH OF THE VALE OF PEWSEY

By PETER WOOD AND GRAEME WHITTINGTON

The aim of this paper is to show that, as a result of investigations in 1957 of the strips north of Horton, near Devizes, (nat. grid ref. SU/062648) a *terminus a quo* can now be established for a flight of strip lynchets in southern England. The investigations were accompanied by a survey of the extensive series of strip lynchets distributed over the neighbouring slopes, and have been both geographical and archaeological.

STRIP LYNCHET SYSTEMS NORTH OF THE VALE OF PEWSEY.

The Vale of Pewsey, in the heart of the Wiltshire Downs, has been likened to a miniature Weald. Here is a clay and sandstone lowland bounded on the north and south by steep inward-facing chalk escarpments. Beyond the crest of each escarpment extend the gently sloping plateaus of the chalk dipslopes. In simple terms, then, there is a threefold division of relief into vale, downs and scarplands. The variations in the early agricultural response can still be seen very clearly in these three divisions. The vale

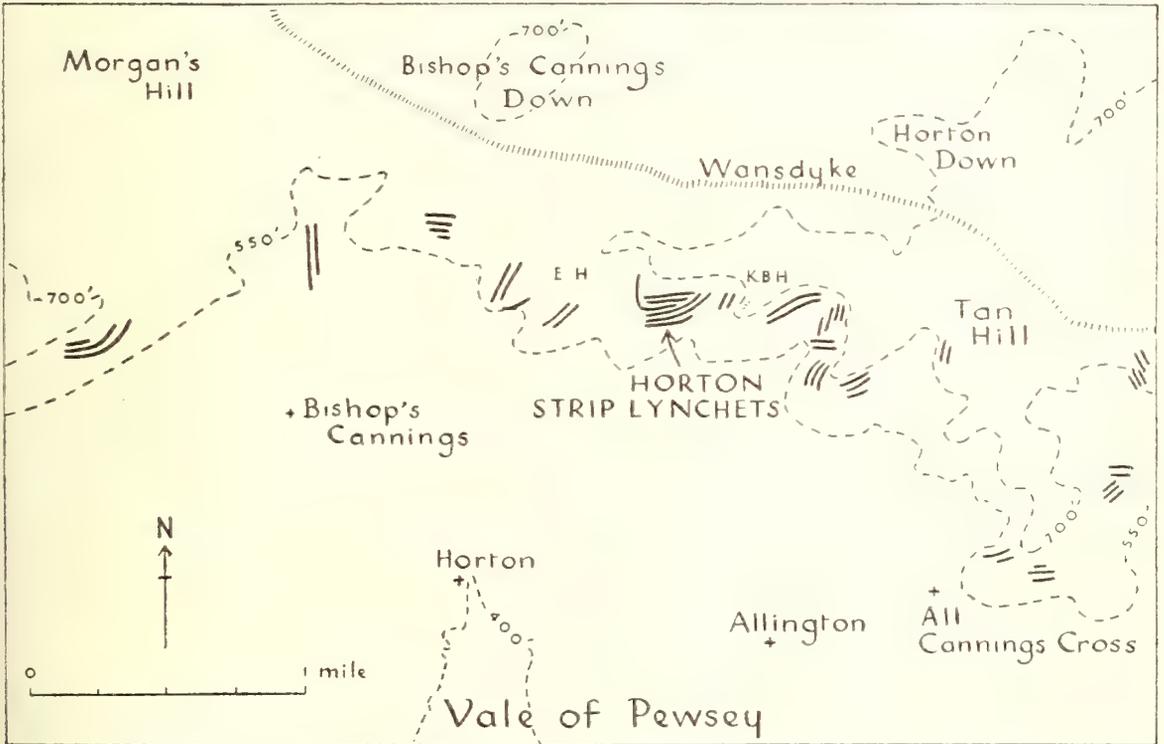


Fig. 1. Strip lynchet systems north of the Vale of Pewsey. (E.H.=Easton Hill; K.B.H.=Kitchen Barrow Hill.)

has traces of manorial open fields preserved, for instance, in the field names at Alton; large numbers of 'Celtic' fields can be seen on the downs, as at Beckhampton or Enford; and the escarpments have excellent examples of strip lynchets. The latter are particularly prominent on the south-facing scarp, overlooking the villages of Bishop's Cannings, Horton, Allington and All Cannings. In the short stretch of scarp portrayed in fig. 1, at least a dozen sets of strip lynchets can be recognised. They are

step terraces, on the steepest part of the escarpment; and they are concentrated with only one exception in a narrow belt between the 550ft. and 700ft. contours, where the slope is often 1 in 4.

These scarp-face strip lynchets possess two special qualities. They run with the contours, rather than up and down hill as is frequently the case in other areas, like Kimmeridge and Bridport in Dorset. They also form orderly systems of terraces, in contrast to the haphazard arrangements on the north side of Patcombe Hill, only 12 miles southwest of Horton. In this latter respect, they differ yet again from the strip lynchets found in the very narrow dry valleys deeply etched into the Wansdyke Downs immediately west of Morgan's Hill. Such combe-bottom terraces are disposed not in systems but as individual platforms following the valley floors and increasing in width as they proceed down valley. It has therefore to be recognised that the strip lynchets of even so small an area as the neighbourhood of Horton do not conform to one standard pattern. There is in their arrangement a distinct typology, of dry valley platforms, scarp-face terrace systems and irregular groupings. It may be worth emphasising that the dominant type on the south-facing scarp is overwhelmingly that of regular flights.

Of all the scarp-face systems indicated on fig. 1, the flight north of Horton is the most spectacular, running upwards from the outer margins of the vale to the lip of the downs through a vertical distance of nearly 100ft. The terraces occupy the southern face of a spur which lies between the two dry valleys separating Easton Hill and Kitchen Barrow Hill to the west and east. To-day, the system is enclosed by field boundaries, and it forms a sheep pasture seven acres in extent. There is little sign of further lyncheting above it; but terracing in former times was apparently continued downhill, where at least three terraces have since been almost obliterated by modern cultivation. The existing flight comprises seven risers and six treads (fig. 2). The treads are of fairly consistent length, each between 300 and 400 yards; but they taper from west to east, and their widths vary from 30 yards to $1\frac{1}{2}$ yards. The areas of the individual flats are not constant, being 0.8 acres for tread 1 (the northern or uppermost tread), 0.5 acres for treads 2 to 4, 1.3 acres for tread 5 and 1.1 acres for tread 6. Altogether, they provide nearly 5 acres of level ground. As the long profiles in fig. 2 demonstrate, they are not horizontal, having the recumbent 'S' profile which is characteristic of many English strip lynchets.

The risers which divide these treads are always steep, with a gradient of more than 1 in 2 and occasionally of 1 in 1. Sometimes they are as much as ten feet high, but the cross profiles in fig. 2 show clearly that their height is not uniform. As a general rule, they decrease in height towards either end; but the most curious feature of the whole system is the great exaggeration of the western end of the riser between treads 3 and 4 (fig. 3). It forms a bank over twenty feet tall, which effectively divides the three upper treads from those below. Running diagonally up this bank is a ramp which allows access from tread 4 to tread 1. Otherwise there are at Horton no access ways of the type common in other strip lynchet systems, for example those of Pewsey Hill.

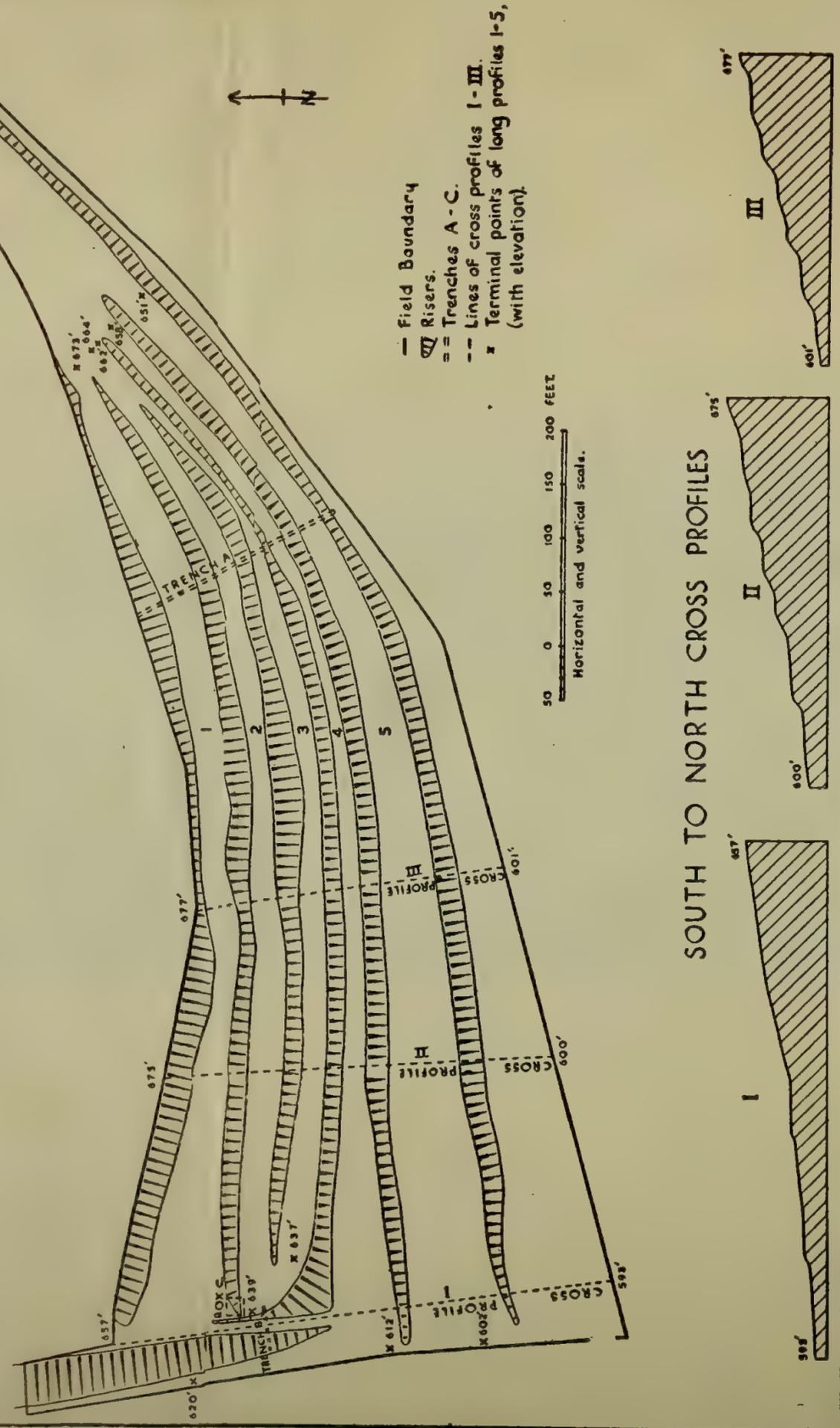
THE 1957 HORTON EXCAVATIONS.

TRENCH A.

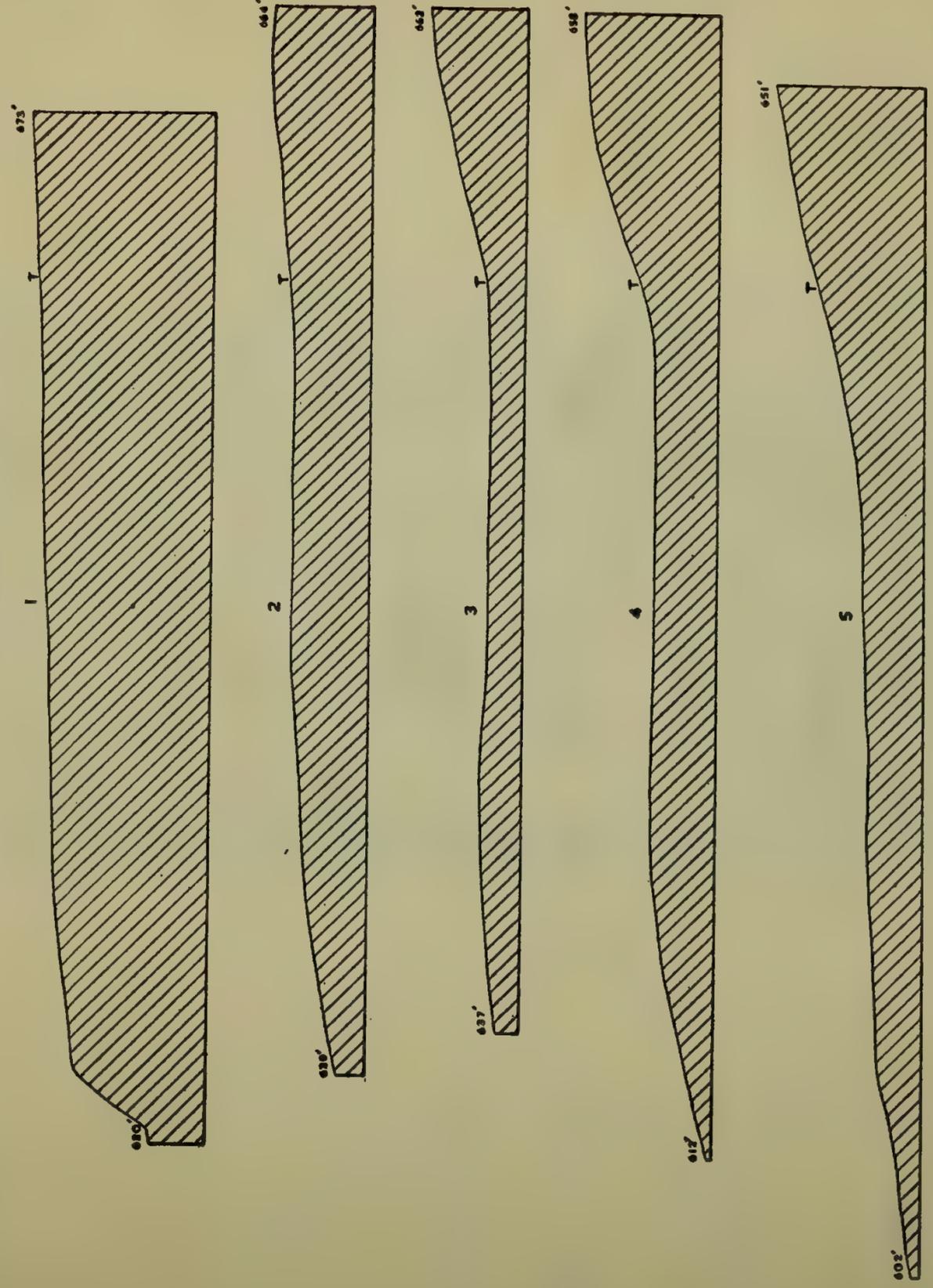
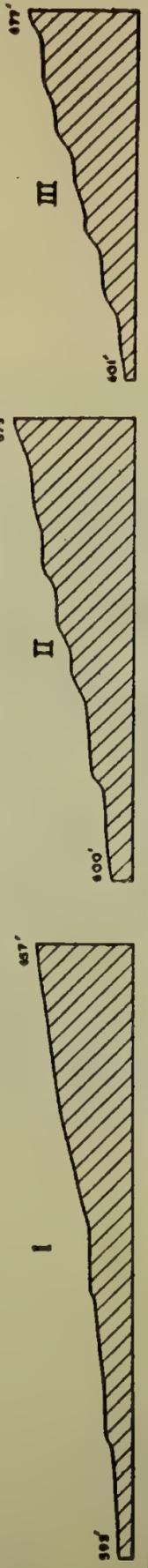
The main excavation at Horton in 1957 was a cut extending downhill from the fence at the lip of riser 1, along a line where the treads have narrowed considerably but have not yet petered out eastwards. All the terraces were examined except the bottommost, which could not be disturbed since it serves as a tractor trail. A description of the section thus revealed can best be made with reference to the stages in which the hillside surface has been modified (fig. 4).

The original hillside had a fairly uniform slope of 16° (i.e., about 1 in $3\frac{1}{2}$), though it became concave at the foot, conforming with the profile of a typical chalk scarp. At 645ft. O.D., there appears to have been a 30ft. wide natural bench on the hillside. Jukes Brown believed that the junction between the Lower and the Middle Chalk ran along the foot of riser 3 (that is, at 640ft. O.D.), as shown on the 6in.

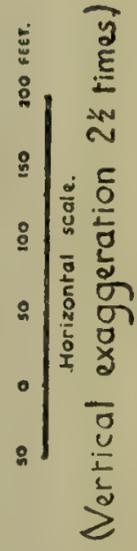
PLAN OF THE STRIP LYNCHETS, HORTON



SOUTH TO NORTH CROSS PROFILES



WEST TO EAST LONG PROFILES



T marks the location of Trench A.

Fig. 2. Plan and Profiles of Horton strip lynchets.



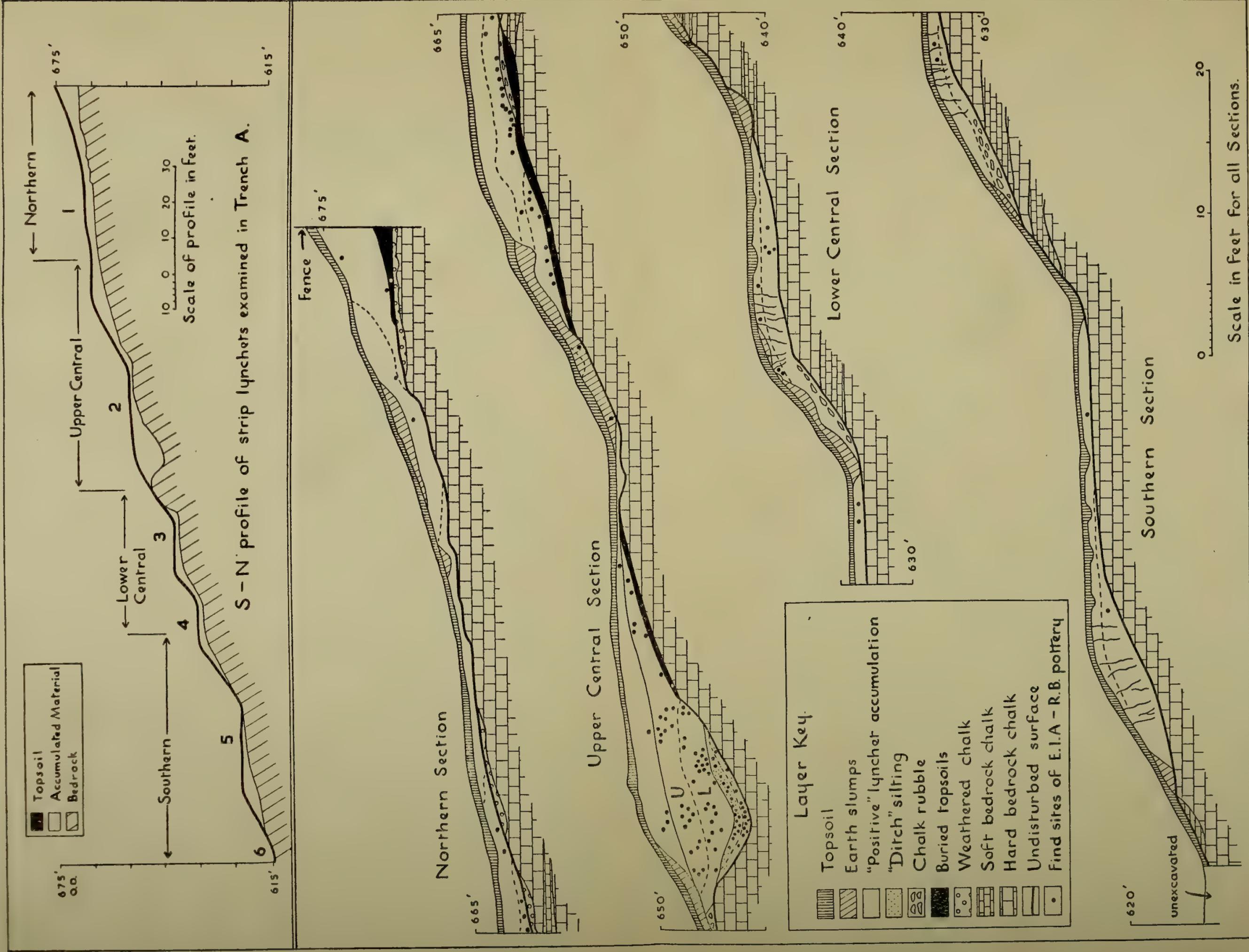


Fig. 4. West face of Trench A, Horton strip lynchets.

Geological Survey map published in 1888. It seems certain from the fossil and lithological evidence in Trench A, however, that the bedrock throughout belongs entirely to the Lower Chalk. It is mainly hard and blocky, but it includes narrow bands of softer chalk, marly or pasty in composition, which appear to 'camber' slightly as they outcrop. Only towards the top of the slope is there any sign of weathered or rotten chalk, such as one might expect to overlie the bedrock.

The surface of the bedrock chalk, when cleared, was found to be seamed by an assortment of crevices, running indiscriminately in many directions and not apparently forming part of a system of joints. Of true chalk joints there was a notable absence: nothing has been revealed at Horton to corroborate the theory of certain French geologists that strip lynchets may result in part from the collapse of the chalk between vertical joints following the removal of underlying beds by solution.¹

Of much more interest are the three stretches of old soils which presumably represent the undisplaced topsoil of the original hillside interred beneath lynchets accumulations. In each case, the old soil is only 3 or 4 ins. thick, though the layer under riser 1 thickens considerably northwards. Probably this thickening represents a downslope creep at the point where the gently shelving plateau tips over at the top of the scarp face. It is a medium brown silty soil, lying over a grey clay and thus composing part of a typical rendsina profile. The buried topsoil under riser 2 is similar except that it contains chalk pebbles and has an overlay of chalk rubble at its northern end.

The fragment of old soil under riser 3 is of different composition. It is darker in colour, with shells, rootlets and rootlet holes, and it contains angular unweathered chalk fragments. Two horizons have been preserved, and the lower one is compact, waxy and light in colour. This soil has obviously never been cultivated.

Very little in the way of small finds was obtained from the component parts of the undisturbed hillside, except that each of the three ancient soil lines yielded a potsherd. The date of these sherds is indicated in the sequel.

Pre-lynchet construction. The line of the hillside excavated in 1957 rises from 615ft. to 678ft. O.D. through a horizontal distance of 213 feet. Exactly halfway along the trench, under the present riser 3, there is the clearest indication of an early modification of the hillside, though its purpose is something of a mystery. The disturbance appears as a V-shaped cleft, originally four feet deep and fourteen feet wide at the top, which was cut into the solid chalk on the natural bench at 645ft. O.D. There are, in the section, very few signs of the upcast from this excavation, except for a remnant of rubble on the downhill side and, just conceivably, the rubble overlay on the old soil preserved under riser 2, forty feet uphill.

In section, the cleft has the appearance of an earthwork ditch rather than of a chalk quarry. It is not Neolithic in character, and is unlikely to be associated with the neighbouring Kitchen Barrow. It is too substantial to be merely a field or enclosure boundary, and its form, as revealed so far by the three-foot wide Trench A, is probably most consonant with an Early Iron Age date. There seems to be no trace whatsoever of this cleft on the ground (either on the scarp face or in the ploughed field above the strip lynchets), and only the slightest suggestion in the few air photographs available that it might have been a continuous feature. It is not apparently possible to connect the 'ditch' with the high bank at the western end of the terraces; and further digging alone could reveal its true nature.

Nevertheless, the evidence so far obtained from the 'ditch' is extremely valuable, since the date of its initial silting can be closely established. The silt shows two layers. The lower one is very fine, crumbly and light brown, with a grey mottling, and it contains rootlets and charcoal flecks. One very worn struck flint and a dozen pieces of pottery were recovered from this layer. In the upper layer, the silt forms a dark brown clay, with weathered chalk pebbles and rather more charcoal. From it came nearly a score of pottery fragments as well as clay daub, a handful of worked and very worn flints of Neolithic

or rather later type, and an iron nail. The bone refuse in the ditch bottom included the teeth of ox or deer and of young pig, the sawn-off posterior portion of a deer jaw bone, and a cervical vertebra and long bone perhaps of deer. The sherds are often crude and of poor quality. Among them was a fragment of the overhanging rim of a dish and part of the base of a beaker, both of which date from the earliest years of the first century A.D. Other pieces show direct Roman influence. Though they are varied in texture and colour, however, they may all be safely consigned to the downland ceramic tradition of the latest Early Iron Age and the very beginning of the Roman occupation. Like the pottery from the old soils already noted, and indeed like the sherds (to be mentioned later) which were recovered from the lynchet accumulations themselves, these pieces from the ditch silt embody the characteristics of Belgic and very early Romano-British rustic cultures. There is little doubt that they are part of a peasant ware belonging substantially to the first three-quarters of the first century A.D.

Thus the earliest construction at present known on the scarp face above Horton is of an apparent Early Iron Age ditch which was being subjected to rapid silting in the early years of the Roman period. Subsequently, there was a clear filling of the 'ditch', which was completely obscured by the second construction, that of the strip lynchets. This juxtaposition of terraces and dateable earthwork, dramatic in its unexpectedness, provides an incontrovertible instance of a terminal date for the formation of a strip lynchet.²

The formation of the strip lynchets. The commonly accepted mode of formation is that 'negative' lynchets were produced by the movement downhill of soil and broken bedrock, to give 'positive' lynchets of accumulation. At Horton, as far as the relationship between the cross sectional dimensions of neighbouring positive and negative lynchets is concerned, the three lowest pairs (those below the 'ditch') may be equated fairly successfully. The two parts of individual lynchets above the 'ditch', however, do not match up to each other. The topmost positive has no negative source of material, and was probably formed of soil scraped from the plateau surface. The next pair downhill consists of a small negative lynchet and a relatively large accumulation, resulting in a further apparent discrepancy. The 'ditch' itself was obviously not filled only from the negative lynchet immediately above it. Presumably, therefore, the bulk of the upcast was replaced in the 'ditch'.

The filling of the 'ditch' has given two horizons above the silt layers. The lower 'ditch' fill (L on fig. 4) is a dark brown clay-loam, with an abundance (over one third by volume) of rounded chalk pebbles $\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 1 in. across. The upper ditch filling (U) is similar, except that it is lighter in colour, less dominantly pebbly and has more of the texture of a cultivated soil, with weathered chalk pebbles lying in horizontal bands. In both horizons there were about 30 pieces of pottery which generally speaking are of the late first century A.D., with an extension some way into the following century. They are normal for the early Romano-British period in Wessex; but they cannot, of course, be accepted as diagnostic of the time of infilling, as can those of the 'ditch' silting (though they are no more weathered than the sherds from the silt). On the other hand, their consistency of date and their distribution as shown in section suggest that the refilling of the 'ditch' occurred rather soon after its excavation and was completed fairly rapidly. The upper part of the fill was apparently used for cultivation before the positive lynchet was accumulated on top of it. The lynchet accumulation itself is to-day about 3 feet thick, a crumbly grey loam with occasional pebbles. Between it and the 'ditch' fill there is a clearly marked and straight line junction, a break in soil type which is very easy to detect. Altogether there is about five feet of true 'ditch' fill; and the line of junction is parallel to the line of the original hillside, but 12 ins. above it.

As far as the structure of the other lynchets is concerned, reference must be made to the floors of the negatives. In the lower three examples, the removal of chalk was effected in such a way as to leave

clean horizontal surfaces. The floors of the two uppermost negatives, however, are much less regular, and particularly under tread 1 there is a definite step-like surface. This differentiation of the floors above and below the ditch might possibly be correlated with the variation of the bedrock, where the narrow bands of softer chalk allowed deeper and more uniform removal. Otherwise, and more likely, a difference in constructional technique ought probably to be invoked.

Turning to the positive accumulations, there is once again a decided uniformity about the structures of the lower three lynchets. In each case, the accumulation is two to three feet thick, generally a grey or fawn loam. In each case, it shows a double layering. The lower layer tends to be darker, more stony and looser in composition. The compactness of the upper layer might be interpreted as a plough sole, lying under a topsoil six or eight ins. thick.

The upper two positive lynchets were both accumulations nearly five feet deep. The higher one, under the field fence, was of fine grey soil with small chalk pebbles, overlying fawn loam. The lower one consisted of three approximately horizontal layers, in which it was the bottom layer that was compacted. This was the only positive lynchet which yielded more than a few fragments of pottery. The distribution portrayed in fig 4 is made up of 29 sherds, and they came almost without exception from on or just above the old turf line. They include a fragment of a Roman 'frilled' *tazza* as well as pieces of Belgic ware; and they may be referred to the same period as the pottery assemblage from the earthwork 'ditch'. They are, however, very much more worn and weathered, for they have been lying in a plough soil. It seems possible that they may mark the occupation site from which the 'ditch' pottery was forthcoming. The pattern of their distribution does not recur in the other positive lynchets, where the potsherds, numbering at the most seven to a lynchet, form a series of chance scatterings (though they are of the same general date, covering the first century A.D.). To give point to this comparison, it may be said that, unlike the material filling the ditch, the accumulation resting immediately on it gave almost no pottery at all.³

In several respects, the 'ditch' seems to serve as a separator, even in terms of the succeeding strip lynchet construction. Above the 'ditch' lie the old soils, the uneven floors of the negative lynchets, the discrepancies between accumulation and removal of material, and the mass of positive lynchet pottery. The upper terraces both in their surface configuration and in their underground structure are irregular and poorly architected. In this they provide a sharp contrast with the severe formality and unblurred sharpness of the lower risers and treads. Though the high bank which constitutes the western end of riser 4 and the 'ditch' buried under riser 3 cannot be linked directly, they each in their own way serve as a dividing feature within the general system of terraces.

Post-lynchet modifications as illustrated in the section are of two kinds. In the first place, there has been a compacting of topsoil in deeper pockets at the back of some of the treads, particularly treads 1 and 5. The pocketing may possibly stem from cultivation operations in the form of deep ploughing: but there is no trace on these Horton terraces of furrowing or ridging, or of a counter slope at the lip of the tread such as the strip lynchets of Picardy often possess.⁴ It is much more likely that the compact topsoil is the mark of animal trails. There is a kindred formation, of double ruts, along the middle of treads 3 and 5, which must certainly result from the passage of wheeled equipment.

In the second place, there is much evidence of soil slumping over a long period on the faces of the risers. Such movement helps to explain the present contours of the strip lynchets; and it is to be connected with the angle-of-rest of the material forming the accumulations. In general terms, the greatest slope for freshly dumped solid matter of any kind seems to be about 37°. As the material consolidates and settles, its slope is reduced to 33°, unless it is very quickly bound by some such agency as vegetation. The Horton risers each have average slopes of 28° to 30°⁵, except riser 1, which is a degraded specimen,

and riser 4, which is particularly steep, over 37°. The faces of all the risers, but especially risers 2, 3 and 4, have been subjected to slumping; and they all show the scars of pancake landslips, which have often been refilled by fresher soil creeping downslope. The actual mechanics of slumping are indicated in part by the deep sub-vertical cracks in the lower three positive lynchets, as drawn on the section. Before slumping commenced, it appears that the risers were steeper than they are to-day; and this helps to provide the explanation for the slipping of soil which is lubricated in wet weather. Such modifications are noteworthy since they demonstrate that the present appearance of the strip lynchets, at Horton and perhaps elsewhere, is not entirely that witnessed by those who were responsible for their formation.

TRENCH B.

A trench 40ft. in length was cut through the high bank and the access way, at the western end of tread 2; and the major part of the section is shown in fig. 5. Once again, the hard and massive bedrock contains narrow bands of chalk clay. The surface of the bedrock probably represents the shoulder of the shallow dry valley which lies between the Horton strip lynchets and Easton Hill. No trace of old soils was noticed: otherwise, this surface is unmodified at the western end of the section, where it is overlain by weathered rock *in situ*. It has, however, been shaved off beneath the access ramp and the accumulation to the east, so that the junction between bedrock and made ground is very sharp. The whole form of the ground here has been drastically modified by accumulation. On the line of Trench B there is 5ft. of light grey material, and probing elsewhere on the high bank indicates that the accumulation is sometimes even thicker. The chief purpose of this minor excavation was to investigate the access way, and there can be no attempt to infer the source of origin for this huge mass of accumulation. The making of the bank was presumably, however, part and parcel of the construction of the upper terraces; and the very magnitude of the bank might well have necessitated the roadway for transporting the material of which it is constructed.

It is consistent with the section to suggest that the shoulder of the little dry valley was selected to form the line of the access way. No doubt the chalk surface needed some trimming to give a flattened road way, and this bared surface has been covered by soil creeping down from the crest of the high bank. In the soil are preserved the components of a cartway—ruts about 5ft. apart which have been refilled with loose material and which are separated by a band of brown clay compacted, perhaps, by the feet of farm animals.

Box C, measuring 14ft. by 12ft., was sunk two feet deep into the western end of riser 2, in the hope of elucidating the manner in which the strip lynchet terminations were fashioned. It demonstrated that not only the outer lip of tread 1 but also the back of tread 2 and the whole of the end of riser 2 are all made ground. The few finds from Trench B and Box C do nothing to aid the dating of the road or terrace construction, but the extensive artificiality of the high bank invites further exploration.

CONCLUSIONS

The Horton strip system immediately calls for comparison with the Bishopstone strip lynchets⁶ lying sixteen miles away across the Marlborough Downs. The Bishopstone strips, on the north facing flank of a wide dry valley, measure from 220 to 280 yards in length and from 11 to 16 yards in width, and some of them are exact half acre fields of dimensions 1 furlong by $\frac{1}{2}$ chain. At Horton, the fact that the strips taper eastwards from 30 yards to only $1\frac{1}{2}$ yards in width, debars any formal equation with regular half acre strip fields, though it is true that three of the treads have each an area of half an acre. Unfortunately, and as at Bishopstone, no documentation has so far been discovered to illuminate the allied aspect of former landholding. The Tithe Award Map of 1841, for example, merely shows the whole flight of

terraces as one holding. Consequently, the question whether the high bank was in part a tenorial boundary remains unanswered.

It was obvious at Bishopstone that there could be no close relationship, on grounds of situation, between the valley-side strip lynchets and the medieval open fields in the Vale of the White Horse. At Horton, on the other hand, such a relationship could have existed. However, just as good a case might be made (as it could at Bishopstone) for seeing in the strip lynchets a downslope extension of cultivation from the plateau top. In other words, there is nothing in the matter of situation to contribute to the solution of the dating problem. From the point of view of siting, the Horton strips have an 'orthodox,' southerly, aspect. Some of the scarp-face flights shown on Fig 1, however, were formed on steep slopes which face in a northerly direction (as were the Bishopstone lynchets); whereas neighbouring slopes of similar gradient and surface conditions, and of apparently better southerly aspect, are not lynched. This anomaly makes more pointed the warning that generalised conclusions about the siting of strip lynchets ought to be avoided: each flight deserves attention for its own sake, and its construction may perhaps be explained only in terms of the immediate locality.

In typology the two systems are of similar character, with the one great contrast presented by the high western bank at Horton. In this the Horton set differs not only from that at Bishopstone but also from the other flights overlooking the Vale of Devizes. The normal termination for strip lynchets, in Britain and also on the Continent, north of the Alps is that adopted at the eastern end of the Horton terraces, where the risers and treadfade into the hillside. There must have been a terminal approach to the treads by cultivation equipment at Horton, and also at Bishopstone where central access ramps are not in evidence. Judging solely by the look of the ground at Horton, the approach to the western ends of treads 1 to 3 was downslope, from the higher tread to the next below. The arrangements may result from complication by the high bank, which dictated an access by ramp from tread 4 to tread 1. The western termination of the three upper treads is altogether very unusual: but the typological classification of strip fields has yet to reach a stage sufficiently advanced to allow its use for dating purposes.⁷

Because of the unsealed character of the soil layers in a strip lynchet section, pottery obtained from them bears much less closely on their date than it would in the horizons of a habitation site or a defensive earthwork. Nevertheless, the concentrations of potsherds at Horton have a more immediate value than do the fragments recovered from other excavated strip lynchets, including those at Bishopstone. In the first place, it can be demonstrated that the earthwork 'ditch' was quarried about the beginning of the first century A.D., and that it was refilled with material containing considerable quantities of contemporary sherds. In the second place, the lynchet accumulations show, for the most part, the sporadic scatter of pottery which was normal at Bishopstone also and which does not by itself provide firm evidence of the period of construction or of utilisation: but the concentration of Belgic and early Romano-British sherds at 660ft. O.D., lying on an undisturbed buried topsoil and apparently sealing a layer of rubble which might possibly have been upcast from the 'ditch', reinforces the concept that the field system belongs to a period later than the Early Iron Age. The pottery begins to provide a reliable yardstick for estimating the date of commencement of lynchet formation at Horton.

Even so, there are indications here, as at Bishopstone, which belie interpretations based on either a simple or a single-period construction. At both sites, the topmost positive lynchet appears to have been built in definite stages; while at Horton one is faced with the structural differences above and below the 'ditch'. The disturbance of the original hillside in pre-lynchet times appears to have an analogy at Bishopstone, where there was an extended cutting into the solid chalk at the foot of the second lowest riser. The cutting was apparently refilled with chalk blocks which thereafter crumbled into a loose compaction, giving a filling which is normal in refilled chalk ditches. The fill in the Horton 'ditch' is of very different character. The upper layer has the look of a ploughed soil with rounded pebbles, and

not of a natural sludge (which would have been accompanied by angular chalk fragments).

Of the structural differences which are held apart by the 'ditch', the relationship between positive and negative lynchets and the position of the old topsoils are worthy of re-emphasis. Below the 'ditch' at Horton (and, for what it is worth, below the cutting at Bishopstone) the positive and negative in any pair match each other exactly in size, so that removal is equal to accumulation immediately below. Above the 'ditch' (as above the Bishopstone cutting) discrepancies are startlingly clear. The positives are always greater than the negatives. At Bishopstone, much of the discrepancy is due to one enormous 'double positive' which actually overlies a normal-sized negative. At Horton, the fashioning of the negatives could not possibly have produced enough material to erect the big positives on top of and uphill from the 'ditch'.

The excavations in 1954 and 1955 at Bishopstone gave no evidence of buried soils *in situ*, since the black band mentioned in the relevant reports was not regarded as an abnormally thick turf line. The excavation at Horton is in great contrast, because old soil lines are clearly preserved beneath positive lynchets. But they are only preserved selectively: that is, only above the earthwork 'ditch'. This selective preservation, together with the structural variations, leads inescapably to the conclusion that the techniques employed in forming the strips above the 'ditch' were not the same as those which produced the lower terraces. Below the 'ditch', all the topsoil on the hillside was removed or obliterated; and the agent of obliteration could have been the plough. Above the 'ditch', the plough was not the main agent in lyncheting. If it had been, the old topsoil would have been much more extensively removed, leaving at the most narrow balks running along the hillside.⁸ The plough by itself could conceivably have bitten into the chalk pavement in which were quarried the floors of the negatives above and below the 'ditch'—but above the ditch there is very little chance that it was involved, even in a subsidiary capacity, in the work of quarrying. The inference that the cultivators were perhaps purposely terracing their strips in as difficult a medium as massive chalk, together with the fact that they were farming a slope of 16°, not to mention their refilling a 14ft. wide 'ditch', suggests that the motive for lyncheting above Horton was an extremely powerful one.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors wish to thank a large number of individuals, without whose co-operation and support the excavations of 1957 would have been impossible. They include Mr. J. S. Morrey, who occupies the land on which the strip lynchets are located; the members of the Geography Department, Reading University, who undertook the surveying and trenching; and Mr. R. A. Jarvis, who assisted in the examination of the soil layers. The pottery has been very kindly examined by Professor C. F. C. Hawkes and Mr. F. K. Annable; and the bone remains by Mr. W. A. Smallcombe. Mrs. Audrey Williams, Professor W. F. Grimes, Mr. H. C. Bowen and Mr. H. J. Case were so kind as to visit the site and to discuss with us its cultural significance, thereby placing us very greatly in their debt. Permission to excavate a scheduled monument on Crown Land was granted by the Crown Land Commissioners and by the Ministry of Works. Equipment was loaned by Reading Museum and by the Highways Department of Reading C.B. A grant from the Research Board, Reading University, helped to defray the cost of illustrating this report.

¹E.g. H. Lasne: Corrélation entre les diaclases et les rideaux de Doullens. *Ctes. Rend. Acad. Sci.*, cxi (1890), p. 73. The absence from the Horton vicinity of clay with flints does not lend any weight to the views of Gentil that strip lynchets have their origin in the slipping of such clays induced by rainwater lubrication (L. Gentil: Sur la genèse des formes de terrain appelées rideaux en pays crayeux. *Ctes. Rend. Acad. Sci.*, clxix (1919), p. 145).

²Cf. the situation at Blewburton, Berks, where the ditch of an Early Iron Age hillfort was filled in, and where the final stages of infilling had 'the purpose of making a level terrace (for cultivation)'. A. E. P. Collins: *Berks Arch. J.*, liii (1952-3) pp. 31-2.

An instance of strip lynchets apparently invading the interior of a hillfort is provided by Cattistock Castle (see *R.C.H.M., Dorset*, vol. I (1952) p. 73.)

³The positive lynchets also contained a varied assortment of rubbish, such as coal, tile, brick, and slate fragments, clay pipe stems and the metal of a cartridge case. These were found at all depths in the accumulation and illustrate how insecure is a date of lynchet formation based on unsealed finds in the 'positives'. For example, a pendant of early 19th century type (Birmingham ware)

was found nearly 4 feet deep in the topmost accumulation, some 20ins. vertically below a fragment of first century Samian ware, and at the nether end of a rabbit hole.

⁴It may also be said in passing that the Horton site has yielded no evidence of drainage channels; and that these terraces are not related directly, from the viewpoint of any possible irrigation, to the springs which head some distance down the two dry valleys.

⁵The steepest slope in section (part of riser 3) is actually 45° or 1 in 1. It may have some significance that this is the presumed site for the downhill dumping of upcast from the earthwork 'ditch'.

⁶See Wood (*W.A.M.*, lvi, 12-16; and lvii, 18-23).

⁷H. C. Bowen points out to us that strip lynchets occasionally end in a ramp leading to a different level; but the dimensions of the Horton bank are exceptional. Mr. Bowen discusses the types of strip fields in 'The Study of Ancient Fields' *Adv. of Science*, lvi (1958), p. 367.

⁸It is interesting to contrast the preservation of the old turf line at Blewburton, protected by the earthwork bank which (unlike Horton) has survived, though its face has been modified by ploughing. Mr. Collin's Terrace 1 is not a strip lynchet in origin, though it was obviously used for cultivation.

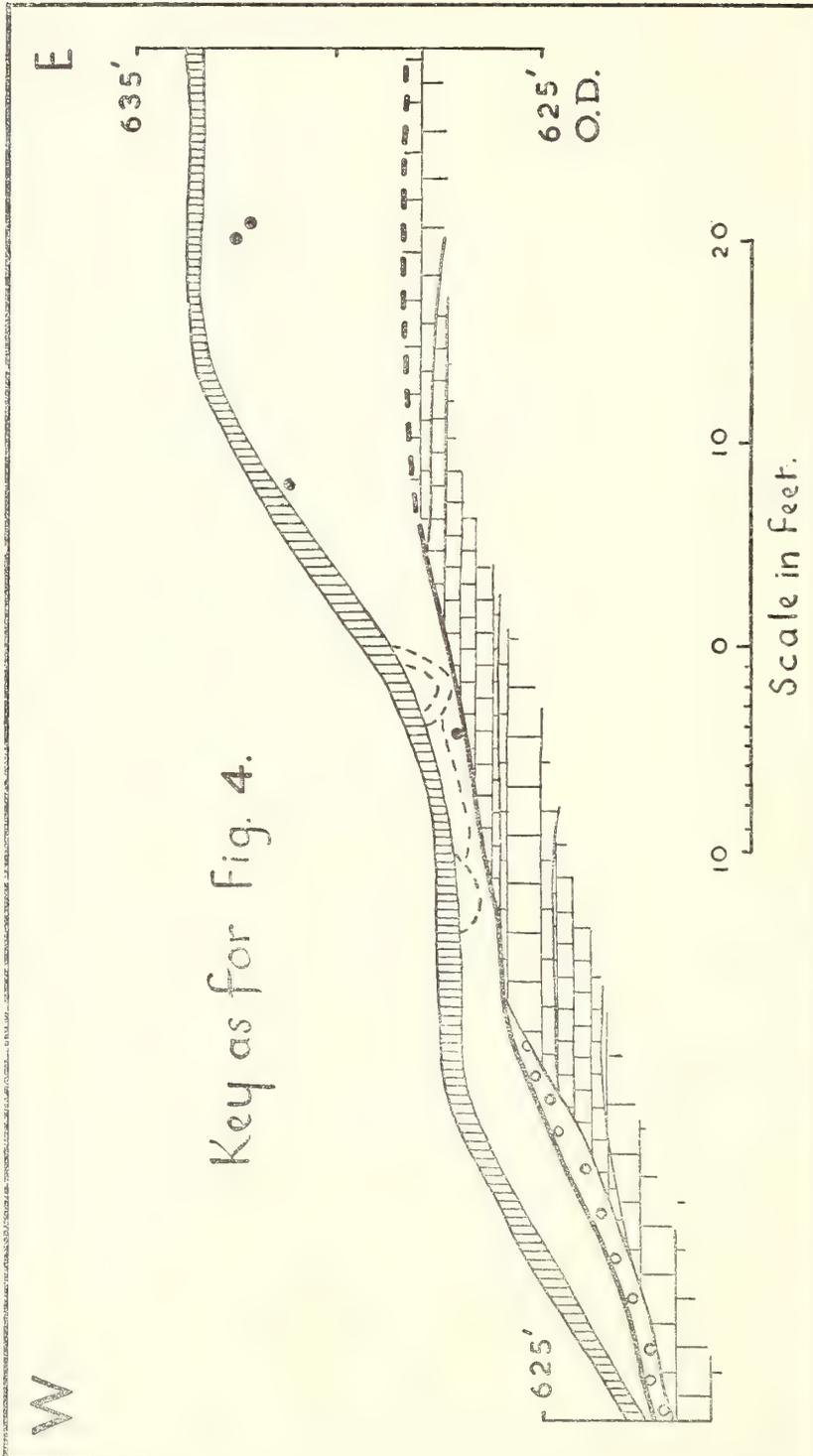


Fig. 5. North face of Trench B, Horton-strip Lynchets.

A ROMANO-BRITISH BUILDING AT HIGHPOST, MIDDLE WOODFORD

By J. W. G. MUSTY

In 1956 workmen excavating an area of ground (N.G.R. SU143370) at the W.A.E.C.O. factory, Highpost, to sink a concrete static water tank, discovered what they subsequently described as a wheel-shaped stone. This stone was not removed, and the part which protruded into the excavated pit was broken off and incorporated in the foundations of the tank. Subsequently the matter came to the notice of the factory's Managing Director, Mr. Wheelwright. He realised the archaeological interest of the find and reported it to Salisbury Museum on behalf of which the writer¹ undertook a limited examination of the site in August and September, 1956.

Although the tank had been installed and the site restored to normal before the archaeological significance of the find was realised, the soil from the excavation was traced and this produced a number of late Roman sherds. It was therefore suspected that the stone was part of a Roman quern.

Air photographs of the area show a number of crop marks, including one suggestive of an earthwork of the Little Woodbury type. The whole area is bleak and exposed and contains within the 400 ft. contour a large flat expanse which during and before the Second World War was used as an airfield and is some four hundred acres in extent. It is thus ideal for an extensive Iron Age-Roman settlement complex similar to that found at Boscombe Down.²

Our excavation showed the presence of a Roman building, but, in the limited area excavated, no definite traces of Early Iron Age occupation were found. However, underneath the Roman level were several feet of disturbed soil, and at the base of this was found a solitary Early Iron Age sherd.

The pottery and other finds described below give the following indications of the date of this Roman building. The pottery from the excavation covers the whole of the Roman period, and the site had probably been continuously occupied from Early Iron Age times in an analogous manner to the sites excavated by General Pitt-Rivers in the Cranborne Chase. On the one hand we have a rim-sherd from a bead-rim bowl, Samian ware and other early forms, and on the other late New Forest ware—colour coated, rouletted and rosette stamped pottery. The later pottery (in this case 3rd and 4th century material) predominated as is to be expected on sites which have been continuously occupied. The date of the final stages of occupation of the site appears to be the 4th century. This view is supported by the pottery and by a coin of the House of Constantine.

THE EXCAVATION

A small area adjacent to the tank and south of it was systematically trenched with the object of recovering the remainder of the quern and determining its association. These trenches uncovered a well-defined Roman layer at 2-3 ft. below ground level; this was a surprising depth, as the chalk nearby is only 1 ft. below the surface. Under the Roman level were a further 3 ft. of disturbed soil. The exact reason for this great depth of soil is not clear, but it is possible that the building is sited over part of an Early Iron Age working hollow.

Above the Roman level the humus was comparatively stoneless, but became progressively more chalky until the level was reached. Then a distinct layer of chalk rubble was encountered. Quantities of large angular flints were also obtained at this depth; although these were in well defined concentrations, it was clear that they were not *in situ*, but were the remains of wall tumble. In one trench, however, massive flints dressed on two faces were uncovered, and these certainly formed part of a wall. It was not possible with our limited trenching to trace for any distance the line of the wall, one end of which had been obliterated by the water tank. The quern fragment left by the workmen was found in the angle between the wall and the tank.

¹Assisted by members of Salisbury Field Club, and with the co-operation of Mr. Wheelwright.

²*W.A.M.*, LIV (1951), p. 123.

The site showed every indication of having been extensively robbed for stone, and only a dozen small fragments of Chilmark and two pieces of greensand were recovered. Of these only one is recognisable as forming part of a roof tile.

In view of the possibility that the water tank and an adjacent roadway may occupy a considerable portion of the area of the building, and what remains can only be exposed by removing the great depth of soil which covers it, the excavation was not extended beyond the few exploratory trenches. Because of this no idea of the size or plan of the building can be advanced, but the excavation has at least served its purpose in adding a new Roman site to the map. It has also drawn attention to the possible presence of more extensive prehistoric and Roman habitation sites on this area of downland.

POTTERY AND OTHER FINDS

Pottery (Fig. 1).

Although a large number of sherds were obtained not more than one or two sherds from any one pot are present. Almost all the sherds have abraded edges; sharp fractures are rare. (Note. References to Sumner are to his book, 'Excavations in New Forest Pottery Sites,' Chiswick Press, 1927).

1. Rim of a bowl in hard fine grey ware. (cf. *Richborough*, Part 2, Plate XXX, No. 140 for a similar profile. The *Richborough* example is dated as Claudian). Dia. 5 in.
2. Reeded-rim bowl in grey ware similar to 1. Dia. 5½ in.
3. Rim of a storage jar in very coarse soapy gritty ware, much weathered and pitted. Pinky-buff paste and surface. Dia. 9½ in.
4. Rope-rim storage jar. Buff-pink sandy ware. (cf. Sumner, *Ashley Rails*, Plate XI, No. 2).
5. Jar in hard, fine light grey-blue ware. Channel running round the top of the rim. (cf. Sumner,

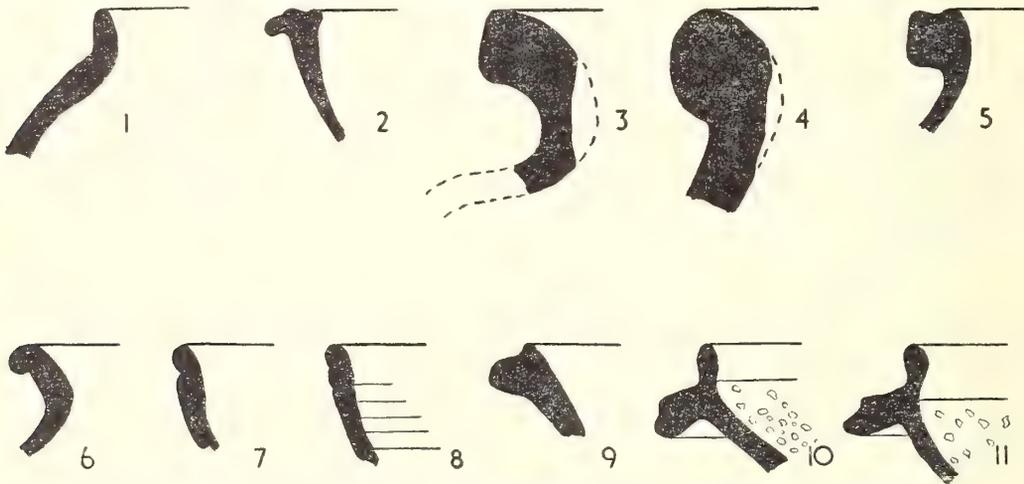


Fig. 1. Pottery Finds, Romano-British Building, Highpost, Middle Woodford. (½)

Sloden, Plate XXX, No. 15). Dia. 4½ in.

6. Jar with rolled over rim. Hard fine grey-blue ware with red core. Dia. 6¾ in.
7. Bead rim bowl in sandy grey ware. Dia. 5½ in.
8. Bowl in black sandy ware. Grooved internally. Dia. 5½ in.
9. Flanged bowl. Hard fine dark grey ware with buff slip, red in places. (A common 4th Century type, cf. *Richborough*, Part 1, Plate XXIX, No. 122). Dia. 6½ in.
10. Mortarium. Hard fine ware with grey core and red colour coat. (A common 4th Century type cf. *Richborough*, Part 1, Plate XXVIII, Nos. 98 and 99). Dia. 5½ in.
11. A similar vessel. Soft micaceous ware with decayed colour coating. Dia. 5½ in.

Significant sherds amongst those not illustrated include three colour coated sherds with decoration—two rouletted and one rosette stamped. There are also sherds from colour coated bowls in imitation of Samian forms, from oil flagons (including one sherd decorated with concentric grooves) and from New Forest 'stoneware'. Samian ware is represented by five sherds.

In addition pieces of two bricks ($1\frac{1}{4}$ in. and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick respectively) and part of a hypocaust tile were found.

The Quern Fragment.

The quern fragment came from a stone which would have been originally 3 ft. in diameter. It was 3 in. thick and of Upper Greensand. A fragment of another $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick was also obtained.

The Coin.

Mr. H. de S. Shortt has kindly supplied the following description: *Obv.* FL.IVL..... *Rev.* GLORIA EXERCITVS. A circle on labarum. House of Constantine 337—341.

Other Finds.

- (a) **Bronze.** Three scraps; one piece probably came from the terminal of a bracelet, the others from brooches.
- (b) **Iron.** Nine nails with circular flat heads, and shanks of square cross section. These are 5-6 cm. long with heads $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 cm. in diameter. In addition three hobnails and four cleats of typical Roman form were found.
- (c) **Glass.** A piece of thin vessel glass, and a fragment from a blue glass bead.
- (d) **Bone.** A small fragment of decorated and polished bone.

The finds from this excavation are being preserved by Mr. Wheelwright at the factory.

AN ATTEMPT TO LOCATE A BURIAL CHAMBER IN SILBURY HILL

By F. R. MCKIM

It has been known for many years now that Silbury Hill is artificial¹ but the purpose of its construction is still an open question. While alternative suggestions have been made² several authorities incline to the view that it is a burial mound and therefore possibly contains a burial chamber.³ There have been various excavations in an attempt to locate such a chamber, all with negative results.⁴

These excavations were carried out on the assumption that the burial chamber would be near-central. If an off-centre chamber is considered possible, then investigation by excavation immediately becomes more difficult and expensive, and a thorough search would inevitably involve the destruction of the hill. A method of search is needed which does not involve excavation, and during last summer the hill was surveyed by one of such a kind, namely the electrical resistivity method used in geophysical prospecting.

The method consists of measuring the electrical resistance between electrodes situated at selected points on the surface of any structure. The value of the resistance obtained gives some indication of the nature of the material not only in the surface layer but also in the region below the surface down to a depth approximately equal to the electrode separation. The application of this method to the location of a burial chamber is immediately apparent. If the electrodes were situated over a region containing a chamber, then the electrical resistance measured might be expected to be different from that obtained if the ground were homogenous throughout. The sensitivity of the method depends on the difference in resistance between the main bulk of material and the material forming the submerged structure and on the size and depth below the surface of the inhomogeneity. In a symmetrical hill like Silbury the position of a chamber which would be most difficult to detect would be at the centre, but since this possibility had been virtually excluded by the Merewether excavations it was felt that some definite result might be obtained indicating at best the region or regions most worthy of further investigation by excavation.

The depth to which the electrodes should penetrate material the resistance of which is being measured should be less than about one twentieth of the electrode separation. If this is not so then the results depend on the penetration and not solely on the material concerned. Accordingly for the first series of measurements, in which an electrode separation of 75 feet was used, the electrode penetration was 1 foot. A series of readings was obtained with the electrodes being moved in a horizontal circle round the hill. It was found that at a certain depth below the surface the ground became suddenly more densely packed so that the electrodes could be driven in easily down to this level but only with difficulty any further. The depth at which this change took place varied between about six inches and two feet, except for a few places where there were rabbit holes and where no densely packed material was discovered down to two feet. The first readings obtained were subject to a considerable scatter, up to 50% of the average value obtained. Since it was thought that this might have been due to the variable nature of the surface layer we made sure, after the first few readings, that the electrodes penetrated into the denser region, except when on one of the places mentioned above. The scatter was reduced in this way but by no means eliminated.

Three typical series of readings are shown in Figure 1. The abscissa of the graphs there shown is the compass bearing of the midpoint between the electrodes from the centre of the hill, and the ordinate is the product of the measured resistance, (R) and the electrode separation, (l). This product gives a quantity which differs from the specific resistance of the hill material by a constant factor for all graphs, and is therefore a convenient means of comparing the readings.

¹Diary of a Dean, John Merewether (1851).

²e.g. A. C. Pass, *W.A.M.*, XXIII (1887), p. 245.

³e.g. Rev. A. C. Smith, *W.A.M.*, VII (1862), p. 145.

⁴Reference (1), which contains verbal evidence of the 1777 expedition, also Prof. W. M. Flinders Petrie, *W.A.M.*, XLII (1922), p. 215.

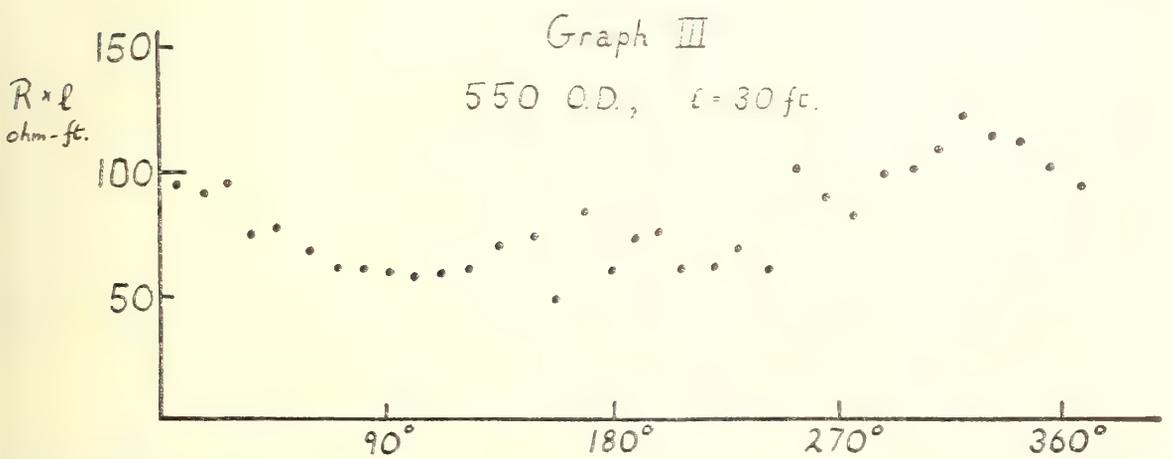
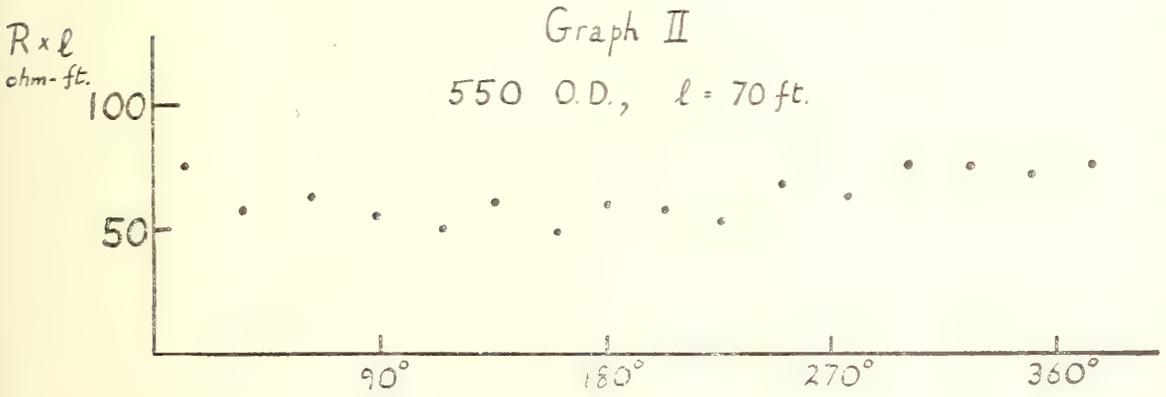
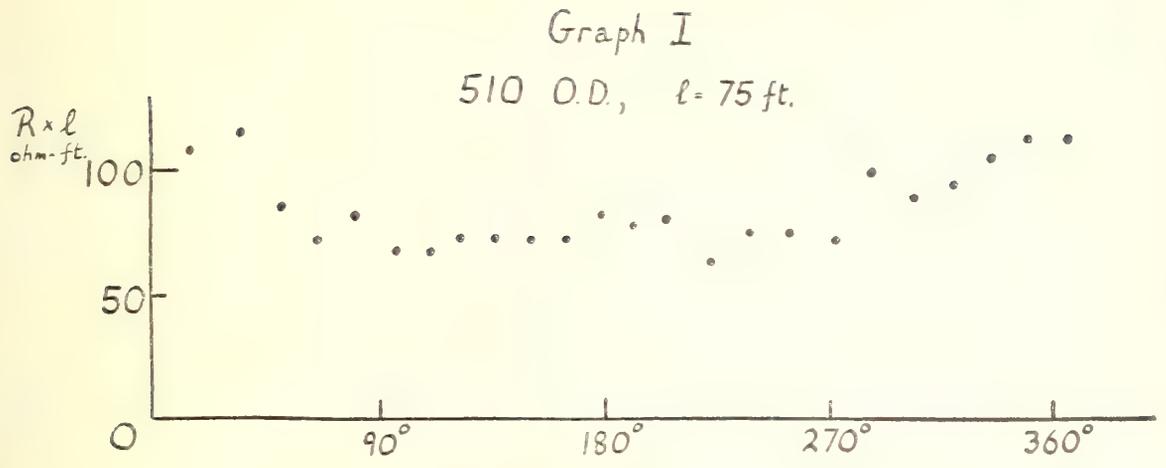


Fig. 1. Graphs showing, for different levels on the hill, the product of measured resistance R and electrode separation l as a function of the bearing of the midpoint between the electrodes from the hill centre.

Graph 1 shows the series taken with the electrodes in a horizontal plane near the base of the hill, at the level 510 O.D. At the bearing 220° the electrodes were over the portion of the Merewether tunnel which was blocked up but not filled in. The drop in reading there may be due to the metal plate used to seal off the end of the tunnel. At the bearing 170° the electrodes spanned the region of the Flinders Petrie excavation. It will be noticed that there is a general trend in the readings and that in the region approximately between 100° and 270° the readings are more uniform than elsewhere. In this region the part of the hill under investigation was in fact nearest to the original undisturbed ground, as is made clear by a diagram in the Rev. A. C. Smith's article on Silbury in *W.A.M.*, VII (1862) at p. 182.

Graphs II and III show a series taken with the electrodes about halfway up the hill, at the level 550 O.D. It will be noticed that with the smaller electrode separation there is considerably more scatter than with the larger one. Presumably the layers near the surface have not packed down so tightly under the weight of the rest of the structure as have the deeper layers. The scatter in Graph II is much the same as that in Graph I for which the electrode separations are comparable. The overall trend is less marked in the series higher up the hill as might be expected since this series was taken when further away from the original ground level.

From these three graphs alone it is evident that the method is unsatisfactory. The material in the hill appears not to be homogeneous enough for the effect of a submerged burial chamber to be identifiable against the background fluctuations in readings. There is no conclusive evidence from Graph I of a chamber near the edge of the hill and any smaller effect due to a chamber further below the surface would be masked by readings with a scatter as in Graph II. Some other measurements were made in addition to those shown but these were in no way different from the typical ones given.

No conclusion regarding the existence of a burial chamber could therefore be drawn from the measurements and the main purpose of reporting this negative result is to avoid any future application of the same method with the same undesirable end.

One other comment can be made. Graph I and measurements in the surrounding meadowland indicated that the scatter in reading is an effect probably peculiar to the artificial hill. It appears therefore that the hill is not homogeneous. Professor R. J. C. Atkinson has pointed out to me that this might be due to the incorporation of topsoil in the mound, which certainly need not be symmetrically disposed about a vertical axis and might be found along tip lines used at some late stage in construction.

I am grateful to the Edinburgh University Department of Prehistoric Archaeology for the loan of the Megger Resistance meter used in the measurements, to Professor R. J. C. Atkinson for his interest in the experiments and to various boys of Marlborough College who ran over the hill carrying electrodes.

A PIPE-LINE NEAR OLD SARUM: PREHISTORIC, ROMAN AND MEDIEVAL FINDS INCLUDING TWO TWELFTH CENTURY LIME KILNS

By J. W. G. MUSTY

During 1957 the Salisbury City Engineer's Department initiated work on the Castle Hill Reservoir Water Scheme. As this work would entail the cutting of several miles of trenches, including a trench through part of the East Suburb of Old Sarum and also across Bishopdown, permission was obtained to watch the work on behalf of Salisbury Museum¹. A considerable number of archaeological features were revealed by these trenches.

THE PIPE LINE AND SITE AREAS (Fig. 1).

From a pumping station at Dean's Farm, north-west of Old Sarum, a main was laid to the proposed reservoir site on Bishopdown overlooking the East Suburb of Old Sarum. The trench was cut to an average depth of 4 ft. 6 in., although in places it went considerably deeper. From the reservoir site another main ran south-east to St. Mark's Avenue.

It was found that the archaeological finds occurred in well-defined site areas principally demarcated by the present road system. In Area A, which lies to the north of Old Sarum, the only features observed in 1,000 yds. of trench (part of which is shown in Fig. 1) were the traces of an earlier road surface by the side of the present Amesbury road, and at approximately two feet below its present level. In Area B (between the Amesbury and Ford roads) were pits of Neolithic date, and a group of pits etc., of medieval (twelfth century) date. An extensive lime-burning area of twelfth century date was exposed in Area C. Finally in Area D (western end of Bishopdown) were numerous pits of early Iron Age date with, in some cases, Roman pottery in the upper layers. Only one further pit was discovered in the known Early Iron Age A.2 area at Paul's Dene (Area E).

Details of these finds are presented in this report, and in addition an opportunity has been taken of publishing an account of the pits previously located and examined in Area E, in view of their undoubted connection with the present finds. Roman pottery finds from Paul's Dene (Areas E and F) are also recorded.

NEOLITHIC

Three pits were showing in section approximately 50 ft. east of the Amesbury road (Fig. 1, Area B), and two of these produced a few small sherds of Secondary Neolithic pottery.² In addition there was one small beaker sherd.

The pits were U-shaped, approximately 1 ft. deep and 2 ft. in diameter; they had a grey earthy fill which covered a layer of rainwash. The pits were buried under 3 ft. of plough soil which had undoubtedly assisted in preserving both them and an associated old turf line, 5 in. thick. In the plough soil, at only 9 in. above one of the pits, was a Norman scratch-marked sherd.

A search of the material removed from the trench failed to reveal any more pottery or associated material with the exception of burnt flints from the old turf line. The pits are possibly analogous to those discovered under the north bank of Durrington Walls during the 1950-52 excavations.³

EARLY IRON AGE AND ROMAN

No structures of Early Iron Age or Roman date were encountered in areas A, B or C, although two stray Roman sherds were obtained from the medieval cesspits.⁴

On Bishopdown (Area D), however, numerous pits of Early Iron Age-Roman date were revealed by the trench. These were later in date than the pits at Paul's Dene (Area E) also to be described.

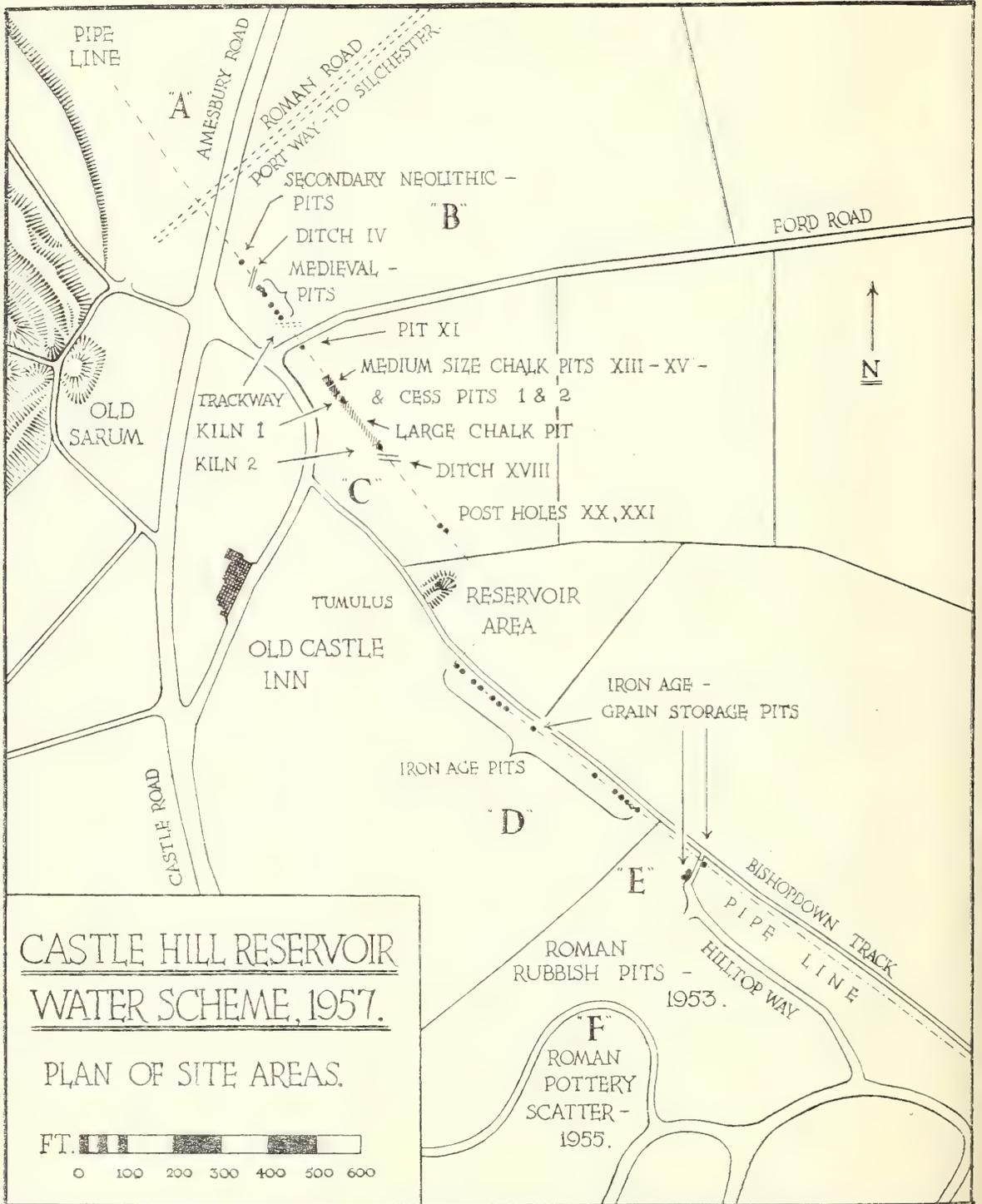


Fig. 1. Plan of Site Areas. (Based upon the Ordnance Survey 25" Map of area with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office. Crown Copyright Reserved).

Area D Pits.

Fifteen pits of varying shape and size, including a grain storage pit of hour-glass profile, were located in Area D. No attempt will be made in this report to identify individual pits shown on the plan (with the exception of the grain storage pit) or interpret their function, as such interpretation is of little value in view of the linear distribution of the pits.

A number of the pits were 1—2 ft. deep, and of a similar diameter. These contained dark earthy fills with animal bones, potsherds and burnt flints intermixed. Others were 3—4 ft. in diameter and contained burnt flints, soil and gravel with specks of burnt clay. One of these pits had been cut in a clay pocket⁵ and the colour of the clay at the bottom of the pit had been transformed to a deep brick-red colour, presumably by heating.

The grain storage pit was 8 ft. deep, 7 ft. 6 in. wide at the mouth and 9 ft. at the bottom. The pottery from this pit is characteristic of that obtained from the whole group and includes three bead-rims. Roman pottery (including Samian ware) was obtained from the upper layers.

The date of the whole group of pits may be as late as the 1st century A.D.

Area E Pits and Roman finds in Areas E and F.

In 1955 two Early Iron Age A.2 grain storage pits were discovered at the side of the short length of pavement which joins Hill Top Way to the Bishopdown track. One of these pits was partially examined (half of it being under the pavement); the second pit, which cut into the bottom of the other, was not investigated. The 1957 pipe-line passed within a few yards of these pits, but only one new pit was exposed. Sufficient pottery was obtained from the new pit to show its contemporaneity with the 1955 pits, but it was not emptied.

Excavation of the pit discovered in 1955 showed that it was of hour-glass shape, 8 ft. deep and 6 ft. in diameter and typical of similar pits found at Highfield and Harnham Hill. It had been dug partly in the chalk and partly in the clay capping the chalk. Twelve successive tips of rubbish, etc., had been emptied into it, and these contained pottery and animal bones. In addition part of a 'rib-knife' handle with incised decoration, a bone awl, part of a bone needle, a spindle whorl and a lump of scrap bronze were found. Fragments of a corn-drying oven were present in most layers, and these included a large fragment of the cover of an oven.⁶

The pottery consists of undecorated haematite coated sherds and coarse ware similar to that from Harnham Hill.⁷ This group of pits therefore dates to the end of the Early Iron Age A 2 period.

Near the bottom of the pit were two ox skulls, one hornless. Other animals represented in the collection of bones obtained are horse, sheep and pig, with sheep predominating. In addition there are limb bones from a raven present.

Since the examination in 1953 by Stone and Algar of a diffusely spread Romano-British refuse dump in the gardens of houses in Juniper Drive, Paul's Dene Estate,⁸ other finds have been recorded. These come from points north and south of the 1953 sites, and may represent merely an extension of the spread recorded in that year. A more detailed account of the sources of the finds will be given with the descriptions of the pottery.

Roman Roads.

Three Roman roads should pass through the area sectioned by the trench (to Cunetio, Silchester and Winchester), but no road sections were seen in the trench except for the fragment of road surface noted in Area A, and there is no proof that this was part of a Roman road. At first sight this is rather surprising, but it may be due to the obliteration of the Roman levels by the present day roads, some of which lie in comparatively deep cuttings. The Ford road, for instance, which runs along the supposed course of the Roman road to Winchester, was seen as a series of granite metallings resting directly on the hard chalk.

In Area B, and only a few yards from the Ford road, could be seen a slightly rutted area (see Fig. 1 'Trackway') which might have been associated with the former Roman road.

Stone and Algar suggest⁹ that the Bishopdown track may have provided a convenient route to the New Forest Potteries in Roman times. It might be further supposed that it formed part of a road to the Southampton area. However, this track was cut by the trench at a point on the top of Bishopdown where there is little difference of level between the track and its verge, and the section showed conclusively that the track had never been a metalled way. This does not, of course, vitiate Stone and Algar's original suggestion, as its use as an unmetalled way is not precluded.

The Problem of Sorviodunum and its Early Iron Age precursor.

With the discovery of the Roman refuse dump at Paul's Dene, and the Early Iron Age finds at Paul's Dene and on Bishopdown, one might have concluded that Sorviodunum was a Romanised Early Iron Age settlement lying on the upper slopes of Bishopdown overlooking the disused hill-fort of Old Sarum. However, recent excavations within the earthwork have shown that there may have been a far more extensive Iron Age and Roman occupation of Old Sarum than has hitherto been supposed,¹⁰ and until more excavations have been undertaken at Old Sarum, any conjecture as to the nature of Sorviodunum is ill-advised. The present finds demonstrate, however, that there was an Early Iron Age settlement area in the Bishopdown—Paul's Dene area and that this carried on in a Romanised form throughout the Roman period.

MEDIEVAL

Area B Pits.

The presence of the medieval pits in Area B indicates that the East Suburb of Old Sarum must have at least extended to it, but the nature of the buildings situated in this area cannot be determined merely from the features seen in the trench. The Ordnance Survey large scale maps and plans identify part of the area as the 'Site of St. John's Hospital', but the evidence for this is now lost.

As it was not possible to relate the various pits to any particular structural arrangement, a detailed account of them will not be given here.¹¹ It need only be said that in addition to a number of circular and square pits (including two cesspits) there were two foundation trenches, one with blocks of Hurdcott greensand *in situ*.

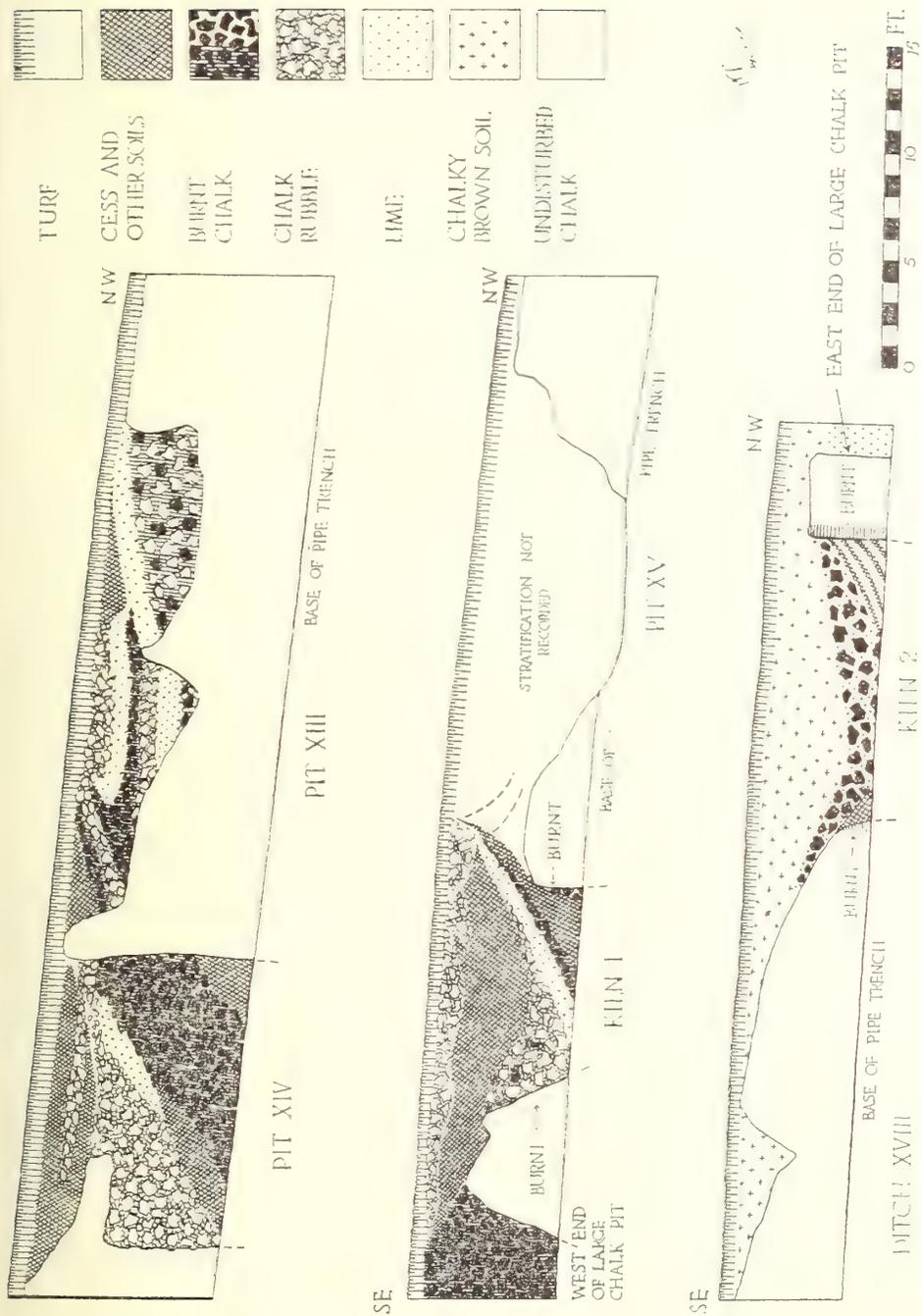
On the western side of the site was the V-shaped ditch (IV) which, like the Area B pits, is dateable by pottery evidence to the twelfth century. This ditch marked off the area of medieval pits on the western side of the site, and no structures were seen between it and the Neolithic pits.

Area C Pits.

The most striking feature exposed in the trench in Area C was a large excavation for chalk with a lime-kiln at each end. The trench also cut through three medium-sized pits (small chalk pits), two cesspits and a partly used cesspit or well, and the whole group formed a continuous chain of pits 250 ft. long (just under half of the total length of the trench in Area C). At the eastern end of the chain was a V-shaped ditch, beyond which the trench was archaeologically sterile with the exception of three post-holes of unknown date, but possibly pre-medieval.

The Chalk Pits. The large chalk pit was 100 ft. across, but there were no surface indications of its presence. Kiln waste had been thrown back into the pit, but the greater part of the central area had filled up with a natural accumulation of wind-blown dust resulting in a layer of humus 5 ft. thick.

The medium-sized pits (XIII, XIV and XV, Fig. 2) were 24ft., 17ft., and 20ft. across respectively in the exposed section. They were separated from the large chalk pit by Lime Kiln 1, which formed the eastern section of Pit XV. These pits had also been filled up with lime kiln waste, the principal feature of which was lumps of burnt chalk; this presumably had been separated from the lime by riddling, as the



LIME KILNS AND PITS, OLD SARUM - EAST SUBURB.
 SECTIONS EXPOSED BY CASTLE HILL RESERVOIR PIPE TRENCH, 1957.

Fig. 2. Sections of Lime Kilns and Pits.

chalk occurred intermixed with large lumps of charcoal in homogeneous dumps, and had therefore been removed straight from a kiln and dumped into the pits after separation of the lime.

The Lime Kilns (Fig. 2). On either side of the large chalk pit were two pits the walls of which had been burnt to a pale blue-grey colour. It is therefore likely that these were lime kilns which had been supplied with raw material from the large chalk pit. Both had possibly gone into disuse before the end of the lime burning period, as Kiln 1 had been filled with lime-burning residues and a final cess fill, and Kiln 2 with lime-burning residues.

The sides of the Kiln pits were roughly vertical and No. 1 was 11 ft. wide at the mouth, the other 18 ft. The exact depth of the pits is unknown, although by probing it was shown to be at least 7 ft. No flue tunnels were showing in section, although No. 2 had a ramp running down to it from the east which might have been connected with the firing.

The Cesspits. Cesspits 1 and 2 (XIIIA and XIVA) were in the opposite face of the pipe-trench to the medium-sized chalk pits XIII and XIV; the doubtful cesspit (XI) was 50 ft. to the north-west. All are of unknown depth and only the top few feet of the pits were examined.

Cesspit No. 1 was 6 ft. square and vertically sided. The other, which was only 4 ft. square, was much richer in pottery finds, and in addition the broken beam of a money balance and a stone cresset were obtained.

Pit XI was 4 ft. 6 in. square. The visible fill consisted of a fine chalky earth mixed with a large quantity of stone tiles, and in this fill was a fragment from a thirteenth century glazed tile. When the fill was removed, the walls of the pit were seen to be worn smooth by considerable weathering, which suggests that it was open for a lengthy period and was not completely filled until the thirteenth century at the earliest. The possibilities, then, are either that this was a cesspit which was only partly used or had been emptied at intervals, or that it was a well. Its situation at the bottom of the slope and away from the rest of the lime burning area supports the latter view. Presumably it was subsequently filled up with building debris because it was considered dangerous.

Other Features. At the edge of the slope down to Kiln 2 was a V-shaped ditch (XVIII), 4 ft. wide and 4 ft. deep. The ditch did not contain any primary silt, the entire fill being of chalky-brown soil with traces of charcoal (Fig. 2). Although three small sherds were obtained from the ditch, its dating is uncertain. The ditch is possibly pre-medieval in date. However, its closeness to Kiln 2 suggests that it might be connected with the lime-burning area. It could well have been a storm ditch to drain water off the area, at the same time acting as a boundary ditch. The fact that no features attributable to the medieval period occurred east of it suggests that it did in fact delimit the lime-burning area.

Six feet east of the ditch was a post-hole 1 ft. in diameter and of a similar depth, and then 170 ft. of sterile trench separated this feature from two more post holes (XX and XXI) of similar profile.

THE LIME BURNING AREA AND ITS FUNCTION

Technology.

It has been shown above that the pits in Area C constituted part of a lime-burning area which may have been large. If the spread of this area could have been determined in more than one direction it would have been possible to have computed the output of lime from the site.¹²

Some idea of the minimum output of lime from the site can be obtained by estimating the yield from the large chalk pit. We have seen that the pit was 100 ft. wide in the E-W direction. Assuming a similar width in a N-S direction and quarrying to a depth of 20 ft. then the output of lime would have been between 3,500 and 5,000 tons (assuming an efficiency for the lime-burning operation of 50-75%). The burning would probably have been undertaken in a number of kilns situated around the periphery of the pit, of which the two discovered are representative. Other pits of a similar size may have been worked in the area.

It is also possible to suggest a reconstruction for the lime kilns, as similar kiln pits (also of twelfth century date) have been discovered at Chew Park, Somerset.¹³ The Chew kilns were circular pits 10 ft. in diameter and 4-6 ft. deep with a flue channel leading off from the bottom. After examination of the Chew kilns, Dr. Davey of the Building Research Station suggested a reconstruction, which has been followed here for the Old Sarum kilns.

Alternate layers of chalk and wood would have been stacked in the pit and the stack then raised some feet above the mouth of the pit. A variety of woods were used as oak, hazel and birch have been identified¹⁴ from charcoal samples taken from the kiln refuse. Next earth and more chalk would have been heaped over the stack to provide thermal insulation. The kiln would then have been fired from a small stokehole joined to the kiln by a flue channel.¹⁵ After firing, the stack would be left to smoulder for some weeks: it would then be opened and the lime separated from the unburnt residue by riddling.

Function.

On the basis of the pottery obtained, the lime-burning area must have been in operation towards the middle of the twelfth century. Although this evidence is insufficient to determine the precise dates of the initiation of lime-burning and its subsequent abandonment, yet with the documentary evidence it enables some conclusions to be reached as to the purpose to which this lime was put, and to the range of time over which it was used.

From the documentary evidence so far available, it appears that building at Old Sarum took place in three phases, viz:—

1. In the years prior to 1100. Building of the first Cathedral.
2. *Circa* 1100-1139. Extension of the Cathedral and building of the stone Castle in the Inner Bailey. The wall round the Outer Bailey was probably built during this period.
3. *Circa* 1170-1180. Rebuilding of the Castle.

It is unlikely that the lime-burning area was connected with the first building phase; lime for this would have been obtained on the spot, and the kiln discovered by Col. Hawley is most likely to have been the source. This was in the south-west quadrant near the site of the 'church-yard cross', and Col. Hawley suggested that the kiln was fed with chalk from some of the very large pits discovered in the south-west area.

In phase 2 lime might also have been obtained from kilns within the earthwork, provided that it was convenient to quarry chalk on the spot: otherwise the present lime-burning area would be a likely source. In the twelfth century the lime-burning area formed part of the Bishop's manor, and the spoliation of land, making it unfit for agricultural use and preventing expansion of the East suburb at that point, would surely only have been permitted if the Bishop was responsible for the building operations requiring the lime. It is significant, therefore, that in this phase, as in the preceding one, a great deal of the building was at the behest of the Bishop. Additionally a very large quantity of timber would have been needed, and this also may have come from the Bishop's lands nearby.

Although Phase 3 was primarily a repair period, a great deal of lime would have been required as the repairs to the Castle were extensive. It must be remembered, however, that the Castle was no longer in the possession of the Bishop.

In 1246 and 1249 further repairs were undertaken; for these lime kilns were built inside the Castle, the wood being obtained from Grovely and Clarendon which were Royal Forests.¹⁶ This lime was probably required for the repairs to the great tower and other towers, and the great gate and hall which were started in July, 1246. In 1253 the Sheriff of Wiltshire was ordered to make a kiln in the Forest of Buckholt for the works of the King's Castle of Salisbury and the Manor of Clarendon.

If the Castle authorities obtained lime from the East Suburb lime-burning area in the twelfth century, then why did they not also do so in the thirteenth? The answer may be of course that a kiln was main-

tained within the Castle for small repair work, and that in the case of Buckholt it was considered expedient to burn the chalk in an area of plentiful timber supply; especially if the operation of the East Suburb kilns had disafforested the immediate vicinity as it could well have done.

If the pottery and documentary evidence are considered together, one can conclude that the East Suburb lime-burning area was used to supply lime for Phases 2 or 3 or both.

It is of interest to conjecture where the lime was obtained for the building of New Salisbury. It possibly came from the 'lymeputtes' at East Harnham for we find mention of these and of a 'Thome le lymbrenner' under the entries for 1393 in the *Registrum Cartarum* of the Hospital of St. Nicholas,¹⁷ and lime-burning might well have started at this spot in the 13th century.

POTTERY.

Neolithic.

The pottery from the Neolithic pit in Area B consists of ten small sherds, one of which was from a beaker with hyphenated decoration.

The other sherds are too fragmentary to enable anything to be said about the form of the vessel from which they had come. The fabric is a rust-brown to black paste containing crushed flint, with reddish-

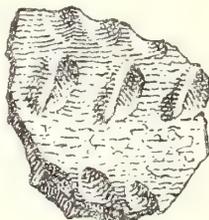


Fig. 3. Sherd from the Secondary Neolithic pits, Area B. 1/1

brown to buff surfaces. The sherds are decorated in the manner shown in Fig. 3. This decoration consists of finger nail impressions, and another type of impression possibly obtained by pressing a short length of cord into the pot at intervals.

Iron Age and Roman.

Bishopdown Pits (Area D).

As the pottery obtained from the grain-storage pit is representative of that obtained from other Area D pits, only this will be described.

The bulk of the pottery is in the form of black to grey-black burnished wares with water-worn quartz particles, crushed flint and shell in the backing. The burnishing may occur evenly over the surface, but sometimes it occurs as zones and occasionally as thin lines. Of the twenty-four sherds obtained from this pit, eighteen were burnished.

Three rim sherds were obtained, all bead-rims. In addition there is a sherd from the shoulder of a bowl in burnished grey-black to brown ware, and parts of the bases of two flat-bottomed vessels; one has much carbonised vegetable matter on the inside.

From the upper layers of this pit were obtained early Roman sherds including a base sherd in Samian ware (from a dish dateable to the 1st century A.D.; possibly the third quarter of that century) and another in a reddish ware with sandy glitter.

The presence of bead-rims taken with the high proportion of burnished black to grey-black wares and the absence of haematite coated sherds suggests a late date in the Early Iron Age period, possibly as late

as the first century A.D. The presence of Roman pottery in the upper layers of the pit is consistent with this dating.

Paul's Dene Pits (Area E). Early Iron Age A. 2 Pottery.

Approximately two hundred sherds were obtained from the A.2 grain-storage pit, and of these eighteen were haematite coated ware.

The haematite coated wares are from bowls with slightly flared rims. The paste in fracture is either black or grey-black or brown to reddish-brown to red.

The coarse wares fall into three main fabric classes:

- (a) Grey to grey-black sandy wares, sometimes comparatively hard. Gritting varies in character, but on the whole is restricted to a fine grit with occasional large lumps; one sherd has shell in the backing. Some of the sherds have red surfaces occasionally burnished in imitation of haematite ware, others a burnished grey or brown surface.
- (b) Black to brown heavily gritted wares; the grit particles break the surface and are water-worn. There is also a version of this ware much finer gritted, and with a black polished surface which flakes off.
- (c) Black to brown gritless ware containing charred vegetable matter in the paste. Very poorly fired, and crumbles when handled, with a tendency to break up into layers.

Deposits of carbonised vegetable matter or a calcareous layer occur on the inside surfaces of some of the sherds.

Areas E and F. Roman Pottery.

From the garden of No. 14 Hill Top Way was obtained part of a flanged bowl of 2nd Century date, and in the bank on the opposite side of the road was found a large portion of a jar with a simple everted rim and in a reddish clay with much grit backing (Sal. Museum Acc. No. 65/57). This is also possibly early, although with it was a sherd from a New Forest thumb pot.

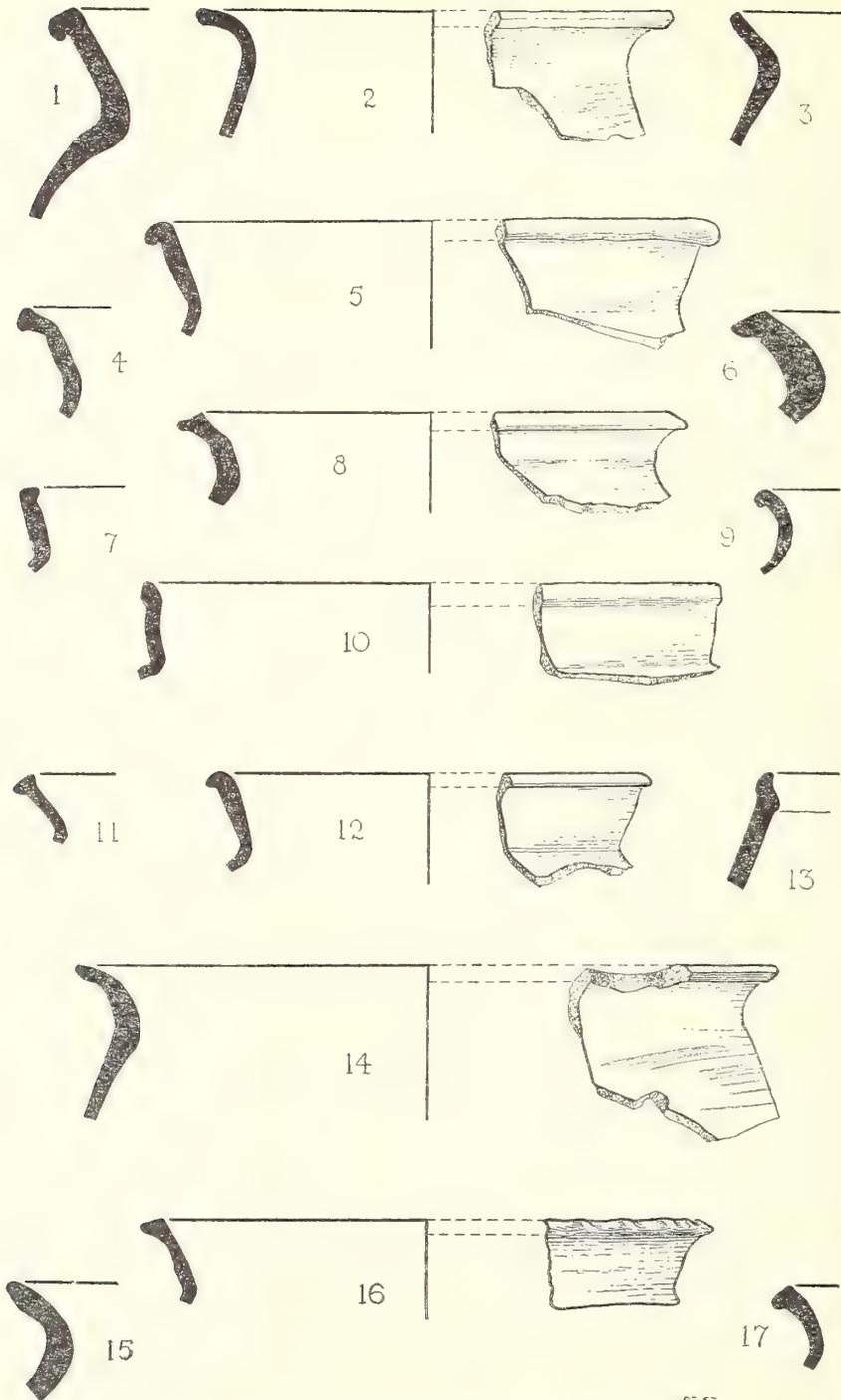
All the pottery from Juniper Drive (Nos. 9 and 11) is of late form. It includes a mortarium rim with a brown slip, and the rims of several jars including a rope rim.

Medieval.

At present there is no dated series for local medieval pottery and therefore accurate close dating is not possible. The pottery from Stone and Charlton's 1933 excavation in the East Suburb of Old Sarum¹⁸ is an obvious starting point for dating the present pottery. In addition there is the pottery from Laverstock.¹⁹

The pottery from the lime-burning area comes mainly from Cesspit 2 and the cess fill in the top of Kiln 1. In addition one sherd was obtained from the medium-sized chalk pit XIII in such a position as to give the earliest possible date for the filling of the pit. Much of the pottery from Site B is unstratified; few rim sherds were found from either Sites B or C. Stone and Charlton have already commented on the relative abundance of body sherds compared to rim sherds in the cesspits they examined in 1933. This was also the case with a twelfth century cesspit at Laverstock. It is possible that body sherds from broken cooking pots played some part in twelfth century toilet routine.

Considered as a group the pottery has the following characteristics. Two main fabric classes are present (a) gritty wares in two degrees of smoothness and (b) sandy wares (*i.e.* very smooth surfaced wares with very little grit and with a characteristic glitter). Of the gritty wares, 50% of the sherds are scratch-marked, and these include one sherd with a sharply inturned basal angle belonging to the characteristic West Country type of vessel, which often has a perforated wall. Sagging bases are present in the sandy ware. Finally the only glazed ware present is that in cooking pot fabric with a thin wash of greeny



PL. 57

Fig. 4. The Medieval Pottery. (1/3)

yellow to colourless glaze, and no thirteenth century glazed ware was obtained from any of the sites (with the exception of the tile fragment from Pit XI).

A similar range of material was obtained from the Laverstock cesspit which has been provisionally dated to the middle of the twelfth century.

On the other hand there is some similarity between the present pottery and that from Stone and Charlton's excavation. This pottery with its simple everted rims, scratch-marking, rounded bases and absence of sandy ware was dated by coin evidence to 1100. Sherds from the perforated wall type of vessel appear on both sites and Mr. E. M. Jope has dated the type to the period 1100-50.²⁰ There is also the scratch-marking which Mr. G. Dunning has dated as a type to the years around 1100 (1080-1130).²¹

The presence of sagging bases (although Stone and Charlton found a single example) and sandy ware, however, suggests a slightly later date for the present pottery, although it need not be later than the middle of the twelfth century.

Illustrated sherds Nos. 1—17 (Fig. 4).

All except No. 13 are from cooking pots or pans. Nos. 7, 10 and 16 are in sandy ware; the rest have a high proportion of water worn grit (possibly derived from ferruginous sandstones).

Of the gritty wares, 1, 2, 3, 6, 14, and 15 contain a coarser grit than the remainder which are of closer texture and in some cases are almost as smooth surfaced as the sandy wares.

1. Grey paste and surface with areas of pink and pinky-buff. Site B.
2. Dark grey ware. Scratch-marked. Site B.
3. Grey to buff paste with pink to pinky-buff surface. Scratch-marked. Site C, medium-sized pit XIII.
4. Grey to black paste with pink to pinky-buff surface. Site B.
5. Similar to 4 but less pink. Site C, Cesspit 2.
6. Pinky paste, blue-grey surface. Site B.
7. Probably from a sagging base vessel. Grey-buff to pinky-buff. Site B.
8. Similar to 4. Grey-black surface. Site B.
9. Similar to 4. Site C, Cesspit 2.
10. Similar to 7. Site C, Cesspit 2.
11. Pinky-buff surface. Site B.
12. Similar to 11. Site C, Cesspit 2.
13. Jug rim. Gritty cooking pot fabric with poor yellow-green glaze on the exterior and specks of it inside. Buff surface, grey in fracture. Site B.
14. Fabric identical with that of No. 3. Scratch-marked. Site C, Kiln 1—cess fill.
15. As No. 3 except outer surface grey-black. Scratch-marked. Site B.
16. Grey ware with brownish-buff surface. Site B.
17. Similar to 4 but with grey surface. Site B.

Of the pottery not illustrated, significant sherds from Cesspit 2, Site C, include the base sherd from a West Country type vessel with sharply inturned basal angle; a number of sherds in hard grey sandy ware including a sagging base in fabric similar to that from the Laverstock cesspit, and glazed sherds typical of twelfth century material. Similar glazed sherds and also a cooking pot rim in buff sandy ware were obtained from the cess fill in the top of Kiln 1.

OTHER FINDS

1. *Beam of a money balance* (Fig. 5A). The balance beam was obtained from the lime-burning area, Cesspit 2, (Salisbury Mus. Acc. No. 107/57), and when found it was protruding from the exposed section of fill. Part of the beam had been recently broken off, presumably during the cutting of the

trench. The beam length would have been originally $4\frac{1}{2}$ in., and the unbroken half of the beam has a ring attached from which a pan would have hung. Unlike the other beams described below it is formed from bronze wire. The indicator, like that on beam C, is flat and solid: it was presumably formed from sheet bronze or flattened wire.

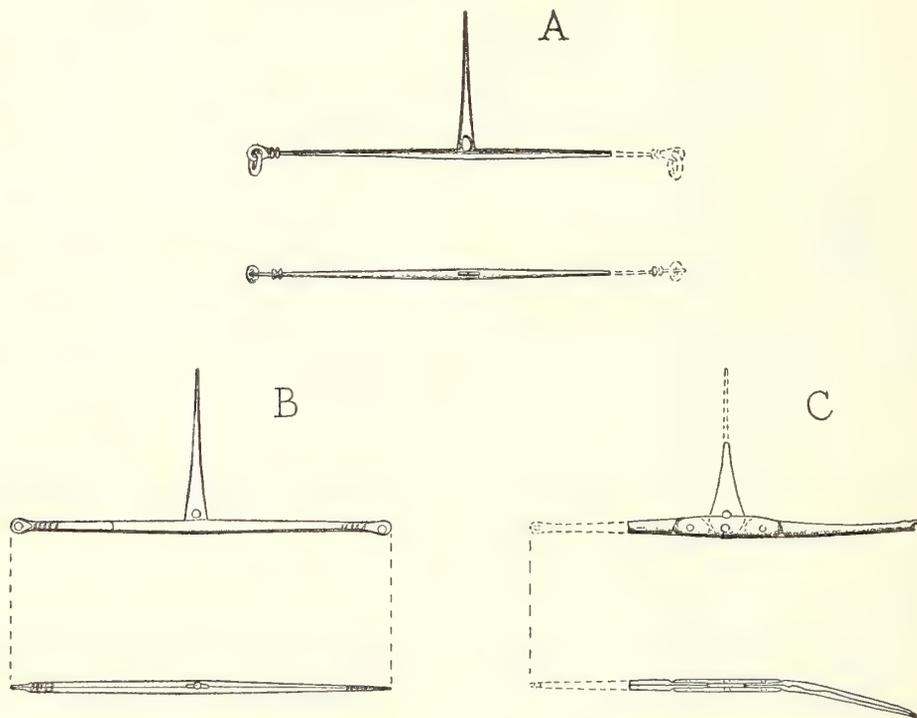


Fig. 5. The Balance Beam and other Beams from the Salisbury Area. ($\frac{1}{2}$)

In Salisbury Museum there are two other similar beams from Old Sarum and its environs. As particulars of these have not been published the opportunity has been taken of doing so here.

One (fig. 5B) came from Col. Hawley's excavations at Old Sarum (Sal. Mus. ref. O.S. A.12). The beam has been formed by beating sheet bronze into a round-sectioned cylinder flattened at the ends to form eyes, and is $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. long. The indicator needle, which has been formed in a similar manner, appears to be enclosed and held by the butted edges of the beam joint.²²

The other (fig. 5C) came from the foundations of a house at the top of Castle Road near the Old Castle Inn (Sal. Mus. ref. 49/1935, O.S. C.45). The beam is 4 in. long and, like beam B, is also formed from sheet bronze beaten into a cylinder, but it differs in that it is of oval cross-section and the indicator is flat and solid. Further the beam is made to fold in the manner shown in the illustration. A similar folding balance beam, incorrectly identified as Roman, has been found at Marlborough.²³

The purpose of these small balances was to check the weight of coin. In use the beam would be suspended by means of a string attached to the hole at the base of the needle, and this string would act as a zero point for the needle. Pans were attached to the beam by strings threaded through the holes at each end.

A number of specimens have been found in England and Northern Europe in dated contexts which clearly indicate that this type of balance was in use in the tenth, eleventh and twelfth centuries.

2. *Stone Cresset-lamp* (fig. 6). This also came from the lime-burning area, Cesspit 2. The cresset-lamp has been formed by roughly tooling a lump of sandstone, which contains large occlusions of quartz crystals, and the fragment obtained represents only one-quarter of the original.

3. *Iron pivot for a door hinge* (fig. 6). This came from the foundation trench containing greensand footings (Area B) which is considered to be of twelfth century date.

All the finds from this investigation have been deposited in Salisbury Museum.

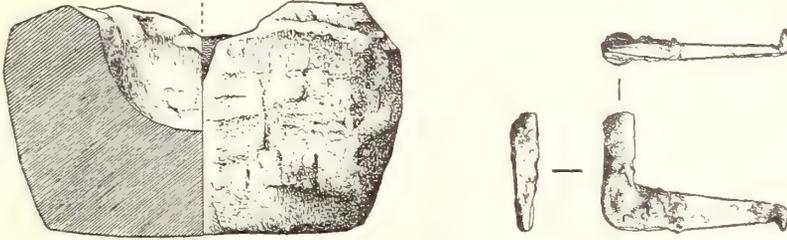


Fig. 6. The Iron Pivot and Stone Cresset Lamp. (1/3)

Acknowledgements.

The drawings which illustrate this report were prepared by Mr. Peter Ewence. Mr. Philip Rahtz gave practical assistance in the field and also kindly provided details of his Chew kilns in advance of publication. Identification of animal bones was undertaken by Miss J. E. King, British Museum (Natural History), and Dr. B. Hartley, F.S.A., reported on the Samian sherd from Area D. Members of the Salisbury Field Club and the Bishop Wordsworth's School Archaeological Society helped in the examination of the Paul's Dene sites. Finally the author would like to acknowledge the helpful co-operation which he has received from the Salisbury City Engineer's Department.

¹Under the auspices of the Museum Excavation Subcommittee. The writer was assisted in this work by Mr. D. J. Algar and Mr. D. Truckle.

²A description of this pottery, together with that of other pottery found during the examination of the pipe trench, will be found at the end of the report.

³*Antiq. Journ.*, XXXIV (1954) p. 155.

⁴A similar lack of finds of the Roman period was noticed by Stone and Charlton in their excavation in the East Suburb in 1933.

⁵One striking feature of the Bishopdown stretch of trench was the large number of natural clay pockets encountered—some as much as 40ft. across.

⁶See *W.A.M.*, LIV (1951), p. 137, Plate VI for a similar fragment.

⁷*W.A.M.*, XLVIII (1939), p. 513.

⁸*W.A.M.*, LVI (1955), p. 102.

⁹*W.A.M.*, LVI (1955), p. 110.

¹⁰For interim note on this excavation see *W.A.M.*, LVII (1958), p. 14.

¹¹A note-book containing a detailed register of all the pits and other features will eventually be deposited in Salisbury Museum.

¹²The late Dr. Stone forecast that this area would contain the extension of the cemetery excavated by him in 1933: *Antiq. Journ.*, XV (1935), 187. No evidence for this

extension was found during the present investigation.

¹³Excavated by Mr. Philip Rahtz. Report forthcoming.

¹⁴I am indebted to Mr. Dandy, Keeper of Botany, British Museum (Natural History) for these identifications.

¹⁵Col. Hawley discovered a lime kiln within the earthwork of Old Sarum during his 1912 excavation, and although no drawn section of this appears to have survived, it is shown on his published plan of the excavated area. From this plan it can be deduced that Col. Hawley's kiln had a kiln pit 14ft. by 12ft. in cross-section connected to a small stoke-hole 3ft. square by a flue tunnel. The axis of the kiln lay E-W with the stoke-hole to the west: *Proc. Soc. Antiq.*, XXV (2nd Ser.), (1912-13), 97.

¹⁶*Close Rolls*, 1242-7, p. 438; 1247-51, p. 186—I am indebted to Mr. H. M. Colvin for these references.

¹⁷Edited by Chr. Wordsworth, *Wilts. Rec. Soc.*, 1903, pp. 100 sqq.

¹⁸*Antiq. Journ.*, XV (1935), 174.

¹⁹Report in preparation.

²⁰*Trans. Bristol and Glouc. Arch. Soc.*, LXXI (1952) 65.

²¹*Arch. Journ.*, CVII (1950), 15.

²²A similar beam, which also has grooves cut at the ends of the beam, is figured in the Guildhall Museum catalogue (1903), Plate XXIII, No. 9.

²³*W.A.M.*, XLI (1920), 392.

ERMIN STREET AT CRICKLADE

By F. T. WAINWRIGHT

The Roman road from Silchester to Cirencester and Gloucester, known for most of its length as Ermin Street, crosses the Thames at Cricklade in Wiltshire. This is one of the points at which its line has been in doubt. Passing to the north-east of Swindon, it runs through Stratton St Margaret, over Blunsdon Hill and straight along the line of the modern road to the outskirts of Cricklade. Near Calcutt Bridge, less than half a mile from the ancient borough of Cricklade, the modern road suddenly swings left, diverging from its straight north-westerly line (which would carry it past Cricklade), enters the town by Calcutt Street, turns right into High Street, and re-joins the north-westerly line of the Roman road some six or seven hundred yards north of the town (see Figs. 1 and 2). Did the Roman road continue its straight course north-westwards from Calcutt, crossing the low-lying meadows and marshes to the north and north-east of the town? Or did it, like the modern road, make a detour to pass through what is now the town of Cricklade? This is the question that has long baffled local scholars and others who have sought to trace the line of Ermin Street on the ground.

The question has been much bedevilled by a persistent tradition that the 'town wall' of Cricklade, the denuded and grass-covered bank which encloses the town in a great square, was built by the Romans or at least marks the site of a Roman marching camp.¹ Those who accepted this tradition were reluctant to believe that the Roman road continued its straight course and by-passed Cricklade. Secondly, it could be argued that, marching camp or no marching camp, the marshes along the Thames were an obstacle sufficiently formidable to divert the road from its straight course to the higher and drier ground on which Cricklade now stands. Thirdly, the complete absence of all traces of the road north-west of Calcutt and in the meadows adjacent to the Thames has often been urged to support the argument that it never existed there but always passed through Cricklade. Those who rejected the theory of a diversion into Cricklade tried to account for the absence of traces of the road north-west of Calcutt by suggesting that it was carried across the marshes on a 'wooden causeway' or a 'system of trestles' or that it was a temporary road early abandoned in favour of the diversion through Cricklade.²

The length of the missing stretch of road is about $66\frac{1}{2}$ chains or rather more than three-quarters of a mile (*i.e.* from X to Z in Fig. 2), and further confusion arises from the fact that the northern third of it (some 22 chains from X to Y) has long been recognized and is, indeed, marked as the line of the Roman road on Ordnance Survey six-inch maps and 25-inch plans. At the junction of the Churn and an artificial drainage cut called New Brook (*i.e.* at Y) and also at several points north of this along the line of the road many remains of the Roman period have been found.³ These include weapons, brooches, pottery, 'foundations' and, above all, Roman coins. The earliest of the coins belong to the middle years of the first century, as one might expect, for the construction of the road belongs to an early phase of the Roman occupation of Britain. There is no doubt that the Ordnance Survey is right to project the road backwards from X to Y. The surveyors may have had before them evidence other than that of the reported finds, for they were avid collectors of local information; but the Original Name Books for this area were among those destroyed during the enemy bombing of Southampton and the truth of this supposition cannot now be checked.⁴ At a much earlier date Sir Richard Colt Hoare recorded that 'some old inhabitants of Cricklade remember a portion of the causeway having been dug up between Corkett Bridge and Town Bridge',⁵ but the exact position of this 'causeway' is doubtful, and we cannot even be sure that it was part of the Roman road.⁶ Quite explicit, however, is A. D. Passmore's statement that the line of the road is still visible from the air 'as a fine yellow line contrasting with the green herbage', but it seems to extend across one field only,⁷ *i.e.* from X to Y as it is marked on Ordnance Survey maps.

The line of the road between X and Y may be taken as sufficiently proved. Did it also continue be-



Plate I. Ermin Street at Cricklade.

tween Y and Z? Codrington and Margary both assumed that it did, but the evidence upon which their assumptions are based relates only to the section between X and Y. Codrington assumed without question that the dubious 'causeway' recorded by Colt Hoare continued right across the meadows between Y and Z.⁸ Margary pinned his faith to Passmore's 'fine yellow line contrasting with the green herbage',⁹ although this had been recognized only between X and Y. None of the evidence so far put forward could be taken to prove the existence of the road between Y and Z, and it was still possible for local scholars to argue that the Roman road swung to the west at Calcutt, passed through Cricklade and returned to its north-westerly line at Y. This point, obscured by Codrington and Margary, was well-understood by local scholars who realized that the fundamental question of whether or not the Roman road passed through Cricklade could not be regarded as finally settled until traces of the road could be found between Y and Z or until the point at which it crossed the Thames could be established.

In the present century only A. D. Passmore is known to have made a prolonged and thorough search for the road. He accepted the section X—Y as proved, but he knew that the fundamental question depended on finding evidence of it somewhere in the 44 chains between Y and Z. For many years he kept an eye on all excavational disturbances in the Cricklade area, and under ideal conditions he searched the banks of the Thames for signs of a crossing. It was all in vain, and he was forced to conclude that no trace of road or crossing remains to-day.¹⁰ On general grounds, as most scholars would agree, there is a very strong probability that the road continued in a straight line from Z to X, but Passmore realized that this could be demonstrated to the satisfaction of all only by proving its existence between Y and Z.

The reason why Passmore and others failed to find any trace of the river-crossing seems to be simply that they always looked in the wrong place for it, *i.e.* where the projected line of the road cuts the present course of the Thames. A study of large-scale maps (Ordnance Survey 25-inch Plan, Wiltshire, V 14) suggests that the river has changed its course since the Roman period. The northern boundary of the parish of Cricklade does not long follow the Thames from its confluence with the Churn, as one might expect; it leaves the Thames to follow what is to-day little more than a small dried-up stream about three-eighths of a mile long meandering across the meadows a hundred yards or so north of the Thames (Fig. 2). The fact that the parish boundary follows this now insignificant stream suggests that it marks an older course of the Thames. In all probability the whole area north and north-east of Cricklade, still low-lying and not infrequently flooded, was in early times a waterlogged morass, partially drained by channels of varying depth in dry seasons but completely submerged in wet seasons. The little stream which is now the parish boundary seems once to have been regarded as the main course of the Thames. It is along this stream, therefore, not along the present course of the Thames, that we should expect to find traces of where and how the Roman road crossed the river. And such traces may be seen in the pronounced and unnaturally sharp loop precisely on the projected line of the Roman road (Fig. 2). It would appear that here the river was crossed by the road, itself probably raised on ramps of clay or gravel, and that when the crossing collapsed the passage between the ramps was blocked and the waters swirled round the southern ramp to produce the unnatural loop which catches the eye to-day. This suggestion may be explained by means of diagrams (Fig. 3).

In 1953 and 1954 the 'town wall' of Cricklade was being examined by excavation. We were not primarily concerned with the Romans and their works, but the line of the Roman road, and more especially the course and levels of the River Thames, became questions of increasing significance. It was decided, therefore, to check by excavation the assumptions and suggestions summarized in the preceding paragraph.

On 28 August 1954, towards the end of the second season of work at Cricklade, a small group of students was detached from the main force, and a trench was cut across the supposed line of the road near the Thames and immediately north of it (AB in Fig. 2). This was preceded by preliminary probing

which suggested a hard surface about a foot below the modern ground level. The road was quickly revealed (Pl. I), and its direct course north-west from Calcutt was at last proved beyond all argument. It appeared to be about 24 feet wide, and it consisted of a layer of stones and gravel on a bank or agger of clay. A broad shallow scoop at each side of the road contained vivid reddish-yellow sand and gravel, probably washed by floods from the surface of the road while it was still in use;¹¹ above this was a layer of stones and greyish gravel clearly spilled from the road after it had been abandoned. The spilled stones, most of which were on the south side of the road, may be seen in section at AB 46—57 (Fig. 4) and in the foreground of the photograph (Pl. I). The angle at which they lie suggests that they were removed from the road by ploughing. The true surface of the road, therefore, has gone; and this accounts for its present lack of camber. Twenty-two pieces of Romano-British tile were picked up, nineteen from the present surface of the road and three from the spilled material on the south side. Two coins were also found: one, a siliqua of Honorius,¹² lay on the surface of the road (AB 35—36); the other, a much corroded coin of apparently the same period,¹³ lay immediately under the foundation layer of stones and gravel (AB 26—27). Attempts to draw a clear section proved abortive, for at about 2 feet 6 inches water suddenly began to seep into the trench, and within a few minutes it was completely flooded. It was impossible to continue digging or even to draw all that had been briefly seen below the level of the rising water. Work was therefore discontinued on 2 September.

No excavation of the 'town wall' at Cricklade was planned for the following year, but a visit to the site coincided with a comparatively dry period, and there seemed to be a good chance of digging deeper sections along the line of the road than had been possible in 1954. Dr T. R. Thomson and Miss Faith Morgan quickly collected a few tools; Mr J. A. Giles of Wootton Bassett offered surveying assistance; and three men were employed for two days (27—28 August 1955). A second trench (CD) was cut across the road; the 1954 trench (AB) was re-opened; and square holes were dug along the line EF in an attempt to locate the ramps which, it has been suggested, carried the road across the old course of the Thames. In this two-day excavation no careful search for finds was made. The intention was to check the results obtained in 1954, to secure a clearer section than had then been possible, and to dig as deeply as water levels permitted after a spell of unusually dry weather. One find was reported, though not from the areas immediately under investigation: Mr J. Kilminster of Cricklade handed in a coin which he had found about six weeks before (July 1955) precisely on the line of the road at the spot marked G in Fig. 2. It is a small follis¹⁴ of Maximinus Daza, and with the coins found in 1954 it is now in Cricklade Museum.

The two sections AB and CD, as completed in 1955, are shown in Fig. 4. They give a fairly clear picture of the road. It consisted of a layer of stones and gravel carried across the low-lying marshes on a causeway of clay. The shallow scoops at its sides probably served as drainage ditches as well as quarries for material. The clays of this area present many problems to the excavator, and without considerable experience of them it is often difficult in the field to distinguish between disturbed and natural layers. It was possible to distinguish between the two in Trench AB (Layers 6 and 9): the disturbed layer was slightly looser in texture, and it contained traces of weathering which showed up faintly as it dried out. This distinction was later confirmed in the laboratories of the Geological Survey. We have at this point, therefore, a bank now only slightly more than a foot high, and the surface of the road cannot have been much more than 2 feet above the natural level of the marsh. Even allowing for a sinking of the road through the centuries, one might have expected a higher causeway in an area so subject to flooding.

In 1955 the undisturbed or natural clay in Trench AB was tested to a depth of 10 feet. In Trench CD, however, a layer of soggy black silt was encountered at a depth of between 4 feet and 4 feet 3 inches, and lying on the surface of this was what appeared to be a layer of brushwood and one large log some 9 or 10 inches in diameter. The log was so well-preserved by water that blows from a spade fell upon it

as if upon metal, and it was not easy to chip away a piece large enough to serve as a sample.¹⁵ Fresh-water shells were abundant in the black silt.¹⁶ They occurred also, though far less frequently, in the clays above the silt, most noticeably perhaps at a depth of 35—40 inches. The immediate impression was that the road at this point had crossed one of the deeper channels intersecting the marshes, and that the Romans had laid down a layer of logs and brushwood to act as a raft or foundation for the clay bank which they then built to a height of 3 feet or more above the level of the black silt. This may well be the correct interpretation of the section—it was later accepted by the Geological Survey upon the evidence of a continuous series of samples cut from the clays and the silt.

A disconcerting feature in the field, however, was the failure to recognize as disturbed the clay immediately above the black silt. An occasional fleck of charcoal seemed to suggest disturbance down to 28—30 inches, and, as a natural level at this depth would have given a built-up bank of about the same height as that in AB, it became a theoretical possibility that the log, the brushwood and the black silt had all been covered by natural agencies long before the Roman period. As Trench CD was open for less than twenty-four hours on 27—28 August, there was no opportunity to watch the clay drying out or to study the section under changing conditions, often important considerations when excavating in clays. It seemed best to carry the doubts forward to the laboratory, and a column of clay (six inches square in section to ensure an uncontaminated core) was cut from the side of the trench and submitted to Dr G. W. Dimbleby who kindly conducted a pollen analysis. His opinion is that the whole profile beneath the stone-and-gravel foundation, including the log and the black carbonaceous silt, is post-Atlantic (*i.e.* Neolithic or later) and that all the material below 38—39 inches was laid down naturally by normal alluvial deposition under relatively constant ecological conditions. He detects evidence of an old surface at 38—39 inches, an interpretation which is based not only on pollen analysis but also on other soil features noted in the samples, including charcoal flecks at about 25 inches and comparatively abundant remains of molluscs at about 38 inches.¹⁷

Although it was not seen in the field, the old surface recognized by Dr Dimbleby is taken to divide the disturbed and the undisturbed clays in the section CD as it is now drawn (Fig. 4). According to this interpretation the log and the brushwood lying on top of the black silt were already buried beneath 9—10 inches of later alluvial deposit when the Romans arrived and threw up a clay bank. According to this interpretation, also, it is assumed that the black silt with its cover of driftwood is the result of a flood of unusual severity in pre-Roman times. But the alternative interpretation, that the black silt represents a water channel still open to the sky when the Romans arrived, cannot be ruled out. In Trench CD, where the ground was penetrated to a depth of 6 feet, the layer of black silt was shown to be at least 2 feet thick, and it does not occur at all in Trench AB where the ground was penetrated to a depth of 10 feet. It may also be significant that water flowed into Trench CD at about 5 feet 6 inches but into Trench AB (in 1955) only at about 9 feet. These facts seem to suggest that the black silt in Trench CD is not the result of a flood of unusual severity over the whole area but rather represents a deep water channel still to some extent flowing beneath the ground, a water channel over which the Romans probably had to carry their road. It must remain uncertain whether the Romans floated a three-foot clay bank on brushwood over an open water course or whether, as Dr Dimbleby's results suggest, they raised a two-foot clay bank on what was already slightly higher and drier ground. A few more holes and a few more samples might resolve the doubt, but no closer conclusion could be drawn from the results of the two-day excavation in 1955. The absolute height of the clay bank and therefore of the road surface is not, of course, affected by this indecisive conclusion. It remained constant between AB and CD, as the sections show.

The little time that remained in 1955 was devoted to a hasty search for the ramps by which it was thought the road had been carried across the old course of the river. A line 100 feet long was laid down

between E and F (Fig. 2) and four five-foot square holes (EF 5—10, 25—30, 50—55 and 78—83) were opened up along it. In each square the basic section was the same: black silt, identical in content and character with that in Trench CD,¹⁸ began at a depth of about 2 feet 9 inches below the ground level¹⁹ and continued to a depth of at least 6 feet, beyond which it was impossible to dig because of incoming water; above the black silt was a two-foot layer of dark brown clay; and above this was 8—9 inches of topsoil. The only interesting feature, noticed most clearly at EF 50—55, was that the top three or four inches of the brown clay were stained a bright orange colour reminiscent of, though not probably connected with, the orange or reddish-yellow sand and gravel which occurred in the hollows scooped at the sides of the road in Trenches AB and CD. No sign of a stone-and-gravel road foundation was encountered in any of the four holes. Lack of time precluded further excavation, which might have demonstrated that it had been ploughed or washed away. The holes were dug to a depth of 6 feet, but the bottom third quickly filled with water, the natural level of which (in August 1955) appeared to be about 18 inches higher than the natural level of the water at CD. The loop in the old river is not an ideal place for digging. The ground is wet and waterlogged even in dry weather, and the proximity of sewage disposal beds is not an advantage.

Conclusions may now be summarized. First and foremost, the fundamental question of what happened to Ermin Street at Cricklade is entirely removed from the sphere of speculation and argument. From Calcutt it continued straight across the low-lying meadows and marshes, ignoring the higher and drier ground on which Cricklade now stands. Its line is as marked on the map in Fig. 2. It was clearly seen in trenches at AB and CD, the coin of Maximinus Daza testifies to its line at G, and earlier finds and observations, referred to above, are sufficient to prove its existence between X and Y. Its main constructional features are revealed in the sections AB and CD (Fig. 4), but further work is needed to settle certain details, not least the question of whether or not the Romans used a layer of brushwood to act as a foundation for the clay bank where the road had to be carried over open streams or pools in the marshes. And further work is needed before it will be possible to explain exactly how the road crossed the old course of the Thames at or near EF.

That Ermin Street was built at an early stage in the Roman occupation of Britain may be accepted, even without the evidence of the first-century coins referred to above.²⁰ But how long this particular section (X—Z) remained in use is another question, and it has been suggested that it was early abandoned in favour of the diversion through Cricklade.²¹ It is true that it crossed a piece of exceedingly difficult and marshy ground, it has been noted that the bank on which it was carried was not so high as might have been expected, and it is virtually certain that it would be submerged by floods from time to time.²² But the suggestion that it was early abandoned cannot be accepted. The twenty-two pieces of tile found in the trench at AB are evidence that the road was repaired and maintained. And the three coins found in 1954-55 show that it was still used late in the fourth century or early in the fifth. There is no reason to doubt that it lasted as long as the Roman occupation of Britain. It probably fell into disuse with the collapse of Roman authority. The first Saxons who settled at Cricklade would have no use for the sodden 66 chains of road between X and Z, though they and their successors continued to use Ermin Street north-west of the Churn crossing and south-east of Calcutt.

Between thirty and forty years ago A. D. Passmore could report that not a single article of Roman date had, to his knowledge, been found in Cricklade itself,²³ and by 1951 only a few isolated finds of the Roman period had come to light within the town.²⁴ The excavations of 1953—54, however, produced thousands of Romano-British sherds of pottery, so many that one must postulate something like a large villa community in what is now the north-west quarter of the town. About a mile and a half to the east, at Kingshill, there was another Romano-British community,²⁵ and others are thought to have existed in the neighbourhood. The Romano-British communities at Cricklade and Kingshill were both

within a few hundred yards of Ermin Street. They seem to have flourished in the second half of the Roman period. Ermin Street, unbroken and well-maintained, was no doubt an important factor in their economic life.

Some centuries later, when the 'town wall' of Cricklade was built, the continuity of Ermin Street had already been broken. The excavations of 1953-54 proved that the 'wall' was a broad clay bank with a well-built face of stone and mortar. For three-quarters of its length it was accompanied by a wide deep ditch, set back some considerable distance from the wall but contemporary with it, a water-filled hazard which greatly increased the strength of the town's defences. There is reason to believe that the course of the Thames was deliberately changed at this time by the cutting of a new and deeper channel which gave the river its present course, diverting the waters from the old course (still the parish boundary) and bringing them nearer to the north-east corner of the town in order to provide a good permanent supply for the defensive ditch. The elaboration of these details belongs more properly to the full report on the Cricklade excavations. Here it is enough to note that by this date the 66 chains of Ermin Street between Calcutt and the Churn crossing had been finally abandoned to the marshes. There is no evidence to suggest that this section was ever again used as a road.

I should like to record here my great indebtedness to Mr Tony Newbould, who in 1954 struggled manfully but in vain against the rising waters in Trench AB; to Dr T. R. Thomson, Miss Faith Morgan and Mr J. A. Giles for much valuable assistance in 1955; to Miss Mary Baldwin for the photograph reproduced in Pl. I (and for many other photographs taken in 1954); and to Dr I. W. Cornwall, Dr G. W. Dimbleby, Dr F. H. Edmunds and Mr J. D. A. Thompson for illuminating reports on finds and samples submitted for examination. Fuller acknowledgements will be made in the final report on the excavations at Cricklade.

¹See, for example, W. Stukeley, *Itinerarium Curiosum* (1724), 62; W. Allan, *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine* (hereafter abbreviated as WAM), xii (1870), 126-9; N.S. Maskelyne, WAM xxx (1898-99), 95-9; E. H. Goddard, WAM xxxviii (1913-14), 237-8; T. R. Thomson, *A Short History of Cricklade* (1946), 3; *The Official Guide to Cricklade* (1949), 5; T. R. Thomson, *Materials for a History of Cricklade, Early History* (1950), 1-2; M. Callender and N. Thomas, WAM lv (1953-54), 37-8.

²The wooden causeway is suggested by A. D. Passmore, WAM xlvii (1935-37), 287. The suggestion that the road was carried on 'trestles' and was early abandoned in favour of the route through the town is made in *The Official Guide to Cricklade* (1949), 11, and adopted by I. D. Margary, *Roman Roads in Britain* (1955-57), I, 122-3. Mr Margary's second volume (1957), 264, contains an addendum which notes that the line of the road (though not the trestles and the early abandonment) was confirmed by excavation in 1954 and 1955, and briefly refers to the evidence and the arguments now published.

³For details, often confused, see: *Numismatic Chronicle*, 2nd ser., iv (1864), 216-23; *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, 2nd ser., iii (1864-67), 67-8, 203-4; WAM ix (1863), 232-7; xii (1870), 126-9; xiv (1874), 186-92; xli (1920-22), 390-1; xlv (1930-32), 185, 195; 1 (1942-44), 494; A. D. Passmore, *The Roman Road from Caerleon to Silchester* (1948), 2; *Victoria County History, Wiltshire*, I, i (1957), 61.

⁴Information kindly supplied by Mr C. W. Phillips, Archaeology Officer of the Ordnance Survey.

⁵R. Colt Hoare, *Ancient Wiltshire, Roman Æra* (1821), 97.

⁶Either the location given by Colt Hoare is wrong or the 'causeway' refers to some other structure in the area, perhaps an old ford across the Thames, perhaps even part of the wall which surrounds the town. The Town Bridge is nowhere near the line X-Z.

⁷A. D. Passmore, *The Roman Road from Caerleon to Silchester* (1948), 22.

⁸T. Codrington, *Roman Roads in Britain* (1903), 349.

⁹I. D. Margary, *Roman Roads in Britain* (1955-57) I, 122-3. It may be noted that Margary misquotes Passmore and places the yellow crop-mark 'at Kempford'. Kempford is about four miles away. Passmore (1948) had said that it was 'near the turning to Kempford'.

¹⁰A. D. Passmore, WAM xlvii (1935-37), 286-7: 'Owing to the drought and very low water I was enabled to walk along the bed of the Thames where the Roman Road crosses it, but could see no traces of the crossing, no stones, no bridge foundations or any sign of the road in either of the banks, which here were free of herbage and presented a clear-cut vertical bank about 5ft. high. These were searched for hundreds of yards each way. Had the Roman Road existed at this place as a paved road it must have been seen'. See also A. D. Passmore, WAM xli (1920-22), 390-1, and *The Roman Road from Caerleon to Silchester* (1948), 2.

¹¹See below, note 22.

¹²Silver siliqua: Honorius (A.D. 395-423): Mint of Mediolanum (Milan): *Obv.* DN HONORIVS P F AVG: *Rev.* VIRTVS ROMANORVM: Roma seated (?) left, holding a spear and Victory: Mark MDPS (J. D. A. Thompson).

¹³Theodosian or barbarous copy: Fourth or early fifth century: Size 12.5 mm. (J. D. A. Thompson).

¹⁴Small follis (copper): Maximinus II Daza (A.D. 307–314): Mint of Trevisi (Trier): *Obv.* IMP MAXIMINVS P F AVG: *Rev.* GENIO POP ROM: Genius standing left:

Mark $\frac{TIF}{PTR}$ (J. D. A. Thompson).

¹⁵Dr I. W. Cornwall kindly examined samples sent to him at the Institute of Archaeology. He confirmed that the log was oak and he identified other fragments of the brushwood as alder.

¹⁶Copious samples were collected for examination, but no report on molluscs has yet been received.

¹⁷It is hoped to print Dr Dimbleby's report in full when the complete account of the Cricklade excavations is published.

¹⁸Samples of clays, silt and molluscs were taken and submitted for examination with the samples from Trenches AB and CD.

¹⁹The modern ground level at E is 7–8 inches higher than at C. Therefore in absolute terms the top of the layer of black silt at EF is about 1 foot 6 inches higher than the top of the layer of black silt at CD.

²⁰See above, p. 192 and note 3.

²¹See above, p. 192 and note 2.

²²Nails driven into a wooden door at the sewage station mark the levels reached during recent floods, and from these it can be calculated that within the last few years flood water has risen to 2 feet 4 inches above the present surface of the road at AB and CD. Even allowing for a slight sinking of the road and for an additional layer of now vanished metalling, it can hardly be doubted that the road would be completely under water from time to time in the Roman period. Probably the reddish-yellow sand and gravel in the scoops at the sides of the road is best explained as surface material washed off the road during floods.

²³A. D. Passmore, *WAM* xli (1920–22), 390–1.

²⁴*Victoria County History, Wiltshire*, I. i (1957), 61–2. See also Cricklade Museum Catalogue.

²⁵M. Callender and N. Thomas, 'A Roman House at Kingshill Farm, Cricklade', *WAM* lv (1953–54), 34–9.

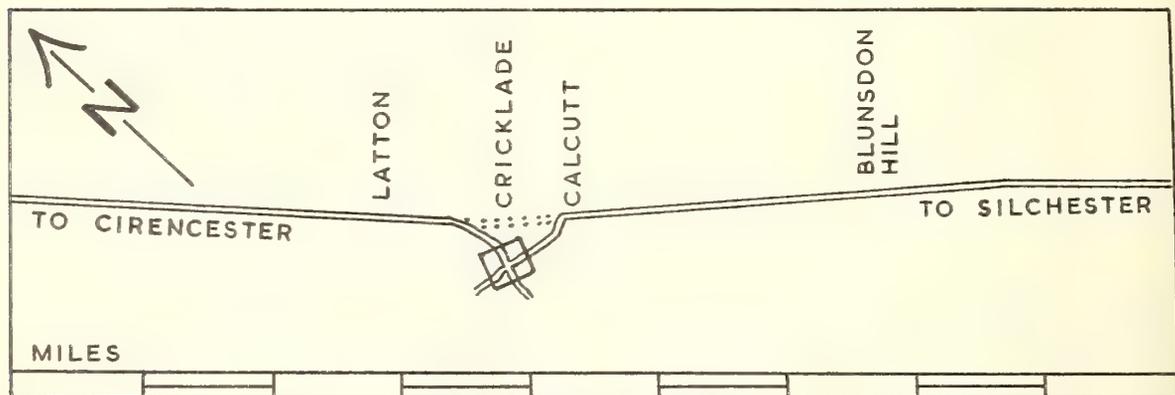


Fig. 1. Ermin Street at Cricklade.

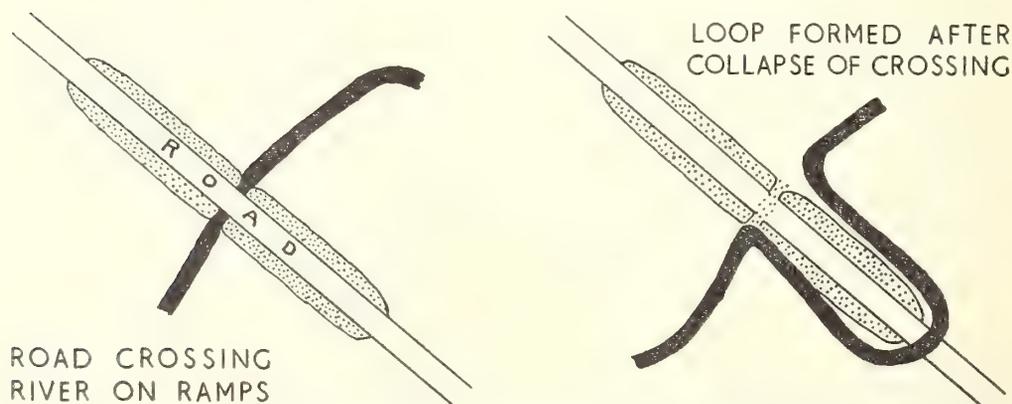


Fig. 3. Diagrams to illustrate the formation of the loop along the course of the Thames at Cricklade.

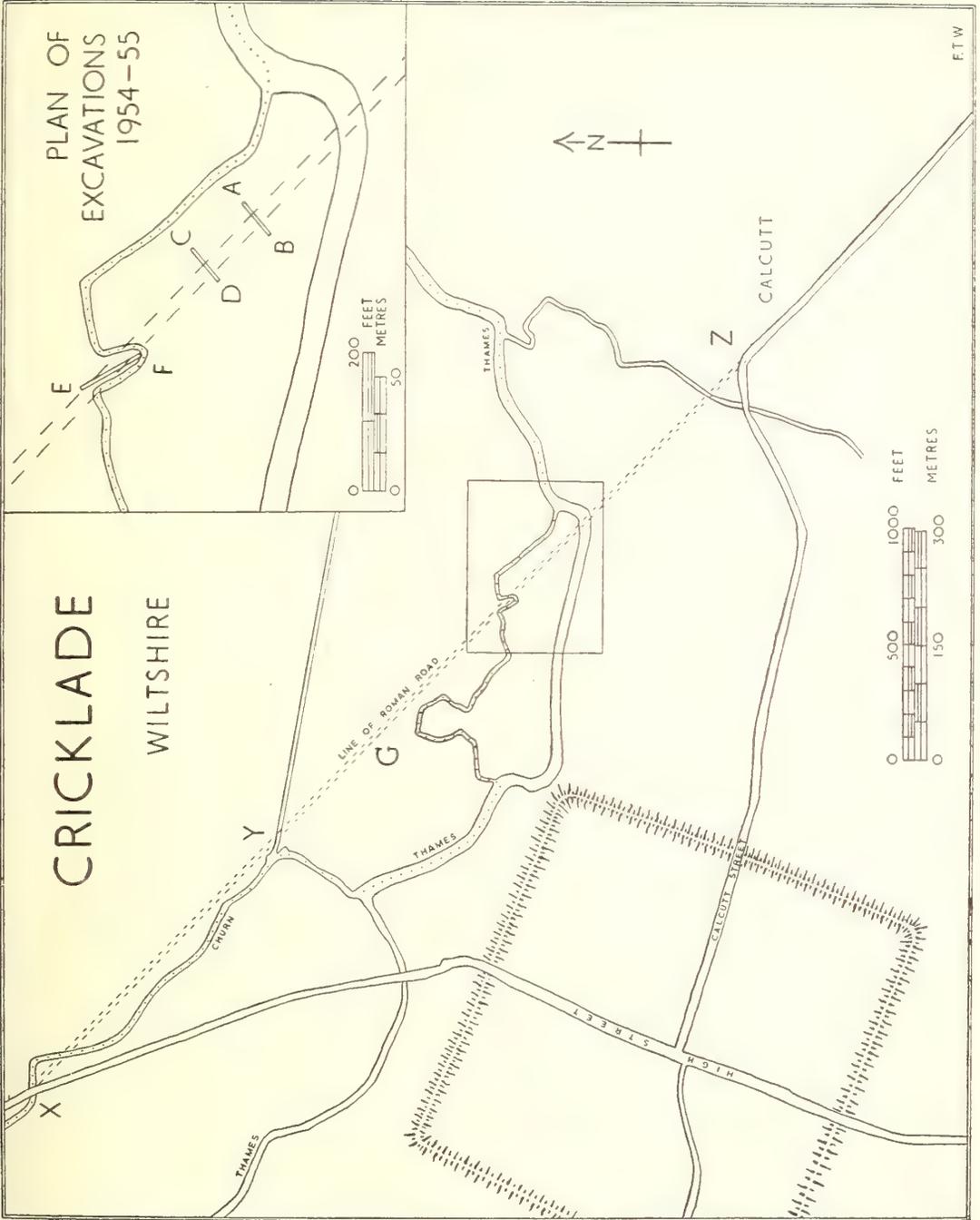
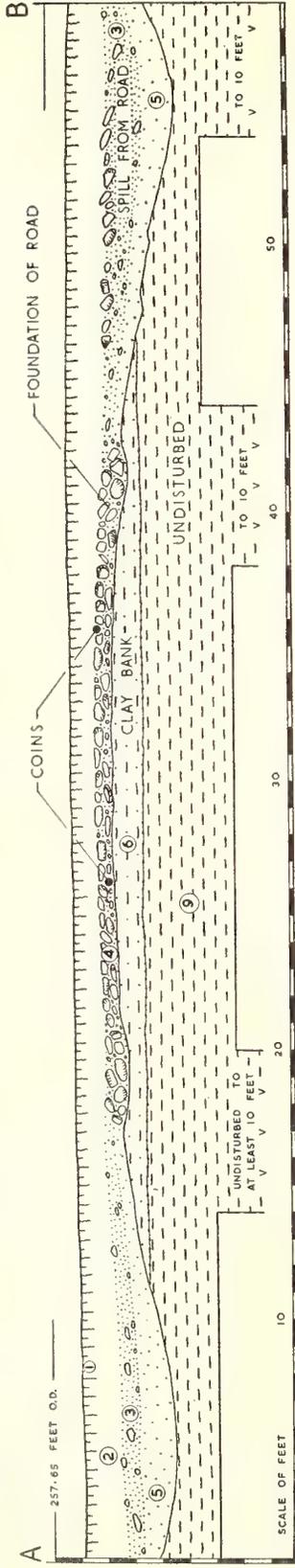


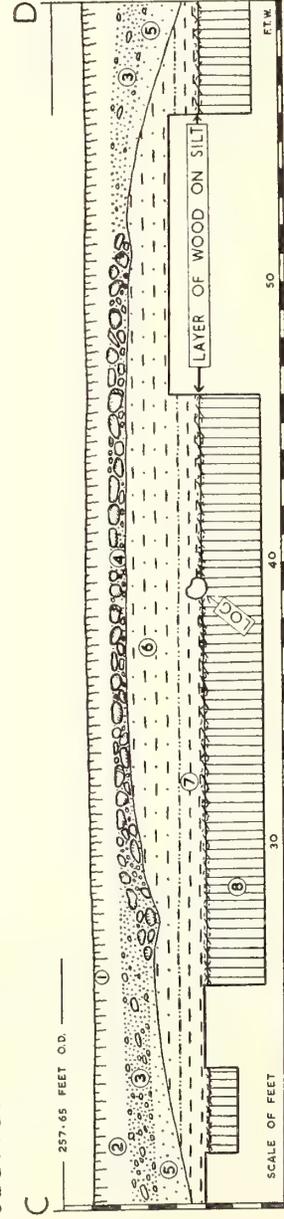
Fig. 2.

CRICKLADE 1954-55

SECTION XV



SECTION XVI



- ① TOPSOIL
- ② BROWN CLAY SOIL
- ③ GRAVEL, SAND AND STONES
- ④ STONES AND GRAVEL
- ⑤ REDDISH-YELLOW SAND AND GRAVEL
- ⑥ DISTURBED CLAY
- ⑦ UNDISTURBED CLAY
- ⑧ BLACK ALLUVIAL SILT
- ⑨ UNDISTURBED CLAY

Fig. 4. Sections across Roman Road at Cricklade.

THE EARLY BOUNDS OF WANBOROUGH AND LITTLE HINTON

AN EXERCISE IN TOPOGRAPHY

By T. R. THOMSON

INTRODUCTION by W. G. HOSKINS

INTRODUCTION

The almost total neglect of fieldwork, of visual evidence as opposed to documentary, is perhaps the most astonishing gap in the armoury of the historian, above all in the study and writing of Local History. To the prehistorian, the evidence of his own eyes is almost the only evidence he has for many periods of time; but once the documents begin to be numerous the historian tends to forget this side of his technique entirely, and to believe that the truth can be unearthed only from paper and parchment in some library or record office.

It was not always so, even among historians. One recalls the great topographers of the past, beginning with William of Worcester and his detailed survey of Bristol streets and buildings in the last quarter of the fifteenth century, and proceeding through Leland and others to the notable English antiquarian travellers of the eighteenth century, whose personal observations of English topography and antiquities in their time constitute for us today a veritable mine of evidence. Naturally, this evidence of the eyes must be weighed, and its value accurately assessed like that of documents, and one must not claim too much for it.

Nor does one wish to set up an opposition between the documentary approach and the fieldwork approach in the realm of Local History. They are obviously complementary to each other. One can do valuable fieldwork on the basis of documents which are already known, such as Anglo-Saxon charters; and in doing so one often adds immeasurably to the information contained in the document alone. Or one may begin by observations in the field, such as (for example) the great rebuilding which took place in rural England, and to some extent in the towns also, in the two or three generations between about 1570 and 1640, and thence return to the documents with specific questions calling for an answer.

The neglect of the study of topography in our time is reflected in various ways. The late O. G. S. Crawford, in his book *Archaeology in the Field*, drew attention with characteristic forcefulness to one important aspect of this neglect:

The Public Record Office has practically excluded from its publications (which are of the highest order of scholarship) all purely topographical material. If that is because it is regarded as of local rather than national importance, the answer is that a nation consists of many localities. The real reason is that the study of English History has acquired an overwhelmingly legal aspect, to the exclusion of much else. It is really time that some of the topographical surveys were published. The P.R.O. has not even published the great roll of Forest Perambulations of 28 Edward I,—whose national importance can hardly be questioned.—But the final test of all documentary sources is in the field.

One might well add to the forest perambulations the tens of thousands of medieval extents of manors which exist in the Public Record Office, and which the official publications have generally failed to give us even in abstract. If all these extents were published, and worked out upon the ground where necessary, and the forest perambulations similarly treated, county by county, we should acquire in the course of time a marvellously detailed picture of medieval England. It is greatly to be hoped that local scholars here and there will undertake this work for given counties.

If we tackle the Anglo-Saxon charters relating to landed estates in the same way, we shall gradually acquire a picture, less detailed and less complete, it is true, than that of the medieval period, of England in the two or three centuries before the Norman Conquest. A start has been made for Wiltshire, but there is much more to be accomplished before we have as full a picture of pre-Conquest Wiltshire as is possible from the extant charters.

It is not necessary here to go into the technique and equipment necessary for this kind of fieldwork. But one fundamental point must be made; that the working-out of Anglo-Saxon charter boundaries cannot possibly be accomplished satisfactorily by sitting in a study with the text and a few Ordnance Survey maps, as the late Dr. G. B. Grundy did for various counties. Much of Grundy's work on the neighbouring counties of Oxfordshire, Somerset, and Gloucestershire elucidated valuable information about Anglo-Saxon topography; but much of it is vitiated also by his neglect to visit the country involved and to explore the ground itself. Very few Anglo-Saxon charters contain boundaries which are wholly self-evident. Most contain substantial mileages which can only be worked out laboriously in the field, and, even there, often only by a process of trial and error. The amount of work and the difficulties involved vary from charter to charter, but there are, in my experience, few charters that will not yield in the end to patient and intelligent detective work in the open country.

W. G. HOSKINS

THE EARLY BOUNDS OF WANBOROUGH AND LITTLE HINTON

Following some eight years work on pre-Conquest boundaries in north-east Wiltshire, I feel that the time has come to put on record for our members two further detailed results. I have chosen the charters printed by Birch as numbers 477, 478, 479, (Kemble 1053), because the solutions offered by Grundy (*Arch. Jour.* lxxvi, 172-180) are more erroneous than many others he offered in the same series. Moreover, he has been followed in error by Miss Robertson,¹ and to some extent by the late O. G. S. Crawford in the 6 in. O.S. markings.

In this work it is futile to expect results by sitting in a study, equipped only with a volume of Birch, 6 in. Ordnance sheets, and a copy of the E.P.N.S. Wiltshire volume. In the hope that other members will take up this type of enquiry into early boundaries in other parts of the county, I append what I consider to be necessary.

Assumptions

(a) that at some time, some person, well acquainted with the bounds, set them down, or caused them to be set down.

(b) that such charter as we have describing those bounds represents, however poorly, such a perambulation.

(c) that the place to be examined is approximately the place with which the charter is dealing.

Agenda

1. Inspection on foot of the whole area, in the different seasons of the year, in flood and in drought, in crop, stubble, and fallow, and in morning and evening light. This inspection should include a note of Bench Marks, and sometimes a survey of the fall of watercourses. It certainly should include the observations of watersheds, and investigation into the character of soils.

2. Enquiry by conversations with farmers, landowners, agents, old inhabitants, and persons who have been engaged in any engineering, pipe-laying, or similar work in the neighbourhood.

3. Historical Research into the history of the property, as a whole, and in parts, using the usual methods of enquiry. This includes records of barrows and other earthworks, and an intensive study of field and other names.

4. Examination of Maps of all scales and ages. These must include all the scales and all the dates of the Ordnance Survey; Tithe Award and Enclosure Award maps; old County maps, Estate, and 'special' maps, if relevant, such as Duchy of Lancaster, Parliamentary, Railway and Canal Surveys; and air photographs.

5. Linguistic Enquiry with the help of Anglo-Saxon scholars. Generally speaking, the locus to fit the words must be found, or, the locus being known, an attempt must be made to find a sense for the words; or the words must be modified to correct a copyist's error or a misapprehension.

6. Books of all kinds, dealing with the neighbourhood, must be examined.

These enquiries must include contiguous properties which might present a common bound.

*Est modus in rebus, sunt certi denique fines,
Quos ultra citraque nequit consistere rectum.*

In the case of the following two charters the boundaries follow the modern parish boundaries. Both concern Winchester properties, and both texts are open to suspicion. The area of the

first, Little Hinton, 20 hides, is included in the much larger second, Wanborough. The Domesday manor of Wanborough was assessed at 19 hides. Presumably, this was the original property less the manor of Ardescote.²

The earlier charter, B477, in Latin (with survey), and B478 in Anglo-Saxon, of date A.D. 854, deal with a grant by Ethelwulf to the church of SS. Peter and Paul at Winchester of land which we shall show to be the modern parish of Little Hinton. It seems to have belonged at one time to Earl Wulfhere, one of the witnesses. Possibly he was the immediate donor. Another Wiltshire estate of his, Stockton, found its way into the hands of the monks of St. Swithin. Wanborough is a name more ancient than Hinton.³ It signifies the district of the 'wen barrows' (plural), and the attachment of any particular barrow is futile.

The second charter, B479, purports to give the bounds at the time of Stigand, some two centuries later than B477. It includes the modern parish of Wanborough *and* the parish of Little Hinton.⁴ It is obviously based on a new perambulation, as the eastern boundary, common to both charters, has a completely different set of marks, although the line is the same. This makes the present enquiry the more interesting, the more apt to be misleading, and most suggestive of motive.

We give below, first the charters as printed by Birch, and then the perambulations.⁵ The results are set out in the two maps at the beginning of this article. These were prepared for me by Mr R. Holdsworth and are based on the Ordnance Survey.

BCS 479

. . . . Hiis metis eadem. XXti. manse circumgirantur. this synd thara twentig hida land ge mere aet wenbeorgan of smitan on thone stan of tham stanae on thone ealdan an of than eadenne innan lentan of lentan on gean thone stream on thone greatan thorne stent bae lentan scathe (*stathe*) of than thornae on tha weter furh innan smalan broc of smalan broce on than stenihte hlince . on glottes wylle . of glottes wylle . on wylles heafod on (*sic*) wylles heafodde on wulfheres cumbe of wulfheres cumbe on wulfheres clif of wulfheres clife on tha furh of thaere furh on winfles beorg of than beorge on thonne holan stan of tham holan stane on thone haran stan . of tham haran stane on tha holan wannan on thone wugan (rugan) hline . of tham rugan hlincae on thone durnen crundel of tham durnen crundelle on thone thorn of tham thorne on thone stan . of tham stanae on tha dic. to there dic ende on there dic ende on thone wogan hline . of tham wogan hlince on tha catt hola . of tham catt holan on wenbeorge of than beorge on thone mycelan cumbe. of mycelan cumbe on smalan combe of smalan cumbe on thone ealdan treow stede of than ealdan treow stede on tha wogan apoldran of there wogan apoldran on folces dic . of folces dic . on ealcheres dic of ealcheres dic . on tha apoldran . of here (thaere) apoldran innan smitan .

The northern part of Little Hinton is low lying and flat. The only features it exhibits are streams, ditches, and runnels. We may begin our perambulations from the river Cole, long established as the *Smita*, but it seems impossible at first to say from what point. The Cole has a feeble but definite valley, and its course is unlikely to have changed within a long period. But when we consider the many water-courses running into it from the south, uncertainty prevails. The present parish and county boundary follows, in the northern part of the parish, a watercourse which is patently artificial. But this does not mean that it is not an ancient course, straightened and banked. Neither does the natural appearance of the lower reach of the Lenta mean that it must be otherwise than a natural minute gutter enlarged in the drain-off of annual floods. A boundary ditch is more likely to be kept in being than other parallel courses. The difference in level between the streams cannot be settled by the eye. The name of the meadow between them is Hinton Moor, *mor* here obviously meaning marsh. It should be remarked that the fall between Hinton Marsh Farm and the northern extremity of Little Hinton, about a mile, is only

some 12 feet. In such terrain, it is only too easy for man to make any number of changes of meadow watercourses.

Having given this caution, I offer an opinion which can neither be established nor controverted. I think our perambulation should follow the county boundary, that the *stan* was at the first angulation and that the line ran on to join the Lenta (*innan lentan*) as it does at present. What the significance of *ealdan an* and *eadenne* may be I do not know. Grundy (*Arch. Journ.* lxxvi, 173) speaks of a 'water dean', but there is nothing here like such a feature.

As it stands, *of tham stanæ on thone ealdan an of than eadenne innan Lentan*, is obscure. Mr. R. W. Burchfield has kindly offered three suggestions. First that we should read 'and' for *an*; second, that *ealdan* might be amended to *ea-land*, which would describe admirably the water meadow; third, that if *eadenne* is a genuine word, and does not stand for a faulty repetition of *ea-land*, it might be rendered 'artificial water channel'. Of course, *ealdan* may have been *eadenne*. This provides the most comfortable solution, and accounts for *innan Lentan*: the cut (the original and present boundary) meets the Lenta 'from within'.

When we reach Hinton Marsh Farm, we come to an obviously ancient site: 'up stream to the great thorn which stands by Lenta's staithe' seems to me to be sufficiently informing. This site had exhibited a ford with three tracks approaching on each side, two mills, and a number of artificial mill streams. The field immediately to the South East tells of an impressive amount of human activity. In Andrews and Dury's map, the name 'Bury Mill' is most suggestive. The 1828 one inch O.S. marks the mill as 'Hinton Mill'. The last mill has gone within human memory (leaving visible traces), and of the two chief lades, one has been piped (1955), and the other filled in and ploughed over (1955), leaving no superficial trace. Of the east to west track Oxford to Marlborough *via* Shrivenham, the County boundary, Hinton Mill Ford, Rogues Road,⁶ and Horpit, the only trace remaining is a right of way across the field south-west from the ford. An elderly resident told me that very many years ago she was told by a dotard that 'long ago pack horses used this road, and in passing, watered at Horpit'. The other recorded tracks, with the exception of the metalled road approaching the farm from the north-east, are not evident.

This most important site lies on the narrow band of Lower Greensand separating the Gault from the Kimmeridge Clay. Hence southwards the stream bed rises much more steeply towards the Chalk,—some eighty feet in a mile and a quarter. This abrupt change of declivity indicates the place for a mill and an obvious stopping place for water traffic. It is of some significance that the county boundary (which is an old east-west track) runs to this point.

Bearing in mind the above, I am convinced that the stream was navigable to this point. *Stathe* signified 'wharf' or 'landing stage' as early as the 14th century, and although there is no definite evidence, may well have had a similar meaning much earlier. Here it may have signified a 'pronounced bank'⁷, in evidence now on this stretch of the Lenta alone.

The site of the 'great thorn' may be pinpointed where the county boundary, having left the Lenta for a few yards in a north-easterly direction, turns abruptly S.E. as a ditch. The reason is to ensure that the immediate control of the mill lades is within our property.

We pass S.S.E. from the ford-mill complex along the water furrow. The boundary has left the stream at the ford to include the mill headwaters, and appears to give, by the course of the water furrow, a *quid pro quo* to the owners on the west. It may well be that a ditch was enlarged for this purpose. The *Smal Broc* is almost certainly where it was marked by O. G. S. Crawford on the 6 inch O.S. South of this, the boundary of the parish, as marked on the map, looks artificial. So far, I have found few stones along the *stony lynch*, but the site is marked as the parish boundary, and is discussed in the following note on BCS 479. Grundy has muddled the next two marks; 'spring to springhead' does not make sense. The word *wylle* does not here mean 'spring' but 'stream', and it is probable that *glottos* stands

for *glofes*, that is 'the stream from the cliff' which makes sense in distinguishing it from the small water-courses arising on the north of the Little Hinton-Bishopstone road. In any case, the bound is not here in doubt. The spring, the issuant stream, and the magnificent Wulfheres Combe and Cliff are sufficiently striking. This great gash in the face of the downs has been a sighting mark for the whole length of the 'water furrow.'

From the downs summit at the top of Wulfheres Clif we follow the parish boundary to an angulation at a boundary stone against which the O.S. has printed 'Thorn'. From here to the Ridgway is a large, and obviously ancient, balk which corresponds well enough with *tha furh*. Our next mark is *Winfls Beorg*. Grundy says, 'the barrow has vanished'. This is true enough, but its site on Hulls Hill could hardly be more obvious. A great mound lies on the boundary just to the S.E. of the Ridgway. It has been dug many times for flints, and was known in BCS 479 two centuries later as the *Hwitan Pyt* (White Pit).

From Winfel's Barrow the present parish boundary stretches away for over a mile down the combe (*Morta's Combe* of BCS 479), a fine view and a natural boundary if there ever was one. We proceed to the next mark, the *Holan Stan*, the hollow stone.⁸ It is likely that this would be at the first angulation, just N.E. of Hill Barn. It may be of significance that this point lies on a perpendicular leaving Ermine Street at a double field boundary, passing through an angulation on the ridge return boundary, exactly to the angulation under discussion, to make for the highest point of Lammy Down.⁹

The next mark is the *Har Stan*. The meaning is probably 'marking,' or 'boundary' stone.¹⁰ This stands at the first angle of a double angulation, the purpose of which is not apparent. A second perpendicular from Ermine Street runs first through the corner bound of an old enclosure, and, beyond our mark, to the site of the Roman Farm.¹¹ The Spindle Tree (*Holan Wannan*) probably marks the second of these angles. This curious double angulation suggests some feature connected with the Roman settlement.

The boundary just west of Downs Barn (destroyed) answers well enough to its description as 'the rough lynch'. The ditch seems to have been cut through some sarsens.

Grundy gives for the *durnen crundel* the 'hidden quarry', but there is no sign of a quarry, small or large, anywhere near. For a chalk pit the situation seems, anyhow at the present time, to be inconvenient. There are plenty of flint pits on Hinton Down, but none near. A filled-in pit can usually be spotted; moreover, if a pit were on the boundary, there would be little reason to fill it in unless it were dangerous to stock. Even so, fencing would be more convenient. Therefore, the boundary being known, 'hidden quarry' is not the meaning. There is at this place a short length of deep dry ditch much overgrown and not obvious to the casual pedestrian. I suggest that *durnen crundel* may mean 'overgrown trench'.

The next angulation at the 'thorn' is within a yard or two of the spot marked 'Thorn' on the 6 inch O.S. This point stands on a third perpendicular leaving Ermine Street exactly at its original change of direction, and the line passes through a boundary stone on the return boundary. A most remarkable fact is that these three perpendiculars define two strips of exactly equal width, precisely one hundred and fifty Roman paces!¹²

From the next angulation at 'the stone' (there is a piece of sarsen at the place), a straight dyke runs to, and ends at the Crooked Lynch (*wogan hline*).

We have seen right along the coombe a fairly straight and very obvious parish boundary. Each and every slight angulation has a mark given, and each attribution is seen to be reasonable and without 'strain'. The marking is very precise. This is usually the case in delimiting arable. Pasture and downland may be without marks for many furlongs.

The Crooked Lynch is a remarkable feature both to the pedestrian topographer and to the sedentary

map reader. Its north-western side seems to be the one-time course of the 'Thieves Way'. This is an old east-west track, being in parts parish boundary and Hundred boundary (Folks Dyke). On the south bound of Liddington it is wrongly marked 'Sugar Way' on the 6 inch O.S. map. (The Popplechurch-Peaks Down area is full of interest, and may well have been the site of the Roman posting station before the settlement at Covingham Farm had sprung up). But having reached the crooked lynch it must be confessed that the site of our next bound, the 'cat holes', cannot be established with great assurance. At the place where the present western boundary of Little Hinton meets the crooked lynch is a small strip of uncultivated rough ground with a number of small depressions.

For the southern two miles of the western boundary, we have no marks. It seems possible that there is an omission in the MS. The present boundary runs parallel to Ermine Street along the hill top, set out with numerous stones. The next mark, the *wen beorge*, (singular), must have been on the summit of Fox Hill (Totterdown). It cannot be placed, because the locus is strewn with flint pits, ancient and modern. The word 'Totterdown' probably signifies that the summit was a look-out post. The view to the north is very extensive. Immediately below is the Ridgway.

The boundary continues north-west. There is at present a treble angulation at the crossing of the Ridgway. If this is original, it seems to signify an important site, for example a building, a cross, or a spring, at the junction of the Bishopstone road with the Ridgway.

Our next two marks, the great combe (*mycelan cumbe*) and the small combe (*smalan aumbe*), are very striking natural features. The present boundary runs right across each, down and up, and in places shows a very large balk. Grundy obviously had not walked the line as he calls the large combe the small one, and does not notice the latter.

The next mark is the *ealdan treow stede*. Grundy has 'the old farmstead by the tree'. This is, of course, nonsense. A boundary either includes or excludes a habitation, however derelict, except in the most unusual circumstances (which it would be out of place to discuss here). Further, *stede* does not usually mean 'farm'. 'Old clump of trees' would be a fair rendering.

This bound cannot be fixed, but it is close to where the parish boundary crossed a bifurcation of the Icknield Way. From here onwards we proceed across flat featureless country, scored by many ditches, whose courses may, or may not, be ancient. The 'bent apple tree' (*wogan apoldran*) seems to have been on the present boundary just west of Home Farm, and may indeed mark the present angulation of the parish boundary there to be observed. From here northwards the country is flat and featureless for the mile before the next mark. The present boundary follows a drain which is an enlarged natural ditch. There is no other natural boundary and it seems safe to conclude that the line has remained unchanged.

This little watercourse crosses the old Marlborough-Oxford road mentioned above—the *Folks' Dyke*, and the boundary is continued northwards as an impressive balk and ditch, *Ealchers Dyke*, to an angulation just west of Mount Pleasant. This angulation was probably marked by the apple tree (*Apoldran*). From here the line runs due north to the Smita.

BCS 479

Dis synd tha land ge maero aet wenbeorgan . stigandes bisceopes . of than stapole stent innan scocera wege . swa innan tha wogan dice of thaere wogan dic . innan beh hilde sloh . of beh hilde sloh . uppan beordune . of beorh dune to wullafes stane . of wullafes stan and lang cumbes . innan hyltan aewylmas . swa and lang hlydan innan tho ham dic . of thaere ham dic innan tha heafod stoccas . of tham heafod stoccan . innan dorcan swa lang streames . innan tha ealdanig dic swa and lang innan smitan stream . swa lang streames . on easte weard lilles ham . up in thane blacan

pyt . of than blacan pytte . on middle wyrth thane maere on thaene stan . of tham stane. innan tha holan wannan . of thaere holan wannan . up on icen hilde weg . on thaene haethenan byriels . of icen hilde wege innan tha cwealm stowe . of there cwealm stowe innan swyrd aeceras heafod on thonan hwitan pyt . of tham hwitan pytte . innan tha twegen stanes on mortan cumbe . of mortan cumbe and lang thes wogan hlince . of than wogan hlince innan tha catt hola . of tham catt holan innon thone crundel . of tham crundele innan folces dic . swa eft in on thone stapol.

We start at the *stapol*, the boundary staff or pole, which stands at the crossing of Sugar Way,—the ancient track studded with barrows running along the crest of the hill between Aldbourne and Liddington,—and the *Scocera Weg* (Thieves Way) running east and west. This is the site of the *Red Stan* of the Liddington charter (BCS 754) whose bounds will march with ours for some distance. In the Duchy of Lancaster Survey of 1591 it is called the ‘mere stone on top of Dige Hill’. The site commands very fine views and from here can be seen Ermine Street at Rickets Cross. The highest point is a few yards to the north of, and within (*innan*), the Thieves Way. Grundy has confused the Thieves Way and Sugar Way. The latter may take its name from Segur to whom the Bishop of Salisbury granted land in Wanborough about A.D. 1150. ‘Dige Hill’ takes its name from the Digges family of Upham. Grundy has also confused the two Folks Dykes.

From the *Stapol* we proceed north-west along the present hilltop boundary by the curving (*wogan*) dyke to a point immediately above (*innan*) *Behildes Slough*. This is a very obvious pocket of low ground lying under the hill, north-east of Liddington Warren Farm. The bound on the line at the crest is given in BCS 754 (Liddington) as *Bechildes Treu*.

Our bound, keeping north-west along the crest of the hill (which is Sugar Way and the present parish boundary) proceeds along the dyke, (*anlang there dich*, of BCS 754) to the transverse depression called in the same *Badherdes Slade*.¹³

Carrying on the same lines along Barrow Down, *beorh dune*, past the barrow itself (*W.A.M.* xlii, 49) our next mark is *Wullafs Stone*.¹⁴ This is a large sarsen, hitherto unnoticed, lying beside Sugar Way at 2218/7993. It is the same as the *Wllenestan* of BCS 754.

Sugar Way and our boundary is joined by the newer valley road to Aldbourne just before the latter crosses the Ridgway, and our boundary leaves it at the cross roads for the spring and the deep gully of the Lide. It is worth remark that the place where the bound crosses the Ridgway is called in BCS 754 *Feden Thorn*. The place is marked in Colt Hoare’s *Ancient Wilts* (pp 34 and 37) ‘Ridgway Bush’. Our progress along the course of the Lide, *and lang cumbes innan hlydan*,¹⁵ seems obvious enough, but the next mark, the *ham dyke*, needs explanation. Grundy suggested the Roman road, and this is indeed the parish boundary and, presumably, the *tobrokene strate* of the Liddington Charter. But the meaning of *ham dyke* needs close scrutiny for its elucidation. I suggest that the *ham* was the precursor of the present Covingham, or Covenham, Farm. An inspection of the length of Roman road involved shows that on the southern section the watercourse is on the east, and is running south. The middle section is a watershed exhibiting a large balk on the west side of the road. The ground then falls northward and the balk is replaced by a ditch. The modern boundary follows precisely this course. I suggest that this line, the *ham dyke*, was the eastern bound of the farm land.

The ditch leaves the road, short of the farm, to turn north-west, continuing as the parish boundary. An examination of the run of the selions on the farm side convinces me that Grundy was right in his conviction that this is the line of the *heafod stoccas*. The ground to the south-west of this line is slightly lower in level, and may well have been always unfit for the plough. It shows no sign of ridge and furrow.

We now pass along the ditch running immediately south-west (*innan*) of the headland stakes to reach, but not cross, (*innan*), the *Dorca*. So along the *Dorca* to the *ealdanig dic*. If this may be rendered ‘the boundary ditch of the old island-meadow’, the present boundary running past Little Nythe Farm fits

the case. The flat meadow to the west of the farmhouse is bounded north and south by streams and east and west by considerable ditches.

*Swa and lang innan smitan stream . swa lang streames . on easte weard lilles ham.*¹⁶ This is not so easy. It is clear that we proceed eastward along the Smita (R. Cole). Grundy says: 'This carries the survey all along the N. by which is formed by the Smita. Lill's House must have at the N.E. corner of the parish, half a mile S.E. of Longleaze Farm in South Marston parish.'¹⁷ In any case, a house could not be built on this marshy ground. Now there are only four marks between the Smita and the Icknield Way, a distance of nearly two miles. This means either that we must postulate omissions, or that the bound is fairly self-evident. It is certain that two streams are concerned,—the Smita, and one of the courses of the Lenta. The boundary must come south, so applying general principles, we must look for sites of significance and changes of direction. What, and where, is *Lilles Ham*? I am not disposed to accept Lill as a personal name, because the change of one letter, L to M, makes sense.

I have shown in the preceding charter that the site 'Bury Mill—County Boundary—Hinton Marsh Farm—The Staithe' was an important place. *Mylen-ham*, 'enclosure in which a mill stands', occurs in KCD 633. A reading in this sense is satisfying.

In my view, therefore, the boundary runs south from the Smita along the same line as in the previous charter as far south as the mill, and, as in the previous charter, makes a point of including this site,—'on eastward Lilles ham.'

The black pit (*blacan pyt*) may still be seen immediately south of the 'c' of Smal Broc on the 6 inch O.S. map. We are still on the parish boundary and the line of the previous charter, which here turns east for a few yards and then south. As the half mile between the Smal Broc and the Sword Acres is full of interest, the marks are here tabulated:

477

479

smal broc

black pyt

on than stenihte hlinec

on midde wyrth thane maere on thaene stan

innan tha holan wannan

up on icen hilde wege

on thaene haethenan byriels

of icen hilde wege innan tha cwealm stowe

on glottos (glofes) wylle

on wylles heafod

innan swyrd aeceras heafod

on wulfheres cumbe

The boundary has to cross a watershed from the Black Pit (it is yet a pit and black) to the stream descending Wulfheres Coombe. An inspection of the ground shows why the boundary was not laid out in a direct diagonal. The land is valuable and well drained, and, if used for arable, ridge and furrow must run from the south to the drainage ditch at the northern field limit. Inspection shows that the selions run thus.

The length from this ditch to the sharply rising bank on the south is about 500 yards. The furlong division at 220 yards is the present parish boundary running east from the black pit.¹⁸ Hence *mid wyrth (ward) than maere* to the stone. The stone was obviously at the corner, and marked the middle of the whole field. Thence south along the 'stony lynch', now a wide shallow ditch and low bank covered with thorn, and with an average width of ten feet, to the Icknield Way.

Now if the charter is not here corrupt, we proceed up to the Icknield Way to the heathen burials, and then leave the Icknield Way. If we accept the present course of the road as the contemporary course of

the Icknield Way, we cannot accept the present boundary. If we accept the present boundary, then the contemporary course of the Icknield Way must have been different.

(If *holan wannan* is a true reading, it seems likely that the spindle tree was at the point A, an adjustment of the arable. The terrain would suit this as the ground rises steeply soon after,—‘*up*’ to I.W. But the scribe may well have had his eye on 477 and have written *holan wannan* for *holan weg*. The present road is old and well hollowed, and the parish boundary crosses it at right angles making a double angulation, which shows that if the boundaries, old and new, are identical, there must have been some feature at this place (marked B). I am inclined to think that the footpath running N.E. from the village is older than the road. It is at their present junction that the rise is steepest and the hollow deepest. This small but interesting matter must be left undecided now.)

To my mind the contemporary course of the Icknield Way was that which I have marked on the map. There is a fine gully, almost like an engineered road, descending from the east in a curve to cross the Cliff Brook (*glofes wyllle*) at 2361/8314. The brook is a steep runnel, cannot flood, is narrow to cross, and, unlike the present crossing at the G.P., is not surrounded by marshy ground.

The defaced parish boundary exhibits on field 223 a rectangular turn. This field presents to the eye nothing remarkable. It has been examined in crop, stubble, and fallow. Old maps and the air cover show nothing. When there is a sharp angulation of a defaced boundary on land which is featureless, an ancient artifact must be postulated. The charter gives a mark for the angulation, and here, beside the course of the Icknield Way must be the place of the heathen burials.

We leave the Icknield Way for the *cwealm stowe*, which, whatever it was, is represented by the present rectangular basin in the stream marked on the 6 inch O.S.¹⁹ Grundy, (who is some miles away), takes *cwealm stowe* to mean crucifix. The literal meaning is ‘place of death’, which one might associate with the heathen burials, possibly the place of a fight. If *innan* is significant, the present boundary conforms, proceeding south on the inside (west) of this feature.

We ascend the coombe to the spring, and, soon after, come to the ‘sword acres’.²⁰ These are truly remarkable strips of cultivation terraces on the coombe side. They are best viewed from the top. We follow the parish boundary and that of the preceding charter up *wulfheres cliff*, along the wide and obviously ancient balk mentioned above, across the Ridgeway to the *White Pit*, which is the dug *Winfel’s Beorg* of 477. Hence the line runs past the ‘two stones’ (*hol* and *har* of 477) along the length of *Morta’s Combe* to the Crooked Lynch. Thence to the Cat Holes mentioned above, and thence to the *crundel* at 2547/7942. This is a sizeable chalk and flint pit of irregular shape. Hence we proceed south-west along the Folks Dyke (Thieves Way and Hundred Boundary) to ascend to our starting place, the Staple.

¹A-S Charters, pp. 274–276, where the author has some valuable notes on B. 478.

²The manor of Ardescote, now represented by Earls-court Farm in the northern part of Little Hinton, belonged before the Conquest to Earl Odda. He died a monk in 1056. We shall see that this property was included in the royal grant to Winchester in 854. The Domesday manor (434) was held by Stephen the carpenter. It is given as one hide and one virgate, and no mill is mentioned. The E.P.N.S. suggests a derivation from ‘Eard’s Cottage’. The Geld Rolls suggest that it was in Thornhill Hundred. A 2d. garden at Cricklade was appurtenant to it. The present Earls-court Farm is a largish house of respectable age showing externally a small amount of late sixteenth century half-timbering. It is situated on rising ground, and there are extensive traces of a moat. It was burnt down about 1195 (Abbrev. Placit.

Rich. I). In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries it belonged to the Hinton family. Alfred Williams, *Villages of the White Horse*, p. 197 gives a ghost story about this house.

³The name Hinton probably dates from this time, and means ‘monks farm’, *higna-tun*.

⁴Grundy. (*Arch. Journal*, lxxvi 178, 179) is quite at sea in the second half, where he forces the marks of 479 to fit the E. boundary of the present Wanborough.

⁵The relationship of these properties to neighbouring manors is shown on the framed map 2½ in. map in Devizes Museum.

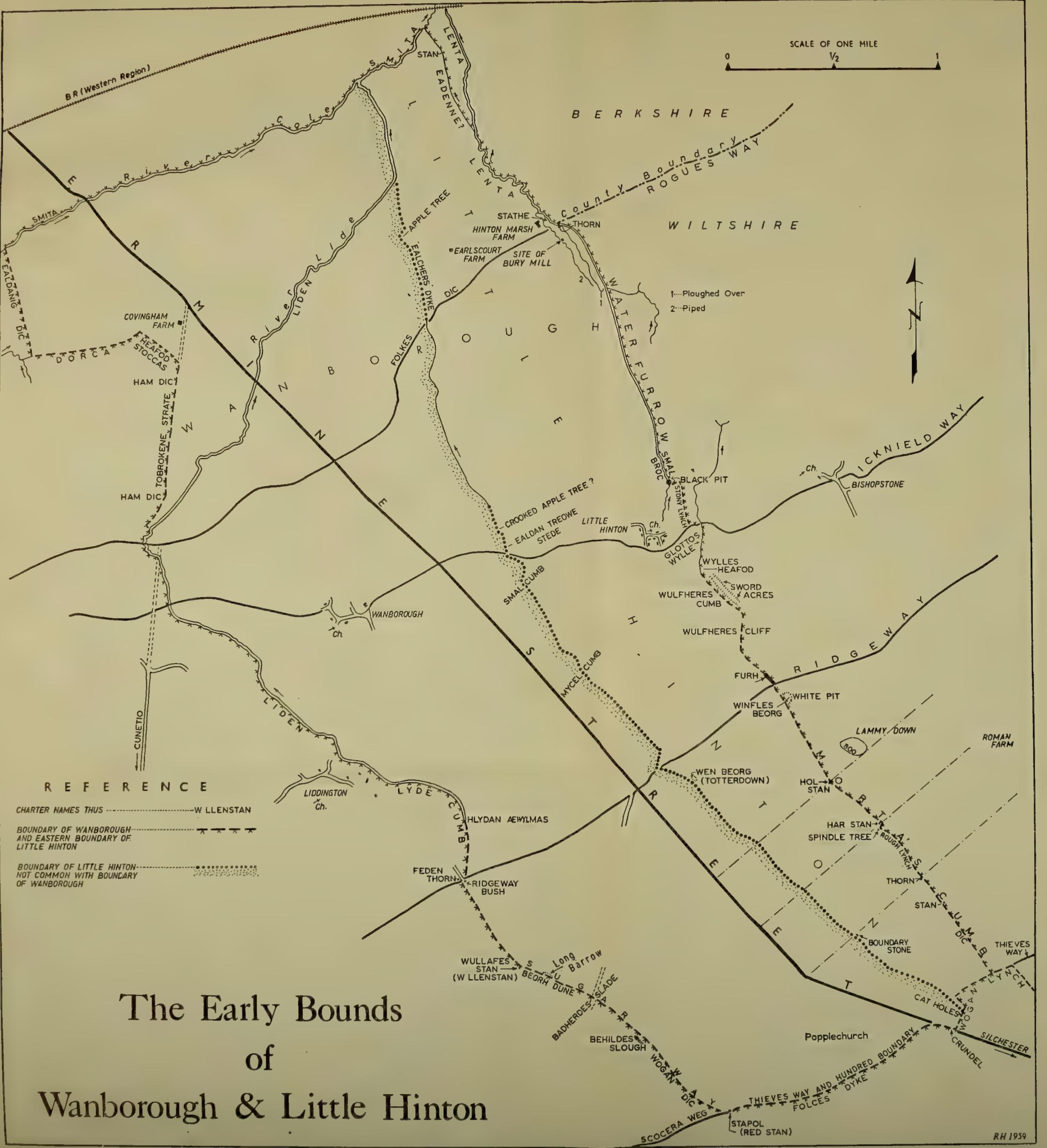
⁶Little Hinton T. A.

⁷O.E. *staeth*; see KCD 781 and 1077.

⁸Was this the [original site of the] ‘Blowing Stone’?

⁹For barrows here, see *W.A.M.*, xlv, 241.

¹⁰This seems better than ‘gray’ or ‘hoar’.



The Early Bounds of Wanborough & Little Hinton

Fig. 1. Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with the sanction of the Controller H.M. Stationery Office.



¹¹*W.A.M.*, xli, 390; xlv, 244; xlv, 176; xlviii, 390; Approx. site 2590/8155.

¹²An annotated 25in. O.S. map of this area is in the Society's library. Those interested in the functions of an *Agrimensor* (the successor of the Republican *finitor*) are referred to Hygnius Gromaticus, *Agrariae auctores* ed. Goes, Amsterdam, 1674, 170. The boundary marks were called 'signa'.

¹³It looks as if 'Badherde' is an error. For a note on *slaed* see Smith, *Engl. Pl. Name Elements*, ii, 127.

¹⁴For some holders of this name (Wulfraf) see Searle, *Onomasticon*, 512.

¹⁵*hlydan* means 'to clamour'. The name may mean 'the noisy stream.'

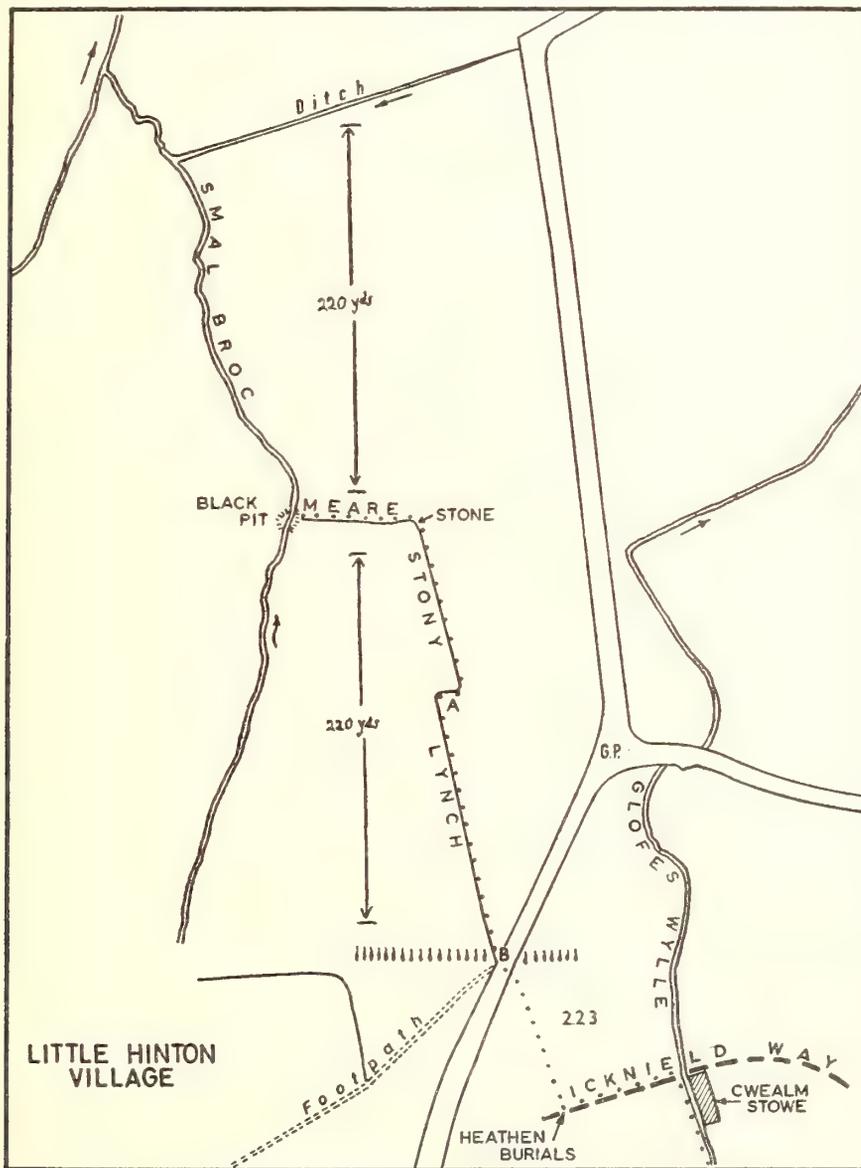
¹⁶Notice that the boundary waters on the west and north are excluded, but that on the east is included.

¹⁷Grundy is convinced that we are here to follow the modern eastern bounds of Wanborough!

¹⁸This makes allowance for four headlands.

¹⁹This seems to have served at one time as a sheep dip. There may well have been stones at this crossing of IW which were conveniently handy.

²⁰See *W.A.M.* lvii, 18 where the date of the other Bishopstone strip lynchets is discussed. The 'sword acres' obviously antedate the charter.



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Fig. 2. Based upon the Ordnance Survey Map with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.

THE PRE-CONQUEST CHURCH OF ST. PETER, AT BRITFORD

By G. E. CHAMBERS.

Britford Church, $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles S.E. of Salisbury, takes its place among the more important Anglo-Saxon buildings which have been left to us, not only in Wessex, but also in England. The origin of the site-name¹—'Ford used by the Britons'—argues an early importance in Saxon history which is borne out by the evidences of their settlements at Peter's Finger, to the north of the Church across the river Avon; at Harnham, a short distance to the west; and to the south, at Breamore. Wilton, to the west, was at a later date large enough to sustain a mint. There are reasons for supposing the existence of Roman buildings within easy reach of the Church site prior to the advent of the Saxons. The fabric of the Church incorporates Roman brick, bonded together by the mortar of pounded brick and cement which is termed, by reason of its use by the Romans, *opus signinum*, and which was obviously noted by the Saxons, and the idea adopted by them when building Britford Church. Roman coins of 4th century date were found in the course of the restoration of the Church in 1873.

That Saxon occupation of the district was continuous is suggested by a record that in 1065 King Edward Confessor was in residence there when visited by the unpopular Earl Tostig at the time of the revolt against Tostig's lordship of Northumbria. Twenty years later the Domesday record tells us that one Osbern the Priest held the Church of the Manor of 'Bretforde'.

The Church as it is now has a number of points of general interest, but the immediate purpose is to concentrate on the nave, which is for the most part of pre-Conquest origin. Alterations and additions from the 13th c. onwards are responsible for that part of the Church east of the nave.

As with the majority of Saxon churches which remain to us, the nave is aisle-less. The upper half of the N. and S. walls have been for the most part refaced; the W. wall has been largely rebuilt. The original walling is of flints and local stone rubble. The buttresses and the south porch are modern, the latter rebuilt on the site of a pre-existing porch; the internal wall facing has been hidden by modern plaster.

On existing visible evidence it would be unprofitable to speculate on the plan of the original Church as a whole. The abiding interest, from the Pre-Conquest point of view, lies in the south doorway, and the two arches at the eastern end of the nave. Filled in at some unknown date and, except externally, lost to view, they were opened up and the internal faces revealed in 1873. Since then there has been much argument concerning their origin. Were they the remains of a Roman building or were they Saxon work? What was the *raison d'être* of the structures to which they formerly gave access? Were they bays of arcades opening into north and south aisles as at Brixworth, or did they lead to early forms of transepts as at Breamore? Were they openings to small transeptal Chapels; or simply north and south doorways? A more careful study of possible analogies led to the conclusion that the two eastern arches most probably related to north and south *porticus* of the type to be found in Saxon churches from the 7th c. onwards—Canterbury, Reculver, Glastonbury, Worth, Deerhurst. Even so this last, more instructed, opinion was put forward as being subject to proof.

With a view to a resolution of the issue Mr. Hugh Shortt and myself have made a small trial excavation north of the nave, where there was a reasonable hope of finding the North and West walls of the building entered from the nave through the North arch. Part of the space was taken up by the small structure (9ft. \times 3ft. internally) erected in 1873 to mask and protect the outer face of the archway. (Fig 2).

At a distance of ten feet North of the archway, and running west from the West wall of the North transept, is the lower two feet of a 2ft. 8in. thick wall, a thickness uniform with that of the nave wall. (Fig. 3.) The south side of the excavated wall is bonded into, and is of one build with, the transept wall; the north side is carried through and was in alignment, and possibly contemporary, with the

original north wall of what is now the transept. The 14th c. extension northwards of the transept is marked by a plinth of that date, beginning at the point where the newly excavated wall was found.

This latter is of flints and small pebbles bedded in lime and mortar and set, without offsets, on a 3in. thick bed of rammed chalk about 1ft. 9in. below the present ground level. Originally 8ft. 9in. in length, much of this and some of the return, west, wall had been robbed down to the chalk bedding. Across the gap was a large number of human, and some animal, bones with little or no integration and obviously buried at random, or even thrown in without discrimination and covered with lime. Some were of children and recall a local tradition that victims of a plague at Harnham were once buried here.

The return wall was located again at a point 7ft. away from the nave. It is parallel to the west wall of the transept.

The enclosed space measured 10ft. north to south by 8ft. 9in. east to west. Within this area there was no indication of flooring, the infilling being of loosely compacted building material, flints, and plaster, the latter limewashed and retaining traces of red colour.

Among the miscellaneous debris in the north-east angle was a worked stone, not of local provenance, but similar to that used for the dressings of the nave archway. It has a groove between raised, half round, ridges across an otherwise plain surface, and may have served to hold a wooden panel, or shutter. (Fig. 4.) Also found were potsherds of 13th—15th c. date and of no particular distinction: a green-glazed border tile of 14th c. origin; two 17th—18th c. coffin handles; and an iron coffin strap.

There can be little doubt that the annexe as outlined was indeed a *porticus*; and that the archway opposite on the south side of the nave, also opened into a *porticus*. Unfortunately any possibility of recovering the plan on this south side is precluded by vaults and graves which have been dug across the site, and the consequent destruction of all traces of the early building. There is, however, a change in the texture of the northern and southern parts of the west wall of the south transept which indicates two dates of work, and the position of the junction suggests that the size of the southern *porticus* was comparable with that on the north side of the nave.

There is no exact analogy in the surviving Saxon churches which have these features, and without further evidence it would be idle to put forward as a probability any specific relationship these *porticus* may have borne to the eastern end of the original church. In the earlier, 7th c., churches we have a north and south *porticus*, each of them overlapping both nave and chancel, and with access from the chancel alone (e.g. Reculver). Somewhat later, with the introduction of an intermediate space, or crossing, between nave and chancel, we find the *porticus* opening out from this crossing, as at Brixworth and, again, much later (300 years) at Deerhurst. The 10th c. church at Worth provides the nearest parallel to Britford in that it has two wings towards the eastern end of the nave, though at Worth they approximate more nearly to chapels or transepts, built as such.

At Britford we can consider: (1), A crossing with small transepts with end walls flush with the end walls of the *porticus*: (2), A rectangular chancel,—as being more usual than an apse,—with additional *porticus* adjacent to those of the nave: (3), An arrangement similar to that of the small Cathedral Church of N. Elmham, (of c. 1000), which has an aisleless nave, at the east end of which are twin towers which abut a transept of more than the width of nave and towers; and an apsidal east end. At Britford the *porticus* would take the place of the towers, if indeed we can quite eliminate them as having been carried up as towers. (4), Lastly, we cannot rule out the possibility of the two *porticus* being adjuncts to a pre-existing crossing which centred in the axial line of the *porticus* and is now absorbed in part in the eastern end of the nave. Any indication on the internal wall facing of the nave which would substantiate this is hidden by the modern plaster.

The archways themselves are of exceptional interest by reason not only of their very individual characteristics, but also for their unusual construction. Builders of exceptional ability and decorative

sense were employed, men working in no clumsy, uninstructed fashion, but with a background of traditional craftsmanship. That the structural work was not tentative is demonstrated by the soundness of the jointing and the durability of the mortar. Such damage as has been suffered is the result of deliberate abuse, but nowhere is there any sign of disintegration in the fabric.

Both archways are 5ft. 9in. in width, and approximately 7ft. 8in. in height. That on the north side of the nave (Fig. 5) has a carefully shaped round head, lined with horizontal bands of rectangular slabs of stone, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick, and three to each row except that the centre piece of the alternate rows has a square panel of brick, recessed 2in. from the main face. The face of the stone panels is curved to the shape of the arch. The brick panels are of Roman origin (Fig. 6).

All the stone panels either abut those of brick, or have intermediate bricks, 2in. thick, set edgeways, either vertically or horizontally. The decorative effect produced by this alternation of material has been almost nullified by misguided applications of whitewash. At the bottom of each side of the arch the centre panel is brought forward corbelwise, but with the top surface sloping downwards to the front. The purpose of this corbelling, if it was intended for other than decoration, has not been satisfactorily explained. On the east side of the arch the two stones in the row above the corbel are worn, which may have some bearing; but the corresponding slabs on the west side of the arch are not worn. (Fig. 7).

The arch springs from, but is not bonded into, imposts; that on the east hollow-chamfered, the western with a plain chamfer. The jambs are divided into three vertical bays, each about 9in. wide, the two outer of single slabs of stone $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick; the middle bay with three rectangular panels of stone alternating with recessed panels of brick. The bottom panel, of stone, is brought forward by two curved hollow-chamfers to form a 3in. projection suggestive of a narrow pedestal. All three bays rest on a continuous plinth, hollow chamfered on the east jamb and with a plain chamfer on the west. The fact that the 'pedestals' project beyond the top of the plinths would make it seem that they did not form part of the original scheme, but were inserted later.

The two jambs differ in several respects in their details, and in such a way as to suggest that more than one workman was employed, and that material taken from another setting was used.

The side slabs of the east jamb (Fig. 8) provide an example unique in Wessex of the application of vine-scroll carving as architectural ornament. While the two slabs have the same general design, with the scroll-work in rather flat relief, they vary in the detail of the fruit and foliage; the panels are not the same size, the South panel having an awkward finish at the bottom; and the shallow base mouldings differ from each other. These mouldings are cut out of the slabs themselves, from which it would appear that the face of the stone above was cut back about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. The two upper stone slabs in the centre bay on the East side, and the middle slab only on the West side, are carved with patterns of interlace. The base mouldings to the west jamb differ again from those to the east jamb.

The north side of the archway retains part of a framing 'strip', $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide and with a projection of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch, intercepted by the imposts, but otherwise continuous around the opening. It is notched into the vertical slabs of the jambs, but has only a shallow $\frac{1}{2}$ in. bearing in the wall, being in no way a structural feature. (Fig. 9.)

In the course of church repairs (October 1958) part of the modern plaster on the south side of the archway has been removed, revealing the original framing 'strip', and the full length of the impost (11in.) and the base (1ft. 5in.). The strip on this South Side is narrower by nearly one inch than that on the North Side of the archway, and the joint between it and the jamb slab is noticeably thicker. The faces of strip, impost, and base have been cut back.

The archway in the south wall of the nave (Fig. 10) is of different, but equally sophisticated, construction. The head is segmental though somewhat irregular, and made up of Roman bricks of varying size and shape, set edgeways as voussoirs and, with the exception of three inset stone slabs 9in. square,

forming the soffit of the arch. The rounding of the head is managed by shaping, not the bricks, but the mortar jointing. The jambs resemble those of the north archway only in so far as they are in three vertical bays, but in detail and in 'assembly' technique they are very different (Fig. 11). The centre bay is wider than the others, and is in two finely jointed slabs; the side bays have single slabs, 3in. thick; all of them, unlike those to the northern archway, notched into plain plinths and imposts. These latter, though in the course of time having been subjected to mutilation, retain sufficient of the original work to show the constructional method.

Both north and south faces of the archway retain some parts of framing 'strips', but here there is a 9in. space between strips and jambs, created by the necessity for enclosing the deeper voussoirs. This space, up to the imposts,—which are carried round from the jambs,—has an infilling of slabs, rough ashlar of local stone, and brick. These bricks, set at somewhat irregular intervals, project a little so as to give a banded effect.

The strips spring, not from corbels in the more normal Saxon manner, but from the plinths which, like the imposts, are carried along from the jambs. They are continuous round the whole archway and are not intercepted by the imposts, as is the case with the northern archway. Nowhere are there any mouldings, or even chamfered edges. The framework lining of both archways has very fine jointing with *opus signinum*, a mortar of powdered brick or tile stiffened with cement, usually associated with the floor of Roman houses, and used also in the early 7th c. church of S.S. Peter and Paul, Canterbury; the later 7th c. church at Reculver; and Ine's church at Glastonbury, of about 700. It would be of interest to know if it occurs in any Saxon church of later date, other than Britford.

The south doorway to the nave (Fig. 12) which, owing to its mutilated condition no doubt, has as a rule escaped comment, is, again, without analogy. The opening was found, with the two archways, in the course of the 1873 restoration carried out by G. E. Street. Unfortunately the southern half of the jambs and head were then rebuilt with a view to adapting the opening as a south doorway.

The northern half to it is 6ft. wide, and has a round head, the crown of which reaches to 8ft. 9 in., or about a foot higher than the two eastern archways described above. Though the absence of a rebate does not necessarily preclude an original doorway, it would seem from the dimensions to have been an archway, probably leading from a comparatively large south porch, and with its axial line west of that of the porch so as to allow for an altar against the east wall, after the manner of Bradford-on-Avon. The jambs and the soffit of the arch have in part been cut back or renewed, but sufficient remains to indicate that they had a lining of large stone slabs, shaped to the curve above the spring of the round head. The slabs are plain except towards the middle of the jambs where the face is brought forward about two inches by a hollow chamfer which at the bottom curves round, hockey stick fashion, towards the outer edge of the jamb. Part of this projecting face has been cut away as has also the upper part of it beneath the spring of the arch, but apparently it continued round the head. The west jamb is the more defaced, and only the two bottom stones remain of the early work, showing the hollow chamfer with a run-out stop. The form and dimensions of this projecting face so very nearly correspond with those of the projection in the lower part of the east jamb of the north-east archway that they would seem to have some relation.

As to the date of these three openings:—the theory of a Roman origin was proclaimed on the strength of the use of Roman brick, supplemented by finds on the site, and by the use of the notched jointing used in the framing of the southern archway. More considered opinion gradually hardened to the acceptance of a Saxon date, which might however vary from the 8th c. to the latter half of the 10th c.; precedence in age was given to the south archway. On this latter point it is worth while noting that the stone used in both arches is similar, though not local stone, and it would not seem likely that it would be imported from elsewhere at widely different dates. The mortar, again, is distinctive and unusual,

and is common to both archways. There can be little doubt, however, that they were built by different craftsmen.

Clapham,² from stylistic dating of the vine-scroll ornament on slabs which he takes as being *in situ*, would give the date as about 800, while admitting that the framing 'strips' would in this event be the earliest surviving examples of their kind in England. Baldwin Brown³ is more influenced by this 'strip' for dating purposes, maintaining as he does that it can only be a late feature since it derives in this country from the Carolingian '*lisenen*', or pilaster strips—themselves derived from Italy. The plan, with what were assumed to be eastern transeptal chapels rather than *porticus*, was again, on that count, deemed to be late, but this argument cannot now be sustained.

In fact, the more the Britford archways are subjected to analysis the more difficult it is to arrive at a satisfactory date which will comply with all the evidence. The material was, for the most part, I believe, re-used at a time when considerable executive skill was to be found among Saxon builders. I would like to see in the work at Britford some of the creative and artistic resurgence which marked the period just before the Danes overran this part of Wessex.

¹See *Place Names of Wiltshire*, Vol. xvi, p. 221.

²*English Romanesque before the Conquest*, p. 60.

³*Arts in Early England*, pp. 58, 288.

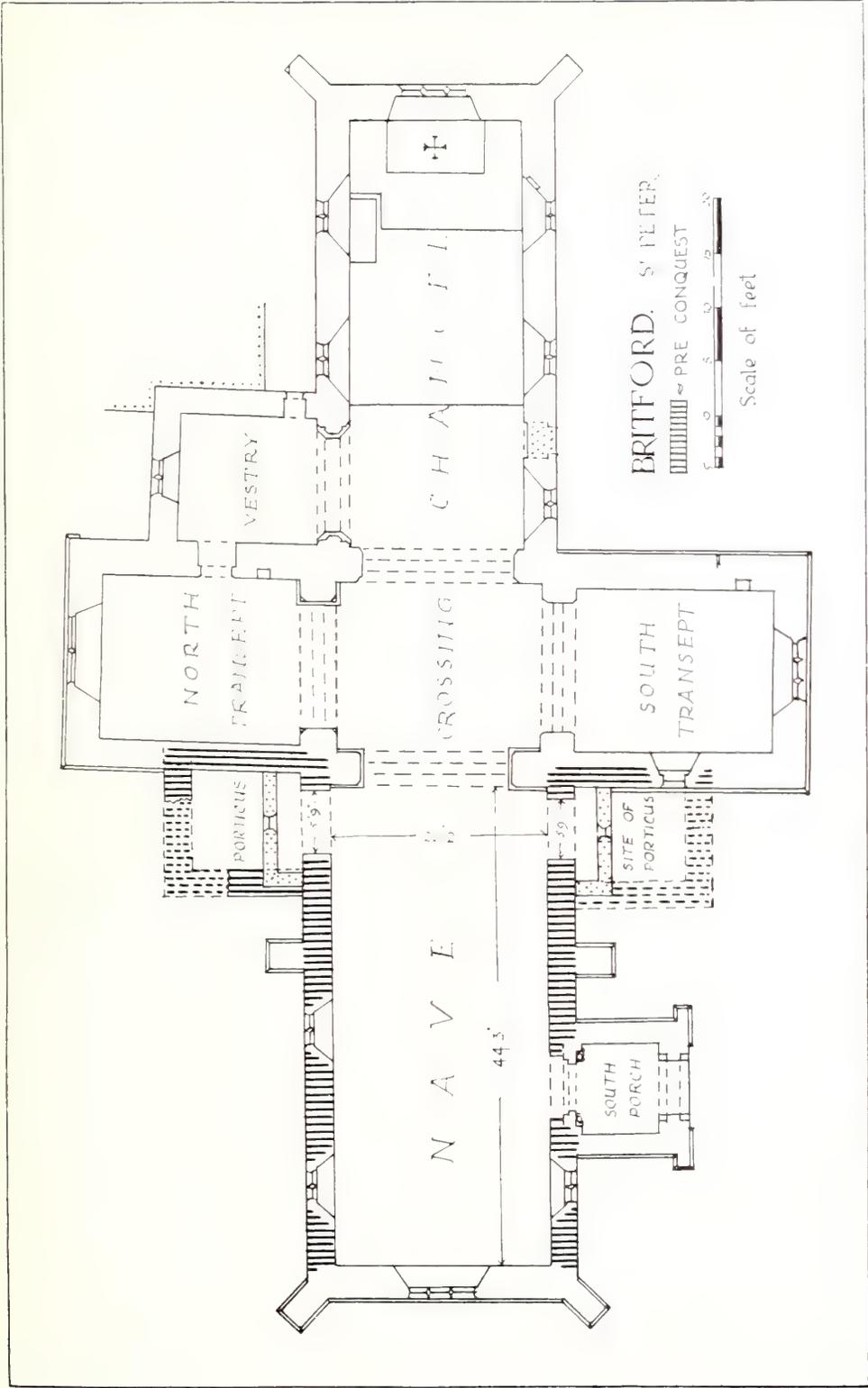


Fig. 1. Plan of Britford Church.



Fig. 2. Site of N. Porticus in angle of Nave and N. Transept.



Fig. 3. Footings of N. Wall of Porticus at junction with W. Wall of Transept.

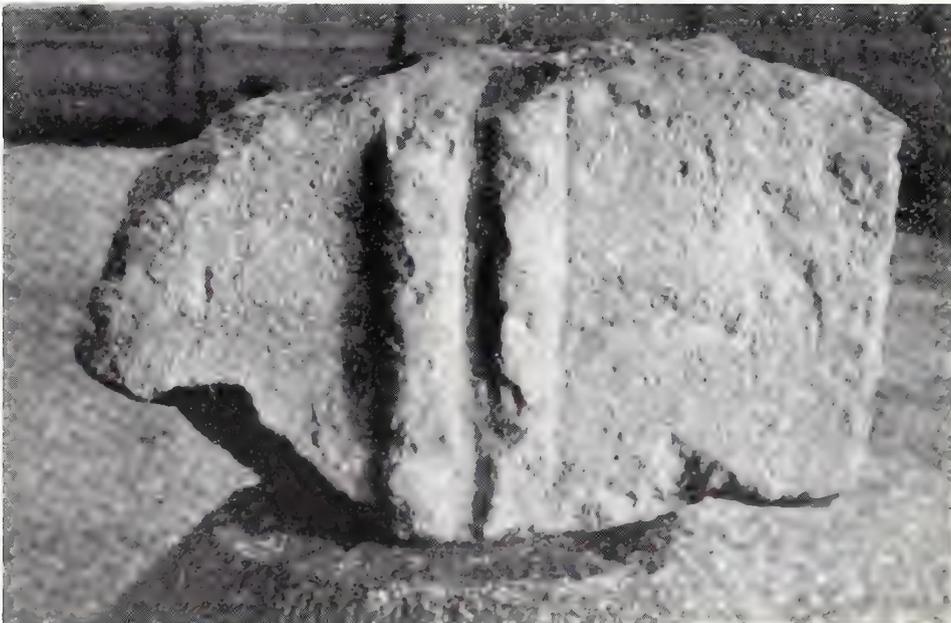


Fig. 4. Worked Stone found on Site of Porticus.

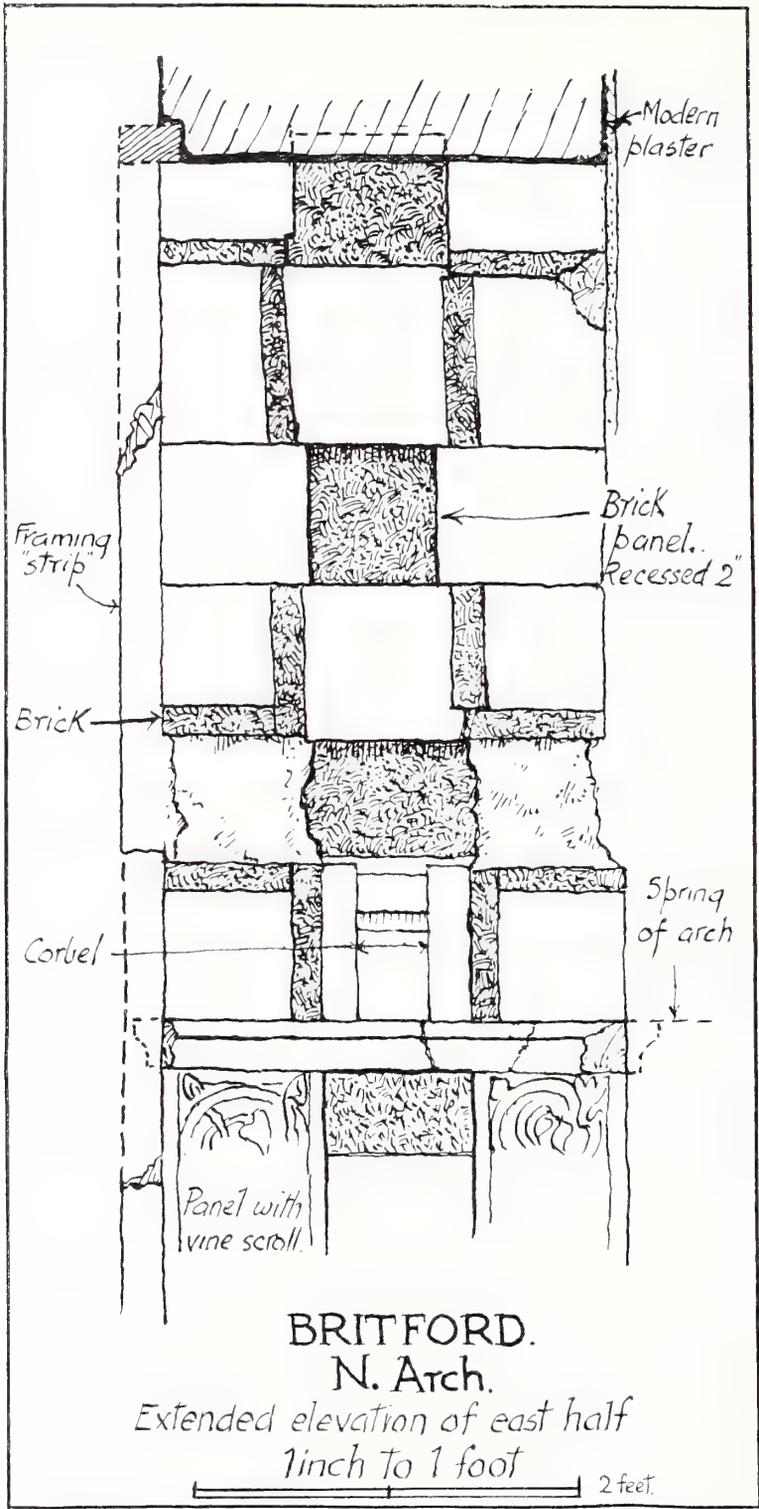
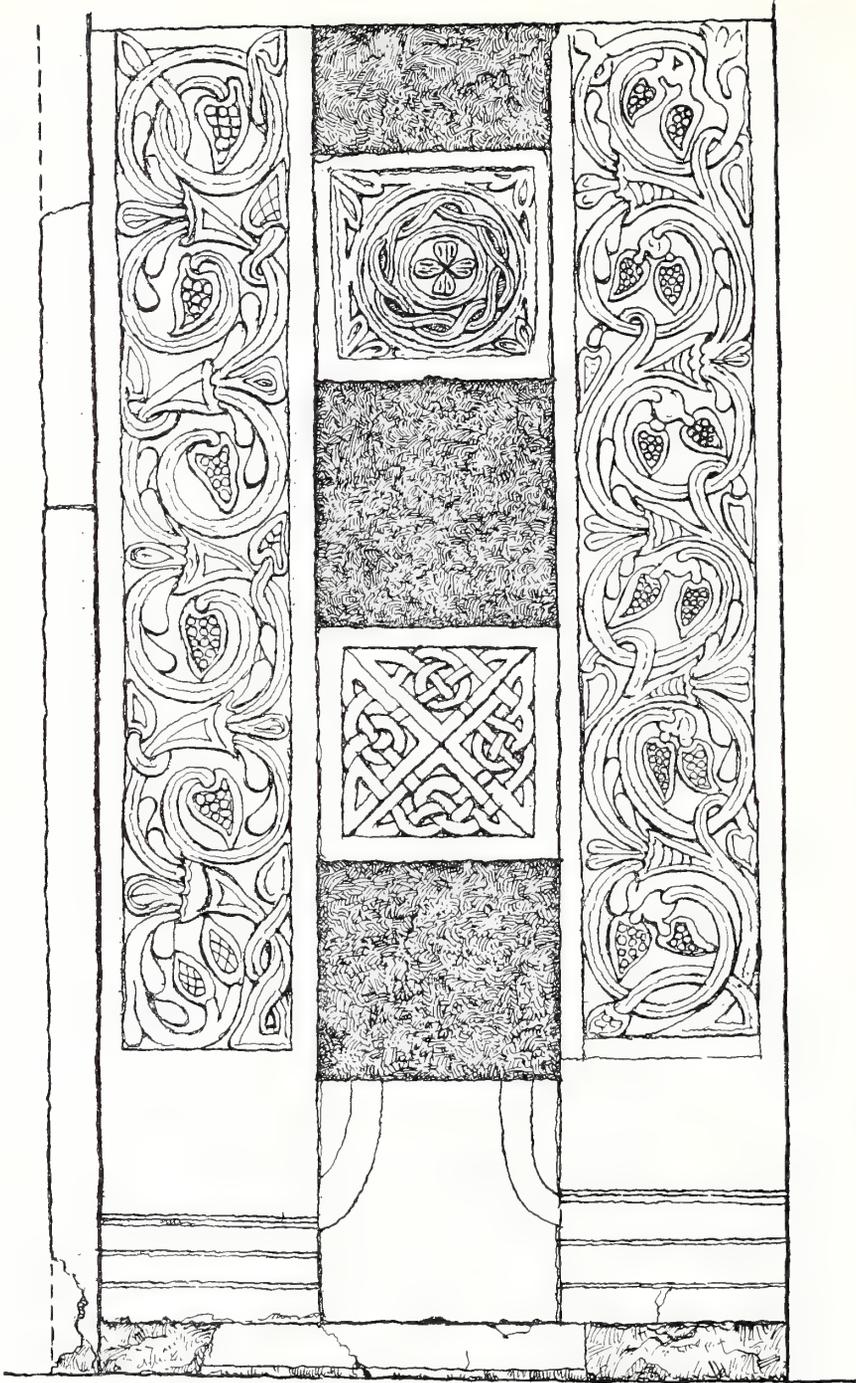


Fig. 6. North Archway. Extended elevation of Eastern Half of Arch.



Fig. 7. North Archway. West Jamb.



BRITFORD.
N. Archway - E. Jamb.

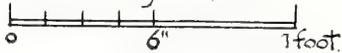


Fig. 8. North Archway. East Jamb.

BRITFORD

N. Arch.- N. side of east jamb.

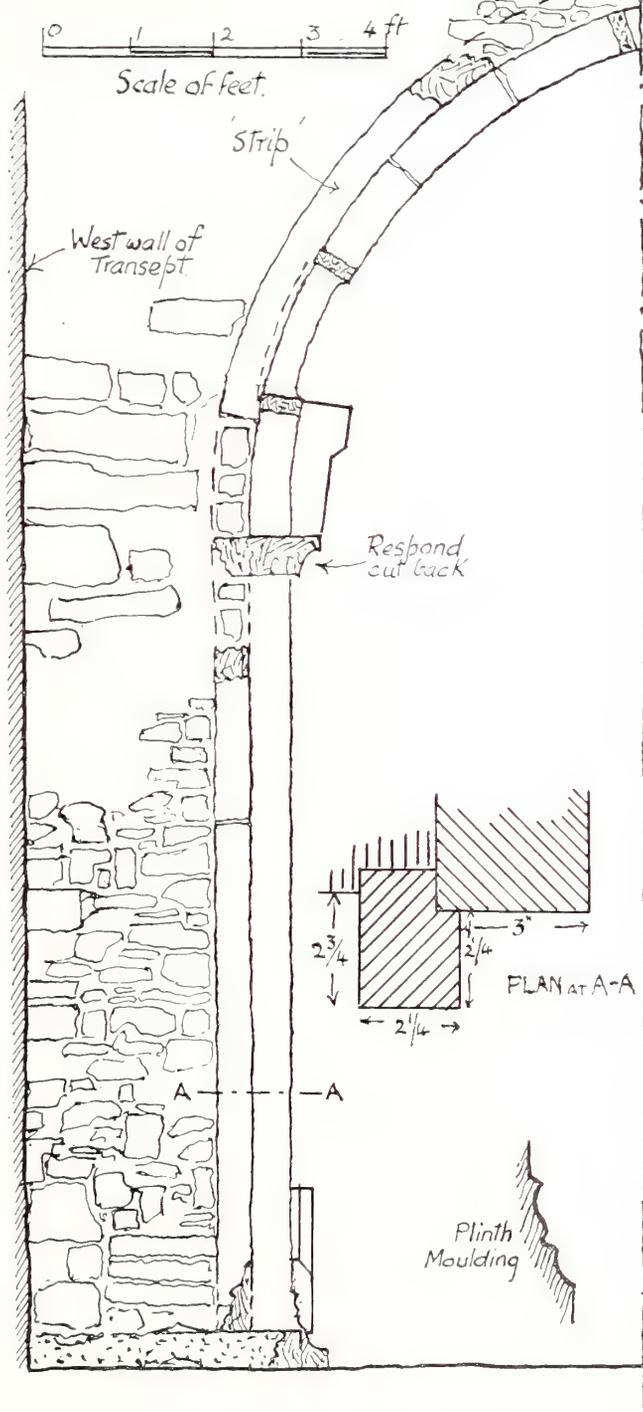
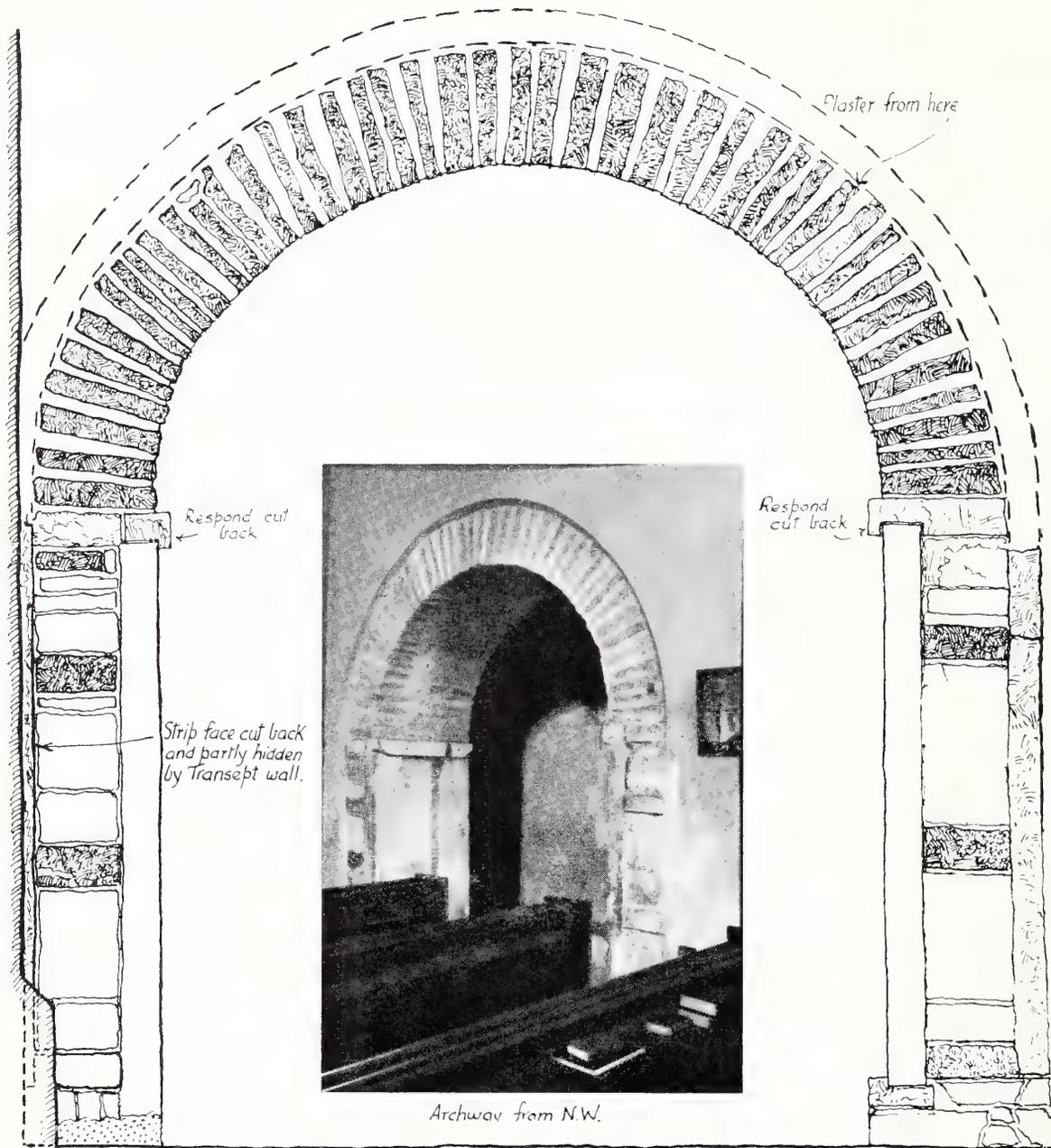


Fig. 9. North Archway. East half of North Elevation.



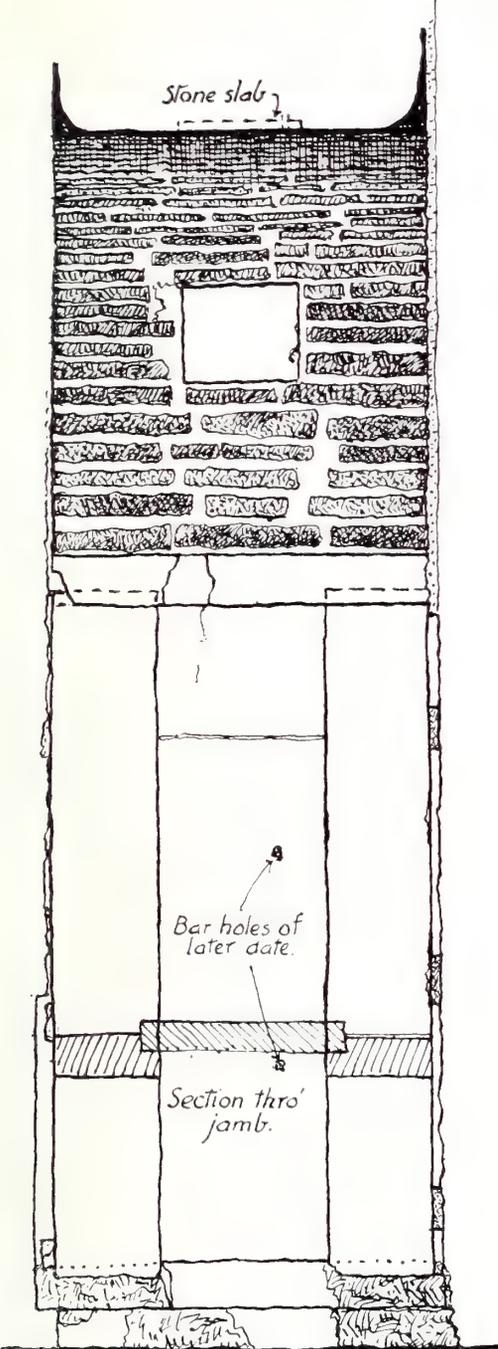
BRITTFORD. North side of South Archway



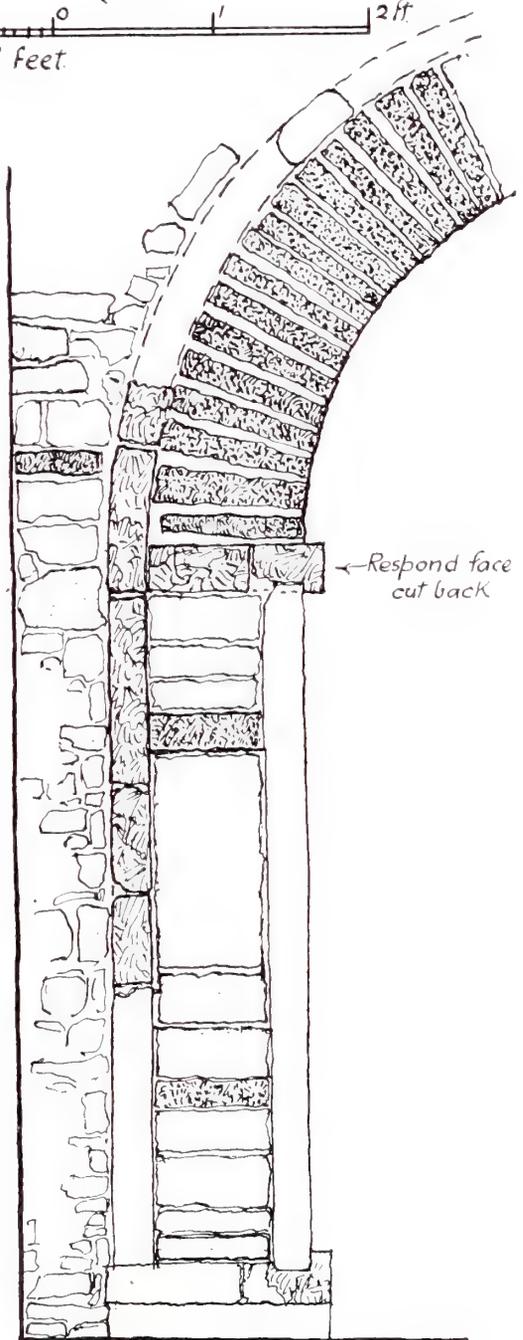
Fig. 10. South Archway. North elevation.

BRITFORD. South Archway.

Scale of feet. 1' 0' 1' 2ft



West Jamb.
Elevation.



South side. West half.

Fig. 11. South Archway. Elevations of West Side and of the West Half of the South Elevation.

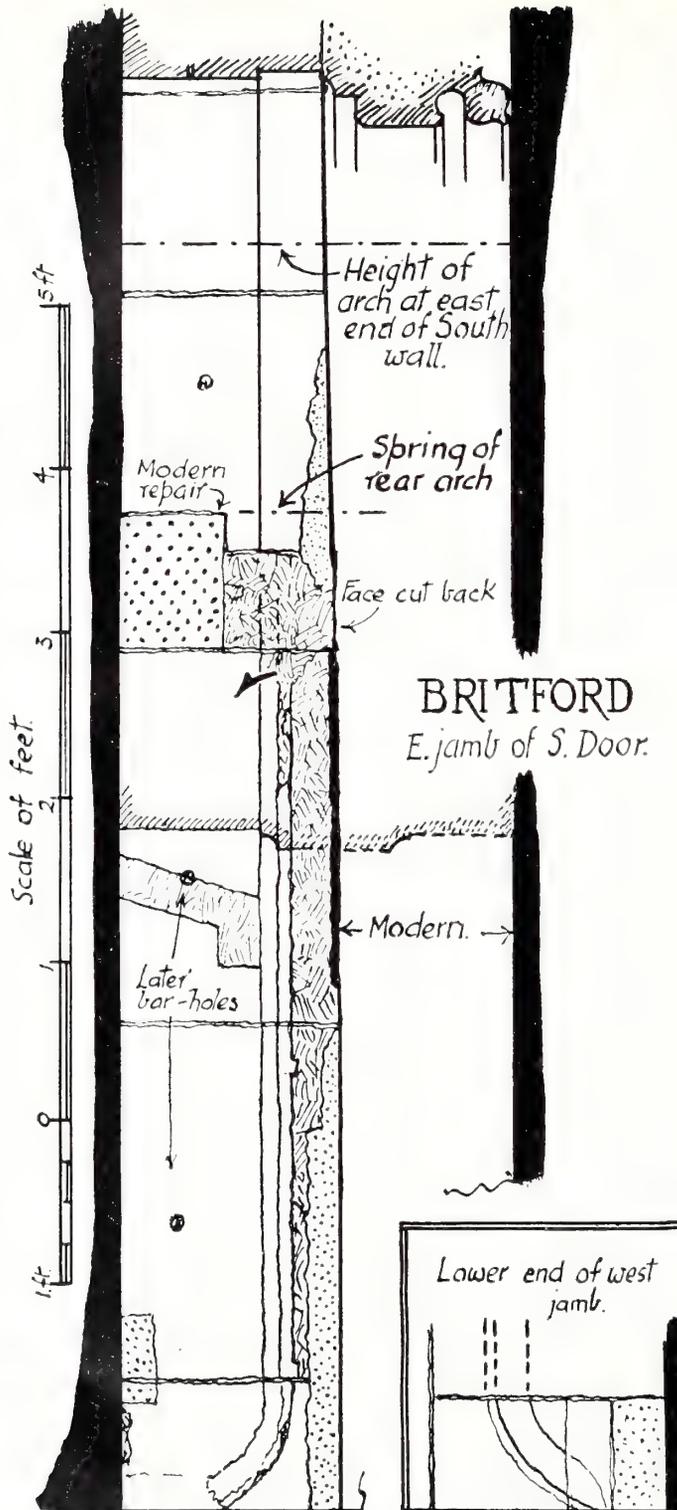


Fig. 12. South Doorway. East Jamb.

THREE EARLY EPISCOPAL TOMBS IN SALISBURY CATHEDRAL

By HUGH SHORTT

William de Wanda, who was Dean of Salisbury during the move of the see from the old city to the new, describes in his history of the event¹ how on June 14, 1226, when the eastern chapel of the new cathedral was completed, the bodies of Blessed Osmund, Bishop Roger and Bishop Jocelin were translated from the old building to the new. This was in the feast of the Trinity, in whose honour the new chapel was dedicated. They were brought with the great stone slabs which covered their coffins and which are still to be seen, though in altered positions, in the cathedral today. Though he was not canonized until 1457, St. Osmund was described as 'blessed' even when William wrote his history. That his mortal remains were venerated is shown by the 13th century Purbeck marble shrine in the south arcade of the nave, which must once have stood over his burial place in the centre of the Trinity Chapel, usually called the Lady Chapel. By comparing it with early representations of the shrine of St. Thomas Becket at Canterbury, designed by Salisbury's clerical architect Elias de Dereham,² it seems probable that Elias also designed St. Osmund's shrine. It is, however, the identity of the tombs with which we are here concerned.

St. Osmund's slab (plate I) is of grey-black hard stone, possibly Tournai marble, without other ornamentation than a marginal line running right round the upper surface. The date of St. Osmund's death, ANNO MXCIX, carved in the upper margin, was noted by Colonel Symonds when he visited the cathedral in 1644 as being newly cut.³ This veiled allusion to the former occupant of the grave was surely placed there after the reformation, when so many loyalties were overturned, by someone with an eye for history, who nevertheless accepted the impropriety of writing the undisguised name of the saint. At that time the slab still covered the grave in the centre of the Lady Chapel. Whether or not the Purbeck marble shrine had once covered the spot, it was later moved to the plinth on the south side of the Chapel, before its final move into the nave was perpetrated by Wyatt. He also removed the slab and placed it in the north arcade of the nave between the Hungerford tomb and that of John de Montacute. When it was restored to the Lady Chapel in recent years, it was placed, not over St. Osmund's grave in the centre, but on the southern plinth where the shrine had stood. From all this it is clear that since the end of the middle ages there has never been any doubt as to the attribution of this slab to St. Osmund, and indeed there can be no reasonable doubt of it.

Unfortunately the attribution of the other two slabs, brought down with that of St. Osmund from Old Sarum, is less clear, though it is definite that one belongs to Roger who died in 1139 and the other to Jocelin who died in 1174. Even their first position in the new cathedral is uncertain, though Malden⁴ may well have been right in suggesting that it lay west of St. Osmund and just east of the present high altar. At all events, by 1540 when Leland⁵ visited the cathedral they were both in the north arcade of the nave, where the outline of the slabs is still to be seen, in the same bay that Wyatt later put St. Osmund's slab. Leland was told they were the effigies of bishops from Old Sarum, but their identity even then was lost. It must have been when seating was put between the pillars about the end of the 17th century that the two effigies were moved again to their present position in the south arcade and the third bay from the west end.⁶ Ignorance of their identity persisted surprisingly up to the middle of the 18th century, and Francis Price's editor⁷ admitted that he was unable to identify the tomb of Jocelin while his guess for that of Roger was mistaken. It is to Gough⁸, towards the end of the century, that we are indebted for the rediscovery of the effigies as those brought from Old Sarum, but although he found and read the inscription encircling one of them, the force of it seems to have escaped him, and he allotted this one to Roger and the other to Jocelin. Britton⁹ followed Gough's views at the beginning of the 19th century, but within a year or so Dodsworth¹⁰ had reversed the ascriptions and was followed by

Stothard¹¹ and Casson.¹² Planché¹³ surprisingly followed Gough, but Malden¹⁴ sided with Dodsworth.

An examination of the slabs themselves may show us that he was right. The westernmost (plate II) is of black Tournai marble with a vine scroll, in which birds peck at the grapes, round the border, and in the centre the vested effigy of a prelate under a round arch, his pastoral staff piercing a twisted dragon not unlike the dragons of Viking art, which bites itself in anguish. The vine is tied as if to a wall with small thongs at frequent intervals. This device is found in many manuscripts of much earlier date, as for instance the *Life of St. Cuthbert*,¹⁵ an English work c. 920, and the large number of English manuscripts of comparable date taken to Flanders supports the Flemish origin of the carving, but the design can be traced back to the Gallo-Roman tombs of the south of France. The whole carving is in very low relief and the bishop appears to lie in a shallow coffin. The original head cannot have been mitred, but this has been replaced in the 14th century or thereabouts by a mitred head in Purbeck marble, and the arch has been cut to make room for it. Every detail of style points to an early date, and when we compare this slab with that of St. Memmie (plate III) at Châlons-sur-Marne¹⁶ there can be little doubt that the two came from the same Flemish workshop. There can have been little attempt, if any, at portraiture. Another slab in this country comparable in style is that attributed to Bishop Nigel at Ely (1133-1169),¹⁷ the nephew of Salisbury's Bishop Roger. An earlier example in the same tradition is the effigy of Abbot Gilbert (d. 1121)¹⁸ in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey. It is sadly worn, but the hard grey again suggests a Tournai origin.

Of greater interest in the history of English art is the other effigy, carved in high relief out of Purbeck marble (plate IV). The style is stiff and archaic, but with the exception of the head of Abbot Clement's effigy at Sherborne (1163)¹⁹ this is probably the first English portrait of a prelate to be placed on his tomb, and marks the beginning of a great tradition which blossomed so wonderfully in the following century. Dodsworth²⁰ pointed out the similarity of the figure on the slab to that of Jocelin's seal, and though the seal impression is small and damaged, the style and arrangement of the vestments certainly show a remarkable likeness. The bishop wears an unusually tall mitre, but it is the inscriptions on this tomb which add so much to its interest. On the orphrey of his chasuble are the words *Quisquis es affer opem, devenies in idem* a rhyming hexameter asking for the prayers of the onlooker and reminding him that he too will one day be in the same state. Round the edge of the chasuble run traces of an inscription of which the first few surviving letters would fit into the phrase ✠ *Sit nomen Domini benedictum . . .* On the vertical edge of the tomb is a long epitaph in hexameters which not only rhyme in couplets, but also have an internal rhyme. With abbreviations expanded, the lines read as follows:

*Flent hodie Salesbirie quia decidit ensis
 Justitie pater ecclesie Salesbiriensis
 Dum viguit miseris aluit fastusque potentum
 Non timuit sed clava fuit, terrorque nocentum
 De ducibus de nobilibus primordia duxit
 Principibus prope quisque tribus quasi gemma reluxit.*

This I have translated:

They weep today down Salisbury way, for now lieth broken
 Justice's sword, Sarum's bishop and lord, yet low be it spoken,
 While yet alive, the poor used to thrive—he feared not the strong ones,
 But was a mace that could batter the face of the proud and the wrong ones.
 Princes in hordes, dukes nobles and lords as his sires he could muster,
 Bishops were three who had sat in this see, and to them he gave lustre.

The original is carved in a modified Roman script of the 12th century. There is considerable abbrev-



Plate I. St. Osmund's slab.



Plate II. Bishop Roger's slab.



Plate III. St. Memmie's slab.



Plate IV. Bishop Jocelin's slab.

iation and some letters are placed within others, creating a little ambiguity here and there. Furthermore there is some slight damage in the last line. The version given above seems to me the only possible one, if all the existing letters are to be used and the metre and rhyme preserved. As Jocelin was the fourth bishop in the see of Old Sarum, I may be accused of weighting the translation in favour of my argument that this is his epitaph. However, if it is open to other interpretation the original is at hand. This is not, as I have shown, the only reason for believing this to be Jocelin's tomb. The reference to his ancestry fits Jocelin but not Roger, whose origin was humble. It would of course have fitted St. Osmund, but as already shown we have no reason to doubt the attribution of St. Osmund's slab, and an English carved effigy in 1099 is unheard of. Recently, Dr. F. J. E. Raby²¹ has claimed that in fact this effigy covered St. Osmund's tomb. Sir Alfred Clapham²² and T. S. R. Boase²³ agreed with him in part, though the latter realized that the carving could not be of such an early date. Dr. Raby bases his argument to some extent upon the particular style of rhyming hexameters used in the epitaph, and cites Gualo Brito as writing similar verse in 1090. His verse was indeed similar, but the metre differed. So too did the metre of similar verse quoted by William of Malmesbury c. 1125 and that written by Bernard of Morlas c. 1142. The epitaph of Ilbertus de Chaz, now at Lacock, contains similar metre and is carved in a similar way.²⁴ It is dated c. 1150 or later, and the tomb of Abbot Clement of Sherborne has an epitaph in comparable verse. His death took place in 1163. None of these metres is identical with that of the Bishop of Salisbury. Only at Old Sarum itself has an exact parallel occurred. This was on a tomb of a certain Alward,²⁵ buried in the Canons' Cemetery, which is unlikely to have existed before the second quarter of the 12th century. Alward's identity and date alike are uncertain, but he was buried beside Godwin the Precentor whose death appears to fall between 1160 and 1170. It is evident therefore that while the style of poetry gives no exact date, it favours that of Bishop Jocelin's death rather than St. Osmund's.

In the face of such recent heterodoxy, expressed in emphatic terms which demand an answer, it is satisfactory to read that those two great authorities on English medieval figure-sculpture, Prior and Gardner,²⁶ writing in 1912, were prepared to give a date c. 1140 to the slab now, as formerly, attributed to Bishop Roger and c. 1180 to this great venture in English art, the slab of Bishop Jocelin.

¹*The Register of St. Osmund*, vol. II Rolls Series 1884, 55.

²John Harvey, *English Mediaeval Architects*, 1954, 84.

³*Diary Camden Soc.*, 1859, vol. 74, 130.

⁴*W.A.M.* XXXVII, 1912, 341.

⁵*W.A.M.* I, 1854, 167.

⁶British Museum, Map Room, XLIII, 39-f.

⁷*Cathedral Church of Salisbury*, 1787, 138.

⁸*Archaeologia*, II, 1773, 188-193.

⁹*Salisbury Cathedral*, 1814, 89, 90.

¹⁰*Cathedral Church of Sarum or Salisbury*, 1814, 189-191.

¹¹*Monumental Effigies*, 1832, I, 4.

¹²*Lives of the Bishops of Salisbury*, 1824, 130-134, 141.

¹³*Journal of the British Arch. Assoc.* XV, 1859, 115-118.

¹⁴*W.A.M.* XXXVII, 1912, 341.

¹⁵Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, MS. 183.

¹⁶de Caumont, *Abécédaire ou Rudiment d'Archéologie*, 1886, 331.

¹⁷Prior and Gardner, *Medieval Figure-Sculpture in England*, 1912, p. 84, fig. 81.

¹⁸Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, *London*, vol. I, 1924, pl. 202.

¹⁹Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, *Dorset*, vol. I, 1952, pl. 211.

²⁰Dodsworth *op. cit.*, 191.

²¹*Arch. Journ.* CIV, 1948, 146, 147.

²²*Ibidem*, 145.

²³*English Art 1100-1216*, 1953, 122, 123.

²⁴W. L. Bowles, *Lacock Abbey*, 1835, 352 and plate.

²⁵*Proc. Soc. Ant.* XXVI, 1914, 112, 113.

²⁶*Op. cit.*, 572-574.

A COLLECTION OF MEDIEVAL TILES AT CORSHAM COURT

BY ELIZABETH S. EAMES

During the recent clearing of the loft of the granary in the timber yard at Corsham Court, Wilts, a number of medieval tiles were found. Lord Methuen thinks that they had been in this loft for at least sixty years. They are of various dates from the latter half of the 13th century to the latter half of the 15th century. The find site of these tiles is unknown, but the decorated tiles are all of types known in Wiltshire and the neighbouring counties. Lord Methuen is of the opinion that none of his recent ancestors had any interest in antiquities of this type or would have been likely to make a collection of tiles from other sites, and therefore thinks it more probable that these tiles were found on the estate. In the medieval period Corsham was a royal manor on which there was a royal residence. The exact location of its buildings is unknown, but it is possible that these tiles were originally used in them.

A representative selection of these tiles, covering all the designs and types contained in the collection is here described and illustrated. This selection consists of nine decorated tiles bearing five different designs, fragments of three others all bearing designs different from each other and from the complete tiles, and nine plain tiles. In addition one tile from Lacock Abbey, also in Lord Methuen's possession is illustrated. The design on all of the decorated tiles is inlaid in white clay.

THE DECORATED TILES (Plates I—III)

Design 1. (Plate I, 1).

Two adorsed birds having a conventional tree with stiff leaved foliage between them, set diagonally on the tile. This design is common on tiles of the Wessex school dating from the latter half of the 13th century. Only one tile in this collection bears this design. The corner which should bear the base of the tree is broken off so the exact form which this took is not known. In many variants of this design the base of the tree forms a quarter of a circle, so that when four tiles are placed together the four trees spring from a central ring or roundel. In this example the design is inlaid in a tile of rather coarse orange-red fabric which is typical of wasters found on the site of Clarendon Palace in the area between the Queen's apartments and the great cellar during the excavations in 1939. It is therefore very probable that this tile was made at Clarendon. Tiles of this type at Clarendon are thought to date from the latter 13th century.

There is one other fragment of this design in the collection.

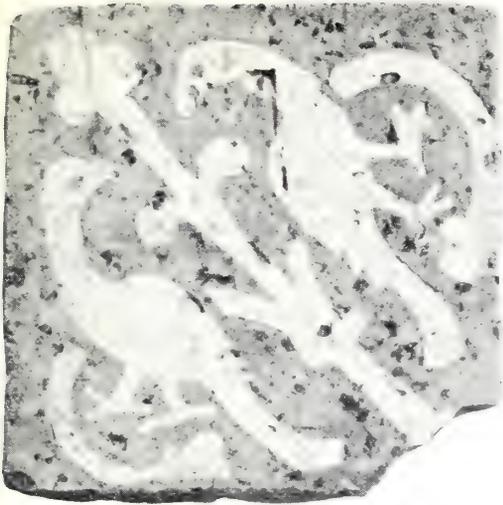
Design 2. (Plate I, 2a, 2b.)

Four fleurs-de-lys springing from the corners of a central square containing a pierced quatrefoil. This design belongs to the same school as design 1. It appears at Clarendon Palace and in the Chapter House of Salisbury Cathedral where the original floor is dated from between 1260 and 1280. It is also known from Amesbury and other Wiltshire sites.

This design is represented by one fragment, a quarter of a tile (2a). A line drawing of the complete design is shown at (2b). The fabric of the tile is the same as that of design 1, and this may also be assumed to be of later 13th century date from Clarendon Palace kiln.

Design 3. (Plate I, 3a, 3b.)

An open-looped quatrefoil with trefoils between the leaves. The exact form of the centre is unknown. This design is represented by one fragment, a quarter of a tile (3a). A possible reconstruction of the design is shown at 3b. The open-looped quatrefoil is used with small quatrefoils between the leaves in the pavement from the Queen's Chamber at Clarendon Palace dating from 1250—1252, and the same design is in Salisbury cathedral. An open-looped quatrefoil with flowers with 9 petals between the leaves is known from Amesbury Abbey. I do not at present know another example of this form with trefoils between the leaves. It is not the same fabric as tiles 1 and 2. As Clarendon Palace is the primary



Design 1.



Design 4.



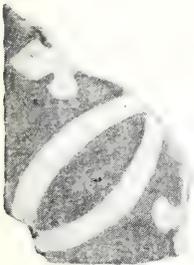
2a.



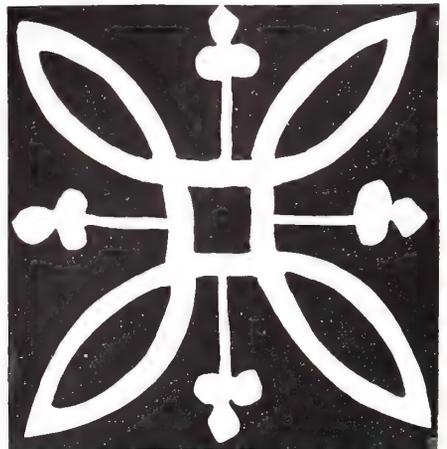
Design 2.



2b.



3a.

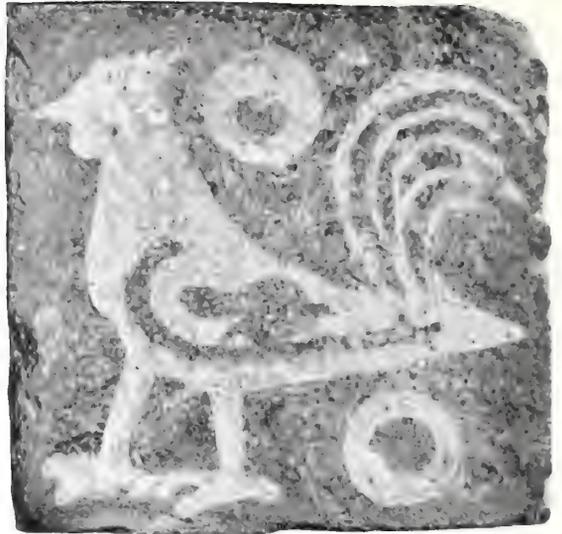


3b.

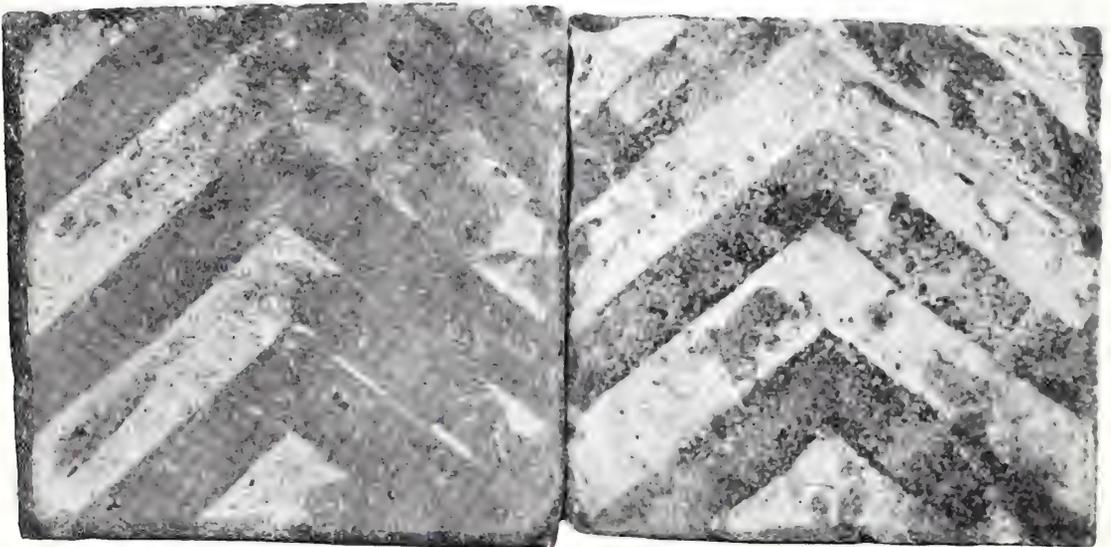
Plate I. 13th Century Tiles in Lord Methuen's Collection. Designs 1—4.
Designs 2b and 3b drawn by Joy Graham.



Design 5.

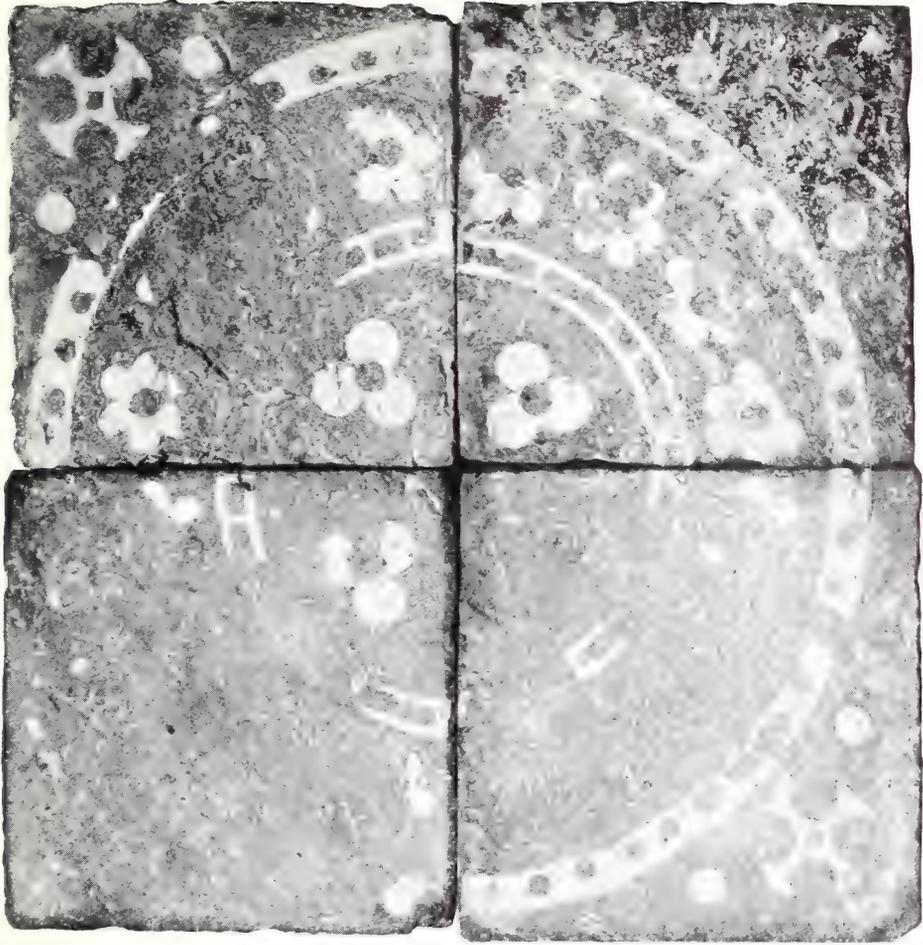


Design 6.

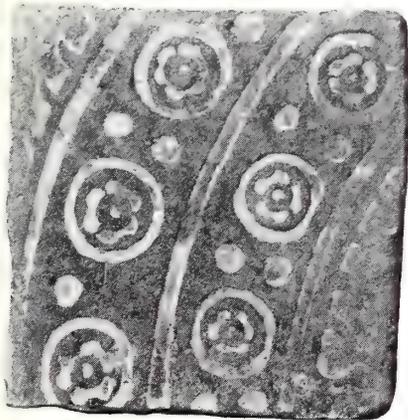


Design 7.





Design 8.



Design 9.

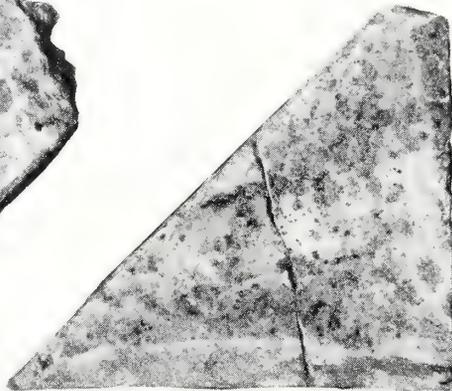
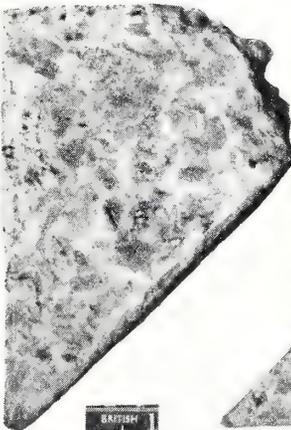
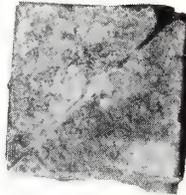
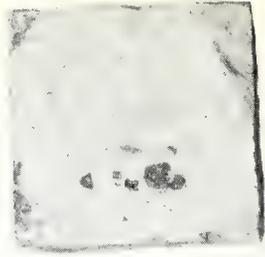
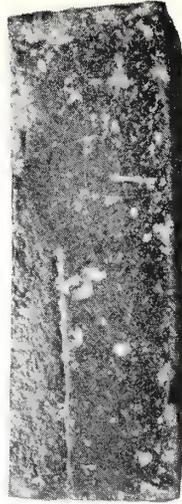
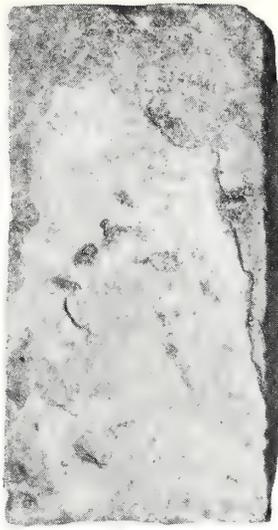


Plate IV. Plain Tiles in Lord Methuen's collection.

site in Wiltshire this tile is likely to be later than 1252, but may date from the third quarter of the 13th century.

Design 4. (Plate I, 4.)

A castle with two turrets embattled. This is represented by a rectangular fragment, about $\frac{1}{3}$ of a tile. This design is not stamped quite square to the tile. Designs containing castles are derived from the arms of Eleanor of Castile and in their original form may thus be assumed to date from the last three decades of the 13th century. This is a rather crude representation which suggests that it is a later derivative. It may therefore be of very late 13th century or early 14th century date. Designs with castles are known from various sites in Wiltshire and Hampshire but this particular form is not known to me.

Designs 5 and 6. (Plate II, 5, 6.)

A naturalistic representation of a cock with two annulets, one below the tail, the other between the tail feathers and the comb. In design 5 the cock is sinister, has one foot raised and has four tail feathers. In design 6 the cock is dexter, stands on both feet and has five tail feathers.

There are two examples of design 6 and one of design 5 in the Stourhead Collection in Devizes Museum, but the provenance of these is not known either. I do not know any other examples of this charming pair of cocks.

One may attribute these tiles to the earlier part of the 14th century when naturalistic representations of birds, animals and plants were popular.

There are 20 other tiles and 27 fragments of designs 5 and 6 in the collection.

Design 7. (Plate II, 7.)

Two chevrons and parts of two others set square on the tile. A sequence of these tiles would form a continuous herringbone pattern.

This design is represented by two tiles. These probably also date from the 14th century when repeating patterns were frequently used.

There are 9 other tiles and 27 fragments of Design 7 in the collection.

Design 8. (Plate III, 8.)

This design is spread over four tiles each bearing an identical quarter of the pattern: three concentric bands, with four pierced trefoils in the central roundel, and a pierced cross and two roundels in each outer corner. The outer band is white with red spots, the wide central band is red with 16 pierced white 6-foils, the inner band is white with red rectangles. When the tiles were glazed the colours would appear yellow and brown, not white and red.

One set of four tiles is contained in this collection. The layout of this design is typical of the products of the Malvern school which began at Great Malvern Priory in the 1450's. The products of this school are widely disseminated in the Severn Valley and South Wales.

There are 10 fragments of Design 8 in the collection.

Design 9. (Plate III, 9.)

A large pattern of concentric bands spread over 16 tiles. The single tile in this collection would be the 3rd from the left in any outer row. It is decorated by segments of two concentric bands each containing alternately a flower of three indented petals within a circle, and two spots. There are parts of leaves with square-cut edges both outside and inside the bands. This tile is also a product of the Malvern School and thus dates from the latter part of the fifteenth century. It is known to come from Lacock Abbey.

THE PLAIN TILES (PLATE IV)

In addition to these decorated tiles, nine plain tiles are illustrated. On most of these the clear lead glaze which was used on all the decorated tiles was applied over a coating of white slip and therefore appears yellow. On others copper has been added to the glaze which is therefore dark green. These are the two commonest colours for plain tiles of the medieval period. The brown, which results from applying the lead glaze direct to the red body of the tile, and which is the background colour of most decorated tiles, was rarely used on plain tiles. There are about 50 more plain tiles, either whole or fragmentary, in the collection.

It is not known where any of these plain tiles were found, and it is not possible to date plain tiles with any certainty once they have been removed from their context. Plain tiles were widely used to form borders round decorated tiles or to divide a floor into panels, as well as being used alone in simple geometric arrangements. It was usual to divide a floor into panels or rectangular sections running parallel to the walls but within these sections the tiles were more often laid diagonally than square. Large numbers of triangular half tiles were therefore needed at the edges of panels. Three of the tiles here demonstrate the way in which rectangular tiles were scored before they were fired and broken apart afterwards. One of these demonstrates that the tiles did not always break in the right place. Although this undoubtedly caused considerable wastage, it was far simpler to stack rectangular than triangular tiles in the kiln as they were generally stacked one above the other on edge.

THE BOROUGH OF HEYTESBURY IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

By JOHN CANNON

The borough of Heytesbury has been dismissed in the past as of little interest to the historian. The article in the *Victoria History of Wiltshire* dealing with Parliamentary history treats it in eleven lines, remarking that it had 'the unique distinction of being the only Wiltshire borough where there was not one contested election between 1689 and its extinction in 1832'.¹

On closer examination, the borough loses even this claim, since there are records of contests in 1722, 1754, and 1761.² But it is certainly true that the opposition to the Ashe-A'Court family, patrons of the borough, was trifling, and it is therefore odd that the Duke of Marlborough should have succeeded in 1772 in prising away one of the seats. The kindness of Lord Heytesbury in making available his family papers enables this curious circumstance to be explained.

Before the passing of the Reform Bill, Heytesbury, a village with about a thousand inhabitants,³ returned two members to Parliament. There were twenty-six voters, these being the occupiers of certain houses known as burgage tenements, and the Bailiff of the Lord of the Manor acted as Returning Officer. It was therefore comparatively simple for the Lord of the Manor to gain complete control, and Heytesbury was one of the first boroughs in Wiltshire to be closed up.

The Ashe family acquired its influence at Heytesbury when Edward Ashe, of Halstead, Kent, purchased the manor in 1641.⁴ In 1688, his sons William and Edward were said to 'have the sole interest in the borough',⁵ and his grandson, Edward, occupied one of the seats for more than fifty years from 1695 onwards. The second seat went, in turn, to Edward Ashe's younger brother, brother-in-law, and nephew. An opposition in 1722 served merely to demonstrate how complete was the family's hold on the borough.

On the death of Edward Ashe in 1748, the property was bequeathed first to his nephew William, and failing his line, to the heirs of Edward's sister, Elizabeth, who had married in 1705 Peirce A'Court of Ivychurch, near Salisbury. William died without issue two years later, and ownership of the borough passed to Peirce A'Court, the elder son of Elizabeth, who added the name of Ashe to his own. He was then in possession of the great majority of the burgage tenures, though his cousin, Bridget Ashe, retained three, the Duke of Marlborough had one,⁶ and there were four more held independently.

Peirce A'Court Ashe and his brother William⁷ represented the borough in the next two Parliaments. A token opposition was maintained by the Bennet family of Norton Bavant, which caused Peirce some anxiety, but in fact his control over the borough was perfectly secure from outside attack. The Duke of Marlborough was given his opportunity only by family dissension.

In 1762, Peirce had married Janet Brown, a woman of strong character,⁸ and had made a will, leaving the estates to her for life, and subsequently to his nephew, William. In the succeeding years, Janet grew dissatisfied with these arrangements, demanding to know 'what she was expected to live on?'⁹ An open quarrel with her brother-in-law followed, in which she declared he had 'spite enough in him to cut Mr. Ashe's throat if he was not afraid of being hanged for it'.¹⁰ During the last years of his life Peirce was extremely ill, and fell completely under the domination of his wife 'and her creatures'. In the summer of 1768, he was persuaded to make a codicil cutting out his nephew, and ordering the estates to be sold for the benefit of his widow. He died three months later, in September, 1768.

William A'Court Ashe, defending his son's inheritance, at once began legal action to set aside the codicil, on the ground that it had been obtained by undue influence. Janet retorted by selling the burgages to the Duke of Marlborough for £14,000,¹¹ and more actions followed to eject William A'Court Ashe's supporters from their tenements.

Both sides soon realised that the actions might go on interminably, and in February, 1772, 'to put

an end to the disputes and to accommodate all matters in difference',¹² they agreed to divide the eighteen disputed properties between them. Each party was to have the right to nominate one of the members of Parliament. Accordingly, at the election of 1774, the Duke nominated William Gordon, who had previously sat for Woodstock, and William A'Court Ashe took the other seat.

William A'Court Ashe, while keeping to the letter of the agreement, hoped to re-establish the family supremacy. In 1772, he held nine burgages, while the Duke held ten.¹³ By 1780, Ashe had acquired four more, three of them by purchase from his cousin Bridget. Just before the General Election, he took counsel's opinion whether he could be compelled under the terms of the agreement to share these four leases, and was assured that he could not. His brief included a description of the borough, which gives a good idea of the mechanics of control in a constituency of this nature:

Some of the burgage tenements are constantly inhabited but the greatest part of them are only inhabited for a short time previous to an election by persons in whom the General and the Duke confide, who are put into the burgage houses for the purpose of entitling them to vote . . .¹⁴

After William A'Court Ashe's death in 1781, the family continued to buy up leases as opportunity offered. In 1784, they owned fourteen leases, and by 1793, sixteen. This was the limit to their advance, however, for the remaining ten were safe in the Duke's hands. The compromise reached in 1772 lasted for at least forty years: Charles Moore, who represented the borough in the Parliament of 1807, was closely associated with the Duke. But the second edition of Oldfield's *Representative History of Great Britain*, published in 1816, gives A'Court as the sole owner,¹⁵ and in 1820 the return of two A'Court brothers suggests that the family had at last won back the position it lost in 1769.

The story of Heytesbury demonstrates, first, that no borough could be taken for granted. Constant vigilance was essential. Secondly, it affords a good example of the importance of going to the original documents, if this can be done.

¹*Parliamentary History, 1689-1832*, Volume V, p. 209.

²The contest of 1722 is reported in the *Daily Post*, 28 Mar. 1722, and the polls for the contests of 1754 and 1761 are preserved in the Heytesbury MSS.

³According to the *Census* of 1801, there were 196 houses and 1072 inhabitants.

⁴R. C. Hoare, *Modern Wiltshire*, Hundred of Heytesbury, p. 117.

⁵Rawlinson MSS. (Bodleian Library).

⁶The Red Lion, inhabited by the Snelgrove family. The Dukes' Wiltshire seat at Lavington was only seven miles away.

⁷William A'Court Ashe (1708-1781), Army Officer,

who rose to the rank of General. He was dismissed his Regiment in 1764 for voting with Opposition at Westminster. See H. Walpole, *Memoirs of George III*, ed. Barker, i. 268.

⁸Daughter of Colonel Robert Brown, and sister of Robiana, Countess of Peterborough.

⁹Evidence on behalf of W. A'Court, *Heytesbury MSS*

¹⁰*Ibid.*

¹¹Articles of Agreement, 3 Mar. 1769, *Heytesbury MSS*.

¹²Indenture, 27 Feb. 1772, *Heytesbury MSS*.

¹³Having held one previously.

¹⁴Case of the Borough, 29 Sep. 1780, *Heytesbury MSS*.

¹⁵The first edition, published in 1792 as a *History of the Boroughs* gives A'Court and Marlborough as joint patrons.

AN EARLY 18th CENTURY VISITOR TO AVEBURY

By O. MEYRICK

In Vol. II of Wilts Miscellaneous MSS. in Devizes Museum Library is an account of a journey through Wilts in 1712 by John Saunders, a manservant accompanying Mrs. Sarah Hickes on a visit from Bucks to London and then to Bath. Appended is the footnote: 'Lent to me, Rev. E. Wilton, by Revd. Edward Elton.' A further note says 'Rev. E. Wilton at one time curate at Steeple Ashton, afterwards curate of Erlestoke and Master of the Dauntsey School, West Lavington. This document is in his handwriting and came into the hands of the Secretary of the Wilts Arch. and N. H. Society from his repres . . .'

Presented by H. E. Medlicott, 1911.'

(Medlicott had been Secretary a few years before this date.)

In an accompanying letter dated Oct. 3rd, 1869 Elton expresses the hope that the part relating to Wilts will be taken in hand by Wilton and edited for the Wilts Magazine. The whole journey had been published in Records of Bucks, Vol. III, 1866; I am indebted to the President and Committee of the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society for permission to reprint the Wiltshire portion here. This is of particular interest as it includes a hitherto overlooked reference to the Avebury stone circles, one of very few known after John Aubrey discovered them in 1663 and before Stukeley's first visit in 1719.¹ Whilst other travellers passed through without record, Saunders stayed there over a week and picked up the local gossip about the stones and Silbury. The legend of the cobbler suggests a distorted tradition of the death of the barber-surgeon under one of the stones four centuries earlier, discovered during Keiller's excavations. The use of the term 'wall ditch' adds a third to the two instances already recorded by E. G. H. Kempson (*W.A.M.*, lvi, 60, 190). It should be observed that the coach road from Marlborough at that time led over the downs, and Avebury would therefore have been approached by the eastern causeway of the circle.

The account sheds light on the state of minor roads, which made a cross-country journey something not lightly to be ventured by a middle-aged lady riding pillion. Why a hare crossing the road should be particularly mentioned is not clear unless it presaged misfortune.

Mrs. Hickes, daughter of Samuel Trotman, was born in 1667 and married Rev. Dr. Hickes, of Whimple, Dorset. Her sister Susannah was married to Sir Richard Holford of Avebury Manor, Master in Chancery. Another sister Hannah (born 1652) married Robert Wadman of Imber Court and West Tinhead.

From London Mrs. Hickes and Saunders travelled by coach with Sir Richard and Lady Holford, making for their house at Avebury. The MS. begins with their entry into Wiltshire.

'We lay that night at Mr. Shropshire's at the Angel in Marlbourrow it is a pretty town and a good Market 5 miles from Avebery.

Thursday the 13 (Aug.) about 10 we came to Sir Ric. Holford's house in Avebery it is a noble large antient seat built with whit larg stone, it did belong to Lord Stoil (John 2nd Lord Stawel of Somerton) the late noble Lord Stoil was born there and our Queen Ann dined there. Avebery is compassed about with a wall ditch which was thrown up in wars they say 1000 years before Christ, there is two large stones as you enter the town which they call gates, there is many large stones standing up as big as those at Stone edge. One Sunday a cobler was mending of shoos under one of these great stones the minute he rose the stone fell down and broke in pieces on the very ground whare he sat which made him see the great providence of God in preserving him alive and so deter him from braking the Sabbeth for wh: reason he never worked more on the Sabbeth day. Thare lies thick on the downs many large stones wh: they call gray wathers. About half a mile from Avebery is a round steep green hill under it is said a king fell, being killed in a dreadfull bloody fight on those downs was buried thare and his men threw up the ground on his grave so high as made this hill for a monument to keep his memory.

Aug. ye 22 Jac Rose rid before my Mrs. and I carried her portemantow on Sir Rich: punch nag. We rid by Alcannons that is 5 miles from Avebery and through the Vicese Green wh: is one mile from Alcannons through Pottern it is one mile from the Vicese Tuft. At Pottern Townsend we see a Hare cross the road before my horse, as we ware riding to the 5 lanes in the next lane that turned towards Worton we came to a great depe myer across the lane we had no way to ride by so was forced to pass through it. My Mrs. got safe through it by Gods great mercy though with great difficulty to the horse and dainger to herself. I rid through after her but my horse floundered so very much that his tassel broke and downe came ye portmantow and I had a very daingous fall but God preserved me that I had no hurt. Then we rid through Worton whare I met with a very sevil man wh: put my takel to rites. Worton is 1 mile from Pottern next we rid through Masson (Marston) it is 1 mile from Worton. The next town we rid through was Coulston one mile from Masson then to Tinhead is one mile we came to Tinhead Court about 12 to Mrs. Wadman whom I did hartily long to see, she rec'd us cherfully and with a hartly welcom. She has a goodly look tho under a long confinement to her chamber by ye goute.

Aug. ye 31 Mr. Justis Wadman fecht my Mrs. in his coach and I on ye outside to his house in Imber. Sunday we went to Church thare, in ye which is two noble antient monuments lying cross legged like Knights Templers, under each is a stone sepulchre with ye bones of a body in each of them. We were nobly entertained by Mr. Justic Wadman and on Monday returned in his coach to Tinhead's Court.

On Tuesday ye 23 of September I waited on my Mrs. to Imber on ye Downe and returned at night. On Friday I was at Edington Church, whar I see Mrs Hannah Wadman's grave with this Inscription,² with under her cotte of arms on her grave stone: Here lyeth ye body of Mrs. Hannah Wadman ye daughter of Robert Wadman of Imber Esq. by Hannah his wife who was ye daughter of Samuel Trotman of Bucnell in ye County of Oxon Esq. She had the misfortune to break one of ye panbones of her knees and to dislocate ye other which caused her to undergo both a long and a tedious confinement and also to endure much pain and misery; wharfore when it should please God to release her, she being full of hope and trust in His mercy desired that the verse following might be engraved upon her Tombstone, viz: Thou shalt make me to hear of joy and gladness that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoyce. Psalm ye 51 ye 8 Verse. She dyed on ye 9th day of December 1709 in ye 30th year of her age.

On Friday ye 26 of September we went from Tinhead with ye Salsbyry Coach to Bath, whare Esquier Trotman's horses and man met us and brought us ye same night to Siston Court about 9 o'clock.'

¹Perhaps the only other first-hand account is that of Pepys in 1668.

²No longer to be seen.

EXCAVATION AND FIELD-WORK IN WILTSHIRE: 1958

By F. K. ANNABLE

SUMMARY

This year both the Salisbury Museum Excavation sub-committee and the Research group of the parent society have made a good start; the Salisbury group in particular can claim a spectacular beginning by carrying out the excavation of the largest medieval pottery industry that has so far come to light in this country. As every archaeologist knows, the study of ceramic evidence is a vital one, and the discovery of a kiln or a group of kilns with their wide range of pottery types may be of great help, especially if the production period of the kilns can be closely dated, in the dating of stratified ceramic evidence at other excavations. It is a useful coincidence that the notes on both the Savernake and Laverstock kiln digs appear at the same time as Dr. Philip Corder's paper (*Archaeological Journal*, Vol. cxiv, pp. 10-27, 'The Structure of Romano-British Kilns') in which he stresses the importance of locating and excavating pottery kilns and the vital bearing their products have on the dating of sites elsewhere. Both groups have thus performed a useful service, the one for Wiltshire mediaeval, the other for Romano-British, chronology.

Readers of this summary will observe that most archaeological investigation in Wiltshire has again been carried out by the Ministry of Works, notably on Salisbury Plain and in the east of the county. Indeed, Wiltshire archaeology would be in a poor way without the Ministry now that the era of patronage is, alas, so much a thing of the remote past. Of this, the present writer of this summary, and his colleague struggling to raise even the barest financial minimum towards their investigation of Romano-British *Cunetio*, are only too conscious. How delightful, could but the benefactory eye of some archaeologically minded Maecenas light upon this page! The writer has recently visited two newly discovered sites in west Wiltshire which by the extent of their remains appear to be Romano-British buildings of considerable size. Yet when, and from what source will be forthcoming the money to finance their investigation, or the organisation to carry out the only proper excavation, which is of course in entirety? Yet this is not to mention the many long-known sites in Wiltshire which deserve attention, but must be left to the yearly depredations of the casual plough, and the military exercise.

But let us not be too downcast. There still remains much that can be done by the careful and informed amateur. This was splendidly illustrated by the 'Open Day', held on October 18th in the Assembly Rooms, Salisbury, and organised by Group 12 (Wessex) of the Council for British Archaeology under the chairmanship of Professor W. F. Grimes, Professor of Archaeology in the University of London.

This meeting was intended to illustrate the work largely carried out by archaeological research groups in the Wiltshire, Hampshire, Dorset region, and took the form of an exhibition of site-finds, plans, sections and photographs, amplified by short reports of their researches, given by leaders of the groups. The exhibition was remarkably well attended, and, at its close, brilliantly summed up by Professor I. A. Richmond, of Oxford, Professor of the Archaeology of the Roman Empire. Members of this Society may be interested to learn that a further Open Day on similar lines is to be held, again at Salisbury, on October 17th, 1959.

All this is greatly encouraging, and well demonstrates the potentialities of the local research group, and the high standard of work that can be achieved.

Is it, however, out of place to include here a closing caveat? The work capable of being carried out by amateur groups must necessarily be limited, since it is primarily a leisure time pursuit, for which there are only modest resources, and usually only a small number of helpers. The work of such groups must be kept within manageable proportions, and geared to a wider programme of research intended to provide

answers to specific archaeological problems connected with our own respective localities, and, in the large sense, the country as a whole. Such a policy is almost being forced upon us by our poverty, by the alarming rapidity with which ancient sites are being destroyed, and (for our sins!) the necessity of having to assimilate a mass of archaeological, technical and scientific, minutiae which multiplies almost yearly. Archaeology, we now know, is even for the amateur not a fine, careless rapture.

For their contributions to this summary of excavations I am grateful to the following :—

E. Greenfield (Wilsford Down and Normanton Down), Dr. Isobel Smith and W. E. V. Young (West Kennet Avenue, and Grange Penning), P. Ashbee (The Milton Hill Farm Barrow group), Mrs. Faith de M. Vatcher (Lamb Down, Codford, and Down Farm, Pewsey), Mrs. Sonia Hawkes (Cow Down, Longbridge Deverell), P. Rahtz (Old Sarum), J. W. G. Musty (Winterbourne Gunner, and rescue work in the Salisbury area), Anthony J. Clark (Black Field, Mildenhall, joint report), J. Tucker (Mesolithic sites in N. Wiltshire) and Rev. E. H. Steele for his note on the one-day Training Courses arranged by the Archaeology sub-committee.

EXCAVATION

Wilsford Down and Normanton Down, Amesbury

From September 15 until November 21, emergency excavations on behalf of the Ministry of Works were carried out by E. Greenfield at a number of individual sites. These were (1) A group of barrows (Goddard's Nos.51-54 inclusive) on Wilsford Down, (SU/114404); (2) an earthwork enclosure also on Wilsford Down, (SU/113406); and (3) The Long Mortuary enclosure on Normanton Down, (SU/115411)

(1) *The Barrows*: Neolithic and Bronze Age

No. 51. This was a low, roughly circular mound, about 50ft. in diameter and 1ft. 6in. high, covering a primary inhumation which had been previously disturbed, and a secondary cremation pit. Excavation revealed that the barrow was surrounded by an eight-segmented ditch.

The filling of the primary burial, disturbed when the secondary deposit was made, produced two decorated sherds of a decorated beaker with a small handle. The secondary cremation was intact, and lay at the base of a circular pit unaccompanied by grave goods; the pit filling and the make-up of the funeral pyre produced pottery of Secondary Neolithic type as did also the upper filling of some of the ditch segments.

A small flat-based ditch with near vertical sides was located, crossing the west fringe of the barrow on a north-south alignment. It cut ditch-segments A and D, and terminated a foot beyond the north edge of D. Southwards it was traced beyond the limit of the barrow for a distance of 200ft. It was proved later to be the south side of an enclosure post-dating the barrow.

No. 52. This barrow was not visible on the surface and was eventually located by plotting from the 25in. O.S. map. No barrow ditch was found.

This barrow, previously opened by William Cunnington in 1805, contained a large communal grave in which were the disturbed remains of four separate burials, three being superimposed inhumations above a possible primary cremation. Two of the burials, one of which was that of a child, were accompanied by beakers; sherds of beaker pottery were however scattered amongst the mixed grave filling.

A series of eight irregularly shaped features was excavated around the communal grave. Six of them produced Windmill Hill pottery in quantity from their upper filling.

No. 53. Originally excavated by William Cunnington, this was a low mound 45ft. across and 6ins. high. There was no surrounding ditch.

An inverted cone-shaped hole near the centre contained on its base Cunnington's disc dated 1805, above which were coarse scraps of cremated bone.

No. 54. A low mound, approximately 35ft. in diameter and 1ft. high. Trenching revealed that it

was surrounded by a small circular ditch composed of closely linked and irregularly shaped holes of shallow depth. Like the rest of the barrow interments, this burial, that of an adult skeleton, had been disturbed previously, even before its excavation by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, who records the fact. Five barbed and tanged arrowheads, and the scattered fragments of three decorated beakers were found in the mound material near the north-east side of the grave pit. A stone axe-hammer and a bronze dagger blade with three rivets were found above the skull, which fortunately seemed to have escaped the attention of earlier excavators; more beaker sherds were also recovered from this part of the grave filling.

(2) *The Earthwork Enclosure: Perhaps of Early Bronze Age*

The enclosure was kite-shaped and contained an area of about 50 acres. Originally it was bounded on its west, north and east sides by a well-defined bank and outer ditch; owing however to ploughing, only 350 yards of the west bank and ditch remain in their former condition. As far as is known, the south side was not closed.

Sections were cut across the earthwork. These included two cuttings made across the open south side to ascertain whether it had been originally closed; the cuttings produced no evidence of a south bank and ditch. Only in cutting C was there evidence forthcoming for the date of the enclosure; here, pottery of Early Bronze Age date was found sealed by the bank in the pre-bank ground surface. Cutting A across the east side showed a small ditch parallel to the east of the main earthwork ditch which was traced southwards beyond the limits of the site and northwards for a distance of 450 ft.

(3) *The Long Mortuary Enclosure: Neolithic*

During the excavation of the barrows and earthwork, a small test excavation was carried out on the mortuary enclosure on Normanton Down. The enclosure had previously been located by Professor R. J. C. Atkinson who had also produced a plan, and had been later subjected to a 'megger' survey by Mr. D. R. Mayes; as a result the test excavation was arranged to cover both plans.

Trenching showed that this enclosure is of the Wor Barrow type with north and south curving ditches, and ditch segments closing the west and east sides. An entrance gap lay between segments on the east side. The ditches were normally vertical-sided with flat or undulating bases; on the south the ditch sides tapered from east to west. An antler pick, found on the floor of the ditch on this side, was the only artifact discovered.

During further trenching, a large number of shallow depressions were cleared. These were all much the same shape and with a consistent filling, though varying somewhat in size. They have been tentatively accepted as thorn bush holes, such as were found at Woodhenge.

The West Kennet Avenue

During the winter of 1957-8 excavations were carried out at West Kennet by Mr. W. E. V. Young, on behalf of the Ministry of Works. The purpose of the excavations was to uncover and investigate various of the stoneholes of the Avenue threatened by a proposed widening of the A4 road in that area. The stoneholes located and dealt with at the time were 78B, 80B, and 81B of Crawford's numeration, situated near the present road verge on the south-east, and belonging to the left side of the Avenue as it approaches Avebury. Stonehole 79B could not be located at the time as its conjectural position falls within a narrow space between the cottage known as 'Ellamatto' and a small garage; it is hoped to find it later on. These stoneholes continue the line on this side of the four visible stones situated below the hedgerow (O.S. 6in., Sheet 28SW, 1901) and the buried stone 86B which was uncovered by A. D. Passmore in 1922 (*W.A.M.*, vol xliii, pp. 341-3). Their opposite numbers fall beneath the present road.

Proof was forthcoming from the excavation of stonehole 78B that the stone which originally stood in

it had been deliberately dug around and overthrown in the 14th century A.D. It then remained on the surface and was subsequently broken up by the heating and cooling process shortly before Stukeley's arrival at Avebury.

During the survey of the site, a corner of stone 80B was noticed where the turf had been recently trodden away by cattle. It is a small stone of the flat-based 'A' form which had fallen from its shallow stonehole in a downhill direction towards the southwest, and had become buried by the gradual accumulation of earth and detritus washed down from the road above. Evidently this happened before Stukeley's time as he had estimated the position of its stonehole some 10ft. further north-east.

Stonehole 81B was found to contain all its packing stones. Its form suggests that the stone which originally stood here was a large diamond-shaped one of the 'B' type with tapering base. Ample signs of its eventual destruction were provided by the usual scatter of black straw ash, chips of burnt sarsen and broken clay pipes, all lying to the south-east of the stonehole.

Stonehole 75B was located in the garden of a farm cottage on the northern side of the main road. It was again undamaged and retained 19 large packing stones; the standing stone had fallen of its own accord and was subsequently broken up. It was not seen by Stukeley who had marked its approximate position with the dot symbol on his plan of 1724.

The excavations have thus established the course of the *left hand* side of the Avenue from the existing stones under the hedgerow up to and beyond the point where it turns north-west from the A4 road. Stonehole 76B can be approximately sited beneath a narrow passage between the eastern wall of the cottages, and outbuildings belonging to West Kennet House. Number 77B is presumably the stone 'over which the Bath road passes' (*Long, Avebury Illustrated*, p. 22).

The Milton Hill Farm Barrow Group: Bronze Age.

Five round barrows on Milton Hill Farm, near Pewsey (SU/200578) were excavated during July and August by Mr. P. Ashbee, F.S.A., on behalf of the Ministry of Works.

The group consisted of two large bell-barrows, with a smaller bowl-barrow set between them, a disc-barrow and an isolated bell-barrow. War-time ploughing had all but eradicated the disc-barrows and the outer banks of the bowl-barrows, and the small bowl-barrow set between these had been completely removed.

From the undamaged bell-barrow mounds a good deal of information was forthcoming as to methods of construction and burial procedure. At the base of one of the mounds, hearth sweepings containing bones and shattered urn and food vessel pottery underlay a turf layer containing further hearth-material. The whole was enveloped in chalk-rubble incorporated into the body of the mound when the carefully set-out surrounding ditch was dug. A similar sequence was recorded in the second bell-barrow construction.

An unrecorded excavation had removed one bell-barrow burial, but the other was intact. On the original ground surface beneath this undisturbed barrow, a heavily burnt area suggested the remains of a funeral pyre. A small coffin shaped from a half section of oak trunk had been inverted over a heaped cremation placed on the burnt area and accompanied by a well-made miniature cup. Close to the coffin lay a burnt timber baulk and a further flat wooden object. One edge of the coffin was charred and burnt away, implying that it had been deposited on the pyre whilst the fire was still hot.

A small bowl-barrow, destroyed by ploughing in 1943, had previously been visible between the two bell-barrows. Pre-war field surveys had determined that here were three confluent barrows, as the ditch of the bowl-barrow clearly cut into the outer banks of the other two mounds. Cuttings were made in order to determine the precise relationship of the bowl-barrow to the two bell-types.

The disc-barrow was oval in plan. A single cremation burial was discovered at the base of the mound

placed within an oval pit and accompanied by a bronze awl; close to it was a circular pit containing a mass of charcoal, possibly from the funeral pyre.

The disc and bell-barrows with the bowl barrow set between them comprised a small linear cemetery, and an entity in themselves. Set at some distance from these, however, were a further two bowl-barrows, the furthest one lying below the slope on which the main barrows are sited.

Time fortunately allowed for an examination of the closer of the bowl barrows. The base of its low mound had been constructed of turf covered by a dirty chalk rubble from the shallow ditch dug around it. A small circular pit at the base of the centre of the mound contained a large collared urn filled with cremated bones. The hill-slope, and the 'Coombe Rock' character of the chalk into which the grave-pit had been dug, resulted in periodic saturation and drying of the crown of the inverted vessel, and as a consequence the body of the urn had telescoped over its poorly fired rim, which had reverted to soft clay.

Lamb Down, Codford: Down Farm, Pewsey: Bronze Age Barrow Group

Mrs. Faith de M. Vatcher excavated two barrow-groups, one at Codford, and one at Pewsey, on behalf of the Ministry of Works during the summer and autumn of 1958.

Codford. At Codford (ST/989394) five barrows were investigated. Site A consisted of a ditched bowl-barrow, the primary grave of which had been robbed; secondary cremation burials associated with sherds of Middle Bronze Age date also occurred, and a further single inhumation of Romano-British date with a bronze penannular brooch on the left shoulder. Pottery of Deverel-Rinbury (L.B.A.) type was found in the ditch filling.

Site B was a scraped-up bowl barrow containing a primary crouched inhumation and a secondary cremation. Associated with both burials were small fragments of Beaker pottery. Site C, also a 'scrape' barrow, contained a primary cremation, and pottery of Romano-British date occurred throughout the mound.

The Site E barrow which had very shallow ditches produced pottery evidence of a pre-barrow Neolithic and Beaker occupation; a single cremation *in situ* was also found with fragments of a Middle Bronze Age urn scattered around it, and lying on the old turf-line.

Site D was found to have been destroyed down to the old surface in World War I; in fact there was evidence of earlier robbing and disturbance in all the barrows.

Down Farm: The Down Farm, Pewsey Group (SU/187566) consisted of two bowl-barrows and three disc-barrows.

Sites A and B, the two bowl-barrows, were ditchless. In the former barrow the central grave contained traces of a wooden coffin in which was a disarticulated and *unaccompanied* inhumation.

A large area of charcoal was found on the old buried surface beneath the centre of barrow B, but there was no trace of cremated bone. Both barrows had been much disturbed by tree growth, and the underlying chalk was pitted with many root-holes.

None of the three disc-barrows produced burials. The only grave found, which was in Site D, was empty and this barrow may represent one of three excavated at an earlier date by Sir Richard Colt Hoare. In sites C and E, however, small cup-shaped pits full of charcoal were found.

From the excavation of the flat-bottomed ditches of these three barrows it was deduced that the small central mounds, now totally ploughed out, had consisted of topsoil only, and that the chalk from the ditch cuttings had been used to form the outer banks.

Cow Down, Longbridge Deverell: Early Iron Age Enclosures

A second season of excavation was carried out at Cow Down, Longbridge Deverell, (ST/887145)

during the month of July 14—August 13, and directed on behalf of the Ministry of Works by Mrs. Sonia Hawkes.

The investigations this year were planned with the intention of elucidating the problem of the soil-marked enclosures B and C, and were designed to establish two main points: (1) The exact location of the perimeter ditches so that they could be planned on the ground, and if possible, their stratification determined. (2) The determination, by stripping an area of the interior of B, of the scale, nature and date of the occupation within this enclosure. (*W.A.M.*, lvii, p. 9 'Excavation and Field-Work, 1957').

Enclosure B

Cuttings revealed the line of the ditch of B on the north and east sides, but failed to pick it up on the south side. The ditch at the points sectioned produced very little occupational debris.

Enclosure C

The position of the perimeter ditch of C was established at two crucial points, although the infilling again yielded disappointingly few finds.

An area measuring 40ft. × 160ft. at the centre of this enclosure was completely stripped on a 20ft. grid system, and the results obtained fully justified expectations. Within the area 111 post-holes, 35 storage pits and 4 working hollows were completely or partially excavated. The post-holes were widely scattered, but in two places they appear to add up to structures of a rough kind. Towards the end of the excavation it was realised that these latter constituted the plan of a second round-house of Iron Age A1 date, which it is hoped will be completely uncovered during future work on the site.

The pits are of the normal silo type, varying considerably in size, fill and content. Post-holes around the edges of a few of the pits indicate covers of some sort, and channels in one or two cases were presumably designed to collect water. The pits were prolific in pottery and small finds. The working hollows are again of standard type, usually enlargements of a number of filled in pits; here again peripheral post-holes suggest some kind of roofing.

The finds themselves are very important. They indicate two phases of settlement, the first represented by classic early A1 pottery, including finger-tipped sherds, and furrowed haematite bowls, the second by black or brown coated wares of Second B (the old A/B category) type. Small finds include clay sling bullets, bone gouges, quern fragments, loom weights and spindle-whorls. Metal objects include one iron ring-headed pin, fragments of knives, and some small bronze pieces. Traces of iron smelting in the form of both raw material and iron slag were found in one or two pits.

The importance of the Cow Down site lies in its being the closest parallel yet excavated to the Little Woodbury type site, though its first occupation is clearly nearer to All Cannings Cross in date. Further investigations will be carried out in 1960.

Grange Penning, Little Avebury: Iron Age and later occupation

In September, a small excavation was carried out by the Ministry of Works in Grange Penning, Manor Farm, Little Avebury (SU/077693) its purpose being to uncover a group of large sarsens located by ploughing during the early spring. These were thought to be possibly the covering stones of a burial similar to that discovered and excavated in 1948 in the same penning (*W.A.M.*, liii, pp. 311-27). Mr. W. E. V. Young directed the excavation and acknowledgements are due to Messrs. Butler Bros. of Manor Farm, for permission to dig, and to Mr. P. Langley, farm bailiff, for promptly reporting the discovery.

No burials were found. The sarsens, eight in number, had been tumbled into a shallow, roughly circular hole approximately 17ft. in diameter, and, at its centre, 2ft. below ground surface. The entire area of the hollow was extremely smooth and well trodden, indicating that it had been scooped out for a particular purpose, though the surface of the floor was clean, and no evidence of occupation layers was

found during digging. It is possible that the scoop was in fact a working floor used for the threshing and winnowing of corn, after the manner of similar scoops excavated at Little Woodbury and other Early Iron Age sites though in this case of Romano-British date. From the soil filling of this hollow large quantities of sherds were recovered ranging from Iron Age A to bead-rims and Romano-British coarse wares including Samian fragments. Other finds included flint flakes, a spherical flint pounder, and part of a sarsen quernstone.

The quantity and variety of the pottery restricted to this small area points to a continuous occupation of the site from the earliest Iron Age phase to Romano-British times. Further excavation in this locality may well reveal a habitation site and indications of agricultural activity extending over a similar period, and at the same time fill a hiatus in the archaeological sequence of Avebury.

Down Barn West, Winterbourne Gunner: A ditched enclosure of Early Iron Age date

A second and final season of excavation was carried out at this enclosure by the Salisbury Field Club, under the direction of Mr. J. W. G. Musty.

Additional ditch and bank sections were cut, including a section through a quarry scoop, but little new dating evidence was obtained. None of the bank sections provided evidence for an extension of the palisade identified near the entrance in 1957, although a number of holes were found under the bank. It is now thought that these holes, including those previously identified as palisade post-holes, are of natural origin, and that at this earthwork a weathered layer, possibly of glacial origin, is preserved by the banks. According to information from Mr. P. Rahtz, similar holes were noticed under the banks of a Late Bronze Age enclosure at Sydling St. Nicholas, Dorset.

Finds from the 1958 excavations included a spindle whorl from the quarry scoop, and Roman sherds from the thick deposit of humus which formed the upper layer in all the ditch sections. The presence of Roman sherds in this position is consistent with the Early Iron Age date suggested in the previous interim report.

Black Field, Mildenhall: A Romano-British walled township. (*Cunetio*)

During the fortnight of September 27 to October 11, 1958, a second short season's excavations was undertaken at the site of the walled township of *Cunetio*, 1½ miles east of Marlborough. (SU/216695). The work was directed by F. K. Annable and Anthony J. Clark who are again deeply indebted to Mr. G. Young, of Stitchcombe Farm, Mildenhall, for permission to excavate.

The aims of the excavation were two-fold:—

(1). To attempt to trace the entire ground plan of the later stone defences, particularly on the north and west sides where the line is not yet known.

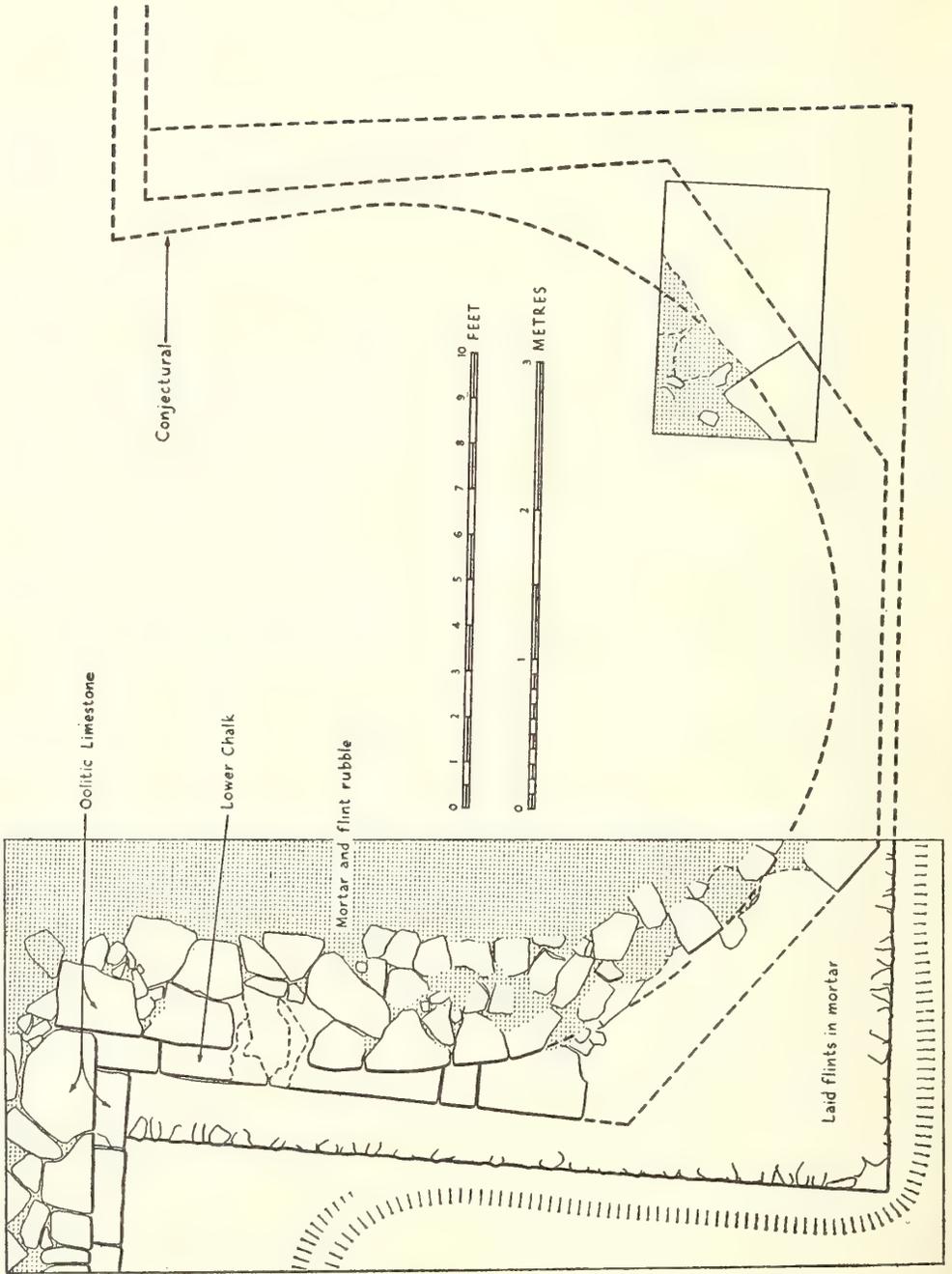
(2). To section one of the defensive bastions and establish its relationship with the wall.

At the outset it should be mentioned that throughout the dig much use was made of an electrical resistivity apparatus to plot the wall and bastion positions preparatory to laying trenches. It proved on this site to be extremely accurate, and none of the trenches laid out on the basis of the resistivity surveys required further extension. Further surveys carried out on the west wall of the town indicated that its line lay over in the field to the west of Cock-a-Troop Lane, and returned in a northerly direction to the field bottom. This yet remains to be tested by excavation.

The Excavation

Cuttings were laid across the east wall and its line defined down to within about 100ft. of the field bottom. A good wall section was obtained in cutting F, the foundations being of similar build to the south wall, and 16ft. thick; some 2½ft. narrower incidentally than the south wall. There are indications from this section that the wall superstructure was about 12ft. thick. Another interesting feature was

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noticed here. The top layer of foundation flints, though themselves laid on mortar, had no mortar between or above them. Doubtless the wall faces were of flint rubble consolidated with mortar to give strength and rigidity, but was the wall-core proper on this side thus consolidated?

In cutting E, a wall section 430ft. south of F, the wall foundations overlay one of the ditches of the earlier defences. Here the wall had been built on a made bed of chalk well over a foot thick. In the time available it was not possible to section this ditch, but the top ditch infilling, a uniform compact clay-with-flints layer, suggested an instantaneous fill probably carried out at the time of the wall building.

A third cutting, G (fig. 1), close to the south-east corner of the town was laid across one of the stone defensive bastions observed from air-photographs to project beyond the south wall face. It revealed that the bastion proper had been built upon a platform of heavy mortar-bedded flints, 24ft. wide and projecting 16ft. 9ins. from the wall face. The bastion footings, standing two courses high, were formed first by heavy squared blocks of lower chalk laid on to the rubble platform, though not, it appeared, mortared together. Sufficient of this lower course remained to show quite clearly that it was semi-octagonal in plan. Above it was laid a second course of flatter roughly dressed limestone slabs, set back approximately 1ft., and this time semi-circular in plan. The body of the bastion was a solid structure, formed like the wall core of mortar bedded rubble.

The feature of greatest importance revealed by this section however, was that the bastion had been bonded into the wall face; it was certain therefore, and this was borne out by the obvious similarity of both wall and bastion construction in the section, that the masonry defences of *Cunetio* were of one build.

No crucial ceramic evidence was obtained from the sections; as was to be expected in view of the little ground so far covered. Nevertheless the consistent late date of coins found over the the wall areas does point, albeit uncertainly, to a 4th century date for our wall building. Furthermore, recent research carried out on the defences of Romano-British towns elsewhere seems to indicate a sweeping reorganisation of their defences about the middle of the 4th century A.D., one particular feature of this reorganisation being either the addition of projecting bastions to existing walls, or their incorporation into entirely new stone defences. This addition of bastions of stone to wall defences has been securely dated at Caerwent and Great Casterton, (*Archaeological Journal*, vol. cxii, pp. 26 and 32).

Thus, in the light of present knowledge, the construction of the entire stone defences of *Cunetio* are to be attributed to the 4th century A.D.

Column Ride, Savernake Forest: A Romano-British Pottery

A second season of week-end excavation was carried out at the site of the Romano-British pottery industry in Savernake Forest (SU/222652). It was, incidentally, the first of a series of small research excavations to be undertaken by the parent Society's newly formed Archaeology sub-committee, of which the Rev. E. H. Steele is chairman.

In the previous year a single kiln of 'horizontal draught' type was found and excavated some 200 yards south-west of Bitham Pond, close to Column Ride. Trenching was continued in the same area, and a further kiln was located approximately 60ft. north-east of kiln 1.

It proved to be of the normal 'up-draught' type, and possessed four main features: (1) a deep basin-like oven with a maximum diameter of 6ft. 6ins., carefully shaped in the natural clayey subsoil; (2) a short flue at the eastern end of the oven and connected with it, leading into (3), the stokehole, which was a roughly circular unlined depression dug in the clayey sand. Here, as in kiln 1, the original potters had not provided any thick clay lining either to the oven or to the furnace walls, and it must be assumed that a single firing of the shaped subsoil consolidated the structure sufficiently to enable it to withstand normal wear and tear.

The fourth feature consisted of a huge perforated U-shaped block situated centrally on the floor of the oven. Of particular interest was the fact that this block had been built up in four distinct phases. Doubtless each addition to the block was carried out within a very short space of time, but they are interesting in that they clearly demonstrate that the potters were continually experimenting with a view to getting optimum efficiency from their kilns.

A large type series of pottery was recovered from the stokehole and oven interiors. This in shape and fabric closely paralleled the kiln 1 types of last year. The fortunate discovery of a coin of Domitian (A.D. 81-96) suggests a tentative date of c. 100 A.D. as the working period of kiln 2.

The sub-committee is grateful to the Earl of Cardigan and the Forestry Commission for permission to excavate in the area. Acknowledgment is also due to Dr. M. J. Aitken who carried out a magnetic survey of the site and located by this means kiln no. 2 immediately prior to its discovery by the normal 'grid' system of trenching.

Research Work in the Salisbury Area

This year a considerable amount of emergency excavation has again been carried out in the Salisbury area by members of the Salisbury Museum Excavation sub-Committee covering the period beginning late Neolithic to late Mediaeval times. The work of the committee, under its director, J. W. G. Musty, is summarised below.

Neolithic

A crouched burial, probably of the Beaker period, was excavated beneath a cairn of flints at Pitton (SU/213312).

A similar burial at Shepherds Close, Odstock, lying 4ft. below ground surface in a cist covered with a layer of flint nodules was, also examined.

Iron Age

A number of pits of Iron Age date were reported as having been exposed by chalk quarrying at the Whiting Works, Devizes Road, Salisbury (SU/116314) but it was not possible to examine them.

Medieval

Laverstock, Salisbury: A Medieval Pottery Industry.

During 1955, pits containing pottery wasters of late 13th century date were discovered during building operations on Fielden's Housing Estate at Laverstock. The presence of waster sherds implied the possibility of kilns being found near at hand, though at the time none came to light.

In 1958 however, further building work in the area resulted in the discovery of a single kiln, and archaeological investigations were resumed by the sub-committee under the direction of J.W.G. Musty, with the assistance of D. J. Algar and P. E. Ewence. A grant in aid by the Ministry of Works made it possible to carry out an extended examination of the site.

An area of approximately $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres was trenched, resulting in the discovery of a further five kilns, two buildings and a large number of pits. Enormous quantities of pottery were rescued from the kilns; this pottery has now been provisionally dated to the last quarter of the 13th century. Some of the pits may belong to a slightly earlier pre-kiln phase.

The Kilns

Each structure consisted of an oven, a carefully shaped oval pit dug into the chalk and lined with clay, which was fired from two opposed stokeholes dug to the same depth as the oven and separated from it by firing tunnels. The total axial length of the kilns was as much as 25ft.

No evidence was forthcoming on methods of construction of the upper part of each kiln. Such top coverings were always of a temporary character; they were built over the pottery load, and destroyed at the completion of each firing. Presumably they consisted of a simple clay dome, vented at the top to allow for the escape of hot gases.

Some indication was however obtained regarding the method employed of stacking the kilns. The oven chamber of kiln 6 contained a lower layer of jugs, six of which were standing in the position they had taken at the last firing; the others had been crushed. All the jugs were standing on their rims, and obviously formed the bottom layer of a self-stacked load.

The Pottery

A remarkable assemblage of pottery was obtained from the excavations, the majority being recovered from the infilling of the kiln stokeholes. Much of it consisted of jugs with bridge spouts of late 13th century date, the most spectacular of these being the twelve complete examples from the partly loaded kiln, and a number of 'face jugs' from Kiln 5.

Other pottery recovered included parts of *aquamantiles*, costrels, lamps, lids, pottery money boxes, pans, bowls and glazed ridge-tiles. Coarse pottery in the form of 'scratch-marked' round-bottomed and 'sagging-base' cooking pots was also found. The presence of this 'scratch-marked' pottery in late 13th century contexts indicates the survival in the area of this decorative technique. Hitherto, it has only been recognised in early 12th century contexts.

The siting of this industry on the fringe of Clarendon Forest suggests that one of the reasons for its inception was to supply Clarendon Palace. Some of the pottery from the Laverstock factory has already been shown to match exactly sherds from the pre-war excavations of Borenius and Charlton at Clarendon Palace. It is likely that the kilns were supplying Salisbury, South Wiltshire, and possibly adjoining counties.

Other Structures

Three buildings were identified during the excavations, including one discovered in 1955. All were of very simple construction and little remained of them other than the floors; none had wall footings cut in the bed-rock.

Boyton

The foundations of the Giffard Chapel on the south side of Boyton Church were examined by Messrs. G. E. Chambers and R. W. H. Willoughby. Fragments of a 14th century cooking pot were recovered.

Old Sarum

Ground in the east suburb of Old Sarum was excavated during 1958 by Mr. P. A. Rahtz on behalf of the Ministry of Works. This was necessitated by building operations scheduled to be carried out over an area adjoining the main road on the east side of the crest of the saddleback between Old Sarum and Bishopdown.

The confluence of three medieval roads was located, coming in from Wilton, Salisbury and Bishopdown, the last being a continuation of the present trackway. They had suffered heavy wear, and were deeply rutted into the chalk; all were 12th century roads, and remained in use until the 14th century and possibly later.

The excavations revealed medieval foundations and cesspits of the 12th to 14th centuries situated in the angle between the Wilton and Salisbury roads. One of the pits yielded a useful group of late 12th century pottery; a crucible and an iron dagger were also among the finds from this pit.

FIELDWORK

Mesolithic Sites in North Wiltshire

In June, 1958 the most productive Mesolithic site yet found in the Chippenham area came to light. It is situated at Cocklebury (ST/923736) on a plateau about 60ft. above the river Avon. As the site is now being developed for building, all that could be done was to rescue as many implements as possible from spoil heaps, trenches and road excavations.

All the implements have been examined by Mr. W. F. Rankine F.S.A. (Scot.) who considers that they belong to one culture. They were recovered from a sandy layer, variable in thickness from a few inches to several feet, overlying cornbrash. The patination of the flints seems to vary with the depth of the sandy layer; those recovered from a thin layer were heavily patinated, while those that have lain deeply are not patinated at all.

The flint is very poor, and may have come from the nearby River Avon, or from a very thin deposit of gravel which exists near the site and is probably part of a river terrace. Doubtless this accounts for the small size of the cores. It would seem that workable material was so scarce that it was exploited to the full, the cores only being discarded when too small to be of any further use. Various core trimming flakes also occur.

Typical microlithic blades were made in fair numbers, a few of them having been utilised without further working. The remaining microlithic industry so far recovered consists of one micro-burin and a number of rather fragmentary microliths. There are two rod-like forms, and obliquely blunted point, with several other points which, in some cases may be the tips of rods, and in others, fragments of triangles. One microlith has a curved edge and may be part of a crescentic form. The only other implement type represented is the scraper, of which there are three rather crude examples. The greater part of the finds from this site have been deposited in Devizes Muesum.

Archaeological Training

During September, 1958, two one-day Training Courses on various aspects of archaeology were arranged by the Archaeology sub-committee of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. Much of the credit for the arrangement and success of these two ventures must go to the Rev. E. H. Steele, chairman of the sub-committee, who was responsible for much of the organisation, and Mr. Collin Bowen, F.S.A., who directed the tuition.

(1). *Study Day on Ancient Agriculture*

This short course was held on September 6 and consisted of a series of lectures during the morning, followed by visits to field remains after lunch. At the morning session in the Salisbury Museum Lecture Theatre (by kind permission of the Museum Committee) Mr. Collin Bowen was assisted by Mr. F. A. Aberg of the Southampton Museum. Their lectures described methods of ancient agriculture, and the visible remains that existed in the county. Lantern slides and films were used for illustration together with an impressive exhibition of implements kindly lent for the occasion by the Museum of English Rural Life, Reading.

The sites visited during the afternoon included a Romano-British settlement at Winterbourne Stoke; strip lynchets and the deserted mediaeval village at Middleton, Norton Bavant; and the extensive Celtic field system on Wylde Down. The sub-committee is greatly indebted to the owners of these properties for their interest and helpfulness.

Twenty-seven students took part, including visitors from Reading University and the Museum of English Rural Life. The exhibition was made additionally helpful by the production of an eight-page leaflet, prepared by Mr. Bowen, explaining the processes of ancient agriculture. A few copies are still available, and may be had, price one and sixpence (including postage) from the Rev. E. H. Steele, Wishford Magna Rectory, Salisbury.

(2) *Training Day in Field Survey and Excavation*

The existence of a hitherto unknown ditched feature in a field 700 yards south-east of Yarnbury Castle was recently noticed on an air-photograph of the area by Mr. R. W. H. Willoughby. It was decided to investigate this feature and at the same time use the occasion as a means of providing tuition

in field survey and excavation. Mr. Donald Andrews kindly allowed his land to be used, while Mr. Collin Bowen, assisted by Mr. John Davies, provided the tuition.

Students were given practice in the use of surveying instruments, and the recognition of features on the ground. A plan was made of the ploughed-down field boundaries on the site by one party, while the rest commenced a cutting across the line of the suspected ditch. The result was inconclusive, and it is hoped that a further test may be made at a later date.

The sub-committee is much encouraged by the interest shown in these two training sessions, and hopes to arrange others in different parts of the county.

NOTES

ROMAN BEEKEEPING IN BRITAIN. It is generally believed in beekeeping circles that there are no remains of Roman beekeeping in this country, except pots for honey, tabulae, and styli for writing on a beeswax surface.

It has recently been brought to my notice, however, that in the Museum of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society in Devizes there is an almost complete pot hive from Casterley Camp. This is 10½ inches high, and 9 inches in diameter at the widest part; just below this 6 holes are drilled through the side of the bowl. The diameter of these is about 7-10 mm., large enough to admit one bee at a time.

I am very anxious to discover if this hive is unique, or if there are any other similar remains in museums in other parts of the country. It seems possible that even if there is not another complete hive, there are identifiable fragments; these would have holes about 7-10 mm. in diameter, on a *curved* piece of pot.

I should be very grateful for information on these or any other relics of early beekeeping which still exist. Most beekeeping material is so perishable that it does not last more than a century or so, and the items mentioned above are the only ones known to me (except bee boles) dating from before 1800. The Bee Research Association is compiling a register of bee boles (recesses in garden or house walls for sheltering skeps); and I should also welcome details of any of these which are known to readers.

EVA CRANT,

Director, Bee Research Association

Woodside House,
Chalfont Heights,
Gerrards Cross, Bucks

HERCULES SLAYS THE HYDRA AT EURIDGE. In Mr. F. K. Annable's note 'A Roman site at Colerne', (*W.A.M.*, lvii, p.78), he refers to a small sculptured slab of local stone, the carving on which is almost effaced. This carving, though much damaged, clearly represents the episode of Hercules slaying the Lernean Hydra; from an artistic point of view it is decidedly primitive, and would appear to be the work of a somewhat amateurish sculptor. It measures 10in. × 4½in. × 3in., and is composed of Oolite Bath stone. It was probably intended to be the image of a household God or Hero, and was very likely placed in some conspicuous position in the house,

¹*Antiquity*, vol. xxvii, No. 106, p. 79

the remains of which are scattered in the place where it was found. It is apparently constructed as a free-standing object, for the back, sides and top are tooled with half-inch grooves, and the base is quite flat.

The left foot of the figure is raised and rests apparently on a block which forms part of a larger block possibly stone. The right arm is raised above the head, and may have held a weapon, probably a Herculean club; the left arm appears to be free. The Hydra seems to be in the form of a serpent, with the tail coiled in a single coil. Above the figure is a roughly carved kind of canopy.

If readers will refer to Professor Stuart Pigott's Article in *Antiquity*, Vol. xii, No. 47, entitled 'The Hercules Myth', they will find two photographs of somewhat similar objects from Whitley Castle, one of which evidently represents Hercules and the Hydra, though the attribution of the other is more doubtful; however they certainly resemble the example from Euridge, both in their primitive execution and general form.

And, curiously enough, in the more authentic Whitley photograph, Hercules is seen to be standing on a block with a cavity in it, which corresponds with the cavity in the block containing the Hydra in the Euridge object.

Slaying the Hydra was the second labour of Hercules; the Hydra had nine heads, the middle one of which was immortal. Hercules managed to cut off this middle head, which he buried under a large rock. This is interesting, for in the Euridge sculpture it will be observed that only one head is represented, and it appears as if it were interred in the block on which the left foot of Hercules rests.

For what purpose was this small image carved, and what function did it serve in the Roman house at Euridge? It may have represented one of the Penates, such as were commonly placed in some conspicuous position in a Roman habitation, to be saluted by visitors or propitiated by the inhabitants with offerings of food, wine or incense. But the writer has conceived a theory, fanciful, no doubt, that this image may have another significance; this house is about six miles from Bath, the ancient Aquae Sulis, famous in Roman times and since for the healing qualities of its hot springs. Hercules and Asclepius were regarded as patrons of hot springs in the ancient world,¹ and may have been often



Plate I.
Hercules slaying the Hydra at Euridge, near Colerne.

invoked by people seeking relief for their ailments at the springs. The district for many miles around Aquae Sulis was thoroughly Romanised for a great many years, as evidenced by the vast number of Roman remains in the district that have been unearthed in recent times. It is by no means improbable that some resident in the Roman house at Euridge, perhaps a retired gouty General, or an arthritic Civil functionary, may have derived benefit from visits to Aquae Sulis and its healing waters, and, in gratitude, have had this small image of Hercules, patron of hot, healing mineral springs, installed in his or her house as a votive memorial commemorating the benefits he or she had derived therefrom!

Box

A. SHAW MELLOR.

NOTES ON THE PLACE NAMES OF WILTSHIRE, E.P.N.S. The series follows from *W.A.M.*, xlix, 364; li, 611; lii, 116; lv, 70; lvi, 196; and lvii, 78.

31. Wanborough, p. 283. All decent sized barrows may be likened to wens. They are hardly likely to give rise to place names unless there are striking super-calvarial suggestions. To a traveller coming south along Ermine Street the Foxhill ridge strongly suggests a crown with wens thereon. Foxhill itself is the largest. Confirmation comes from B.C.S. 477 where it is the bound *wenbeorge*.
32. Wroughton, p. 280. Coombe Bottom, the most remarkable of the many coombes in the neighbourhood, is the *maedena cova* of B.C.S. 948 (*W.A.M.*, lvi, 266). It is probably *le Combe* of Min. Acct. In the O.S. map of 1828 it is marked Coombe. In a recent conversation with Mr. John Hill of Broome Manor, Swindon, it transpired that he had always known this feature as 'Pinkham Bottom'. This is an obvious corruption of Pen Coombe. It is certainly suitable for the penning of cattle or sheep. Examination of the site suggests that it was not the abode of *Ralph atte Combe* (1327 S.R.) or any other sane person. The ancient residence at the side is Overton. There are many other coombes near which are good living sites.
33. Dilton, p. 147. Bremeridge, formerly in Westbury parish. The forms Branbridge and Brunbridge (Will of Thomas Erneley, 1595, P.C.C. 58 Scott) are worthy of notice. This is the Bremelridge of Jackson's Aubrey.

34. Cricklade, p. 42. For a nearly complete list see 'The Place Names of Cricklade', C.H.S., 1957.
35. Cricklade, p. 460. Trender's grounds do not lie on a rounded hill. Trinder is a common local name. The Encl. Award map shows that they belonged to Miss Sylvia Trinder.
36. Swindon, p. 276. For an account of the street names see *W.A.M.*, xlvi, pp. 523-9.
37. Alton Priors. Bradells omitted. This name was noted by Jones 'Domesday for Wilts', xxvii, n. 2. It is the largest of the eponymous springs of Æweltun- (Codex Wint.) and was evidently the 'bradewlle' of B.C.S. 390.

Cricklade

T. R. THOMSON

HALL'S CLOSE, ASHTON KEYNES. With the kind permission of the owner, Mr. G. Bowley, Church Farm, Ashton Keynes and of the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Ministry of Works, the Cricklade Historical Society are carrying out a small excavation of the earthworks in the field known as Hall's Close, or 'The Battlefield', in Ashton Keynes. The field, about 12 acres, contains a number of camps and ditches which can be resolved into an inner and an outer bailey.

A test trench has been dug across this bank by the inner bailey, which is surrounded by a damp, not to say wet, ditch, fed by a spring. So far the footings and a wall and a rubble trench have been found in the bank and there is reason to suppose that the trench may run through a small building or keep. A considerable quantity of pottery, wheel-thrown and unglazed, containing an admixture of crushed shale has been found. The late Chief Inspector, Mr. B. H. St. J. O'Neil, F.S.A., when he saw the earthwork some years ago, thought it could be a fortified manor of the time of Stephen. This view seems to be confirmed by the pottery, which, subject to correction, appears to be not later than the first half of the 12th century. It is hoped to submit a report at the end of the season's excavations.

Ashton

G. M. KNOCKER

(Ashton was left by King Alfred to his daughter, whence it passed to the Church of St. Mary Cranborne, and so to Tewkesbury Abbey. It seems probable that the head of this manor was on the site of Church Farm, and was therefore dependent on the Thames.)

The site referred to above is that of a fairly large establishment some five furlongs to the east of the church, and dependent on a spring. It may

well have been the head of the de Keynes holding. William de Keynes of Ashton, Somerford, etc. married a daughter of Adam de Periton, and died before 1266.—*Editor.*)

A CONTEMPORARY POEM ON THE REMOVAL OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL FROM OLD IN SARUM. In *W.A.M.*, xxx, pp. 210-217 was printed a poem of 210 lines written by Henry d'Avranches, a court poet of Henry III's time, on the removal of Salisbury Cathedral to its present site. Notes by A. R. Malden about the poem, now in the Cambridge University Library, were also included but there was no translation. I believe the translation I give below is the first that has been published. Immediately after it the original text has been reproduced.

'I propose to explain why Bishop Richard moved Salisbury Cathedral. Sarum Hill was in many ways just like Mount Gilboa. It was covered with neither grass nor flowers. It was sodden with rain and dew. Nothing beautiful nor useful could grow there, nothing except wormwood: and a tree is know by its fruit.

A fortress stood upon the hill, exposed only to winds, which were strong enough to shake its summit. Little water was to be found; but chalk in abundance. The winds howled, but no nightingale ever sang. The chalk soil was bad enough, but the shortage of water worse. The former dazzled the eyes, and the latter provoked thirst. The silence of birds was a loss still worse than the violence of the wind. The one deprived us of pleasure, and the other destroyed our very dwellings.

The Hill of Sarum was distinguished both for its castle and also for its city, but was unsuitable for either. The city stood in the castle and the castle in the city, so which was the greater and which the less? I do not mean greater and less respectively, but simply great and small. Further there is this extraordinary fact! This stood in that, and that in this. Therefore, they were not really two separate things. They were not two really, but as they were neither two nor one, they were one divided into two!

For, while a king was head of the fortress, a bishop was over the city. One was subject to the law of Caesar, the other to that

of God. But, though in one God made no claim to Caesar's rights, in the other Caesar seized the rights of God. He wanted to subject the church to his yoke and did not prevent his followers from plundering the clergy.

Against their will they had to supply uninvited soldiers with food, and, what was worse, even the poor had to leave homes of refuge, lest they be driven away in disgrace. The house of God in this fortress became nothing less than the Ark of the Covenant in the Temple of Baal. Either place was a prison.

But the Baalim could not hold on to the Ark of the Covenant for ever, and this is equally true of the Church. Sion was enslaved in Jerico, and Jerusalem captive in Babylon. Both Jerico and also Babylon, however, were overthrown. It was then that Sion and Jerusalem were seen to be transformed. Each at first was in misery, each in its turn later was full of joy.

For Bishop Richard and his zeal for the Lord burned to free the necks of the clergy from their yoke. He separated them from their tyrants, broke their chains and freed them from their bondage. But what could the clergy do when the glare of white chalk blinded their eyes, and violent winds deafened them? Their throats were parched with thirst and they were footsore from a long and weary journey. Though freed from the yoke their burden was still hard to bear. Their throats were dry. They were exhausted by their battles with the wind. Yet shortage of water itself, along with so many other hardships, was sufficient reason for moving the city.

The eye is wonderfully formed by nature and excels all other parts of the body. It is the glory of the face, the crown of a living being, the window of the soul, a flashing mirror, a spacious ball. In it a single flame is enclosed in seven-fold covering, by which comes the sense of sight. This inward power of vision uses the eye as its instrument to govern things outside itself.

By the other four senses we learn much, but by this one we learn even more. Yet even its power is to some extent restricted. There are things which even the eye cannot endure. When whiteness continually dazzles,

the glare is too much, so, clearly, chalk, useful in its own place, and for its own purpose, can be harmful to the eye.

The ear projects from face and neck like a twisted shell. In it the sense of hearing catches every passing sound. A single sound may be pleasant, but many together are hard to bear. Loud noises weary the ear. How much worse the deafening of continual thunder. Truly then the rushing of strong winds can deprive the ear of the very sense of sound.

The body is important, and its mighty heart still more so, as the heart is the lovely home of its power. From the heart springs the very breath of life, as well as Faith which endures, and kindly love. As a sponge soaks in water, so the heart is moistened. In the lungs it encloses air through a thousand pores. When the lungs, however, burn with thirst, the heart also suffers. The one nourishes the human heart, while the other kills it.

So we see how much harm shortage of water can do. Nothing can be worse for the inhabitants of a city. Water quenches thirst, and extinguishes fires. Boats and ships float upon water, carrying a wealth of merchandise. It washes away dirt and stains. It gives life to grass and flowers, and new life to birds and little fish. Water is white and clear, soft, and smooth to the touch. To the taste it is sweet and refreshing. Water re-energizes old men and women. It cleanses from guilt and sin and drives away the plagues of the devils. Because by itself it can nourish people none of the other elements is so necessary. What then will be the state of a city which lacks water for its people? When that which is more beneficial is absent, then the greatest harm must ensue. There can be no greater evil for a city than drought.

‘The best part of man is freedom. It alone enables him to endure poverty, or resist wealth. Freedom is Nature’s universal bounty, the gift of God, the sister of all virtues, outstanding in worth. It governs reason, maintains a fair proportion, and tests our actions. It is clear how serious it is to lose the privileges of former freedom, and to be forced to submit to slavery. To the clergy, especially, who are accustomed neither to inflict nor to suffer harm,

how grievous the bondage must have been! Whatever is unusual is very hard to bear. When burden after burden is laid upon a servant, he struggles violently.

The steep ascent to the city was tiring, whether going up or down. It was slippery and dangerous. In going up the chest hurts through shortness of breath. In coming down the foot may slip. Hence it can be seen how harmful the place was, where either the breath was short or the step faltered. The valley is a safer place, for he who has nothing below him need fear no harm.

For these reasons Bishop Richard moved the city and provided a better site. The old church was allowed to fall into ruins, so that the clergy should not be able to return. But while it crumbled into decay it is preserved as it were and stands again in a new site. Oh, wonder of renewal! It died that it might live; fell that it might stand; was abandoned to be found again; was distant to be here!

With great care a suitable site was sought for the new city and soon one was found. In a well-watered valley, rich in fruit trees was a wood, well suited for the hunters. Wild creatures will be plentiful in dense thickets. All sorts of trees grow there and all kinds of animals will be found.

Many of the trees were fruit-bearing, and none of the animals was fierce. The hind was not afraid of the bear, nor did the stag fear the lion. The lynx feared not the snake, nor the roe the wolf. In the orchards and meadows by the river-side birds were seen vying with one another in song. Sometimes the nightingale, and often the lark, would sing as though to burst their little throats. The lark sings its praise of this place and her friend the nightingale sings her sweet song, her song of love. The nightingale’s notes are lovelier because they are rarer. The lark sings more often and so tends to be wearisome. The honey-birds’ notes too are heard in contrast to the measured wailing of the swan, the one before dawn, and the other before death. The music of both is sweet, the honey-bird hailing the beginning of life and the swan singing her song when dying.

Better in this place than the flocks of birds, the wild animals and the dense woods, are the fields of fertile soil. In them are to be found the yellow crocus, the white lily, the blue violet and the red rose. The valley is rich with springs and streams. In the clear water also are swift-moving fish.

The moist earth is good for meadows and cornfields, flowers and fruitful trees. Here is dew in abundance, good for grass and flowers; The dew is warm; the streams flow gently; the flowers are gay; and the grass is green. Where in the whole world could nature, daughter of so teeming a mother, have found so favourable a spot.

Here, busy workmen build a new church, remarkable in its beauty, and outstanding in position. What was formerly built on the hill-top is now on low-ground. Humble may be its situation, but its importance is high. In importance it is as high as its situation is low.

The church is being built alongside a spring, the waters of which surpass any other. Sparkling the waters flow, clearer than crystal, purer than gold, sweeter than ambrosia. Here the new church stands, where someday the rushing stream will gladden a city and its people with abundance of crops. Royal woods provide the timber; lovely flowers comfort the sick; the virtues of herbs will drive away all harm.

If Adam had come here when driven out of Paradise, he would have preferred exile to his native Eden. Trees everywhere are weighed down with nuts. The air smells sweetly. Birds sing their songs. The ground is glorious with flowers. Each nut is as perfect as its neighbour. Every scent is equally sweet. Each bird is as lovely as its fellow, and the soil everywhere good.

It may be that Paradise was more beautiful than this place, but, because the latter is close at hand, it seems better to us. Experience shows that even a place of exile may be more pleasing than Paradise itself, when it is near and familiar. It is experience which makes things pleasant.

Happy the man who lives to see this Cathedral finished! It will be glorious after

such pleasant labour. Let the King give the materials; the bishop his aid; and the masons their skill. All three are needed for the work to prosper. For in this great work will be seen the charity of the King, the love of the bishop and the faith of the craftsmen'.

De translatione ueteris Ecclesie Saresbiriensis et constructione noue.

Ecclesiam cur transtulerit salisberiensem
Presul Ricardus insinuare uolo.
Mons salisberie, quasi Gelboe mons maledictus,
Est inter montes, sicut et illa fuit.
Non pluuia uel rore madet, non flore uel herba
Uernat, non forma uel bonitate uiget
Nil equidem preter absinthia gignit amara,
Quatinus ex fructu se probet ipse suo.
Prebet ibi castrum solis obstacula uentis,

- 10 Materiam culmen qua cieatur habens.
Est ibi defectus limphe, set copia crete,
Ventus ibi clamat, sed phylomena silet.
Candor obest crete, set plus karistia limphe,
Disgregat hic oculos, aggrauat illa sitim.
Pausando phylomena nocet, plus aura furendo,
Derogat hec ludis, obruit illa domos.
Hic locus et castrum fuit insignitus et urbe,
Nec castrum dignus ferre nec urbis opes,
In castrum stabat urbs castrum stabat in urbe,
- 20 Sic erat utrumque maius utrumque minus.
Nec respectiue dico maius minus, immo,
Simpliciter maius, simpliciterque minus.
Vltierius monstrum superest, hec stabat in illo,
Illud in hac, igitur non duo prorsus erant,
Non duo prorsus erant, set sicut nec duo prorsus,
Sic nec res prorsus vna sed una biceps.
Nam cum rex castrum caput esset, episcopus urbis,
Ius hic habebat ibi cesaris, ille dei.
Non ibi iura deus temptauit cesaris, immo
- 30 Iura dei cesar appropriare sibi.
Ecclesiamque iugo uoluit supponere, iugi
A spoliis cleri non inhiendo suos.
Non inuitatis inuitus prandia clerum
Armigeris castrum militibusque dabat.
Et quod deterius, ne turpiter eicerentur
Hospicium profugus destituebat eis.
Quid domini domus in castrum nisi federis archa
In templo Baalim, carcer uterque locus.
Sed Baalim nequirit retinere perhenniter archam
- 40 Federis, a simili dico non illud eam.
In ierico captiua syon erat, in Babilone
Ierusalem, ierico cum Babilone ruit.
Inde syon cum iersusalem mutata uidetur
Vtraque mesta prius utraque leta modo.
Presul enim zelo domini meliore Ricardus
Arsit, ut eximeret libera colla iugo.
A laicis equidem clerum dimouit, eorum
Vincula dirumpens proiciensque iugum.
Quid faceret clerum ubi uisum candida creta

- 50 Disreggat, auditum densa procella premit.
Cor sitis atra cremat, gressum iua longa fatigat,
Collum libertas euacuata grauat.
Ardens pulmo sitim lenis auris iurgia fessus
Pes iuga fastidit, libera colla iugum.
Cur transferretur urbs causam sufficientem
Tot iacturarum quelibet unda dedit.
Natur studio componitur arte politur
(sic) Deliciis oculus cetera menbra premens.
Frontis honos, animantis apex, animeque fenestra,
60 Fax agilis speculum mobile, spera capax.
- Vnus ibi tunica septemplice clauditur ignis
Visibilis uirtus quo mediante viget.
Hoc instrumentum usibus sibi, deputat illic,
Imperat existens intus agensque foris.
Pauca notant sensus alii, quos quatuor iste
Vnicus exellit (sic) ut pote plura notans.
Vim tamen ipsius moderata proportio finit,
Vnde quod excellit nil tolerare potest.
Eius enim radios nimius consumit hiatus
- 70 Cum color assidue disreggat albus eum.
Inde patet crete nocumentum, tam generali
Euacuans dampno tam speciale bonum.
Marchio ceruicis uultus et uerticis auris
Prominet, et conche tottilis instar habet.
Hic viget auditus capiens momenta sonorum
Quem uox demulcet rara grauatque frequens.
Longos fastidit cantus quanto magis autem
Perpes ei tonitrus tedia summa parit.
Inde patet quantum grauet aures impetus aure
- 80 A quibus et sensus cogit abesse suos.
Corpus precellit anima precellit huius
Immense cor opes huius amena domus.
Inde quidem surgit uitalis hanelitus, inde
Compassiua fides, inde benignus amor.
Vnde cor humectet quasi quedam spongia pulmo
Mille poris claudit aera claudit aquam.
Naturalis enim conuertitur ignis in ipsum
Cum sitiens aliud non habet in quod agat.
Igne sitim passo cum pulmo crematur, oportet
- 90 Vt. cor inardescens compaciatur ei.
Actio cordis ut est melior sic passio peior,
Humanum corpus hec alit illa necat.
Inde patet quantum noceat defectus aquarum
Quo grauior nullus ciuibus esse potest.
Scilicet unda sitim leuat et succendia, cymbas
Euehit et naues, marmora fert et opes.
Vnda lauat maculas et sordes, educat herbas,
Et flores generat pisciculos et aues.
Albus aque clarusque liquor mollis placidusque
- 100 Contactus dulcis nutritibilisque sapor.
Vnda senes uetulasque nouat, culpam uiciumque
Euacuat, pestem demoniumque fugat.
Quod per se possit hominem nutrire nec unum
Est elementorum sumere preter aquam.
Si populis igitur elementum dans alimentum
Vrbi defuerit quis status urbis erit?
Vrbi nil grauius quam deficiens aqua, nam quod
Plus prodest ut adest, plus et obest ut abest.
Potima pars hominis libertas, sola solutam
- 110 Reddit egestatem, solaque dampnat opes.
Nature munus generale, dei generosum,
Virtutum consors nobilitate prior.
Nec patitur nec agit nocumentum, set rationem
Dirigit, et merces librat, et acta probat.
Inde patet quantum grauet amississe prioris
Ius libertatis uique subisse iugum.
Clerus presertim qui nullum ferre molestum
Aut inferre solet quam male ferret honus.
Est grauius quicquid desuetius et famulantem
- 120 Cum iuga cuncta grauent, plus uiolenta grauant.
Mons ascendens descendentisque per ipsum
Limite decliui² uexat utrumque gradum.
Lubricus et grauis est descensu prior inde
(sic) Inde lubricus ascensu, celsior inde grauis.
Pectus in ascensu uix respirando fatiscit,
Pes in descensu sepe labando cadit.
Inde quidem labor inde tisis, pes namque uacillat
Ecce labor, pulsus deficit ecce tisis.
Inde patet quantum noceat situs ille locorum
- 130 Exsiccans pectus deiciensque gradum.
Omnis apex requiemque negat casumque minatur,
Solllicitat stantem precipitatque statum.
Tucior est uallis, nec enim timet ille ruinam
Qui nichil inferius quo moueatur habet.
Presul ob has causas Ricardus transtulit urbem
Et prouidit ei de meliore loco.
Neue facultatem redeundi clerus haberet
Posteris ecclesie corruit aula uetus.
Sed periens cum corruerit set deficiens cum
- 140 Absit, saluatur stat tamen et fit et est.
O! rerum nouitas, ut saluetur perit, ut stet
Corruit, ut fiat deficit, ut sit abest.
Quis transponende locus esset idoneus urbi
Querere cura fuit longa laborque breuis.
Est in ualle locus nemori uenatibus apto
Contiguo celeser fructibus uber aquis.
Silua frequenter eum uiuat³ arboribusque ferisque.
Fertilis arboribus fertiorque feris.
Quelibet arbor ibi frondet, queuis fera gaudet,
- 150 Arbor multa ferax set fera nulla ferox.
Non ibi dama timet ursum ceruusue leonem,
Non linx serpentem, capreolusue lupum.
Illic et uolucres uideas contendere cantu,
Que frutices siluas flumina prata colunt.
Cantus interdum philomena frequenter alauda
Exiguo promit gutture grande melos.
Laudat alauda locum philomenaque philos amenum
Carmen id est carmen prodit amoris ibi.
Carior hoc solo quod rarior est philomene
- 160 Cantus, alauda frequens tedia uoce parit.
Aduersus modulus ormelle fletus oloris
Disputat, illa diem preuenit ill necem.
Dulcis uterque sonus, uiuens ormella propinat
Ore melos, moriens fert olor ore liram.
Pompam precellit uolucrum turbamque ferarum
Et uulguis nemorum gleba feracis humi.
Flauam terra crochum candentia lilia profert
Liuentes uiolas purpureasque rosas.
Fontes et fluuios diuus producit abyssus,

1 Or leuis.

2 Or declini.

3 Or iuuat.

- 170 Pisces et uolucres candida nutrit aqua.
Flores et fructus genialis parturit arbos,
Herbas et segetes humida gignit humus.
Est ibi copia roris et unde, floris et herbe,
Ros tepet unda madet flos nitet herba uiret.
Tale creatoris matri natura creata
Hospicium toto quesitit orbe diu.
(sic) Hic noua construitur operiosi cella laboris
Egregie forme precipuique status.
Summa sed ima prius nunc altior inferiorque
- 180 Altior imperiis inferiorque loco.
Stat quasi pene iacens, quanto tamen inferiore
Statura tanto commodiore statu.
Hic opus extruuitur de sub cuius pede uiuus
Fons emanat aque transgredientis aquas.
Scintilla leuior, cristallo clarior, auro
Purior, ambrosia dulcior ille liquor,
Sic noua cella sedet nisi fluminis impetus urbem
Letificat frugum copia uulgus alit.
Regis silua domos prebet, florum decor egros
- 190 Alleuat, herbarum vis nouumenta premit.
Huc si uenisset expulsus de paradiso
Exilium patrie preposuisset Adam.
Nux utrobique grauat siluas, odor afficit auras,
Carmine ludit, flore superbit humas.
Par hec nux huius nucis, hoc odor huius odoris.
Hec auis huius auis, hec humus huius humi.
Esto quod ille decor exuberet amplius iste
Sentitur melius res habitudo probat.
Res habitudo probat quanto uicinior ergo
- 200 Exilio tanto gratior iste locus.
Delicias dulces facit experientia pene
Conditurque bonum cognitione mali.
Felix qui uiuet consummatamque uidebit
Ecclesiam, cura quam tot amena nitent.
¹Rex igitur det opes, presul det opem, lapicide
¹In the margin, in a hand of about the same time—
Rex largitur opes, fert presul opem, lapicide
Dant operam, tribus hiis est opus ut stet opus.
Dent operam, tribus hiis est opus ut stet opus.
Regis enim uirtus facto spectabitur isto
Presulis affectus artificumque fides.
Explicit de Ecclesia Saresb:

W. J. TORRANCE

PROBATE JURISDICTIONS. With reference to the note in *W.A.M.*, ccvi, no. pp. 80-83, on *Probate Jurisdictions and Records for the Diocese of Salisbury*: (a) the P.C.C. wills listed in *Wiltshire Notes and Queries* (introduction, paragraph two) cover the period 1383 to 1604 only; (b) the wills listed in *W.A.M.*, xlv pp. 36-67 (introduction, paragraph, two) are now in the County Record Office, at County Hall, Trowbridge; and (c) the wills in the list proper, noted as located at Somerset House (P.P.R.) or Winchester District Probate Registry (D.P.R.) are also now in the County Record Office (C.R.O.).

T. R. THOMSON

M. G. RATHBONE

¹On Phillipps reference should be made to *Phillipps Studies*, 1-4 by A. L. N. Munby, 1951-56.

SIR THOMAS PHILLIPPS. A WILTSHIRE LETTER. An autograph letter in the University of London Library (A.L. 259) written by Sir Thomas Phillipps in 1837 is of local interest since it was almost certainly written to the Rev. Edward Duke of Amesbury and since it refers to Phillipps' own publications on Wiltshire particularly to his edition of Aubrey's *Collections for Wiltshire*. Phillipps had printed Pt. 1 of the *Collections* in 1821 but Pt. 2 was printed-*Typis Medio-Montanis*—in 1838. Phillipps¹ is well known as a collector of manuscripts and the editor and printer of many local historical and literary documents at his private press at Middle Hill, Broadway, Worcestershire. The Rev. Edward Duke was interested in geology, theology and antiquarian matters. Perhaps his best known book is *The Druidical Temples of the County of Wiltshire*, 1846, but the work of his to which Phillipps refers is almost certainly *Prolusiones Historicae . . . the Halle of John Halle . . . of Salisbury* of which only Vol 1, printed at Salisbury in 1837, ever appeared. The letter, which was presented to the University of London Library in February, 1959 by Lt.-Col. R. H. Melville Lee, was found in a copy of Stukeley's *Palaeographia Sacra* which had belonged to Edward Duke and contains his heraldic bookplate. The text is:—

Oxford
14 March
1837

My dear Sir

I have an opportunity of conveying to you my thanks for the kind manner in which you express a wish to see my portion of the Wilts History in print.

You will be gratified to hear that I have advanced to page 56 of the 2nd part of Aubreys Wilts, and that I am still collecting materials, & have this last week collected from the stores of Bodley some information which I did not before possess.

But of what use is it to print, when nobody will buy the work when printed!!

Several articles have I already printed relative to Wiltshire, which will only cost a purchaser a few shillings each yet nobody desires to have them. How then can I go to press with a larger work which will cost 5, 10, 15 or 20 guineas, with such a prospect before me. I am not so rich as our mutual & valuable friend Sir Richard Hoare to be able to spend & lose 2000 per annum for the

mere pleasure of illustrating the History of Wiltshire. At the same time I have no wish to make it a profitable speculation for myself. All that I desire is to reimburse myself the expences of printing & engraving.

I congratulate you on the handsome manner in which you have brought out your book, & I shall be happy to contribute my share in remunerating to you the expence of publication by purchasing it, if you will tell me where I am to apply for it.

Believe me
my dear Sir

Very sincerely yours
Thos Phillipps

University of London J. H. P. PAFFORD

Miscellaneous Notes

Stonehenge. The pieces of red deer antler apparently associated with the erection of the Great Trilithon in the final phase have been dated by radio-carbon tests to between 1860 and 1560 B.C.

Burials at Highworth. During builders' excavations this summer the remains of an adult male and of a hydrocephalic infant were found sixty yards north-east of the remains found by A.D. Passmore and noted in *W.A.M.*, 1, 99. No associated artifacts were found. The depth was four feet.

NOEL ARKELL

Liddington. A brief solution of the bounds as recorded in BCS 754 and KCD 386 is now in the library. This supersedes Grundy's note in *Arch. Journal*, lxxvii, 12.

Wiltshire Place Names on Early Maps. The Matthew Paris map of about A.D. 1250 (B.M. Cotton MS. Julius D vii) marks the following places: Salisbury, Devizes, Cricklade, Wilton, Marlborough. The Gough map (Bodleian) of perhaps about A.D. 1320 shows Salisbury, Collingbourne, Malmesbury.

Old Photographs. Members engaged in Local History are reminded that the National Buildings Record (31 Chester Terrace N.W. 1) have a very large collection. Some photographs date from the fifties of the last century.

'Wiltshire Forefathers'. Countess Badeni, a member of the Society, is bringing out a book in October called 'Wiltshire Forefathers.' This book is a collection of notes on the history of various houses, families and villages in North Wiltshire.

There are notes on houses or sites in some thirty different parishes, arranged alphabetically, with a number of illustrations, some genealogical trees and an index. The book comes out this autumn and is obtainable from booksellers or from the distributor, Miss Beak, The Workbox, High St., Malmesbury. The price will be £1 1s.

REVIEWS

The Archaeology of Wessex. An account of Wessex antiquities from the earliest times to the end of the pagan Saxon period, with special reference to existing field monuments. By L. V. Grinsell, pp. xv, 384; 15 pls.; 18 figs.; 6 maps. London: Methuen 1958. 42s.

This volume, which is intended primarily to serve as a guide to field monuments, presents the results of a systematic exploration of Wessex extending over the past 30 years. Within an area of some 6,000 square miles the author has visited at least once nearly every monument mentioned in the text. The great value of the book lies in the first-hand account of the sites which this strenuous field-work has enabled him to combine with information derived from excavation. The emphasis is generally, though not exclusively, on visible antiquities, and Mr. Grinsell has thoughtfully indicated which sites are at present

inaccessible or so badly damaged as not to be worth visiting. Similarly, the chapter on Roman roads tells the reader how the course of each can best be followed.

The six excellent maps show Neolithic, Beaker to Middle Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age, Early Iron Age, Roman, Sub-Roman and Pagan Saxon sites overprinted in black on a green base map. The latter is a simplified geological drift map divided into squares corresponding with the sheet-lines of the 1: 25,000 O.S. maps. Another welcome feature is an appendix listing archaeological museums in Wessex, with an indication of the principal contents of each, and including a list of Wessex antiquities in museums outside the region. A second appendix gives a series of adequate and up-to-date bibliographies for further reading on the subject of each chapter. The book is provided with three indices, includ-

ing a gazetteer of sites with National Grid References. The gazetteer is supplemented at the appropriate places in the text by documented lists of certain of the less conspicuous types of sites (e.g., Late Bronze Age enclosures; Iron Age field systems; Roman potteries, pottery and tile kilns; strip-lynchets).

There is a well-selected series of aerial photographs, mainly of Iron Age and later sites; most of the text-figures, on the other hand, illustrate Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments.

It is truly a great achievement to have gathered together and published this mass of information, covering the whole of the pre-Christian archaeology of Wessex from the Palaeolithic onwards and only the deepest respect and admiration can be felt for Mr. Grinsell's industry and perseverance.

The value of this achievement, however, is diminished by some defects.

The style is simple and straightforward, but sometimes flat and repetitive; there are many awkwardly constructed sentences. There is further a lack of system in the use of detailed documentation of matters discussed in the text. Sparing use has rightly been made of foot-notes yet too many of these send the reader to the end of a chapter to find authority (not always correctly cited) for statements which do not appear to require this support. On the other hand, the text contains some surprising pieces of information, as those about the post-glacial appearance of beech on p. 9, or the conflicting remarks about *Bos longifrons* on pp. 25 and 145, which are unsupported by reference to a primary source.

Finally, attention must be drawn to occasional insufficient regard for accuracy. In view of the author's important contributions to the archaeology of Wiltshire, it is difficult to understand how such slips can have passed into print as the reference on p. 67 to 'Messrs. B. H. and M. E. Cunnington', or the statement on p. 57 that Dean Merewether 'got through the West Kennet long barrow' in 1849. This barrow was in fact one of the few monuments near Avebury to escape Merewether's attentions. Nor is there any excuse for adding 'presumably the Red Lion' to the reference on p. 54 to Stukeley's record that one of the stones at Avebury had been used to build the dining-room end of the Inn (*Abury*, p. 25, not p. 21 as given in the foot-note). A glance at Stukeley's plan of Avebury shows that in his time there was no building on the site of the present Red Lion.

These are trifling errors; more disturbing are mistakes in the use made of the valuable work done by what is popularly known as the Stone Axe Committee. In the Glossary on p. xv there appears: 'Group (I-XVII). Of stone implements refers to the classification of rock sources given in *P.P.S.*, 17, 1951, 99-158'. But in the publication cited only thirteen groups are listed. On p. 19 it is stated that a preselite axe was found 'in the neolithic levels at Maiden Castle'; the Committee's report specifies that this axe came from a non-neolithic level. On p. 20 a Tievebulliagh axe is said to have been found on Windmill Hill; no implement from that source is known from the site. Accuracy about things of this sort really does matter.

There is no need to continue; enough has been said to indicate the need for caution here and there in using this work, which in many ways is so admirable.

Avebury

I. F. Smith

City of Salisbury. Edited by Hugh Shortt, with a foreword by Lawrence Tanner. pp. 143. Phoenix House Limited. 42s.

It was with reasoned pride that S. Paul proclaimed 'I am a citizen of no mean city'. His words have been echoed throughout history by all those who have contrasted the qualities of a citizen, politeness, urbanity and civility, with the uncouth attributes of the rustic, the heathen, the boor and the churl. Our very language assumes that to live in a city is to live in the proper way. In producing a history of the City of Salisbury, the members of the Salisbury and District Council of Arts stand, therefore, in a long and honourable tradition. Moreover in these days of global policy and the invasion of outer space, it is a sound and reasonable instinct which leads people to turn towards that place to which they owe a particular loyalty, and which they are especially well fitted to understand,—their own city, with all its local peculiarities and interests which may so easily be disregarded by an outsider. We may have to generalise when we are dealing with the history of the world, or even the history of our country, but in a city we are constantly having to test the general by the particular, and to check the evidence of documents by that of buildings, roads and bridges, so that written history is brought into clear relationship with things which we can see and touch.

Local historians have, however, their own special difficulties. They have to combine sound scholarship with the power to interest people

who may have little or no historical training, and whose idea of the past is limited to a series of rather hazy anecdotes. To arouse a man's curiosity about the history of his own city is a good thing, but he may not be much enlightened unless the writer who satisfies this curiosity can link the history of the city firmly and comprehensibly with that of the outside world. Of the six writers whose essays make up this book, Mr. Arnold Hare in his section on 'The Expanding City' and the late Dr. Francis Eeles in his 'Postscript concerning the Cathedral' seem to me to have been most successful in presenting Salisbury against a clear background of wider history; probably each of them has set strict limits to the amount of local information which he is prepared to use. Mr. Hugh Shortt's study of Old Sarum, interesting and valuable as it is, of necessity is somewhat hampered by the sparseness of original documentary sources, and by the fact that, as he says, the thorough archaeological exploration of the site, planned before the second world war, has not yet been carried out. The other essays, on 'The Creative Years', 'Reformation in Salisbury' and 'Restoration in Salisbury' are full of good things and cannot fail to make the reader see the city with a fresh eye, but, since the writers have tried to deal with too much in too short a space, their work tends to become a string of local anecdotes. Most of these are enlivening, and some, such as the account of how John Ivie the mayor tackled an outbreak of plague in 1627, have the quality of heroism. 'God being merciful to us' he wrote 'did put it into my heart to rule so great a multitude'—and rule them he did, with a fortitude, good sense and humanity worthy of the best traditions of English Puritanism. The tragic devotion of Arundell Penruddock to her condemned husband, the remarkable combination of scientific scholarship and pastoral activity found in Bishop Seth Ward, the over-enthusiastic restorations of Wyatt in the Cathedral (he may have been a good architect, but he had a distressingly tidy mind)—all these are gems of local history which will bear re-setting. Nevertheless, local history is something more than a collection of stories, however reliable and entertaining. It must, if it is to be fruitful, give us some standard of comparison, and let us see Salisbury in relation to the society of which it formed a loyal and lively part. Occasional deviations to the court and to Wilton House do not really solve this problem, since on the whole they simply add more anecdotes to a collection which is already

a little crowded. The reader wants to know how Salisbury might be compared with other towns, and here he gets very little help. Salisbury, like the 'villesneuves' of thirteenth-century France, but unlike most towns in contemporary England, was a planned city built on a new site. It had thus some advantages unknown to the older, haphazard boroughs such as Oxford, Winchester or Southampton. How did this fact influence its development? For example, how much was the local legislation against overcrowding and insanitary practices due to a conscious realisation that Salisbury was an unusually fine and well-planned town, and how much to a determination, general among English citizens, to get rid of the 'myre, durt, dust and soyle' which pervaded their streets? This book suggests the question, but does not provide the answer. Again, there are statements which will not really pass the test of modern historical scholarship. Edward I did not summon the Commons to attend Parliament for the first time in 1295; he had summoned them twenty years earlier. Bridport's establishment of 1261 was designed to meet the needs of scholars, and it was not a university in the full sense of the word, but to call it 'the first University College to be set up in England' is to dig a pit for the feet of the unwary. 'Blood-month', as Bede states quite clearly, was November and not October. And it is useless to ascribe a delightful description of Trinity Hospital to 'a fourteenth-century document'. If the reader wants to follow the subject up, he must have the full references; if he does not, he will be content to take the quotation on faith.

Nevertheless, this is an enjoyable book. I cannot agree that it is 'a complete historical survey in brief of the City of Salisbury', but I think that it is a work which will give many people pleasure and—what is more important—encourage them to be interested in their own local history. Moreover the 'foreigner' who is not Wiltshire born and bred, when he reads this book, will want to explore Salisbury and delve into the records of its past, and he may even understand something of the local patriotism which moved a Salisbury man, John Maundrel, burnt for his religion in 1555, to refuse the pardon offered to him if he would recant, exclaiming 'Not for all Salisbury!'

The illustrations are excellent, and chosen so as to show buildings both old and new, as well as aspects of local history ranging from a banquet in the market-place to a catastrophe in the

railway station. One is glad to welcome an old friend in Constable's lovely painting of the Cathedral.

Winifred Scholfield has contributed some attractive drawings, but I was unable to find out whether she or some other local artist should have the credit for a really admirable map of the city.

Westfield College,
London University

Rosalind Hill

A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford to A.D. 1500 By A. B. Emden, 3 vols, O.U.P. Twenty-four guineas.

The Society is very deeply indebted to the author for his most generous gift of this work. If a generous member would present the Cambridge Register by the late President of Queens' (the price is £89) our cup would indeed be full!

The author has cast his net widely. The Introduction has valuable notes on the chief of his sources. These are records of the University, of the ten secular Colleges, of the Monastic Colleges, of the Papal Records, and the Episcopal Registers. The other sources are many and varied.

It is fairly assumed that before the schools were opened at Cambridge in 1209, most *magistri* resided for at least part of their studies at Oxford.

"The author says I have allowed myself a measure of discretion in dealing with uncertain cases, and have included a considerable number of *magistri* for the period between 1209 and 1500, whom, for varying reasons, I have felt justified in claiming as 'probably of Oxford'. A few have been admitted whose credentials are more open to question: these have been denoted as 'possibly of Oxford'. I have, for instance, generally included as 'probables' all *magistri* beneficed in Oxfordshire or in the parts of Berkshire nearest to Oxford for whose membership of the University I have not found any positive evidence."

Wiltshire historians will, in very many cases, be now enabled to clothe the bare bones of 'Phillipps', and the genealogists will find a veritable mine of those motives which may supply a looked-for directive.

A most valuable book. We repeat our thanks.
Cricklade T. R. Thomson

A History of the West of England Cloth Industry. By K. G. Ponting. Macdonald, London, 1957. 15s.

Even in the 19th century when history was still the study of politics and battles, wool was a part of history. The constitutional historian could not forget that the Lord Chancellor sat upon a woosack, while for five hundred years until the middle of the 18th century, wool being the chief export of England, wool and foreign policy were closely connected. When economic history came into its own towards the end of the 19th century, wool retained its privileged position and a generation of historians from W. J. Ashley¹ to E. Lipson,² concentrating upon the wool-, and especially upon the weaving trade, traced the development of the industry from the gild-, through the domestic-, to the factory-system.

Associated with the transition from the gild- to the domestic-system was the rise of a merchant or capitalist class, and with the transition from the domestic to the factory-system a change in the relation between trading and fixed capital. At each stage in the development of the industry there was a change in the status of the worker. Under the gild-system the weaver owned both the raw material and the instruments of production; under the domestic-system he owned the instruments of production but not the raw material, which remained the property of the merchant; and under the factory-system he owned neither the raw material nor the instruments of production—the capitalist owned everything. Although it was recognised that even within the woollen industry itself the domestic-system, for instance, meant different things in Yorkshire and in the West Country, this rigid pattern of development came to be regarded as the classic, or natural form of development through which all industries had passed, or must pass. Wool thus made its mark upon the whole of economic history, and the study of wool became synonymous with the study of all trades and all industries.

It was, however, apparent to the early historians of the trade that the organisation, the amount of capital employed, and the status of the worker were not the only things that had altered with the years. There had been changes in the nature of the exported product, and in the location of the trade in England, while at every period the trade had made varying demands upon English agriculture, and there had been many improvements in the sheep grown, the wool produced, and the woven cloth.

The export of wool had given way to the export of undyed cloth and this in turn to the export of dyed cloth. So long as the English

grew wool and exported it to Flanders to be woven, there was a general feeling that in this most lucrative trade, the mainstay of the Kingdom, 'the fleece was ours, and the gold was the Flemings'! The finer wools could not be grown in Flanders, but there seemed to be no reason why all kinds of cloth should not be woven in England, and the English double their profit. The transition from the export of raw wool to the export of undyed cloth is traditionally attributed to the actions of Edward III at the beginning of the Hundred Years War, in prohibiting the export of wool, and publicly exhorting Flemish weavers to settle in England. Edward's action was little more than an unscrupulous manoeuvre to coerce the cities of Flanders into supporting his claim to the French throne, but the only serious fault with this traditional interpretation of events is that it assumes something to have happened overnight which could not have happened in less than two generations. The change in the export trade had to be matched by a change in the productive capacity of the English weavers. Similarly, in the 17th century, the desire to increase profits and to make England independent of Flanders led to the ill-fated project of Alderman Cockayne for the dyeing of English cloth at home. Cockayne failed, and dislocated the trade, but his objective was attained by others.

In the 12th century the wool and weaving trades, which were practised from one end of the kingdom to the other, expanded greatly in the shelter of the towns. During the 13th and 14th centuries the trades were transferred from the towns to the countryside, where they remained until the 18th and 19th centuries, when the Yorkshire trade expanded, while the trade in Lancashire and Norfolk declined, and the trade in the West of England remained stationary. Each of these movements had been described as an industrial revolution. It has long been customary to ask of the second of these changes, why the industrial revolution in wool took place in Yorkshire and not in the West Country, and more recently Professor Carus Wilson, in an article entitled *An Industrial Revolution in the Thirteenth Century*,³ has shown how the first of these changes, too, which used to be ascribed to the obscurantism of the town guilds, ought to be attributed also to the invention and adoption of the fulling mill.

Historians have elucidated three main topics, the organisation of the trade, the nature of the exported product, and the location of the productive centres, with three main divisions to each.

The trade has been organised successively upon a gild, a domestic, and a factory basis: it has exported successively raw wool, undyed cloth, and dyed cloth: and the centres of production, which were originally to be found in many of the towns of the kingdom, were moved to the countryside, before becoming concentrated in recent times in Yorkshire. These stages in the development of the industry have been familiar for some time. Our knowledge of them has been extended in regional studies by Herbert Heaton⁴ and G. D. Ramsay,⁵ and in a general study limited to the middle ages, by Eileen Power.⁶ It is a little surprising, therefore, that after all this time, nobody has completely unravelled the relationship between the various changes in the various aspects of the trade. How far did the trade's expansion into the countryside make Edward III's policy industrially realistic as well as politically advantageous, and make it possible to weave more cloth at home, and to export cloth instead of wool? What kind of capitalist wanted to dye his woven cloth, and how far did the factory system ensure the triumph of Yorkshire? These and other questions are still waiting to be answered in some great synthesis.

Thus the student of the trade is confronted both with an established pattern and with a number of unresolved problems. Many regional and detailed studies will have to be made before a new synthesis can be put forward with confidence. Mr. K. G. Ponting's study of the West of England cloth industry is a good example of the sort of local study that will ultimately contribute to this synthesis. Mr. Ponting is not a professional historian. He and his family before him have earned their bread and butter in the trade whose history is here described, and his book is based upon a thorough knowledge of the topography, from the mills at Elcote and Tellisford, to the old cloth towns of Bradford-on-Avon and Painswick. Having read what the economic historians have to say about his trade, Mr. Ponting must have felt that there was still something missing which his own knowledge could supply. He does not claim to have written a definitive history of his trade, nor does he claim to have studied much in the way of original sources. He does claim that his own specialised knowledge of the trade may have helped him to understand some of its history, as portrayed by the professional historians, better than people whose technical knowledge goes no deeper than a general knowledge of the distinction between woollens and worsteds.

This is too modest: Mr. Ponting's thorough study of the secondary authorities has enabled him to handle a story six hundred years long, the three major themes, and the three divisions of each theme successfully. In addition, his specialised knowledge has enabled him to assess more convincingly than anyone before him the rights and wrongs of the industrial disputes of the past, and the merits of the arguments used by both sides. More important still, his business training has enabled him to offer a definite opinion upon at least one of the most difficult of the remaining problems—why did the trade expand in the 18th and 19th centuries in Yorkshire and not the West Country?

As Mr. Ponting says, many explanations have been given, and they are not convincing. The West Country trade was close to coalfields, like the Yorkshire trade: the domestic-system of the West Country involved the use of larger units of capital than the domestic-system of Yorkshire¹ and ought, if anything, to have been favourable to the establishment of the factory-system. If the woollen industry generally was backward in introducing machinery, compared with the cotton industry, at least the West Country did not lag behind Yorkshire. Mechanical shearing, and the rotary fulling mill were both developed in the West.

What then, is the answer? Mr. Ponting's opinion is best given in his own words:—

'The Yorkshire woollen trade surpassed the south-west in size during the second half of the eighteenth century while all the weaving and many of the other operations were still done by hand. Yorkshire then was, as it had always been, the centre of the manufacture of the cheaper type of cloth, and the main reason for the new supremacy was that with the increasing population and growth of the so-called 'working class' the demand for cheap woollen cloth outstripped the older, still existing, but not increasing demand for the finer West Country type. The Industrial Revolution in Lancashire, bringing as it did a great increase of population there and consequent market for cheap cloth, was an important factor in the growth of the Yorkshire woollen industry . . .

Every increase in England's population, every increase in her export trade, added to the demand for cheap cloth, and thereby to the supremacy of Yorkshire.'

In other words, there was hardly any increase in the numbers of the clergy and the squires, who bought their cloth from the West Country, and a huge increase in the mass of the population who bought their cloth from Yorkshire. Mr. Ponting's answer is clear—though more work will have to be done before it can be regarded as proved. Business man that he is, Mr. Ponting has kept in mind the fact that cloth has not only to be produced but sold. All that the West Country clothier can be blamed for, is for not adapting himself to the new conditions. But, as Mr. Ponting says, the idea of making the cheaper kinds of cloth never appealed to him. It is a good answer, and there is room for more studies of this kind, based upon both specialised knowledge and a careful study of the existing histories.

Balliol College,
Oxford

J. M. Prest

Looking and Finding. By Geoffrey Grigson. Illustrated with drawings by Christopher Chamberlain. 120 pp. Phoenix House, 1958. Price 9/6.

This book seems to me just the right Christmas present for sons, daughters, nephews, nieces, godchildren, etc., who are, say, 11 to 16 and who believe, like the author, that it is not a bad thing to be inquisitive and to wonder. It starts with a quotation from Sir Thomas Browne which gives the perfect answer to those who believe that to show interest in the past is odd or useless:— 'Time hath endless rarities, and shows of all varieties; which reveals old things in heaven, makes new discoveries in earth, and even earth itself a discovery.' Then it goes on to tell about some of the things worth looking for and finding and collecting, from Murray's Handbook for Travellers in second hand bookshops (to the joys of which the reader is introduced) and the marks of Fire Offices and weathervanes to clay pipes and fossils, sherds and shells and skulls. 'A human skull, well, it is a possibility. I once bought one in a shop off High Holborn in Lon.

¹*The Early History of the English Woollen Industry*, 1887.

²*The History of the Woollen and Worsted Industries*, 1921.

³*Economic History Review*, vol. xi.

⁴*The Yorkshire Woollen and Worsted Industries*, 1920.

⁵*The Wiltshire Woollen Industry*, 1943.

⁶*The Wool Trade in English Medieval History*, 1941.

don for five shillings. But I wasn't allowed to keep it.'

All this advice comes with a generous slice of out of the way information of the sort properly dear to many members of this Society. Mr. Grigson for instance tells us:—

(a) Why the name IOH: LUD: DEFERRE referred to an interesting discovery.

(b) Where in Wiltshire you will find a monument erected by Public Subscription to those who presumptuously think to escape the punishment God has threatened against THIEVES and ROBBERS.

(c) Where to find a Blemya and a Wodewose.

(d) What Culver Hole in Gower was once used for.

(e) What is the difference between a post mill and a tower mill.

If there are fathers, mothers, uncles, aunts, godparents, etc. who don't know the answers but would be interested to find out, they might do well to buy Mr. Grigson's book themselves this Christmas before passing it on.

Marlborough E. E. Sabben-Clare

Cricklade, Wilts. The Official Guide. Illustrated 16 pp. and iv. Home Publishing Co. Price ninepence.

This is a new edition of the Guide which was last reviewed in *W.A.M.* by the late Mr. Brentnall in 1950. Mr. Brentnall then wrote in part 'The anonymous text is admirable (an unusual feature): the illustrations excellent—the Cross in 1800, the Churches, the Priory . . . There are two maps of the district, one in the 15th century, one of the present day.'

The illustrations and the maps appear to remain the same in this edition. As for the text, it seems to me fully to deserve the praise Mr. Brentnall gave it. I would like to suggest, however, one or two minor additions for the next edition. These are (a) A population figure (b) Mileages for the walking and motoring excursions suggested on pages 9 and 10 (c) A little more information about Adam of Stratton, described on p. 13 as 'the biggest rogue of the age.' (d) The inclusion of a doctor in the Directory on pp. 14-15. Everyone else is there, from the High Bailiff to the Hon. Sec. of the Music and Drama Group.

Marlborough E. E. Sabben-Clare

The Flora of Wiltshire. By Donald Grose. Natural History Section, *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*. pp. iv. 824. 42s.

VOL. LVII.CCVII

Wiltshire has had no Flora since that of Preston in 1888; the present book shows the advance that has been made since that time not only in the botanical knowledge of Wiltshire but also in the type of information which is given in a modern county Flora.

After a short preface, the book begins with accounts of the topography, geology and climate of Wiltshire. These accounts are shorter than those usually given but are not the worse for it and are well illustrated by maps. No attempt has been made to produce the lavish coloured maps often found in Floras but instead black and white maps are given both in the introductory section and of individual species in the main part of the Flora. The same base map has been used throughout and this, though very satisfactory for the species maps and for such features as rainfall, leads to some cramping and difficulty of interpretation for the geological maps. This defect is, however, more than compensated for by the large number of maps that have been included. Thus there are both solid and superficial geological maps and a rainfall map. It may be noted that information is only available on superficial deposits for part of the county. It is regrettable that this fact is not shown on the map.

An extensive bibliography follows. Then come bibliographical notices of important Wiltshire botanists. An unusual feature is that these notices are by different authors, thus gaining in interest but losing in consistency. It would have been useful if the whereabouts of the botanists' herbaria and those of the recorders, a list of whom follows, had been stated.

An account of the boundaries of the county, and of the botanical districts into which the author divides it, is next given. The alterations of the boundaries since Watson's time are stated and the methods of treatment of record falling outside vice-counties 7 and 8 but inside present-day Wiltshire, and of those formerly in Wiltshire but now in other counties, is also indicated. Both types of record are included.

It is a pity that these boundary changes are not shown on the map of botanical districts. The author is to be congratulated on making his botanical districts conform to the boundaries of the two vice-counties. Some recent Floras have not done this and have caused difficulties over particular records. Apart from this primary division, river-basins are, as is usual, adopted. Owing to Preston not having adopted the same primary division and to having made a number

of errors about certain areas, the districts are inevitably not identical with Preston's. A map of the woodland areas is a useful feature of this section.

The main part of the book—the Flora itself—follows. This follows the usual pattern of the best modern Floras—status and habitat, followed by localities for all but common species arranged according to districts. The nomenclature is stated to follow Clapham, Tutin and Warburg's *Flora of the British Isles* though it is said that 'slight deviations have been made.' These deviations are, in fact, in places, considerable and it is hardly surprising that many of them do not commend themselves to this not unprejudiced reviewer. They will, with one exception, not be discussed further.

It is, however, incorrect to write *Prunus x institia* and *x domestica* unless one is also prepared to write *Galeopsis x tetrahit*, *Poa x annua* and many others. The origin of the four plants is homologous; all four originated by hybridisation between two species followed, in one way or another, by chromosome doubling, so that they now behave as species in the same way as many other polyploid species of unknown origin. *Prunus domestica* should, therefore, be written.

Another criticism which must be made relates to such pairs of plants as *Nasturtium officinale* and *N. microphyllum* and *Veronica anagallis-aquatica* and *V. catenata* which have only been satisfactorily separated in comparatively recent years. One gets the impression from the Flora that for these pairs of species that with the older name (*Nasturtium officinale* and *Veronica anagallis-aquatica*) is much commoner in Wiltshire than the other member of the pair. Round Oxford, at least, the two members of each pair are about equally common and this is probably the case in Wiltshire also. It seems likely that, in the Flora, no distinction has been made between older records for the aggregate and more recent ones for the segregate.

A most interesting and unusual feature of the Flora is an analysis of the habitats of certain species, pairs of species and groups of species. This often gives valuable information perhaps previously unsuspected. Thus, for example, it is shown that *Bidens tripartita* seems to have a preference for still, and *B. cernuus* for running water, and *Trifolium campestre* for calcareous, *T. dubium* for other soils. It is to be hoped that similar comparisons will be made in other counties to discover how far these preferences are

universal. This section of the book is also illustrated by numerous maps showing interesting distributions of species within the county. The rare *Cirsium tuberosum* (only known in two other British counties) gets special treatment, including a map showing also the distribution of its hybrid with *C. acaule*, lists of associated species and photographs of *C. tuberosum* and its hybrid.

To one acquainted with the Berkshire downs perhaps the most interesting features of this section are the resemblances and differences between the downs in the two counties, often well brought out in the maps. The Wiltshire downs appear to be the richer. Thus besides *Cirsium tuberosum*, *Phyteuma tenerum* is unknown in Berks and *Platanthera bifolia* and *Astragalus danicus* very rare. One misses in the Flora the comparative data, usually given in Floras, between the county dealt with and those adjoining. Perhaps, however, with the B.S.D.I. Distribution Maps Scheme nearing completion the author was wise to exclude them.

This main section of the book contains much of interest not only to the student of the Wiltshire Flora but to all those interested in British plants, whether or not they know Wiltshire.

There follows an account of the vegetation of Wiltshire. Five thousand floristic lists were made in the county and these are analysed by habitats. The number of lists for each habitat is stated and a few sample lists are given as is a short account. The reviewer would have preferred to see the sample lists, which may mislead, omitted and more space given to the account.

Each habitat is then summed up and the number of occurrences and an estimate of frequency given for the commoner species. Thus for woodland on non-calcareous soils, *Corylus avellana*, as one might expect, is the most frequent species but one would have less expected *Mercurialis perennis* to be second (markedly acid soils, however, seem to be very rare in Wiltshire). An unattractive picture of calcareous woodland is presented with *Galium aparine*, *Urtica dioica* and *Sambucus nigra* as the three most frequent species. The most frequent (and most frequently occurring) weed is *Cirsium arvense*. Finally all the habitats are summarised and it appears that *Plantago lanceolata* is by far the most frequent and most frequently occurring species in the county as a whole, *Holcus lanatus*, for frequency, and *Cirsium arvense*, for occurrence, being rather poor seconds. No review can do justice to this section which is full of fascinating and often unexpected information.

The book concludes with a list of all the localities given in the Flora with vice-county, botanical district and grid-reference and with a single index of English and Latin names. Some apology is made for the length of the former. No such apology is needed to anyone who, as the reviewer has done, has spent time trying to trace obscure localities on herbarium sheets.

The practice should be more often followed as should be that of having one index only.

Altogether, Mr. Grose is to be congratulated on a fine piece of work. The price is very reasonable and the print and format adequate.

Botany School,
Oxford

E. F. WARBURG

OBITUARIES

SIR ERNEST SALTER WILLS, BT., died at Littlecote on Jan. 14th, 1958, aged 88. Second son of Sir Edward Payson Wills, 1st Bt., he was educated at Monkton Combe, succeeding to the title on the death of his brother in 1921. Joining the family tobacco business in 1892, he was a director 1895—1901. Then the firm merged with other manufacturers to form the Imperial Tobacco Company, on the board of which he served 1922—50. He was a J.P., and Lord Lieutenant of Wilts 1930—42. For 10 years he lived at Ramsbury Manor before moving to Littlecote over 30 years ago; he also owned Meggernie Castle in Perthshire and up to 1939 a villa at Mentone. He was an expert shot and fisherman and a keen all-round sportsman. In 1894 he married Caroline de Winton, who died in 1953, and leaves two sons and three daughters.

Obit.: *Marlborough Times*, Jan. 17th, 1958.

MAJOR H. F. CHETTLE, C.M.G., O.B.E., died in February, 1958. For many years he served on the Imperial War Graves Commission. The registers of the war cemeteries and memorials of the 1914—18 War, which he edited, stand as a monument to his industry and accurate scholarship. He was also largely instrumental in developing the commission's widespread international relations. Among other offices he had been chairman of the Council of Morley College. After his retirement he lived at Fonthill and his contributed papers to *W.A.M.* included *Wardour Castle* (1944); *Lacock Abbey* (1945); *The Trinitarian Friars and Easton Royal* (1946); *Dinton and Little Clarendon* (1952); and *The Wiltshire Local Militia in Training, 1809—1814* (1953). He took an active part in the production of the Wilts V.C.H., particularly the volume dealing with its ecclesiastical history.

Obit.: *Times*, Feb. 11th, 1958.

ARTHUR D. PASSMORE died at Callas House, Wanborough on March 6th, 1958, aged 85. Son of a Swindon antique dealer, he took over his father's business at 24 Wood Street and kept it

on for many years. This gave him scope for the strong antiquarian bent which he acquired in early life and the opportunity to amass the very large and varied collection which was to become his absorbing passion. It was particularly rich in porcelain, coins, and archaeological specimens which he either bought or discovered in the course of many years of field work in N. Wilts. His house at Wanborough became a veritable museum until some years ago the bulk of his collection was given to the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford. In his later years ill-health and failing eyesight had almost confined him to his home, but he gave a hospitable welcome to those who were privileged to visit him. For 56 years his frequent contributions to *W.A.M.* bear witness to his activities in the field. He had been for a long period a member of the committee of the Society and was always outspoken in his efforts to preserve the heritage of the past. His contributions to local archaeology were outstanding, even if in his zeal as a collector he was more intent to acquire a good specimen than to note its exact location and associations. For this reason his archaeological collections lose much of their value as evidence, though containing some unique items.

He served in the Boer War with the Wiltshire Yeomanry, being awarded the D.C.M. After this he took part in excavations in Egypt. In the 1914—18 War he went with the 4th Wilts Regt. to India and in 1915 transferred to the Mechanical Transport Corps, serving on the North-West Frontier.

He was a keen photographer and collaborated with O. G. S. Crawford in *The Long Barrows of the Cotswolds*, with A. Keiller in his excavation of Lanhill Long Barrow, and with Major G. W. G. Allen in much aerial reconnaissance, which led among other things to the discovery of many of the unexplained ring ditches in the neighbourhood of Highworth. Two years before his death he succeeded in getting Callas House scheduled

for preservation on account of its great architectural interest.

Obit.: *Wilts Gazette & Herald*, March 13th, 1958.

JOHN C. PORTER died at Marlborough on March 16th, 1958. Educated at Clifton he qualified as a solicitor in 1899, practising in London till 1914, when he went to France with Remount Service, retiring in 1920 with rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1923 he acquired a practice in Marlborough, amalgamating in 1925 with the old established firm of Merrimans and Gwillim. In this connection he held many public offices in local government until his retirement some years ago. In 1929 he moved from Fyfield to Sunnyhill, near Pewsey. His chief outside interests were farming and hunting and here he had full scope for both. He had become hon. secretary of the Tedworth Hunt in 1924, later acting as treasurer and finally as Master. After the War he played a large part in keeping the hunt going, providing kennels and stabling at Sunnyhill. He leaves a daughter.

Obit.: *Marlborough Times*, March 21st, 1958.

MISS MATILDA TERESA TALBOT, C.B.E., died at Lacock Abbey on March 25th, 1958, aged 86. Daughter of John Gilchrist Clark, of Speddoch, her early years were spent in Scotland. Educated at Kensington High School, she qualified as a cookery teacher. After some years she gave up this work to help her aunt who was keeping house at Lacock Abbey for her brother Charles Talbot. When her aunt died in 1906 she took her place at Lacock, and in 1916 inherited the Abbey and much of the village of Lacock from her uncle. It was then that she changed her name to Talbot. In the 1914—18 War she first helped at a canteen near the front line in France and later was appointed a commander of W.R.N.S., and for her wise and capable administration was awarded the M.B.E. On her return to Lacock as châtelaine she devoted herself to the conservation of her inheritance and was a great benefactress to the village, often under the cloak of secrecy, entering wholeheartedly into its affairs. She delighted to entertain at the Abbey, giving hospitality to many who came for extended visits, and also found time to travel widely. Her great energies found outlet in organising a pageant in 1932 and also the celebration in 1934 of the centenary of the invention of photography by William Henry Fox Talbot whilst living at the Abbey.

During the 1939—45 War the Abbey housed evacuated families and an elementary school

from London and later a succession of Army units. Towards the end of the war she handed over the Abbey and village to the National Trust. She also gave to the nation a finely preserved copy of Magna Carta, the only one in private hands. This was later exhibited in the United States, which she visited at the same time as an honoured guest. In 1956 was published her entertaining autobiography *My Life and Lacock Abbey*. To the end of her life she kept up her activities and in 1957 welcomed members of this Society for their Annual General Meeting in the Abbey.

Obit.: *Times*, March 27th, 1958.

DR. WILLIAM JOSCELYN ARKELL, F.R.S., F.G.S., died at Cambridge on April 18th, 1958, aged 53. Son of James Arkell of Highworth, he was educated at Wellington and New Coll., Oxford; lecturer in geology at Oxford 1929—33 and research Fellow 1933—40. Work with Ministry of War Transport 1941—3 was ended by severe illness. Elected to a research fellowship at Trinity, Cambridge, in 1947, he travelled widely in Europe, N. Africa and Arabia. His first studies had been on the ridge of Corallian rock stretching from Highworth to Cumnor, and he soon became the foremost authority on the Jurassic rocks generally and their fossils. His fame as a geologist was world-wide; he was Lyell Medallist of the Geological Society of London and was awarded similar distinctions by the Washington National Academy of Science and the German Geological Society.

He was a stimulating teacher, with kindly encouragement for professional workers and amateurs alike. His major works included *The Jurassic System in Great Britain* (1933), *The Geology of Oxford* (1947), and *Jurassic Geology of the World* (1956), all marked by clarity of thought and exposition. He was a member of this Society, contributing to W.A.M. *The Corallian Beds around Purton* (1941), *A Geological Map of Swindon* (1948) and *Geology of the Corallian Ridge near Wootton Bassett and Lyneham* (1951). He leaves a widow and three sons.

Obit.: *Times*, April 22nd, 1958.

JOHN A. ARNOLD-FORSTER, O.B.E., died at Salthrop House, Wroughton, on June 18th, 1958, aged 68. Third son of H. D. Arnold-Forster, of Basset Down, Minister of War in the Balfour Government, he was educated at Marlborough and in the 1914-18 War served with the R.A. Qualifying as a land agent he acted in that capacity in Hants and later in Suffolk where he became a member of East Suffolk County

Council and was elected an alderman, being awarded the O.B.E. for his work on the war-time Emergency Committee of the Council. Retiring in 1946 he came to live at Salthrop House, running the four farms of the Basset Down estate. He served on Wilts A.E.C. and on the County Council 1946—51, resigning on becoming President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. He was also a member of the executive committee of the Country Landowners' Association and a Governor of Marlborough College and the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. In 1956 he received the award instituted by Lord Bledisloe for work of outstanding excellence in improving the standard of husbandry. President of this Society in 1949, he took as the subject of his presidential address Wiltshire and the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947, on which he was particularly well

qualified to speak. He married in 1920 Daphne Mansel-Pleydell, who survives him with a son and daughter.

Obit.: *Wilts Gazette & Herald*, June 26th, 1958.

ROBERT WILLIS HORTON, C.B.E. who died on Nov. 24th, 1958, aged 68, farmed on a big scale at Broad Hinton for nearly 50 years, and had long acted in an advisory capacity at county level. He had been chairman of the County N.F.U. and of Wilts Agricultural Executive Committee and represented Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset on the Milk Marketing Board. For services to agriculture he was awarded the C.B.E. in 1950. Among other public roles he was on the County Council 1946—58 and on Marlborough and Ramsbury R.D.C. since 1928. He leaves two sons and four daughters.

Obit.: *Marlborough Times*, Nov. 28th, 1958.

EDITORIAL NOTES

At the 1958 Annual General Meeting I said that I had had a number of very kind letters from members about the new appearance of the *Magazine* and only one protest about the change of size in spite of the unfortunate inconvenience this causes to members who have their copies bound.

I also mentioned one or two minor changes which are being made in this issue. First, you will see the cover is of a slightly different and heavier paper so as to hold the new larger page more satisfactorily. Next, we have used Times rather than Bembo type as it appears more suitable for the longer line. Further, as an economy measure, some parts of the *Magazine* have been printed in double column.

A rather different change is the inclusion of advertisements. These have been placed so that they can be easily removed by members who want to have their copies bound. They will provide us with useful revenue and in including them we are following, in my opinion rightly,

the example of many leading learned journals in this country.

I hope members who want to express their views about these matters will write to me. It is difficult for an Editor of an annual publication to keep in touch with members if he only sees most of them, shortly after the publication of the *Magazine*, in the course of an Annual General Meeting.

Further, thanks to the printing strike, it is most unlikely this year that the *Magazine* will be ready before the Annual General Meeting. I can only ask that members will be patient and hope that the dispute will not take too long to settle.

This number, when it does appear, will be the second in Volume 57. It contains an up-to-date list of members, which I hope will be helpful. I should be grateful if members would notify me of any changes of address or mistakes. Next year's number will complete Volume 57 and will contain a full index.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1958

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the Lecture Room at the Museum, Devizes on Saturday, September 20, 1958 at 2.30 p.m. The retiring President, Brigadier K. M. F. Hedges was in the Chair and approximately 90 members were present.

After the minutes of the Annual General Meeting for 1957 had been read and confirmed, the Hon. Treasurer presented the Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ended 31 December, 1957 (reproduced on pp. 270 below). These were adopted. In presenting them, the Treasurer pointed out that, owing to the high cost of printing, the *Magazine*, even though it now as an economy measure only appeared once a year, cost more than the amount derived from subscriptions. Further, since the price to non-members was only 10s. 6d. and the *Magazine* cost much more than this to produce, any attempt until recently to increase the circulation had caused a loss. The only way to avoid this situation was to increase the rate of subscription for members; the price of the *Magazine* for non-members had already been increased to 25s.

Reports on various other aspects of the Society's activities were then made by the Librarian, the Curator, the Secretary of the

Archaeology Sub-Committee, the Secretary of the Natural History Section and the Editor of the *Magazine*. The report of the Secretary of the Natural History Section is reproduced on p. 273; points made by the others are given in the accounts of their activities for 1958 under Archaeology and Field Work (p. 227), Editorial Notes (p.258), Accessions to the Library (p.261) and the Curator's report (p. 264).

The Society then turned to the election of Officers. The following whose names had been put forward by the Committee were elected:—

President	... Mr. E. C. Barnes.
Hon. Secretary	... Mr. A. M. Hankin, C.M.G.
Hon. Treasurer	... Mr. F. W. C. Merritt
Hon. Auditor	... Mr. J. Brookfield
Hon. Librarian	... Mr. R. E. Sandell
Hon. Editor	... Mr. E. E. Sabben-Clare assisted by Mr. O. Meyrick and Mr. J. M. Prest

Hon. Meetings

Secretary ... Mr. H. Ross
To fill vacancies on the Committee:—

The Rev. C. G. D. Swynerton
Mr. R. A. U. Jennings, F.S.A.
Mr. A. J. Clarke.

Warm tributes were paid by the newly elected President on behalf of the Society to Brigadier Hedges for all his work during his term of office and to Mr. Meyrick for his organization of excursions as Meetings Secretary.

The newly elected President then proposed three amendments to the Society's rules, of which much the most important was an amendment designed to increase the annual subscription from £1 to £1 12s. 6d. After a short discussion, this amendment was carried with only one dissentient; two other minor amendments were carried unanimously. The full text of these amendments is as follows:—

(1) **RULE VII.** Delete second paragraph and substitute the following:—

“Members shall pay an annual subscription of one pound twelve shillings and sixpence payable on the first day of January in each year in advance. Individual members, but not institutions, may compound for their subscriptions on the payment of twenty pounds. The name of a member whose subscription is more than two years in arrear shall, after notice given to that member, be liable to removal from the Society's books.”

(2) **RULE VIII.**

After the words “A Librarian” insert the words “A Meetings Secretary.”

(3) **RULE IX.**

After the words “Other than the Vice-Presidents” in line two, insert the words “the Wiltshire County Archivist for the time being.”

The meeting then adjourned for tea at Strong's Cafe. After this most members motored or walked up to Roundway Down to hear Colonel Burne talk in his usual shrewd, witty fashion about the 1643 battle. It was a delightful finish to our meeting. The late afternoon was sunny and still warm, though with a hint of autumn in the air; the downs were, as ever, lovely; and there was the Colonel at the top of his form, though frail, joking with the ex-President, telling us of his word duel with one of the Assistant Editors who held heretical views about the battle, making, as very few men can, a 17th century battle real to our eyes. It is with deep sadness that many members of our Society will have read of Colonel Burne's death this year of 1959; and many too will long remember with pleasure this last talk of his to us at our 1958 Annual General Meeting.

SUMMER EXCURSIONS, 1957

Only two excursions were planned owing to the uncertainty about petrol rationing. The first, on July 13th, was on the western border of the county. The morning was spent at Hazelbury, an Elizabethan manor house in a delightful setting, and the adjoining Chapel Plaister. At Hazelbury, now a girls' finishing school, the party were welcomed by Miss Parker. No more fitting guide could have been found than Mr. Oswald Brakspear, whose father had made extensive restorations for Mr. G. Kidston in 1919, including the reconstruction of two wings which had been demolished. Chapel Plaister, a 15th century wayside hospice for pilgrims to Glastonbury, is remarkably well preserved despite the various secular uses to which it has been put, and its original appearance was admirably traced by Mr. H. Ross.

After lunch at Corsham, Great Chalfield Manor was visited. This was made over to the National Trust by the late Major R. F. Fuller, but his daughter and her husband, Mr. C. Floyd, still live there, and Mr. Floyd with Mr. Brak-

spear kindly acted as guide. This also had been carefully restored by Sir Harold Brakspear with the aid of Pugin drawings done before the house had become dilapidated in the 19th century. So much is there to see here and in the little church alongside that the whole afternoon was taken up before moving on to Bradford-on-Avon for tea. The day ended with a visit to Westwood Church, a building of great architectural interest which was shown by the Vicar, Rev. A. W. Taylor.

The excursion of August 17th drew the largest attendance in the annals of the Society, almost exactly 200. The first visit was to Wilton Church, a fine Italianate building containing many treasures from other lands. The Rector, Rev. W. G. Evans, gave a detailed description and had on view the original plans, kindly loaned for the occasion by the Earl of Pembroke. From here the party made their way to Downton, to see excavations in a field near the Moot, where occupation of many periods from Mesolithic onwards was revealed. The director, Mr. P. A. Rahtz, gave a most interesting account of the site

and the work done on it. After lunch at Harnham all reassembled at Compton Chamberlayne Park, at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Schuster. The attractions of the house, for so long the home of the Penruddockes, were enhanced by a display of family relics, specially brought by Col. N. F. Penruddocke, who also spoke on the historic associations of the house, including the Penruddocke rising. The church in the manor grounds was also visited. Then on to Broadchalke, where a lavish tea was served by the W.I. in the Village Hall. After this came a visit to Reddish House, the residence of Mr. Cecil Beaton. Mr. Hugh Shortt proved an admirable guide to the 17th century house with its sumptuous furnishings. The party then split up to view the church and the Old Rectory, or to make the journey to Rockbourne Down, where a Roman villa had been partially excavated by Mr. A. T. Morley-Hewitt and was shown by him. Throughout the day the Rev. E. H. Steele gave invaluable help by his efficient traffic control, a very necessary procedure with so large a gather-

ing, which enabled the full programme to be run to schedule.

On the occasion of the A.G.M. at Lacock Abbey on September 21st, a programme was arranged for the day in and around Lacock. In the morning, after a gracious welcome from Miss Talbot, Mrs. Burnett Brown gave a talk on the Abbey, and the whole range of buildings, including much that is not usually shown, was seen under the guidance of Col. and Mrs. Burnett Brown and Mr. Oswald Brakspear. Also an exhibition was most thoughtfully staged of Fox Talbot's photographs and equipment, and of documents connected with the Abbey, many on loan from the County Archives Office. In the afternoon those not attending the business meeting were either taken on a tour of the village or visited Bewley Court at the invitation of Mrs. Worsley. Then all assembled at the church, which was ably described by Miss J. Burnett Brown. After tea at the Abbey, Lackham School of Agriculture, with its notable collection of bygones, was open to inspection by kind permission of the Principal, Mr. J. O. Thomas.

SUMMER EXCURSIONS, 1958

Sherborne in Dorset, visited on June 21st, drew a good attendance for a place so far beyond the county boundary. The morning was spent at the Abbey and the adjoining Almshouses. After lunch the ruins of Sherborne Old Castle, under restoration by the Ministry of Works, were specially thrown open, and a most interesting talk was given by Mr. C. E. Bean, F.S.A. A move was then made to the New Castle, by courtesy of Mr. S. Wingfield-Digby, M.P., and the party was conducted on a very thorough tour of this 17th century house, with its fine collection of pictures. The programme ended with a visit to Sherborne School Library, a building which had formed part of the old Abbey precincts. Mr. Bean gave invaluable help in planning the day and taking the party round, to make it a most enjoyable occasion.

On July 23rd the Amesbury district was the scene of the excursion. The day began with visits to Enford Church and Chisenbury Priory. The Church, which was described by the Vicar, Rev. D. R. G. Timothy, possesses work of various periods from Norman onwards, including a most unusual octagonal sacristy. The Priory, thrown open by kind permission of Major and Mrs. Morton Fisher, is also a mixture of styles, an 18th century front masking much earlier

building. Hidden away in its park, it played a part in history as the home of Hugh Grove, who figured in the Penruddocke rising, and of 'Orator' Hunt, the early 19th century agitator. Next to be visited was Amesbury Church, where the Vicar, Rev. E. G. Hazelton, pointed out the main features of this superbly proportioned edifice. After lunch in Amesbury, the party left for Wilbury House, at the kind invitation of Lady St. Just, who related its history to the gathering before they went over the house. This is one of the earliest in the Italian style in the country, but trees conceal it from view and it is probably the least known of Wiltshire's great houses. The furniture is in keeping with the fine internal decoration and there was much of interest in the park for those waiting their turn to go inside. Next on the programme came Idmiston Church, with its particularly fine series of corbel heads, shown by the Vicar, Rev. C. F. Brewis. Then on to tea at the Red Lion Hotel, Salisbury, before going to the Cathedral to see the exhibition of the finest church plate from all over the Diocese. It had been an outstandingly successful day, and remarkable for finding two such notable houses as Chisenbury Priory and Wilbury which had never before been visited by the Society.

New ground was again broken at the start of

the excursion on August 16th, with a visit to the cloth mill of Samuel Salter & Co. Ltd. at Trowbridge. Mr. K. G. Ponting, a director of the Company, kindly gave up the morning to take the party on a very thorough tour of the mill, explaining the various processes and describing the old methods; several employees also demonstrated the working of the machines. The whole exposition of one of Wiltshire's oldest industries proved of absorbing interest. After lunch in Trowbridge, the Somerset border was crossed to visit, as an appropriate sequel, the site of the old fulling mill at Tellisford, set in delightful scenery. Here Mr. H. Ross, who had devised most of the day's programme, explained the working of the mill to the general satisfaction of his audience. From here a short run back into Wilts brought the party to Iford Manor and a hospitable welcome from Sir Michael and Lady Peto. Much of the house is Elizabethan on earlier foundations, with an 18th century front, and it is notable also for its valuable pictures and other fittings. The beauty of the sloping gardens is enhanced by many *objets d'art* collected by Mr. H. A. Peto from Italy and France, the whole constituting a memorable scene, while just

across the stream at the bottom are the remains of another fulling mill. This was the last item of a most satisfying day, which ended with tea at the Church House, Bradford-on-Avon.

When the Annual General Meeting was held on September 20th, morning visits were arranged to St. John's Church and St. Mary's Church, Devizes.

Both have architectural features of special interest, which were the more appreciated under the expert guidance of Mr. Oswald Brakspear. In addition the registers of St. Mary's, with their Civil War references, were on view. Lunch at the Castle Hotel was followed by the business meeting in the Museum. The other event of the day, after tea at the Ruth Pierce Restaurant, was a visit to Roundway Down. The Society were so fortunate as to get Lt.-Col. A. H. Burne, D.S.O., to act as guide to the scene of the Civil War engagement. As the foremost authority on Britain's battlefields he was listened to with keen attention, as he reconstructed the line of approach of the Royalist troops and the site of the encounter with a clarity and humour that won general approval.

ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY, 1958

Books bought

The Manuscripts of St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Edited J. N. Dalton, 1957.

Prehistoric Communities of the British Isles. V. G. Childe. W. & R. Chambers. 1940.

British Regional Geology Handbook for London & Thames Valley. R. L. Sherlock. H.M.S.O. 1947.

Neolithic Cultures of the British Isles. Stuart Piggott. C.U.P. 1954.

Jackson Papers. See separate note below.

Mediaeval England. An Aerial Survey. M. W. Beresford & J. K. St. Joseph. C.U.P. 1958.

Stukeley's Abury. 1743 edition.

This finely bound copy came from the Stourhead Library and contains in the endpapers a painting by Sir Richard Colt Hoare and several original paintings for Ancient Wilts.

Burke's Commoners. 1833. 4 Volumes.

The Society's copy of this had been for many years deficient of two volumes.

Pembroke Papers. 1780-1794. Lord Herbert. Cape. 1950.

John Hungerford Pollen. 1820-1902. Anne Pollen. Murray, 1912.

Relates to the Pollen family of Rodbourne.

The Story of Mere. Blackmore Press. 1958.

This is a development of the W.I. scrapbook and contains chapters on subjects ranging from Prehistory to Modern Times and including Natural History, Place Names, Poor Relief and Religion.

The Georgian Theatre in Wessex. A. Hare. Phoenix House. 1958.

Contains references to the theatres in Devizes, Salisbury, and to performances in other Wiltshire towns.

Wessex before the Celts. J. F. S. Stone. Thames & Hudson. 1958.

Books presented

A. C. Robinson A new view on Ermine Street. J. B. Jones. 1950.

Major F. McBladen Transcript of Parish Registers of Swallowcliffe.

- J. Bennett The Bennett Family. A rare account of the Bennett Family of Norton Bavant, Pyt House and Salisbury.
- Rev. E. H. Steele The Pleasures of Life. Lord Avebury. Macmillan, 1944.
- R. C. Hatchwell Crockford's Directory. 1933.
- R. C. Hatchwell Index to pedigrees in Burke's Commoners.
- Miss W. M. Stevenson Flora of the British Isles. Clapham, Tutin & Warburg. C.U.P. 1958.
- Dr. T. R. Thomson A set of reference books including two volumes of the Camden Society series, Guide to the Public Records, Oxford and Cambridge calendars, etc.
- Mrs. E. C. Barnes Popular Handbook of British Birds. Hollom. Witherby. 1955.
- Publishers City of Salisbury. Edited Hugh Shortt. Phoenix House. 1957.
- Publishers The Archaeology of Wessex. L. V. Grinsell. Methuen. 1958.
- Author Roman Roads in Britain. Volume 2. I. D. Margary. Phoenix House. 1957.
- A. B. Emden A Biographical Register of the University of Oxford to A.D. 1500. O.U.P. 1957.
- Pamphlets presented*
- | Donor | Title |
|------------------------|---|
| Miss Braidwood | Photostat copy of the indictment of the murderers of Bishop Ayscough. |
| Winterslow W.I. | History of Winterslow. |
| Harnham Afternoon W.I. | History of Harnham. |
| Rev. E. H. Steele | Oak Apple Day. 1951. |
- F. C. Pitt Election Broadsheet. Westbury. 1857. Collection of Tracts including: Two offprints from Archaeologia. William Tiptaft. Letter to the Bishop of Salisbury. 1831. 'A Faithful Sermon.' Preached at Avebury by the Rev. E. A. Brooks. 1852.
- Miss A. Godden Thesis on the Turnpike Road from Cherhill to Studley Bridge. 1958.
- University of Bristol Notes on the history of the Manor of Corsham, compiled by Mr. Barrett, sometime Steward of the Manor.
- Dr. T. R. Thomson Pedigree of the Dennis and Byrt families of Cricklade.
- R. Sandell Crofton Pumps, Saver-nake. 1958.
- Prints, Photographs, Drawings, etc., presented*
- Salisbury Diocesan Registry 37 drawings by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, many of them unfinished and mostly of foreign scenes.
- A. J. Clark Two aerial photographs of Beckhampton and Kennett.
- N. U. Grudgings 33 further photographs of plants.
- F. W. C. Merritt 11 photographs of the slum clearance area in Sheep Street, Devizes.
- Rev. E. H. Steele 22 photographs taken at Imber. March 1958.
- Miss E. Foxon Collection of negatives of buildings in Devizes and neighbourhood.

THE JACKSON PAPERS

The most important acquisition that the Society's Library has received for many years is undoubtedly that portion of the late Canon. J. E. Jackson's library which dealt with the Hungerford family. The main part of this collection consists of 14 large volumes, embodying his lifetime's work on this subject, and containing, in addition to his own notes, a very valuable collection of original documents, plans, pedigrees, portraits and drawings.

These are bound in vellum in 8 folio volumes running to 2,594 pages, and in one larger supplementary volume. Two more volumes contain details of deeds relating to the family of Hungerford, copied from a cartulary then in the possession of the Rt. Hon. Henry Hobhouse of Hadspen House, Somerset and now in the care of the Somerset County Record Office at Taunton. The contents of this cartulary are compared with another belonging to the Earl of Radnor. The last three volumes contain materials for a History of Farleigh Hungerford. A small part of their contents appeared in Jackson's 'A Guide to Farleigh-Hungerford ' published in 1853 and in later editions in 1860 and 1879.

John Edward Jackson was born in 1805 and in 1834 became curate of Farleigh Hungerford. He was deeply interested in local history, and it is little surprising that during his time at Farleigh Hungerford he developed what was to be a lifelong interest in the Hungerford family or as he called it his 'Hungerford mania'. At the inaugural meeting of the Wiltshire Archaeological Society in 1853 he described how he found a rent roll of Sir Walter Hungerford of the time of James I in the library at Farleigh and another even older one at the bottom of an old box full of rubbish. Both these rent rolls later became the property of the Marquess of Crewe and have recently been bought by the Hon. Librarian to this Society who has placed them on permanent loan with the Wiltshire County Record Office at Trowbridge. The first of these refers to properties in 19 and the second in 17 Wiltshire parishes.

In 1845 Jackson's investigations took a new turn when he was appointed Rector of Leigh Delamere and Sevington, and the next year Vicar of Norton. The proximity of these North Wiltshire villages to the birthplace of John Aubrey at Kington St. Michael started an interest in Aubrey and more especially in the manuscript of his Topographical Collections. In 1853 the Wilt-

shire Archaeological Society was founded and Jackson became the first joint secretary and editor of its magazine, resigning these positions in 1857 in order to devote himself to his edition of Aubrey's Collections. In 1862 this magnificent work was published by the Society.

Although his Hungerford interests had taken second place for the last few years, they were by no means forgotten. In 1883 the enormous collection of information which he had got together was bound up into the 8 volumes which have now become the property of the Society, but just as Aubrey never managed to publish his Topographical Collections during his lifetime, so Jackson failed to publish his projected History of the Hungerford Family. A few months before his death, he said, looking at the volumes of Hungerfordiana 'they represent a good many years of my life I should like to have had another ten years, I think I could have finished a good many things then.' In 1891 he died and it was confidently expected that his papers would have been left to the Society. However, his notes and papers on Wiltshire were left to the Society of Antiquaries and his library, including the Hungerford Papers, to his nephew. It had been proposed that the History of the Hungerford Family should be published as a memorial to Canon Jackson, but this did not meet with the approval of his nephew and in 1895 his library was put up for sale at Hodgsons. Mr. W. H. Bell and the Reverend E. H. Goddard attended the sale on behalf of the Society, determined if possible to buy the 8 volumes of Hungerford Papers. Unfortunately they were Lot No. 923 and came at the end of the sale, and having saved the small sum available to them for this special purpose, they found themselves outbid by representatives acting for Lord Houghton—later Marquess of Crewe—who was descended from the Hungerford family in the female line and had inherited some of their Wiltshire estates. The 8 volumes went for £158, the 3 volumes of the History of Farleigh Hungerford for £11 15s. and other items for lesser amounts. What made the disappointment more bitter was the realisation that had they known that they had no hope of getting the Hungerford papers, they could have bought a lot of smaller items of great interest to the Society. They did however buy 14 lots for the modest sum of £8. When the question of a memorial to Canon Jackson was again discussed, it was decided to call for subscriptions to build a

display gallery for the Society's prehistoric exhibits and a peculiarly hideous design was prepared. In the event the subscriptions were not forthcoming in sufficient quantities to enable the Society to proceed, so that there is still no memorial to remind later generations of the magnificent work which Canon Jackson did for the Society, though perhaps it is fortunate that he is not commemorated by the foliate pillars and other cast iron extravaganza which appeared in the design.

The papers remained almost forgotten in the library at Crewe Hall until the death of the late Marquess in 1945. In recent years various small items from the collection have found their way

into sale rooms and this prompted a search for the main part of the collection. It was traced to a relative of Lord Crewe and eventually bought, in the face of some competition, by a member of the Society, who generously passed it on at the price which he gave for it.

In addition to the volumes listed above, the collection also contains several copies of *Hungerfordiana* by Sir Richard Colt Hoare with corrections and additions by Colt Hoare and by Jackson himself and also a number of miscellaneous items including some rare publications of Sir Thomas Phillips

R. SANDELL

ACCESSIONS TO THE COUNTY RECORD OFFICE, 1958

Probate: Bishop of Salisbury's Consistory Court, 1526-1858; Archdeacon of Sarum's Court, 1528-1799; Archdeacon of Wilts' Court, 1557-1799.

Parish: Figheldean, overseers' books, 1832-6; Purton, ecclesiastical records, 18th-19th cents.; Purton, civil records, vestry and parish council, 17th-20th cents.

Family and Estate:—

Ayliffe of Grittenham: deeds concerning the manor, capital messuage and farm of Imber, 1636-1799.

Earls of Clarendon: Wiltshire estates: deeds, Wootton Bassett, and Lydiard Tregoze, 1679-1806; estate vouchers, Hatch House in Tisbury, East End and Semley Farms in Semley, and Kinghay in East Knoyle, with steward's annual accounts, 1723-1751; rentals and other documents, 1651-1813.

Seph of Stapleford: deeds, etc., 17th-19th cents. Stephens of Chavenage: manorial records, 1682-1724, and deeds, 1258-1762, Hullavington.

Miscellaneous: deeds, etc., Marlborough, 1751-1823.

Inclosure: Inclosure agreement, common and open fields, East Knoyle, 1780.

Miscellaneous: About 12,500 Wiltshire records, mainly title deeds but also manorial records, estate papers, letters and memoranda, surveys, schedules, inventories, terriers, faculties and licences, parliamentary, legal, probate and poor law papers, with copies of Acts, business records, statistics and genealogical material 13th to 19th cents., including part of survey, manor of Aldbourne, 13th cent., ministers' accounts, manors of Keevil and Melksham, 14th cent., charters and inspeximus, Corsham, 13th-17th cents., memoranda of churchwardens, Maiden Bradley, 1693-1708, Wiltshire and Berkshire Canal Co. papers, 1794-1814, and pedigrees of Chorley of Chorley, Bayliffe of Monkton and Thornley of Malmesbury. (Deposited by Wilts Arch Soc.)
Trowbridge MAURICE G. RATHBONE

CURATOR'S REPORT FOR 1958

MUSEUM ACTIVITIES.

Repairs to Fabric.

In pursuance of the long term programme of repair and renovation to Museum fabric begun by the Society Committee in 1955, further maintenance was carried out in 1958. The main room of the library was redecorated for the first time in a good many years. The walls have been painted a pleasant pastel green shade; the old surface of the ceiling, which was badly cracked,

has been covered with insulation board and discoloured white. The floor has been coated with a non-slip plastic seal and a further door has been fitted at the east end of this room in order to cut off the library from the room leading to the Curator's office.

Additional structural repairs were unfortunately forced upon the Committee after the discovery of dry rot in the cellars due to lack of adequate below ground ventilation. Luckily the

damage was not severe, and the work of repair and of inserting air bricks is now complete. Messrs. J. J. Stevens of Devizes were the contractors.

A further floor, that of the Lecture Hall, and the adjoining staircase have also been successfully treated with plastic seal.

Natural History Room (Plan, p. 177, *W.A.M.*, no. cciii, room 8).

The task of redisplaying the Natural History collections was completed and the room formally opened on September 20th, 1958. Its completion represents the culmination of a number of years effort by the staff of this museum, and by members of the Natural History Section of the Society who have generously given of their spare time.

The Natural History collections possessed by the Society are almost entirely composed of bird specimens, fossils and lepidoptera and were originally housed in the room recently converted into a Lecture Hall. The geological material is perhaps one of the finest local fossil collections in the country, and was acquired largely through the efforts of the late William Cunningham, Canon Goddard, and Canon Jackson.

To achieve the utmost economy in the layout of this room old cases have been re-used. The birds have been refurbished, remounted and arranged in order of evolution in a single wall unit which occupies two sides of the room, and is blocked in from floor to ceiling to avoid the accumulation of dust.

The geology section has been divided up into three uniform bays so as to achieve maximum display and storage space. These cases also have been blocked in from top to base to give a neat, clean appearance.

The room has been painted a pale green paint with the edgings of the case frames in gold. The immediate floor surround to the cases has been painted a deep red; so has the handrail which has been fixed down two sides of the room opposite the bird display; the glass in the old bird cases is rather thin. The room is lit with six large neon lights.

Just within the entrance a large illuminated guide panel has been fixed. This contains resumes of the room display and diagrams illustrating the geological formations of the county. Almost all of the fossil specimens have been individually mounted in plaster moulds, after the method used by the Geological Museum in South Kensington. These moulds have been

painted pale blue colour to conform with the interior case colour. The blue contrasts strongly with the general fossil colour and enables detail to be seen to advantage. In each case is a miniature map of the county on which the extent of the geological stratum illustrated and described has been painted; in addition to these, vertical sections are included, and additional maps showing the extent of the seas at the time when each of the Wiltshire rocks were laid down. The display has also been enlivened with full-plate photographs meant to illustrate pictorially the effect of geology on the Wiltshire scenery, and to indicate the economic uses to which the rock formations of Wiltshire have been put.

A notable feature of the room is the relief map of the county, made entirely in the Museum over the last year and intended to illustrate at a glance the solid geology of Wiltshire. Initially the 100ft. contours had to be traced from the one-inch Ordnance Survey maps. These were then cut out in quarter-inch plywood, the resultant shapes being built up into a skeletal map which was given 'body' with a top moulding of 'Duroplast'. After hardening, the map was finally painted with the strata colours as laid down by the Geological Survey of Great Britain. The positions of major towns and rivers have been marked and a key at the side of the map enables visitors to see at a glance the relative position and extent of geological strata over the county.

An additional accurate geological map of Wiltshire at a scale of one inch to the mile has also been prepared for library use and has been mounted on the wall of one of the small library rooms. This is perhaps the only complete geological map of Wiltshire available at present to the general public, since new additions of the 1". Ordnance Survey Geological maps for the county, intended for publication, were destroyed by enemy action during the war and are not yet replaced.

The fossils on display represent only a fraction of the whole collection. The remainder has now been sorted into a student's collection arranged in order of strata and deposited below the display windows; they are available for study on request.

A final task in the overall arrangement of the room has been the removal of our moth and butterfly collections. These have been thoroughly cleaned, disinfected, and rearranged with considerable new insect additions; the collection is now incorporated in a single cupboard at the far

end of the room, and is available for examination though not on open display.

Bronze Age Room (Plan, p. 177 *W.A.M.*, no. cciii, room 4).

Owing to the time which had to be spent on the Natural History work on the Bronze Age collections now being arranged in the new Stourhead Room had to be curtailed.

Ten of the cases, however, have been completely or partially arranged with objects from this superb prehistoric collection.

The focal point of the display is intended to be three cases now arranged with the finds, many of them unique, from barrows, which by reason of the richness of their contents have been assigned the title 'Royal Graves'. Further barrow grave groups have been placed on display, amongst them a selection of bronze dagger types, and stone mace-heads, thought to have belonged to 'Warrior' castes of the period. Other cases have been completed illustrating urns of Middle and Late Bronze Age types, and the development of bronze weapons and tools from Early to Late Bronze Age times. Here, we are grateful to the Committee of the Salisbury Museum, and Mr. H. de S. Shortt, Curator, for the generous loan of a fine Late Bronze Age sword to complete our series.

In addition to the new Hurst cases, two island showcases have been designed, and are now in place down the centre of the room. These were constructed to our specification by Messrs. L. Maslen & Sons and will eventually contain large-scale air photographs of barrow grounds in Wiltshire from which many of the finds in this room were taken. These air photographs, each measuring 15ins. \times 12ins. were recently selected and purchased from the collections in the Ashmolean Museum, and the Department of Aerial Photography, Cambridge University.

Loans

We continue to make temporary loans to schools and lectures for teaching purposes and eighteen separate loans were made this year. In addition a large selection of Wiltshire trade tokens was lent to the Bath and Bristol Numismatic Society for exhibition at their Numismatic Congress, held at Bath in May; pottery and other finds have been lent to Urchfont Manor, and to the Committee of the Potterne Historical Exhibition during the celebration of their 700th anniversary. Additional Neolithic, Beaker and Iron Age pottery is now also on temporary loan to the Birmingham City Museum, and I think we

should take enjoyment in knowing that the choicest pieces in the Birmingham Museum archaeology rooms are there by courtesy of this Society and its Museum.

Museum Publicity

In an effort to attract more visitors to the Museum two fingerposts have been erected in the town indicating the whereabouts of the Museum. Application has also been made to the Ancient Monuments Section of the Ministry of Works for permission to set up notices at West Kennett and Stonehenge advertising this Museum and its contents. If this application is successful, we may hope to draw visitors from the great crowds which visit these two monuments.

So far approximately 100 postcards have been sold, and a further new postcard of one of the finds from the Roman site at Nettleton will shortly be on sale. The display window at the entrance porch has also been changed twice, the latest display of a group of Greensand fossils linking up with the display in the Natural History room.

Acknowledgments

Very considerable help has again been given by Society members and friends.

The layout of the Bird Section was originally begun by Mr. C. Rice, headmaster of Frogwell School, Chippenham, and later carried through to a large extent by Miss B. Gillam and Mr. R. Sandell. All the bird labels were executed by Miss Gillam, who also made the beautifully carved sign above the doorway.

On the geological side I have had the enthusiastic assistance of Mr. Paul Pickering, who helped as a volunteer in the work of sorting the fossils, and later as a temporary employed assistant has carried out a great part of the geological display. To Mr. Sandell and Mr. Pickering must also go much of the credit for the construction of the two geological maps.

Mr. B. W. Weddell, a member of the Natural History Section Committee, is responsible for the restoration of our lepidoptera, and along with Capt. Jackson, C.B.E., R.N. (retd.) and Mr. C. M. R. Pitman, has added over 1,000 additional specimens to the cabinets.

Deep thanks are also owed to Mr. N. U. Grudgings of Melksham for the splendid photographs which are now included in the geology display. The taking of these entailed visiting many out of the way quarries and sites in the county, yet Mr. Grudgings has given his time freely, as well as developing, printing and mount-

ing all photographs at his own expense. He also continues to enrich our library with further donations of his brilliant flower photographs.

The Museum is also indebted to members of the Department of Geology, Bristol University, and to Mr. Barron, Dauntsey's School, for technical advice, and help in the identification of fossil specimens doubtfully labelled. The Society is also grateful to Mr. D. A. S. Webster, A.R.I.B.A., who continues to inspect and advise on Museum fabric.

Finally high praise must go to Mrs. Cole our caretaker for another year of devoted service, and to Mr. Cole, who in his spare evenings has constructed the whole of the casework for the display in the Bird room including electric fittings and interior decorations. He has once more shown a remarkable ingenuity in adapting the old Stourhead cases to the new display.

MUSEUM ATTENDANCE

School Parties in 1958.

Nineteen groups of schoolchildren visited the Museum and were given guided talks by the Curator. The total number of children in these groups, 451 in all, is a considerable increase over the 1957 total of 345.

Museum Visitors:

1957:

Jan.—March	...	...	466
April—June	...	...	585
July—Sept.	...	...	1225
Oct.—Dec. ...	...	...	255
			—
Total			2531
			—

1958:

Jan.—March	...	...	288
April—June	...	...	808
July—Sept.	...	...	1039
Oct.—Dec.	...	...	306
			—
Total			2441
			—

In addition, adult parties visited the Museum during the day or in the evening and were lectured to by the Curator. These included groups from Urchfont Manor, the Universities of Exeter and Leicester, and local institutions and Societies including the Yeovil and District Archaeological Society, and the Kidderminster Archaeological Society.

Lectures

Last winter the Curator gave a series of twelve lectures on 'Roman Britain' to a W.E.A. group

in Swindon. Further lectures on various aspects of archaeology and the Society were given at Urchfont Manor, the Lackham School of Agriculture, the County Rural Subjects Teachers' Association, and other local groups. The Museum Lecture hall was also used during the winter for a course of twelve geological lectures given by Mr. R. S. Barron of Dauntsey's School.

Fieldwork:

(See pp. 227 above, Excavation and Fieldwork in Wilts, 1958).

MUSEUM ACCESSIONS, 1958.

Gifts and loans of objects have not been excessive; this Museum is always pleased to add fresh objects of local archaeological and historical interest to its existing collections.

Gifts, though fewer in 1958, included one or two objects of particular interest and attractiveness.

One of these has been the Roman sculptured head of a goddess recently re-discovered at Easton Grey and kindly donated by Major J. G. Wilder of Luckington. This head was originally found at Easton Grey, and figured in an article on that settlement by the late Mr. A. D. Passmore (*W.A.M.*, Vol. lvi, pp. 270-2). For many years it had been lost until its resurrection this year in the nick of time from a dustbin!

Miss F. Sparey of Corsley has also kindly given an interesting group of objects of recent date including a fine example of a pottery bread oven. We are also indebted to Mrs. S. Cassels, a generous donor to our Museum, for further gifts of interesting family possessions of Victorian date.

By the kindness of Mrs. Keiller, we have been given two large map cabinets originally used by the late Alexander Keiller of Avebury Manor. These are to be incorporated into the Museum workroom for storing large scale maps and archaeological drawings.

LISTS OF GIFTS

Geology

Large fragment of a fossil ammonite. Found during excavations at Hill's Gravel Works, Lacock. Mr. Webb. 1/58/307.

Fossil Oyster, *Lopha marshii*? Found in Spye Park, NG. 31/956669. Miss W. Stopford-Beale. 12/58/342.

Proximal portion of skull and neck vertebra of Woolly Rhinoceros (*Rh. Antiquitatis*). Found in Pleistocene gravels during excavations at the Sutton Benger Egg Packing Factory. Given by the Company. 9/58/332.

Prehistoric

8 Flint scrapers and flakes from Roundway Hill; 11 flint hand axes and flakes from Knowle Farm, Savernake; 1 flint fabricator from Horton; 3 flint scrapers from Windmill Hill, Avebury; 1 flint hammerstone from All Cannings Cross. All from the collections of the late Dr. W. Hooper. Guildford Museum. 9/58/334.

Roman

AE coin of Constantine I, (mm illegible). R. GLORIA. EXERCITVS. Master Dobson. 2/58/309.

Sherds of coarse pottery of 3rd-4th cent. A.D. Found during building operations in the area known as 'Botany', just south of Highworth cemetery. Mr. R. Henry. 5/58/311.

Skeleton, incomplete cooking pot of coarse grey ware, fragments of Samian ware, and a few iron nails. Excavated from the garden of No. 10 Westbury Road, Bratton. Mr. and Mrs. K. Francis. 5/58/312.

AE coin of Crispus, Trier. R. Altar inscribed VOTIS XX. BEATA. TRANQVILLITAS. From the garden of Spring Cottage, Erlestoke. Mr. Axford. 9/58/329.

Samian ware and coarse pottery of 3rd-4th century date. From a Romano-British building in Colerne Park Wood. (NG. 837730). Mr. H. Morrison. 9/58/333.

AE commemorative coin of the Constantinian period. (mm illegible). R. She-wolf suckling Romulus and Remus. From the garden of The Hold, Manningford Bruce, Pewsey. Mr. H. Stokes. 12/58/339.

On Loan

Small sculptured slab, with carving depicting Hercules slaying the Lernean hydra recessed into its front face. From a large Romano-British? villa site at Euridge Farm, Colerne. Mr. H. Morrison. 11/58/337.

Byzantine

AE coin attributed to Michael IV 1034-41 A.D. R. Jewelled cross. Found in the garden of No. 4 Botany, Highworth, Swindon. Mr. E. Boncey. 9/58/325.

Saxon

Iron spearhead with fragments of wooden shaft inside socket. Length 19ins. Found during ploughing on ?Roundway Down. Mr. C. Lovesey. 8/58/317.

Mediaeval

Lead ?gaming piece with crude representation of a human face on the obverse. Diam. 23 mm.

Found in the donor's garden. Locally. Mrs. Gregson. 8/58/324.

Lead bulla of Raymond,? Master of the Knights Hospitallers. Obv. Kneeling figure to right, \times CVSTOS \times RAIMVNDVS. Rev. \times HOSPITALIS IVERVSALEM. Found in the garden of 21, St. John's Churchyard, Devizes. Mr. D. Hyde. 12/58/341.

Recent.

Port or sherry bottle bearing circular cypher of William Wyndham of Phillips House, Dinton. c. 1836. Mr. H. Ross. 2/58/308.

Length of brown woollen cloth with check pattern. Said to be the first piece of cloth woven in Devizes. Mrs. B. Ford. 3/58/310.

Iron mould for casting lead bullets. Length 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins. From the garden of what was originally the gardener's cottage for Roundway House. 19th century. Mr. White. 8/58/313.

Clarinet owned and played by the donor's grandfather. Victorian. Mrs. S. Cassels. 8/58/314.

Woolwinder of Victorian date. Mrs. S. Cassels. 8/58/315.

Iron halberd, length 20ins. Found in the garden of Beech House, Seend. c. 16th century. Mrs. S. Cassels. 8/58/316.

Pottery bread-oven of dome-like shape, complete with handled plug to close up the mouth. Five strips of applied thumb-impressed clay splay out from the mouth of the oven. ?18th century. Miss F. Sparey. 8/58/318.

Pair of goldsmith's scales complete with case and two of the original weights. Late 18th century. Miss F. Sparey. 8/58/319.

Copper powder flask with spout and neck of brass. Length 8ins. Miss F. Sparey. 8/58/320.

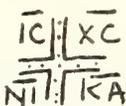
Two powder flasks of horn with mouthpieces of brass. Miss F. Sparey. 8/58/321-2.

Leather powder flask, with brass mouthpiece. Originally belonged to the donor's father. Length 9ins. 19th century. Miss F. Sparey. 8/58/323.

Drinking cup of horn with metal base. The outside of the cup is engraved with a hunting scene and bears also the engraved initials R.M. 19th century. Miss F. Sparey. 9/58/326.

Iron dagger, length 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins., with traces of original wooden scabbard on the blade. Knobbed pommel. c. 16th century. Found beneath a brick wall at Corsham. Major F. L. S. Watson. 9/58/327.

White metal commemoration medal of accession of Edward VII to the throne on January 23rd, 1901. Mr. D. A. S. Webster. 9/58/328.



Glass bottle seal embossed Wm. Pinocke EarlStoke 1742; Brass Speed-the-Plough Button; Medal of white metal commemorating centenary celebrations of Robert Raikes, Founder of Sunday Schools. Mr. Axford. 9/58/329.

Stoneware bottle containing 'Purton' water. Bottle is stamped 'PURTON Sulphated & Bromo-iated Saline Water' Bottle made by ?Powell & Co., Bristol. 19th century. Mr. E. G. Greenaway. 9/58/330.

Pewter tankard inscribed '15th SURREY (CHERTSEY) R.V. CORPS. MEMBERS 1st PRIZE. For best attendance at Drill. Won by Private Henry Cheesman'. Ht. 4½ins. Found by workman digging clay at Devizes Brickworks. 1865-70. Mrs. C. Flower. 9/58/331.

Circular lead plaque much corroded (Billy & Charlie) with central embossed design of five-pointed crown. A five-pointed star is embossed in the centre of the crown. The numerals 1105 are below the crown. mid. 19th century. 9/58/225.

Constable's truncheon, black painted with Royal cipher in Red and gold, COLLINGBnd DUCIS painted in gold on a red ground at the bottom of the stave. Length 18½ins. c. 1850. Pair of steel handcuffs complete with key. c.1850.

Both objects were carried by the last parish Constable of Collingbourne Ducis, Mr. R. Masterson. Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council. 10/58/336.

Framed glazed linen sampler of the map of England, Wales and part of Ireland, with counties worked in silk. The name F. Dibbin, Box School, and the date 1800 are worked in silk in the right hand corner. Mr. A. Shaw Mellor. 11/58/338.

Travelling sword with 'Colichemarde' blade, probably cut down from a larger rapier. 18th century. Found during demolition work being carried out at Messrs. Rendell & Sons, St. John's Street, Devizes. Mr. D. Hyde. 12/58/340.

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1958

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
Cost of Magazine	570	4	8	Entrance Fees	29	10	0
Salaries and N.H. Insurance	824	16	9	Subscriptions	604	19	8
	50	19	2	Members' Donations	26	3	5
Fire and other Insurance				Dividends	615	8	4
Fuel and Light				Somerset and Wilts Savings Bank			
Repairs to premises, and decorations				Interest:			
Stationery	59	18	10	Building Reserve Account	3	17	4
Travelling	23	9	0	Life Membership Account	9	2	0
Laboratory	5	14	9				
Water Rates	6	11	4	Income Tax recovered	12	19	4
Subscriptions	13	16	0	Museum Admission Fees or Donations	274	0	0
Library	82	11	10	Library Fees	43	8	0
Telephones	36	13	4	Sale of books and magazines, etc.	1	17	0
Postages	35	16	4	Blackmore Museum	26	4	6
Museum Purchases and catalogue				Wilts County Council	25	0	0
Honorary Treasurer	50	0	0	Natural History Section contributions	600	0	0
Bank charges	1	13	0	Outings profits	6	7	0
Bronze Age Room	473	9	3	Bronze Age Room: Recoverable from	23	7	11
Sundry and contra items	4	12	6	Carnegie Fund	473	9	3
Blackmore Museum Refund	37	10	0	Sundry and contra items	3	13	11
Archaeological Sub-Committee	6	11	0	Income Tax recoverable in respect of	470	9	6
Accountancy	11	0	0	Covenants 1953/54; 1954/55; 1955/56			
Library Purchases from Pugh Legacy Fund	175	0	0				
Curator—Petty Cash Item	19	8	3				
Excess of Income over Expenditure	245	9	11				

£3254 7 10

£3254 7 10

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

SOMERSET AND WILTS SAVINGS BANK
BUILDING RESERVE

Balance 1/1/58	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Dividend	279	15	11		175	0	0
Interest	17	10	0		126	3	3
	3	17	4				
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
	£301	3	3		£301	3	3
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
				Income and Expenditure A/c—Library Purchases ..			
				Balance 1/1/59			

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Balance 1/1/58	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Admissions	364	14	9		37	6	0
Interest	—	—	—		336	10	9
	9	2	0				
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
	£373	16	9		£373	16	9
	<hr/>				<hr/>		
				Transfer to Current Account Lloyds Bank			
				Balance 1/1/59			

INVESTMENTS

Balance	£	s.	d.
	10739	7	6
	<hr/>		

FREEHOLD PROPERTY

Balance	£	s.	d.
	5394	14	10
	<hr/>		

NATURAL HISTORY SECTION
FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES, 1958

Report by the Hon. Meetings Secretary, BEATRICE GILLAM

More than a hundred members and many friends attended one or more of the thirty-four meetings held during 1958, the attendance averaging eighteen, an increase on previous years. Twenty-nine were field meetings, four were indoor and three were concerned with a survey of autumn bird migration at dawn.

Meetings were distributed over the county. Two were held jointly with the Bath Natural History Society, one with the Salisbury and District Field Club and one with the Marlborough College Natural History Society. Visits outside Wiltshire included those to the Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge; the Nails-worth Trout Hatchery; Sedgemoor, Somerset, and Whitsbury Wood, Hampshire.

Chew Valley Lake and Poole Harbour were visited early in the year to study wildfowl and other coastal birds many of which were unfamiliar to members as they rarely occur in Wiltshire. Windy weather discouraged bird-song which was the main objective of several spring meetings, but most of the warblers were heard at one time or another. May 3rd was a perfect still sunny morning for the thirteen members who assembled at 4.30 a.m. near Wingfield to hear the dawn chorus. Over thirty different bird songs were identified.

In September a small party spent an interesting afternoon with Mr. John Buxton at the South Cerney gravel pits and sewage farm. Resident birds, daily feeding visitors and birds on autumn passage were observed. A walk in November sunshine from Devizes over Roundway Hill to Sandy Lane revealed some of the winter flocking habits of finches, skylarks, fieldfares, woodpigeons, rooks and jackdaws.

Each botanical meeting was planned with a special subject for study; downland grasses, downland ecology, orchids, sand-pit recolonisation, the flora of an acid heath, fungi, mosses and liverworts. Unfortunately several of these were spoilt by rain though none was abandoned and much valuable data was collected. Already Mr. D. Grose reports that his 1957 'Flora of Wiltshire' is out of date!

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts of Longbridge Deverill sixteen members and friends were able to join Mr. B. W. Weddell with his mercury vapour lamp on a fine warm night in July to identify more than sixty species of moths.

Badger watching proved very popular this year. Badgers were heard but not seen by any of the thirteen watchers—too large a group. In future it is hoped that individual members with experience of badger habits will take out small groups of people to watch at various setts.

In March Mr. R. S. Barron gave a valuable lecture and demonstration at Devizes Museum on the construction and interpretation of geological maps. The information was put to use at subsequent field meetings in April in the Swindon area, and in September in the Vale of Wardour.

Summer walks near Castle Combe, in Great Ridge Wood, around Pitton and on the Marlborough Downs provided opportunities for members having a general enjoyment of natural history to visit new localities and perhaps widen their interests.

The fourth *conversazione* was popular as a social occasion but did not attract many contributions from members. The outstanding exhibits were Mr. and Mrs. Grose's collection of over 120 wild flowers picked in late October and Mr. N. U. Grudgings' beautiful photographs of wild flowers taken in their natural surroundings.

The twelfth Annual General Meeting of the Section was held at Lydiard Tregoze House on 12th July. The officers made their reports all of which indicated the continued value and success of the work carried out by this small but vigorous Section of the parent Society. Mr. Charles Floyd proposed, and the chairman, Mr. Egbert Barnes, seconded, that it should be put on record that the Natural History Section gave a wide measure of interest and pleasure both to those people who were able to attend meetings and those who were kept informed by the Annual Report. This was out of all proportion to the modest subscription of 7s. 6d. which has remained unchanged since the formation of the Section twelve years ago.

The year's activities ended with a joint meeting with the British Trust for Ornithology at Dauntsey's School when Dr. Bruce Campbell spoke on British Bird Habitats.

It is not possible to mention by name all those who so generously gave us their time in preparing and leading our numerous and varied meetings. We are greatly indebted to them for the many happy, interesting and often exciting hours spent under their guidance in the field and lecture room.

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1958

The membership of the Natural History Section has again risen slightly, to 234, of which 111 are full members of the Society.

A comprehensive programme of 43 meetings was arranged by Miss Gillam and has been almost completed, to the great enjoyment of all who take part.

Work in the Natural History Room has gone on apace, details of which will be given by the Curator in his account.

There is a balance in hand of £73 7s. 7d. after paying £15 for the plate glass cover on the geological relief map in the Natural History Room.

The Committee has agreed to join the recently formed Council for Nature, thereby enrolling the Section as a constituent member with the right to send a representative with voting power to meetings.

385 copies of Mr. J. D. Grose's "Flora of Wiltshire" have been sold. The sale of another 11 copies will defray the cost of publication, after taking account of subscriptions made towards it. Mr. Grose is to be congratulated.

The Section has prospered under the wise guidance of its Chairman, Mr. E. C. Barnes, and since he is President elect of the Parent Society, we feel doubly content with our good fortune in having had his undivided attention for a year! We are proud to record that this is the second time in our short history of twelve years that the chair of both committees will be occupied by the same man—the late Mr. L. G. Peirson was the first to do so in 1951.

C. SECCOMBE HETT, *Hon. Secretary*

THE WEATHER OF 1958

By R. A. U. JENNINGS

This year is best described as 'feeble'; it abounded in the meteorological petty vices rather than sins in the grand manner. In most parts of the County there were over 200 rain days, and, except for April and the second part of October, there were never more than five consecutive days without some precipitation. The succession of very dry Aprils will soon rival Surrey's tenure of the County Championship, for this was the fifth running. May opened with an untrustworthy burst of real warmth and then lost heart. July made a brief attempt at hot weather and relapsed. The whole summer was disorderly. August brought detestable harvest weather, and, though the rainfall in inches was, except in a few unlucky areas, nothing abnormal, it shows how misleading bare figures can be. The yield was poor because there was so little sunshine. Many farmers had not finished until October.

The most interesting meteorological features were the persistent fogs of the autumn and the days of 'wet-air'—an uncommon condition in Wiltshire. November was the best 'Brumaire' of this century. The coldest places had no screen-frosts until November 1st, nor minima lower than 28°F until the year was out. Roses stayed in bloom until January, 1959, and some sheltered dahlias lasted until mid-November. The whole year was remarkably free from high winds.

In the summary 'T' means temperature; 'R' means rainfall; 'S' means sunshine; '+' means excess; '—' means deficiency; 'O' means nearly normal.

	T.	R.	S.	
Jan	O	+	O	Normal
Feb.	+	+	—	Mild and dull
Mar.	—	—	—	Cold and dull
April	—	—	+	Very dry and rather cold
May	O	+	O	Wet after a brief hot spell
June	O	+	—	Dull and wet
July	+	O	O	One short hot spell
Aug.	O	O	—	Again disappointing
Sep.	+	++	—	Fair first half then very wet
Oct.	O	—	O	Windless
Nov.	+	—	—	Excess of fog
Dec.	+	—	—	Mild wet and sunless
1958	O	+	—	Unsatisfactory

WILTSHIRE BIRD NOTES FOR 1958

Recorders : RUTH G. BARNES, M.B.O.U., GEOFFREY L. BOYLE, AND R. L. VERNON

A. F. Airey	...	...	...	A.F.A.	E. H. Jelly	...	...	...	E.H.J.
A. R. Angell	...	...	...	A.R.A.	E. L. Jones	...	...	...	E.L.J.
Dr. J. S. Ash	...	...	...	J.S.A.	J. R. Lawson	...	...	...	J.R.L.
G. Atkinson	...	...	...	G.A.	Mrs. Lawson	...	...	...	V.C.L.
D. G. Barnes	...	...	...	D.G.B.	Miss Luckham	...	...	...	M.K.L.
E. C. Barnes	...	...	...	E.C.B.	J. G. Mavrogordato	...	...	...	J.G.M.
Mrs. Barnes	...	...	...	R.G.B.	O. Meyrick	...	...	...	O.M.
Miss E. Batchelor	...	...	...	E.B.	J. C. C. Oliver	...	...	...	J.C.C.O.
Mrs. Beale	...	...	...	J.S.B.	G. G. Oxborrow	...	...	...	G.G.O.
Geoffrey L. Boyle	...	...	...	G.L.B.	Sir John Paskin	...	...	...	J.J.P.
C. J. Bridgman	...	...	...	C.J.B.	Mrs. Oscar Peall	...	...	...	D.P.
J. L. R. Burden	...	...	...	J.L.R.B.	Col. G. F. Perkins	...	...	...	G.F.P.
Miss Butterworth	...	...	...	M.B.	M. W. Pickering	...	...	...	M.W.P.
John Buxton	...	...	...	E.J.M.B.	B. P. Pond	...	...	...	B.P.B.
H. J. Clase	...	...	...	H.J.C.	Cyril Rice	...	...	...	C.R.
Major W. M. Congreve	...	...	...	W.C.M.	David Rice	...	...	...	D.J.R.
Mrs. Crichton Maitland	...	...	...	P.C.M.	Peter Roberts	...	...	...	P.R.
H. W. J. Cuss	...	...	...	H.W.J.C.	Brigadier Searight	...	...	...	E.E.G.L.S.
C. A. Cutforth	...	...	...	C.A.C.	Mrs. Seecombe Hett	...	...	...	C.S.H.
G. W. Collett	...	...	...	G.W.C.	A. Smith	...	...	...	A.S.
F. P. Errington	...	...	...	F.P.E.	R.J. Spencer...	...	...	...	R.J.S.
Dennis Felstead	...	...	...	D.F.	Col. J. K. Stanford	...	...	...	J.K.S.
G. H. Forster	...	...	...	G.H.F.	B. M. Stratton	...	...	...	B.M.S.
Miss M.C. Foster	...	...	...	M.C.F.	Miss E. M. Thouless	...	...	...	E.M.T.
D. W. Free	...	...	...	D.W.F.	H. W. Timperley	...	...	...	H.W.T.
David Fry	...	...	...	D.E.F.	R. L. Vernon	...	...	...	R.L.V.
Mrs. Gandy	...	...	...	I.G.	G. L. Webber	...	...	...	G.L.W.
Miss Beatrice Gillam	...	...	...	B.G.	E. J. Wiseman	...	...	...	E.J.W.
J. H. Halliday	...	...	...	J.H.H.	Abbreviations used in the text				
Major R. K. Henderson	...	...	...	R.K.H.	British Birds Magazine	...	...	...	B.B.
G. W. Hemmings	...	...	...	G.W.H.	Gravel Pits	...	...	...	G.P.
Anthony Horner	...	...	...	A.G.H.	Sewage Farm	...	...	...	S.F.

The number of observers remains encouragingly high and 1958 produced some rare visitors to the County.

The Slavonian Grebe is the second for the century, the last being seen at Overton in 1947. A Shag was only the second record since 1926, while the Bittern in April was unusual in that previously the bird has always been a winter visitor. Gadwall seem to be on the increase and may possibly infiltrate from Chew Valley Lake in Somerset where they now breed. The Red-crested Pochards were probably escapes but the Common Scoter is noteworthy, as is the Red-breasted Merganser, which is only the third record since 1881.

The Goshawk might possibly be an escaped trained bird but no jesses were visible. Apart from a 'possible' mentioned in B.B. L.140, in 1951, the Kite is the first since 1896 and a valuable record.

Waders were particularly interesting; the Grey Plover is the first since 1934 although the species could be overlooked, while the very large flocks of Snipe were quite remarkable. Only once before has the Bar-tailed Godwit been seen and that was in 1881. This applies also to the Curlew Sandpiper, the only other record being in 1869.

The Aquatic Warbler trapped at Rodbourne is probably the high light of the year and represents the first record for Wiltshire. Several others of this species were reported elsewhere in the British Isles during the autumn.

4. RED-THROATED DIVER. A first winter male was found in an exhausted condition about Feb. 25th; it was taken to Clarendon Lake and released but found dead March 8th (D.E.F., A.G.H.). A post-mortem by R. H. Poulding revealed three Duck Leech (*theromyzon tessulatum*) in the air passage and death was due to starvation (P.R.). Mr. Ford took a dead bird to J.K.S. which had been picked up alive in a marshy meadow at Wilsford, but unable to fly. It died on Dec. 30th, and may have been slightly oiled.

5. GREAT CRESTED GREBE. Breeding records: Total of at least twelve young. Coate Water (G.L.W.), Longleat and Shearwater (Mr. Doel per M.B.). June 7th Fonthill, two nests (A.J.H., D.E.F.). Corsham Lake (G.W.H.). Westbury Pool, four young (R.L.V.). Sept. 13th, Bowood, a pair with three very small chicks. A late date (B.G.).

7. SLAVONIAN GREBE. Jan. 5th, Longleat single bird with group of Tufted Duck very clearly seen at 50 yards through 8 x 30 glasses. Conspicuous white face and neck, strikingly contrasting with black head, (M.B.).

9. LITTLE GREBE. Pair bred at Coate; the first time for several years (G.L.W.).

27. GANNET. A Gannet with a wing span of c.6ft. was found in the garden of Mr. and Mrs. E. Hardiman at Chippenham. When examined by Mr. H. H. Ashman at Chippenham the bird appeared uninjured and after being allowed to rest for a while was launched on the river and swam away. (*Wiltshire Gazette*, 17.4.1958).

28. CORMORANT. Four were seen at Longford on Jan. 29th and one on Feb. 23rd (M.K.L.)

29. SHAG. Jan. 30th, single bird swimming on Shearwater Lake. There was a large influx of Shags on many inland waters early in the year (G.L.B.).

30. HERON. Occupied nests reported as follows:—Great Bradford Wood near Staverton (in medium sized oaks), by April 26th an estimate of 20, when young heard and in some cases seen (R.J.S.), an increase of four over 1957 (Eds.). The two nests in elms about half a mile from main heronry used last year were unoccupied in 1958 (R.J.S.). Bowood near Chippenham, on April 22nd, 22 nests in the tops of elms definitely occupied—young heard and seen (G.L.B., R.L.V.). An increase of four over 1957 (Eds.).

Two birds stealing twigs from unoccupied nests, April 23rd (G.L.B.). Leigh, May 9th, one only in hedgerow elm as in 1957 (E.J.M.B.). Savernake Forest—The snow in early April caused the first broods in nests to perish. However by May 10th all five nests were occupied once more and fresh eggshells found at the base of the trees (J.H.H.).

Near Boynton Bridge, two definite and two probables (E.C.B.). Trafalgar Estate near Charlton All Saints, May 10th, five nests in deciduous trees (E.B.). Conkwell Wood near Limpley Stoke, three in beeches in one area on April 26th and single nest in beech in another area (Dr. C. N. Vaisey). Between February 2nd and July, two nests in an ash, two in a maple, one in a beech, Conkwell Wood. None were successful in raising a brood, although one chick was 34 days old before it died. Grey squirrels are thought to have been responsible for loss of eggs and young (Michael Clarke, Chris. Oliver). Some of these nests were doubtless included in Dr. Vaisey's records. (Eds.) Hurdcott, five definite with possibly two more (G.F.P.). The tree in which one pair bred at Tockenham last year unfortunately collapsed in the autumn of 1957, and, although one or two birds were seen frequently by the pond, no nest was found in the neighbourhood (R.G.B., D.G.B.).

No breeding reported from Britford or Longford Castle.

38. BITTERN. At West Amesbury on April 23rd a bird which appeared to be a Bittern was seen in a marshy meadow close to observer's house. It scuttled into cover and eventually flew into a reed bed by the Avon. On April 25th what must have been the same bird was flushed out of rushes at observer's feet and again at 10 yards range when identification was certain (J.K.S.).

45. MALLARD. Breeding records from Coate Water where numerous ducklings seen (M.C.F., G.L.W.). Running young in field at Etchilhampton, May 6th (R.J.S.). Female with four young and another family of five young between Ford and Slaughterford July 6th (C.J.B.).

49. GADWALL. Single bird seen on River Kennet near Littlecote, March 8th; Two on March 9th and three on March 14th and 23rd (I. G., J.R.L., V.C.L.). A first winter male at Coate Reservoir, Dec. 12th—full description submitted (G.L.W.).

50. WIGEON. A bird shot at Codford St. Peter, Dec. 26th, had been ringed in Lincolnshire on Dec. 4th (C.A.C.).

52. PINTAIL. A single female at Ramsbury, Jan. 19th (J.R.L., V.C.L.); one male on branch stream of Avon near Amesbury, May 4th (R.J.S.),
53. SHOVELER. One at Longleat, Jan. 5th (M.B.). One male at Corsham Lake, Jan. 20th, and two males on same lake Feb. 15th (J.L.R.B.), and again on March 2nd (G.W.H.). One at Shearwater, Feb. 16th (K. Brown per M.B.) A pair on Coate Water May 9th (E.M.T.). Single male at Fonthill, April 1st (B.M.S.). Two pairs on Braydon Pond, April 7th (R.G.B.). Two males and one female on Westbury Lake April 10th (A.R.A.) Five flying over Walcot, Oct. 10th, (G.L.W.). Three males and two females landed on Tockenham Reservoir, Dec. 21st, but only remained a few minutes before flying off (R.G.B., D. G. B.).
54. RED-CRESTED POCHARD. Two males at Westbury Lake first seen March 23rd remained until March 27th; very tame, and behaviour suggested semi-wild birds (A.R.A.).
56. TUFTED DUCK. Bred near Knighton Bridge on tributary of the Kennet (J.R.L.), and as usual at Longleat (M.B.). Ten young seen on Canal at Crofton, July 20th (D.W.F.).
60. GOLDENEYE. A single male on Bowood Lake Feb. 15th, March 16th, and again Dec. 14th (B.G.).
64. COMMON SCOTER. A single female on Fonthill Lake Oct. 27th, seen at close quarters diving (H.G. Alexander).
69. RED-BREASTED MERGANSER. A 'red head' at Fonthill, January 26th. It stayed for at least seven weeks (G.G.O.).
71. SMEW. One 'red head' at Longleat, March 16th, Kenneth Brown, per M.B.).
- GREY GESE. At least 30 flew over Coate Water in small flocks on Feb. 16th (M.C.F.). c.20 in flight over Boscombe going S.W. Oct. 7th (D.W.F.).
82. CANADA GOOSE. Birds recorded on Coate Water from Feb. 22nd until May 22nd. Numbers fluctuated between four and ten (G.L.B., M.C.F., J.R.L., G.L.W., M.W.P., E.J.W., A.F.A.). Two on Wilton Water, April 9th (J.L.R.B.).
91. BUZZARD. Only one breeding record (Mr. Doel per E.H.J.), but several reports of birds seen throughout the year.
93. SPARROW HAWK. Aug. 23rd, a female killed Common Sandpiper on mud flat at Coate Water and flew into a tree with its prey when disturbed (G.L.W., R.J.S., B.G., C.S.H.).
94. GOSHAWK. J.K.S. who is familiar with this species abroad saw one at Little Durnford on Oct. 6th. The bird flew out of a tree and across the road about 50 yards from him and he watched it with X8 glasses being mobbed by two Jackdaws, which provided a useful comparison of size.
95. KITE. April 12th, a bird of this species was seen being mobbed by rooks near Long Dean. The deeply forked tail was clearly visible and at one time the bird passed overhead at about 100 ft. and all doubt as to its identity was completely eliminated (C.R.).
100. HEN HARRIER. March 22nd, Longford, adult male; Nov. 11th, Whitsbury Down, one 'ring tail,' (J.S.A.). Single female seen throughout breeding season, Boscombe Down and Beacon Hill (G.H.F.).
104. HOBBY. Several reports of single birds seen. First noted May 2nd (J.G.M.), only two reports of successful breeding (J.K.S.).
105. PEREGRINE. Jan. 4th and May 31st, near Britford (A.G.H., D.E.F.). One was seen flying high over Salisbury Plain, Aug. 28th (J.G.M.).
107. MERLIN. Jan. 10th, one seen flying over waste ground mobbed by small birds near Marlborough (E.J.M.B.).
115. RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE. March 29th, pair seen Cole Park, Malmesbury. The first time for three years (E.J.M.B.). April 27th, a pair seen in young corn on Tan Hill (G.L.B.). A single cock, seen in company with a pair of Common Partridges near Boreham Wood in May, appeared to be trying to entice the hen bird away from her mate (C.A.C.). Aug. 18th, a pair were noted with four young near Coate (G.L.W.). Aug. 31st, single bird seen Easton Down (B.G.). Sept. 26th, a covey seen at Derriads (G.W.C.). Several nests found in area Blunsdon to Sevenhampton (H.W.J.C.).

117. QUAIL. Heard calling, June 18th near Larkhill in rough grass and on June 14th on Lake estate in barley (J.K.S.). June 30th and Aug. 3rd in barley (M.C.F.). Aug. 3rd at the foot of Bishopstone Down (B.G.), Aug. 10th one calling below Westbury Downs (A.R.A.). At Wilsford a brood of five young with two adults were disturbed during grass cutting operations. Many heard calling at Wilsford and Charlton Downs in Mid-Summer (J. Smith per J.S.A.).

120. WATER RAIL. March 21st, one in the willows, Broken Bridges, Harnham (H.J.C.). March 29th, single bird seen at Rodbourne S.F. and also April 7th and Aug. 18th (G.L.W.). April 4th, single bird was seen on West Amesbury Marshes (J.K.D.).

125. CORNCRAKE. Aug. 2nd, heard calling intermittently for over half an hour in the vale near Alton Barnes (B.G.). Oct. 7th, seen in field of oat stubble and kale at Minal Woodlands, near Marlborough (R.K.H.).

133. LAPWING. Large winter flocks were reported from Aldbourne Jan. 5th (M.C.F.), Bishops Cannings c. 300 Jan. 1st (B.G.), c. 800 Rodbourne S.F. Feb. 2nd (G.L.W.). Between 1500/2000 in flooded pastures near Melksham, Feb. 26th (R.J.S.), and c. 300 Coate Reservoir, March 23rd. A bird with four young made repeated dashes at a pair of Yellow Wagtails feeding on marshy ground near Holt, May 13th (G.L.B.). c. 300 near Stanton St. Bernard July 29th, and c. 100 Poulton Oct. 28th (D.W.F.). c. 150 near Melksham Dec. 24th (R.J.S.). A bird found dead or dying at Malmesbury, 51° 35'N, 2° 05'W. on April 1st, was ringed as a nestling or chick on May 20th, 1951 at Hoyland 58° 26'N. 5° 45'E. (Rogaland Norway—(antea B.B. LI, 63)).

139. GREY PLOVER. Single bird with flock of Golden Plover at Highpost, April 4th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

140. GOLDEN PLOVER. Fewer reports than usual early in the year. c. 200 near Bishops Cannings, Jan. 1st. Flocks remained in the area until Feb. 13th (B.G.). 50—60 near Horton Feb. 26th (J.L.R.B., B.G.). c.60 near Coate March 8th (G.L.W.). One bird in party of five on Wick Down, near Downton March 26th was of the 'Northern' race in almost complete summer plumage, (J.S.A.). 60 at Stonehenge, April 28th, were nearly all in full summer plumage (G.G.O.). c. 60 Old Sarum, Sept. 10th (P.R.). c.50 near Bishops Cannings, Dec. 30th (B.G.). 200 at Old Sarum in December (D.W.F.).

145. SNIPE. No definite breeding records but several drumming at Coate Water, March 29th (M.C.F.). 45/50 from flooded arable field at Whaddon, Jan. 12th (R.J.S.). c.51 on Fovant Watercress Beds, March 23rd (G.G.O.). Between 250 and 300 at Coate Reservoir Nov. 30th (G.L.W.), (M.C.F.). c. 100 in flooded meadows at Britford, Dec. 6th (D.W.F.).

147. JACK SNIPE. Single birds seen at Coate Water from January to April (G.L.W.). and two flushed from Westbury S.F., Jan. 9th (A.R.A.). One at Broome S.F., Feb. 8th, April 29th (D.E.F.). Fifteen Coate Water Nov. 30th (G.L.W.). One shot Codford St. Peter, Dec. 26th (C.A.C.).

148. WOODCOCK. Single birds seen during the breeding season at Potterne Wick, April 4th (B.G.), and in the Sandridge Vale May 7th (R.J.S., A.S.). Two roding by Common Plantation in parish of Alderbury June 14th (P.R.), and over Clarendon Plantation, July 3rd and 26th (D.W.F.). Seen from August to Dec. in Savernake Forest (D.W.F.); Oct. 24th, one along N.E. boundary of Silkwood (D.J.R.). One flushed at Coate Water November 30th (G.L.W.). One also flushed near Pitton, Dec. 31st (D.W.F.).

150. CURLEW. Definite breeding records from Keevil (R.L.V.); Walcot where the nest was 7½ in. in diameter (the 'Handbook' quotes 5—5½ in.) (G.L.W.); Cutteridge (H. Brown) and Blunsdon (H.W.J.C.). A nest with 3 eggs deserted near Etchilhampton (R.J.S.). Birds were seen and heard in breeding areas without proof of nesting, at Patney (B.G., J.K.S.). Litton Hill and Seend (R.J.S., R.L.V.); Red Lodge where mating witnessed, Tockenham (D.G.B.), and Sandridge Vale (R.J.S.); Summerham Brook between Seend and Poulshot (R.J.S.).

151. WHIMBREL. Heard calling near Box, May 12th (E.J.W.). A party heard in flight at Walcot, July 26th (G.L.W.).

155. BAR-TAILED GODWIT. Two birds at Coate Water July 16th (D.F., G.L.W.). This is the first record during the present century (Eds).

156. GREEN SANDPIPER. Small numbers reported by many observers in March, April, July and each month from August to December.

159. COMMON SANDPIPER. Seen by many observers in April, May, July, August and Sept. A Blackbird attacked one at Coate Reservoir Aug. 15th; at first it ran away but after four attacks the Sandpiper retaliated and drove the Blackbird off (G.L.W.).
161. REDSHANK. Three birds in large meadow near Ashton Keynes April 6th. where young were suspected in 1957. The odd bird was driven off by the pair. A pair in same field April 24th but no sign of nest. (R.G.B.). Reports of several birds in Mar. and April from Littlecote, Whittonditch, Britford, Lacock (G.P.) and Coate (G.L.B., M.C.F., I.G., V.C.L., J.R.L., et al.). Maximum number noted at Fovant Watercress Beds, 14, April 7th (G.G.O.).
165. GREENSHANK. One at Coate Water May 5th (G.L.W.). 1 to 3 birds at the same place Aug. 14th—24th. (G.L.W., et al.).
178. DUNLIN. A single bird seen at Porton after heavy rain, Aug. 5th (F.P.E.).
179. CURLEW SANDPIPER. A single bird seen in flight with Common Sandpipers at Coate Water, Sept. 6th. White rump and curved bill conspicuous (G.L.W.).
189. STONE CURLEW. One sitting on eggs May 11th, which hatched successfully (J.K.S.). A nest with two eggs found June 6th (B.G., R.J.S.). First reports of arrivals Mar. 26th (J.S.A.), April 11th, April 20th. A pair was seen to mate after neck arching display. The male was much darker than the female and seemed to be worried by parasites; it continually scratched its head and preened (G.L.B., R.L.V.). Other records during breeding season from B.G., D.W.F., A.S., B.M.S., et al. Ten birds seen in flight and heard calling Aug. 19th (B.G.). Last noted Sept. 7th (R.G.B., D.G.B.).
199. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL. Small numbers reported from many observers, Jan. 30th, 35 at Keevil Aerodrome (G.L.B.). Numbers increased on Keevil Aerodrome from January until early Mar. and then began to decline (R.L.V.). Several other reports noted.
201. COMMON GULL. Large flocks frequented Keevil Aerodrome Jan.—Mar. (R.L.V.). Apr. 12th, c. 50 feeding on plough near Tilshead (B.G., H.W.T.). Numerous other reports noted.
208. BLACK-HEADED GULL. Feb. 26th, c. 200, Challymead, feeding in flooded meadows near River Avon (R.J.S.). Mar. 16th and 19th, c. 100 following plough Horton, near Bishops Cannings (B.G.). Numerous other reports noted.
211. KITTIWAKE. Jan. 11th, a dead immature bird badly oiled and very emaciated was picked up by Lady Radnor in the grounds of Longford Castle (M.K.L.).
212. BLACK TERN. Aug. 26th, 3 at Coate (G.L.W.). Aug. 30th, 4 at Coate (D.W.F.).
- 217/218. COMMON/ARCTIC TERN Aug. 10th, 22 flying high near Coate (G.L.W.). Sept. 29th, single bird flew over St. Paul's Church, Salisbury (H.J.C.).
222. LITTLE TERN. May 25th, one adult was present at Yellow Hill for about two hours (G.L.W.).
223. SANDWICH TERN Aug. 3rd, single bird seen at Walcot, flying very slowly into N.W. wind and looking very tired; forehead white and crest very tattered. (G.L.W.).
235. TURTLE DOVE. First heard Apr. 29th, Axford (C.S.H.). Last heard Aug. 27th (C.A.C.).
237. CUCKOO. First noted Apr. 20th, Seagry (R.G.B.); Apr. 21st, Keevil, Seend Cleeve and East Knoyle (R.L.V., R.J.S., B.M.S.).
248. LONG-EARED OWL. Notes on this species will be included in the results of an enquiry in a future report.
249. SHORT-EARED OWL. Apr. 24th, single bird near Britford (A.G.H., D.E.F.). Single bird seen regularly between Nov. 8th and Dec. 31st on downs between Bratton and Imber (E.E.G.L.S.).
255. SWIFT. Early arrivals Apr. 23rd, Keevil and Semington (R.L.V., G.L.B.).
261. HOOPOE. A single bird was present at the Ridgeway Road—Moberly Road area of Salisbury, Apr. 18th—23rd. The bird fed on open grassland alongside the railway (P.R.). Seen four or five times in garden near Stapleford (J. Harvey Webb per J.K.S.).

263. GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER. The front of two Upton type nest boxes made of power-creosoted wood was attacked in the spring and the hole greatly enlarged (R.G.B.). Jan. 27th, a male bird was ringed in Cole Park, Malmesbury, retrapped there on March 1st and caught by Mr. B. Watts, Upper Seagry, on April 20th. Mr. Watts released the bird and reported to the Bird Ringing Committee (E.J.M.B.).
264. LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER. Notes on this species will be included in the results of an enquiry in a future report.
271. WOODLARK. One near Derry Hill, March 23rd (E.J.W.). Singing birds in Savernake Forest May 10th, and in heathland by Great Ridge Wood, July 21st (R.J.S.), and in Bradley Woods, Oct. 16th, (J.C.C.O.). One singing over rough pasture near Coate, June 1st, the first seen in that area (G.L.W.).
274. SWALLOW. First seen Mar. 26th, Harnham (H.J.C.), and Dinton (B.B.P); Mar. 27th, Longleat (R.L.V.), and Southampton Road G.P. (G.G.O.), Corsley (E.H.J.). A steady flow of birds passing N.W. over the Ridgeway above Avebury, April 21st (G.G.O.). A pure white bird at Compton Park, July 11th (B.B.P), and a white bird faintly tinged buff, paler below with dark throat patch at Tockenham, Aug. 18th (D.G.B.). Last seen Oct. 22nd, Shaw (C.A.C.); Oct. 29th, Ramsbury (V.C.L.); one juvenile at Beanacre, Nov. 1st. (R.J.S., C.J.B.).
276. HOUSE MARTIN. First seen March 26th, Southampton Road G.P. (H.J.C.); March 29th, Malmesbury (E.J.M.B.); April 2nd, Wilton Water (J.L.R.B.). Last seen Oct. 12th, Coate (G.L.W.), Oct. 13th, Collingbourne Kingston (J.L.R.B.); Oct. 26th, Salisbury (M.K.L.).
277. SAND MARTIN. First seen March 27th, Southampton Road G.P. (G.G.O.); March 28th, Longford (M.K.L.); March 29th, Rodbourne S.F. (D.F., G.L.W.), and Malmesbury (E.J.M.B.). Last seen Sept. 29th, Coate (C.S.H.); Oct. 2nd, Fonthill Lake (B.M.S.).
81. HOODED CROW. At Broom Manor S.F. two were seen amongst Carrion Crows, Jan. 4th and 12th (D.F., G.L.W.), and one March 9th (M.W.P.).
288. GREAT TIT. Following last Autumn's invasion of tits, noted as very abundant in Amesbury district. Numbers decreased from July but increased again in December (J.K.S.).
289. BLUE TIT. Extremely abundant from January to April in Amesbury district but by September were in very small numbers (J.K.S.). Milk bottles opened for first time in Allington, March 7th (B.G.). In Swindon this habit restarted for one week, Aug. 4th (G.L.W.).
293. WILLOW TIT. One calling loudly in Angrove Wood, Feb. 8th (E.J.M.B.). A pair seen, and call and song heard in Hodson Wood. One trapped and ringed at Ham Hill, August 31st (G.L.W.).
298. TREECREEPER. In January and again in March one and sometimes two birds were seen roosting in holes in bark of Wellingtonia in garden at Oare. These roosts were only used in dry weather (D.P.). Six roosting holes, all with droppings, in two Wellingtonias in Bowood, Feb. 15th (B.G.).
300. DIPPER. Four breeding records. One on Bybrook, first egg laid March 17th or 18th (H.W.J.C.); One on R. Frome (R.L.V.), and two on R. Frome (B.M.S.). One pair on the Frome began building Feb. 27th, and were feeding their third brood July 2nd (B.B.P.).
303. FIELDFARE. Last seen in Spring, April 20th, Great Bradford Wood (R.J.S.); April 29th, c. 70, and on May 1st, two near Tockenham (D.G.B.). First seen in Autumn, Aug. 7th, a large flock near Longford (M.K.L.); Oct. 18th, Ford (D.E.F., A.G.H.); Oct. 19th Coate G.L.W. One ringed as nestling at Hamar (Hedmark.) Norway, 60° 48' N. 11° 05' E., June 10th, 1955, recovered at Larkhill, March 1st, 1956 (B.B., L 1, 495).
304. REDWING. Last seen in Spring, April 16th, Tockenham (D.G.B.); April 17th, West Ashton (R.L.V.); April 18th, Sandridge Vale (R.J.S.); First seen in Autumn, Sept. 22nd, Silk Wood (D.J.R.); Oct. 16th, East Knoyle, (B.M.S.); Oct. 17th—18th, heard flying over Hawthorn at night (R.J.W.).
308. BLACKBIRD. A roost of 200—300 birds in hazel copse on Dean Hill in November, arriving in parties of c.5—10 Only c.50 remained on Dec. 13 (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

311. WHEATEAR. First seen March 14th, Dinton (B.B.P.); March 23rd, Rybury Camp (B.G.); March 24th, Everleigh (J.L.R.B.) Very many on fields at Fisherton Delamere at dawn March 28th, including one party of c.20, mostly males. This coincides with a major arrival on Dorset coast. (J.D.S.A.) A large brightly coloured bird at Liddington, May 3rd (E.J.W.) and another at Walcot, Sept. 28th (G.L.W.) were possibly of the northern race. Last seen Oct. 3rd, Porton (F.P.E.); Oct. 16th, near Salisbury (P.R.); Oct. 17th, Alton Priors (C.A.C.).

317. STONECHAT. Three pairs at Walcot, Jan. 1st, a pair and first winter male, Feb. 3rd; last seen there, March 24th (G.L.W.). A pair at Keevil Aerodrome, Jan. 28th. (G.L.B.). Single males at Allington, Feb. 18th (B.G.), Hanging Langford, March 2nd (G.G.O.) Lopscombe Corner, May 26th (E.L.J.), Great Yews, Aug. 26th (J.S.A.), and Chicks Grove, Nov. 23rd (G.G.O.). Single birds seen at Coate, Oct. 12th (G.L.W.), and Bishops Cannings, Nov. 11th and Dec. 12th (B.G.), and a pair at Walcot Dec. 20th and 25th (G.L.W.).

318. WHINCHAT. First seen April 26th, Coate (G.L.W.); April 30th, West Amesbury (J.K.S.); May 3rd, Stock Close (M.C.F.), Liddington Hill (E.J.W.), and Aldbourne Chase (D.G.B.). A pair seen throughout breeding season near Beacon Hill (G.H.F.). A pair feeding young in nest and another pair with fledged young near Imber, Aug. 1st; at least a dozen near Imber, Aug. 14th (G.L.B.). Last seen Sept. 14th, Walcot (G.L.W.); Sept. 17th, Stonehenge (G.G.O.).

320. REDSTART. First seen April 17th, Devizes (J.L.R.B.); April 21st, Ramsbury (O.M.), and Shaw (C.A.C.); April 24th, Britford (D.E.F., A.G.H.). In Savernake Forest pair seen (D.W.F.), and nest found in hawthorn, May 10th (D.J.S.) Nest in ash near Castle Combe, June 8th (R.J.S., B.G.). Birds feeding young at Coate, June 29th (G.L.W.). Three nests in Longleat (M.B.). Nested in hole in cottage wall simultaneously with Tree Creeper in porch and Pied Wagtail under thatch (E.H.J.). Six seen migrating at Shaw, July 18th (C.A.C.). Last seen Sept. 14th, Upper Studley (A.R.A.); September 20th, Ford (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

321. BLACK REDSTART. One seen in Hardenhuish Park, Chippenham, in snow, Jan. 23rd (J.S.B.). A female at Bratton, April 3rd (E.E.G.L.S.).

322. NIGHTINGALE. First heard April 21st, West Ashton Woods (R.L.V.); April 22nd, Sandridge Vale (R.J.S.); April 25th, East Knoyle (B.M.S.).

327. GRASSHOPPER WARBLER. First heard April 20th, Great Bradford Wood (R.J.S.); April 26th, Coate (G.L.W.); April 29th, Corsham (E.J.W.) and Sandridge Vale (R.J.S.). Heard later at Walcot (G.L.W.), Spye Park (R.L.V.), Longleat (R.J.S.), by the Kennet (V.C.L.), and in Savernake Forest (E.M.T.). Seen at Shearwater (G.L.B., R.L.V.). Last heard Aug. 10th, Westbury (A.R.A.).

333. REED WARBLER. First noted April 3rd, Bishops Cannings (I.G.). At least 80 pairs at Coate this year (G.L.W.). Last noted Sept. 21st, Coate (G.L.W.). One ringed at reed-bed roost Coate, Aug. 28th, and re-trapped there on Sept. 2nd, was caught by a cat at St. Louis de Montferrant, Gironde, France, Sept. 10th (D.F.).

337. SEDGE WARBLER. First noted April 20th, Coate (D.F.); April 23rd, Keevil (R.L.V.). A pair feeding young at Coate, Aug. 30th, and a bird seen there Oct. 12th, both late dates (G.L.W.).

338. AQUATIC WARBLER. At Rodbourne S.F. on Sept. 2nd D.F. assisted by G.L.W. was using a mist net to trap passerines for ringing when a small warbler entered the net. Both observers at once noted how yellow the bird was, and it was found to be generally similar to a Sedge Warbler, but with a very prominent buff stripe over the centre of the crown. Later, a Sedge Warbler was trapped and compared in retrospect, confirming the identification by showing up the great differences between the species.

Description: Forehead sandy brown. Crown dark brown flecked buff, with a very prominent buff crown stripe and superciliary stripes. Mantle and back, feathers brownish, edged buff and heavily streaked with black, this streaking extending to rump. Upper tail-coverts sandy brown with central dark brown streaks. Cheeks dark buff. Throat cream. Breast rich buff, slightly streaked with brown on upper breast. Belly cream. Flanks buff slightly streaked with brown. Under tail-coverts rich buff. Tail-feathers dark brown edged sandy buff, individual feathers having a spikey appearance. Primaries brownish grey, 2nd and 3rd edged cream. Secondaries grey shading to black, all edged buff. Median coverts soft grey, other coverts dark brown edged with buff. Upper mandible dark brown edged flesh, lower mandible flesh; both mandibles tipped horned. Legs flesh coloured. Iris brown. This is the first record of this species in Wiltshire (cf. B.B., L.1, 437.).

343. **BLACKCAP.** First noted April 9th, Salisbury (M.K.L.), Wilton Water (J.L.R.B.), and East Knoyle (B.M.S.); April 10th, Westbury (A.R.A). Last noted Sept. 21st, Wilton (H.J.C.); Sept. 24th, Conebury Wood (J.K.S.).
346. **GARDEN WARBLER.** First noted May 1st, West Ashton (R.L.V.); May 3rd, Tockenham (D.G.B., R.G.B.); May 4th, Coate (G.L.W.). Last noted Aug. 31st, Ham Hill (G.L.W.).
347. **WHITETHROAT.** First noted March 31st, Seend Cleeve (R.J.S.); April 20th, Walcot (G.L.W.); April 22nd, Malmesbury (E.J.M.B.). Last noted Sept 10th, Shaw (C.A.C.); Sept. 21st, Coate (G.L.W.); Sept 24th, W. Amesbury (J.K.S.).
348. **LESSER WHITETHROAT.** First noted April 29th, Boscombe Down (G.K.F.); April 30th, Braydon (R.G.B.); May 2nd, Shalbourne (J.L.R.B.), and Angrove Wood (E.J.M.B.). Last noted Aug. 21st, Britford (H.J.C.); Aug. 31st, Ham Hill (G.L.W.); Sept. 9th, Coate (G.L.W.).
354. **WILLOW WARBLER.** First noted April 6th, Harnham (H.J.C.), and Keevil (R.L.V.), April 18th Corsham (J.L.R.B.), and Chilton Foliat (M.C.F.) The main body were exceptionally late and were not established until late April and even then were scarcer than usual. (R.L.V., R.G.B., G.L.W.). Last noted Sept. 21st, Coate (G.L.W.); Sept. 29th, Box (C.S.H.).
356. **CHIFFCHAFF.** First noted March 14th, Malmesbury (E.J.M.B.); March 15th, Keevil (R.L.V.), March 27th, Shaw (C.A.C.), and East Knoyle (B.M.S.). Last noted Oct. 10th, Shaw (C.A.C.); Oct. 12th; singing at Coate (G.L.W.).
357. **WOOD WARBLER.** First noted April 30th, Walcot (G.L.W.); May 18th, Fonthill (B.G., C.S.H.); May 19th, Longleat (B.M.S.). One singing near Corsham in late June (E.J. W.). One at Rodbourne S.F. Aug. 14th, three at Coate, Aug. 22nd, and one Aug. 24th (G.L.W.).
365. **FIRECREST.** At Fonthill on March 16th some Goldcrests were seen among roadside bramble and stinging nettle stems, then another bird came into view with a 'superb orange red crest.' Three black stripes could be clearly seen, one forming a black border along the crest, another black stripe through the eye and a much fainter moustachial stripe. Over the eye was a white superciliary stripe and under the eye stripe another white patch. The bird could be picked out from the Goldcrests with ease, not only by the lighter colouring of the head but by the lighter colouring of the underparts. It was watched with 10X binoculars and most of the time at six yards range for one hour and forty minutes. It was not seen to touch the ground, although it perched close to it on many occasions. On March 30th a male Firecrest, presumably the same bird, was watched for a few minutes about 50 yards from where it was first seen (G.G.O.). This is the fifth record for the county.
366. **SPOTTED FLYCATCHER.** First noted April 30th Keevil (R.L.V.); May 4th, Coate (G.L.W.), and Codford St. Mary (G.G.O.). Last noted Sept. 7th, Fonthill (G.G.O.); Sept. 11th, Shaw (C.A.C.); Sept. 21st, Coate (G.L.W.). One ringed as nestling, at Oxford, July 3rd, 1955 was recovered dead at Holt, June 1st, 1957, 47 miles S.W. (B.B., LI, 483.).
368. **PIED FLYCATCHER.** A male at Corsley, April 21st (E.H.J.). A female on an apple tree in Semington. Aug. 13th; the white markings on wings were very prominent. (G.L.B.).
373. **MEADOW PIPIT.** One watched 'anting' at East Knoyle, October 15th (B.M.S.).
376. **TREE PIPIT.** First noted April 7th, Rodbourne S.F., and April 20th, Walcot (G.L.W.); April 27th, Sound Bottom (B.G.) Last seen Sept. 28th, Walcot, when call note was heard (G.L.W.).
381. **GREY WAGTAIL.** A pair bred in niche beside lead water pipe on Keevil Church roof (R.L.V.).
382. **YELLOW WAGTAIL.** First seen April 6th, Rodbourne S.F. (D.F.); April 20th, Seagry (R.G.B.). On April 20th a bird with blue grey crown and olive back was seen in the Close, Salisbury, probably a Blue-headed Wagtail (M.K.L.). Last seen Sept. 18th, West Amesbury (J.K.S.), and Coate (G.L.W.); Oct. 26th, one in Salisbury (M.K.L.).
389. **STARLING.** Near the Clench Common roost on Feb. 19th, the number of birds in centre of a large meadow was estimated at c. 500,000 (area covered about 100 yards square at 40—50 birds per square yard. (B.G.)). In late autumn a roost was established in Little Durnford Wood, 1 mile W. of old roost at High Post. Number not great but increasing in late December (P.R.).

391. HAWFINCH. A pair was seen in a garden in the Close, Salisbury, Jan. 18th, and Mar. 24th (M.K.L.), and a pair near Cricklade, April 4th (H.W.J.C.). A female was seen in a garden near Wilton April 3rd and 9th, apparently picking up grit on a gravel path (P.C.M.); and another female near Clarendon Lake, December 13th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).
392. GREENFINCH. Young left nest in a garden at Keevil, Sept. 1st., a late date (R.L.V.)
394. SISKIN. At Fonthill three were seen in alders, Feb. 2nd (J.K.S.), two on March 16th and c.20, Nov. 23rd (C.G.O.). Two were feeding on cones beside the Avon at Lackham, March 4th (C.R.).
397. REDPOLL. Single birds seen at Coate Water, Jan. 4th and Walcot, Feb. 1st (D.F., G.L.W.), at Trowbridge feeding on dry seeds Jan 29th (G.A.), and at Normanton, Jan 31st and Feb 15th (J.K.S.). A male with six others, females or birds in first winter plumage, near West Ashton, April 15th. Last seen there, April 27th (R.L.V.) A singing male at Walcot, April 4th; a male at Coate, April 12th, and a pair, April 20th (G.L.W.). A party of 3—5 near East Knoyle until May 5th and one bird, Dec. 26th (B.M.S.).
404. CROSSBILL. Two, at least, in conifers in Clarendon Palace Wood, July 22nd (E.L.J.). As many as 33 seen together in Bradley Woods; smaller parties seen or heard each day. The birds were already present in late Sept. and remained at the end of the year; there was a good supply of Norway spruce seed (J.C.C.O.). Eight in Silk Wood, Oct. 6th, and eleven there Oct. 17th. They had been feeding on seeds of *Tsuga heterophylla* and *Picea orientalis* (D.J.R.).
408. BRAMBLING. 'A considerable number' feeding on reeds in a field at West Amesbury, Mar. 1st—18th (J.K.S.). Last seen in spring March 27th, Walcot (G.L.W.); March 29th, Camp Hill (H.J.C.); Apr. 19th, Clarendon (D.E.F., A.G.H.). First seen in Autumn Oct. 20th, Clouds (B.M.S.). Female ringed at Damerham, Hants. Dec. 27th, 1957 found with a broken neck at Marlborough, March 23rd. 1958, 32 miles N. (J.S.A.).
409. YELLOW HAMMER. Bird sitting on three eggs at Keevil, Aug. 31st, a late date, (R.L.V.)
415. CIRL BUNTING. One at Walcot with Yellow Hammers, Jan. 12th and 18th (G.L.W.). A flock of 18 feeding on rough grass near Salisbury. Jan. 12th, and a pair at same spot April 17th (P.R.). A male on lawn at West Amesbury, Sept. 18th (J.K.S.).
425. TREE SPARROW. An unusual number seen early in the year, presumably from the invasion from the Continent in the autumn of 1957. Flocks of c.12 at Easton Royal, Jan. 2nd (G.L.B.), and c. 200 with finches at Walcot, Jan. 12th (D.F., G.L.W.). Several at Rodbourne S.F. Feb. 2nd and at Walcot c. 50, Mar. 2nd, and 40, Mar. 16th. A pair were prospecting a hole there March 23rd (G.L.W.). Twelve were seen on a rubbish tip at Upper Studley, Mar. 30th, and first half of April (A.R.A.). A flock of c.20 near Hullavington, April 18th (E.C.B., R.G.B.). A pair seen at Allington, May 4th (B.G.), and at South Wraxall, May 13th (G.L.B.). Unsuccessful attempts to breed in nest boxes at Cole Park (E.J.M.B.), and Seagry (R.G.B.). A pair raised four young in a nestbox at Southwick (P.R.). A pair were nesting in a tree on Marlborough Common, June 20th (O.M.). A party of nine at Coate, Aug. 10th (G.L.W.), and c.12 with House Sparrows and Finches near Semington, Oct. 2nd (G.L.B.).

Check list numbers of those species which, though not mentioned in these notes, were recorded in 1958:—84, 110, 115, 126, 127, 198, 232, 234, 241, 247, 258, 262, 380, 283, 284, 286, 293, 294, 296, 299, 301, 303, 364, 380, 393, 401, 407, 410, 421, 424.

REPORT OF A SURVEY OF THE FLORA OF SILBURY HILL, JULY 17, 1957

By R. E. SANDELL

On 16th July, 1857, Professor J. Buckman, who nine years earlier had become Professor of Botany and Geology at the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester, visited Silbury Hill and made a list of the plants he found there. Buckman was one of the earliest botanists to make and publish lists of the plants he found in various localities, thereby laying the foundation for later county floras. His work is more apparent and receives greater recognition in the Flora of Gloucestershire than it does in Preston's Flowering Plants of Wilts which appeared in 1888, and one gets the impression that Preston, either purposely or not, failed to give proper recognition to Buckman's records.

No less than eighteen of the forty-two species found by Buckman at Silbury should, as far as Preston's Flora was concerned, have been entered as first records, but he was not given credit for one of them. This may be due to the fact that whereas the list was compiled in 1857 it was not published until 1865 when it appeared in the *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine*. In the meanwhile T. B. Flower in 1859 had published his Flora of Broughton Gifford, also in *W.A.M.*, and on the strength of this received credit for thirteen first records which should have been accorded to Buckman. Of the others, while *Campanula rotundifolia* goes to T. E. Ravenshaw who records it in the *Phytologist* for 1859, T. B. Flower's *Flora of Wilts* (1858) claims the first records for *Ranunculus acris* and *Ranunculus bulbosus* though there are in fact earlier records still for both of these as will be seen from the recent new *Flora of Wilts*.

Buckman records *Trifolium filiforme*, but this is surely a mistake and I think Preston is right in ignoring this record. It may have been an error for *Trifolium dubium* which is not in the original list, but which is growing there now. I find it difficult to understand why *Picris hieracioides* should be described as being first recorded by T. B. Flower in *W.A.M.* 1867, when it had appeared in Buckman's list in *W.A.M.* 1865.

Whether or not Professor Buckman got due recognition for his early records, Preston certainly gave him credit for *Cirsium tuberosum* which he was the first to discover in its classic locality at Avebury on the same day as that of the expedition to Silbury Hill.

As 100 years had elapsed since Professor Buckman made his list, it occurred to me that it would be interesting to compare it with the present day flora of Silbury Hill. Accordingly a meeting of the Natural History Section of this Society was arranged for July 17th, 1957. In spite of very wet weather 18 members made a thorough exploration of the hill and some interesting results were obtained.

A list of the species found appears at the end of this report, and as Grasses did not feature in the original survey they are dealt with separately. None of the Grasses merit special comment except that *Arrhenatherum elatius* was far more prevalent on the north than on the south side of the hill—indeed it was dominant there and this resulted in many fewer plants being recorded for that side.

Of the forty-two species which Professor Buckman listed, thirty-three were discovered during the afternoon. Those not seen, in addition to *Trifolium filiforme* mentioned above, were *Jasione montana* (another doubtful record which one thinks must have been a mistake for *Phyteuma tenerum*), *Galium saxatile* and two orchids, *Anacamptis pyramidalis* and *Coeloglossum viride*. The hot dry weather of June and early July, 1957 caused many plants to mature early and this probably accounts for our failure to find these two. We did in fact find one plant each of *Orchis fuchsii* and *Listera ovata* both well advanced and neither of them on the original list. The other four species not found during the afternoon were *Gentianella amarella*, *Acinos arvensis*, *Ranunculus bulbosus*, and *Euphrasia officinalis* though the latter may well have been overlooked in the long grass.

Forty-three new species were found, and it is interesting to speculate why many of them did not appear on the original list. In other writings Professor Buckman confesses to an ignorance of *Rubus*, *Rosa*, *Salix* and *Carex* (and who but can sympathise with him) so this may account for the non-appearance of *Carex flacca* which is quite common on the south face.

He does not mention any thistles though three of them are fairly common; *Cirsium acaule*, *C. vulgare* and *C. arvense*. A fourth thistle *Carduus crispus* has established itself on patches of disturbed earth and several other plants are obviously present for the same reason. Whether or not there were

similar patches in 1857 one cannot tell, though it is possible that the excavations of 1849 may have provided similar conditions. At the present time there are large areas where the turf has become displaced, and in the resulting conditions the following have established themselves: *Cerastium vulgatum*, *Galium aparine*, *Potentilla anserina*, *Rumex crispus*, *Silene cucubalus*, *Lamium album*, *Sonchus asper*, *Taraxacum officinale* and *Veronica chamaedrys*. There is no evidence that the excavations undertaken in 1922 by Professor Flinders Petrie and Mr. A. D. Passmore have had any effect on the Flora, and those of 1777 and 1886 can safely be discounted.

It is fairly certain that the following four plants were overlooked by Professor Buckman, as they were seen by Miss Cunnington in 1863 and again by us in 1957: *Polygala vulgaris*, *Phyteuma tenerum*, *Lathyrus pratensis*, and *Taraxacum officinale*. The rest of the plants found were those one might normally expect to find growing in such a position, with the exception of *Angelica sylvestris* which seem an odd plant to find on a bare hillside.

Professor Buckman's List:

Anthyllis vulneraria
Leontodon hispidus
Arabis hirsuta
Asperula cynanchica
Bellis perennis
Calamintha acinos
Conopodium majus
Campanula glomerata
Campanula rotundifolia
Centaurea nigra
Centaurea scabiosa
Chrysanthemum leucanthemum
Daucus carota
Euphrasia officinalis
Galium saxatile
Galium verum
Gentiana amarella
Helianthemum vulgare
Hieracium pilosella
Jasione montana
Linum catharticum
Lotus corniculatus
Medicago lupulina
Ononis arvensis
Orchis pyramidalis
Habenaria viridis
Picris hieracioides
Plantago lanceolata
Plantago media
Poterium sanguisorba
Primula veris
Prunella vulgaris
Ranunculus acris
Ranunculus bulbosus
Rhinanthus crista-galli
Rumex acetosa
Scabiosa columbaria
Senecio jacobea
Thymus serpyllum
Trifolium filiforme
Trifolium pratense

Trifolium repens

List of additional plants found on 17th July, 1957.

Allium vineale
Angelica sylvestris
Achillea millefolium
Crepis capillaris
Carduus crispus
Cirsium acaule
Cirsium arvense
Cirsium vulgare
Carex flacca
Crataegus monogyna
Cornus sanguinea
Cerastium vulgatum
Filipendula ulmaria
Galium aparine
Glechoma hederacea
Heraclium sphondylium
Lamium album
Linaria vulgaris
Listera ovata
Lathyrus pratensis
Ononis spinosa
Orchis fuchsii
Orobancha elatior
Phyteuma tenerum
Pimpinella saxifraga
Plantago major
Polygala vulgaris
Potentilla anserina
Potentilla reptans
Rhamnus catharticus
Rumex crispus
Rosa canina
Silene cucubalus
Succisa pratensis
Sambucus nigra
Serratula tinctoria
Sonchus asper

Taraxacum officinale
Trifolium dubium
Urtica dioica
Vicia angustifolia
Veronica chamaedrys
Viola hirta

Grasses found on July 17th, 1957.
Agrostis stolonifera

Arrhenatherum elatius
Briza media
Dactylis glomerata
Festuca ovina
Hordeum secalinum
Holcus lanatus
Phleum nodosum
Trisetum flavescens
Zerna erecta

WILTSHIRE PLANT NOTES (19)

(Second Supplement to the Flora of Wiltshire)

compiled by

DONALD GROSE, Downs Edge, Liddington

Additions to Recorders

<i>Allen</i>	<i>D.E.</i>	London	1958	
<i>Appleyard</i>	<i>Dr. G.</i>	Porton	1958	G
<i>Bennett</i>	<i>R.</i>	Dilton	1947	
<i>Carey</i>	<i>Mrs. M.E.</i>	Corton	1956	
<i>Day</i>	<i>F.M.</i>	Malvern	1950	G
<i>Franks</i>	<i>Miss H.</i>	London	1957	
<i>Howitt</i>	<i>R.C.L.</i>	Nottingham	c.1954	237
<i>Hutchings</i>	<i>J.</i>	Mere	1958	K
<i>Hutchison</i>	<i>Miss A.</i>	Salisbury	1958	
<i>Ingram</i>	<i>Miss S.M.</i>	Westbury	1957	
<i>Pankhurst</i>	<i>J.S.R.</i>	Chippenham	1944	
<i>Pankhurst</i>	<i>Mrs. B.E.</i>	Chippenham	1958	G
<i>Pankhurst</i>	<i>R.J.</i>	Chippenham	1958	
<i>Phillips</i>	<i>Rev. J. E. T.</i>	Redlynch	1958	
<i>Prismall</i>	<i>S.E.</i>	Swindon	1958	
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Miss M.</i>	Wootton Bassett	1958	
<i>Wycherley</i>	<i>Mrs. N.</i>	Frome, Som.	1957	B

Add to '*Jenkinson E.*' (Flora, p. 51) 'Westbury Leigh'.

All records are for 1958 unless otherwise indicated.

Ranunculus trichopyllus Chaix. **8.** Pond, Warden's Down, *F.M. Day!*

R. peltatus Schrank. **6.** Frequent.

R. ficaria var. *bulbiferus* Marsden-Jones. **4.** Roadside, Marlborough, 1950, *F.M. Day.*

Aquilegia vulgaris L. Columbine. **9.** Quarry near Teffont Magna, *Sandell.*

Aconitum anglicum Stapf. Monkshood. **2.** One plant in ditch near top of Derry Hill, *Collett.*

Berberis vulgaris L. Barberry. **5.** West Grimstead, 1957, *Stevens.*

Nymphaea alba L. White Water Lily. **1** and **2.** Canal west of Devizes, *F. M. Day.*

Papaver hybridum L. Rough Round-headed Poppy. **8.** Cornfield between The Bustard and Elston.

Cardamine pratensis L. Cuckoo-flower. **4.** Allington Down and Tan Hill, in great profusion, *Gillam.*

Although already noted as common in District **4** this record is worthy of publication since the plant is rarely found on the chalk downs.

Sisymbrium orientale L. **2.** Melksham, *Floyd.*

Sinapis alba L. White Mustard. **1.** Thirteen Hundred Down. **2.** Hullavington Airfield, *Pankhurst.*

Erucastrum gallicum (Willd.) O. E. Schulz. **7.** Tracks on Figheldean Down.

Coronopus squamatus (Forsk.) Aschers. Swine's Cress. **8.** Greenland Camp. *I. M. Grose.*

Raphanus raphanistrum L. Wild Radish. **6.** Rockmoor Down.

Reseda luteola L. Dyer's Rocket. **2.** Frequent.

Viola odorata L. Sweet Violet. **6.** Frequent. Var. *imberbis* (Leight.) Henslow. **6.** Frequent.

V. hirta L. Hairy Violet. **1.** Beggar's Knoll. Thirteen Hundred Down, flowering in October.

Saponaria officinalis L. Soapwort. **2.** Roadside, Callow Hill. **4.** Near cottages, Oare, 1950, *F.M. Day.* **5.**

Boscombe.

Melandrium noctiflorum L. Fries. Night-flowering Catchfly. **1.** Cornfield, Thirteen Hundred Down. **8.**

Cornfield between The Bustard and Elston.

Cerastium tomentosum L. **2.** Roadside, Callow Hill.

Stellaria neglecta Weihe. **1.** Between Westbury and Rudge, *Sandell.*

Sagina nodosa (L.) Fenzl. Knotted Pearlwort. **4.** Track between Tan Hill and Milk Hill, *Gillam.*

Spergula arvensis L. and var. *sativa* (Boenn.) Mert. & Koch. Corn Spurrey. **2.** Sand-pit, Compton Bassett, *Frowde.*

Hypericum dubium Leers. Imperforate St. John's Wort. **2.** Hullavington Airfield (G).

- Malva neglecta* Wallr. Dwarf Mallow. **2.** Roadside, Morgan's Hill.
- Geranium pusillum* Burm f. Small-flowered Crane's-bill. **1.** Thirteen Hundred Down, *I.M. Grose!* Potterne *F.M. Day.*
- Erodium cicutarium* (L.) L'Hérit. Stork's-bill. **8.** Track, West Down, Tilshead.
- Oxalis europaea* Jord. **2.** Garden weed, Chippenham, *Collett.* **7.** Garden weed, Manningford Abbots, *I.M. Grose.*
- O. corymbosa* DC. **7.** Cathedral Close, Salisbury, c. 1954, *Howitt* (237, 1958).
- Impatiens capensis* Meerb. Orange Balsam. **1.** Corsley, 1957, *Wycherley* (B). **7.** Great Durnford, Stratton.
- I. glandulifera* Royle. Himalayan Balsam. **2.** Brook near Melksham, *E.S. Smith.* **4.** Near the Column, Savernake Forest, 1950, *F. M. Day.*
- Genista anglica* L. Needle Furze. **5.** Near Loosehanger Copse, *Sandell!*
- G. tinctoria* L. Dyer's Greenweed. **8.** West Down, Tilshead.
- Sarothamnus scoparius* (L.) Wimm. Broom. **6.** Frequent.
- Medicago sativa* L. Lucerne. **8.** Grassland near Greenland Camp.
- Melilotus altissima* Thuill. Common Melilot. **8.** Greenland Camp. *Crichton Maitland!*
- M. alba* Desr. White Melilot. **7.** Normanton Down, *Crichton Maitland!*
- Trifolium medium* Huds. Zigzag Clover. **3.** Railway bank near White Lodge. **8.** Horse Down, Tilshead.
- T. arvense* L. Hare's-foot Trefoil. **3.** Unmown lawn, Bath Road, Swindon.
- Lotus tenuis* Waldst. & Kit. Narrow-leaved Bird's-foot Trefoil. **8.** West Down, Tilshead (G).
- Vicia tetrasperma* (L.) Schreb. Smooth Tare. **3.** Lane near Water Eaton Copse. Railway bank, Hodson.
- V. tenuissima* (M. Bieb.) Schinz & Thell. Slender Tare. **2.** Hullavington Airfield, *Pankhurst* (AG)! The first record for Wiltshire since 1870.
- V. sylvatica* L. Wood Vetch. **2.** Ashley Wood (Som), *Floyd.*
- Lathyrus nissolia* L. Grass Vetchling. **5.** Gomeldon and Porton, *Appleyard.*
- Prunus avium* L. Wild Cherry. **6.** Wexcombe.
- P. cerasus* L. Dwarf Cherry **6.** West border of Buttermere Wood.
- Filipendula vulgaris* Moench. Dropwort. **1.** Thirteen Hundred Down. *I.M. Grose!*
- Rubus idaeus* var. *asperimus* Ed. Lees. White-fruited Raspberry. **4.** Postern Hill, *Whiting.*
- Geum rivale* x *urbanum.* **5.** Burrets Grove. **6.** Buttermere Wood, *I.M. Grose!*
- Potentilla recta* L. **6.** Refound at Everleigh, *M. A. Chaplin* and *Prismall!*; it is now possible to record the station more precisely as Cow Down, Everleigh Ashes!
- Aphanes microcarpa* (Boiss. & Reut.) Rothm. **5.** Track in Ashley's Copse.
- Crataegus oxyacanthoides* Thuill. Midland Hawthorn. **3.** Red Lodge Wood.
- C. monogyna* x *oxyacanthoides.* **3.** Ashmead Brake. Water Eaton Copse.
- Cotoneaster prostrata* Baker. **7.** Near Chine Farm, *Crichton Maitland* (G).
- Ribes rubrum* L. Red Currant. **6.** Marten.
- Sedum reflexum* L. Reflexed Stonecrop. **2.** Wall, Shaw, *E. S. Smith.*
- Callitriche intermedia* G. F. Hoffm. **8.** Winterbourne Stoke, *D. E. Allen.*
- Epilobium adenocaulon* Hausskn. **7.** Dogtail Plantation. **8.** One plant, probably the forerunner of many, in a remote plantation on West Down, Tilshead.
- E. obscurum* Schreb. **2.** Chalfield.
- Sicyos angulatus* L. Bur Cucumber. **9.** Garden casual, Castle Street, Mere, *Hutchings* (K); det. N. Y. Sandwith.
- Leycesteria formosa* Wallich. **3.** Hedge, remote from houses, Wanborough Plain (G).
- Petroselinum segetum* (L.) Koch. Corn Parsley. **2.** Garden casual, Chippenham, *B. E. Pankhurst* (G).
- Pimpinella saxifraga* var. *dissecta* With. **7.** Near Etchilhampton, *F. M. Day.*
- Scandix pecten-veneris* L. Shepherd's Needle. **5.** Field near Noad's Copse. **8.** Elston.
- Foeniculum vulgare* Mill. Fennel. **2.** Neston, *Pankhurst.*
- Oenanthe pimpinelloides* L. **2.** Bewley Common, *Grudgings* (G). The first certain record for North Wilts.
- Heracleum mantegazzianum* Somm. & Lev. **4.** Naturalized in field by river, Chilton Foliat.
- Cornus stolonifera* Michx **2.** Naturalized on Bencroft Hill, *B. E. Pankhurst.*
- Valeriana dioica* L Marsh Valerian. **8.** Frequent.
- Valerianella rimosa* Bast. **2.** Stanton St. Quintin, *B. E. Pankhurst* (G). **8.** Horse Down, Tilshead (G).
- Solidago canadensis* L. **1.** Roadside near Bratton. Streamside near Potterne, *F. M. Day!* **8.** West Down, Tilshead.

- Erigeron canadensis* L. Canadian Fleabane. **2.** Gravel-pit, Lacock, *Gillam*.
E. acris L. Blue Fleabane. **7.** Railway bank, Bulford.
Inula helenium L. Elecampane. **2.** Hedge near Colerne, *Frowde*.
Anthemis cotula L. Stinking Chamomile. **6.** Cornfield on Rockmoor Down.
Chrysanthemum segetum L. Corn Marigold. **2.** Rowde, *F. M. Day*.
Matricaria chamomilla L. Wild Chamomile. **3.** Ride in Burderop Wood.
Artemisia absinthium L. Wormwood **1.** Persistent weed in cultivated ground, Dilton Vale Farm, *Bennett*.
Doronicum pardalianches L. Leopard's Bane. **8.** Near Tilshead, 1957, *Wycherley* (B).
Senecio squalidus L. Oxford Ragwort. **1.** One plant on bare ground, Thirteen Hundred Down. Rarely found away from smoky habitats.
S. integrifolius (L.) Clairv. Field Fleawort. **10.** Down near East Combe Wood, *Fergusson*!
Arctium minus subsp. *pubens* (Bab.) J. Arènes. **1.** Frequent.
Cirsium eriophorum (L.) Scop. Woolly-headed Thistle. **1.** Frequent.
C. tuberosum (L.) All. Tuberous Thistle. **1.** One plant in army area, Upton Cow Down.
Cichorium intybus L. Chicory. **8.** Yarnbury Castle, *Crichton Maitland*; *Stratton*. Near Stoford and Boyton, *Stratton*. **9.** East Knoyle, *Stratton*.
Picris hieracioides L. Hawkweed Oxtongue. **1.** Upton Cow Down. Thirteen Hundred Down.
Crepis biennis L. **2.** Hullavington Station, *Pankhurst*.
Hieracium bladdonii Pugs. **8.** Shear Water, *E. S. Smith*.
H. brunneocroceum Pugs. **9.** Hedgerow near Tisbury, *Stratton*.
Taraxacum laevigatum (Willd.) DC. **8.** Orcheston St. Mary, *D. E. Allen*.
Phyteuma tenerum R. Schulz. Round-headed Rampion. **5.** Grassy bank on chalk escarpment near Winterslow, *Appleyard*! An interesting extension of the known range.
Specularia hybrida (L.) A. DC. Venus's Looking-glass. **8.** Cornfield between The Bustard and Elston.
Vaccinium myrtillus L. Whortleberry. **9.** Frequent.
Monotropa hypopithys L. Yellow Bird's-nest. **1.** Wood between Limpley Stoke and Monkton Combe, *D. G. Brown*.
Primula veris x *vulgaris*. **5.** Burrets Grove. **8.** Great Ridge Wood, *Yeatman-Biggs*.
Lysimachia vulgaris L. Common Loosestrife. **9.** Lake, Fonthill Abbey Wood, 1957, *Franks*.
Anagallis arvensis subsp. *foemina* (Mill.) Schinz & Thell. Blue Pimpernel. **2.** Hullavington Airfield, *Pankhurst* (G)!
Buddleja davidi Franch. **1.** Roadside between Devizes and Potterne, *F. M. Day*.
Vinca major L. Greater Periwinkle. **8.** Old wall near the decayed boat-house at Shear Water, *Stratton*.
V. minor L. Lesser Periwinkle. **1.** Stream-bank near Westbury, 1957, *Ingram*.
Blackstonia perfoliata (L.) Huds. Yellow Centaury. **9.** Downs above Fovant, 1957, *Stevens*. Hoop Side and near Ferne House, *Hutchison*.
Amsinckia intermedia Fisch. & Mey. **8.** Disturbed ground, Corton, *Carey*.
Lithospermum officinale L. Common Gromwell. **8.** Frequent.
Echium vulgare L. Viper's Bugloss. **7.** Figheldean Down, *Collett*!
Calystegia sylvestris (Willd.) Roem. & Schult. **7.** Bulford. Forma *rosea* Hyl. **3.** Highworth, *Arkell*. **9.** Frequent.
C. dahurica (Herbert) G. Don. **8.** Railings on south side of Stockton Park, *Stratton*.
Solanum nigrum L. Black Nightshade. **8.** Tinhead Hill.
Atropa belladonna L. Deadly Nightshade. **5.** Frequent.
Datura stramonium L. Thorn-apple. **1.** Westbury Leigh, c. 1924, *Jenkinson*.
Hyoscyamus niger L. Henbane. **1.** Dilton, 1947, *Bennett*.
Verbascum nigrum L. Black Mullein. **7.** Great Durnford Churchyard, *Stratton*. **8.** Corton Down, *Carey*.
Kickxia elatine (L.) Dum. **1.** Cornfield, Thirteen Hundred Down. **8.** Corton, *Carey*.
Linaria repens (L.) Mill. Pale Toadflax. **2.** Naturalized on wall, Box, *B. E. Pankhurst*.
Veronica polita Fries. Grey Field Speedwell. **10.** Frequent.
V. filiformis Sm. **2.** Roadside, Colerne, *Frowde*.
V. montana L. Mountain Speedwell. **6.** Frequent.
Euphrasia nemorosa (Pers.) H. Mart. **7.** Figheldean Down, *Collett*.
Rhinanthus calcareus Wilmott. **3.** Bishopstone, *R. J. Pankhurst*. **7.** Figheldean Down.
Melampyrum pratense L. Common Cow-wheat. **1.** Vagg's Hill, c. 1888, *Gregory* (153).

- Orobanche elatior* Sutton. Tall Broomrape. **1.** Beggar's Knoll. Bratton Down, 1957, *Wycherley* (B).
O. minor var *compositarum* Pugsl. **7.** Figheldean Down. **10.** Ebbesborne Wake, *Fergusson!* Both on
Crepis capillaris.
Lathraea squamaria L. Toothwort. **1.** Westwood, 1949, *E. S. Smith*. **10.** Ebbesborne Wake, *Fergusson*.
Verbena officinalis L. Vervain. **2.** Hullavington Airfield, *Pankhurst!*
Mentha rotundifolia (L) Huds. Round-leaved Mint. **10.** Meadow, Ebbesborne Wake, *Fergusson!*
M. piperita L. Peppermint. **1.** Stream near Potterne. *F. M. Day*. (G)! **4.** Bank of Kennet east of Marlborough, 1950, *F. M. Day*.
Acinos arvensis (Lam.) Dandy. Basil Thyme. **1.** Thirteen Hundred Down, *I. M. Grose!*
Salvia pratensis L. Meadow Sage. **5.** Waste ground, Idmiston, *Appleyard*. **7.** Waste ground, Salisbury, *Hutchison!*
Stachys annua L. **1.** Casual near the site of the old mill, Dilton, 1947, *Bennett*.
Lamium maculatum L. Spotted Dead-nettle. **2.** Waste ground, Hullavington Airfield, *Pankhurst!*
Teucrium scorodonia L. Wood Sage. **6** Frequent. **7.** In grass, relic of former woodland, Figheldean Down, *I.M. Grose!*
Chenopodium bonus-henricus L. Good King Henry. **3.** Near the ruins of Liddington Mill.
Atriplex hortensis var. *rubra* (Crantz) Roth. Garden Orache. **1.** Garden weed, St. James' Church, Devizes, *F. M. Day!*
Polygonum convolvulus var. *subalatum* Lej. & Court. **2.** Rowde, *F. M. Day*.
P. lapathifolium L. Pale Persicaria. **6.** Frequent.
Fagopyrum esculentum Moench. Buckwheat. **6.** Cornfield, Rockmoor Down.
Viscum album L. Mistletoe. **2.** Roadside north of Malmesbury, on hawthorn, *Grigson*.
Thesium humifusum DC. Bastard Toadflax. **1.** Frequent.
Euphorbia platyphyllos L. Broad-leaved Spurge. **3.** Roadside at foot of Blunsdon Hill (G).
E. virgata Waldst. & Kit. **5.** Porton Down, *Appleyard* (G).
Ulmus glabra Huds. Wych Elm. **5.** Frequent.
Helxine soleirlii Req. **1.** Potterne, *F. M. Day*.
Myrica gale L. Bog Myrtle. **5.** Near Loosehanger Copse, *Phillips!*
Populus canescens Sm. Grey Poplar. **5.** Frequent.
Ceratophyllum demersum L. Hornwort. **4.** Dew-pond near All Cannings Cross, *Pickering*. **5.** Pool near Hamptworth Lodge.
Listera ovata (L.) R. Br. Twayblade. **5.** Frequent.
Spiranthes spiralis (L.) Chevall. Lady's Tresses. **8.** Corton Down, *Carey*.
Cephalanthera damasonium (Mill.) Druce. **8.** Wood on Corton Down, *Carey*.
Epipactis helleborine (L) Crantz. **2.** Frequent. **8.** Stockton Earthworks and Well Bottom, *Carey*.
E. phyllanthes G. E. Smith. **5.** Under beech, Winterbourne Down, *Roseweir*, det. D.P. Young.
Anacamptis pyramidalis (L.) L.C. Rich. Pyramidal Orchid. **8.** Corton Down, *Carey*. **10.** Common.
Orchis morio L. Green-winged Orchis. **8.** Cley Hill, 1957, *Wycherley* (B).
O. mascula L. Early Purple Orchis. **8.** Cley Hill, 1957. *Wycherley* (B).
Ophrys apifera Huds. Bee Orchid. **10.** Common.
Herminium monorchis (L.) R.Br. Musk Orchid. **10.** Near Elcombe Barn, Alvediston, *Stratton*. Down near East Combe Wood, *Fergusson!*
Gymnadenia conopsea (L.) R.Br. Fragrant Orchid. **8.** Corton Down, *Carey*.
Platanthera bifolia (L.) L. C. Rich. Lesser Butterfly Orchid. **10.** Down near East Combe Wood, *Fergusson*.
P. chlorantha (Cust.) Reichb. Greater Butterfly Orchid. **2.** Tockenham Great Wood, *Whittaker*. **8.** Stony Hill, Sherrington. **10.** Bank near Ebbesborne Wake Church, *Fergusson!*
Galanthus nivalis L. Snowdrop. **5.** Wood on Easton Down, Winterslow, *Sandell*.
Allium ursinum. L. Ramsons. **5.** Noad's Copse.
Polygonatum multiflorum. (L.) All. Solomon's Seal. **9.** South-east border of Great Ridge Wood.
Ornithogalum umbellatum L. Star of Bethlehem. **4.** Abundant in plantation, Wanborough Plain.
Narthecium ossifragum (L.) Huds. Bog Asphodel. **5.** Frequent.
Juncus kochii Schultz. **5.** Near Loosehanger Copse, *Sandell!*
Typha latifolia L. Great Reed-mace. **4.** Dew-pond on Horton Down, *Pickering*.
Lemma gibba L. Gibbous Duckweed. **1.** Canal, Martinslade, *F.M. Day*. **2.** Canal, Devizes, *F.M. Day*.

- L. polyrrhiza* L. Greater Duckweed. 4. Dew-pond on Allington Down, *Pickering*.
Alisma lanceolatum With. Narrow-leaved Water Plantain. 1. Canal, Martinslade, *F. M. Day*.
Potamogeton polygonifolius Pourr. Bog Pondweed. 5. Near Loosehanger Copse.
P. berchtoldii Fieb. 4. Dew-pond near All Cannings Cross, *Pickering*.
P. densus L. Opposite-leaved Pondweed. 2. Castle Combe, *Frowde*.
Isolepis setacea (L.) R.Br. Bristle Club-rush. 5. Near Loosehanger Copse.
Carex echinata Murr. Star-headed Sedge. 5. Frequent.
C. nigra (L.) Reichard. Common Sedge. 8. Winterborne Stoke, *D. E. Allen*.
C. pallescens L. Pale Sedge. 1. Vagg's Hill, c. 1888, Gregory (153).
C. strigosa Huds. 1. Rood Ashton, *Sandell!*
C. laevigata Sm. 5. Near Loosehanger Copse, *B.E. Pankhurst!*
C. binervis Sm. 5. Frequent.
Phalaris canariensis L. Canary Grass. 2. Bradford-on-Avon and Melksham, *E. S. Smith*.
 Broughton Gifford Common, *Collett*.
Phleum nodosum L. 8. Elston.
Agrostis stolonifera var. *palustris* (Huds.) Farw. Marsh Bent Grass. 8. Pond, Warden's Down.
Calamagrostis epigejos (L.) Roth. Wood Smallreed. 2. Withybed near Chalfield, *Floyd!*
Holcus mollis L. Creeping Soft Grass. 5. Near Hamptworth Lodge, *B. E. Pankhurst!*
Avena fatua L. Wild Oat. 1. Stoke Hill, *F. M. Day!* 3. Wanborough Plain, *R. J. Pankhurst!*
 4. Track, Knap Hill, *F. M. Day!* Var. *pilosissima* S. F. Gray. 1. Near Stert, *F. M. Day*.
A. ludoviciana Dur. 3. Wanborough Plain, *F. M. Day!*
Molinia caerulea (L.) Moench. Purple Moor Grass. 2. Webb's Wood.
Melica uniflora Retz. Wood Melic. 1. Vagg's Hill, c. 1888, Gregory (153).
Glyceria declinata Bréb. 1. Pond, Poulshot, *F. M. Day; Sand with*.
 x *Festulolium loliaceum* (Huds.) P. Fourn. 8. Warden's Down, *F. M. Day!*
Bromus lepidus Holmb. 1. Poulshot, *F. M. Day*. 4. Marlborough, 1950, *F. M. Day*. det. C. E. Hubbard.
Lolium multiflorum Lam. 8. Horse Down, Tilshead.
Agropyron repens var. *aristatum* Baumg. 4. Marlborough, 1955, *F.M. Day*. Var. *glaucum* Döll.
 4. Marlborough, 1955, *F. M. Day*.
Taxus baccata L. Yew. 1. Thirteen Hundred Down, probably native.
Adiantum capillus-veneris L. Maidenhair Fern. 7. Established on wall, Water Lane, Salisbury, 1957,
Stevens.
Dryopteris borrieri Newm. 5. Near Loosehanger Copse, *Pankhurst*.
D. austriaca (Jacq.) Woynar. 3. Vines Brake.
Chara vulgaris L. Common Stonewort. 2. Water-tank, Castle Combe, *Frowde* (G) det. G. O. Allen.
 Dew-pond, Calstone Down, *Pickering*. 4. Dew-ponds, Cherhill Down and Allington Down, *Pickering*.
 8. Pond, Tilshead.
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ENTOMOLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1958

By B. W. WEDDELL

Looking over our reports for the last few years one is struck by the consistent gloom that tends to pervade them. It would certainly appear that the Lepidoptera of this country is going through a thoroughly bad period from which it may take years to recover.

One hears of locality after locality being ruined by intensive cultivation including the use of selective weedkillers and other sprays.

The disappearance of the rabbit too, which was hailed as an unmixed blessing, is having the effect of radically altering the vegetation. The rank grasses, etc, which used to be kept cropped hard by the rabbits, now tend to overgrow and smother certain low growing foodplants, with dire results.

Add to the above handicaps the weather we had to suffer during 1958 and you get a picture that would make our forebears turn in their graves.

Still, as will be seen from the following list, a number of interesting species were recorded. Our thanks are due to all the persevering friends, who, refusing to be disheartened, have continued to interest themselves and give us the benefit of their observations.

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PHENOLOGICAL REPORT

	Average date	1958	Difference
Large White	23.4	23.4	=
Marbled White	27.6	27.6	=
Meadow Brown	16.6	15.6	+1
Cinnabar	19.5	30.5	-11
Garden Carpet	23.4	22.4	+1
Brimstone Moth	9.5	8.5	+1

Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	R.A.J. 10.7. Bronze male, Grovelly Wood
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	R.A.J. 3.8 ab. <i>lacticolor</i>
Chalkhill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	R.A.J. 2.8.—31.8. Very poor season
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	C.M.R.P. 28.4
Hummingbird Hawk	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	C.M.R.P. 12.5
Poplar Kitten	<i>Cerura hermelinea</i>	R.A.J. 28.6. Very late date
Wood Tiger	<i>Parasemia plantaginis</i>	E.A.S. 14.6
Alder Dagger	<i>Apatele alni</i>	R.A.J. 10.7, 11.7
Bordered Gothic	<i>Heliophobus saponaria</i>	R.A.J. 13.6 till 2.7. Unusually frequent.
Dusky Sallow Rustic	<i>Eremobia ochroleuca</i>	C.M.R.P. 9.8
Rosy Minor	<i>Procus literosa</i>	E.A.S. 7.8
Butterbur Ear	<i>Hydroecia petasites</i>	R.A.J. 4.9. Very late
Downland Wainscot	<i>Oria muscolosa</i>	R.A.J. 5.8—30.8. Late but plentiful
Northern Drab	<i>Orthosia advena</i>	} Both much scarcer than in recent years,
Powdered Quaker	<i>Orthosia gracilis</i>		} R.A.J.

Flounced Chestnut	<i>Anchoscelis helvola</i>	E.A.S. 21.9
Pale Wormwood Shark	<i>Cuculla absinthii</i>	R.A.J. 19.7 New County record.
Dark Bordered Straw	<i>Heliothis peltigera</i>	R.A.J. 19.5, 12.6. C.M.R.P. 11.5. Rare migrant
Small Purple Bars	<i>Phytometra viridaria</i>	E.A.S. 16.6
Chimney-Sweeper	<i>Odezia atrata</i>	E.A.S. 3.7., 14.7
Vestal	<i>Rhodometra sacraria</i>	E.A.S. 13.9. A rare immigrant
Royal Mantle	<i>Euphyia cuculata</i>	R.A.J. 8.7. and 17.7, apparently increasing
Common Annulet	<i>Gnophos obscura</i>	E.A.S. 31.7
Dusky Thorn	<i>Deuteronomos fuscantaria</i>	E.A.S. 20.9
Grey Mottled Carpet	<i>Colostygia multistrigaria</i>	E.A.S. 10.4., R.A.J. 22.4. First seen here
Wood Leopard	<i>Zeuzera pyrina</i>	C.M.R.P. 28.4B. W. 9.7
Double-lobed	<i>Apamea ophiogramma</i>	R.A.J. 16.6
Scarce Olivetree Pearl	<i>Margaronia unionalis</i>	R.A.J. 9.10. Rare migrant

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Publications to be Obtained from the Librarian, The Museum, Devizes

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE GREAT STONE MONUMENTS OF WILTSHIRE: STONEHENGE AND AVEBURY, by W. J. Harrison. No. LXXXIX (1901) of *W.A.M.* 5s. 6s.

A CALENDAR OF THE FEET OF FINES FOR WILTSHIRE, 1195 TO 1272, by E. A. Fry. 6s.

WILTSHIRE INQUISITIONES POST MORTEM: HENRY III, EDWARD I AND EDWARD II. 13s.

DITTO. EDWARD III. 13s.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF WILTSHIRE, THEIR INSCRIPTIONS AND HISTORY, by H. B. Walters. 16s.

RECORDS OF THE COUNTY OF WILTS, EXTRACTS FROM THE QUARTER SESSIONS, GREAT ROLLS OF THE 17TH CENTURY, by B. H. Cunnington. 12s. 6d.

DEVIZES BOROUGH ANNALS. EXTRACTS FROM THE CORPORATION RECORDS, by B. H. Cunnington. Vol. II, 1792 to 1835. 15s. (Vol. I is out of print.)

THE WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY, 1853—1953. A Centenary History. 3s. 6d.

BRADON FOREST, by T. R. Thomson. 10s. 6d.

THE FLORA OF WILTSHIRE, by Donald Grose. pp. iv, 824. 1957. 42s.

WILTSHIRE BIRDS, by L. G. Peirson, 4s.

BACK NUMBERS OF THE MAGAZINE. Prices on application to the Librarian.

The Society's Museum and Library, Long Street, Devizes

The Curator is Mr. F. K. Annable; the Hon. Librarian Mr. R. E. Sandell

All members of the Society are asked to give an annual subscription towards the upkeep of the Museum and Library collections. The Museum contains many objects of great local interest; and the Library a rich collection of books, articles and notes about the history of Wiltshire. Subscriptions should be sent to Mr. F. W. C. Merritt, Tawsmead, Eastleigh Road, Devizes.

Old *printed* material and photographs of Wiltshire buildings or other objects of interest will be welcomed by the Librarian at the Museum. The repository for records, e.g., old deeds, maps, plans, etc., is the Wiltshire Record Office, County Hall, Trowbridge.

The Records Branch

Founded in 1937 for the publication of original documents relating to the history of the county. The subscription is £1 yearly. New members are urgently needed. Hon. Secretary, Mr. M. G. Rathbone, Craigleith, Snarlton Lane, Melksham Forest, Wilts.

The Branch has issued the following. Price to members of the Branch £1, and to non-members 30s.

ABSTRACTS OF FEET OF FINES RELATING TO WILTSHIRE FOR THE REIGNS OF EDWARD I AND EDWARD II. Edited by R. B. Pugh. 1939.

ACCOUNTS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY GARRISONS OF GREAT CHALFIELD AND MALMESBURY, 1645—1646. Edited by J. H. P. Pafford. 1940. (Out of Print.)

TWO SIXTEENTH CENTURY TAXATION LISTS, 1545 and 1576. Edited by G. D. Ramsay. 1945.

CALENDAR OF ANTROBUS DEEDS BEFORE 1625. Edited by R. B. Pugh. 1947.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS IN SESSIONS, 1563, 1574—1592. Edited by H. C. Johnson. 1949.

LIST OF WILTSHIRE BOROUGH RECORDS EARLIER IN DATE THAN 1836. Edited by Maurice G. Rathbone. 1951.

THE TROWBRIDGE WOOLLEN INDUSTRY as illustrated by the stock books of John and Thomas Clark, 1804-1824. Edited by R. P. Beckinsale, D. Phil. 1950.

CALNE GUILD STEWARDS BOOK, 1561—1688. Edited by A. W. Mabbs. 1953.

ANDREWS' AND DURY'S Map OF WILTSHIRE, 1773. A reduced facsimile. Introduction by Elizabeth Crittall. 1952.

SURVEYS OF THE MANORS OF PHILIP EARL OF PEMBROKE AND MONTGOMERY, 1631—2. Edited by Eric Kerridge, Ph. D. 1953.

WILTSHIRE QUARTER SESSIONS AND ASSIZES, 1736. Edited by J. P. M. Fowle. 1955.

COLLECTANEA. Edited by N. J. Williams, with a foreword by T. F. T. Plucknett.

PROGRESS NOTES OF WARDEN WOODWARD FOR THE WILTSHIRE ESTATES OF NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD. 1659—1675. Edited by R. L. Rickard. 1957.

Natural History Section

The object of this Section is to promote the study of all branches of Natural History in the County by encouraging field observations, maintaining records, arranging field and other meetings and by putting observers in touch with each other. Members and others who wish for particulars of the Section and its activities should write to the Honorary Treasurer of the Section:—

Mr. G. W. Collett, 174, Sheldon Road, Chippenham.

Membership of the Section does not entail any further subscription from those who are already members of the Society.

Observations should be sent to the recorders:

BIRDS: Mrs. Egbert Barnes, Hungerdown, Seagry, Chippenham, Wilts.

FLOWERS: Mr. J. D. Grose, Downs Edge, Liddington, near Swindon.

LEPIDOPTERA: Mr. B. W. Weddell, 11, The Halve, Trowbridge.

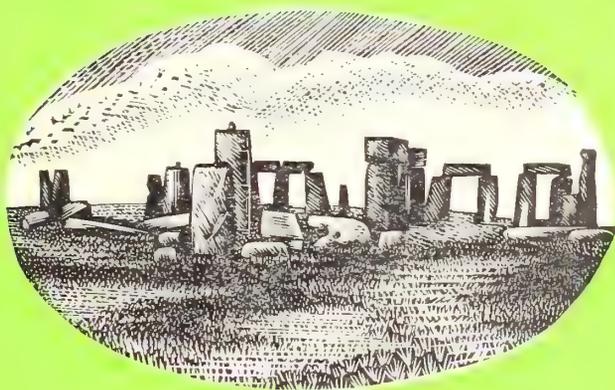
MAMMALS, REPTILES AND AMPHIBIA: Mr. J. H. Halliday, The College, Marlborough.

Back numbers of the Report of the Section can be obtained from Mrs. Egbert Barnes. Prices on application.

Copies of the Flora of Wiltshire, by Donald Grose, published by the Natural History Section, can be obtained from the Librarian at the Society's Museum, Devizes. 1957. pp. iv, 824. 42s.

THE WILTSHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY
MAGAZINE

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Number CCVIII December 1960 Volume 57

For the Record

"No excavation without publication" O. G. S. Crawford used to say; and that being so, Phoenix has contributed solidly to the progress of archaeology in recent years. In addition to the books mentioned below, published this year or scheduled for next, "Wilts Magazine" readers will remember Margary's **Roman Roads**, Cornwall's "**Bones for the Archaeologist**" and "**Soils for the Archaeologist**" as well as more lightly. **Cook's Medieval Parish Church** and Kathleen Kenyon's "**Beginnings in Archaeology**" (now being revised for a third edition).

A list of Phoenix Books on Archaeology is available on application, and ideas for other books will be welcomed.

Some Phoenix Books

of Interest to ARCHAEOLOGISTS

Paul Ashbee's

THE BRONZE AGE ROUND BARROW IN BRITAIN

This book sets the study of Bronze Age round barrows into historical perspective. The author shows how with the aid of archaeological arguments and techniques to the evidence of barrow structure, grave furniture, and the trappings of the dead, a picture of the life of the people who lie at the base of modern European civilization is possible.

Fully illustrated 50s. net

O. G. S. Crawford's ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE FIELD

Fully illustrated (Fourth Edition) 45s. net

I. W. Cornwall's—M. Maitland Howard's THE MAKING OF MAN

Two-colour line drawings throughout 10s. 6d. net

Norman Davey's HISTORY OF BUILDING MATERIALS

Fully illustrated 50s. net

Edward's Pyddoke's STRATIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGY

Illustrated coming 1961

G. H. Cook's ENGLISH MONASTERIES IN THE MIDDLE AGES

Illustrated coming 1961



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MULTORUM MANIBUS GRANDE LEVATUR ONUS

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THE SALISBURY AND SOUTH WILTS MUSEUM: FOUNDED 1860

By R. W. H. WILLOUGHBY

A provincial museum in fulfilling its function of acquisition, exhibition and exposition creates its own special character. An important part of this character is provided by the story of its development and the history of the acquisition of its exhibits, for a provincial museum is not merely a collection of objects in glass cases but an organic whole with its roots deep in the neighbourhood, drawing its nourishment from many sources, a memorial to those who have discovered and displayed the collections as well as to their creators. As this is the centenary of the foundation of the Salisbury and South Wilts Museum it may be appropriate to dwell on these things. The Salisbury museum is known today as the Salisbury, South Wilts and Blackmore Museum. The Blackmore Museum, opened as a private museum in 1867 and amalgamated with the Salisbury and South Wilts museum in 1878, is dealt with more fully in another article and only given a passing mention here.

The Drainage Collection. The mid-nineteenth century was as much a period of development as the mid-twentieth. The steam navy was carving the way for the railways, cities were glorying in their newly erected public buildings, water and drainage schemes were everywhere being undertaken, the population, which had nearly doubled since 1800, demanded new houses, and the red brick rows of Wellington Streets and Albert Terraces were stretching out from every town. Such changes then, as now, were likely to disinter the past. It is in the unromantic but necessary development of town drainage that we must look for our beginning.

During the first half of the century Salisbury was one of the unhealthiest towns in England. This was due to the canals or channels which ran through the streets. Once they had been the pride of a mediaeval town, which by diverting the river through them had devised an early form of main drainage. Now they were no more than open sewers. Cholera crept through the city in 1849, causing 165 deaths. In 1853 work began on the introduction of piped drainage and closed sewers. It is not surprising that during this work many finds should have been made.

Mr. Edward Brodie, of a well-known Salisbury family, once owners of the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, started to collect these finds which included numbers of keys, spoons and knives. His collection was exhibited on the occasion of the second Annual General Meeting of the Wiltshire Archaeological Society held in Salisbury from 13-15 September, 1854. A report of this meeting stated that Mr. Brodie had lately offered to present it as a nucleus of a museum to the city¹. The offer was not then accepted and it was not until 1860 that a committee was formed to purchase by subscription the Brodie collection with a view to forming a museum.

The subscribers to the 'Relic Fund,' having bought the Brodie collection, met on 23 April 1860, approved of the establishment of a local museum under trustees, formed a committee, appointed Mr. E. T. Stevens as secretary and treasurer, and fixed the annual subscription at a guinea.²

The Museum was now established, and consisted of the Brodie relics with additions, known as the Drainage Collection. Together with other exhibits it was temporarily housed in No. 1 Castle Street, next to the recently opened Market House, at a rent of £20 a year and was opened to the public for four hours a week on 13 June 1861. The Town Council were appointed trustees.³ In 1863 Dr. and Mrs. Fowler, who had been interested in the venture from the start, bought Nos. 40 and 42 St. Ann St., formerly

belonging to Colonel Baker, and conveyed it to the trustees. Dr. Fowler, who died in 1863 aged 98, was a famous Salisbury figure, physician to Salisbury Infirmary from 1796 to 1847, a Fellow of the Royal Society and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.⁴ The new museum now much enlarged, with Mr. E. T. Stevens as General Secretary and Curator, was opened with a public meeting in the Council House, followed by a procession to the building, on 27 January 1864.⁵

The Background. As the museum was a child of its age and belongs to the great period of provincial museum foundations—it was one of the first fifty to be opened in England—it may be of interest to say something of the background to its birth.

The circumstances of the mid-nineteenth century were peculiarly favourable to the idea of museums. Scientific thought influenced by Lyell, Darwin, and Huxley had aroused particular interest in geology, prehistoric archaeology and natural history. An interest in natural history had also been furthered by the fashion of the gentleman naturalist started in the previous century by men like Gilbert White. Another of these new subjects, ethnology, was perennially stimulated by the traffic, scientific, commercial, military and missionary, to the outposts of Empire. The study of these subjects, still mainly the work of the amateur, was conducive to the making of collections, and the public works everywhere being undertaken provided a wealth of specimens. The collecting habit, such a feature of the Victorian Age, was of course not new, but during the past fifty years it had spread from the aristocracy, who by going on the Grand Tour had cultivated an interest in antiquities, to the new prosperous middle classes. Aristocrats, like Sir Richard Colt Hoare of Stourhead, kept their collections in their great houses, which had often been partly designed for that purpose and these became one of the features of the estate. The collections of the Victorians were more numerous, often more specialised, and more liable to dispersal. Thus plenty of material was available for the formation of museums.

It was logical that in this situation museums open to the public should be established in many towns. Their success, however, depended on the interest of a public, particularly of the civic authorities. The atmosphere was favourable. The Great Exhibition of 1851, in itself part museum, had set a fashion for provincial exhibitions, commercial and cultural, and temporary museums were a common accompaniment to the conversaciones and meetings of local societies. The Bishop of Salisbury, the Museum's first President, in his speech at the opening of the new museum in St. Ann St. expressed the current views on the moral and educational advantages of such a venture. The prevention of juvenile delinquency, the help it would give to adult education, the contribution it could make to the upsetting problem of the marriage of science and theology 'I conceive that this Museum has been instituted in order to help forward the study especially of natural science.'⁶ There were local reasons particular to Salisbury. Collections were, it seemed, being lost to the town for want of somewhere to put them. Akerman, the Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, had excavated an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Harnham in 1853. The finds had gone to the British Museum.⁷ In 1854 he had excavated in a field opposite the entrance to Old Sarum, following on the ploughing up of human bones, and had found a burial accompanied by a pewter chalice and paten.⁸ This went to the British Museum. Mr. Grove, the High Sheriff, in his speech at the St. Ann St. opening spoke of a drought revealing as crop marks the foundations of the Old Sarum cathedral and of finds going to the British Museum; and the Duke collection of prehistoric antiquities at Lake House was one that would have probably come to Salisbury had there been a museum for it.⁹ To Mr. E. T. Stevens and many others these were urgent reasons for a museum.¹⁰

The Museum in 1864. In 1864 the St. Ann St. museum occupied two rooms: a gallery leading off the street, and behind it the magnificent circular room with its fine plaster ceiling, said to have been done by Italian craftsmen living in Exeter Street. This was built by Colonel Baker as a dining room about 1812 and is now the Wilkes Room. There is a story that this room is the result of a wager as to which of three men could produce the best dinner, the setting to count as part of the dinner.¹¹

The collections were grouped in the following Departments:—Ethnological, Mediaeval, Mammalian remains from the Pleistocene, and Birds. Each Department was under an honorary curator.¹²

The ethnological material contained palaeolithic flints from local gravels and finds from the Swiss Lake villages (presented by Archdeacon Harris of Salisbury and his brother Admiral Harris, H.M. Minister at Berne). This, together with modern stone implements from primitive tribes, was exhibited so as to show the development of tool and weapon making, a theme adopted later for the Blackmore Museum, opened in 1867, into which these exhibits were incorporated. A case contained forgeries of Flint Jack¹³ and the catalogue has an interesting paragraph on the methods of that craftsman, quoting him as saying that he was also ‘good at mediaeval seals or British urns.’

The Mediaeval section contained the ‘Drainage Collection,’ today in the Marsh Room.

The Mammalian remains, today in the Blackmore, were collected by Dr. Blackmore, and the British Birds by Mr. Henry Blackmore, both brothers of William Blackmore the creator of the Blackmore Museum.

Finance. Until 1913 the museum was run entirely by the voluntary efforts of its members. Money came from subscriptions and donations and it was fourteen years after the death of Dr. Wilkes in 1899 (when the museum was in debt to its treasurer) before the first major legacy was received.¹⁴ In spite of this the financial position worsened until 1917 when the situation was relieved by further Wilkes bequests following the death of his widow. The building was still half its present size and except for a few small rooms extending south from the Fowler Room ended with the Circular Room. It was not until 1923, when Mr. William Wyndham of Orchard Wyndham, Taunton, and formerly of Dinton, gave the first of what was to be a series of large sums of money, that the straitened finances were relieved. Wyndham’s gifts enabled the three galleries, named after him, and workshops and offices, to be built, a Specimen Fund to be started and many other improvements to be made. In 1928 the Salisbury Education Committee gave a subscription of £50 and the City increased their subscription to the same amount. Today the City subscribe £250 a year and the Wiltshire County Council £675. The City continued as trustees until 1904 when a new constitution was made and representatives of the City were appointed members of the committee. The first professional curator was Mr. Frank Stevens who was appointed in 1913. Hitherto there had been a General Curator or Director (until 1913 unpaid) who had been assisted by honorary departmental curators. Since its beginning the museum has been open to the public free of charge.

It is not proposed to give a detailed account of the many phases of the museum’s development, which has already been described by Frank Stevens in *The Salisbury Museums 1861-1947*, but rather to illustrate with selected items its valuable contribution to the record not only of Salisbury and South Wilts but of Great Britain.

Stonehenge Finds. Salisbury, the gateway to Salisbury Plain, must always be involved with the unparalleled richness of the prehistoric remains in its vicinity and consequently with the antiquaries attracted to them. John Evans, E. T. Stevens, William and Dr. Humphrey Blackmore, Frank Stevens, Colonel Hawley, Heywood Sumner, Robert Newall, Dr. Stone, Professor Piggott have all been in some way, often closely, associated with the museum. Where their finds are exhibited interest is increased by the association with them and their discoveries, which were often of national as well as local importance.

The gallery known as Wyndham II, opened in 1929, is devoted to Stonehenge and contains some of the finds of Colonel Hawley’s excavations from 1919-26 for the Society of Antiquaries. For some of the time he was assisted by Mr. Newall. These were the last excavations to be undertaken before those completed in 1959. Their discoveries included the Y and Z holes and the Aubrey Holes. The finding of the latter were due to Mr. Newall who suggested that certain ‘cavities’ described in the 17th century

by John Aubrey, and since forgotten, should be investigated. He also suggested that they should be named after Aubrey. Also in Wyndham II is the 'blue stone' block found by William Cunnington in 1801 during his excavation of Bole's Barrow, the long barrow on the down above Heytesbury in the Wylye valley. Its link with Stonehenge is of course, that it comes from the Prescelly mountains in West Wales whence came the Stonehenge 'blue stones'. Cunnington found a ridge of large stones above the burials. 'I discovered amongst them the Blue hard stone the same to some of the upright stones in the inner circle at Stonehenge'. He took ten of these, including the 'blue' stone, to his house opposite Heytesbury House. The blue stone was later moved into the garden of Heytesbury House, where it stayed until 1934, when it was presented to the museum. This stone, the only link with Cunnington, underlines the absence of material from the famous collections of Hoare and Cunnington which went to the Wiltshire Archaeological Society.¹⁵

Dr. Stone's Finds. In Wyndham III are finds from the excavations of the late Dr. J. F. S. Stone, a number of which are illustrated in his book *Wessex before the Celts*. There is no need to repeat here what Professor Piggott has already said about the importance of Dr. Stone's work.¹⁶ The case in Wyndham II identifying axes of igneous rock with their place of origin is a striking exposition of Neolithic trade routes, about which Dr. Stone discovered much. A segmented faience bead from Easton Down, near Salisbury, alongside a similar bead from Tel el Amara, Egypt, of the 15th century B.C., is a token of his pioneer work on faience ornaments of the Bronze Age, one of the most dramatic stories in British pre-history. Colt Hoare illustrated these heirlooms of the Bronze Age peoples in *Ancient Wiltshire*; they appear in the necklace of beads that decorate the border of the title page. Colt Hoare of course had no idea of their origin. One is sorry that he never knew that he had found evidence of trade with the great Bronze Age civilizations of the eastern Mediterranean, exploits that linked the blue waters of the *Odyssey* with the wild ridgeways of Wessex, a tale so much more romantic than anything conceived by the romantic imaginations of his time.

Iron Age Material. Salisbury lies in the midst of the classic area for the remains of Iron Age farms and their, now rapidly disappearing, Celtic fields. Although the museum has some of the finds from Dr. G. Bersu's famous excavations in 1938-9 at Little Woodbury on the outskirts of the city, much of the Iron Age material comes from much earlier discoveries. The finds from Highfield, now part of Salisbury, once cultivated ground near the Devizes Road, must be some of the first to have been recorded and preserved. They were exhibited in the Blackmore Museum at its opening in 1867 and described by E. T. Stevens in *Flint Chips*¹⁷; his account also mentions other finds of a similar nature elsewhere in the country. The pits that the finds came out of were thought to be pit dwellings, now of course believed to be storage pits. They were then forgotten until Frank Stevens republished the material in the Wiltshire Archaeological Society's Magazine (1934, xlvii, 579-624) with a description of the pottery and bone implements by Mr., now Professor, Christopher Hawkes. In 1866, Mr. A. T. Adlam, a market gardener, had discovered filled-in pits in the chalk beneath the top soil, together with large numbers of burnt flints, bones and potsherds. He consulted Dr. Blackmore and E. T. Stevens who assisted him in his excavations. For their time remarkably good records were kept and the pottery was drawn. This was of course before any clear picture of a British Early Iron Age period had emerged. E. T. Stevens describes the discovery in a letter, dated 15 May 1866, to his brother-in-law William Blackmore, who paid later for the excavations to be continued, when some sixty pits and a number of ditches were examined. 'Highly interesting as bearing upon the lost history of a people who appear to have lived contemporary with the red deer and *bos longifrons* at Salisbury—to have used bone needles—bone combs—granted everything is broken just as if we had stumbled upon a rubbish heap yet we appear to have opened a new page in the history of the forgotten inhabitants of these parts.'¹⁸

Roman Material. New Forest Pottery. The Roman material is notable for the collection of New Forest pottery, one of the finest in the country. It comes mainly from the excavations of Canon Bartlett (from 1852), Rev. G. S. Master (from 1869), Heywood Sumner (from 1914), and Mr. H. S. W. Edwardes (from 1921). Canon Bartlett was the discoverer of New Forest pottery. In his letter to Akerman published in *Archaeologia*¹⁹, he relates how in 1852 he was told of the quantities of potsherds to be found on 'Crockle', or Crock Hill, a place not at that time marked on the map but traditionally so called. On Crock Hill, a few miles east of Fordingbridge, he found three large mounds like large 'depressed barrows.' Two proved to be kilns, the third was an ash heap. G. S. Master excavated a large deposit of pottery, mainly New Forest ware, at Holbury, East Dean in 1869²⁰, and a villa site at West Dean in 1871-73.²¹ This villa had previously been excavated in 1846 but had been discovered in 1741. The 1741 discovery of the pavement there was famous because of its removal to London where it was exhibited at the Golden Cross Inn, Charing Cross. It was also taken to the Society of Antiquaries by a Mr. Daniel Reeves of West Dean. 'The Society being obliged by the sight ordered Mr. Vertue to give the man half a guinea.' The pavement has disappeared. When the villa was being excavated in 1846 more pavements were discovered. The Museum has some coloured drawings of the designs, drawn probably by Hatcher.²² The pottery collection from Holbury was dispersed. Later Frank Stevens rescued some of it from a drawer in West Dean village school, and recently, in 1950, another portion appeared in a sale at Plymouth and was bought by the Museum.

Heywood Sumner, F.S.A., (1853-1940) for several years a member of the museum committee, was well known, not only for his archaeological work in the New Forest and Cranborne Chase, but also for his achievements as an artist. He was an associate of William Morris, Burne Jones and Walter Crane (with whom he illustrated Southeran's edition of Wise's *New Forest*), in the Artworkers Guild and the Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society.²³ His archaeological drawings have a distinctive style and combine meticulous draughtsmanship with a rare pictorial quantity.

Mr. H. S. W. Edwardes' excavations at Armsley, Godshill, near Fordingbridge produced a quantity of pottery and indications of iron smelting.²⁴ The museum is now undertaking further excavations on this site.

Wilton Bowl. A thing apart is the Wilton Bowl. This bowl, on loan from the Earl of Pembroke, was found in 1866 during drainage works at Wilton, between the Abbey and Kingsbury Square. It was once thought to have belonged to Wilton Abbey and was described in Nightingale's *Church Plate of Wilts* (27 ill.) as an Anglo-Saxon vessel. Today it is classed as one of the hanging bowls in the Celtic style of the 5th century A.D.²⁵

Anglo-Saxon Cemetery Finds. Seven of the twelve Anglo-Saxon cemeteries recorded in Wiltshire were in the south of the county.²⁶ Two of these were on the outskirts of Salisbury and one was within the city itself. One was discovered in 1771 by H. P. Wyndham under the city ramparts, which he was levelling where they passed through the gardens of his house on the site of St. Edmund's College, now the Council House.²⁷ Akerman excavated a cemetery in Low Field, East Harnham in 1853, his attention having been called to objects found by Robert Wallan, the 'drowner' of the watermeadows of a farm occupied by Mr. William Fawcett.²⁸ The third and most recent discovery was that of the cemetery at Petersfinger, in the parish of Clarendon, excavated for the museum in 1948 by Professor and Mrs. Stuart Piggott, Dr. J. F. S. Stone and Mr. R. J. C. Atkinson, and completed by Mr. R. S. Newall in 1951. A description of the finds by E. T. Leeds and H. de S. Shortt was published in 1953.²⁹ A large selection of the finds from Petersfinger and a few objects from the other two cemeteries are in Wyndham III.

Mediaeval Collections. The Mediaeval collections are notable for the outstanding collection of pottery, the metalwork in the Drainage Collection and certain pieces of sculpture. Much of the material

comes from the well known major excavations at Old Sarum and Clarendon Palace, as well as from the smaller, but often most revealing, excavations of local bodies such as the Salisbury Field Club and the Museum.

The only large scale excavation of Old Sarum has been that done by Colonel Hawley, Sir William Hope, and D. H. Montgomerie, 1909-1915, and published in the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries. Hatcher, the historian of Salisbury, was the first to discover the outline of the Norman cathedral. During the drought of 1834 'traces of the western end of the building at first manifested themselves. These became daily more distinct'³⁰. Borings were made with the assistance of the Clerk of Works to Salisbury Cathedral, and in the following year, Dr. Fowler, the museum's benefactor, paid for more excavations. Akerman in the 19th century,³¹ and Dr. J. F. S. Stone and Mr. John Charlton³², Mr. J. W. G. Musty and Mr. Philip Rahtz³³ in the present century have all excavated in the East Suburb.

The Head of Christ, found in the garden of the North Canonry,³⁴ and believed to have come from Old Sarum was recently lent to the Exhibition of Romanesque Art at Manchester. Also believed to be from Old Sarum is the finely carved capital of lias,—almost identical with one found at Glastonbury which seems to have been imported from Flanders ready carved.³⁵ This capital is traditionally thought to have been discovered by Hatcher during his excavations of 1834.

Clarendon Palace was excavated by Professor Tancred Borenius and Mr. John Charlton in 1933-38. From here came the exquisitely carved stone head of a youth, described by Borenius as 'Gothic art in its earliest and finest flower . . . Surely here is a work which holds its own with the finest early Gothic sculpture of France, at Chartres, or anywhere'³⁶. Clarendon proved to be one of the most important mediaeval tile sites in England and the discovery of a tile kiln was of outstanding importance in the dating of mediaeval tiles.

An interesting and important connection with Clarendon is the recent find of a late 13th century pottery at Laverstock, within the ancient bounds of Clarendon Forest; this was excavated for the Museum by Mr. J. W. G. Musty in 1958. Several times in recent years signs of mediaeval occupation suggestive of a kiln site were noticed in the area, but it was not until a bulldozer disturbed a kiln during the development of a housing estate in 1958 that the kilns were located. Six kilns with a vast quantity of waster sherds, and a number of complete jugs were discovered. Most of the pottery was glazed. Pots, 'face jugs' and ridge tiles were being manufactured: some of the designs were identical with those found on sherds at Clarendon Palace and it seems evident that the Laverstock kilns were manufacturing for the royal household. This find proves to be a major contribution to the study of English 13th century ceramics.³⁷

Keys. The Drainage Collection, which, as we have seen, started with the Brodie relics and became the nucleus of the museum, contains a remarkable series of keys from the 13th to the 18th centuries, and is especially valuable to students of English mediaeval lock work.³⁸ Brodie's collection had been described to the Society of Antiquaries by Akerman in 1854.³⁹ It is reported that a representative of the Wiltshire Archaeological Society had come from Devizes to Salisbury with a view to buying the collection at the Brodie sale, but that on hearing that Salisbury was starting its own museum refrained from doing so.⁴⁰ It is appropriate that this, the centenary year, the museum should be investigating the line of one of the city's old drainage canals, temporarily revealed by town development.

Later Material. The later material, like the Drainage Collection, is, with exceptions such as the Roland Mole Collection of Bygones, closely connected with the history of Salisbury. The range is great; from Hob Nob, the giant, still carried through the city on special occasions, to the cast iron mask from Brunel's old Salisbury station, once the Fisherton terminus, now part demolished; from Salisbury cutlery, famous from at least the 16th until the 19th centuries, to notes issued by Salisbury Old Bank

(Pinckney's). The possession of so many things illustrative of a city's past, items alone sometimes trivial, but in company with others vastly significant, emphasises how a public museum attracts that which but for its existence would inevitably be lost, not only to the district but often altogether.

Especially interesting are those things connected with the ceremonial of commerce and the regulation of trade. There are the former possessions of the old City Companies: the golden loaf carried by the Bakers, the drinking cup shoe of the Cordwainers, and the fine pewter of the Joiners.⁴¹ There are some of the city's former standard weights and measures including the Winchester bushel given to the city by Henry VII on the institution of this measure as a national standard. There are other standard measures from the 16th, 18th and 19th centuries and there is a 19th century toll dish from the market.

There is too the City Watchman's Horn, one of the survivals from the destruction by fire of the old Council House in 1785. It is inscribed: 'Thomas Shergold, George Clemens, Thomas Wansborough, Peter Phelps. Head Constable. Night Watch.'⁴²

In the Nightingale Room (opened in 1895), there is a representative collection of Wiltshire yeomanry, volunteer, and militia uniforms, badges, and insignia. There is the standard of the Westbury Volunteer Cavalry recruited in 1798 and amalgamated with the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry about 1803. There are the Colours of the New Sarum Armed Association, 1799-1806, buttons and badges of the Old Sarum Volunteers c. 1800 and the Avon and Bourne Volunteers Battalion, c. 1806. There is a major's uniform of the 2nd (Devizes) Militia, formed in 1804, and an officer's coatee of the 1st (Marlborough) Local Wilts Militia, and uniforms of the Salisbury Volunteer Infantry—Brodie's Volunteers—1831-1840. Lt.-Col. W. B. Brodie, M.P. was of the same family as the collector of the Drainage relics.

Two other collections remain to be mentioned viz:—The China and the Birds.

China. 'La fièvre de la Ceramique,' wrote a Frenchman of the passion for collecting china that animated the *salons* of mid-nineteenth century England and France. About the time of the museum's formation a number of china collectors used to meet in Salisbury.⁴³ Amongst them were Mr. J. Nightingale, one of the museum's curators and the author of the *History of Early English Porcelain* published in Salisbury in 1881,⁴⁴ Sir Arthur Church the author of *English Porcelain*, and Mr. and Lady Charlotte Schreiber, one of the most famous of all china collectors who started collecting in 1865, and on a visit to Salisbury in 1869 noted in her Journal ' . . . went on to Targetts in the High Street. There C. S. discovered a clumsy blue and white jug, handle terminating in a heart, Bow (3/-)'.⁴⁵ The museum followed the fashion and in 1870 a loan collection of British porcelain was exhibited in the museum;⁴⁶ an exhibition of Sèvres porcelain followed in 1871, and in 1872 there was an exhibition of statuary in china which included Schreiber material.⁴⁷ Undoubtedly as a result of the interest thus aroused bequests of china and glass came to the museum so that today the Wilkes Room houses a comprehensive and outstanding collection. Bequests came from, amongst others, Sir A. W. Franks, a well known collector and Director of the British Museum, Dr. Wilkes (who left his superb collection), Dr. Blackmore, Mr. Young, and Mr. D. Eyre. Probably the most notable pieces are the Bow figures representing the ' Five Senses ' and a Bow inkstand of 1750.⁴⁸

Birds. The problem of adequately presenting birds, perhaps indifferently mounted a hundred years before, afflicts many museums. That the Salisbury specimens have weathered the years so well is due largely to Mr. R. Newall who some years ago re-organised and cleaned the collection. The outstanding exhibit is the case of Great Bustards (*Otis tarda*) mounted by Rowland Ward in 1924 at Mr. Wyndham's expense. These birds which had disappeared from Britain in the 1830's re-appeared as migrants in the winters of the 1870's. Some of those exhibited were shot in 1871 on the downs near Maddington and Berwick St. James. Mr. E. T. Stevens ate one and thought ' it very tender and good . . . some thought it tasted like golden plover'.⁴⁹ A male is shown in its remarkable attitude of display when a mainly sandy coloured bird is suddenly transformed into an exploding mass of white curving feathers. The

wing feathers spread out, twist round and separate from one another, the tail fans, turns forward on to its back, the moustachial feathers bristle, and, with the head pulled into its shoulders, the pouch in the gullet distended, it assumes all the grotesque majesty of a heraldic beast.

Looking back over the hundred years we have seen the museum grow, as others have grown, from a small collection rescued from the gutters of Salisbury, temporarily housed in a room in the Market House, to a galleried museum rich in examples of the material culture of its surroundings, where pleasure, learning and inspiration may be had for the the asking. The emphasis on the discoveries of the Old Stone Age, a subject so exciting to the mid-Victorians, has lessened, that on later material, with its local associations, increased, whilst ethnological material has been removed as being outside the scope of the museum.

‘Antiquities,’ wrote a 17th century playwright, ‘are the registers, the chronicles of the age they were made in, and speak the truth of history better than a hundred of your printed commentaries.’⁵⁰ But nevertheless printed commentaries must speak of the museum’s servants, their curators.

The Curators. The establishment and successful direction of the museum is largely due to the Salisbury families of Stevens and Blackmore, connected in business and by marriage. Stevens and Blackmore were a firm of woollen drapers and tailors in Minster Street, and as prosperous members of the mid-Victorian middle classes, in the spirit of their time, they regarded the establishment of the museum not only as a place of interest for the cultured but as a source of enlightenment for the working classes. Thus entrance was free and opening times were arranged so that people could come after they had finished work.

E. T. Stevens, F.S.A., the first General Curator, later Director, continued as such until his death in 1878⁵¹. He was succeeded by his brother-in-law Dr. Humphrey Blackmore until 1913. His son Frank Stevens then became Resident Curator and later Director until his death in 1949. A remarkable record.

E. T. Stevens was educated at the private school of the Salisbury historian, Hatcher, in Endless Street. He married Ellen, sister of Humphrey and William Blackmore. He was more than anyone else responsible for the museum’s initial success. He wrote the papers, corresponded with the authorities of his time, compiled the museum’s catalogue. He was largely responsible for the organisation and arrangement of the Blackmore Museum, and wrote ‘*Flint Chips*’, a detailed account of its contents and a good summary of the early days of the study of prehistoric archaeology. His ideas on museums may be illustrated by the following suggestion for a lecture room for the Blackmore Museum, ‘with the view at a future day of setting it up as a thoroughly comfortable room for library, cabinets of coins, collections of photographs—in fact to make it look like the Drawing Room of a Scientific Man—this room would also be placed at the disposal of the Scientific visitor who wished to study objects in the collection in a more private manner than could be possible in the Museum itself.’⁵² Lack of money prevented its being built and it was more than ninety years before his idea was fulfilled when Sir Thomas Kendrick opened the present library in 1951 as a memorial to Frank Stevens, E. T. Stevens’ son.

Frank Stevens, O.B.E., F.S.A. was the curator of the museum we see today. It represents thirty-six years of passionate interest. In 1913 he found a museum that had become grossly overcrowded; interest in it was dwindling and the finances were exhausted. When he died in 1949 it was one of the best provincial museums in the country. He must be remembered too for his museum educational work which he started in 1916, giving classes to school children on local history, archaeology and natural history; between January 1916 and February 1919 there had been 8451 attendances at 423 classes, most of the children coming from the elementary and secondary Schools of Salisbury.⁵³ The museum is his true memorial.⁵⁴

Today Mrs. Stevens, Frank Stevens’ widow, the last of that long family association, still assists in the

arrangement of exhibits. In the past she has been responsible for the arrangement of the dresses and uniforms and she made the finely modelled figures on which the dresses and uniforms are displayed, an art which is especially her own.

Dr. Blackmore, successor to E. T. Stevens, and with him curator of his brother William Blackmore's museum, an early student of the geology of the neighbourhood, died aged 94 in 1929, the last of the founders of the museum.⁵⁵ There is too Mr. R. S. Newall, an Antiquary, a member of the museum since 1916 and one of the old departmental curators, naturalist and archaeologist, actively associated with most of the important excavations in the neighbourhood, who has given for so long so much of his knowledge and skill.

Finally there is Hugh Shortt, the present curator, whose kindness in silently suffering the invasion of his office and the excavation of his files is typical of his generous service. It is twenty-three years since he was appointed, nearly a quarter of the Museum's lifetime. He is indeed part of its history.

Benefactors. Besides the curators three great benefactors must be mentioned. Dr. Fowler who by his gifts made the idea possible, Dr. Wilkes who bequeathed not only money but also his superb collection of china, and William Wyndham (President 1930-33) whose successive gifts enabled galleries to be built, thereby nearly doubling the size of the museum. William Wyndham, who was a great benefactor to many schools and museums in the south-west, died in 1950.⁵⁶

This then is the story of Salisbury Museum and in this brief account there must be many omissions, but the subject being a museum can be seen and museums must always be more eloquent than words.

¹ *W.A.M.*, 1855 ii, 31.

² MSS. Salisbury Museum.

³ *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 15 June 1861.

⁴ Obituary. *Ibid.* 13 April, 1863

⁵ Proceedings at Inauguration, 27 January 1864. Re-printed for museum from *The Wiltshire County Mirror*.

⁶ *Ibid.* 6-16.

⁷ *Archaeologia*, 1853, xxxv, 259-78, 475-9, ill.

⁸ *Ibid.* 1855, xxxvi (1), 182-183, fig.

⁹ Sale by Sotheby, 1895. *W.A.M.* xxviii, 260-262.

¹⁰ *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 28 April 1860.

¹¹ *W.A.M.*, 1948, 307-17.

¹² *Descriptive Catalogue of the Salisbury and South Wilts Museum*. Illustrated edition. 1864.

¹³ *Antiquity*, 1953, xxvii. No. 108. pp. 207-11, ill.

¹⁴ *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum, Annual Report*, 1913-14.

¹⁵ R. J. C. Atkinson. *Stonehenge*. Hamish Hamilton, 1956, and references given.

¹⁶ Obituary. *W.A.M.*, 1958, ccvi, 89 (contains a bibliography).

¹⁷ E. T. Stevens. *Flint Chips*. London, 1870.

¹⁸ MSS. Salisbury Museum-Highfield box (with drawings).

¹⁹ *Archaeologia*, 1853, xxxv, 91-99, ill.

²⁰ *W.A.M.*, 1872, xiii, 33-41, 276-9, ill.

²¹ *Ibid.*, 1885, xxii, 243-250 (with plan) *V. C. H. Wilts*, i, 119.

²² *Ibid.* 1872, xiii, 34.

²³ Obituary, *Proc. Hants Field Club and Arch. Soc.*, 1941, xv (1).

²⁴ *Proc. Hants Field Club and Arch. Soc.*, 1927, x.

²⁵ J. Nightingale. *Church Plate of Wilts*, 1891, 27-29, ill.

²⁶ *W.A.M.*, 1933, xlv, 147-175.

²⁷ *V. C. H. Wilts*, i, 102.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, *Archaeologia*, 1853, xxxv, 259-278, ill., 475-479, ill.

²⁹ E. T. Leeds and H. de S. Shortt. *An Anglo Saxon Cemetery at Petersfinger, near Salisbury, Wilts*. Salisbury 1953. Also *V. C. H. Wilts*, i, 58.

³⁰ R. Benson and H. Hatcher. *Old and New Sarum*, Vol. vi. *History of Modern Wilts*, 1843, 23-24.

³¹ *Archaeologia*, 1855, xxxvi, 182-184, fig.

³² *Antiquaries J.* 1935, xv, 174-192 fig, plan.

³³ *W.A.M.*, 1959, ccvii, 179-191, fig.

³⁴ *Archaeological J.*, 1953, cx, 117.

³⁵ T. S. R. Boase. *Oxford History of English Art*, iii, 220 and illustration.

³⁶ T. Borenius. *Burlington Magazine* April, 1936.

³⁷ *W.A.M.*, 1959, ccvii, 236-7. *Medieval Arch*, 1958, ii, 213

³⁸ W. E. W. Penny. *Connoisseur*, 1911, xxix, Jan, ill.

³⁹ *Archaeologia*, 1855, xxxvi, 71-73, ill.

⁴⁰ *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 14 Sept. 1867.

⁴¹ A. Sutherland-Graeme. *Connoisseur*, 1949, June 102-105, ill.

⁴² *W.A.M.*, 1896, xxviii, 56, ill.

⁴³ Frank Stevens. *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum Annual Report*, 1948-49, ill.

⁴⁴ Also author of *Church Plate of Wilts*, 1891, Salisbury.

⁴⁵ Catalogue of Schreiber Collection, 1928, Bernard Rackham, i, 13.

⁴⁶ *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 4 June 1870. Article reprinted as pamphlet for Museum.

⁴⁷ *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 29 June 1872. Account by Raphael W. Read, reprinted, as pamphlet for Museum.

⁴⁸ British Museum Catalogue. Bow Porcelain—Cat. (Note Cat. No. 9). Special Exhibition 1959-60. Only three examples of this inkstand are known—at B. M., Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge and at the Salisbury Museum.

⁴⁹ E. T. Stevens. *Jottings*. Salisbury. 1876. 209-215.

⁵⁰ Shakerley Marmion. *The Antiquary* 1641. Dramatic Works, 1875, 199. Quoted by Joan Evans in *A History of the Society of Antiquaries*. Oxford 1959.

⁵¹ Obituary. *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 24 Aug. 1878.

⁵² MS. Salisbury Museum. Letter E. T. Stevens to William Blackmore, 2 April 1864. (Box. Correspondence with E. T. S. 1864-5).

⁵³ Frank Stevens. *Some account of the Educational Work done at the Salisbury Museum, 1916-1919*. Published by *Salisbury Times*, 1919.

⁵⁴ Obituary. *W.A.M.* 1949. liii. 269.

⁵⁵ Obituary. *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 8 Feb. 1929.

⁵⁶ Obituary. *Proc. Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society*, 1950 xcv.

THE BLACKMORE MUSEUM

By R. W. H. WILLOUGHBY

There remain in this country a few museums which are in themselves part of the archaeological record. The Pitt-Rivers Museum at Farnham in Dorset is one.¹ This building erected by General Pitt-Rivers in 1880 for some of his ethnographical and archaeological collections illustrates the beginning of scientific method in archaeology, of which he has been called the father; and the collections with the scale models of his excavations and the typologically arranged material portray the new approach of which he was both pioneer and master.

Another such museum is the Blackmore Museum in Salisbury, once a private collection and now a part of the Salisbury, South Wilts and Blackmore Museum.² This museum, which was opened in 1867 after four years collecting, is another landmark in archaeological history and illustrates the beginning of prehistoric archaeology. Although it has since been re-arranged and some of the material dispersed, enough remains to show us its original nature.

The building with its hammer beam roof tricked out in many colours, its Gothic style windows beneath which are emblazoned the arms of the countries of origin of the exhibits, the arcaded background of the wall cases, the long twisted brass pendants for the ornamental gas jets, ('every other strand should be painted red and the effect will be that the chandelier hangs by a red and gold twisted cord,') the Minton encaustic tiled floor inlaid with the arms and initials of its founder, is all that a mid-Victorian antiquary could wish for.

But whereas the Pitt-Rivers Museum commemorates the work of a particular man the Blackmore belongs to an epoch; viz. that of the beginning of prehistoric archaeology; and the interest of the Blackmore collections lies not so much in its archaeological material as in its historical connections.

The collection was made when for the first time archaeologists were becoming aware of the different periods of the remote past. The three Age system which had been developed in the Scandinavian countries during the first half of the century was now being generally accepted³ and further divisions were beginning to emerge. The Stone Age was being thought of in periods of chipped and polished stone, or as Drift and Surface periods. The word Neolithic had just been coined while Archaeolithic still vied with Palaeolithic for acceptance. Sir John Lubbock in *Prehistoric Times*, published in 1865, first proposes (page 2) the word Palaeolithic as a term for the Drift, the first period of the twofold division of the Stone Age, but later in the same book (page 60) suggests the word Archaeolithic.⁴ The confusion of Britons, Romans, Danes and Druids that had arisen from trying to fit every discovery into a racial and historical background was resolving and archaeological periods had begun to emerge. These developments were of course part of the revolutionary ideas concerning man and his past that dominated the thought of the mid-nineteenth century. Darwin had published *The Origin of Species* in 1859 and the year of the museum's foundation saw the appearance of Lyell's *Geological Evidence for the Antiquity of Man*, and Huxley's *Man's Place in Nature*; and it was John Evans, one of the principal speakers at the museum's opening ceremonies and an important contributor to the exhibits, who, with the geologist John Prestwich, had visited Boucher de Perthes in North France in 1859 and affirmed that the stone implements that he had been collecting from the Somme gravels for the past twenty years had been made by man at a very remote period when the gravels were being laid down.⁵ The routing of French scepticism over the age of man-made tools led other people to search in their local gravels, and soon discoveries became frequent. The Salisbury gravels were explored and Dr. Blackmore (William Blackmore's brother) and other Salisbury people found stone implements at Fisherton brick-fields, Bemerton and Milford Hill.⁶ Some of these were examined by Prestwich and those that were similar to those he had seen with Boucher de Perthes in the Somme gravels were placed in the collection. Excavations

could now be made in a new light and fresh discoveries became the first of a new era. Later a nomenclature based on the type site was borrowed from geology and the sites of these first discoveries are now famous as the name of cultures.⁷ It was from such sites that the Blackmore collection was obtained and so derives its historical interest.

The nucleus of the Blackmore collection, however, came not from Europe but from America. Mr. Blackmore while in America visited the Squier and Davis ethnographical and archaeological collection. The archaeological material had come from large mounds of unknown origin in the Mississippi valley and he wished to compare it with the finds he had seen dug out of the barrows on Salisbury Plain. Dr. Davis offered his collection to the New York Historical Society who would not pay the price asked, and at the time of Mr. Blackmore's visit in 1864 it had been in the Society's cellars for three years. Mr. Blackmore bought the collection for 10,000 dollars and adding to it other aboriginal material brought it over to England. As a collection of antiquities of the American Stone Age it was considered unequalled.⁸ The bulk of the collection was bought by the British Museum in 1930. Squier and Davis had published an account of their Mississippi excavations in 1848.⁹ These mounds which were of a sacred or sepulchral nature contained inhumations and cremations with associated objects of stone and pottery. Most of the archaeological material belongs to the Hopewell Culture.¹⁰ Mr. Blackmore, assisted by his brother Dr. Blackmore of Salisbury and his brother-in-law Mr. Stevens, then set about adding to it. Mr. Blackmore was a busy man and much of his work fell to Mr. Stevens and Dr. Blackmore, who were appointed curators. It was Mr. Stevens more than anyone who was responsible for the final collection, and moreover it was on his suggestion that Mr. Blackmore brought the Squier and Davis collection to Salisbury.

They sought first of all to exhibit the earliest known work of man and to show the ubiquity of stone implements. Consequently they obtained examples from many parts of the world, namely from Britain, France, Gibraltar, Algeria, Mesopotamia, Egypt and India. They also sought to explain the use of these objects by comparing them with those still being used by primitive tribes. They therefore showed a number of arrows, spears, hafted axes, ornaments and other material used by Polynesians, North American Indians, Esquimaux and others still in a Stone Age. A series of mammalian remains from the Drift, particularly from the Salisbury gravels, was added. This included mammoth, reindeer and bison bones from Fisherton. They also obtained other bones from the caves of south-west France. Although the collection was primarily one of the Stone Age, copper and bronze implements, particularly from Ireland, were displayed but it was thought that they would have to be moved elsewhere to make room for additional Stone Age material. As it happened this did not take place and in fact the Brackstone collection, largely of Irish bronze age material, was bought for £350.¹¹ One gets an idea of the original appearance of the museum from an engraving on the front page of the Illustrated London News of 14 September 1867, where all is seen to be in the best taste of the time. (Plate I.)

Small wonder then that the opening should be a very special occasion for Salisbury.¹² At 1.15 p.m. on Thursday, September 5 1867, a procession left the Council Chamber. Headed by the City police and the mace-bearer, the Mayor and Corporation in their ceremonial robes followed by the Bishop of Salisbury, the Dean, Lord Nelson, Mr. Goldney, M.P., delegates from Devizes, Bath and Southampton, and a large company, proceeded to the Salisbury Museum in St. Ann Street. After a pause for the opening of the Fowler Room they re-formed and continued to the Blackmore Museum, then a separate building. At the porch, with its stained glass windows and tiled floor, Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore were waiting to receive them. The Bishop was made Chairman of the meeting and the opening was marked by speeches from Mr. Blackmore, the Bishop, John Evans, the Mayor and others. This was the formal opening, but a *conversazione* given by Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore for 400 guests had already been held there the evening before. For the occasion the path leading from one museum to the other, which was flanked by beds

of roses, had been covered in. The ground had been carpeted, the decorative effect of the roses had been heightened by the addition of potted palms, ferns and other exotic plants, whilst the comfort of the visitors had been thought of by placing chairs and couches at convenient intervals; and all was lit by gas. The circular room of the Salisbury Museum had been decorated with hothouse plants, the show cases had been moved out of the way and tables put in their place. These were laden with meats and jellies, and the glass and the silver glistened amidst impeccable napery. Champagne was served.

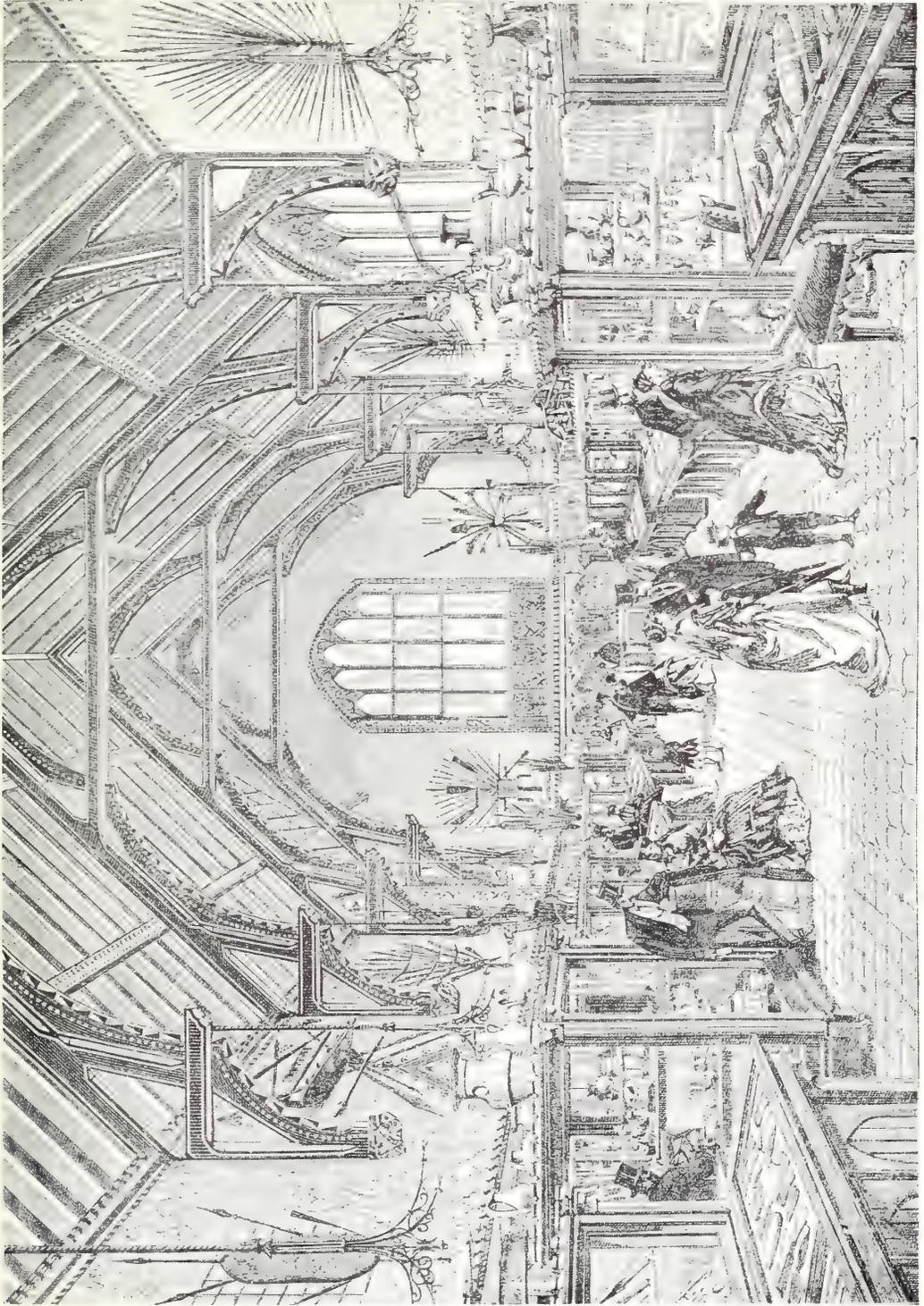
At half past eight a concert was given in the Blackmore Museum under the direction of Mr. C. R. Read of the Royal Academy of Music. The orchestra consisted of a piano, two violins, a viola, a violoncello and a contrabasso. Miss Cecilia Westbrook sang four songs, among which was 'The Lark now leaves her watery nest', and 'Voi che sapete', and achieved a double encore. Dr. W. S. Bennet played 'Barcarolle', a number which he repeated at the concert after the opening the following day. But it seems that, in spite of all this applause, music was not enough, and, perhaps because of the intimacy of champagne and antiquities, there came a time when in the words of a reporter the conversation became 'wholly irrepressible' and the musicians, try as they would, could not make themselves heard.

Meanwhile in a room of the Salisbury Museum a number of guests listened to papers by John Evans and Joseph Prestwich, whose paper on *The Geology of the Quarternary Deposits at Salisbury* was read by Mr. J. W. Fowler. Evans' paper 'Man and His Earliest Known Works' was given in two parts: the Neolithic or Surface stone period, and the Archaeolithic Period. In the first he dealt with the relevant parts of the Collection, prefacing his remarks with a warning against using too rigidly the Danish Three Age system. 'You must therefore regard these periods rather as denoting stages of civilisation than actual chronological periods.' The second part he divided into two periods: the caves, and the river gravels or drift. He describes his visit to Boucher de Perthes and relates how afterwards, having assured Prestwich that the implements they had brought back were totally unlike anything known in Britain, he was waiting in the Society of Antiquaries for some friends he wished to show them to when he looked at a case in one of the window seats, 'and was absolutely horror struck to see in it three or four implements precisely resembling those found at Abbeville and Amiens. I enquired where they came from, but nobody knew, as they were not labelled.' These were of course the Hoxne flints found by Mr. Frere in 1797.¹³

The celebrations continued for three days. Others who contributed papers were Dr. Thurnam, who spoke on the Wiltshire barrows, the geologist Mr. Boyd Dawkins, a pioneer of cave excavations whose paper *On the Pre-Historic Mammalia found Associated with Man in Great Britain* was read by Mr. Cunnington. A short paper by Augustus Franks on *The Paris Exhibition*, which had been held the same year and was the first international exhibition to include a prehistoric section, was read by Mr. Evans. Augustus Franks was the first head of the British Museum's Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities, which had been created only three years before. These papers afterwards published by the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society provide a remarkable outline of prehistoric archaeology at this formative stage in its history.¹⁴

Among the exhibits of historic interest are the stone implements from the Somme gravels, the series from the Dordogne caves, the flints from the Danish kitchen-middens, the *livres de beurre* (see p. 319 below) from Pressigny le Grand, the finds from the flint mines at Spiennes, Cissbury and Grimes Graves, the collection from the Swiss lake villages, and forgeries and mementos of Flint Jack. Some modern primitive implements from Polynesia, North America and elsewhere commemorate the original ethnographical collections.

Some of the flints from the Somme gravels are from Abbeville and St. Acheul, names now given to Palaeolithic cultures. Some were presented by Boucher de Perthes. There are also mammalian remains from the same area.



The Blackmore Museum, Salisbury.

Amongst other Lower Palaeolithic material subsequently added to the collection is the series of the well known honey coloured chert hand axes from Broom near Axminster.¹⁵ There are also hand axes illustrated by Sir John Evans in his *Ancient Stone Implements, Weapons and Ornaments of Great Britain*, one of the first major works of its kind.¹⁶

The material from the Dordogne caves, obtained from the famous Christy collection, is a link with the great discoveries of Lartet and Christy, who excavated many caves and rock shelters in the province of Perigord in south western France between 1863 and 1865. Their work resulted in *Reliquae Aquitanicae*, published in 1875, after Lartet and Christy were dead, and originally issued serially between 1865 and 1875.¹⁷ It contains the first attempts to sub-divide the Old Stone Age and led to the recognition of the different cultures of the Upper Palaeolithic. Lartet in the first essay compares the artefacts with the animal bones found in association with them. 'We have been able to refer these organic deposits to different successive periods thus forming a kind of Relative Chronology of Bone Caves.' This lavish production with its lithographed plates, its actual size drawings of flint implements and bone carvings, its meticulous measurements, was a forerunner of works like Pitt-Rivers' *Excavations in Cranborne Chase*. In the museum there are flint and bone implements from such famous sites as La Madeleine, Laugerie Haute, Les Eyzies, as well as material from Aurignac in the Pyrenees where Lartet made his first important finds. There is also a fine series of flints from the rock shelter of Le Moustier now recognised as the industry of Neanderthal man.

Evans presented the material from the Danish *kjokkenmoddings* or kitchen middens.¹⁸ These mounds, the debris of Mesolithic fishers, were being studied by Danish archaeologists in 1848. The concept of a mesolithic period was of course then unknown¹⁹ and the transitional nature of their contents, which included polished and unpolished flints as well as pottery, excited much interest and the word kitchen midden was widely used to describe occupational debris. 'A regular *kjokkenmodding*' says Evans in his description of the rock shelter at La Madeleine.

The 1860's saw the first discoveries of flint mines and there are finds from Spiennes near Mons in Belgium, Cissbury near Worthing in Sussex and Grimes Graves in Norfolk.²⁰

M. Albert Toilliez had noticed flint debris at Spiennes as far back as 1847 but he did not describe them until 1860 when he mistakenly attributed them to the period of the Drift. It so happened that the chalk beds were overlain by quaternary deposits containing palaeoliths, which in turn were covered by alluvium; and it was not until 1867 when a railway cutting sectioned the mines, revealing the shafts extending through the deposits to the surface, that their true nature was established. The material in the museum comes from the Toilliez collection which was bought by John Evans and presented by him to several museums.

While the Spiennes mines were the first neolithic flint mines to be found, those at Cissbury were the first discovered in Britain and were excavated by Colonel Lane Fox (later General Pitt-Rivers) in 1867. He remarks in the *Journal of the Anthropological Institute* for 1875: 'and I attributed the flint factory to the neolithic age; but pointed out that among the types of implements found in the pits there were some which were distinctly allied to palaeolithic forms', an observation subsequently made by others and the subject of much controversy. The Cissbury series is dated 1875 and perhaps comes from later excavations. Canon Greenwell dug there in 1868. The collection from Grimes Graves is another addition; it is dated 1868 and must have come from one of the earliest excavations of that site, possibly by Canon Greenwell.

Of an allied nature are the flints from the neolithic factories near Pressigny le Grand thirty miles south of Tours.²¹ This was the most prolific site in Europe and extended over a distance of 12 kilometres. These honey coloured flints were well known to the local peasants, who called the large cores *livres de beurre*. The fields were full of this debris of a great industry. John Evans and Henry Christy

visited the site in January 1865, shortly before Christy's death in May of that year as a result of overstraining himself while examining caves in Belgium. At the time of their visit cartloads had been carried away and roadmenders' heaps were full of them. The trade reached its peak at the end of neolithic times and reached to Holland, Switzerland and the Channel Islands.

The exhibit from the Swiss Lake Villages was formed by Admiral Harris, H. M. Minister at Berne, who was assisted by Dr. Keller, one of the principal excavators of these sites,²² and other Swiss archaeologists. As Dr. Glyn Daniel points out in *A Hundred Years of Archaeology* the importance of these excavations, made between 1853 and 1875, lies in two things, viz:—

1. The layers contained successively stone, bronze and iron objects. This was striking confirmation of the Three Age system, demonstrated by Thomsen with his arrangement of the antiquities in the National Museum of Denmark in 1819 but slow to gain acceptance outside Scandinavia.

2. The great variety of finds, especially things normally perishable which were preserved by the boggy nature of their surroundings, showed what great stores of information could, under favourable conditions, be preserved for posterity. Wood, cloth, stone axes still in their hafts of horn, the seeds of wild and cultivated plants are some of the dramatic finds in the collection.²³

Besides the archaeological finds there is a case dealing with the famous flint implement forger Edward Simpson, known as Flint Jack and Fossil Willy. In 1863 he visited Salisbury selling flint implements and Mr. E. T. Stevens commissioned him to make some for the collection. He was a remarkable character and has been several times written about.²⁴ In a discussion about collections of flint implements he is reported to have said that there were plenty of his things in the British Museum—and very good things they were too! Such was the interest in stone implements that there was a ready market for a flint forger, and there were others besides Simpson. William Smith *alias* Skin and Grief was operating in the north of England in 1865.

There are other finds from famous sites and the whole collection is a remarkable illustration of the intense activity and great rewards that gladdened the hearts of archaeologists in the middle of the nineteenth century.

It is a little saddening to visit the Blackmore today. There is no money to heat it and in the winter footfalls echo in the empty room and it is cold like stone. The famous names of those who consented to be Associates of the Museum, the leading scientists and archaeologists of the time, painted in gold letters on the now faded walls, names such as Darwin, Huxley, Mortillet, Thomsen, Worsaae, Keller, Lartet, de Perthes, confront unlooked-at cases.

It is more saddening to reflect on the general theme of the speeches made at the opening. Said Blackmore: 'One great lesson which I conceive to be taught by my collection is Progress.' In the minds of many the parliament of man and the federation of the world were just round the corner. They did not realise that their new discoveries had blinded them to the truth that lay in the cases around them, for it seems that progress must be measured not in centuries but in millennia.

William Blackmore paid for everything: building, collecting, upkeep. It comes as a surprise to find that he was not a wealthy Wiltshire antiquary settled among his books in some grey stone manor house but a financier, speculator, and real estate dealer who spent most of his life in the Wild West of America at its wildest.²⁵ His name is famous in the history of the towns and railroads of the Rocky Mountains, and the Santa Fé Trail was probably more familiar to him than the way to Stonehenge and the Rio Grande than the Wylle. He was born in Salisbury in 1827 and became first a solicitor in Liverpool. Then he made contact with Americans at a time when the Frontier had reached the canyons of Colorado and fortunes seemed to be had for the asking. There was gold, greed and unlimited land for development, though development for what was a question that was overlooked. (It has taken the progress of our century to supply the answer to that in the atomic testing grounds of New Mexico.) Blackmore was a

man of wide interests. He was an anthropologist and a member of the council of the Ethnological Society. He was interested in photography, not long discovered, and made a large collection of pictures of North American Indian chiefs at a time when they were a fierce force against the oncoming white man. He was a man of tremendous energy and plunged into one scheme after another. He became famous in the business of getting rich quick. He had interests in gold mines in Arizona, Texas salt mines, land settlement in New Mexico, the development of the Denver-Rio Grande Railway, had a new mineral 'Blackmorite' named after him, and while in England he bought a colliery in South Wales. But when in England he would say 'Ho! for the Great West', and long to return to the wooden towns with their dusty streets, board walks and saloons where he would battle with crooked attorneys, dream more schemes and write ever more enticing advertisements for the would-be investor, splashing across them his favourite slogan, 'Westward the course of Empire wends its way.' He hurried from one boom town to the next. But the land was after all only fit for sheep (and atomic bombs). Things began to go wrong. His luck and his health started to fail him, and in the spring of 1878 he went into the library of his apartment in Belgrave Mansions, closed the door and shot himself. He was fifty-one.

But the Blackmore remains with its record of the beginnings of prehistoric archaeology and it is with some humility that one recalls its association with some of the great names of the mid-nineteenth century.

¹ L. H. Dudley Buxton. (Editor.) The Pitt-Rivers Museum, Farnham. Farnham Museum, 1929. *General Handbook*.

² E. T. Stevens. *Guide to the Blackmore Museum*. Bell and Daldy. London and Devizes.

E. T. Stevens. *Flint Chips*. A Guide to Prehistoric Archaeology as illustrated by the Collection in the Blackmore Museum. Bell and Daldy. London 1870.

³ Lord Ellesmere. (Editor and Translator.) *Guide to Northern Archaeology*. James Bain. London, 1848. Contains an essay by C. J. Thomsen—*Of the different periods to which the heathen antiquities may be referred*.

J. J. Worsaae. *Prinaeval Antiquities of Denmark*. Translated by William J. Thoms. London, 1809

⁴ John Lubbock. *Prehistoric Times*. Williams and Norgate. London, 1865.

⁵ Joan Evans. *Ninety Years Ago*. *Antiquity* No. 91. Sept. 1949.

⁶ E. T. Stevens. *Flint Chips*. (pp. 46-7). John Evans. *Ancient Stone Implements of Great Britain*. 2nd Ed. Longmans Green & Co., 1897. pp. 627-634.

⁷ Glyn. E. Daniel. *A Hundred Years of Archaeology*. p. 103. Gerald Duckworth. London 1950.

⁸ John Russell Bartlett in Preface to American Edition of *Flint Chips* in which he quotes his report to the Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society No. 49, April, 1868.

⁹ The work of Squier and Davis is described by Lubbock in *Prehistoric Times* Chap. 6, and by E. T. Stevens in *Flint Chips* who refers to Squier and Davis, *Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley*. Vol. 1 Smithsonian Contribution to Knowledge. Washington, 1848.

¹⁰ Paul S. Martin, George L. Quinby, Donald Collier *Indians before Columbus*. University of Chicago Press, 1947.

¹¹ MS. Cat. in Salisbury, S. Wilts and Blackmore

Museums. Evans. *Ancient Bronze Implements of Great Britain*. Longmans, Green & Co., 1881.

¹² *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*. Sept. 7th, 1867.

¹³ John Frere. *Account of Flint Weapons discovered at Hoxne in Suffolk*. Read June 22, 1797. *Archaeologia*, Vol. xiii, 1800.

¹⁴ *Some Account of the Blackmore Museum, Salisbury*. The opening Meeting—Published under the direction of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. Bell and Daldy. London, 1868.

¹⁵ Evans. *Ancient Stone Implements*, p. 639.

¹⁶ *Ibid*.

¹⁷ Rupert Jones and John Evans. (Editors) *Reliquiae Aquitanicae*. Williams and Norgate, London, 1875.

¹⁸ Lubbock. *Prehistoric Times*. Chap. vi.

¹⁹ Judith Wilkins. *Note on the Mesolithic Antiquity*, No. 130. June 1959.

G. A. Moberg. *Note on the Mesolithic Antiquity*, No. 131, September 1959.

²⁰ Grahame Clark and Stuart Piggott. *The Age of British Flint Mines*. *Antiquity* vii, No. 26, June 1933. Contains a Bibliography of European Flint Mines. J. G. D. Clark. *Prehistoric Europe*. Methuen, London 1952.

²¹ John Evans. *On the Worked Flints of Pressigny le Grand*, *Archaeologia* 40 (ii). Read Nov. 16th, 1865.

²² Ferdinand Keller. *The Lake Dwellings of Switzerland and Other Parts of Europe*. (Translated J. E. Lee). Longmans, Green & Co., 1866.

²³ Glyn E. Daniel. *A Hundred Years of Archaeology*. (pp. 91-3).

²⁴ John Blacking. *Edward Simpson, alias 'Flint Jack' Antiquity*, No. 108, December, 1953.

²⁵ Herbert O. Brayer. *William Blackmore*. A case study in the Economic Development of the West. Denver 1949.

FURTHER EXAMINATION OF STRIP LYNCHETS NORTH OF THE VALE OF PEWSEY IN 1958

By PETER WOOD AND GRAEME WHITTINGTON

The conspicuous group of strip lynchets which lies to the north of Horton is only one of many flights on the scarp looking south over the Vale of Pewsey, but is outstanding both for its dimensions and for its unusual western termination. Investigation of these lynchets in 1957 yielded interim conclusions¹ which suggested that further exploration would be profitable. This was particularly so because a number of clues regarding date and construction were revealed. The problems which it was felt might respond to further excavation were:

- (1) the purpose of the buried earthwork 'ditch', and its relationship with the subsequent strip lynchets;
- (2) the construction of the topmost surviving tread, which could not be excavated in July 1957, as it was under crop;
- (3) the structure of the very wide treads in the west;
- (4) the lynchet terminations, both where the terraces merge gradually into the scarp face to the east and where the high bank at the western end gives an abrupt limit.

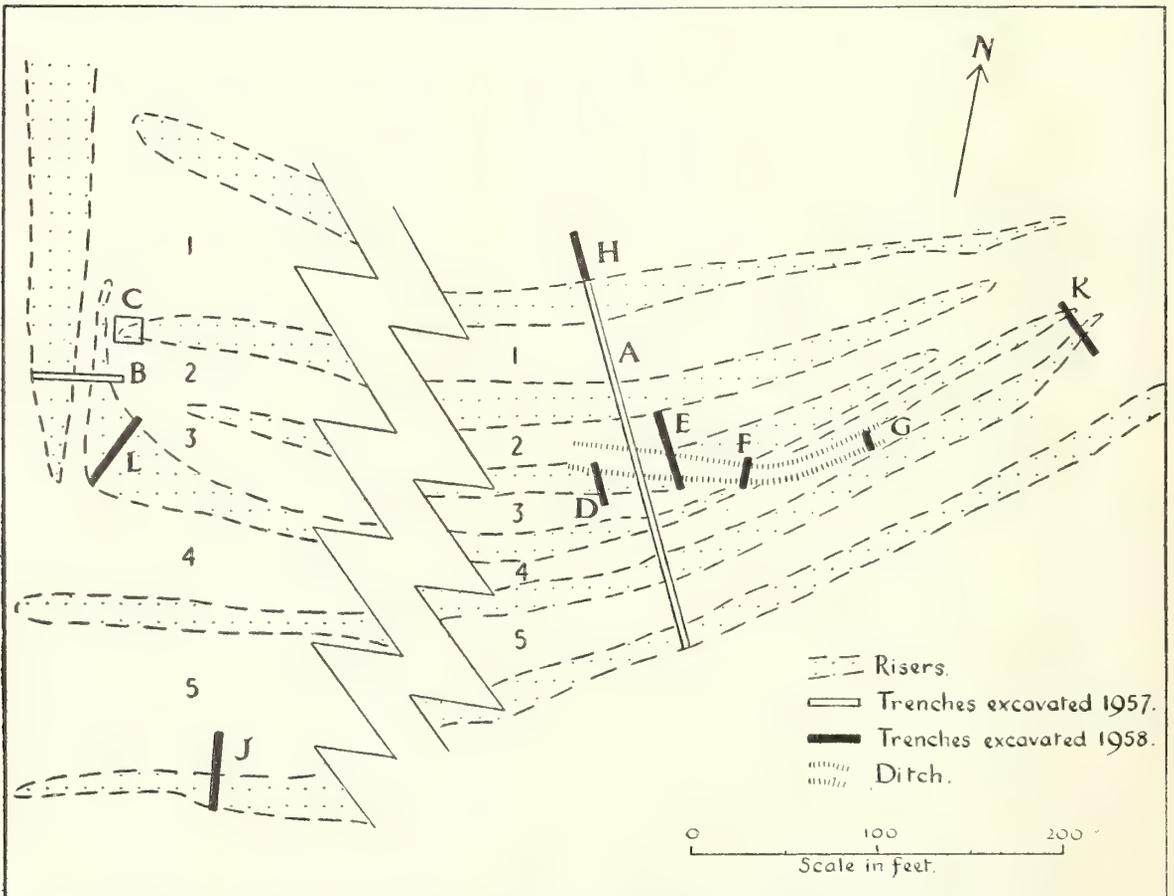


Fig. 1. Plan (interrupted) of the Strip Lynchets at Horton (adapted from Fig. 2, W.A.M., No. CCVII, p. 164).

The second phase of the investigation was undertaken in September 1958, when eight trenches were cut to supplement the previous Trenches A and B and Box C (fig. 1). At the same time, another category of strip terrace was examined, namely the platform following a longitudinal valley floor of the kind found in steep-sided chalkland combs like those of the Marlborough Downs.

These five inter-related investigations form the body of the present report. The concluding paragraphs, however, embrace not only the summary of evidence from Horton, but also the questions which are asked of strip lynchets in general and which can be partly answered from Horton, Bishopstone² and elsewhere.

THE DITCH TRENCHES D to G

The supposed earthwork 'ditch' had appeared unexpectedly in Trench A, showing in section as a V-shaped cleft quarried out of the chalk rock and later buried beneath a positive lynchet accumulation. Though the date of the 'ditch' could be precisely established, it was impossible to draw more than a guarded conclusion as to its nature, nor were there any ground features near at hand to mark its continuation. In order to plumb the 'ditch', four new trenches have now been dug, in succession as each new strike gave increasing confidence about its lie. The sections are shown in fig. 2, together with the relevant portion of Trench A, which is reproduced for comparative purposes.

Trench D was opened parallel to Trench A and twenty feet to the west, on the riser between treads 2 and 3. Thus the 'ditch' would be transected if it proved to be a linear feature running under the lip of tread 2. In fact, when the 'ditch' bottom was finally revealed in Trench D, it lay two feet further uphill than had been anticipated and its profile on the northern side was not completely cleared. Nevertheless, sufficient was accomplished to reveal the close similarity with the cross-section in Trench A: the ditch, in other words, continues in a westerly direction as a V-shaped excavation, originally four feet deep and probably twelve feet wide at the surface, at an altitude of 645ft. O.D.

There was no rubble on the downhill side to correspond with the remnant of upcast found in Trench A; but the materials refilling the ditch were disposed in the same four layers, namely two lines of silting and two horizons of brown fill. About forty fragments of pottery were secured from the ditch refill, and their general significance will be discussed later. The surface of the fill coincided fairly well with what is judged to have been the original hillside surface. Concealing the refilled ditch was the edge of the positive lynchet accumulation, a pebbly fawn soil which was greatly disturbed by roots from a nearby elderberry tree, with a considerable volume of soil slumped downslope.

Trench E was cut twenty feet to the east of Trench A, on the assumption that the two-point fix provided by Trenches A and D was symptomatic of a straight-line ditch. Trench E demonstrated that here indeed the ditch is exactly straight, and that it is offset in relation to the overlying lynchets, which are themselves swinging uphill before they fade away. The ditch, thus approaching tread 3, maintains its V-shaped profile. Since the extremities of this profile were cleared in Trench E, its dimensions may be given as originally four feet deep and sixteen feet wide at the brink. It was cut, at 647ft. O.D., apparently along the hillside bench noted in Trench A.

Trench E was extended northwards from the ditch to the back of tread 2 so that the whole of one lynchet might be sectioned. The extension was undertaken partly to corroborate the existence of the old turf line discovered in Trench A north of the ditch, and partly to search for ditch upcast on the same (uphill) side. Of the latter, no trace was found, though the southern lip is covered by 10 in. of chalk rubble, presumably thrown out when the ditch was quarried. The inference must again be that any upcast on the uphill side was later returned to the ditch. The ditch fill is a repetition, with two silts and two fill layers. The top of the fill is sealed by the positive lynchet accumulation, fawn in colour and generally stoneless, but with a median band containing quantities of 1in. rounded chalk pebbles. The single rut in the middle of the tread is a local feature, probably of recent date.

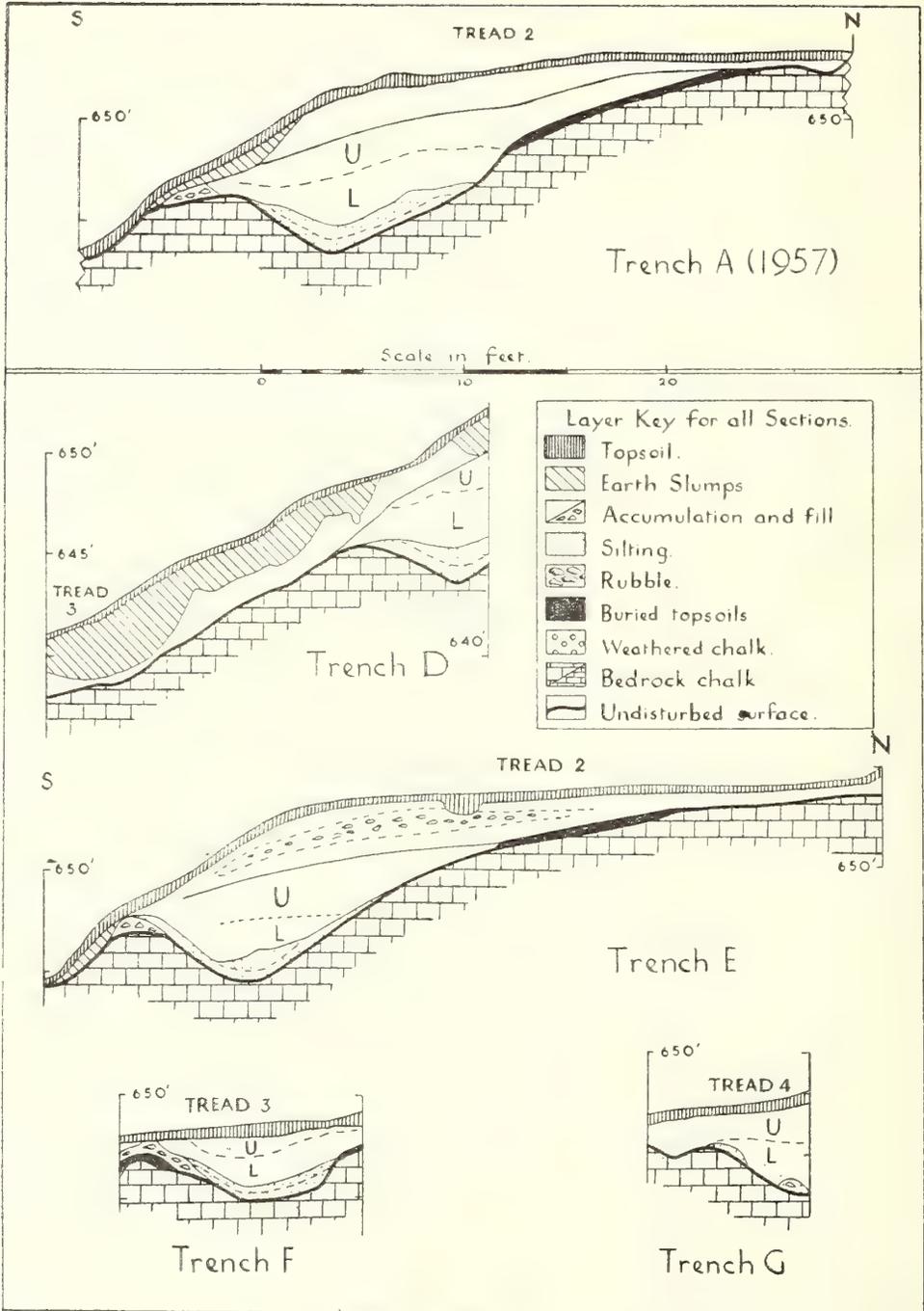


Fig. 2. Sections of the Horton Ditch.

The old turf line which occurs uphill from the ditch represents a strip of unploughed ground nine feet broad, buried under the lynchet accumulation. The buried soil was truncated on the south by the ditch quarrying, and on the north by the formation of the next higher negative lynchet. Thus, to exemplify the nomenclature which has been coined in the literature on strip lynchets, Trench E consists of four parts: to the south is the back of a negative lynchet; north of the upcast is a pre-lynchet disturbance; the buried topsoil is the original hill slope lying beneath a positive lynchet; and on the right hand side is the horizontal floor of the succeeding negative lynchet.

A large quantity of pottery, over sixty pieces, came from the ditch fill in Trench E, including a handful from the ditch silts. In contrast, only half a dozen sherds were recovered from the positive accumulation. The only other small find of any significance was a wrought iron ring, found just above the junction between the lower and upper layers of ditch filling. Though the metal of the ring was almost entirely corroded, its shape has been preserved sufficiently to measure the internal and external diameters (0.4in. and 0.7in.). Mr. H. H. Coghlan, Honorary Curator of Newbury Museum, thinks it more likely Roman than early Iron Age in date, though it might be as late as the 15th century.

Trench F was excavated 25ft. east of Trench E in such a way as to cut the ditch at the back of tread 3, assuming that the straight line course was maintained. The ditch was uncovered, at 647ft. O.D., as a narrower and shallower scoop, eight feet wide and two feet deep. The bench-like form of the original ground surface can be visualised in fig. 2 by joining the two lines of old soil on either side of the ditch. The ditch fillings and the rubble upcast on the southern lip conform with those from previous sections, as does the relatively great amount of pottery, viz. twenty-one fragments from a trench 12ft. long.

Trench G. The position of the ditch in Trench F had shown that it was no longer a straight feature. One final trench was sunk fifty feet to the east, to test the line of the ditch and to confirm the growing certainty about its character. Trench G opened the back of tread 4 (to avoid the labour of excavating through a positive lynchet), after allowing for a slight northerly curve of the ditch. The downslope half of the profile was caught at 645ft. O.D., apparently part of a cutting which was originally three feet deep and eight feet wide, and still V-shaped. The silt layers are of slight and discontinuous proportions; but the fill horizons compare precisely with those in the other ditch profiles. This material contained a scatter of bones, mainly cranial and vertebral fragments of sheep³; and there were 36 potsherds—a big haul from a lynchet trench only 8ft. by 3ft. in plan. The chalk surface to the southern side of the ditch, where a negative floor would normally occur towards the back of a tread, is unusually irregular, and may perhaps be construed as an incomplete quarrying for the ditch. There is no upcast on the southern lip; and although a positive lynchet is not superimposed, there is (as in Trench F) absolutely no sign on the ground that the ditch exists a few inches below.

The Nature of the Ditch. The ditch which has thus been located on the line indicated in fig. 1 is at least 120ft. long, running as a contour dyke across the scarp face at 645ft. O.D., apparently on a pre-existing bench⁴. It is obvious from its size that the ditch is neither primarily defensive at one extreme, nor merely a minor field limit at the other. It should be thought of as a boundary dyke, with the dimensions of a property divide or even of a territorial limit of tribal status. Admittedly it is small-scale compared with the nearby Wansdyke, which is generally considered to be a sub- or post-Roman 'state' boundary, and which, running along the crest of the Downs, has a very different locational value. But there are many signs, to the east of the buried lynchet dyke, of similar ditches. The position of one of these is shown on fig. 3, lying midway between the tumulus and the long barrow on Kitchen Barrow Hill. There is another dyke, on the same line and of similar proportions, half a mile further east. Though it is unlikely that these three stretches were ever joined, they and the dozens of other examples on the Marlborough Downs most likely formed estate, 'ranch' or settlement boundaries.

The date of the Horton dyke is accurately known from the pottery in the primary silts. The sherds may be consigned mainly to the early Romano-British period, but in some cases texture and form suggest a Belgic context. Thus nothing discovered in 1958 weakens the previous conclusion that the dyke was excavated just prior to the time of Roman contact, and that it was initially silted in the years immediately before and after that contact.

It was to some extent gratifying thus to discover the nature and date of a previously unsuspected boundary dyke; but of course the principal object of the investigation was the ancient fields which were imposed on the dyke. In this connection, also, there is now fresh evidence to hand for enlarging the theories which could only be hinted at in the first report as to the date at which the long process of strip lynchet formation began. Two lines of reasoning lend themselves to such theories, the first structural, the second ceramic.

Structurally, the ditch fills are of very different material from the superior lynchet accumulations. The soil of the positive lynchets always lies unconformably on the filling, and the junction between them stands out as a distinct change in colour and texture. It is now certain, particularly in view of their

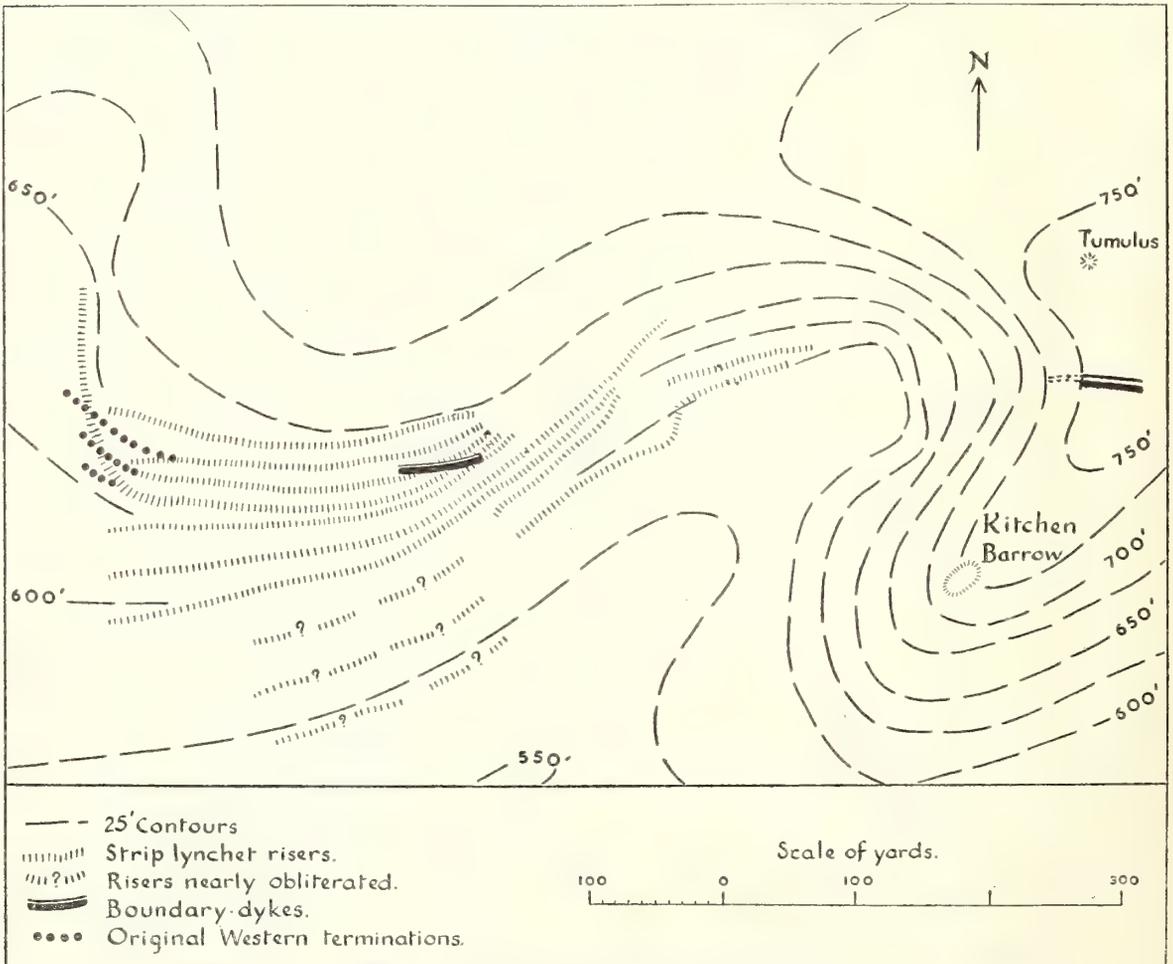


Fig. 3 Features of the Horton Strip Lynchets.

offset nature, that the present strip lynchets had no direct dependence on the dyke, which was merely a hazard to be refilled before any cultivation at that spot could commence. Each layer of refill is homogeneous, though there are no tip lines such as might have conclusively pointed to deliberate refilling. The ancient topsoils which are preserved in two cases (Trenches A and E) demonstrate clearly that the ground surface immediately upslope from the dyke was not broken by ploughing before strip lyncheting began. In the case of Trench F, the comparable soil line occurs at the back of a tread, which would normally show (when sectioned) a negative lynchet floor, where bedrock had been removed.

With regard to the pottery, the total yield from the primary silts and refills in the five trenches amounts to 250 sherds. About a quarter are of one type, the remains of light grey, coarse or friable, wheel-turned ware. Mr. F. K. Annable, Curator of Devizes Museum, has shown us identical pieces which he recovered from small kilns in and to the west of Savernake Forest, and which he would classify as a native ware of *c.* A.D. 90-100.

Apart from the kiln ware, Professor C. F. C. Hawkes has kindly dated representative examples of rims, necks and bases, of which five may be instanced to indicate the main variations, viz:—

- a. From the bottom of the lower fill in Trench E, part of the base and footring of a grey Romano-British vessel (mid 1st to mid 2nd century A.D.).
- b. From the middle of the fill in Trench D, a rim fragment of a slender grey Romano-British jar (mid 1st to late 2nd century A.D.).
- c. From the top of the upper filling in Trench E, the sharp neck angle of a fineware pink beaker, British made but in the Gallo-Roman manner, imported into the locality (probably *c.* A.D. 60.)
- d. From the filling in Trench G, a jar rim with smooth dark grey surface, but of coarse flinty soft ware (either late Belgic or 1st century Romano-British).
- e. From the filling in Trench G, the rim and shoulder of a beadrim bowl or jar, of hard grey ware (mid 1st to early 2nd century A.D., but in the local Belgic tradition).

It has to be admitted, regrettably, that the abundant sherds from the ditch fill are not of the same value as those from the silt in attempting to appraise the chronology of the refilling sequence. What can be said is that the pottery from the ditch trenches, like that from the whole area of the strip lynchets, belongs to a single period of not much more than two hundred years. It corresponds with the first two centuries of the Romano-British period plus a slight overlap from the early Iron Age; and the great bulk of the pottery dates from *c.* A.D. 50-150. Out of more than four hundred sherds recorded at Horton, not more than half a dozen are post-Roman, and these are no earlier than the eighteenth century. The mass of pottery at all levels in the ditch fill does go some way, though perhaps not very far, towards suggesting that the refilling was approximately Roman in time.

The positive lynchets resting on the fill each contain only a handful of sherds at most, but they are consistently of early Romano-British date. For example, from the middle of the pebbly layer in Trench E came the side of a large grey jar, with girth groove and cordon ornamentation, which Professor Hawkes places in the mid or late first century A.D. But even less than with the refilling chronology, the pottery from the positives does not necessarily indicate that soil was accumulating at the period to which the sherds may be dated.

The same line of theorising must be taken a little further, if only because so little dating evidence materialises from the excavating of a field system, albeit an ancient one. It seems probable that the absence of early mediaeval pottery from rural sites where Romano-British sherds are found may sometimes result simply because Dark Age or Anglo-Saxon sherds are proportionately rare, rather than because the sites were not occupied in post-Roman times. The quantity of pottery is always extremely limited in early post-Roman horizons; while the probability that Early Iron Age and Romano-British

agricultural practice included the use of household refuse as manure to a greater extent than did Anglo-Saxon makes the chance find of contemporary sherds in a post-Roman agricultural context even less likely. This kind of negative reasoning might be extended to the Horton strip lynchets, to deduce that these strips may be Anglo-Saxon or mediaeval in use, even though post-Roman potsherds are absent.

The contrasting presence of early Romano-British pottery in the positive accumulations is more difficult to dismiss: but an attempt might be made along the lines that broken sherds from an abandoned occupation site might lie for any length of time in soil which was finally to accumulate as positive lynchets. Of such an occupation site there is no structural sign at Horton, but the considerable amounts of pottery from the dyke must indicate the existence in the immediate vicinity of a group of peasants, perhaps with a kiln of Savernake Forest type to produce the locally-made farmstead crocks, but also with contacts at some distance. That a cultural reconstruction of this nature is extremely tentative points to the great difficulties involved in dating strip lynchets. The pottery in the terraces has almost to be discounted when it is found in horizons which are not sealed off but are open to the possibility of later introduction of pottery.

Bringing together the structural and ceramic discoveries in the ditch trenches allows, finally, the broad inference that the complete refilling of the dyke occurred relatively quickly, perhaps during the Romano-British period, and probably by deliberate intent rather than through natural causes. The original upcast no doubt provided much of the material. Thereafter there was a chronological break before the overlying strip lynchets began to accumulate on the dyke refill. The lower terraces, downslope from the ditch, were perhaps the first of the present flight to be created, with strip lyncheting working uphill from the foot of the scarp and eventually undercutting the upcast on the southern lip of the dyke. A separate phase of terracing was associated with the ground some distance upslope, ground which shows signs (reported in 1957) of pre-lynchet interference, and which today underlies strip lynchets of less regular structure than those below the ditch. Although neither the ditch nor its refilling were apparently contemporary with the operations producing the strip lynchets, the refilled ditch is still in a sense a separator, because it seems to have interrupted the regular progress of terracing.

TRENCH H

North of the scarp-face strip lynchets lies the almost level downland at about 675ft. to 715ft. O.D. Trenching was possible in September 1958 in the harvested field beyond the scarp-top fence, and the

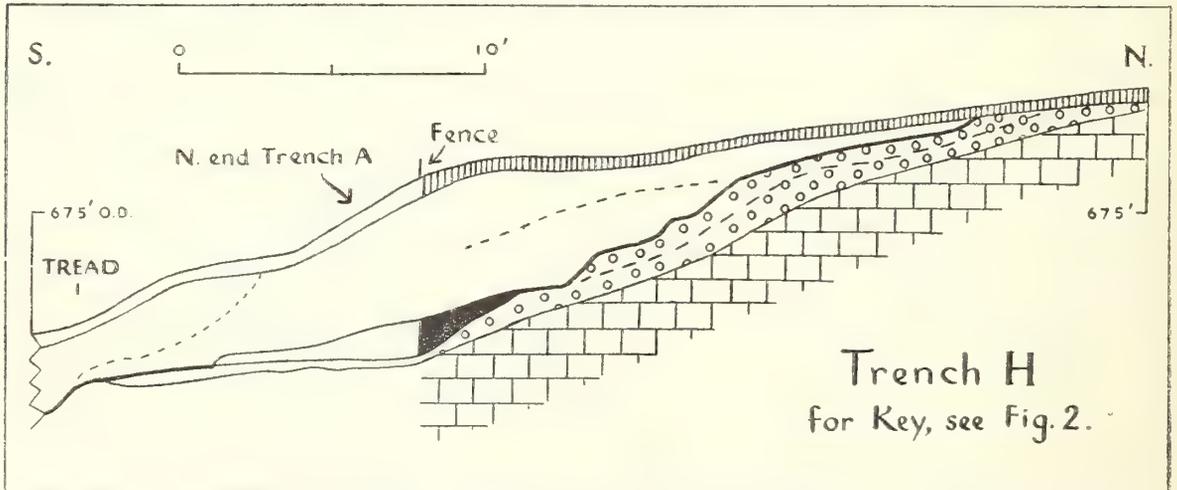


Fig. 4. The topmost Strip Lynchet, Horton.

line of Trench A was continued and opened northwards to investigate the topmost positive lynchet. The section thereby provided is illustrated in fig. 4.

The weathered chalk lying over the hard and blocky bedrock has at one place a cap of old topsoil. It is a continuation of the substantial band noted in the previous report, and it thins and disappears northwards as it did southwards. Embedded in it was a potsherd which provides an antecedent date for the topmost lynchet, the handle of a Romano-British dish which Professor Hawkes attributes to the 3rd century. The superior accumulation is thus incontrovertibly later than the 2nd century, despite the fact that it provided from its own soil five earlier sherds, one of which (the rim of a good quality slender jar) is to be assigned to the mid 1st to mid 2nd century A.D.

Also suggestive is the step-like character of the weathered chalk surface, in which at least three steps are recognisable north of the buried topsoil. They may be compared with the rather wider ledges on the floor of the negative lynchet under tread 1, as described for Trench A. The two groups are fourteen feet apart, and they are separated by a belt of undisturbed buried topsoil. There seem here to be good grounds for postulating two distinct periods of agricultural operations. The first (which appears to be proper to the Romano-British period) would have given rise to the steps and ledges, leaving an intermediate turf belt. Whether this farming was of long-furrow ploughing which gave elongated strips or of small-patch cultivating which gave squarish plots, is difficult to decide. But it does seem sensible to argue that this operation belongs to the Downland proper, and was here overlapping the edge of the scarp.

The second operation was responsible for the positive strip lynchet. There is no negative lynchet above to act as a source of material, because the ground to the north is almost level. Consequently it is difficult to understand the derivation of the accumulation except as soil moved forward from the plateau to the edge of the scarp. Such an interpretation readily accounts for the pottery sequence, with earlier sherds overlying a later one. It is also worth noting that the area from which the five-foot deep accumulation was assembled must have been considerable, since the topsoil which today supports cereal farming is only four inches deep at the northern end of Trench H, and this depth has also been found typical of the nearby uncultivated downland. Whether a natural or human agency was involved in moving it forward, a great drain on the available topsoil of the plateau is implied. If the positive lynchet results from soil scraping, it must have occurred at a time when the downtop was regarded as a reservoir for obtaining surplus soil because it was no longer an arable area where soil should be conserved. If it results from natural soil movement on an intensive scale, it is easier to think of the downlands as still being cultivated, and hence open to soil erosion even on a gentle slope.

TRENCH J

The only sections of 'normal' (i.e., undyked) strip lynchets which have been described so far from Horton lie on the single line of Trenches A and H; and it was felt that excavation elsewhere would provide a necessary check. Tread 5 and its riser were selected, at the western end of the lynchets, where the treads are very wide and the risers are relatively low. The comparative dimensions for this particular lynchet are, at Trench A, 8ft. tall and 24ft. wide; and, at Trench J, 5ft. tall and 80ft. wide. It was hoped also that conclusive data would be obtained to correlate lynchet size and original ground slope. In theory⁵, it seemed likely that the narrowness of the treads and the great height of the risers towards the eastern end depended on the steep slope which the pre-lynchet hillside had been shown in 1957 to possess. The new trench would indicate whether or not the original hillslope at the western end had been much more gentle. According to current ideas, the slope can be estimated from a line joining the midpoints of the risers; and for tread 5, this method gives original slopes of about 14° and 8° in the eastern and western parts respectively.

The section obtained from Trench J (fig. 5) is thus worth considering for its own sake, as well as providing another example to add to the unduly meagre list of published sections from the English strip lynchets⁶. At the southern end of the section is a low but sharply-cut 'negative' face rising behind a horizontal floor. Upslope, under the accumulation, the most likely line for the original hillside may be estimated at about 12° ; but all that remains as the basis for the estimation is a bared chalk surface, without topsoil. Buried turf-lines are exceptional at Horton, and are apparently only preserved when they are protected by material coming from such pre-strip lynchet activities as cultivating or dyke quarrying.

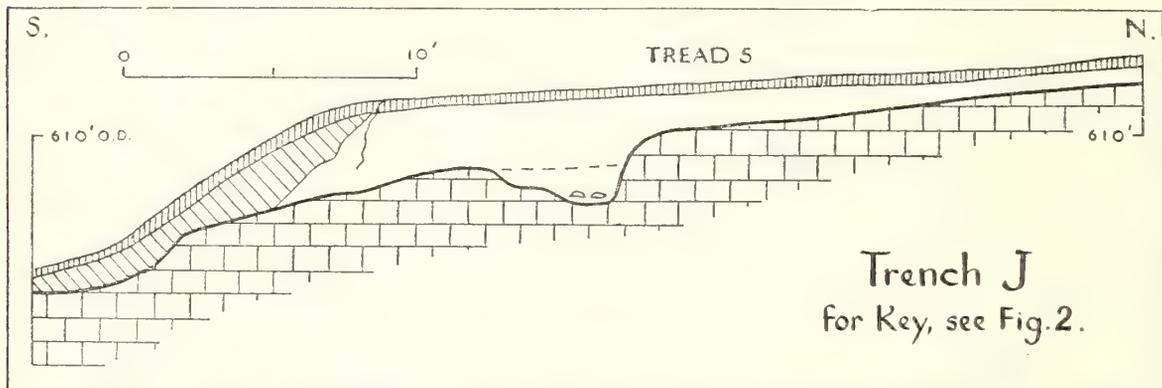


Fig 5. Section of riser, western end of horton Strip Lynchets.

The form of the original surface is further obscured by the depression, four feet wide and two feet deep, which was grooved into the bedrock, and was afterwards refilled with rubble and stony soil. There is nothing to show what the groove means: possibly it may have been a marker trench employed when laying out the field system. Further upslope, the chalk surface has a greater slope than is normal on the floor of a negative lynchet, existing as a stage only halfway towards the true negative lynchet which doubtless exists, with horizontal floor, under the next riser fifty feet uphill.

The soil of the positive lynchet, unlike the decomposed chalk nodules preserved in the groove, is stone-free and has been thoroughly comminuted, presumably by cultivation. It has slumped down the face of the riser; and (as is almost inevitable for a Horton strip lynchet) it yielded a few sherds of Romano-British ware. The groove refill, on the other hand, represents the kind of material which was obtained fresh from the 'negative' source, before there was a chance for it to be reduced to a tilth by weather and agricultural implements. It is also very obviously different from the dyke refills, which have to be allowed a more complicated history.

The slope of the ground, at approximately 12° , is a good deal steeper than the 8° slope estimated from the midpoints of the risers. Similarly, the ground slope towards the eastern end of tread 5 was shown in Trench A to be apparently 18° , or rather more than the 14° estimated by interpolation. It might therefore be thought that a simple correlation between dimensions and slope does not exist: but, as so often with strip lynchets, one should not be assertive. Even excavation does not always allow the exact determination of this important quantity of the original hillslope, since the pre-lynchet surface has generally been modified (at least to the extent of removing the original turf and topsoil) and can therefore be reconstructed only approximately.

THE END TRENCHES K AND L

These were dug to examine the normal terminations at the eastern end of the field system, and the very unusual high bank at the western end.

Trench K was opened across tread 4 and the contiguous risers, a few feet before they tail off into the unlyncheted hillside. The negative lynchet under the next lower tread (5) has already disappeared (fig. 6); and the dying negative lynchet under tread 3 lies beneath an inconspicuous riser less than two feet tall. In between, the line of the original hillside has been preserved, as a 20° slope, with only one significant modification. This is the groove at 652ft. O.D., cut 12in. into the bedrock, with rubble thrown up to the north. The purpose of the groove is an open question. It may be something in the nature of a marker trench, such as might be invoked for Trench J; or it could be the easterly end of the contour dyke encountered at about 645ft. in Trenches D to G.

The lower end of the rubble bank, the groove itself, and the downslope chalk surface are covered by a layer of fine grey silt. Almost certainly this is a rainwash, from a bare chalk surface. The silt was deposited in substantial quantities, giving the layer a depth of 16 in.: and, occurring as it does on a slope

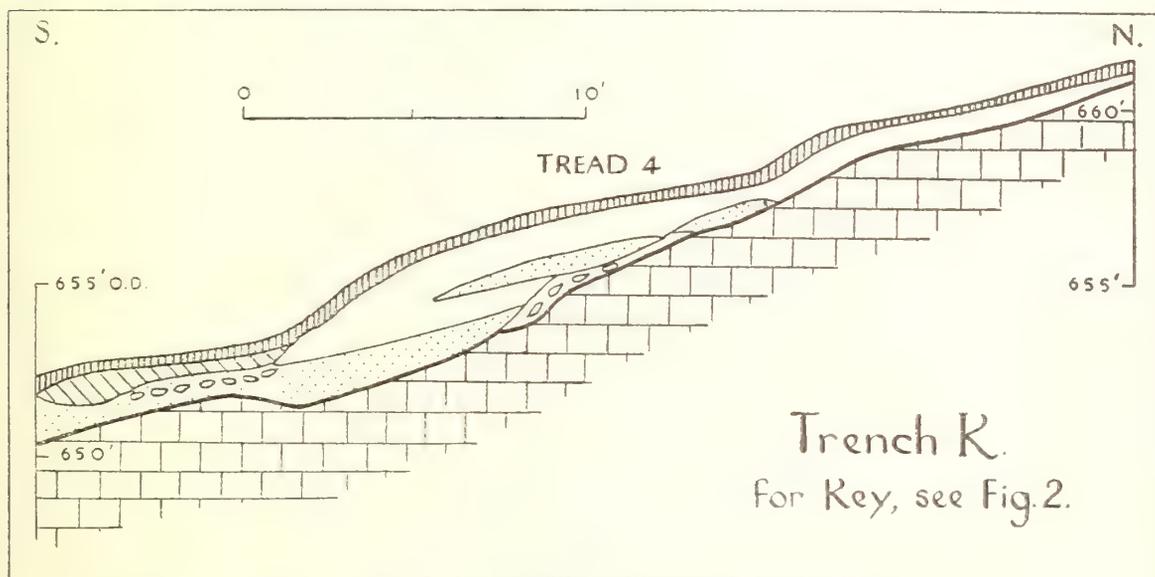


Fig. 6. Section of a normal Strip Lynchet termination, Horton.

of 20° , it is likely to have been deposited fairly rapidly. Subsequently, the rubble bank was flattened, probably by the farming activities which began to produce the strip lynchets; there was a movement of pebbly chalk, which came to rest on the silt; and a positive lynchet began to accumulate over the groove.⁷ With the terrace still only partially completed there came a hiatus, accompanied by a second spread of silt. This time it was a dirtier material containing more humus, perhaps from a vegetated or cultivated surface; and it remains today as an intermittent layer about 6in. thick. Thereafter, the accumulation of the positive lynchet was completed, and its crest finally slumped on to the back of tread 5.

This sequence of events fits in with previous conclusions that the evolution of even individual terraces was a lengthy and spasmodic affair, involving natural hillwash and gravity slipping as well as man-induced movement of soil. It has to be confessed that no new light is thrown on the formation of the lynchet terminations; but the absence of turf-lines and balks suggests that the ground was ploughed completely and therefore that no insuperable problems were presented to driving a plough across a hillside with a 20° slope as long as a line oblique to the contours was chosen to give a slightly downhill working run.

Trench L was cut across the high bank, at the right angle where it changes from forming the riser between treads 3 and 4, and becomes the western termination of the upper lynchets. The bedrock which was encountered at the base of the section (fig. 7) is not uniform. It consists of the interleaved bands of hard and soft chalk which were observed in the previous years' excavations. Once again, however, it is obvious that such lithological differences have played no part in the modelling of the terraces.

The line of the original hillside seems clear, falling southwards to 625ft. O.D., and indicating a slope of 12° for the upper scarp face. This is the slope value estimated at 610ft. in Trench J; and, allowing for the intervening distance and for the fall of the land towards the western dry valley, an even slope can be

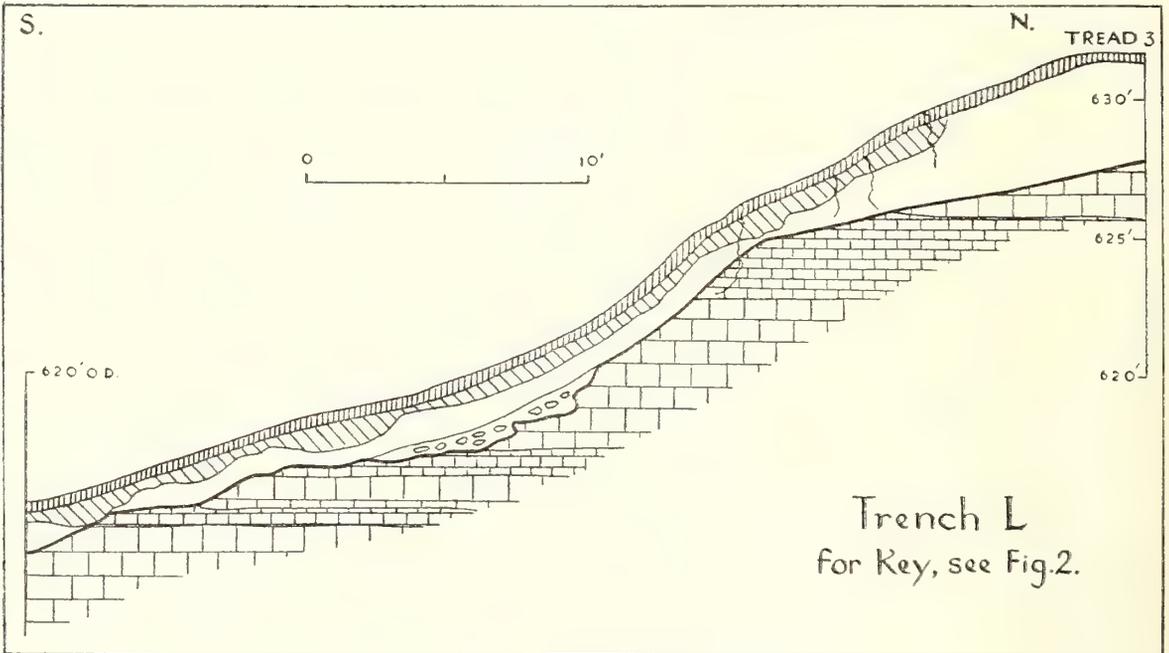


Fig. 7. Section of the Western Bank, Horton.

demonstrated for the original ground between treads 3 and 5. But if this were in fact the case, an enormous amount of chalk rock would have been removed, six feet deep over the middle part of the scarp. The other, and more attractive alternative, is to envisage a concave scarp face.

The floor of the negative lynchet in the left of the section is unusually irregular, and seems to indicate some sort of quarrying of the bedrock. It is today mantled by soil from above, and the side of the high bank has been subjected to fracturing and earth slip. The 'positive' segment of tread 3 is built of uniform fawn and stoneless soil, five feet thick at the lip. Thus the bank, investigated by augering as well as in three cuttings (B, C, and L), has proved to be an artificial feature in the main, with no commensurate source of material above it. It may be that the making of lynchet treads which in long profile sweep down to the west allowed the lateral movement of soil, and that this aided the building up of the high bank. But probably the mass was derived from the plateau above the scarp, as has already been postulated for the topmost lynchet at Trench H.

There is some likelihood that the high bank betokens a late stage in the total process of lynchet formation. No pottery was found in Trench L, but an air photograph available for study shows that

the three risers which front treads 1, 2, and 3 respectively were originally maintained some distance westwards across the line of the access way now climbing the bank. Fig. 3 depicts the early arrangement; and it seems certain that the high bank, with its ramp leading to the upper lynchets, was superimposed on the latter, thus destroying their western terminations.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HORTON FIELD SYSTEM

A sequence of stages in the creation of these strip lynchets may be visualised, and ought perhaps to be set down, not because it can be irrefutably proved but because the tenuous evidence supports it as being the most logical pattern of developments. On this basis, the likely sequence seems to have been as follows:—

(1) The upper part of the scarp was cultivated as an extension of the plateau farming in late pre-Roman and early Roman times. A farming system was employed which left wide strips of unbroken turf (probably because the latter was blanketed by displaced soil, rather than because it was uncultivated). A homestead or rural settlement was located (so far as can be judged by a pottery concentration in Trench A) towards the top of the scarp, in the midst of what might well be 'Celtic' fields.

(2) To bound the territory or the habitation area of the downtop farmers, a dyke was dug towards the middle of the first century A.D., perhaps selecting a natural bench on the scarp face. It was silted at first with fine silt, almost certainly from the upcast lying nearby. As the upcast began to weather, the silt became browner.

(3) Some time later, perhaps (from the pottery) about the middle of the Roman period, the ditch was completely refilled. The material which found its way into the ditch presumably included completely weathered upcast; and since it went back in two solid layers, the refilling was probably deliberate. It appears that the surface of the refill was cultivated, and the reason for refilling could therefore be explained as the need to extend the plateau cultivation further down the scarp, but isolated widths of turf above the ditch were preserved under soil creep.

(4) Apparently after a considerable interval, strip farming worked its way up from the scarp foot, undercut the remnant of upcast south of the dyke, and flattened the groove—upcast at the eastern end. In this process, chalk was removed from the negative lynchets, giving the kind of rubble and nodules preserved in the supposed marker trench at the western end. When such material formed positive lynchets, it was more completely ground up by cultivation.

(5) At first, strip lyncheting was confined to the lower scarp face, perhaps respecting the cultivation area which had utilised the surface of the dyke refill. Eventually however, when the downland cultivation had ceased, the strip lynchets bestrode the ditch and extended all the way up the scarp slope to the edge of the plateau, thus disrupting the abandoned Romano-British fields and habitation.

(6) The accumulation of positive lynchets temporarily ceased from time to time, giving distinct layers and allowing the dirty silting at the eastern end. One of the phases completed the eastern termination, and another saw the formation of the western high bank, perhaps accommodating a surplus of soil or providing a property division between the upper and the lower terraces.

(7) Cultivation continued for an unknown but presumably (to assemble ten foot tall risers) lengthy period, with attendant soil slumping as part of the later stages, before these ancient arable strips finally fell into neglect.

THE TRENCH IN CALSTONE BARN COMBE

Another type of chalkland terrace, the single platform following a dry valley floor, was also chosen for investigation in 1958. A prominent example occurs in the deep combe on the western side of Morgan's Hill, three miles north-west of Horton (O.S. Nat. Grid. SU/022672); and this has been excavated to provide the section shown in fig. 8. The combe is one of many which bite into the southern

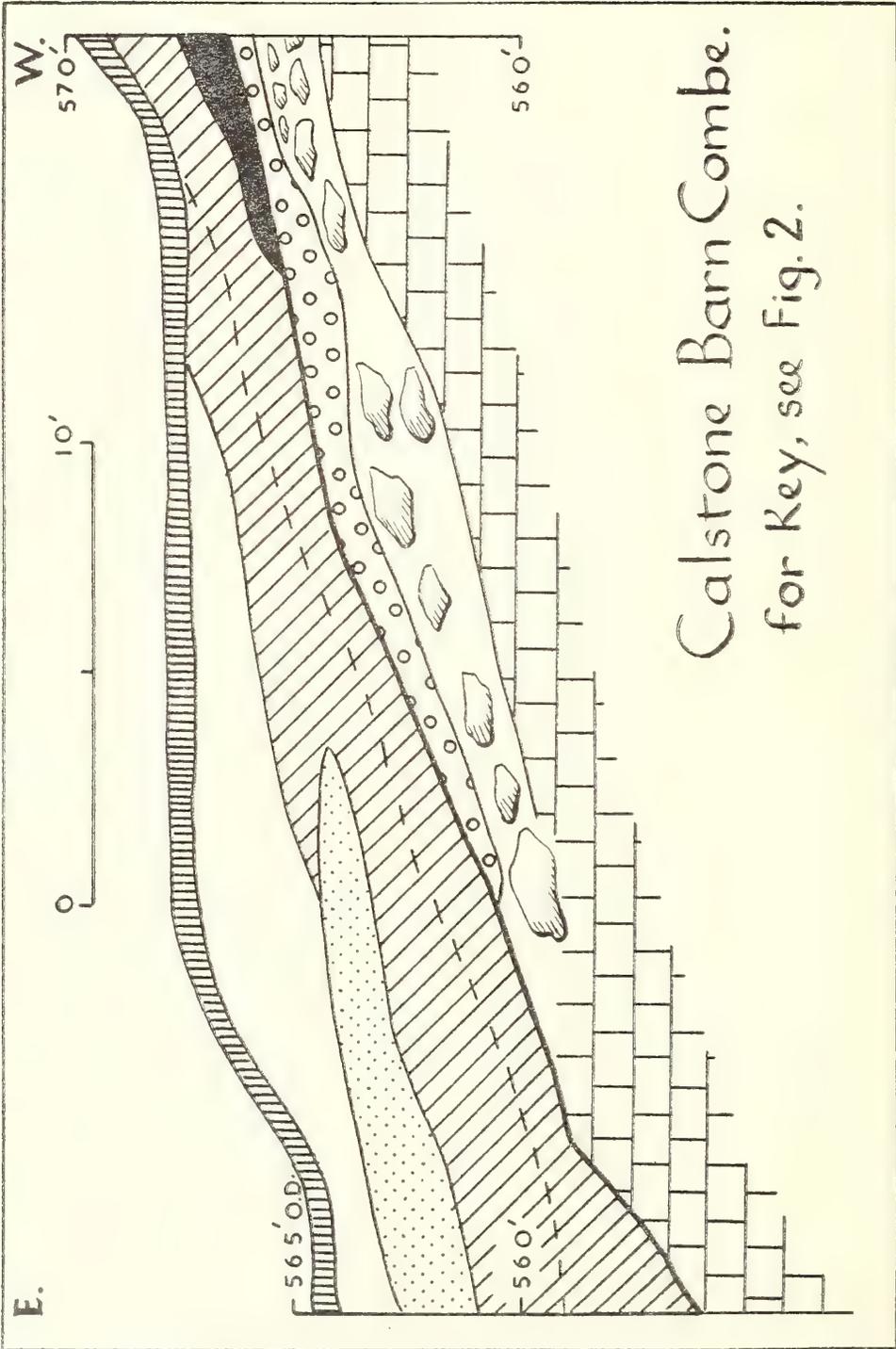


Fig. 8. Section of a Valley floor bench, Calstone.

flank of Calstone Valley, an area made familiar to field historians by the writings of Dr. Crawford,⁸ and of great interest also for its minor surface features. The latter, apart from the side benches (said to be cultivation relics), comprise the corrugations and flutings along the steep combe sides (resulting from surface erosion); the obvious evidences of soil movement on a large scale (partially filling the corrugations and even the combe, which is thus given a flattish floor in cross section); and the sharpened breaks of slope where the combe side meets the plateau top and the valley floor (arising from ploughing those surfaces to the crest and the foot of the slope).

The head of Calstone Barn Combe is at 650ft. O.D., close to the junction of Wansdyke and the Roman road to Bath. From here the combe floor falls steeply to the barn at 425ft. The trench was cut across the western side bench at the midpoint of a fluting which has been characteristically infilled. The flat floor of the combe is the surface of a similar infilling, here many feet deep. However, the subterranean surface of chalk rock weathered *in situ* was eventually revealed in the trench, marked at the western end of the section by a layer of dark brown clay which represents an old humus deposit⁹.

The natural infilling and the accumulation resting on the rotted chalk consist of four layers. Three of these are slumps or washes: a fawn clay with chalk pebbles, an orange clay with fragments of flint and shell, and (partly embedded in the orange clay) a grey rainwash. At the nose of the rainwash were found three pieces of pottery, together with the base of a roedeer antler and limb bone fragments, perhaps of ox. One of the sherds, a flat base of sandy black ware, is dated by Professor Hawkes to the late pre-Roman Iron Age or more probably to the early Roman period.

The topmost layer was a medium brown loam, of a character and in a position typical for a positive lynchet accumulation. Although the angularity of the chalk fragments in this soil indicates an unweathered and therefore unploughed material, yet the sharpness of the edges of the platform and the close conformity with the structure of a normal strip lynchet suggest it to be of artificial construction. It is one of the strips in the South Field at Calstone which figure in the early 18th century map reproduced by Crawford; and it could well reflect the invasion of the combe side by cultivation from the valley floor. If it is a strip lynchet it is one cut in clays and not in bedrock chalk: and one which post-dates the pottery lying beneath the base of the positive lynchet. The length of post-dating is completely uncertain. With so much evidence of slumping, it is clear that the bone, the antler and the pottery may have travelled, together with their clay matrix, from more elevated ground at any time of soil slipping since the early Iron Age.

STRIP LYNCHETS IN SOUTHERN ENGLAND

Sufficient has now been accomplished by excavation and field work to permit the impressions coming from a detailed study of strip lynchets to be drawn together. Perhaps as a starting point it may be said that the superficial uniformity which these terraces present is more apparent than real. If any length could be called typical, it would be about a furlong: but strip lynchets can be found which are as short as 80 yards, while some are 1,200 yards in length. The treads are commonly between 10 and 25 yards wide, though breadth of tread can vary from 3 yards to 60 yards. In plan, the treads are occasionally straight, and they may be found actually measuring the 220 by 22 yards of the perfect standard acre; but the great majority are curved and do not measure up to an acre even in crude area. In long profile, the horizontal tread is a great rarity: strip lynchets almost always lie at a perceptible angle to the contours, and many of them have the overturned 'S' long profile which appears so clearly at Horton. In cross profile, the treads are not always even approximately level, sloping as much as 19° in some cases: the risers, which may be as much as 12 feet tall, are almost always very steep (up to 45°); but they do not, in the south of England, appear to have revetments of any kind.

Undoubtedly the most attractive quality of these strip lynchets is displayed in their grouping, where

they form flights of steps on the hillside, often with access ways between the different levels. Again there is no real uniformity about the number in any one flight, but while up to 20 steps can be found it is a group of 3, 4, or 5 which is most frequently encountered. Nevertheless, the 'unbroken' variation in the dimensions and the groupings of strip lynchets does not allow a classification based on measurements or numbers in a flight. The form of the ground upon which the terraces are situated does however lead to significant differences in their appearances. This, and the fact that they lie at conspicuously different angles to the contours, makes it possible to construct a rudimentary typology. The following three main types of strip lynchets can be observed, the first one needing to be sub-divided:—

Type 1. *Oblique Strip Lynchets*, crossing the contour at a slight angle:

- (a) cutting across the contour in straight or curved lines and widening towards one end. Example, Horton (Wilts).
- (b) cutting across the contour in straight lines, with fairly constant breadth. Example, Mere (Wilts).
- (c) dipping towards the centre. Example, Bishopstone (Wilts).

Type 2. *Transverse Strip Lynchets*, lying at right angles to the dominant direction of slope. Example, Croscombe (Somerset).

Type 3. *Single Valley Floor Benches*. Example, Calstone (Wilts).

It should be noted that this typology is purely morphological, and not at all genetic or evolutionary. It is therefore to be regarded as no more than a first attempt at classification.

Strip lynchets depend on slope much more than on elevation or orientation. They exist through much of the altitudinal range of southern England, from sea level to 800ft, although they are mainly concentrated in the zone between 300ft. and 600ft. O.D. Individual flights can be found which face in each compass direction, and one flight often has more than one aspect because of the local form of the ground. Dominantly, their distribution is related to slopes of between 6° and 27° , and as these in southern England are most widely found on calcareous rocks, the strip lynchets tend to occur on limestone and chalk outcrops. But not all calcareous areas with the necessary slopes are lyncheted: strip lynchets are conspicuously rare on the North and South Downs. The great nucleation is in Wessex, and the four counties of Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire possess more than three-quarters of the many hundreds of strip lynchets to be found in the south of England.

Though an important school of French geologists and geographers considers that 'les rideaux' of the European mainland are of natural origin, probably all strip lynchets in England are artifacts. They have been invoked as quarries, defensive positions, parade grounds and circuses: but the purpose of most is undoubtedly cultivation. All the evidence from the excavated examples points to a thorough tilling of the material making up the positive lynchets, and cultivation marks scored into the chalk are considered to have been detected at Bishopstone.

Cultivation is also the most positive use made of strip lynchets at the present time, as it was in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; where they are ploughed today they support cereals, root crops or cultivated grasses. A case can be made out for the more interesting crops which might have been grown in the past: flax, for example, or the vine near certain monasteries; or even hemp around some of the naval ports. But corn growing must have been the original reason for the vast majority; and, before the days of the Great Improvers, the yield from flights like those excavated at Bishopstone or Horton would, with their five acres or so of cultivable land, have provided a year's corn for three or four people.

The method of formation seems to revolve mainly around the plough. Strip lynchets accommodate themselves to the form of the natural features on which they lie; but the fact that they seldom follow the contours absolutely suggests that ploughing across the hillside necessitated a slight down-slope run for the working plough, and (though this would involve a seemingly excessive expenditure of energy) some-

times even an idle return. Especially would this one-way kind of ploughing be unavoidable where the strips fall into the 'transverse' category. Soil creep is also heavily involved: yet the treads in cross section are not even approximately level in many examples. It is therefore possible to assume that such levelling as exists is only incidental to the cross-slope ploughing and that it would inevitably occur where the strip is fringed by an uncultivated border against which the first down-slope accumulation of a future positive lynchet would be trapped. No trace of this kind of balk has been reported in excavation, and it is doubtful whether the narrow humus layer of the chalkland soil thus submerged would be easily detected. On the other hand, there are strong inferential grounds for suggesting deliberate modifications, so that the pick and shovel as well as the plough may have helped to produce the better built terraces, particularly those which have the most level treads. The apparent discrepancies noted at Bishopstone and Horton between the sizes of the negative and positive lynchets would provide a forceful argument in this connection if one could judge the drift of soil along the length of the tread, and if one could be sure that parts of the original hillside remained to act as a datum for calculation. In any case there are many signs that a long period of construction, with a complicated development, was often required.

The dating of the strip lynchets is, in many aspects, still intriguingly unknown. The documentary evidence is of no help for the original date of formation. Even though Anglo-Saxon charters speak of *hlinc*, the word seems to refer to a natural bank or ridge and not to a lynchet. The first mention of what appear to be in fact strip lynchets occurs in a Tudor presentment; but the use of 'lynchet' to include both the riser (the earlier usage) and the tread dates only from the eighteenth century, while 'strip lynchet' as a term has an antiquity of less than four decades. As far as archaeological relationships are concerned, parish boundaries often conform with the layout of the strip lynchets, and have therefore been held to post-date them; but as often the boundaries cut across, or are cut across by, the strips and are consequently not very helpful. Cases of contiguity with hill forts, with deserted villages and with ridge and furrow have been adduced as evidence for contemporaneity. Though this may be allowable in the latter case sometimes, where strip lynchets running across the slope actually turn into ridge and furrow as the slope lessens so that the lip of the riser becomes the ridge and the back of the tread forms the furrow, associations like these have to be treated with the utmost caution.

Excavation has led to supposed datings from the Belgic period at Twyford Down (Hants) to the fourteenth century at East Garston (Berks); but in each case they have been based on unstratified pottery, and are thus virtually worthless. The chief reward of excavations has undoubtedly been to reveal the structure of strip lynchets and their complicated relationship with previous undertakings such as early cultivations or earthwork constructions. Only when these undertakings can themselves be dated is it possible to infer the date of lyncheting, and even then it is only an approximation. For example, at Horton the strip lynchets overlying the dyke are indisputably later than the first century A.D., but it is only an assumption that they may be several centuries later. Since the structure of excavated strip lynchets shows them to have been long-maturing, and since it is still not settled when strip farming of the kind to produce terraces was introduced into Britain, the only safe conclusion is that individual flights may date from Romano-British times onwards (or from Belgic times, if a pre-Roman heavy plough is allowed). It may be said, purely as a personal opinion, that many of them probably originated after the Roman period.

The most stubborn of all strip lynchet problems is that of the underlying cause or reasons for their existence. If a flight is envisaged as having been deliberately constructed in its entirety, then an extraordinary amount of labour was expended for the return of sustenance for a handful of people. If they are purely incidental, and the ploughman in no way sought to create them, it is still decidedly odd that steep slopes of up to 27° were utilised. A compromise position would suggest that flattish surfaces were

desirable as an agricultural convenience, and that the cultivators sometimes went to the trouble of modelling the terraces to a greater or lesser degree. They are not irrigated flats nor are they sun traps: their variety of orientation disposes of any idea of deliberate siting for climatic reasons. In part they may be attempts to overcome soil erosion, to gain a deep soil for plant growth, or on calcareous rocks to utilise neutral soils. But even the compromise over formation must still discover the reason for extending cultivation on to land which, because it is very steep, has to be classed as marginal for the plough farmer. Shortage of productive level farmland must have been the overriding consideration. If the extension came early, and from above, it might be due to the overworking of upland soils on the plateaux and dountops. If it came from below, it would probably be because it was on balance easier to occupy the slopes than to drain further the clay soils of the vales. In either case an increasing population was probably one of the responsible factors.

It seems almost beyond doubt that these long narrow terraces are connected with the division of land into strips: and both for Bishopstone and for Horton the feeling has been expressed that the strip farming which produced them was working up the slope. The wider situation may be outlined for the Vale of Pewsey. Large areas of level land with fairly deep soils formed from the Lower Chalk and Upper Greensand stretch southwards from Bishop's Cannings and Horton, and should have provided all the arable land which the mediaeval peasant required. But this was the very area in which the extensive marshland, with its 'moon-raking' associations in post-mediaeval days, had also existed as an uncultivable tract in pre-Domesday Book times; and the considerable proportions of mediaeval swamp over much of the Vale provide a suitable background for postulating a movement to marginal steep land at one or other of the periods of agricultural expansion. The reason for the land hunger itself is, of course, another story. If the answer to that one were known, (and very likely it would be a composite answer resting no doubt on climatic fluctuations as well as on economic, demographic and agricultural developments) it might well contribute to the dating of the Horton terraces.

The final characteristic of the English strip lynchets is that it has become a disappearing feature. On the gentler slopes, the positive lynchets are being ploughed away, as they have been for the last three centuries. On steeper slopes, they are subjected to great disturbance from soil slips, rabbit burrowing, cattle treading and scrub growth. They belong to an activity which, though it continues on the Isle of Portland in Dorset and at Laxton in Nottinghamshire, has elsewhere vanished from the English scene.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As in 1957, we are indebted to the co-operation of Mr. J. S. Morrey; of the students of the Geography Department, University of Reading; of Reading Museum for the loan of equipment; and of the Crown Commissioners and the Ministry of Works. Permission to excavate at Calstone was readily given by Mr. G. R. Maundrell. We have also benefited very much from discussion with Mr. H. C. Bowen and Professor A. H. Bunting. Other help we gratefully acknowledge in the text and footnotes.

¹ See *W.A.M.*, No. ccvii, (1959) pp. 163-72. The national grid reference is SU/062648.

² The well-known strip lynchets at Bishopstone, near Swindon, were excavated in 1954-5 (Wood: *W.A.M.*, No. ccii (June, 1955) pp.12-16; and No. ccvi (1958), pp.18-23).

³ Identified by the British Museum (Natural History) and Reading Museum.

⁴ This natural bench was probably not a lithological but an erosional feature, as indeed the 1957 excavation of Trench A suggested. It was something perhaps in the nature of the Pliocene platform at about 650ft. O.D., which has been traced westwards into the Vale of Pewsey by S. W. Wooldridge and D. L. Linton. See, for example their *Structure, Surface and Drainage in South-East England*. London (G. Philip & Son, 1955) p. 30, and Ch. v.

⁵ English views on the relationship between slope and dimensions appear in E. C. Curwen: *Antiquity*, Vol. 13,

p. 45. L. Aufrère in *Annales de Géographie*, Vol. 38, p. 529, provides a French attempt to correlate these factors.

⁶ The only other examples are from Bishopstone; from Blewbury, Berks. (A. E. P. Collins: *Berks Archaeol. Journ.* Vol. 53, p. 31); and near Bridport, Dorset (H. C. March: *Proc. Dorset Nat. Hist. and Antiq. F. C.* Vol. 24, p. 66).

⁷ Small finds in this accumulation include two Romano-British sherds and part of the rib of an animal, perhaps an ox.

⁸ For example, *Air Survey and Archaeology*. London (1928) pp. 8-10 and p. 28. The map of Calstone Fields appears opp. p. 28. See also O. G. S. Crawford and A. Keiller: *Wessex from the Air*. Oxford (1928) pp. 166-8.

⁹ Samples from this layer, and from the buried soils at Horton, were analysed by the Department of Physiological Chemistry, Reading University.

THE EXCAVATION OF A GROUP OF BARROWS AT DOWN FARM, PEWSEY, WILTS

By FAITH de MALLET VATCHER

Five of the barrows in the Down Farm group at Pewsey were excavated during late September-October 1958 by the writer on behalf of the Ministry of Works, assisted successively during the five weeks by Mrs. E. Fowler, Major H. L. Vatcher, and Col. J. Haslam. Eight workmen were employed.

The barrows have been considerably ploughed down, the three saucer barrows in particular being virtually obliterated and almost invisible on the ground.

The writer wishes to thank Dr. I. W. Cornwall and Mr. P. Dorell for examining the bones and the soil samples, and Miss C. Western for her analysis of the charcoals.

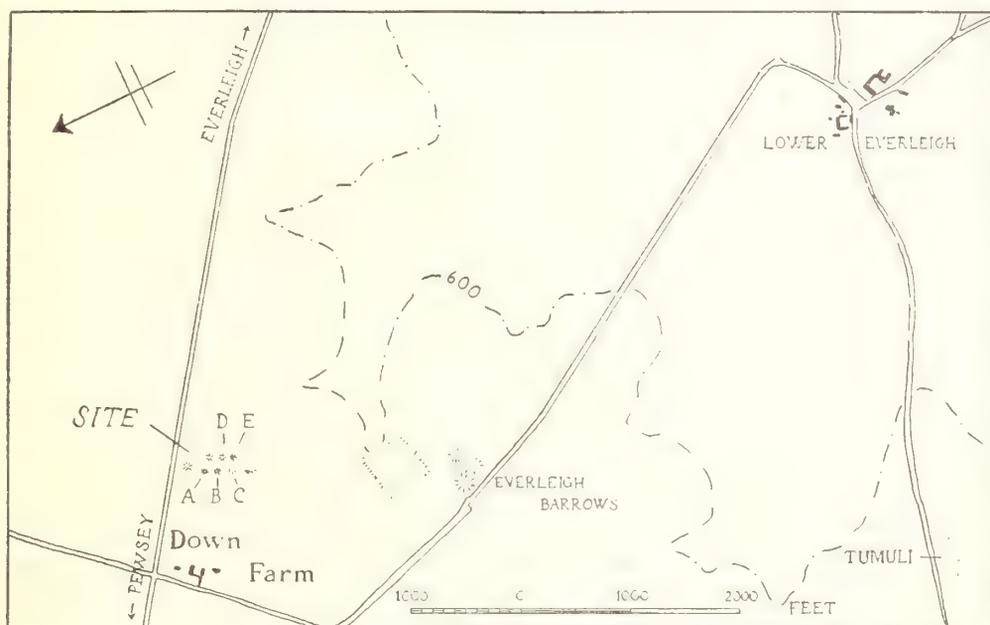


Fig. 1—Down Farm Barrows, Pewsey: Locality Map

THE SITE

The National Grid reference for the Down Farm barrows is SU 187566. They are situated on the northern edge of Salisbury Plain $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south of the Vale of Pewsey, and lie on the gradual southern slope of a dry valley, at an average height of 661 feet above sea level. The subsoil is Upper Chalk, on which is a capping of clay with flints. Arable farm land surrounds the barrows, which have been ploughed over for a considerable time, with the exception of two unexcavated bowl barrows of the group which are 7 and 9 feet high respectively. The Everleigh Barrows lie less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the south, and there are several other tumuli not far distant.

The Down Farm group consists of two bowl barrows without ditches, two bowl barrows with ditches, one bell barrow, three saucer barrows and one pond barrow.¹ The two ditchless bowl barrows and the three saucers were excavated in 1958. The bell and the pond barrows did not appear to be visible on the ground at the time of the excavation, but are supposed to lie north-north-east of Goddard's No. 5, and in near alignment with 5, 7, and 9.

PREVIOUS HISTORY

Some of the barrows were opened by Sir Richard Colt Hoare.² He illustrates two of the group. It is worth recording his remarks here. From Milton Farm, he journeyed south, where he found a group of eight barrows

The extreme rudeness and singularity of some of the eight barrows composing the group before mentioned tempted me to open some of them, particularly those two, which are engraved as specimens in my plates of tumuli. No. 8 is remarkable for having a more pointed apex than any other barrow I remember to have seen, on which account I have named it the Cone Barrow. About 3 or 4 feet from the surface we discovered a more than usual quantity of burned bones, accompanied by a very small lance-head of brass. The primary interment of burned bones was deposited in a deep cist cut in the chalk.

No. 12 is a low long barrow, surrounded, contrary to usual custom, by a circular ditch. Its surface seemed to present three sepulchral mounds raised from east to west, and to indicate three different interments; but in the eastern mound alone we were successful in finding the deposit of burned bones with two jet beads, a small pin of brass, and the fragments of a very rude little cup. At a short distance from the interment were two circular cineraria full of burned ashes. We opened the two smallest of the bowl-shaped mounds; in one of which we missed the interment, and in the other found the deposit of a skeleton, with the legs gathered up, and the head laid towards the south-west.

These barrows, owing to the clammy nature of the soil, occasioned much trouble in opening, and deterred me from exploring the remainder of the group.

It is interesting to note the difficulty experienced by Sir Richard with the clay soil—a difficulty experienced also by the excavator and increased by the almost continuous wet weather.

The group is included in Goddard's list,³ and his numbers are given in brackets on the site plan.

METHOD OF EXCAVATION

Sites A and B, Goddard's 4 and 6, the two ditchless or scrape bowl barrows, were marked out by the offset cross method, with the baseline through the two centres so that one long cutting could bisect the two barrows if necessary. On both barrows each arm of the cross was 6 feet wide, and 60 feet long in order to ascertain the possible existence of a ditch; none was found. The north quadrant of the mound of Site A was removed to a radius of 30 feet from the centre at the extremities, but a centre baulk was left within the quadrant 4 feet wide and 22 feet long. Part of the centre of the mound of Site B was removed by cuttings 6×6 feet in the north and east quadrants, and by another measuring 6×10 feet in the west quadrant.

Sites D and E, Goddard's 7 and 9, saucer barrows, were also marked out with a single baseline through both centres, and a cutting 225 feet long was laid out alternately on either side of this line so as to conform to the offset cross system if side cuttings from the centres were required. (Fig. 2 and Plate I). Except at the ends where it was narrower this long cutting was 6 feet wide. In the central area of Site D there was a 12×12 feet cutting in the north quadrant, and another measuring 12×18 feet in the south quadrant, with no baulks left between these and the main cutting as it was by then clear that time would not allow further cross-excavation. In the central area of Site E a 12×12 feet square was excavated in the north quadrant; in the east and south quadrants respectively small 4×8 feet and 5×3 feet cuttings were made to establish the limits of a possible grave site.

Site C, Goddard's 8, also a saucer barrow, was marked out with its base line at a right-angle to the base line through Sites D and E. A 4 feet wide, 110 feet long cutting was made on alternate sides of this line across the barrow to allow for the other arms of the cross, but here also there was insufficient time for further excavation. The central area was examined with 10×10 feet squares in the north and south quadrants, and the main cutting in the east and west quadrants was opened out to form part of 12×12 feet squares.

The ditches of Sites C, D, and E, where they were not excavated, were proved by probing at intervals of 10 feet or less, and there were no gaps.

A contour survey of the site was carried out by the writer.

DOWN FARM PEWSEY
BARROW GROUP

EXCAVATED
OCT. 1958
SITE PLAN

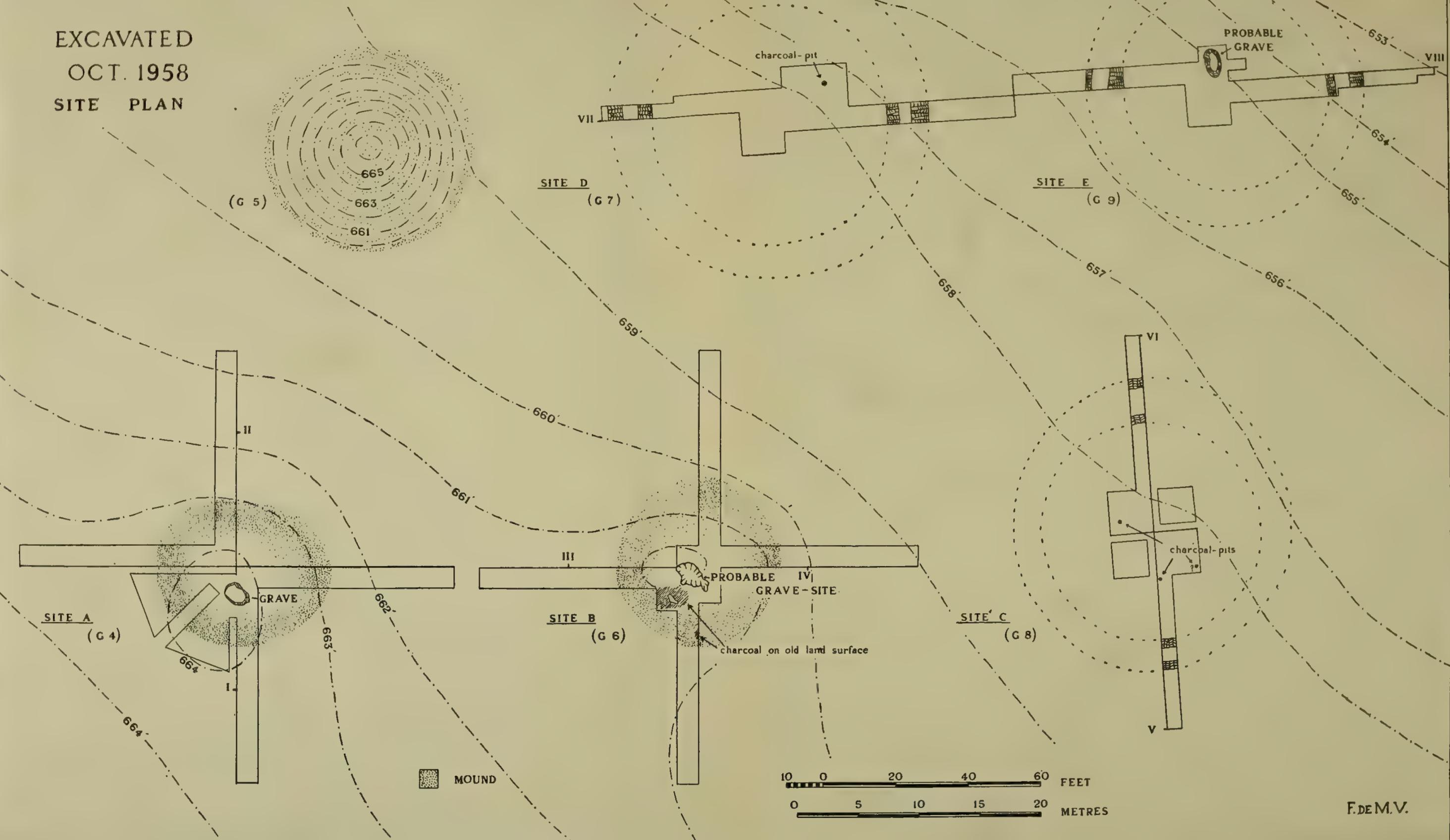
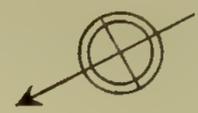


Fig 2.

THE EXCAVATION

The surface of the chalk beneath all the barrows was weathered, very uneven, and riddled with large and small rootholes filled with clay. These were particularly numerous under Site A, and indicated a growth of trees on the barrow since it was built, in a similar way to those at present growing on one of the unexcavated bowl barrows, Goddard's 10. The holes followed lines of growth, and the roots had continued up through the mound leaving decayed segments and stains, and causing disturbance of the soil. The rootholes were much fewer outside the mound (Pl. II).

Overlying the chalk under both bowl barrows, Sites A and B, was a layer of clay with flints about 1 foot thick, but tending to be slightly shallower outside the mounds. A line of flints on top of this layer marked the old land surface; there had either been a certain amount of erosion of the ancient soil in pre-barrow times and the flints had been left, or they were at the base of a thin ancient soil layer which was not distant from the similar mound material. The mound material itself was flinty clay scraped up from the surrounding area, and only 9 inches to 1 foot remained of this below plough soil. The mound of Site A was slightly oval, the diameter varying between 40 and 47 feet. The mound of Site B was 45 feet in diameter. Between the barrows, and on the downhill side of Site A, rainwash off the mounds, and vegetation, had produced a layer of dark soil rich in humus below modern ploughsoil.

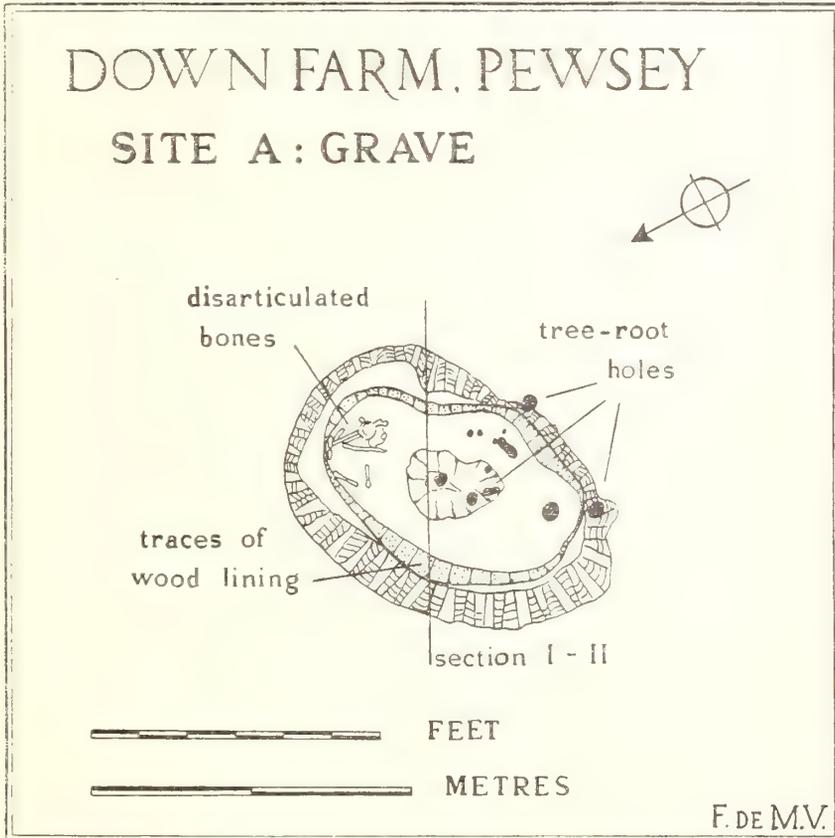


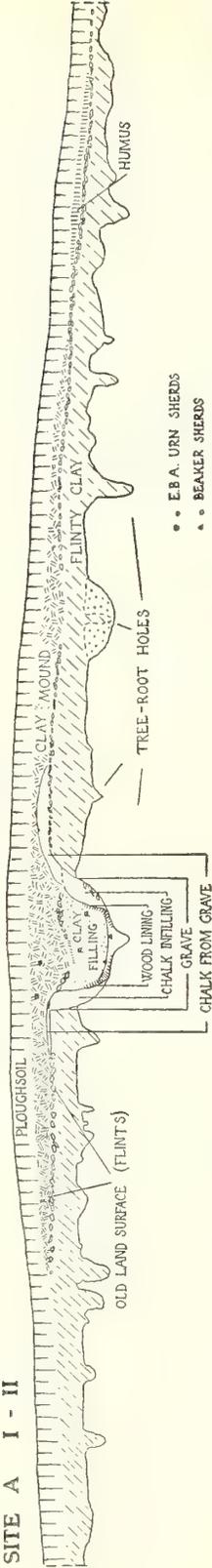
Fig. 3

A grave was found 5 feet north-west of the centre of the mound of Site A. (Grave plan, section I-II Fig. 3 and 4). This was first indicated by the remains of the chalk spoil heap lying on the old land sur-

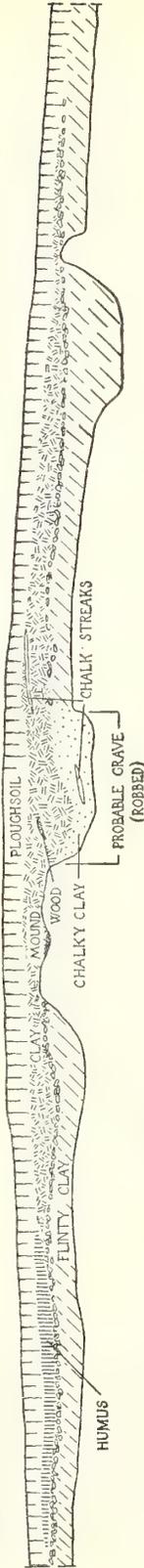
DOWN FARM, PEWSEY. BARROW GROUP

SECTIONS -

SITE A I - II



SITE B III - IV



SITE C V - VI

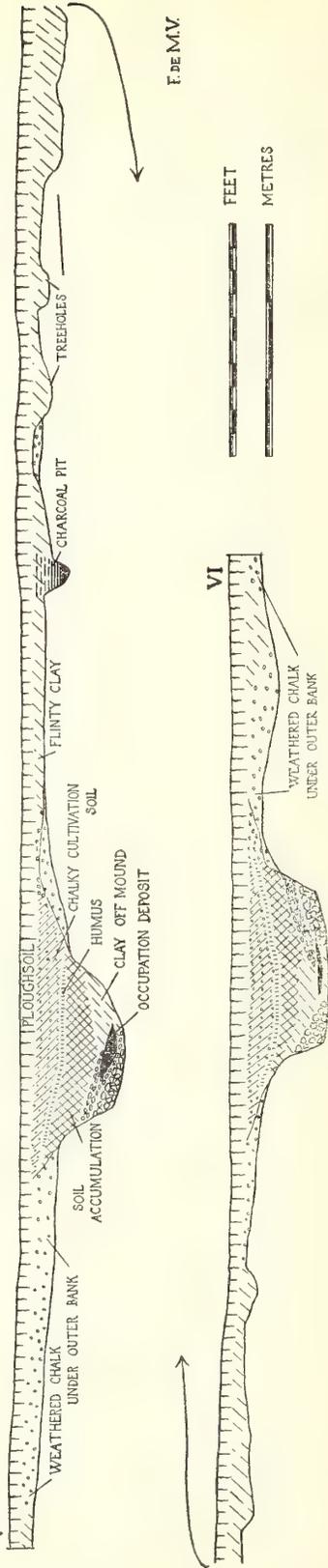


Fig. 4.



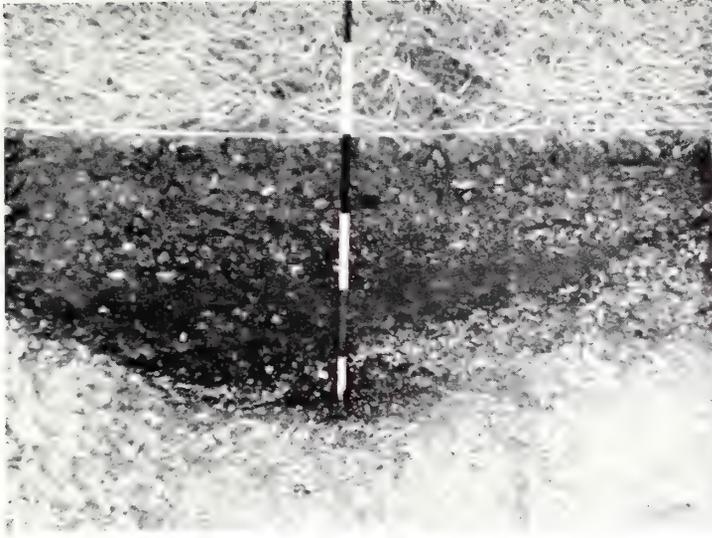
Site A. Grave in section.



Site A. Grave (upright ranging pole) and typical rootholes.



Site A. Remains of inhumation in grave. Dark stains behind bones and on sides of grave are traces of coffin.



Site D. Ditch section.



Site D. Hole containing charcoal.



Sites D and E during excavation. Ranging poles are in ditches and at centres.
Goddard's No. 5 in background.

face. The sub-rectangular grave was cut through the flinty clay and into the chalk below; it measured 4 feet 6 inches \times 7 feet and was aligned east-west. There were several rootholes in the base. Within the grave there was a wooden lining, the remains of either a hollowed tree-trunk or plank coffin. A certain amount of the chalk spoil had been replaced and packed between the wood and the sides of the grave. The coffin was oblong in shape, with bulging sides and squared ends, and measured 3 feet across and 5 feet 6 inches in length. When the filling of the wooden coffin was removed, the wood showed in plan as a grey powdery stain against the firm chalk packing, and appeared clearly in section. (Fig. 4, Section I-II). In the base of the coffin there was a layer of chalky grey soil, specks of charcoal (*ash-fraxinus*, and *elm-ulus*), and numerous decayed bone fragments: at the east end of the coffin part of a human pelvis, a femur, tibia and fibula were in articulation, and some of the other long bones with parts of the skull were scattered near (Pl. II). These were all decayed and spongy. One small and much abraded burnt sherd, probably Beaker, was found in this layer at the west end of the coffin. The fabric was slightly sandy with a few very fine flint grits. A minute unburnt fragment of a similar type of pottery was resting on the same layer.

Above the bones the coffin was filled with clay, presumably that which had been removed when the grave was dug. Halfway up this clay filling two small unabraded fragments of collared urn, featureless and undecorated but having the characteristic fabric and thickness of these vessels, were found 18 inches apart. The fabric was coarse with a few flint grits, brown-faced but shading to black inside.

At the top of the clay filling and level with the top of the grave there was a thin scatter of flints, which had been pulled into the grave when the last of the clay filling had been raked off the old land surface. Amongst the flints were found some small pieces of charcoal and some decayed wood (*fraxinus*), and just above them a fragmentary ox tibia. In section the flints were seen to dip over the grave where there had been subsidence due to compaction. In the mound material over the grave two more sherds were found of the same urn; one of these fitted one of the sherds found in the grave filling.

Two minimal fragments of pottery, much abraded, were found on the old land surface 5 feet from the east end of the grave, and a further small sherd was discovered in a patch of burnt clay and charcoal 15 inches from the surface in the mound material about 6 feet from the south side of the grave. The sherds bore resemblance to Beaker pottery, but were too small and decayed to be identified with any certainty.

In section the grave bore no sign of robbing; in plan there appeared to be no disturbance beyond that of tree-roots, but the wet condition of the clay made any slight difference indistinct. On the scanty evidence, it would appear that there were remains of Beaker occupation on the site of the barrow, and that two sherds found their way into the grave either with the trampling of the builders, or being taken or falling in with the chalky soil at the base of the coffin. The bones must either have been placed almost entirely disarticulated in the coffin when the flesh had nearly disintegrated, or the body must have been left for a time in the open grave until disintegration had taken place, followed by animal disturbance, etc. The first alternative would seem the most likely. Some pieces of urn which possibly had been in some association with the body, or which perhaps had been used in a ritual breaking, went in with the filling and also became embodied with the first part of the mound building over the grave. The growth of trees on the barrow and the acidity caused by their roots resulted in the further disturbance and decay of the already disarticulated bones.

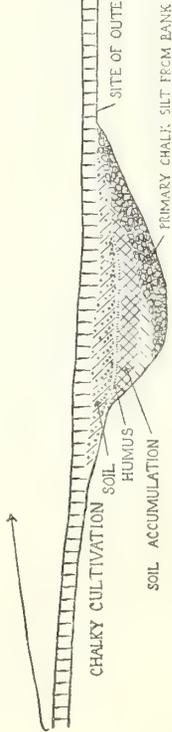
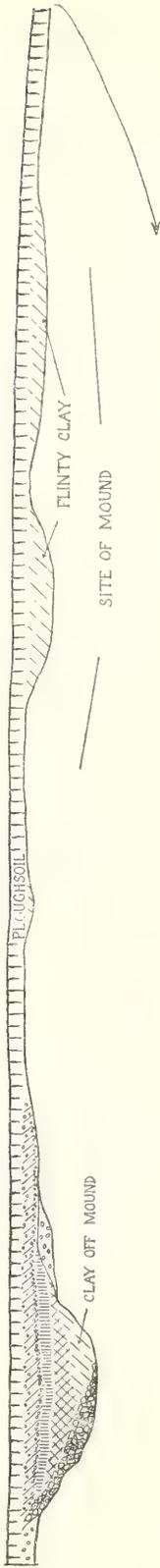
In the mound of Site B an irregular hole in the chalk, measuring about 5 \times 7 feet and aligned east-west, was found 4 feet north of the centre. This appeared to be the robbed site of a grave. Two feet to the north of this there was a large scatter of charcoal on the old land surface, identified as ash (*fraxinus*), and overlying the charcoal was a small patch of chalk, possibly part of the original spoil from the grave.

DOWN FARM, PEWSEY, BARROW GROUP

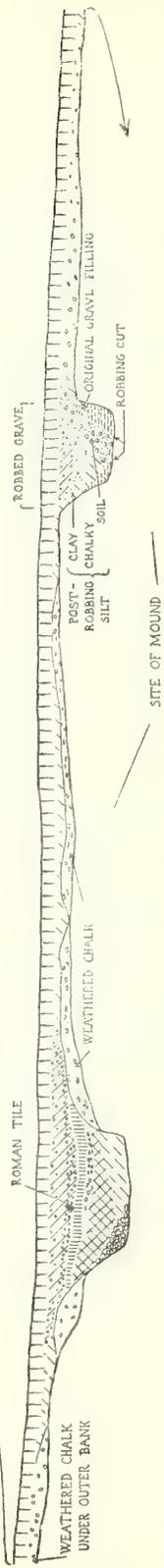
SECTION VII - VIII

SITE D

VII



SITE E



FDEMIV

VIII

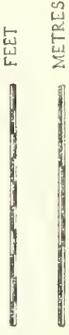


Fig. 5.

There was no burnt bone in the charcoal. Section III-IV, (Fig. 4), which bisected a corner of the grave near its eastern end, shows some of the original chalky clay filling remaining, but the main robbing was concentrated on the centre and western end, removing all the original filling and resulting in very mixed chalky clay. In the section, however, part of the original filling has been removed on the left-hand side of the grave; following that curve upwards, a chalk scatter is shown lying on the edges of the robbing scoop near the top of the mound, showing in section as a long streak. The actual cut through the mound material could not be seen in that section; the whole mass of clay overlying the grave area was so disturbed not only by robbing but still more by tree growth, that the limits of the robbing were hard to define, and the evidence for the grave itself must be said to be inconclusive. A small piece of decayed wood in the same section appeared to have no significance.

Under the south-western edge of the mound, on the old land surface, there was a small hearth; the charcoal has been identified as oak (*quercus*) and ash (*fraxinus*).

One small abraded sherd of Windmill Hill pottery was found in the mound material on the north-west side of the barrow. The fabric was smooth and leathery with coarse flint grits.

Sites C, D, and E, the three saucer barrows, were identical in general characteristics. In diameter, measuring from inner edge to inner edge of the ditches, they were 60 feet, 63 feet, and 55 feet respectively. The width of the ditches at the upper edges varied between 8 feet 6 inches and 12 feet; the depth between 3 feet 6 inches and 4 feet 6 inches. They were flat bottomed with sloping sides, which were accentuated at the upper edges by weathering.

The evidence of the silting in the ditches, borne out by an aerial photograph seen by the writer, showed clearly that the chalk from the ditches had been used to build outer banks, and that the low mounds of the barrows were composed entirely of clay scraped up from the surrounding area as well as from the tops of the ditches. All the primary silt, and what secondary silt there was, had come in to the ditch only from the outside. From the inside, the primary silt was flinty clay. (Section VII-VIII, Fig. 5).

Where the bank had been, the chalk underneath was weathered, but not to the stage of becoming soil, which it had reached in general at that level under the mounds, where it had not had the protection of the chalk bank.⁴ Since the barrows were built there had been so much erosion and weathering that the level of the ancient soil was above the present surface; recent deep ploughing had completed the process, in Sites D and E particularly, of removing all material down to natural unweathered chalk in a good many places. The chalk was pitted and disturbed by tree-root holes, and solution holes, in the same way as the chalk under the bowl barrows. Where the ploughing had not gone too deep, there was flinty clay in the hollows and root holes.

In one respect, those sections of the ditch excavated in Site C differed from the other barrows. They contained a small deposit of dark plant humus, occupation soil and charcoal which appeared to have been rainwashed in from the bank side. This had come into the ditch during the gradual falling of secondary chalk silt, and clay from the mound. (Figs. 4 and 5, Section VI-VII). It suggests, in view of the short lapse of time between the digging of the ditch and the accumulation, when the bank was still clean chalk, the drift of leaves from nearby trees combined with a small amount of refuse from human occupation in the vicinity.

Over the secondary silt layer in all the ditches, a thick band of accumulated soil extended from edge to edge. This was dark and free of pebbles or chalk, and represented a considerable period of undisturbed rainwash; and, as the overlying narrow dark humus layer showed, also a growth of vegetation. A layer of chalky soil filled the remainder of each ditch up to modern ploughsoil. As a result of cultivation, the chalk flecks were rather more numerous at the base than nearer the top; they were caused by the plough scraping the edges of the ditch. This was the only layer in which any finds were made, all the

rest being sterile; two fragments of Roman tile and a small unidentifiable piece of iron were found at the base of the chalky soil.

There was no sign of a grave in the mounds of either Sites C or D, but about 16 feet south-west of the centre of Site D a bowl-shaped hole filled with dense black charcoal appeared below modern plough-soil. This was 15 inches in diameter, and 16 inches deep, and regularly cut into the chalk (Pl. I). There was no soil mixed with the charcoal and it had clearly been carefully collected and placed in the hole. It has been identified as ash (*fraxinus*). The same phenomenon occurred in Site C, where a similar hole was found 9 feet north-east of the centre of the barrow, containing *pyrus* type and poplar (*populus*) or willow (*salix*) charcoal. There was a further hole 15 feet north-west of the centre, which is shown on section V-VI (Fig. 4); this contained ash (*fraxinus*) charcoal. A smaller and narrower hole found 16 feet west of the centre contained charcoal mixed with a certain amount of soil, and is not considered to be of similar character to the others. This is borne out by the analysis of the charcoal as sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) in addition to oak; sweet chestnut was not known in this country until Roman times, and the hole may well be that of a fence post.

Three feet east of the centre of the mound of Site E an oval hole was found in the chalk which gave indications of being a robbed grave. It measured 8 feet by 4 feet and was aligned approximately east-west. Section VII-VIII (Fig. 5) shows the composition of the filling. What appeared to be the original chalky backfilling at the sides of the grave had been cut into at a later date and the hole left open. This silted up gradually with the chalky soil taken from the grave coming in from the right hand side, and with the clay off the surface of the chalk from the left. This was followed by further accumulations of chalky soils in the hollow.

The only sherd of pottery found in any of the saucer barrows came from Site D, where a very small and much abraded fragment of Windmill Hill pottery was found 8 inches from the centre on the south side at the base of modern ploughsoil.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Two bowl barrows without ditches and three saucer barrows were examined.

In Site A, one of the bowl barrows, there was an oval grave in which were traces of a wooden coffin, either of tree-trunk or plank construction. Since there was charcoal amongst the decayed wood of the coffin base and sides, the tree or trees of which it was made were probably charred during its construction. This charcoal was ash; in the lower half of the coffin filling elm was detected as well as ash; in the decayed wood scattered on top of the filling, which may or may not have been some sort of lid, there was poplar or willow in addition to ash. It would seem likely therefore that the coffin itself was of ash: the elm and poplar charcoal were probably intrusive with the filling from surface hearths. If however the coffin was made of planks, then different species could have been used. If a tree-trunk was used, it was square-ended and not boat-shaped.

Within the coffin were the decayed bones of a male aged between twenty and thirty. Some were in articulation but the rest were scattered and fragmentary, inferring that the corpse had been exposed elsewhere and the bones gathered up and placed in the coffin when the flesh had disintegrated. There were no accompanying grave goods, but a few sherds of similar fabric and thickness to a Wessex type collared urn, which possibly had been in some association with the body elsewhere, were found in the grave filling and in the mound immediately above it, also the tibia of an ox.

There was some evidence of pre-barrow occupation of probable Beaker date from a few sherds which were found on the old land surface and in the grave, but these were too small and abraded to identify closely.

In the other bowl barrow, Site B, there was an oval hole near the centre of the mound which gave the

appearance in section of being a robbed grave, but the evidence was inconclusive and there were no finds to support it. There was a large area of charcoal outside the grave on the old land surface. The growth of trees on the barrows had done much to destroy evidence.

Sites C, D, and E, the saucer barrows, had banks of chalk outside their ditches, but the low mounds, of which nothing remained, were constructed only of clay. At the top of the ditch silting was a cultivation layer of Romano-British date.

No grave was found in Sites C or D, but in Site D a basin-shaped hole containing a mass of charcoal was found, and there were two similar holes in Site E. These were evidently some form of offering, and may have contained other substances in addition to charcoal. In Site E a probable grave had been robbed and then left open, silting back naturally. Again there were no finds to support the scanty evidence.

From the few fragments of Windmill Hill pottery found on the site it can be deduced that there was Neolithic occupation in the area at an earlier date.

DISCUSSION

For its linear characteristics and for its variety of barrows, the Down Farm group may be compared with several other better-known barrow groups of the Wessex Culture of the Early Bronze Age, e.g. Normanton, Wilsford, Winterbourne Stoke, Snail Down. The proportion of saucer barrows to other barrows is rather higher than in most other groups; it is a possibility that disc and saucer barrows may be the graves of women. In size of mounds and ditches the Down Farm barrows are average. The feature of chalk outer banks to the saucer barrows, contrasting with the dark clay mounds, is another example of the tendency of barrow builders to prefer strong colour contrasts: it was their usual custom to put a capping of chalk on the mound itself.⁵

There are many instances of coffin burial in the Early Bronze Age, both with inhumations and cremations; the coffins are usually of dug out tree-trunk construction and either square-ended or boat-shaped, but boxes and chests of planks are also quite common, e.g. Winterbourne Stoke 4⁶, Amesbury 17, both containing cremations. Although the rite of coffin burial appears to have begun in Beaker times,⁸ in most of the graves the accompanying grave goods have belonged to the Wessex Culture.⁹ Coffin burial seems to be as early in Britain as in Scandinavia and North Germany, where many tree-trunk coffins are recorded. In Denmark alone there are over 300, including the clothed burials of Skrydstrup and Egtved;¹⁰ in Germany, over 250 examples, of which the majority were dug out from the solid trunk.¹¹ In Holland also there are numerous examples, but here where there is frequently only a soil discolouration remaining it is difficult to be certain whether the coffin is of dug out tree-trunk type.¹² Overall the rite seems to begin generally about 1600 B.C. From the grave goods it is considered that those who used this form of burial were connected with the gold and amber trade:¹³ from the preponderance of daggers and battleaxes indicating warrior graves it is thought that burials were usually male. The bone analysis from Down Farm supports this.

Several tree-trunk coffins were symbolic or actual boats;¹⁴ it is probable that, if a tree-trunk type, the Down Farm example was square-ended. It is not uncommon for the inhumation in a coffin to be dissolved and fragmentary.¹⁵

There are several comparisons for the possible ritual breaking of the collared urn, the remains of which were found in the grave filling at Down Farm. These include a barrow at Codford Lamb Down recently excavated by the writer, where sherds of a collared urn were found scattered on the old land surface under the central area of the mound. There are other examples at Bishop's Cannings 61¹⁶ and Ogbourne St. Andrew 6.¹⁷

Ox bones have been found in association with the burials in other barrows, e.g. Winterbourne Monkton 9,¹⁸ and in Neolithic long barrows, e.g. Nutbane, in the cairn over the burials.¹⁹

Circular holes full of charcoal have been recorded from other Wiltshire barrows. In a disc barrow, Chisledon 1 on Burderop Down there were two circular holes full of wood ash near what may be the primary cremation.²⁰ A bowl barrow at All Cannings, Tan Hill 1, contained two circular cists full of ashes, but these were 2 feet 6 inches in diameter.²¹

APPENDIX I

DOWN FARM, PEWSEY

Report on the bones by P. DORELL and I. W. CORNWALL

Site A.

Group A, in wooden coffin.

The skeleton is that of a strongly-built individual probably male. Such skull-sutures and epiphyseal sutures as can now be traced indicate an age between 20 and 30 years. Owing to the fragmentary nature of the long bones, it is not possible to calculate the stature in life of the individual.

The only difference noted from the skeleton of any present-day Englishman was the marked *platynemia* (transverse flattening) of the shaft of the tibia, a condition not uncommon in people of a primitive way of life, possibly connected with habitual posture.

Group B, top of coffin filling.

Not human. Proximal fragment of a tibia, of ox.

APPENDIX II.

DOWN FARM, PEWSEY

Report on the soil-samples by P. DORELL and I. W. CORNWALL

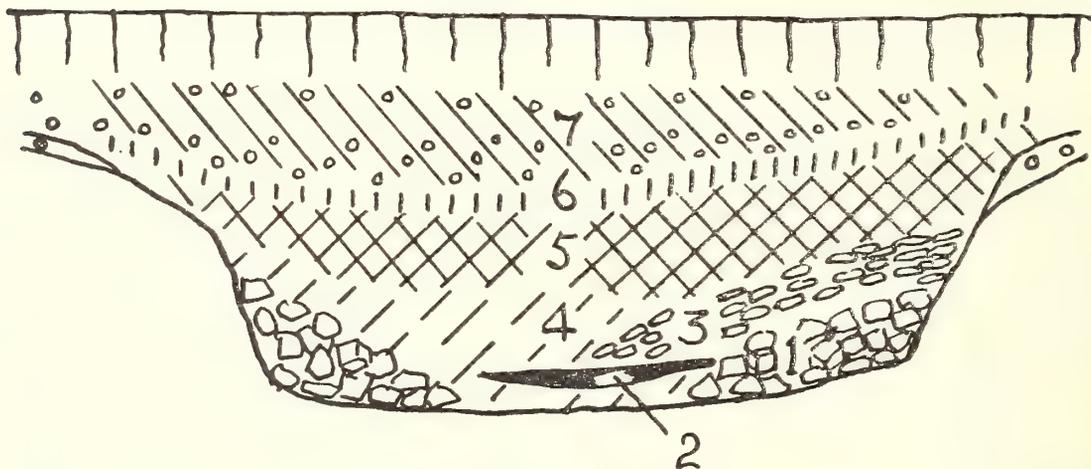


Fig. 6—Layers in Site C ditch section

Site C, ditch section.

Eight samples from the filling of Site C ditch were examined and compared with three from a nearby section through the modern plough to natural chalk. Questions related to layers and finding (See Fig. 6 above) were as follows:—

Layer 2. Occupation deposit. This is of relatively fine grain, dark in colour, and contained a considerable clay-fraction, with much organic matter, some charcoal and numerous broken snail-shells.

The origin of the organic matter not being clear, comparative estimations of phosphate were carried out on this and immediately neighbouring samples, high phosphate being regarded as characterizing animal, as opposed to vegetable, matter.

Layer	Phosphate as P ² O ⁵ (mgs. per 100 gms. dry sample)
1	1.65
2	1.95
3	1.85
4	1.2

The differences were, thus, not significant of any concentration of organic rubbish in Layer 2, so that the organic matter was evidently mainly plant-humus and probably natural. The presence of charcoal and the broken snails suggest hearths and disturbance, perhaps by trampling, at no great distance, but the deposit is probably surface rainwash dating from only a year or two after the digging of the ditch and due to a single heavy storm or wet spell of weather enabling a puddle to collect at the bottom of the ditch.

Layers 5 and 6. These clearly form a buried soil of *rendsina* type, with its surface, carrying vegetation, at 6. Its freedom from chalk pebbles and other stones shows it to have developed for a long time without disturbance, largely by worm action. In its marked crumb-structure, high humus content and lack of secondary calcite it differs basically from the pale, wind-sorted silt of the Nutbane ditch.

Layer 7. This covers the buried surface and contains much more humus than the corresponding level of the check-section. It therefore probably consists largely of surface-soil brought into the ditch section by the earliest cultivation of the site. The maturity of the buried soil and the height of the ditch-filling at that stage suggest a long interval, of the order of one or two millennia, between the digging of the ditch and the first cultivation. This, therefore, is unlikely to be earlier than later Iron Age or Roman date, if one assumes a saucer-barrow to belong to the Early Bronze Age.

The concentration of chalk flecks towards the bottom of Layer 7 is probably due to plough-scraping of the weathered chalk surface alongside and at the lips of the ditch and admixture with the A-horizon material pushed by the share into the depression. This would decrease with progressive levelling of the site of the ditch.

APPENDIX III

REPORT ON THE CHARCOALS FROM DOWN FARM.

By MISS C. WESTERN

	Percentage of identified specimens
Of the samples submitted, 9 were <i>Fraxinus</i> (ash)	45
4 „ <i>Quercus</i> (oak)	20
2 „ <i>Populus</i> (poplar) or <i>Salix</i> (willow)	10
1 was <i>Ulmus</i> (elm)	5
1 „ <i>Castanea</i> (sweet chestnut)	5
1 „ <i>Carpinus</i> (hornbeam)	5
1 „ <i>Acer</i> (maple)	5
1 „ <i>Pyrus</i> type	5
1. From base of coffin filling. Good charcoal fragments: 2 spp. represented— <i>Fraxinus</i> <i>Ulmus</i>	

- 1a. From top of coffin filling. Poor charcoal specimens, probably of knotty wood, mostly indeterminate.
Probably 2 spp. represented— *Fraxinus*
Populus or *Salix*
2. Remains of coffin, staining the impressed chalk infilling round sides of grave. One minute fragment of charcoal among other gravelly, chalky material.
1 sp. represented— *Fraxinus*
3. Filling from hole in surface of chalk, Site D. Quantity of powdery humified material containing numerous small fragments of hard charcoal.
1 sp. represented— *Fraxinus*
4. Filling from similar hole in Site C, east quadrant. Humified material containing some good fragments of charcoal.
2 spp. represented— *Pyrus* type
Populus or *Salix*.
5. Filling from similar hole in Site C, west quadrant, centre square. Humified material containing much charcoal, including some good lumps.
2 spp. represented— *Quercus*
Castanea.
Castanea is not known in this country before Roman times, so there is a possibility that this specimen is intrusive; perhaps it was part of a modern fence post.
6. Filling from similar hole in Site C, west cutting. Humified material with one small fragment of charcoal.
1 sp. represented— *Fraxinus*.
7. From Site A, east quadrant, charcoal traces just below old land surface. Small pieces of poorly preserved and much deformed charcoal.
2 spp. represented— *Quercus* (probably)
Carpinus.
8. From Site B, north quadrant, charcoal traces 9 inches below old land surface. Samples of soil containing some small fragments of charcoal.
1 sp. represented— *Fraxinus*.
9. From Site A, south-west cutting, an old land surface. Mass of black humified material containing numbers of small lumps of charcoal.
2 spp. represented— *Quercus*
Fraxinus.
10. From Site B, north-west cutting, hearth area on old land surface. Soil and small pieces of hard charcoal.
2 spp. represented— *Quercus*
Fraxinus.
11. From Site B, north quadrant, large scatter on old land surface. Soil and small pieces of hard charcoal.
1 sp. represented— *Fraxinus*.
12. From Site C ditch, Layer 2. Soil and chalk with very small fragments of poor and crumbly charcoal.
1 sp. represented— *Acer*.

Interesting features of these identifications are the large number of different genera represented, the unusually high proportion of *Fraxinus* and low proportion of *Quercus*. The latter often forms as much

as 80-90% of the identifiable charcoals from a site, while *Fraxinus* is commonly poorly represented. Both these trees are present in the modern vegetation in the neighbouring valleys, and could be expected there in the Sub-Boreal and Sub-Atlantic periods.

Both *Ulmus* and *Acer* prefer a calcareous or reasonably acid-free soil, though the former is only recorded once in Wiltshire by Godwin (*History of the British Flora*, 1956) and the latter not at all. However, they incline to be numerous, though not gregarious, and the lack of recorded instances need not prove absence.

Unfortunately *Populus* and *Salix* are not normally distinguishable in charcoals. Both are recorded by Godwin (*Op. cit.*) from the central part of southern England and from the south-west, though more frequently from the north and east. Both, however, occur very widely and in a great variety of soil conditions.

The Rosaceous charcoals cannot be distinguished from each other. *Pyrus* type therefore, may refer to *Crataegus* (hawthorn), *Sorbus* (whitebeam or wild service), *Malus* (crab), *Pyrus* (wild pear), or any of the genus *Prunus* (sloe, plum, etc.). *Crataegus*, *Sorbus*, or *Prunus* are all equally likely to occur in this locality.

Tansley (*The British Isles and their Vegetation*, 1939) places *Carpinus* (hornbeam) in south-east England, not so far west as Wiltshire, but Godwin records it during Neolithic to Roman times in Wiltshire and Hampshire. It is difficult to make a firm determination, as *Carpinus* is only distinguished from *Corylus* (hazel) by minute features which are not always visible in charcoals. In general however this specimen appears closer to *Carpinus* than to *Corylus*.

¹ *V.C.H. Wilts* Vol. I, 187, 210, 225.

² *Ancient Wilts*, I, 191.

³ *W.A.M.* xxxviii (1913-14), 306.

⁴ *Ant.* XXXI (1957), 229.

⁵ *P.P.S.* vii, (1941), 94.

⁶ *A.W.* I, 122, pl. xiv.

⁷ *A.W.* I, 126.

⁸ Cartington, Northumberland *P.S.A. Newcastle-on-Tyne* 3rd ser. Vol. vi, 82-84.

⁹ Collingbourne Ducis 4, *A.W.* I, 185, pl. xxiii. Winterbourne Stoke 5, *A.W.* I, 122, pl. xv. Winterbourne Stoke 9, *A.W.* I, 124-5. Hove, Sussex, Curwen, *Archaeology of Sussex*, 1937, 162. West Tanfield, N.R. *Y.A.J.* I, 119. Bishop's Waltham, Hants. *P.P.S.* XXIII (1957), 137.

¹⁰ *Danmarks Oldtid* II, 30 (1st ed.).

¹¹ *Zur Alteren Nordischen Bronzezeit*, passim.

¹² *Die Bauart des Einzelgraber*.

¹³ *P.P.S.* XV (1949), 102.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 90.

¹⁵ Fovant 1. *W.A.M.* xlv (1927-29), 101. Cartington, Northumberland. *P.S.A. Newcastle-on-Tyne*, 3rd ser., Vol. VI, 82-84.

¹⁶ *W.A.M.* vi (1860), 323.

¹⁷ *W.A.M.* xix (1881), 67-69.

¹⁸ *Proc. Arch. Inst. Salisbury* 1849, 105, figs. aa, bb, and 10.

¹⁹ *P.P.S.* xxv (1959), 24.

²⁰ *W.A.M.* xlv (1927-29), 242.

²¹ *W.A.M.* vi (1860), 325.

OLD SARUM

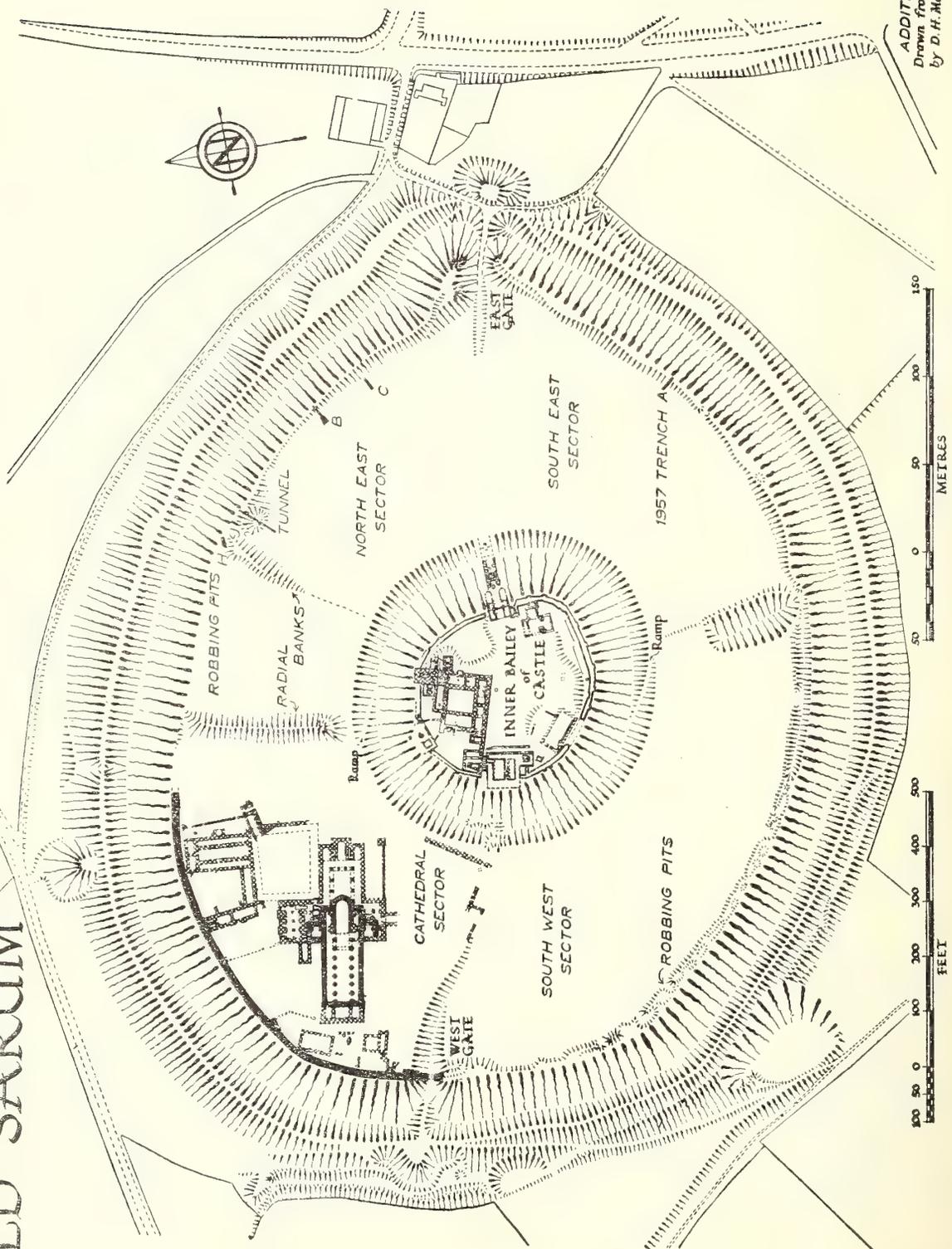


Fig. 1—Plan of site

ADDITIONS 1957
Drawn from a Survey made
by D. H. Montgomery, F.S.A

EXCAVATIONS AT OLD SARUM, 1957

By PHILIP A. RAHTZ and JOHN W. G. MUSTY

SUMMARY

The excavations described below were undertaken in 1957 to test the continuity of the curtain wall round the Outer Bailey, at Old Sarum, and to locate a tunnel seen there in 1795. The wall was shown to be absent throughout the north-east sector, where there was only a bank. This bank is a vestige of the pre-Norman defences, but was probably strengthened in the Norman period. The tunnel was found and entered for a distance of 52 feet; it appears to link the Outer Bailey with the exterior north-east of the earthwork.

In the course of this work, it was demonstrated that the earthwork is of Iron Age A origin, and a probable entrance of this period was located. This was followed by occupation of some intensity in the first to third centuries A.D. No indications were found of Saxon occupation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Two of the Old Sarum staff (Mr. O. Bailey and Mr. H. Bletsoe) were employed for a week in March, 1957, and for two weeks in November, 1957. In November they were reinforced by members of the Salisbury Field Club, whose help we would like to acknowledge, in particular that of David Algar and David Truckle.

We would also like to thank the following for all their help:—the local staff of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, Mrs. M. J. Fowler, Mr. Brian Hartley, Dr. H. Taylor, Professor Hawkes, Mr. Collin Bowen, and Mr. H. de S. Shortt. The excavation was financed by the Ancient Monuments Division of the Ministry of Works, at the request of Mr. H. M. Colvin and the committee of the *King's Works*.¹ The finds, photographs and records have been deposited in the Salisbury, South Wilts and Blackmore Museum.

THE CURTAIN WALL

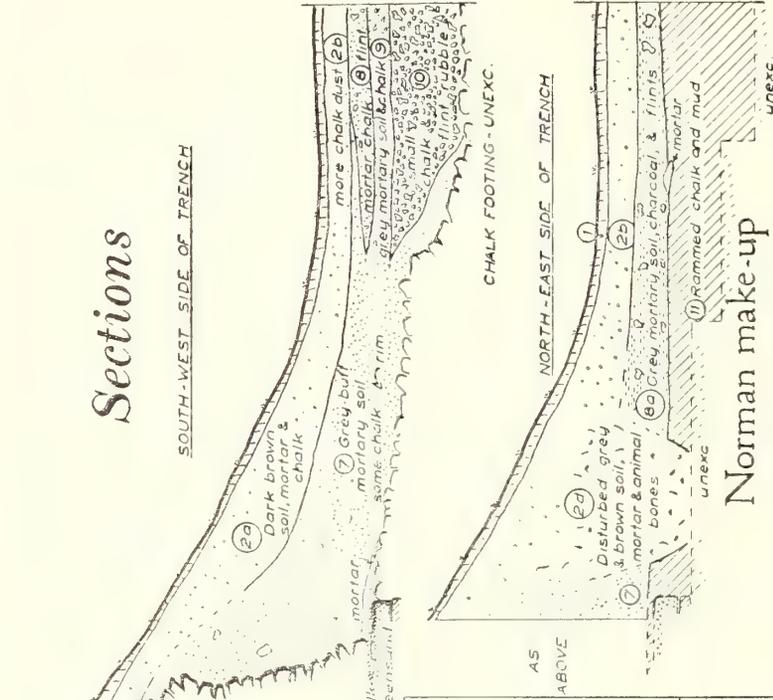
Previous References. The reports of the earlier excavations may be found in Vols. xxiii-xxviii (1910-16) of the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries. The problems of the site were also more recently discussed by Montgomerie, one of the original excavators, in Volume civ (1947) of the *Archaeological Journal*, hereafter referred to as *Montgomerie 1947*. The wall round the Outer Bailey, if continuous, would be $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long, enclosing an area of 29½ acres. In the 1912-1914 excavations the wall was shown to exist round the north-west (cathedral) sector, and Montgomerie assumed that it continued round the entire Outer Bailey.² The wall found in 1914 was 11½ ft. wide, and appeared to be contemporary with a thick 'make-up' used by the Normans to level up the west slopes of the site; the 'make-up' had apparently submerged the traces of earlier defences; above these was less homogeneous material, apparently a revetment for the wall itself.³ In previous accounts the wall has been called the 'city' wall because it has been thought that the 'city' or mediaeval town was at least partly in the Outer Bailey.

There is no evidence yet, however, of buildings in the Outer Bailey other than those associated with the cathedral and castle and it seems more likely that the 'city' was outside the site in the mediaeval suburbs,⁴ and on the southern slopes.⁵

Surface Indications. (See Fig. 1.)

The line of the wall around the north-west (cathedral) sector shows now as a shallow depression some 15 feet wide with a slight bank 2-3 feet high on its exterior. This is presumably the robbing trench of the wall with the remains of its supposed revetment as shown in the section reproduced on p. 135 of *Montgomerie 1947*.⁶ Similar indications exist throughout the whole of the south-west sector and between the two radial banks on the north side.

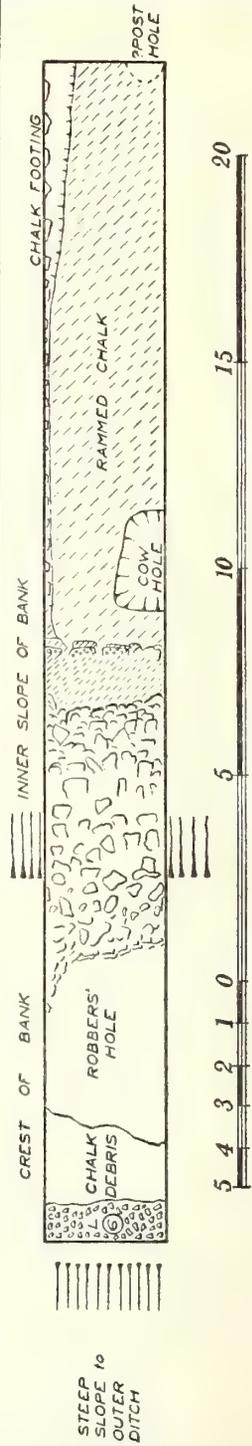
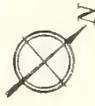
Sections



- 1 Turf and topsoil
- 2 Brown soil, small chalk and fine chalk grit
- 3 Chalk mud, grit, and mortar
- 4 Chalk mud and grit
- 5 Chalk lumps and mud
- 6 Rammed chalk

OLD SARUM 1957 Trench A

Plan



Scale of feet

Fig. 2—Trench A

Assuming, then, that the wall's existence was proved in over half of the circuit, a cut was made into each of the remaining two segments, on either side of the main eastern entrance. In neither case was there any sign of a robbing trench, but, instead, a bank 6-10 feet high on the inner side of the outer ditch. In the north-east sector, the inner slope of this bank is partly covered by layers of soil, chalk and flints, increasing towards the north (see Section B, fig. 9).

PRESENT EXCAVATION

Trench A was cut into the bank in the south-east sector, and showed that the bank contained the wall. *Trenches B and C* were cut into the inner slope of the bank in the north-east sector, and showed this to consist only of chalk, soil and flints; there were some flints and mortar in the upper layers, and a chalk wall and secondary mortar floor in *Trench C*. The tunnel excavation described in the later part of this article and *Trench J* confirmed the absence of the wall at the west end of this sector. *Trench H* located the end of the wall foundation immediately west of the eastern radial bank, in the last of the robbing pits showing on the surface.

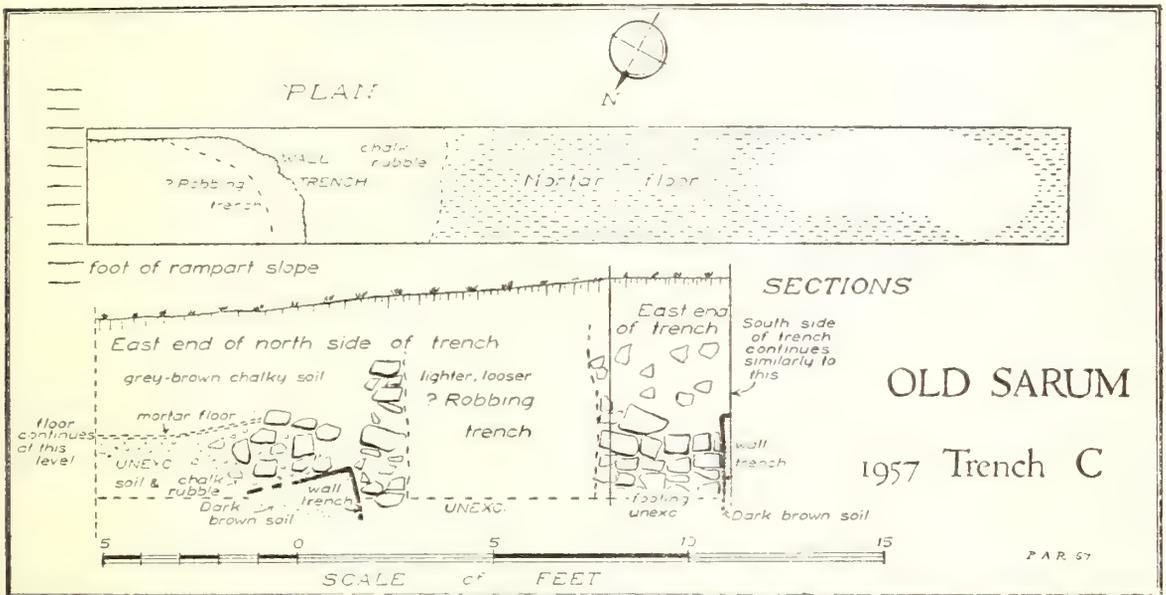


Fig. 3—Trench C

Trench A (see fig. 2 and plate I). The wall here appears to have been 11-12 feet wide, as in the cathedral sector, and lies only a few inches below the turf on the bank; it survives as a mass of mortared flint and chalk rubble, with a little greensand. The inner facing has apparently been removed (a squared block of greensand was found in the debris) and the outer part has been robbed by a pit, several of which can be discerned in other parts of the same stretch of bank. On the outer side of this robbing hole is a bank of rammed chalk (fig. 2, layer 6), which may be the remains of a wall revetment or the surviving remnant of an earlier bank. On the inner side of the wall was a 'make-up' of rammed chalk (fig. 2, layer 11). A 'make-up' of similar nature was shown to be some 14 feet deep in the cathedral sector,⁷ but was only excavated to a depth of 2 feet in the present trench. It continued as a thin layer under the main body of the wall, and below it was a footing of greensand blocks with no mortar. Thus the wall is contemporary with, or later than, the 'make-up' at this point. The thin 'separating' layer of 'make-up' and the mortar of the wall above it continued inwards for a short distance on the south-west side of the trench over a subsidiary chalk footing at right-angles to the main wall. This

extended as a partly robbed-out footing as far as the trench was cut. It is clearly contemporary with the main wall, but its purpose must remain uncertain. A possible post-hole was found at the end of the trench penetrating the chalk 'make-up' to a depth of 1 foot.

Dating. No sealed sherds were found; some disturbed dark soil lay on the chalk make-up (layer 8A) and in this were sherds of the 12th and 13th centuries A.D.

Trench B (see fig. 9). This was cut into the bank in March, 1957, and extended to the slope below in November. The stratification is complex and of at least three periods, Iron Age, Belgic-Roman and Mediaeval. It is described in detail later, and it is sufficient here to say that no structure was found which might be interpreted as the curtain wall; layer 15 (flints and mortar) probably resulted from the destruction of some structure, and there are indications of timber defensive works at this point which are likely to be of mediaeval date.

Trench C (see fig. 3) showed no indication of any flint and mortar structures, but only a robbed-out chalk wall on the inner side of the bank. Rubble from the destruction of this wall was overlaid by a patchy mortar floor; in the soil immediately above this were sherds of the 12th and 13th centuries A.D. (including no. 20, p. 370). These feature cut or overlay a dark soil, similar to layer 21 in Trench B, which was not excavated.

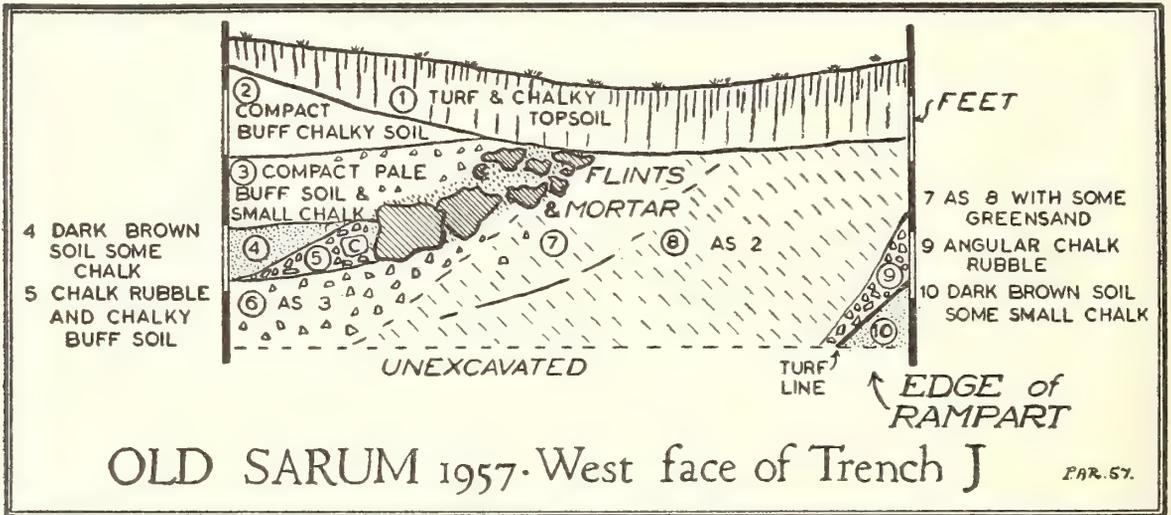


Fig. 4—Trench J

Trench J (see fig. 4) was cut to find out if there were any masonry structures associated with the bank above the tunnel. Traces of the earlier bank were seen at the north end of this trench (layer 10 and possibly 9) and these were overlaid by soil, flints, and mortar similar to layers 14 and 15 of Trench B. The flints and mortar dipped sharply to the east from the drawn section. Their relationship to the curtain wall and tunnel is uncertain.

Trench H (see fig. 5) was cut and extended to locate the east end of the curtain wall after it had been shown to be absent in Trenches B, C and that cut for the tunnel. As already mentioned, surface indications of robbing pits in the sector between the radial banks suggested the wall's former existence here, and Trench H was cut on the eastern edge of the most easterly of these pits. The edge of the robbing pit coincided almost exactly with the south end of the cutting, which explains the disparity between the end section and the others shown in fig. 5. Again, the earlier bank was shown to have survived at the north end of the cutting (layers 6-9). It abuts here on undisturbed chalk bedrock at a high level, and is cut by the robbing trench of the curtain wall.

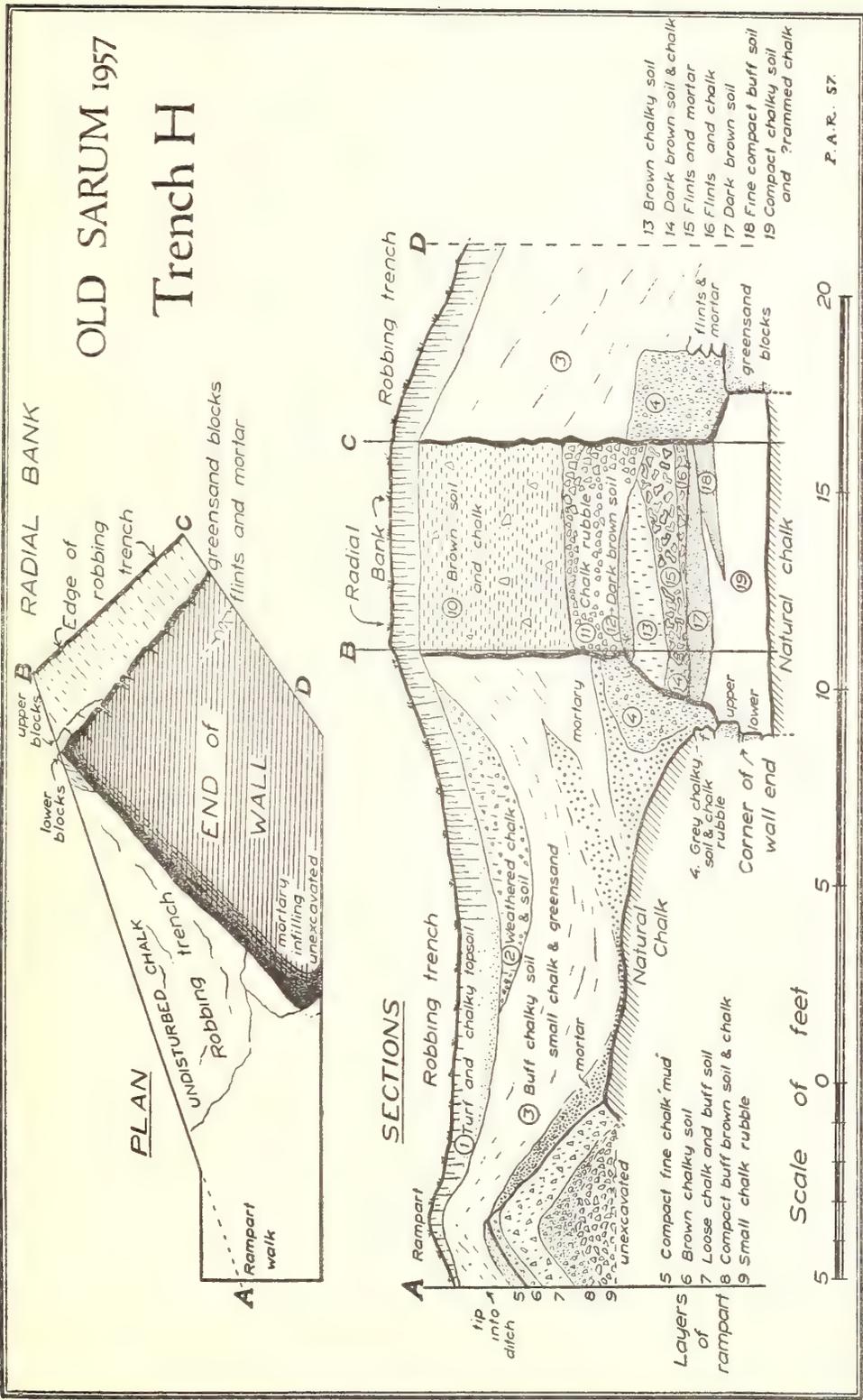


Fig. 5—Trench H

The end of the wall survives at foundation level and its wall trench ends squarely where it is cut into the chalk. (It is assumed here that it *is* the curtain wall, and not the wall of some subsidiary structure, such as a tower.) A footing of greensand blocks 9 feet wide supports flint and mortar masonry which was 8 feet or less in width, but of sufficient magnitude to justify its interpretation as the curtain wall.

The wall-end had been robbed by a pit or trench which cut away the inner edge of the surviving bank, and also the natural chalk to the east. The robbing trench filling contained a good deal of mortar, except for layer 4, which may result from an early weathering of the surrounding area. Much of the spoil obtained in robbing the wall (layer 3) has been tipped into the ditch, the inner slope of which bulges slightly from here towards the crest. The filling of the trench has subsided somewhat and left a hollow partly filled by layer 2 and the lower part of 1.

The relationship of the wall to the eastern radial bank was not proved by this cutting; it is not certain which, if any, of layers 10-19 in the end section are layers of the radial bank. A test hole on the radial bank itself, shown in Fig. 6, confirmed that it contained no mortar in its structure. The most likely interpretation on this limited evidence is that the radial bank is earlier than the wall, and that layers 17-19 represent its original tail, with 17 as the turf and topsoil cover. Layer 15 is probably a decay or destruction layer derived from the curtain wall perhaps followed by a period of abandonment and a new turf-line (12 and 13). Layer 11 may be derived from some subsequent destruction of the radial bank (which is constructed of chalk rubble) and this is perhaps followed again by abandonment (layer 10) before the final robbing of the curtain wall. The depth of layer 10 suggests that it was a silt or weathering layer banking up between the extant curtain wall and the tail of the radial bank.

CONCLUSIONS.

On the limited evidence of these trenches and surface indications, it would appear that the Outer Bailey wall is absent for about one-eighth of the total circuit. The reasons for this are not obvious. It may be that it had not been completed when Bishop Roger fell into disgrace in 1139, and that work on it was never resumed thereafter. The date of the building of the wall is uncertain. Montgomerie says⁸ that the surviving masonry block on the north side is part of the early 12th century layout north of the cloister, and is built on the older curtain wall. This would suggest that the wall was part of the earliest Norman defences. The chalk 'make-up' inside the wall was assumed by Montgomerie to be contemporary with the wall⁹. If this extended underneath the cathedral, which was begun in 1075-8, a late 11th century date for the wall would be confirmed. The 'make-up' is said¹⁰ to extend as much as 200 feet up the slope. If this were uniformly the case, it would be under most of the cathedral nave. An extract from Col. Hawley's excavation log, however, quoted by Montgomerie¹¹ suggests that this was not so. Some pre-Roman pottery and a bronze fibula of the same date are recorded in that log as having been found in 1913 'in a depression containing very black rubbish beneath the floor at the west end of the cathedral nave.' This suggests that the cathedral floor was laid directly upon the old ground surface into which this depression had been dug, and not on any part of the chalk 'make-up'.¹² Mr. Colvin is of the opinion that the wall is that recorded as having been built round the castle by Bishop Roger during the second quarter of the 12th century.

Whatever the chronology of the wall's construction, the north-east sector may well have been left till the last, since here there was no necessity to make up the ground; indeed, the natural chalk appears to have been cut away on this side, since an undisturbed part of it was exposed at a high level in Trenches B and H. The making-up of the slope elsewhere must have resulted in the partial or complete burying of the pre-wall bank; but in the north-east sector this did not apply, and the bank with its palisade (see p. 366) presumably continued to be the defence on this side, though it can never have been as defensible as the wall.

THE TUNNEL (see plates II-VII and figs. 6 to 8).

Previous references. The tunnel was first recorded in 1795, when its mouth collapsed following a severe frost and thaw. The discovery was reported in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1795, vol. lxx (pp. 95 and 193-4). The report is quoted below in full, together with a reproduction of the accompanying plan, section and elevation (pl. II).

OLD SARUM.

p. 95. February 2nd. Letter to Mr. Urban from Viator:—

Apropos; a subterraneous passage has lately been discovered within the limits of the ancient city of Old Sarum. The late severe frosts, and sudden inundations which succeeded, by pressing more strongly than usual upon the slight surface that covered the mouth of the entrance, have opened a passage under the ramparts in the north-east quarter, near the supposed site of one of the ancient towers. By a doorway of near four feet in width, a part of the square stone columns of which remain in a perfect state, a spacious covered way is entered, of about seven feet in breadth, and from eight to ten feet, or more, in height, with a circular or saxon roof, evidently artificial. It has been found to descend in an angle nearly parallel to the glacis of the surrounding ditch, to the distance of one hundred and fourteen feet; but the loose chalk from above, which has rolled down and choked up the bottom, at present prevents any further progress. It was probably designed as a passage to the foss and outworks.

Illustration faces p. 193.

p. 193. Letter to Mr. Urban (unsigned), February 10th.

It will no doubt excite your curiosity when I inform you that a subterraneous passage has been discovered at Old Sarum.

Some persons of Salisbury on Saturday last went to the upper verge of the fortification (the citadel) and on the right hand, after they had reached the summit, discovered a large hole. They got a candle and lantern, and went down a flight of steps for more than 30 yards. It was an arched way, seven feet wide, neatly chiselled out of the solid rock or chalk. It is probable the crown of the arch gave way from the sudden thaw, and fell in. There is a great deal of rubbish at the entrance. It appears to be between six and seven feet high, and a circular arch overhead all the way. These particulars I learned from the person who himself explored it; but was afraid to go farther lest it might fall in again and bury him. He thinks it turns a little to the right towards Old Sarum house, and continues under the fosse till it reached the outer verge. The marks of a chisel, he says, are visible on the side. There are two pillars at the entrance which appear to have had a door at foot.

fig. 1, is a sketch of Old Sarum; aaaaa, the situation of the underground passage and its direction.

fig. 2, a large view of the opening. At the entrance still remain two large pillars of square stone, 18 inches by 27, neat masonry works of good freestone, about 18 inches square and 8 inches thick.

fig. 3, marks its descent by steps all cut in the solid chalk; the height from 7 to 8 feet. bbbb, the surface of the ground, the top of the highest part of the archway being two feet below the surface of the ground.

p. 194. It is all now filled up by order of farmer Whitchurch, who rents the ground of Lord Camelford, and thinks curiosity would bring so many people there as to tread down his grass, whenever grass shall be there.

I went into it 30 yards which was as far as I could get for the rubbish.

I measured it with a line, and found it extended full 120 feet inwards from the two pillars supposed to be the entrance; then onwards it appeared to be filled to the roof with rubbish. By measuring with the same line on the surface of the earth I found it must go under the bottom of the outer bank of the outer trench; where I think the opening may be found by digging a very little way.

Whether it was a Roman or a Norman work it is difficult to say; but it certainly was intended as a private way to go into or out of the castle; and probably a fort or strong castle was built over the outer entrance.

I looked for inscriptions or coins, but have not heard of any being found.

A further comment in the same magazine for 1796 (Part I, pp. 185-186) records only that a Mr. Ogden re-opened the tunnel sealed by Farmer Whitchurch, and suggested that it might be a sally-port, or descent to a well-head or dungeon; the steps are reported to be fresh-cut, not used. *Montgomerie* 1947 mentioned the hollow with a suggestion that the radial bank is the spoil from the tunnel excavation.

Introduction. Figs. 6 and 7 show the position of the tunnel in relation to the eastern radial bank. At this point there is to-day a large hollow (see pl. III) some 56 feet × 48 feet, with the bank forming its north-western side and some 6 feet deeper than the average present level of the bailey at this point.

A trench was cut through this hollow at right angles to the bank, which located the tunnel mouth. The trench was extended as shown on the plan to enable the tunnel to be entered with comparative safety. The curving end of this extension follows the curve of the rampart at this point, which is partly destroyed by the collapse and weathering of the tunnel mouth. The layers of the rampart show a succession of occupations similar to that noted in Trench B, of Iron Age, 'Belgic'/Roman, and Mediaeval. The

OLD SARUM, TUNNEL ENTRANCE

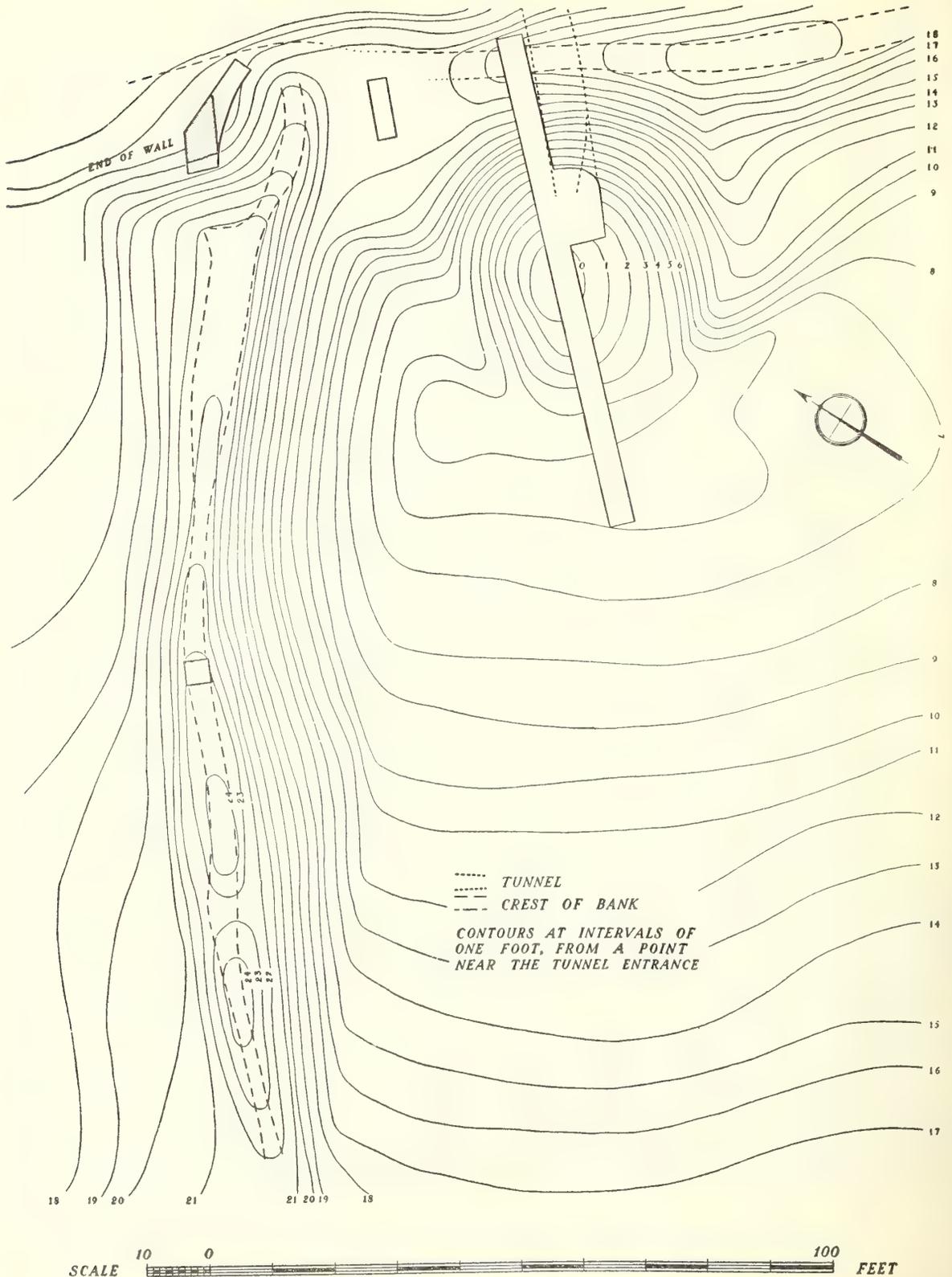


Fig. 6—Contour plan of the Tunnel area.

Iron Age A layer is here on natural chalk at a level some 14 feet below that in Trench H, and there can be little doubt that here is an entrance of the earlier hillfort, partly blocked before or in the first century A.D. The hollow way from this entrance may well have been used as a starting point for the descent of the tunnel through the base of the rampart, and perhaps determined its siting.

Stratification of the Tunnel entrance (see fig. 8). The layers outside the tunnel mouth fall into two groups. Nos. 12, 13 and 14 slope down from south-west to north-east, are more compact, and yielded no finds later than the 13th century A.D. (including No. 19, p. 370). On this surface are looser layers, grouped in the section as layer 11. These contained post-mediaeval finds, including 18th-19th century clay pipes, and some of more recent date. These appear to be debris accumulated after the tunnel mouth was entered in 1795. They may include some tipped material, such as the blocking of 1795, but probably are mainly derived from the weathering of the rampart after 1822: the mouth of the tunnel then became blocked again, and the rampart became stabilised sufficiently to acquire a soil cover. Layer 5 probably includes some soil ploughed in from the Bailey (including the late Roman sherd No. 15, p.370). The most recent disturbance (layers 1 and 2) was in the recent war, when an earth-closet pit was dug

OLD SARUM RAMPARTS AND TUNNEL

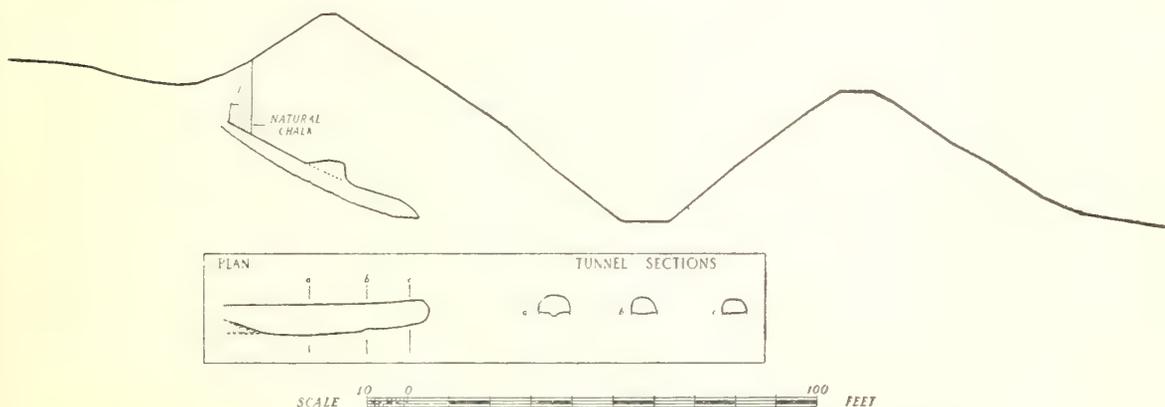


Fig. 7—Section of Tunnel in relation to ramparts.

here by the R.A.F. The trench was not excavated sufficiently to show the relationship between these layers and those encountered at the south-west end of the section, where a trial pit was sunk to bed-rock. The chalk here slopes from south to north, and it is noteworthy that only one layer (10) separates it from layer 9, the soil level of the 18th century. Layer 9 contained pipe-stems and a 1794 trade-token from Gosport, probably dropped in the events of 1795. In layer 10 were only mediaeval sherds, and it seems probable that the chalk has been cut or worn away here in mediaeval times, either for an approach to the tunnel mouth or possibly a ditch on the eastern side of the radial bank.

The 18th century surface is buried under five feet of debris. Layers 4, 6, 7 and 8 are presumably derived from ploughing in the 19th century; the Bailey area was ploughed within living memory. The lower layers are probably derived from a period when a good deal of chalk debris was being carried in the plough soil which gradually became finer. Layer 3, in places up to 6 feet deep, was spread over the Bailey in the late 1920's. The present custodian has told us that it was a deliberate spreading of a large spoil heap which was near the eastern entrance, where it was dumped in 1909-1915. He himself assisted in the work. The uncertainty about the derivation of layers 12-14 makes it difficult to say where the tunnel mouth was seen in 1795, or where were the stone columns and doorway noted at that time.

OLD SARUM

Section of tunnel entrance from N.E. to S.W.

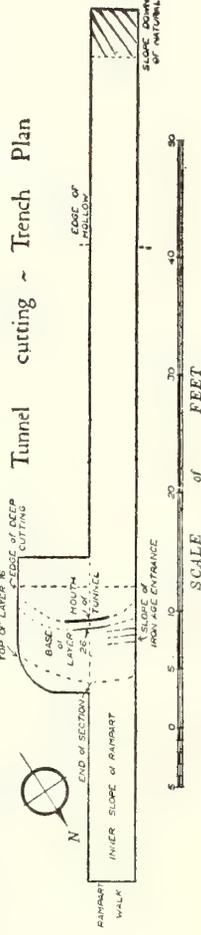
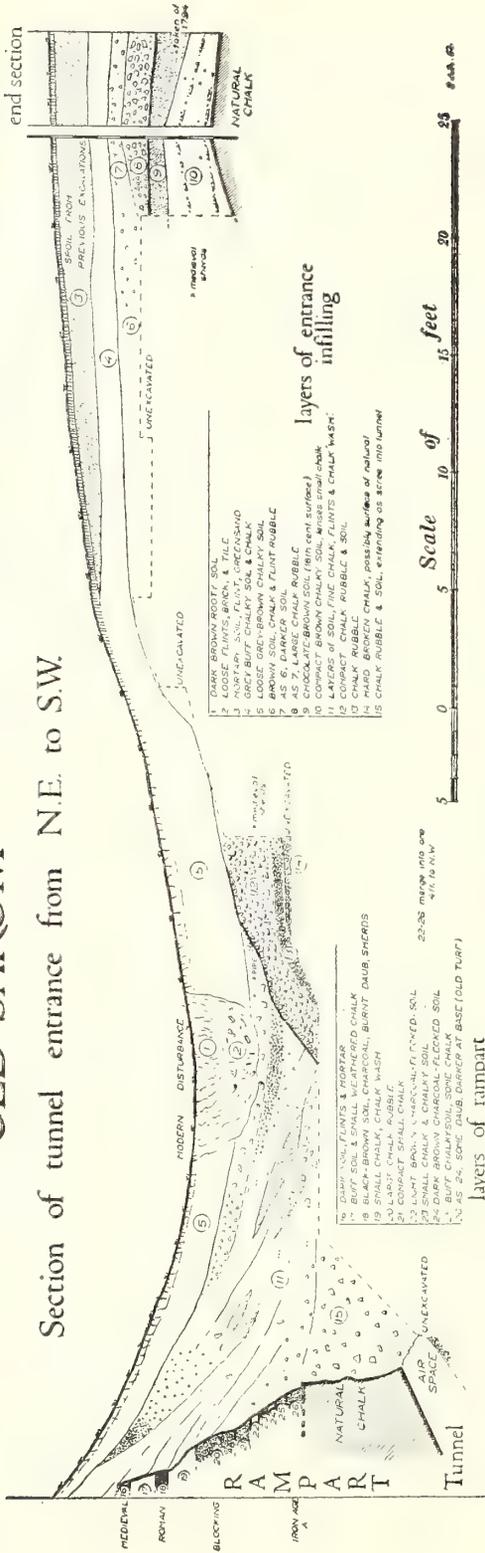


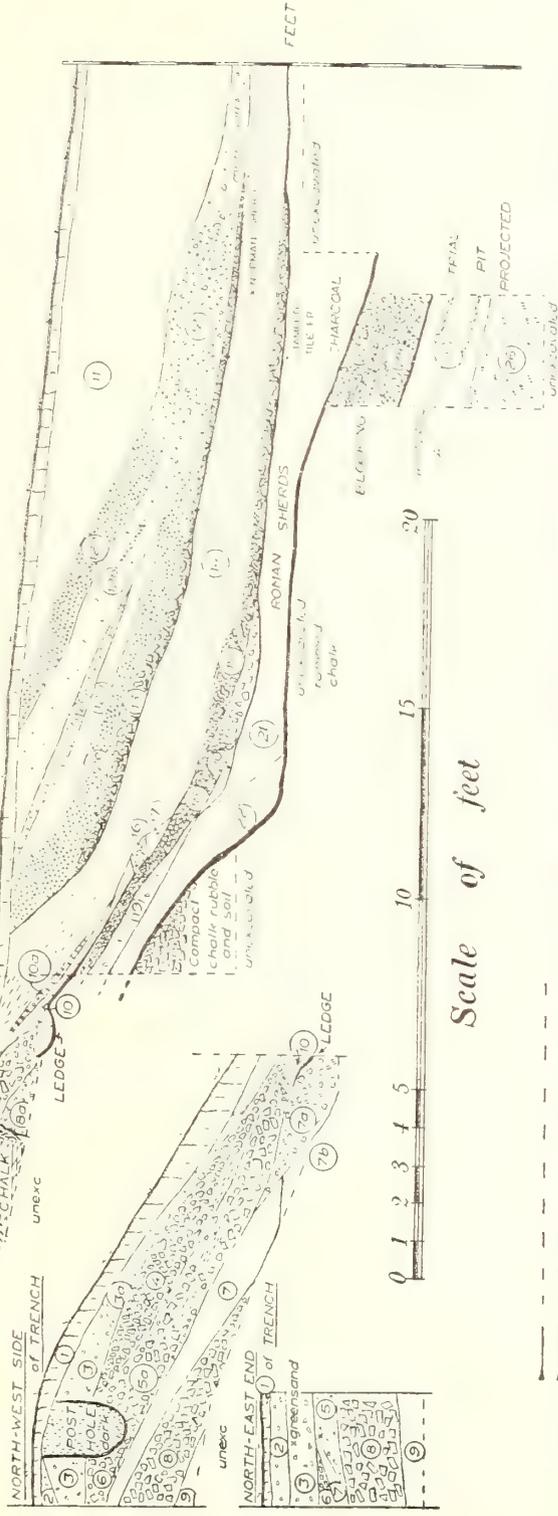
Fig. 8—Section and plan of Tunnel cutting

OLD SARLUM

1957 Trench B

Sections

SOUTH-EAST SIDE OF TRENCH



Scale of feet

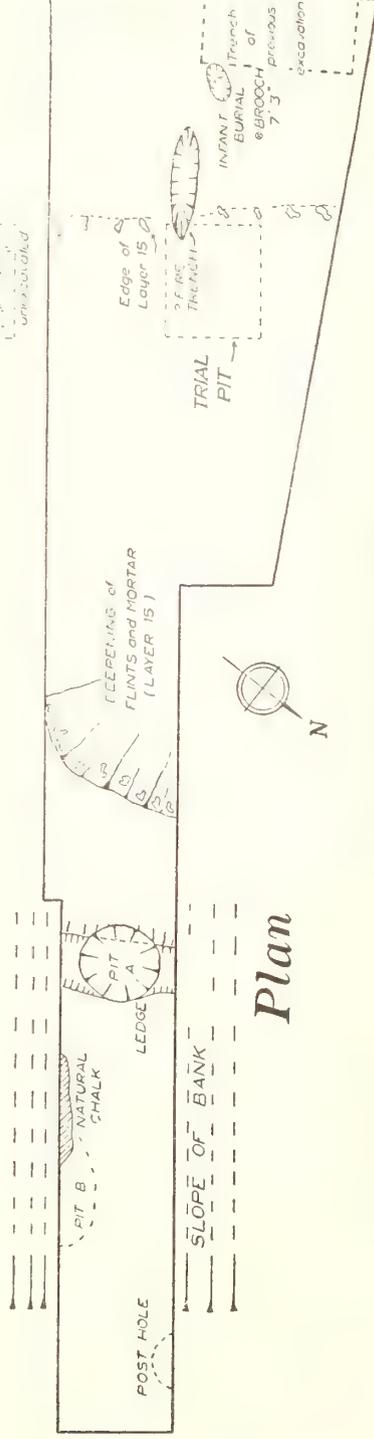


Fig 9—Key to Layers in Section

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--|-------|---|
| (1) | Turf and dark brown topsoil. | (12B) | Fine buff-brown chalky soil. |
| Layers of bank | | (12C) | Fine angular chalk fragments. |
| (2) | Dark brown soil and chalk fragments. | (12D) | Buff chalky soil. |
| (2A) | Chalky friable brown soil. | (12E) | Fine chalk gravel. |
| (3) | Light brown chalky soil and chalk fragments. | (13) | Flints and dark brown soil. |
| (3A) | Chalky rainwash. | (14) | Grey-brown chalky soil with some flints. |
| (4) | Cream chalk rubble. | (15) | Flints and mortar. This layer extends and deepens almost vertically to north of this section, and cuts through all layers down to 23. |
| (5) | Brown friable soil and chalk fragments. | (16) | Brown soil and specks of burnt clay. |
| (5A) | White and grey chalk rubble with bands of chalky brown soil. | (17) | Buff chalky soil. |
| (6) | White chalk rubble. | (18) | Compact buff rammed chalk and soil, looser to south-west. |
| (7) | Brown soil | (19) | Brown soil with some angular chalk fragments. |
| (7A) | Ginger-buff clay and chalk. | (20) | Buff chalky soil. |
| (7B) | Brown clayey soil. | (21) | Dark brown charcoal-flecked soil with many sherds, bone fragments, potboilers, oyster-shells and some tile fragments. |
| (8) | Chalk rubble and buff clayey soil. | (22) | Compact fine buff soil and chalk. |
| (8A) | Buff clayey soil. | (23) | Rammed chalk and cream 'puddled' chalk. |
| (9) | Brown soil | (24) | Cream-brown fine chalk gravel. |
| (10) | Chocolate-brown leathery soil (old soil line). | (25) | Compact grey-brown chalky soil with charcoal flecks and lenses of small chalk. |
| (10A) | Fine chalk gravel | (26) | Compact orange-brown clayey soil, charcoal-flecked, and some small chalk. |
| Layers below bank | | | |
| (11) | Grey-brown chalky soil with slight mortar (? ploughsoil). | | |
| (12) | Chalk gravel up to 4 inches diameter. | | |
| (12A) | Fine chalk gravel. | | |

The Tunnel. This was entered after a black hole appeared during the excavation of layer 15. The hole was enlarged sufficiently to allow access, but no attempt was made to find the full width of the tunnel mouth at this point. The tunnel itself conforms to the 1795 description. The steps reported then are now covered to a depth of several feet by chalk scree; time permitted only a trial pit to be sunk in this scree to determine the floor at one point. The 1795 explorers penetrated 90-114 feet from the then entrance, a distance which would have taken them below the ditch. On the present occasion we were only able to explore 52 feet from the extant mouth: at this distance the pitch of the tunnel descends sharply, and the chalk scree rises to the roof. It is clear that a great deal of debris has found its way into the tunnel since 1795, partly, no doubt, by natural agency through frost weathering, but perhaps also by dumping and ploughing.

The tunnel is 7-8 feet wide, and to judge from the trial pit originally of similar height. The roof is a flattened semi-circle (see fig. 7). The roof and sides are covered with fine tool-marking by a tool $\frac{5}{8}$ in. wide with a slightly saw-toothed end, which may be only due to wear. It has been suggested that the tool used was a double-ended mason's twybill. It is probable that the tunnel was roughly hewn out with heavier tools, and carefully dressed afterwards.

The pitch and direction of the tunnel are irregular (see fig. 7). The north-west side continues almost straight from the mouth to the choked end, but the south-east side is more irregular, being wider near the mouth, and narrowing considerably quite abruptly at 35 feet from the mouth. At the widest point there has been a considerable roof fall (see pl. VII). The roof here is still in rather a dangerous condition, several blocks being loose to the touch. Several suggestions have been made for the disparity in the tunnel's width at this point. It may be that the roof fell at the time of construction, causing the miners to extend the side further than they had intended. Or, if the tunnel is an entrance, the wider part may have been made to accommodate defenders. Finally, the tunnel may have been driven from both ends, but the two parties failed to meet accurately.

There are many inscriptions on the roof and walls of the tunnel. They are shallowly or deeply incised, or written in pencil, or traced with the soot of a candle-flame on the roof (including the fallen section). There is no evidence that any of these is earlier than 1795, and the dated examples cover the years 1801-22, with several of March and April, 1822. There are initials, full names and a number of addresses including Eton and London, showing that it was not only local people who knew of the tunnel's existence. It is clear, therefore, that the tunnel remained open or was re-opened, for some 27 years after its re-discovery in 1795, and that in 1822 or soon after, it was again blocked to remain sealed until the present day.

The date and use of the tunnel. No finds were made in a position to date the tunnel, but on general grounds it would seem likely that the tunnel is mediaeval. Until the sequence of mediaeval defences at Old Sarum has been worked out, it will not be possible to say to which phase the tunnel is likely to belong. It has been suggested above that the tunnel may have been sited to use the hollow way left by the Iron Age entrance. Two other relationships may be noted. First, the tunnel is situated immediately east of the eastern radial bank, and there is a change of level of several feet between the lower area of the tunnel and that enclosed by the radial banks: this change of level is even more marked when the 5 feet of soil and spoil which overlies the tunnel area is taken into account. Secondly, the tunnel and the radial bank mark the point where the curtain wall ends.

The tunnel, according to the present survey (fig. 7), goes under the ditch, as the distance measured in 1795 would suggest; its exit should therefore be looked for beyond the outer bank; the survey shows that it must slope up again to reach that level. On this evidence, therefore, it must be contemporary with, or later than, the ditch. Its purpose is uncertain. In 1796, it was suggested that it was either a sally-port, a private entrance, or steps leading to a well or dungeon. The first two of these seem reason-

able suggestions. If the 1795 account is correct, the steps were not worn. This suggests that it was not in use regularly, that it had never been completed, or that it went out of use soon after completion.

Conclusion. The complete excavation of the tunnel, its entrance and possible exit, would be a very lengthy undertaking; to keep it open and safe would be equally expensive. The resources needed are not at present available; even if they were a complete excavation would not add greatly to our knowledge of Old Sarum, in comparison with other possible work such as the sectioning of the radial banks and exploration of Iron Age and Roman levels. Accordingly, the tunnel has been re-sealed with an iron plate and the soil replaced, so that the mouth of the tunnel and the rampart face are unlikely to deteriorate further.

THE EARLIER DEFENCES AND OCCUPATION

The Rampart above the tunnel entrance (see section, fig. 8).

The rampart at this point was only exposed incidentally in locating the tunnel mouth; it was not further excavated except for a little probing to obtain dating evidence for the layers exposed (16-26).

When the rampart was first exposed, it was noted that the line which divided the rampart layers from the natural chalk above the tunnel mouth sloped steeply from north-west to south-east; it was thought at first that this was because the weathering of the rampart had been differential and had cut away more of the inner tail of the bank on the north-west than on the south-east. In cutting back this line subsequently, however, it was found to continue inwards at the same relative levels. The entire chalk face here had been cut away, and by the tunnel mouth was some 14 feet lower than that exposed in the east side of Trench H. This can hardly be interpreted except as an entrance to the hill-fort. The entrance is provisionally dated to Iron Age A from sherds found in layer 26, which lies directly on the cut away chalk. The sherds include a very good quality haematite-coated rim (No. 1, fig. 12) and some coarser black sherds which are identical to sherds from a large 'A2' group found one mile to the east on Bishopsdown.¹³ Layers 22-26 are probably wholly derived from the occupation following the cutting of this entrance: they yielded no dating evidence, but merged into a single layer of buff chalky soil away from the drawn section. They are followed by layers 19-21, which are free from soil, and suggest some blocking of the entrance or destruction of structures on either side of it. The date of this blocking cannot yet be shown, but it is followed, without any break that can be shown in the stratification, by occupation in the 'Belgic' or early Roman period, represented by very dark soil, charcoal, burnt daub, and sherds of part of what is probably an early 'Belgic' /Roman storage jar; its fabric and that of other smaller associated sherds, can be paralleled from layer 21 in Trench B.

Layer 18 merges gradually into 17 which is a typical abandonment layer of fine soil, and small chalk pees. This suggests some time elapsing between the layer 18 occupation and layer 16, which is flints and mortar. We cannot be sure yet incidentally when mortar was first used at Old Sarum; *Montgomerie* (op. cit. p. 132) suggested that walls under the inner motte were Roman, and the tile and stone fragments from Trench B suggest some structures other than those of timber. Nor can we be sure in which phase of Norman building mortar was first used. It was used in the cathedral from 1075 onwards, but it is not certain that the castle structures were of similar construction at this time. Mr. Colvin thinks that the curtain wall is that recorded as built by Bishop Roger before 1139, and the other major structures in the inner motte are at least as early as this. On general grounds we might expect the primary structures to be of timber, perhaps followed by chalk as the wall in Trench C: a similar wall at St. Martin's Church in Salisbury was dated by Miss F. de M. Morgan to c. 1100 A.D. (see *W.A.M.*, lvii (1958), 40). From layer 16 came two small sherds which are probably of Norman coarse ware. A similar layer in Trench B (15) is also of Norman date. It is likely that both represent early Norman flint and mortar structures on this part of the bank, the relationship of which to the curtain wall cannot yet be known.

Above layer 16 the weathering layers continue inwards beyond the limit of excavation.

To conclude, here is an Iron Age entrance partly blocked before occupation in the 'Belgic'/Roman period. This was followed by a lapse of time, and then by a Norman builders' or destruction layer. We will now compare this with a similar sequence shown in Trench B.

Trench B (section and plan, fig. 9). The earliest feature of the section is a shoulder of undisturbed chalk seen only on the south-east side of the trench. It seems that the chalk has been cut away here as in the tunnel cutting, though it would be rash to suggest *another* entrance here. To the south-west, a trial pit failed to reach undisturbed chalk at a depth of 12 feet from the present surface. The most likely explanation is that this deep area is a quarry-scoop to obtain chalk for the Iron Age ramparts. The lowest layers reached were 25 and 26, which yielded a few Iron Age A sherds, and which may be compared to layers 22-26 in the tunnel cutting. Layer 9 may represent their continuance into the rampart itself. They are succeeded by 23 and 24 (cf. 19-21 in tunnel cutting) which probably continue up into the rampart as the chalk rubble under layer 22 and as layer 8.

Above this are layers 21 and 22, a disturbed level containing hundreds of sherds covering a long period. The earliest are a series of bead-rim vessels (fig. 12, Nos. 2-7) some of which could be of pre-conquest date i.e. 'Belgic', if indeed Old Sarum was, or became part of, Belgic territory.¹⁴ The Iron Age C antecedents for these sherds cannot be doubted, and any external parallels would be from 'Belgic' sources. There is however no stratigraphical division between the 'Belgic' pieces and those demonstrably Roman, and it must be questioned whether *all* the sherds are not in fact of post-conquest date. That Romanisation of the site began early is suggested by a fragment of Claudian-Neronian samian (No. 6, fig. 12) from the layer, and we might expect coarse pottery associated with this period to be 'native' in appearance, either because mass-production of Romanised wares had not begun, or because the pottery was still being made, or the same pots used, by 'natives', perhaps themselves of 'Belgic' origin, working under Roman domination.

Professor Hawkes suggests to us that we would be unwise to discount entirely the possibility of Old Sarum having been occupied—even if briefly—by the Belgae; he suggests that, as may have been the case at Boscombe Down, Old Sarum was used for a local last stand. However, not all local hill-forts were so occupied; a notable exception is Figsbury Rings,¹⁵ which is near Old Sarum, but which has no Iron Age C or Roman occupation. It may be that further excavation in less-disturbed levels would establish a stratigraphical sequence which will demonstrate Belgic occupation at Old Sarum, and the nature and dating of the 'destruction layers' 23 and 24; meanwhile the question must remain open.

The earliest sherds in these layers should thus be dated to either just before or soon after the conquest, and the series continues with Romanised vessels of allied forms, probably of the later first century (fig. 12, Nos. 7-9). The second century is represented by samian ware (Appendix A) and by coarse pottery (fig. 12, Nos. 10-11), and the occupation continues apparently without a break until at least the late 3rd or early 4th century (fig. 12, Nos. 12-14, 16-18). By the negative evidence of the total absence of developed New Forest pottery (i.e. indented beakers, colour-coated, maroon glazed, and white-painted wares) it would seem that the occupation did not extend into the Constantinian period, when such fabrics are common in this area.¹⁶ The sherds from layer 22, which include No. 9 in fig. 12, appear to be wholly of 'Belgic' or early Roman date and include early cavetto-rim cooking-jars. Layer 21 is much more mixed, and is associated with a probable fire-trench 6-7 inches deep, filled with dark soil and charcoal; here later Roman sherds extend downwards to the surface of layer 23, and the area has obviously been much disturbed. Close to the fire-trench was an infant burial; the grave was a shallow cut in layer 23, mostly 3-4 in. deep, but 2-3 in. deeper at the north end; the skeleton was crouched, with the skull in the deeper part. From layer 21 came also hundreds of pot-boilers, several dozen fragments of Roman tile including a stamped one:—full details will be published by R. P. Wright in *J.R.S.*

1958. The stamp is of the L H S type known from Gloucestershire: see *J.R.S.*, xlv 1955, parts I and II, p. 68, *Stamped tiles found in Gloucestershire* by E. M. Clifford—part of a block of dressed Chilmark stone, a few fragments of Purbeck or Chilmark roof-tiles, and a complete brooch, probably of mid or late 1st century date (see Appendix B and fig. 11).

The only layers in the rampart which could be contemporary with 21 are 7 and 5, the latter of which yielded a doubtful 'Belgic' or Roman sherd. Overlying layers 21 and 22 are layers 18-20. Of these, 18 had every appearance of being rammed. It would appear to represent an addition to the rampart on its lower slope in late Roman times or afterwards, possibly not until the Norman reconstruction. Layers 18-20 are covered by a well-marked 'old turf line' (10) and it must be noted that this yielded only a few small 'Belgic' or Roman sherds. If layer 21 was sealed by 18-20, as 22 certainly was, then these sherds are out of context and must be intrusive.

Layer 10 is associated with two features which are presumably part of the rampart as added to by layers 18-20. These are the *ledge*, which is filled by layer 10; and layer 16 (burnt clay and dark soil), which marks a sharp break in the old soil layer 10. Both these are interpreted as evidence of timber strapping of this phase of the rampart; the date of the phase is probably post-Roman and possibly Norman, but remains, in view of the conflicting evidence of the pottery, slightly doubtful.

Below the ledge, all these layers down into 23 were cut away in the greater part of the trench by layer 15 (flints and mortar). Layer 15 is likely to be of Norman date, as it merges with layer 14 which contained several mediaeval sherds (including No. 21, fig. 12). It cuts away layer 23 almost vertically on the north-west side of the cutting. Only further excavation can suggest the derivation of this layer, which would suggest some flint and mortar structure in this area.

In the rampart itself, there are three features which are probably secondary to the old soil layer 10. Pit A cuts through layers 4 and 10; it is roughly circular, 2 feet in diameter with sides sloping to a round base, with a maximum depth of 7 inches from the surface of layer 4. Its filling was a friable light brown chalky soil, similar to layer 2A above, and contained seven flint pot-boilers, and two sherds, probably Roman, which could well have come from the layers below 10. Pit A is probably a large post-hole associated with some structure of some phase of the rampart.

Pit B lies mostly east of the trench. Layer 4 is probably the upcast from this pit; its spread overlay part of the ledge mentioned above. The only find was an Iron Age sherd from B 2, probably intrusive.

The post-hole in the top of the bank is the latest surviving feature, as it cuts through layers 3 and 6/5A, though much darker in the latter. This is almost certainly Norman, as a piece of greensand was found in layer 3 and a Norman sherd in layer 2. The post-hole probably represents a palisade post of the rampart in its latest period of use.

Finally, layers 11-14 are mediaeval or later. They may be partly derived from structures which formerly existed on the rampart, or from the rampart itself in a higher form. Alternatively, 12-13 may be robbers' spoil tipped against the bank from further up the slope of the bailey. Their surface has been planed off by ploughing, which is responsible also for layer 11. Layers 11-21 and probably more below are all cut by a 4 feet wide trench, in the west corner of the excavation, which is doubtless an unrecorded previous excavation.

CONCLUSION

Trench B proved to have been rather unfortunately sited, for it was difficult to interpret the stratification found with certainty. Another section in a more typical part of the bank might clear up the points left doubtful in the present excavation. The sequence of events, however, confirms that from the tunnel cutting.

It is certain now that Old Sarum was, as has been thought for some time, primarily an Iron Age hill-fort. It is likely that it was of Iron Age A date originally, and its defences were partly destroyed, per-



Plate I—Trench A, Curtain Wall from Outer Bailey

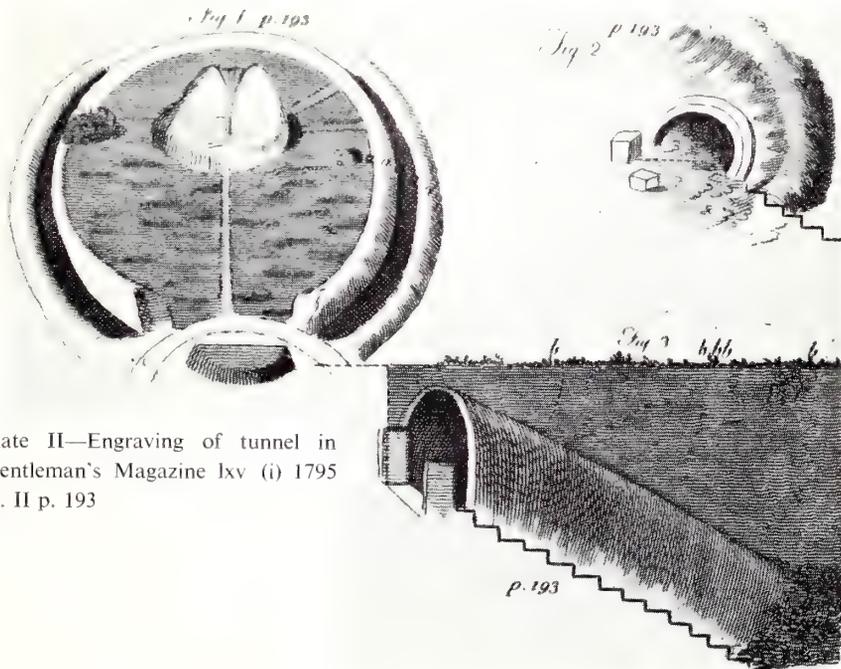


Plate II—Engraving of tunnel in
Gentleman's Magazine lxx (i) 1795
pl. II p. 193



Plate III—The Tunnel Hollow before excavation



Plate IV—The entrance to the Tunnel showing Iron Age A
entrance above natural chalk

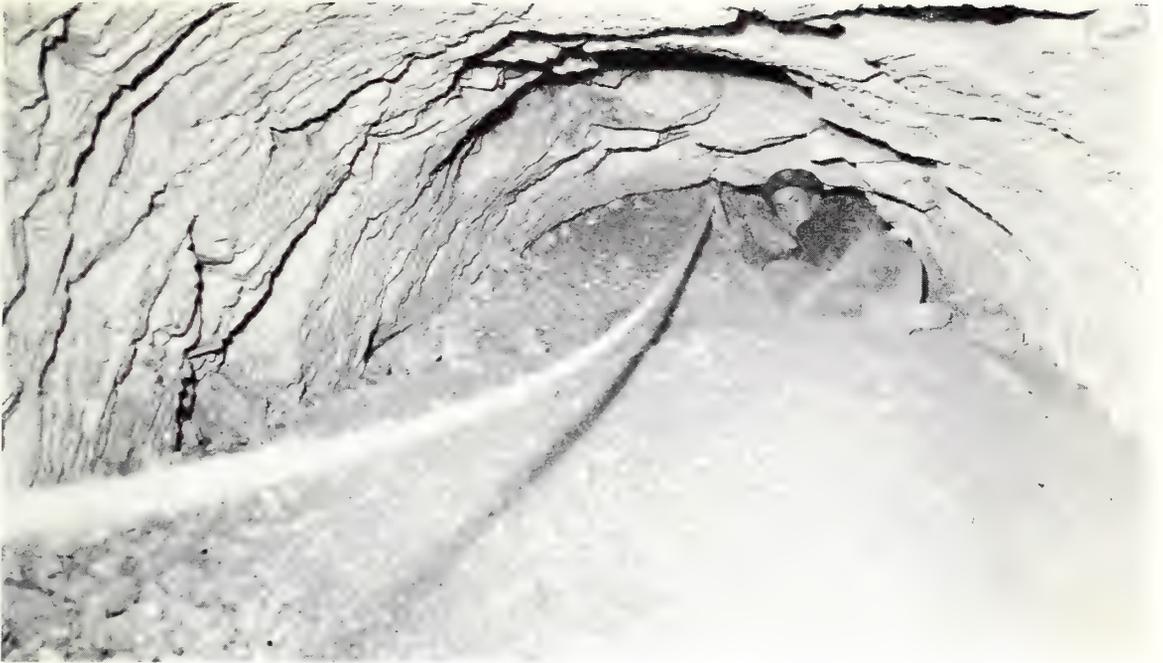


Plate V—The Tunnel entrance from inside

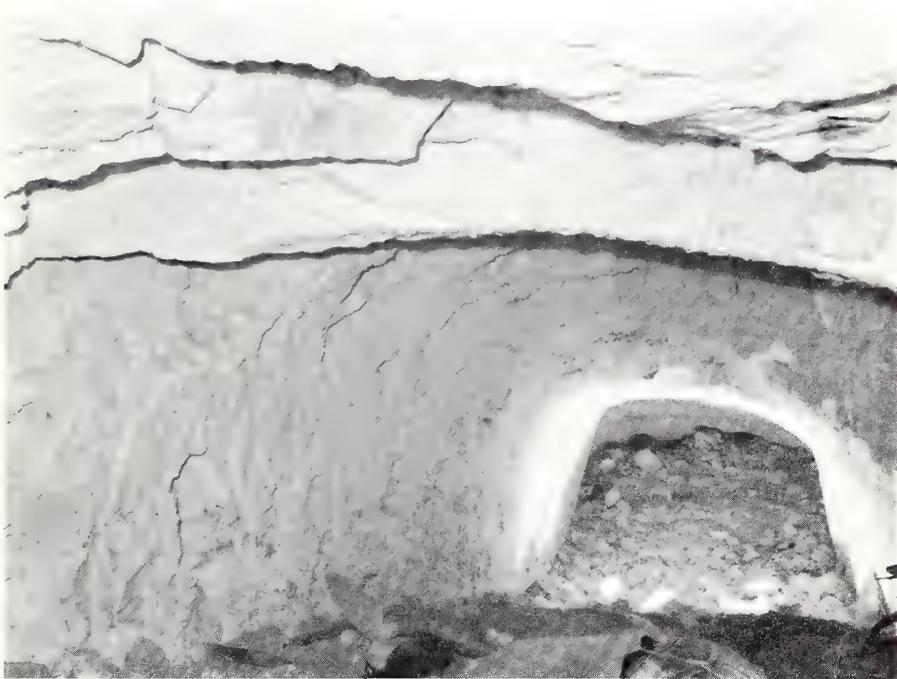


Plate VI—The blocked end of the Tunnel



Plate VII—The floor of the Tunnel by collapsed roof

haps, by the Belgae or by the Romans, evidence of whose occupation succeeds the blocking layers. The Roman occupation began early and is clearly of some consequence; the evidence must re-open the question of the exact location of Sorviodunum, which Stone and Algar hinted recently was more likely to be centred on the higher ground to the east known as Bishopsdown.¹⁷

Montgomerie suggested (*Montgomerie* 1947, pp. 135-6) that any search for evidence of pre-Norman occupation was likely to be unsuccessful because the thoroughness of the Norman re-construction and levelling would have obliterated all traces. Stone and Algar agreed with this opinion.¹⁸ The present excavation has shown this to be by no means true in the north-east sector at least. Indeed, the depth of the earlier levels has insured their preservation to a remarkable degree. Their exploration in the present excavation has only been incidental to the problems of the curtain wall and tunnel. Further cuttings directed towards the exploration of the Iron Age and Roman levels should be most informative.

It would be premature to discuss the mediaeval defences until more is known of them. The excavation of 1909-1915 was concerned entirely with the cathedral and castle, and little attention was given to structures other than those of masonry. Mr. Colvin will, in the forthcoming *History of the King's Works*, to be published by H.M.S.O., suggest a rather different chronology for the existing buildings to that formerly postulated.

For the earliest Norman defences, including perhaps those of the Conqueror himself, the north side of the site would seem to be the best one to examine. The obvious problems are those of the radial banks and the missing section of the curtain wall, where traces of timber defences still remain.

Old Sarum is one of the finest monuments in public care; further excavation would set its magnificent earthworks in proper perspective.

APPENDIX A

The Samian Ware (fig. 10).

By B. R. HARTLEY, F.S.A.

1. Sherd. Form 31 (Ludowici Sb); Central Gaulish, c. A.D. 150-190 (Trench B, layers 11-15).
2. Sherd. Form indeterminate, probably East Gaulish and late 2nd century (Trench B, layers 11-15).
3. Two sherds joining. Form 18/31; probably early 2nd century (Trench B, layer 21).
4. Sherd. Form doubtful; probably Central Gaulish and Trajanic or Hadrianic (Trench B, layer 21).



Fig. 10—Fragment of Samian Ware

5. Sherd. Form 15/17 or 18 etc.; from a plate of large diameter; South Gaulish; certainly 1st century; the fabric can best be matched among pre-Flavian vessels. (Tunnel, layer 7).
6. (Fig. 10) Sherd. Form 29; South Gaulish; fragment from lower zone; Knorr (*Töpfer u. Fabriken T-S des ersten Jahrhunderts*, Taf. 31 D) figures a similar arrangement with the same eagle (Déch. 985; O. 2175) on a bowl from Bonn with the stamp DARIBITVS. Although the piece cannot be assigned to any particular potter, there is no doubt that it is Claudian or Neronian, probably. c. A.D. 45-60. Trench B, layer 21).

APPENDIX B

The Bronze Brooch (fig. 11).

By MRS. M. J. FOWLER, M.A.

The brooch is essentially a hybrid and probably about mid to late 1st century A.D.

FEATURES

- Collar:** A vestigial imitation of the collared variety of La Tène II brooch. The collared variety of the La Tène II brooch is essentially western in the British Isles (i.e. it seems to be intimately connected with Glastonbury.) (See self, *Iron Age Brooches*. *Arch. J.*, cx., p. 97).
- Spring and side-wings:** External cord again is possibly an indication of earlier traditional influences. *Cord hook and side-wings are normally a La Tène III feature; multiple coil springs appear in both the south-easterly and the south-westerly areas of late Iron Age Britain; but side-wings are essentially a Belgic feature (e.g. the 'Colchester' brooch.)

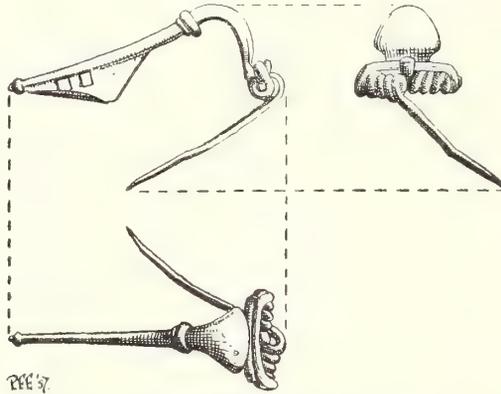


Fig. 11—Bronze Brooch (p. 366) $\frac{1}{2}$ scale

- Catch-plate:** In this example it is essentially a solid plate pierced, not an open foot decorated. That is to say, it shows south eastern, Belgic influence. (See *ibid.* p. 103, Class 3E).
- Knobbed foot:** This is a common adjunct to 1st century hybrid brooches, and presumably it is copied from the Aucissa brooch. (See *Camulodunum* report on these, p. 321).
- Bow:** The widening and flattening of the bow above the vestigial collar is a common La Tène III device, and can be found in many areas in the later part of the Iron Age, (e.g. Stradonitz. *Dechelette, Manuel d'archaeologie. Second Age du Fer*, p. 476, fig. 404). The angle of the bow with a gentle slope from a high arch above the spring is reminiscent of Glastonbury La Tène III brooches. (see *Arch. J.*, cx, p. 101, No. 5.)

APPENDIX C

The Infant Skeleton

By Dr. H. TAYLOR, M.B., CH.B.

The bones are those of an infant at or about the time of birth. They are almost identical in development and, more surprisingly, in size, with those of the supposedly newborn infants buried beneath the floor of Roman Buildings at Chew Park¹⁹ and Wookey²⁰ as well as with the one modern specimen available for comparison. The whole skeleton is represented although most of the small bones and elements and most of the ribs are missing.

A few small fragments of non-human bones are present; none of these appear to have been worked, although part of a small shaft is glossy as if used, e.g. as a pin.

APPENDIX D.

The Coarse Pottery (fig. 12, Nos. 1-21).

A detailed list of all the pottery found in all cuttings has been deposited with the pottery itself in the Salisbury, South Wilts and Blackmore Museum. Nos. 1-21 have been chosen mainly to illustrate the dating evidence in the text, with some emphasis on the Belgic/Early Roman bead-rim vessels, of which a full range of rim forms is shown.

Iron Age A.
1. Rim sherd, probably from a furrowed carinated bowl or derivative, characteristic of local Iron Age A such as *All Cannings Cross* etc.; hard dark grey, with burnished first quality haematite slip; from primary layer of Iron Age entrance above tunnel (layer 26 in fig. 8).

Iron Age C and Early Roman (Nos. 2-8).

These were found (except No. 4) in Trench B, layer 21 (fig. 9), a disturbed layer which contained also later Roman pottery

at its base. There is no evidence to show whether any of these are pre-conquest in *date*. The layer included a piece of samian dated to A.D. 45-60, (No. 6, p. 367) which suggests that Romanised occupation began early in any case. Professor Hawkes has examined Nos. 2-8 and suggests that, on the appearance of the sherds themselves, 2 could well be pre-conquest; 3 and 4 might be pre- or post-conquest; 5 and 6 more probably post- than pre-conquest. He suggests that any 'Belgic' occupation is in any case likely to be immediately pre-conquest.

2. Rim sherd, bead-rim bowl; hard sandy dark grey; outer surface slightly pitted and lightly burnished (B. 21).

3. Rim sherd, bead-rim bowl; hard coarse light grey gritty, bluish on interior surface; burnished and slightly boned on rim and 1 inch below, which is grey-buff; left rough below shoulder and buff in colour. (B. 21).

4. Rim sherd, bead-rim bowl; similar fabric to No. 4, burnished rim and 1½ inches below, bluish-grey on all surfaces including rough part. (B. 11-15).

5. Rim sherd, bead-rim bowl; fine sandy light grey, brown, interior surface dark grey, exterior surface dark grey-brown, burnished and 'boned'. (B. 21).

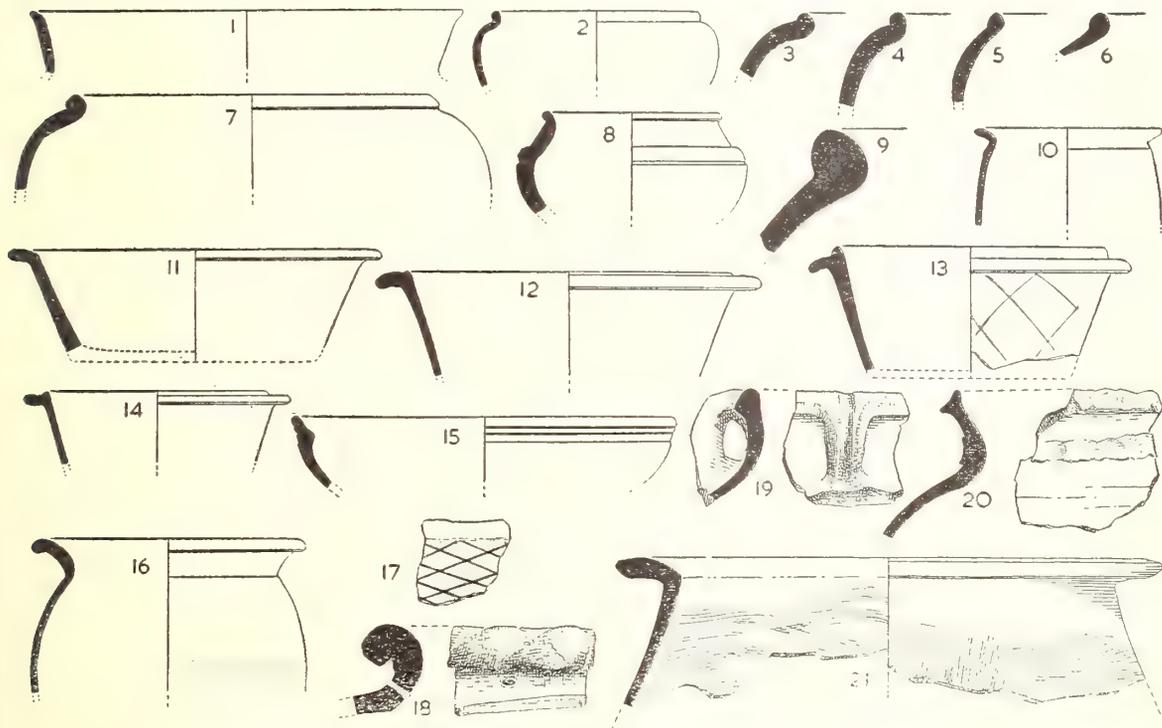


Fig. 12—Iron Age, Roman and Mediaeval Pottery, Nos. 1—21, ¼

6. Rim sherd, bead-rim bowl; fine sandy light grey, brown towards inner surface, which is dark grey and sandy; rim and outer surface is dark grey and dark brown, and highly burnished and 'boned' (B. 21).

7. Rim sherd, bead-rim bowl; coarse sandy dark grey-black; interior rough sandy, exterior burnished and 'boned' on rim and for 1½ inches below, smooth sandy below this (B. 21).

No. 2-7 appear to correspond with those designated as 'Belgic' from *Boscombe Down* i.e. Nos. 117-132 from Ditch II in a layer 'which appeared to be free from Roman pottery, though the ware, in several cases, is Romanised [in texture]'. See also *C.V.L.* No. 36 etc., (late 1st-2nd century A.D.) and *C.V.L.* 'sub-Belgic' series.

8. Rim and shoulder sherd of cordoned bowl. Hard slight sandy grey, darker grey and burnished rim and exterior cf. *Boscombe Down* No. 128 (Belgic) *C.V.L.* No. 20 (late 1st-2nd cent. A.D.) (B. 21).

Roman (9-18)

9. Rim sherd, storage jar; hard coarse grey with flint grits, buff brown surfaces, burnished rim and other surface cf. *Boscombe Down* No. 99 (Pit P. 23, Belgic), *C.V.L.* near 43 (late 1st-2nd cent. A.D.). (B. 22).

10. Rim sherd, jar; hard grey sandy; slight burnish on rim flange and outside surface; possibly 2nd cent. (B. 21).

11. Rim sherd, flanged bowl; gritty grey, buff surfaces, burnished slip inside. 2nd century type; cf. *C.V.L.* 162 (late 1st-2nd cent. A.D.) (B., 21.)

12. Rim sherd, flanged bowl; sandy grey with dark grey burnished surfaces; strongly wheel-marked cf. *C.V.L.* 180 (late 2nd-mid 4th cent. A.D.) (B. 21).

13. Rim sherd, flanged bowl; hard grey, grey-black burnished surfaces with faint incised lattice (B. 21) cf. *Downton*, No. 44 (late 3rd-mid 4th cent. A.D.)

14. Rim sherd, flanged bowl; hard light grey, burnished in bands. (B, 21.)
 15. Rim sherd, bowl or lid; hard fine sandy cream, possibly New Forest (Tunnel layer 5) cf. *Stone and Algar*, No. 23.
 16. Rim sherd, cooking-jar, hard brown sandy, dark grey outer surface; rough surface left 2¼ in. below rim. The fabric suggests a New Forest origin (cf. *Downton* No. 13 (late 3rd-mid 4th cent. A.D.)). (B, 21.)
 17. Body sherd, cooking jar; hard dark grey sandy; most of sherd is rough band with incised obtuse lattice (B, 21). This form of lattice is current widely in the later 3rd-4th centuries A.D. cf. *Downton* No. 12 (late 3rd-mid 4th cent. A.D.).
 18. Rim sherd, rope-rim storage jar; coarse grey sandy. A common local type, of New Forest origin, 3rd and 4th centuries A.D. (B, 21.) cf. *Stone and Algar* Nos. 67-68.

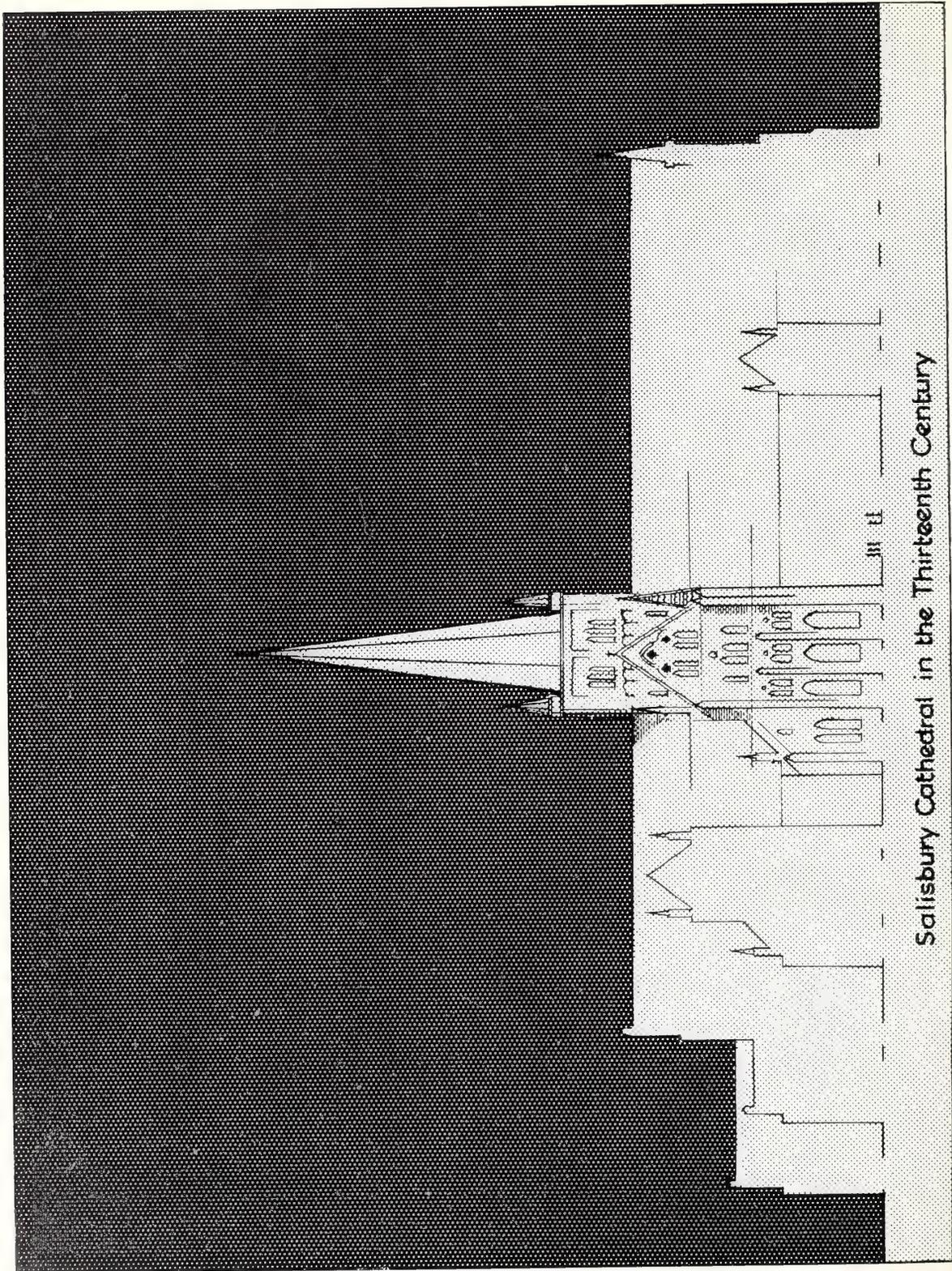
Mediaeval (19-21).

19. Rim and handle sherd; coarse heavily gritted, pink-buff surface, grey core; probably 12th-13th cent. A.D. (Tunnel 13). Handle probably used as a lug for suspension. See *Clarendon* for similar handle type. (Tunnel, layer 13.)
 20. Rim sherd; coarse buff sandy, grey core; some flint grits, which break through to surface, external colourless glaze with a grey tinge; inside of rim flange has yellow-green glaze with patches of dark green. For a similar rim profile and decoration on an unglazed cooking-pot see *Luccombe*. (Trench C, above mortar floor).
 21. Rim sherd, cooking-pot, gritty salmon-pink, scratch-marked inside and out. Common local type 12th-13th cent. A.D. (B, 14.)

REFERENCES QUOTED.

- Downton* (Roman villa S. of Salisbury, excavated 1955 by P.A. Rahtz). Publication forthcoming.
Luccombe (12th cent. middens): *Proc. of Isle of Wight Nat. Hist. and Arch. Soc.*, ii (1937), 678, Fig. 4. 1 (mid 12th).
Clarendon (near Salisbury). *Antiq. Jnl.* xvi (1936), 82, Fig. 9, No. 5.
Stone and Algar (finds near Old Sarum) *W.A.M.* lvi (1955), 111.
Boscombe Down (North of Old Sarum) *W.A.M.* liv (1951), 149.
C.V.L. (Chew Valley Lake), near Bristol. Roman pottery type series. Publication forthcoming by H.M.S.O.
- ¹A forthcoming publication to be published by H.M. Stationery Office.
²*Montmerie* 1947, 136.
³*Ibid.* 136.
⁴See *Antiq. Journ.* xv, (1935), 174 ff.
⁵A pipe-line cut in 1957 north-east of Old Sarum failed to show any evidence of a suburb on this side. Leland (1540) is quoted in *Antiq. Journ.* xv, (1935), for the existence of a western suburb. An outer 'city' wall on the north side is shown on the 6 in. O.S. map.
⁶The surviving fragment is said to be secondary (see *Montmerie*, 1947, 142).
⁷*Proc. Soc. Antiq.* vol. xxv, 93 ff.
⁸*Montmerie* 1947, 142.
⁹*Ibid.* 136.
¹⁰*Ibid.* 136.
¹¹*Ibid.* 132
¹²But see *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 1912-13, vol. xxv, 100,
- where it is implied that there was make-up under the cathedral.
¹³J. W. G. Musty. *W.A.M.*, lvii, 187.
¹⁴The most recent discussion on this point is by John Brailsford, *Early Iron Age C in Wessex*, in P.P.S. xxiv (1958), 101. There it is suggested that the area of true Belgic domination is in fact to North and East of Old Sarum.
¹⁵*W.A.M.* xlili, 48-58.
¹⁶See *Stone and Algar*, *W.A.M.* lvi (1955), 102-6. The only piece which may be later New Forest is No. 15 from the Tunnel area.
¹⁷*Ibid.* 110.
¹⁸*Ibid.* 103.
¹⁹*Chew Valley Lake*: H.M.S.O. report forthcoming.
²⁰*Hole Ground, Wookey*: publication forthcoming. See *J.R.S.* xlvi, (1958), 146.





Salisbury Cathedral in the Thirteenth Century

THE BUILDING OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL RE-EXAMINED

By HUGH BRAUN

Salisbury Cathedral is a building which most architectural historians accept as unique, first by reason of its glorious spire, and again for the reason that it is—if one excludes the central feature—of a single complete design, being a perfect, unmodified illustration of the most sophisticated architectural taste of its era, the first half of the thirteenth century. Even with the spire removed one would still have to admire the flawless perfection of the exterior view of the cathedral no matter from what quarter one might approach it.

On entering, however, one may perhaps be excused a feeling of disappointment at the lack of those many interesting features normally displayed by our great churches. This is of course in part due to the treatment Salisbury Cathedral received at the hands of the eighteenth-century restorer and, still more, to that very unity of design which excludes evidences of historical growth of such interest to the architectural historian. But the underlying reason for the comparative lifelessness of the interior of Salisbury Cathedral is the austerity of the architectural era of which it is perhaps the greatest surviving monument.

We are familiar elsewhere earlier with the robust Byzantinism of the twelfth century, and later with the gay whimsies of the fourteenth century leading to the fan-vaulted light-drenched churches of the twilight of the Gothic Age. And the great churches remaining to us are for the most part the achievements either of secular architects or those working under the aegis of the powerful and worldly monastic Orders—Benedictines, Augustinians, and so forth—heirs to the rich traditions of the Byzantine Empire. But at the close of the twelfth century, the rise of the wool-supported Order of Citeaux, drawing its piety and also its architectural inspiration, through the medium of the Crusades, direct from the Holy Land itself, introduced with the pointed arches a spirit of renunciation which sacrificed ornament for austerity of line; their work helped to create the style of building which we know as Gothic.

That Cistercian influence was strong in Sarum at the beginning of the thirteenth century is suggested by the death of Bishop Jocelyn in one of their houses and the burial of Richard Poore himself in a house which he founded at Tarrant. It is therefore no surprise to realise that the church begun in 1220 at Salisbury is, in all but title, a Cistercian church. Let us always remember, when we mourn the vanished glories of Beaulieu, Rievaulx, and many another lovely lonely church long passed into ruin, that in Salisbury Cathedral we still have with us a Cistercian church still perfect, preserved from ruin and desolation. It is this realisation of the Cistercian origin of Salisbury which enables one suddenly to understand why amongst all English cathedrals it holds a place apart, isolated in a proud austerity.

There is an atmosphere of finality about the building which cannot fail to impress the observer. Any architect of today examining its ground plan would soon admit that the designer knew exactly what he wanted. There is nothing tentative, nothing experimental; every portion has been considered individually and then gathered into a homogeneous composition carefully set out upon a rectangular grid.

The fundamental conception is still the traditional Byzantine one of two axes crossing to provide four arms of which the easternmost contains the choir of the canons. This episcopal choir is itself laid out with its own cross axis marking the division between the seating and the sanctuary. To the east, the choir aisles are extended to provide the lovely group of chapels for which the experimental prototype had already been achieved at Old Sarum.¹ To provide still more chapels both the principal and eastern transepts are provided with eastern aisles in the Cistercian tradition. The design is complete.

If there is any shred of hesitancy discernible in the plan it may be in the west front, a feature which

¹See H. Braun, *The Choir of Old Sarum Cathedral*, *W.A.M.*, vol. lvi, 55—9.

would be bound to embarrass a Cistercian architect. There can however be little doubt that the Salisbury designer could not have escaped the influence of the contemporary work in the neighbouring cathedral at Wells, at the time in process of being completed. Though the church itself is clumsy when compared with the inspired work at Salisbury, the west front at Wells—perhaps the most beautiful thing of its kind ever achieved—must surely have cast a potent spell upon the builders of its era. It is not surprising therefore to realise that at Salisbury we have in effect the spreading picture gallery of the Wells iconostasis without the very un-Cistercian towers.

His ground plan approved, the architect set out the whole church in one operation, corrected the alignments very gently as they cleared the ground level, and then built the whole of the walling up to trestle height, that is to say the sills of the main windows. From this point, however, his procedure became less confident and in fact indicates that surprising ignorance of elementary engineering principles which nevertheless failed to obstruct the erection of the great churches of the age.

It must be remembered that the Gothic builders were but distant heirs of the extremely sophisticated engineers of the Byzantine world and were trying to interpret a tradition which had in actual fact travelled to them through the Europe of the Dark Ages. The twelfth-century English architect built an arch without really knowing why it held up. As long as masonry was solid and abutments heavy he ran into little trouble, but with the thirteenth-century lightening of structure everything began to go wrong. Thus while the Byzantine engineers had employed the aisle with its vaulted gallery over as an abutment to the main roof, when the Gothic builders tried to do the same in their far lighter masonry they let themselves in for trouble, for while they could cope, up to a point, with a row of arches, the complicated thrusts of a vaulting system were really quite beyond their comprehension.²

At the time of the building of Salisbury Cathedral the buttress was beginning to expand into its present form. This, however, was not in order that it should provide abutment, but simply to enhance its value as a system of architectural ‘punctuation’ in the design of the elevation.

Thus when the walls and pillars of Salisbury began to rise and the aisles became filled with scaffolding upon which the centring of arches and vaulting was to be set, only the walling itself, which could be reached by the masons working on the scaffolding, was built at this time; the buttresses, being out of reach, were left to be added later.³ In this fashion the whole of the cathedral up to the top of the aisle vaulting was completed in five years, the eastern chapel—a complete little church in itself—being consecrated in 1225.

The tops of the vaults would have been protected by temporary thatched roofs—one can still see today the “weep holes” provided in the outer walling to release rain which might collect in the cups of the vaults—while the main spans of the church remained of course open to the sky.

With the taking down of the scaffolding for re-use in the completion of the building, and the striking of the centring of arches and vaulting, the troubles of the builders began in earnest. The weight of the inadequately-supported vaulting began to spread the whole structure as if to burst it asunder; pillars in particular began to topple alarmingly. At eight points in particular the movement towards disaster became really serious, for the lengths of walling opposing the pillars at the two crossings prevented any relaxation of the outside masonry to share in the spread of the vault so that the whole of the strain came upon the pillars and forced them inwards towards each other. The pillars of the eastern crossing being lighter in mass than those of the main crossing, the arcades joining the two crossings started a drift eastwards; the transept arcades began to lean outwards towards their unbuttressed responds. By good fortune everything settled down and came to rest before total collapse occurred; but the angles of the crossings

²Even elementary mathematical problems were most difficult to solve before the use of Arabic numerals.

³They were never bonded-in to the walls and thus were useless as buttresses.

had to be taken down to the springing line of the arches and then rebuilt in a gentle curve which swept them back into the vertical.

It seems more than probable that the completion of the first phase in the building programme was followed by a breathing space during which an outside consultant was called in to examine the alarming activities of the structure at this time. There are two items of evidence which tend to support this theory. One is that it was not until this point in the proceedings that it was decided to vault the main spans.⁴ The other is the quite remarkable deviation from Cistercian austerity which appears in the design of the next story of the building—the so-called ‘triforium’ stage—which moreover incorporates within it a very primitive system of flying buttresses provided to support a high vault. These buttresses are seen to be clumsily corbelled out from the arcade walls and were obviously not anticipated by the original designers of the building. The design of the ‘triforium’ arcade itself is quite out of keeping with the rest of the church and in fact sets the stage for the subsequent work in the cloisters and chapter house. Is it possible that this change is due to the translation to Durham of Bishop Poore in 1228 and the arrival of a bishop with less rigidly Cistercian views, Bishop Bingham?

Meanwhile, the rest of the church was rising steadily, the western walls of the transepts indicating what was probably the original design for the ‘triforium’ stage. And notwithstanding the curious variation discussed above, the church was completed up to the main roof by the construction of a clerestory which must surely follow the intentions of the original designer.

It seems by this time the services of the consultant may have been dispensed with. For when the centring of the main arches of the crossing was struck the architect’s lack of engineering knowledge once more showed itself. As the great arches began to spread, and the neighbouring ‘triforium’ arcades were squeezed outwards, the sorely-tried crossing pillars once more began to bend, this time in the opposite direction from before. So we see them to day as great bows, twice fearsomely strained and bent, and yet—thanks to the strong stone of Purbeck—still unbroken despite the fantastic load that has been laid upon them.

The culminating feature of the church would have been the lantern over the crossing. This, in the fashion of the day, was simply a continuance of the clerestory at a higher level which would pass above the adjoining roofs.⁵ Each face of the tower would have had two bays, each with a triplet of lancets, and separated by a strip pilaster which may still be seen just emerging above the apex of the roof. The walling would have been finished with a parapet and the stair turrets capped with stone spirelets similar to those flanking the transepts and the west front. As it is known that the whole church was originally covered with oak shingles it would seem safe to assume that the tower carried a tall shingled spire.

Internally, the existing charming blind story with its graceful arcading would have been visible from the floor of the crossing. This story was gently lit by eight small lancet windows, cleaned from timber galleries carried on stone ties supporting the Purbeck shafts and entered from the newel stairs; these windows are now blocked up. Above this blind story, and also visible from the floor of the church far below, was the lantern itself with its eight triplets of lancet windows and its ceiling vaulted in four bays to a central boss poised a hundred and forty feet above the pavement. The loss of this lovely feature is the price we have to pay for the vision of Salisbury spire.

By 1258 the great church was vaulted over and in fit condition for consecration. During the past thirty-eight years the sunny south wall of the nave had been the site of a long timber lean-to, the lodge of the masons who for a generation had wrought the countless thousands of stones now rising above

⁴The main spans of Cistercian churches were not usually vaulted. The side vaults were structural necessities.

⁵See illustration opposite p. 371.

them. A charming little doorway led from the lodge into the south transept of the church; westwards, the south doorway to the nave was also used by the masons.

Consecration had been scarcely completed when it was decided to begin the immense labour of replacing the roof shingles with lead sheets. A small army of plumbers must have been needed to work the amount of lead required; these craftsmen took over the deserted lodge of the masons, which to this day is called 'The Plumbery' in memory of their great achievement.

Masons, however, were still working in the vicinity, for this period saw the building of the cloisters. In order not to disturb the plumbers in their task, which must have taken many years, the north walk of the cloisters, which in accordance with normal practice would have been set out along the south wall of the church, was built as a separate structure clear of the Plumbery. So as not to deprive the plumbers of the use of the south door of the nave, the west walk of the cloisters was set out farther west than had been intended, thus blocking up stair windows in the west front. New doorways had to be cut in the nave wall and that of the transept; after the plumbers had completed their task the original south door of the nave was blocked up. It is perhaps for these reasons that the cloister is the largest in the country.

The whole building complex of church, cloisters, and chapter house was probably completed by about the year 1280. The now vanished bell-tower would have been built together with the church and had probably long been finished. The dream of Richard Poore had been fulfilled, the partnership of architect and craftsmen ended. So it was to remain for fifty years.

During this period the canons of Salisbury had always before their eyes visible evidence of the truth of the saying that 'the arch never sleeps'. From their stalls in the choir they could see about them the slender pillars leaning in all directions as if threatening at any moment to topple and fall in ruin. The first piece of stiffening engaged in seems to have been the insertion of the strainer arches across the openings of the eastern transept to support unstable-looking pillars very much in evidence from the choir. These arches, which are clearly sympathetic with the well known ones in the crossing at Wells, appear from certain affinities with the tomb of Bishop de Mortival who died in 1330, to be of about this date.

It seems that at about this time the canons began to take heed of the structural condition of their lantern tower. The vaulting of this feature, perched high in the air without anything like adequate abutment, was spreading alarmingly. The angles of the upper part of the tower were being forced outwards and were cracking away from the side walls; these cracks had spread right down into the blind story below the lantern, where they may be seen to this day. It is at this period that was inaugurated the elaborate system of internal and external buttresses which cluster round the central feature of the cathedral. There are a great many of them, all aiming at striving to prevent the bursting asunder of the spreading tower. Such was the engineering ignorance of the period, however, that they were all set to thrust too low to be of any use.

So in the end there was nothing for it—the tower had to come down and be rebuilt. The period at which it was decided to undertake this major operation is suggested by the date, 1331, of the royal licence to pull down the ancient cathedral at Old Sarum to obtain the stone. The spire, if we assume, as I think we may, that one already existed, was taken down; also the ruined lantern. The blind story, propped as it was from every conceivable source by its rings of buttresses, was left undisturbed; it seemed safe enough despite its damaged angles—we now see that the cracks in these never spread into the new tower raised upon it.

In the summer of 1334 the contract was signed with Richard of Farley, the mason who was to take charge of the rebuilding. As the beautiful two-storied tower—which even without its spire would have been an outstanding achievement—was raised laboriously upon its lofty site, the fantastically overloaded footings of the crossing pillars were pressed remorselessly deeper and deeper into the ground.



Plate I. Cherhill.



Plate II. Cirencester, Gloucestershire.



Plate III. Cricklade, St. Mary.



Plate IV. East Knoyle.



Plate V. Presteigne, Radnorshire.



Plate VI. Wootton Bassett.

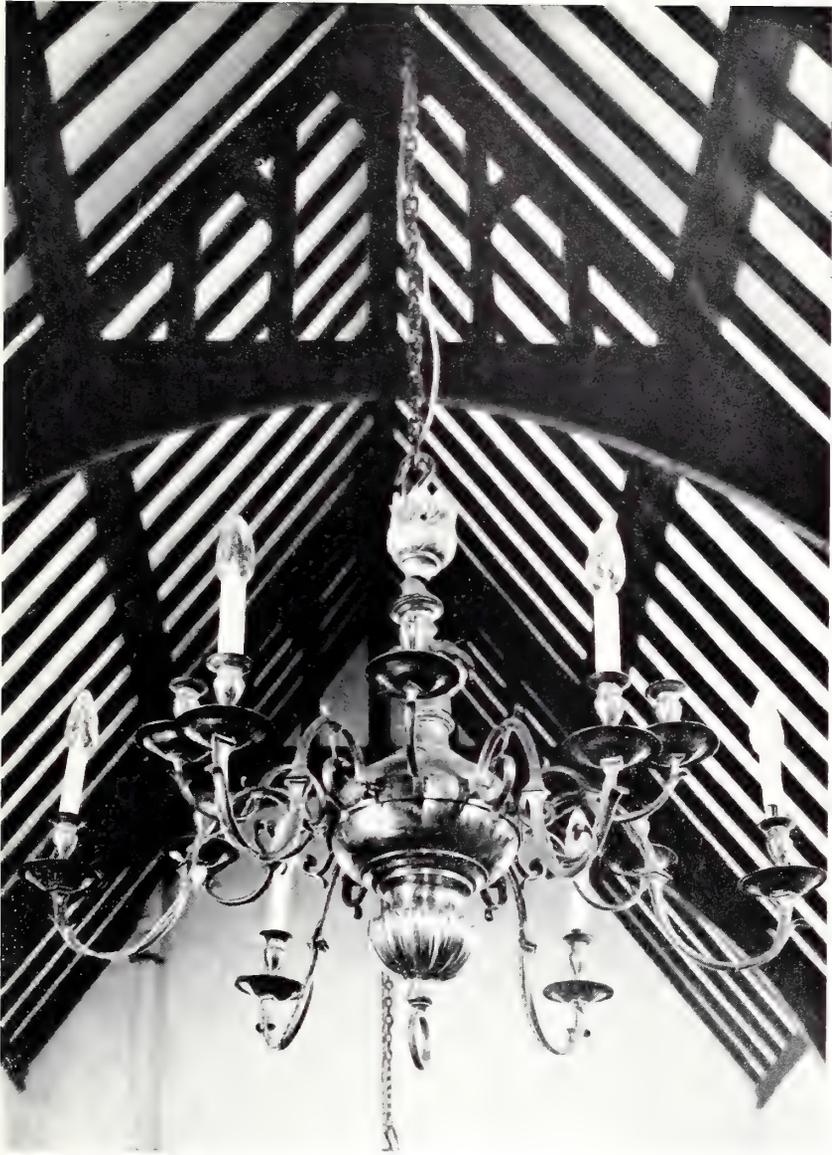


Plate VII. Wylie.



Plate VIII. Woolstone, Berkshire.

The south-western of these sank slightly more than its brethren, producing a slight lean in the spire towards this quarter.

Internally the church lost much by the change, for the new vaulting over the crossing was set at a safe level where it could receive support from the high vaults on all sides of it. Thus when the central lantern disappeared the church became a great hall with its ceiling running unbroken from the west door to the high altar. It may have been to emphasise this effect that the two great arches—which are not strictly strainer arches—were thrown across the openings to the transepts so that arcades as well as high vaults could run unbroken down the church. The iconography of these arches indicates a date near the middle of the second half of the century; thus it would appear that the raising of the tower and spire may have taken as long as did the erection of the whole original church.

For the rest, the story of the building is one of struggles over abutment. An elaborate system of buttresses was begun in the south-west angle of the great crossing to control the lean of the tower. The east gable of the choir was buttressed; on the south side of the nave, and in the transepts, the ever inadequately buttressed high vaults were here and there provided with additional supports. The structural problems of the cathedral have strangely enough not been concerned so much with its formidable central feature as one might have supposed. It was the conviction of the thirteenth-century builders, that faith could overcome ignorance, which has caused all the trouble. Yet, all in all, one can hardly complain that they were overmuch misled.

CHANDELIERS IN WILTSHIRE CHURCHES

By ROBERT SHERLOCK

Wiltshire has seven churches known to possess chandeliers that belong to the period when candles were still the accepted form of lighting. This is about the average number for a county of Wiltshire's size. The special interest of the chandeliers is their exceptional variety which is the result of easy accessibility from London, Bristol and other places of manufacture. The chandeliers are listed below. At the beginning of each entry the diameter of the widest part of the body—either a globe or the collar to a globe—is given in inches, the number and arrangement of the branches follows and finally the inscription where there is one. Discussion is chiefly concerned with the question where the chandeliers were made.

CHERHILL (Plate I)

8½. 2 tiers of 6. DONUM GULIELMI UNDERWOOD QUI OBIIT OCTOB: 1ST 1702.

The possession of a spread-eagle finial used to be regarded as one of the indications that a chandelier was made on the Continent. It is now known that the device was also used in England and in particular by John Spooner of Bristol, brassfounder. It was he who provided the pair of chandeliers at Cirencester, Gloucestershire, dated 1701 and shown in Plate II. According to the Cirencester churchwardens' accounts for 1700/2, ¹ the payment made to him 'for the Branches' was £24 12s.

John Spooner died late in 1703, ² and if he made the chandelier at Cherhill as he probably did, this would just have given him time to do so. The spread-eagle is the same as those at Cirencester and the lettering of the inscription is similar. On the other hand, the branches differ markedly and are the earliest examples of a design that was to be current in Bristol for the next twenty-five years. ³ The chandeliers at Cirencester and Cherhill are archaisms in so far as they are virtually the only examples of later date than 1670 to have spread-eagle finials.

The Cherhill chandelier was bequeathed by William Underwood of Calne, schoolmaster, in accordance with the following clause in his will:— ⁴

'Item: I Give Five pounds to buy a branch wth 12 Socketts in it to be hang'd upp in the parish Church of Calne at the discretion of my Executors.'

The chandelier was moved from Calne to Cherhill in the nineteenth century. ⁵

CRICKLADE, ST. MARY (Plate III)

12½. 2 tiers of 12 and 6.

Here is recognisably the design of a Bristol maker and a simplified version of the chandelier at Backwell, Somerset. The gadrooning that occurs twice at Cricklade occurs as part of the pendant at Backwell, and both examples have the scalloped pans and socketts that are typical of later Bristol work. The Backwell chandelier was given in 1786 and has at the centre of the branches a voided square naturally formed by pairs of opposed scrolls. At Cricklade the corresponding detail is self-conscious, a reason for regarding the chandelier as the later of the two.

St. Peter's, Bristol, had a pair of chandeliers ⁶ practically matching that at Backwell, but these were destroyed with the Church in 1940.

The chandelier at Cricklade is large for its setting, and it would not be surprising to learn that it came from elsewhere.

CRICKLADE, ST. SAMPSON ⁷

10. 2 tiers of 8. THE GIFT OF M^{RS} MARTHA PLEYDELL 1733.

The finial is a bishop's mitre. This feature is associated with various groups of chandeliers, each the work of a different maker. The group to which the chandelier at Cricklade belongs includes those at

Little Coxwell, Berkshire, (1729), Wantage, Berkshire, (1732/3),⁸ and Alcester, Warwickshire, (1733).⁹ All have the same suspension-ring. The branches, pans and sockets at Cricklade are the same as those at Wantage, and the body-sections that take the branches at Cricklade are of one size and these the same as the upper ones at Little Coxwell and Alcester. Where the group was made is not known, but the distribution pattern suggests the South Midlands. It may have been Oxford where the bishop's mitre finial and other characteristics of the group seem to have originated.¹⁰ (See also addendum).

EAST KNOYLE (Plate IV)

7 $\frac{3}{8}$. 1 tier of 8.

The appearance of this chandelier is spoilt by the absence of a finial and the way in which the sections of the body are wrongly assembled. To see how it looked originally, it is necessary to compare the chandelier in the south aisle at Presteigne, Radnorshire, (Plate V), which apart from its condition is identical. The date of neither chandelier is known, but they are probably contemporary with one at St. Mary Bourne, Hampshire.¹¹ This was given in 1807 and has the same flames for the finial, the same branches, the same gadrooning and the same pendant terminal. A single maker was presumably responsible for all three chandeliers, and with such a wide market he would almost certainly have been a Londoner.

*RAMSBURY*¹²

A pair. 11. 2 tiers of 6. REV^D M^R RICH^D GARRARD M:A: VICAR, M^R BENJ^N SYMONDS CHURCH-WARDEN. 1751.

These chandeliers are either by the same maker as the Cricklade, St. Sampson group or by some successor to this maker's patterns. Considering their date, the second alternative is perhaps the more likely. They have the same suspension-ring as members of this group; their dove finials are the same as those at Little Coxwell and Wantage; and their bodies between finial and globe apart from an extra section at the top are the same as those at Little Coxwell and Alcester. The chandelier that they resemble most closely is not, however, of this group but at Langtoft, Lincolnshire,¹³ which was bequeathed in 1759 and is therefore nearer in date. This example except for differences necessitated by having three tiers of branches instead of two is almost the same as those at Ramsbury. The maker, if only one was involved, may have worked in the South Midlands, but why would he supply a chandelier for a church so far away as Langtoft? A possible explanation is provided by the special requirements of the donor. According to his will, the chandelier was to be 'of the same Size Fashion and Value as that in Bourn Church'.¹⁴ The chandelier at Bourne, Lincolnshire,¹⁵ survives and has features that seem to have been copied from South Midlands designs.¹⁶ It may be that it was necessary to go to the South Midlands in order to find a maker who still practised the style represented at Bourne, and that the maker thus found was the same as that of the chandeliers at Ramsbury.

A memorandum in the Ramsbury registers¹⁷ records the cost of the chandeliers as £20 10s. 6d. and that of the chains, painting and carriage as £2 6s. The whole amount was met by subscriptions.

WOOTTON BASSETT (Plate VI)

12 $\frac{3}{8}$. 2 tiers of 10. THE GIFT OF M^{RS} JANE HOLLISTER. TO THIS PARISH. ANNO DOM^I 1782.

This chandelier is attributed to the same maker as one at Leeds, Kent,¹⁸ bequeathed in 1778. The finials are the same, the pendants have the same gadrooning and end in the same handle, and the single tier of branches at Leeds are the same as the lower ones at Wootton. The maker in view of the distribution of his products was probably a Londoner. Certain features—especially the finial, the pendant handle, the lettering and stops of the inscription and the branches—seem to owe their form to deliberate

copying. Two groups would have served as models. One includes the chandeliers at New Romney, Kent,¹⁹ and Penrith, Cumberland,²⁰ with their similar pendant handles. The other, itself modelled upon the first, ranges in date from 1756 to 1768 and is represented at Wotton-under-Edge in Gloucestershire,²¹ Helston in Cornwall,²² Spalding in Lincolnshire, and elsewhere.

Mrs. Hollister also gave ' 2 Sconces to the Ministers Desk, and 1 Sconce to the Clerks Desk ',²³ but these do not survive.

WYLYE (Plate VII)

A pair. 10½. 1 tier of 12. On east one only: THE GIFT OF THO^s MEASE: A.D. 1814.

The alternating sizes of the branches are an unusual feature. Otherwise, the style of these chandeliers seems largely to result from copying that of a London maker whose work at London, St. Martin Ludgate, (1779), Peterborough Cathedral and Shotwick, Cheshire, shows similar use of a ring as a pendant terminal and similar choice of mouldings for below the finial. The only other chandelier believed to be by the same maker as those at Wyllye is that at Woolstone, Berkshire, (Plate VIII). All have the same body sections from the finial to the globe, or would have were it not that at Woolstone some of the sections are wrongly assembled. The chandelier at Woolstone is not in its original location. It was bought ' in an open market either in or near Brighton '²⁴ and presumably came from somewhere far enough from Wiltshire to make it likely that London was the common place of manufacture.

The chandeliers at Wyllye were originally at Wilton, and after their removal a third was added to match the other two.²⁵ This is now in the centre of the nave.

Of the original pair, the inscribed one was the gift of a manufacturer of carpets who died 4 November 1816.²⁶ The other seems to owe its existence to a vestry agreement. At a meeting, held 16 December 1813 to consider how the Church might best be lit to enable the holding of afternoon services during the winter, it was agreed that the churchwardens should purchase various receptacles for candles including ' a Chandelier of Twelve Lights '. There is no direct evidence in the accounts²⁷ of the purchase having taken place. On the other hand, the churchwardens did incur the expense of putting up a chandelier in 1814/5.

CHURCHES FORMERLY WITH CHANDELIERS

There are also another seven churches in Wiltshire where chandeliers formerly existed, viz:—

BRADFORD-ON-AVON

The surviving churchwardens' accounts begin in 1725/6.²⁷ The cleaning of the ' sconce ' is an entry in the accounts for 1727/8 and in many subsequent ones. In 1794/5, there is the first reference to ' the large Brass Chandelier '. This or a successor still existed in 1851 when there was a payment ' for repairs to Chandeliers &c. '²⁸

DEVIZES, ST. MARY

The churchwardens' accounts for 1702/3²⁹ have the item:—

pd Steph^r hillman for Iaern and worke Abought haingin the Candellsticke att Church 1 14 1

When a chandelier was given, it was quite usual for the cost of hangings and erection to be borne by the parish.³⁰ This may have been what happened here. There are references to the ' candlestick ' after 1702/3, for instance in 1703/4 and 1704/5, but none before. In 1753/4, ' the Crook of the Branch Candlestick ' was mended.

MARLBOROUGH, ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

A terrier dated 19 July 1783³¹ refers to 'Two large Brass Chandeliers hanging by Iron links painted over the middle Isle, one small Chandelier hanging by Iron links over the Chancel'. Compare St. Saviour's, Dartmouth, where there are still chandeliers hanging by iron rods: two in the nave and a smaller one in the chancel.

All three parish churches in Salisbury³² had chandeliers. The names by which they were known included 'lamp', an addition to the normal range of alternatives whose use in this sense has been met with also at Ludlow, Shropshire. The chandeliers at St. Edmund's are described in inventories as 'candlesticks' or 'lamps' without discrimination;³³ at St. Martin's the lamp is being scoured one year and the candlestick the next;³⁴ and at St. Thomas's the chandelier is still being called the lamp as late as 1705/6.

SALISBURY, ST. EDMUND

'A latten Candlesticke giuen by walter Burgges this yeare 1597'³⁵ would appear to be the same as a 'Lampe of Brasse wth 9 socketts of Brasse' that existed in 1628.³⁶ In 1622/3, a second chandelier was provided:

It paid ffor the makeinge of the newe Candelsticke in the Churche hauinge in him Six
Socketts of Brase

xvij^d

It was primarily of wood as the inventory of 1623³⁷ among others records:

It one other Candelsticke of timber wth vj Socketts of Brase in him.

Wooden chandeliers still survive in Wales,³⁸ but in England their use in churches must have been very limited. This one at St. Edmund's is the only example known.

The two chandeliers were both suspended by ropes³⁹ before they suffered some fate which would explain why neither is mentioned in the accounts after 1652/3 or in the inventory of 1667. Possibly they were damaged beyond repair by the fall of the Church tower in 1653.

The need to replace them was met in 1682:⁴⁰

pd for a Branch a Houre Glass & Cariidge

9 9 0

The hour-glass is likely to represent a negligible part of the expense, one bought in 1681/2 having cost 8d.

The new chandelier was suspended at first by a rope⁴¹ and later by iron hangings which it was agreed in 1774 to shorten.⁴² The date of its removal is not known, but the 'sconces' were still being cleaned in 1837/8.

SALISBURY, ST. MARTIN

The earliest churchwardens' accounts with reference to a chandelier are those for 1610/1:

Layd out for the Lampe

The prise of the Lampe at London

lv^s

ffor Williams Creeds paynes that bought it and for the Carriage of it Downe

ij^d

ffor a pulley

vj^d

ffor the Lyne to hange it wth all

xvij^d

ffor two Iron Crookes and nayles

vj^d

ffor his paynes that hanged it vp

v^d

The fact that the chandelier was brought from London suggests that it was made there, and this in

turn helps to suggest that London-made chandeliers were already being distributed throughout the Country in the early seventeenth century.

In 1678, there were 'Too Greate brases with severall sockets hanging in the bddy of y^e Church'.⁴³ It looks as though a second chandelier had been acquired, but if so it is difficult to explain why after 1678 only one lamp was still being cleaned.⁴⁴ It is more likely that there was never more than one chandelier and that this was of twofold construction resulting perhaps from the possession of two tiers of branches. It seems sometimes to have been thought of as so many sockets or not to have been distinguished from other kinds of lighting fitting. Hence, there are references to 'lamps' both before and after 1678.

Whatever the number of chandeliers, one was suspended by a rope as late as 1727. In 1755, this or another appears to have been melted down:

July 24	Paid for the New Branch Cash	29	3	11	}	31	10	0	
	By old Brass &c as p bill	2	6	1					}
Aug. 10	Paid Brooks for putting up the Branch & Nails &c						0	4		0

SALISBURY, ST. THOMAS

St. Michael's Cornhill, London, obtained a chandelier in 1579/80⁴⁵ and this is the first time after the Reformation that a church is known to have had such a fitting. St. Thomas' may, however, have had one earlier. The first of a regular series of references to the 'lamp' is in the churchwardens' accounts for 1580/1. Little is known about this chandelier except that it hung by means of a rope. This was still so in 1712, and in 1638 the rope provided weighed 10lb. In 1732/3, a new chandelier was bought:

A Large Brass Fluted Branch with a Bishop, & 16 Lights	27	0	[
Lackering and Carrige &c:	2	15	[

The accounts for the next year have the following items:

Pd Ward the Smith for the Chain for the Branch W ^t 43 ^{li} at 8 ^d	1	8	8
Pd for Scaffolding to put up the Branch	0	17	6

The 'bishop' was presumably a mitre finial, in which case the chandelier to some extent answered the description of the contemporary one at St. Sampson's, Cricklade. Almost certainly it would have been more expensive and, therefore, larger. The fact that it was 'fluted' should mean that the body was ornamented with fluting. If really so, the chandelier had a feature quite unparalleled for such an early date.

TROWBRIDGE

A pair of large chandeliers with two tiers of branches attached to globes and without any finial recognisable as such were hanging in the nave when William Millington made his undated drawing, 'Interior of Trowbridge Church from the Chancel'. They were probably removed as soon as the installation of gaslight had been completed in 1844.⁴⁶ An exhaustive inventory of 1846⁴⁷ has no reference to chandeliers and none appears in Millington's drawing dated by its title to 1848 or later, 'The Interior of the Church of Trowbridge, as restored.'⁴⁸

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Custodians at the Council House, Bristol, the Lincoln Diocesan Record Office, the Gloucestershire Records Office and the Wiltshire County Record Office are thanked for the liberal interpretation of their duties in searching for documents and transcribing them.

- ¹At Gloucestershire Records Office.
²His will at the Council House, Bristol, was dated 27 September 1703 and proved 4 November following.
³See the chandeliers at Wickwar, Gloucestershire, and Taunton Unitarian Chapel, Somerset, both dated 1728.
⁴At Wiltshire County Record Office.
⁵J. H. Blackford, *The Manor and Village of Cherhill*, p. 152.
⁶C. C. Oman, *Arch. Jnl.*, vol. xciii, plate xviiiA.
⁷*The Connoisseur*, December 1956, plate 3.
⁸Dated by churchwardens' accounts.
⁹*CYB (Connoisseur Year Book)*, 1958, plate 10.
¹⁰Consider the chandeliers at Queen's College, Oxford, dated 1721.
¹¹*CYB*, 1960, plate 2.
¹²Oman, *op. cit.*, plate vB.
¹³*CYB*, 1958, plate 14.
¹⁴At Lincoln Diocesan Record Office.
¹⁵*CYB*, 1959, plate 27.
¹⁶As represented particularly at Lechlade, Gloucestershire.
¹⁷Quoted in E. D. Webb, *History of the Hundred of Ramsbury*, part i, p. 29.
¹⁸*CYB*, 1959, plate 14.
¹⁹*Antiques*, September 1959, plate 6.
²⁰Oman, *op. cit.*, plate vi.
²¹*CYB*, 1958, plate 17.
²²*CYB*, 1959, plate 17.
²³Terrier dated 28 July 1783 at Wren Hall, Salisbury.
²⁴Information kindly given by Mrs. Marie Monsarrat.
²⁵*W.A.M.*, vol. xxxvi, p. 141.
²⁶See inscription on his tomb in Wilton churchyard.
²⁷At Wiltshire County Record Office.
²⁸One of several instances of indiscriminate use of the plural at this date.
²⁹At Wiltshire County Record Office. The accounts for 1737/8 and after are at the Church.
³⁰As at St. Briavels, Gloucestershire, and Batcombe, Somerset.
³¹At Wren Hall, Salisbury.
³²Records referred to are those at the Council House, Salisbury.
³³In 1628, the wooden chandelier was 'one Lampe of Tymber'.
³⁴In 1620/1 and 1622/3 the 'lamp'; in 1621/2 the 'candlestick'.
³⁵Inventory in Memorandum Book, p. 210.
³⁶*Ibid.*, p. 188.
³⁷*Ibid.*, p. 167.
³⁸For instance at Llanfechain, Montgomeryshire, and Llanasa, Flintshire.
³⁹'2 lynes for the Lamps' were acquired in 1627/8.
⁴⁰Expences extraordinary for a Branch' had already been incurred by vestry meeting of 1 September 1682.
⁴¹One was provided in 1698/9.
⁴²Vestry minutes, 8 September 1774.
⁴³Vestry minutes.
⁴⁴As in 1679/80, 1681/2 and 1683/4.
⁴⁵Guildhall MS. 4071/1.
⁴⁶Churchwardens' book at Wiltshire County Record Office.
⁴⁷*Ibid.*
⁴⁸Prints of both drawings are at the Church.

ADDENDUM

CRICKLADE ST. SAMPSON

Dr. T. R. Thomson has kindly drawn attention to the will of Martha Pleydell of Cricklade, spinster, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, (175 Abbott), 16 June 1729. This shows that the chandelier at Cricklade was a bequest to be hung in the body of the Church and to be bought for £8. It was, therefore, much less expensive than the one at St. Thomas's, Salisbury.

THE WILTSHIRE ELECTION OF 1772: AN INTERPRETATION

By JOHN CANNON

The Wiltshire by-election of 1772, in which Ambrose Goddard defeated Henry Herbert, has attracted a certain amount of attention, but there has been little agreement about the nature of the contest. The author of *An Impartial Account of the late Election*, written in 1818,¹ believed that it had been a struggle by Goddard against 'a most unwarrantable interference of the peerage'. This is in keeping with Oldfield's opinion that Herbert had been supported by the whole aristocracy of the county.² There is very little contemporary evidence to confirm this interpretation, however. In the voluminous newspaper controversy, the charge was made once only, when *Britannica*, a correspondent in the *Marlborough Journal*, commented on the amazing combination of Dukes, Earls and Lords at Devizes to support Herbert.³ On the other hand, another correspondent in the *Marlborough Journal*, 1 August 1772, rebuked a noble lord of Goddard's party for disposing so freely of the country interest, and *Observer*, in the *Salisbury Journal*, 3 August 1772, wrote that 'the world knows there are Peers, and proud Peers, who make the chief support of this boasted independent interest'. With Lords Shelburne, Radnor, Bruce, and Castlehaven taking so active a part on Goddard's behalf, independence of the peerage would have been a very maladroit line for his supporters to pursue.

Miss Ransome, writing in the *Victoria County History*,⁴ came to the conclusion that the contest was 'between North and South Wiltshire'. This is true only to a superficial extent. Certainly Herbert's main support came from Wilton and Salisbury, where his cousin's estates were, and Goddard's from the North. Both candidates, in fact, carried their own localities. But the North-South alignment was quite fortuitous. There is no indication of serious North-South rivalry before that election or after. There was no tradition of sharing seats, and Goddard was neither chosen nor supported because he came from the North. Nor was there any reference made to this aspect during the campaign itself, for neither side was in a position to exploit it. Goddard had been proposed by Grove, of Mere, and by Lord Folkestone, whose family estates were at Longford. His supporters included the Wyndhams of Dinton and Salisbury, Penruddock of Compton Chamberlain, Lord Castlehaven of Grovely, Lambert of Boyton, and Godfrey Kneller of Donhead. Herbert's supporters, on the other hand, included the Cresswells of Sherston, Holford of Westonbirt, and Lord Suffolk of Charlton Park, all of whose estates were in the extreme North. He outpolled Goddard in Malmesbury, Cricklade, and Wootton Bassett, in the heart of his opponent's territory, by 127-47, while Goddard swept Mere, Downton, Hindon, Dinton and Knoyle, in the far South, by 75 votes to 2. In fact, Goddard's supremacy was so marked that he even outpolled Herbert in the South as a whole, polling 858 against 742.⁵

Another interpretation of the contest was made by F. Harrison, in his article in *Wiltshire Notes and Queries*, volume V. The conclusion he reached was that 'it was a moral contest, purity against corruption, independence against subservience'. If by corruption was meant treating, Goddard's bills for lavish hospitality, preserved in the Awdry MSS. at Trowbridge, demonstrate that it was not confined to one side. Harrison's analysis ignores the essential characteristic of a county election in this period, which was the influence exerted by property. The vast majority of the freeholders had no political independence to assert: they voted as their landlords dictated. The contest was decided by private meetings of the gentry, and by the exchange of letters. Hence, W. C. Grove, who supported Goddard, was able to assure him that Mere would vote 37-0 in his favour, and Mere did.⁶ Wilton, on the other hand, was under the immediate influence of Lord Pembroke, and voted 63-0 for Herbert. In most parishes, one had only to ascertain the views of the main landowners to make a reasonable forecast of the vote. Sir Edward Bayntun of Bromham supported Herbert, and Bromham voted 9-2. Edmund Lambert of Boyton was on Goddard's committee, and Boyton voted 7-0. Downton, under the in-

fluence of Lord Radnor, voted 15-2 for Goddard, while Corsham took its cue from Paul Methuen, and voted 12-1 for Goddard. Malmesbury was controlled by the Howard and Fox families, who both supported Herbert: the freeholders of Malmesbury voted 51-2 in his favour. In short, only the greater gentry were in a position to assert real independence.

One aspect of the election which has been overlooked is the political. Goddard's propagandists stressed the whole time that Herbert stood for court influence, and Harris, one of Herbert's chief supporters, was sharply attacked as a deserter of his best friends, the venal dependent of a court.⁷ Herbert tried to counter this by emphasising the occasions on which he had voted against the government. It is clear, however, that he was in general supported by the friends of the administration, though there are the exceptions one would expect to find as the result of personal friendships, family relationships, and county affiliations.

Among the Members of Parliament who voted for Herbert were Bayntun, J. Harris, the two Cresswells, Coote, Selwyn, and Stephen Fox, all of whom supported the ministry. His only supporters from the ranks of the parliamentary opposition were A'Court Ashe and Hussey. Among the peers who supported him were Weymouth, Queensberry, and Suffolk, all government partisans. Goddard's following, to almost the same extent, was associated with opposition. The Members of Parliament who voted for him included Henry Dawkins, Folkestone, Penruddock, Sturt, Grove, John Smith, and Sutton, all opposition men. Only three Members who normally supported government—Methuen, Hind Cotton, and George Pitt—voted for Goddard. The only government peer of note in his ranks was Lord Bruce, and attention was drawn in the newspapers to this very point. One of Goddard's writers, defending Bruce from the charge that he acted out of ambition to be Earl of Aylesbury, asked 'is an opposition to the ministerial candidate the means to obtain it?'⁸

That Goddard was intended to be the champion of the parliamentary opposition is made clear by Lord Shelburne's reply to a letter from Herbert, early in the campaign, asking him for support. After complimenting Herbert on his parliamentary conduct, Shelburne continued as follows:—

But it's impossible for me upon this occasion to separate myself from those, who have stood foremost in the cause of publick liberty, and who have made strenuous though hitherto ineffectual efforts for the redress of grievances, to which I must think a temporary opposition insufficient⁹

Further confirmation of the political flavour of the alignments comes from a comparison with the campaign for economical reform in 1780. In that year, a committee of 51 gentlemen was elected to conduct the reform campaign in Wiltshire. Once again, Radnor, Shelburne, Goddard, and the Awdrys were in the van. Of the 32 members of the Committee who had voted at the by-election of 1772, no less than 25 had supported Goddard.

If political affiliations explain much of the opposition to Henry Herbert, the rest is explained by his being so very bad a candidate. The surprise is not that he was beaten, but that he ever considered standing. He was personally unpopular and was accused of having thrust his way into the county militia over the heads of officers of long service. He seems to have been peculiarly obnoxious to the clergy. Despite the support given to him by the Dean of Salisbury, the clergy voted against him 100-45. This may have been in part due to his support for a Bill to relieve Protestant Dissenters from the 39 Articles. It was pointed out in the controversy that the wealth of the Herberts had come from the spoliation of church lands.

The most damaging charge against him, however, was that he had scarcely any property in the county he aspired to represent. Goddard's writers hammered this home with great effect. Herbert's only holding in the county was at Christian Malford, near Chippenham, where the house, on his own admission, was old and ruinous. When the election came, Christian Malford voted 4-1 for Goddard. 'Is the county of Wilts so destitute of gentlemen of worth that the freeholders must leap over the heads of all

the gentlemen in the county, and seek in another for a person to represent them?’, demanded a *Real Freeholder*, in a letter of sustained brilliance.¹⁰ In vain did Herbert’s friends dwell upon his distinguished conduct in Parliament: he had represented Wilton since 1768, and had resigned to contest the county seat. A *Real Freeholder* retorted: ‘shall we not have the benefit of his services where he is? We know that his noble cousin can keep him in the same seat as long as he pleases’.

Goddard, on the other hand, was an admirable candidate in all respects. He was totally inarticulate, and therefore regarded as sound and reliable. His family had been in Wiltshire for centuries, and was connected with many distinguished names. He was supported by an election machine of great efficiency, and his newspaper propaganda was particularly good.¹¹

Indeed, Goddard’s propaganda was so effective that it seems to have misled historians as well as contemporaries. The traditional interpretation of the election is that Goddard was the champion of the freeholders against an aristocratic tyranny. There is little support for this view in the financial details preserved in the Awdry MSS. It was scarcely a case of each small freeholder contributing his mite to the cause. Of the £8520 raised by subscription, nine persons accounted for £5000. Goddard paid £1000 himself, and Lord Radnor, Lord Shelburne, Lord Castlehaven, Penruddock, Sir James Long, Methuen, Grove, and Francis Popham each gave £500. The remainder came from 19 persons in instalments of £100 or £200. There was much truth, therefore, in Herbert’s jibe that Goddard ‘supported as he is by a subscription, if he should succeed in his election, receives it from the purse of a few’¹²

Far from Goddard being the independent struggling against a clique, the reverse seems to have been true. Herbert argued that the representation of the county had been dictated by the Deptford Club. This was a private meeting of certain gentlemen in the South to concert plans before the usual public meeting of freeholders was called. In origin, it seems to have been a Tory organisation. Herbert asserted that it had been responsible for bringing in Jack Howe, a noted Tory, in 1729.¹³ Certainly Goddard’s followers were anxious to be recognised as the ‘country interest’. Herbert’s friends attacked the Deptford Club with vigour and described Goddard as ‘a gentleman forced from his retirement by a set of people who have too long pretended to dictate arbitrarily to their county’.

Goddard’s supporters hotly denied club rule, and the result showed that Goddard was a popular candidate. Herbert’s description of the Club might be dismissed as mere election abuse, were it not for two letters which have survived. In 1767, Sir Robert Long, one of the Members of Parliament, had died. Precisely the same group who five years later supported Ambrose Goddard then assembled privately at Deptford. Henry Wyndham described it in a letter to his son who was abroad:

The first meeting that was to name a Gentleman for the county was at the Deptford Inn, the Clubb. My brother Penruddock was talked for this year, as also Mr. Talbot. Both of which in person and letter declined. Then they would have named my nephew, but the Father objected to him as not being settled. The next was Thomas Goddard of Swindon to whom we sent an express immediately . . . The same express went also to our Friends in London, who approved of him & then a meeting was appointed at Marlborough, where was between two and three hundred Gentlemen with Ld. Pembroke, Ld. Radnor (x), Ld. Weymouth, Ld. Castlehaven (x) & Ld. Bruce (x), three of which Lords as marked with a cross over them was for Mr. Goddard.¹⁵

Fortunately, Lord Castlehaven’s letter to Thomas Goddard, on the same occasion, also survives:

On receipt of his Lordship’s (Bruce) to me, I immediately consulted with my Friends, & advised by all means the promoting of your Interest . . . we accordingly met yesterday, & the result of those gentlemen, viz. Messrs. Penruddock, Wyndham, Lambert, Bowles, Buckler & Duke was, that I should despatch an express to acquaint you, that they are unanimously determined to support your interest to the utmost . . . Every necessary step has been already taken by us, to secure the Votes in this part of the County, & I may venture to say that if your Friends are as assiduous for you in the North Wilts . . . as we are here . . . our endeavours to serve you will be crowned with success . . .¹⁶

The important point here is that Castlehaven regarded the matter as settled before the meeting of general freeholders had been held. The bloc vote at that meeting duly endorsed Thomas Goddard’s selection by a proportion of 3-1, and he was elected without opposition.

In 1770 when Thomas Goddard himself died, Penruddock, one of the Club, was chosen, having been nominated by Lambert. Lambert's explanation was that Penruddock had been the man thought of by the county at large before the meeting at which he was nominated: and that no member of the Deptford Club ever boasted that it had given a representative to this county.¹⁷ But in 1772, yet another of the group was put forward.

In 1818, the anonymous writer of *An Impartial Account of the late Election*, a pamphlet of remarkable inaccuracy even for a political publication, asserted that the Club had originated in 1772 in support of Ambrose Goddard and that previously 'the representatives of this great and opulent county had been chosen by an aristocratic ascendancy.' This is correct, but upside down. The Club itself was the instrument of that ascendancy.¹⁸

There is nothing surprising in the discovery that the choice of a county member was made by a clique. It is surprising, however, that Goddard should so completely have succeeded in portraying himself as the champion of the little man, and that later writers should have seen great constitutional significance in the struggle. *Viator*, in the *Salisbury Journal*, 10 Aug. 1772, claiming to be a visitor from outside the county, insisted that the talk about independency was nothing but cant. The struggle was to ascertain what junta of Lords should prevail, and the winning candidate would owe his seat to the influence of such of the contending lords 'who have the greatest weight in your county.' If this description is extended to bring in the greatest gentry, it is the least inaccurate that has yet been made of the famous contest.

¹A pamphlet about the 1818 election, but looking back to the previous contest. It is preserved in the museum at Devizes.

²T. H. B. Oldfield, *History of the Boroughs*, iii, 112.

³*Marlborough Journal*, 15 Aug. 1772.

⁴*V.C.H. Wilts*, v.

⁵By 'the South', I mean the Hundreds of Bradford, Melksham, Potterne, Swanborough, Elstub, and below. This is the division made in the Goddard MSS. 1359. preserved in the Swindon Reference Library. There is a convenient map of the Wiltshire Hundreds on page 4 of the *Victoria County History*, volume v. Of course, Goddard's majority in the North was much greater.

⁶The canvass returns are in the Awdry MSS.

⁷*Marlborough Journal*, 12 Sep. 1772.

⁸*Marlborough Journal*, 15 Aug. 1772. Lord Bruce's position is rather odd, and may have been the consequence of family rivalry with the Herberts for county standing.

⁹Lord Shelburne to Henry Herbert, 25 July 1772, Bowood MSS.

¹⁰*Marlborough Journal*, 1 Aug. 1772.

¹¹His election accounts shew considerable sums spent on inserting letters in local newspapers. Herbert's propaganda was, in comparison, feeble and vulgar.

¹²*Salisbury Journal*, 3 Aug. 1772.

¹³The point they were making was that Howe had most

of his property in Gloucestershire, and that the Club's objection to Herbert because his property was in Hampshire was factious and hypocritical.

¹⁴*Salisbury Journal*, 17 Aug. 1772.

¹⁵H. Wyndham to H. P. Wyndham, 22 March 1767, Wyndham MSS. at Devizes.

¹⁶Castlehaven to Thomas Goddard, Goddard MSS., Swindon. The addressee is not given, but the date is 21 February, which refers it to the 1767 election.

¹⁷*Salisbury Journal*, 3 Aug. 1772.

¹⁸The author of the pamphlet also states that the Beckhampton Club was founded at the same time as the Deptford Club and for a similar purpose. In the margin of the pamphlet, a reader has scribbled: 'A Lie. The Deptford Club was long in existence previous to the Beckhampton & for a very different purpose'.

Miss Ransome (*Victoria County History*, v. 201) suggests that the Deptford and Beckhampton Clubs were both in existence in 1767. It is clear that she has been misled by the account in H. A. Wyndham's *The Wyndham Family*, ii, 177. Wyndham did not attend a meeting at Beckhampton (nor, for that matter, is Beckhampton near Salisbury). The second meeting was at Marlborough, and was the ordinary meeting of Freeholders. It was reported in the *Salisbury Journal*, 2 Mar. 1767. There is no evidence that the Beckhampton Club existed as early as this.

SNAP—A MODERN EXAMPLE OF DEPOPULATION

By M. WEAVER SMITH

In his book *The Lost Villages of England* (1954), M. W. Beresford lists twenty-three lost mediaeval settlements¹ in Wiltshire. These settlements are shown in the map at fig. 1 below together with the sites of Snap, seven miles south-east of Swindon, and of Imber, eight miles south-south-west of Devizes. Both these are examples of settlements deserted not in the middle ages, but only recently. Imber was depopulated in 1943 by the decision of the War Department to take the surrounding land for military training; the story of Snap set out below contains more interesting features.

Mediaeval depopulation of settlements was usually due to agricultural change. During the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, for instance, in places where sheep rearing for wool had become more profitable than mixed or arable farming, some landowners turned their holdings into sheep runs and dispensed with hired labour other than the shepherd and his dog. This put the agricultural labourers out of employment and forced them to desert their homes. Within a century or so, the reasons for these depopulations had become obscured and folk-tales arose to account for the fossilized remains of settlements which were to be found in most counties, particularly those of midland England. These mediaeval features can be paralleled in the depopulation of Snap, which did not happen until the early twentieth century.

Snap was close to the head of one of the dry valleys that dissect the higher areas of the chalk downlands in north Wiltshire, and was about two miles west of the village of Aldbourne. The 700 feet contour crosses the site (see fig. 2 below) which was one of the highest settlements of the Marlborough and Lambourn Downs. One slightly higher settlement is the hamlet of Woodsend, which is some five hundred yards south of Snap on a spur between two dry valleys which rises to a little over 800 feet. The histories of Snap and Woodsend are closely related.

The name Snap was first recorded in the middle of the thirteenth century², but the close association of the settlement with 'ancient fields', well shown on the large scale O.S. Maps (fig. 2) and on aerial photographs, suggests an earlier settlement of the valleyhead site. There is an entry in Hoare's *Ancient Wilts* which suggests that Samian ware had been found by him at Snap.³ I have however discovered few historical records before the eighteenth century. These indicate a small farming community—nineteen poll tax payers in 1377⁴—set in part of the Duchy of Lancaster's Aldbourne estate and surrounded by the scrub of Aldbourne Chase. This scrub was inhabited mainly by deer and rabbits noted in 1606 as being responsible for spoiling the timber in Snap Park.⁵

When Andrews and Dury published their map of Wiltshire⁶ in 1773 they showed both Snap and Wood End, with Leigh Farm midway between these settlements. From that map Snap appears to have consisted of about ten dwellings, arranged on either side of a narrow roadway, and Woodsend of a cluster of five or six cottages. Slightly later, in 1809, the enclosure award for Aldbourne was accompanied by a map of the parish⁷ which differs from the earlier map in some details. Both settlements then closely resembled the form shown on the six-inch Ordnance Survey map of 1900 (fig. 2); that is to say the houses at Snap were almost all on the north side of the roadway while Woodsend consisted of some dozen cottages. The school and Chapel at Woodsend were later developments dating from the 1850's. These details are corroborated by the first edition of the O.S. six-inch map published in 1885. Details of the enclosure award and of earlier enclosures indicate that a much greater proportion of land was arable than in subsequent decades.

The last years of the nineteenth century were a bad period for farming in Wiltshire as elsewhere in Britain; local corn prices fell⁸ and for much of this period both Snap and Leigh Farms were untenanted. They were eventually occupied in the 1890's by a Mr. John Osmond. Snap then consisted of a farm of

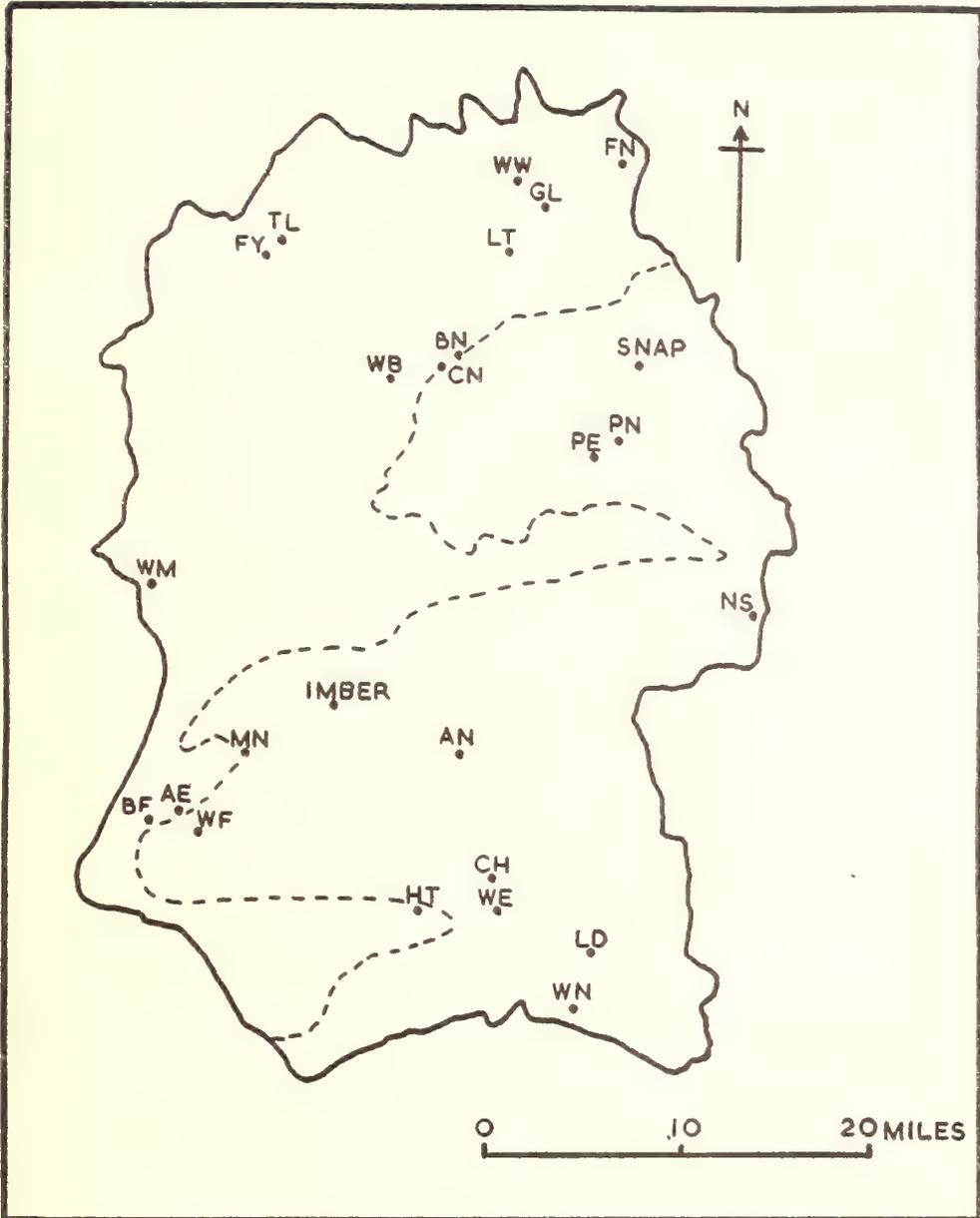


Fig. 1. The lost settlements of Wiltshire noted by M. W. Beresford.

KEY	AN —Abbotston;	AE —Ansteve;	BF —Baycliff;
	BN —Bupton;	CH —Chilhampton;	CN —Corton;
	FY —Foxley;	FN —Fresden;	GL —Groundwell;
	HT —Hurdcott;	LD —Longford;	LT —Lydiard Tregoze;
	MN —Middleton;	NS —North Standen;	PN —Polton;
	PE —Preshute;	TL —Thornhill;	WN —Walton;
	WE —Washerne;	WW —West Widhill;	WF —Whitclyffe;
	WB —Whitcomb;	WM —Whittenham.	

The broken line indicates the northern and western boundary of the chalk.

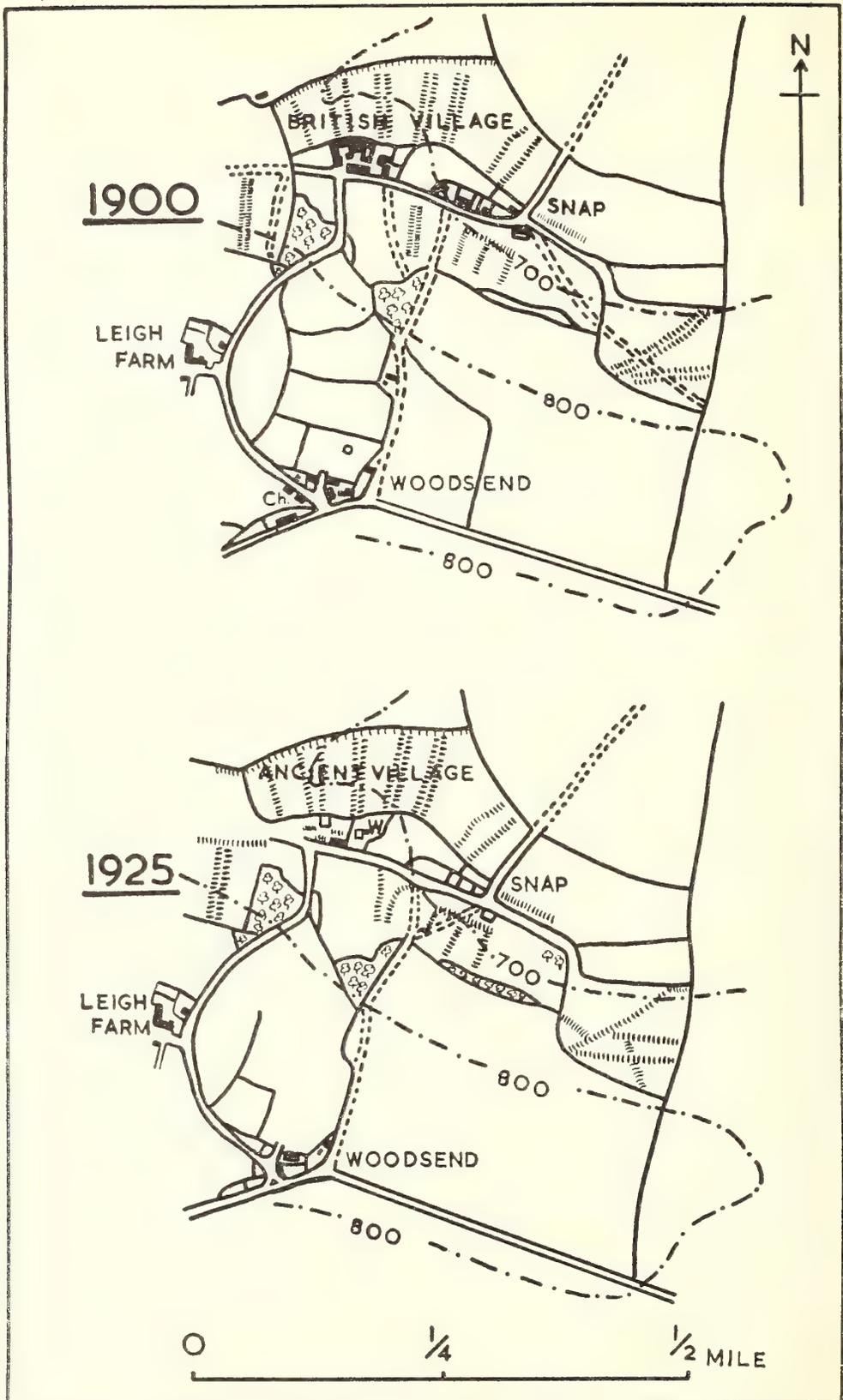


Fig. 2. Snap and Woodsend in 1900 and 1925. Based on the O.S. Six inch maps of these dates.

413 acres with its outbuildings and about eight cottages, whilst Leigh Farm was of 120 acres. Woodsend was about the same size as Snap but possessed, thanks to its position on a road between Aldbourne and Ogbourne St. George, a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel and a National school at which Sunday services were held. At neither settlement was there a shop, post-office or a public house. Both farms were vacated in 1905, when Mr. Osmond moved to a farm at Knowle. They failed to attract a buyer when put up for sale by public auction and were purchased privately by a Mr. Henry Wilson. Mr. Wilson, a butcher of Ramsbury, four miles to the south-east, was well known as a cattle and sheep dealer and he embarked in 1901 on a policy of acquiring land in the Aldbourne area. In all he purchased ten farms and rented seven others so that his holdings totalled about 6000 acres. As in the fourteenth century, pastoral farming proved a more economic proposition than mixed farming⁹, and the new landowner turned both farms into a sheep run, using them as a clearing house for his sheep dealing trade. The cottagers, finding their employment gone, drifted away; some went to Aldbourne, some to Ogbourne, and some attracted by the wages to the rising industrial town of Swindon. By 1914, Snap was derelict and the population of Woodsend had declined to six families including two smallholders and two farm labourers. Part of the area was used for military training and Snap was damaged when the woodwork of the buildings was removed. Some of the building materials, particularly those of the substantially built farmhouse which lasted into the nineteen-thirties, were removed and incorporated into houses at Woodsend.

The modern lost settlement of Snap presents a number of clues to several questions we might ask concerning mediaeval lost settlements, such as the reason why one particular settlement was deserted but not its neighbours, the kind of changes which took place as the buildings decayed and the time it took for local inhabitants to forget true reasons for depopulation and to substitute spurious reasons. Other questions of a specific nature have been answered above.

Lack of cultivation and grazing has resulted in most of the site becoming wooded. Some of the pine, ash and sycamore trees now reach a height of about thirty feet, and one large sycamore grows from the middle of a room in a former cottage. The site of Snap Farm, however, remained standing until the early 1930's; here there are no trees, and the positions of some of the former walls now appear as low grass-covered mounds reminiscent of those seen at the sites of mediaeval depopulations.¹⁰ Comparison with the remains of the cottages confirms the opinion that much of the material of the old farmhouse has been carried away. North of the former roadway, now a rough footpath only some five foot wide, and under the trees, the remains of several of the cottages are visible as linear mounds of building stone. These show that the cottages were about twenty-five to thirty feet by about twelve feet and contained only two rooms. The stone was almost exclusively local sarsen and flint with a little brick, and it now lies as moss-covered mounds some eighteen inches to two feet high in which are some fragments of tiles, pottery, and domestic ware of poor quality. In the vegetation are several varieties of plants which formerly stocked the cottage gardens, the latter still recognizable as such until the late nineteen-thirties.

It seems quite clear that shortly the remains of Snap will only be recognizable to the trained eye. As late as the middle of the nineteen-thirties the forms of the cottages and gardens were clearly discernible, but the next ten to fifteen years will probably allow the grassing over of most of the rubble that remains. Thus the settlement will have become 'lost' in a space of fifty years, and it is considered that in the same period most memories of it will also have passed away. Even to-day many people living within a few miles of Snap are ignorant of it or, if they know where it is, they do not know how it came to be abandoned. Already folk-lore has produced several tales to account for the depopulation, the most widely held being that the water supply ran out. When the site was visited in October 1957 the former wells were still visible, albeit only as bramble and barbed wire covered holes, and the main one seemed to be dry although its depth of 260 feet should have intercepted the water table; yet residents in nearby Aldbourne are adamant that Snap never suffered from water shortage.

Occasionally the true reason for the depopulation of Snap is known, but it is almost invariably re-tailed in a highly exaggerated version. Much of the blame for this lies with the strong feelings caused locally when Snap was abandoned, fanned by several rather inaccurate publications.¹¹ Together with a number of other nearby farms, Snap and Woodsend figured prominently in an action for slander brought by Messrs. George and Henry Wilson, sons of the Mr. Henry Wilson who bought the farms, against the then Member of Parliament for North Wilts, Mr. R. C. Lambert, as a result of a speech he had made on 16 August 1913 at Coped Hall near Wootton Bassett. Mr. Lambert then suggested that the Wilson family had been guilty of oppressive and tyrannical conduct in causing unemployment.¹² If a speech made in 1913 could be described by the judge at the trial as hardly containing one true statement, then little wonder that only garbled accounts are remembered now. Is it not possible that mediaeval and Tudor statements on depopulation were also badly exaggerated?

From the historical and geographical evidence it seems quite clear that the depopulation of Snap was almost fortuitous, originating from the fact that the buyer of the farm was a livestock dealer rather than an agriculturalist. That is not to say that geographical factors were unimportant. Clearly the farm would not have been so long untenanted had it been prosperous and evidence was produced at the slander trial that the land was poor and its value low. Further the rather intractable clay-with-flints soil is not well suited to arable farming, and it was likely that the land about Snap and Woodsend would sooner or later revert to downland pasture.

Depopulation of an entire settlement is most likely to occur when, as at Snap, the livelihoods of all the inhabitants depend on one or two farms only. That Woodsend was not completely depopulated can be ascribed to its position on a road; this enabled families to live there and seek a living unconnected with either Snap or Leigh Farms.¹³

As in so many mediaeval depopulations, that at Snap arose by the change from mixed to pastoral farming in a place which was only small and none too prosperous. Despite Snap's insignificance its story provides us with interesting modern parallels to earlier abandonments of settlements which have modified the English landscape considerably since the fourteenth century.

¹The term 'settlement' is used in preference to the more usual term 'village' as it is doubtful whether many of the depopulated places were important enough to rank as villages. [I hope to publish later a criticism of Mr. Beresford's list of lost settlements in Wiltshire—Ed.]

²Gover, Mawer and Stenton *The Place Names of Wiltshire*, Cambridge (1939).

³Hoare *Ancient History of North Wiltshire*, vol. ii, 2, 39 (London 1819). *W.A.M.*, vol. xlv, 171.

⁴Public Record Office. M.P.C. 5.

⁵Public Record Office. *A Survey of Duchy of Lancaster's Woods*, 3 James 1.

⁶Andrews and Dury, *A Topographical Map of the County of Wilts, drawn to a scale of two inches to one mile*, London 1773.

⁷The Enclosure Award and Map are preserved in the County Record Office at Trowbridge.

⁸*The Wilts, Berks and Hants County Paper*, 2 February 1934, quotes these local prices:—

In the thirty years, 1851-1880, wheat averaged 40-

75/- a quarter. In the thirty years, 1881-1910 wheat averaged 22-37/- a quarter.

(See also *V.C.H.*, iv, 92 seq. on Wiltshire Agriculture since 1870).

⁹Over large areas of the downs of North Wiltshire the thin chalk soil is deepened and improved by a mixture of clay-with-flints which varies from a sandy loam to a stiff clay. Hence the possibility of mixed farming at over 700 feet O.D.

¹⁰As at Bupton (Grid reference SU 060760) in Clyffe Pypard.

¹¹For example, the illustrated article in the *Daily Mirror*, 12 July 1913.

¹²See report in *North Wilts Herald*, 3 July 1914.

¹³Of the eight families at Woodsend in 1913, two were of smallholders, one of a retired policeman, and another of a hawker. The farm workers employed at Snap and Leigh farms preferred to live at Woodsend.

EXCAVATION AND FIELDWORK IN WILTSHIRE, 1959

SUMMARY

One of the most noteworthy projects within the county this year has been the start of work at the medieval site on Fyfield Down, under the direction of Mr. P. J. Fowler of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments. His excavations have so far been restricted to a 13th century farm building, the first 'longhouse' to be recognised in Wiltshire.

Valuable research into the Neolithic period is also well under way. The recent excavation of the Fussell's Lodge long barrow (*W.A.M.* vol. 57, pp. 3-5) was followed in 1959 by the investigation of the Windmill Hill long barrow by Mr. P. Ashbee and Dr. Isobel Smith. Mrs. F. de Mallet Vatcher has excavated the mortuary enclosure on Normanton Down; her excavations complete the work begun there last year by E. Greenfield (*W.A.M.* vol. 57, p. 229).

As for the Iron Age, work has begun at the two hill-forts of Bury Wood and Bilbury, under the direction of Mr. D. Grant-King and the Rev. E. H. Steele respectively. In addition work is being restarted at the important Iron Age settlement site on Cow Down, Longbridge Deverell, under the direction of Professor and Mrs. Christopher Hawkes.

In Savernake Forest a third season of weekend digging has been completed on the Romano-British pottery kiln site near Column Ride, also under the direction of the Rev. E. H. Steele. A third kiln was discovered.

Both the research groups of the Salisbury Museum and the parent Society have continued their projects and emergency digging in spite of very limited funds. Lack of money inevitably slows down excavation and it is therefore most pleasing to record a gift of £200 to the parent Society by an anonymous donor for the purchase of archaeological equipment.

Sincere thanks are due to the following for their contributions about the excavations described below:—

Mrs. F. de Mallet Vatcher (Winterslow and Normanton Down); P. Ashbee and Dr. Isobel Smith (The Windmill Hill long barrow); Mrs. P. Christie (Winterbourne Stoke); D. E. Johnston (Fosbury, near Marlborough); Major H. F. W. L. Vatcher (Barrows east of the Stonehenge Avenue); P. Rahtz (Excavations at Broadchalke); D. Grant-King (Bury Wood Camp); Rev. E. H. Steele (Bilbury Rings and Savernake Forest); Anthony J. Clark (Black Field, Mildenhall); J. W. G. Musty (Armsley, Witherington Ring, and Newton Tony); and P. J. Fowler (Fyfield Down, near Marlborough).

Winterslow and Normanton Down

Excavations on behalf of the Ministry of Works were carried out by Mrs. F. de Mallet Vatcher in 1959 at two sites. These were:—

- (1) A Roman earthwork at Winterslow. Its excavation is reported later in this article.
- (2) The long mortuary enclosure on Normanton Down. (SU/115411).

The Long Mortuary Enclosure: Neolithic

Previous trial excavations were carried out on this site during 1958 by E. Greenfield (*W.A.M.* vol. 57, p. 229). The excavations in 1959 revealed the existence of two post bedding trenches approximately 3 ft. wide and 3ft. deep, aligned east-west and situated within and on either side of the eastern entrance. Within both trenches were traces of three upright posts, each of about 12in. in diameter. These were set 4ft. apart and linked at their bases by horizontal timbers, which were probably intended to give extra support to the posts. Each set of posts may have been joined by lintels. It is not likely that the enclosure which these timber remains represent was roofed.

The ditch surrounding the enclosure was cut by eleven causeways. At the east end, the ditch segment at the south side of the entrance had been re-cut and enlarged when the ditches had become silted up. This re-cutting, for some reason never continued, was presumably the beginning of a large quarry

ditch, and constituted a further stage in the construction of a long barrow. One sherd of late Neolithic (Peterborough type) pottery was found in the ditch silting.

The Windmill Hill Long Barrow: Neolithic

Excavation of this heavily damaged long barrow, situated some 800 yards to the south-west of the causewayed camp on Windmill Hill near Avebury, (SU/086705), was sponsored by the Ministry of Works. The work was directed by P. Ashbee, F.S.A., and Dr. Isobel Smith. The barrow was a mound some 185ft. in length, facing south east and north west; side-ditches were slightly splayed at the north-west end. The interest of the barrow lay not only in its possible relationship with the Windmill Hill camp, but also in its original structure. Most of the long barrows in the Avebury region are or have been chambered, and so the excavators wished to discover whether a stone structure had originally existed here or not.

The large quantities of antler, bone, flint artifacts, sarsen rubbers, pottery and pieces of imported rock recovered from six sections dug across the barrow's wide, shallow ditches were comparable with finds from the camp; so too, was the stratified sequence, with Beaker and other Late Neolithic wares again lying in the upper silt levels of the ditches.

No evidence could be found for the former presence of stone structures. Nor were there signs of the use of timber or turves. The presence of large tabular blocks low in the ditches suggested that a chalk block revetment might have given some initial support to the heaped mound. An earthen barrow would be the product of the rapid decay of such structure. The occurrence in the ploughsoil of many small slabs of sandstone, as well as a few small sarsen boulders, suggests the further possibility that these may have been incorporated in the mound in some way comparable with that of the imported sandstone and sarsen boulder at Wor Barrow (Pitt-Rivers, *Excavations*, iv. p. 65-6 and Relic Table) and the single large block in the Holdenhurst Long Barrow (*Proc. Preh. Socy.*, iii, 1937, p. 5 and pl. VI).

The sandstones were mainly derived from the Lower Greensand, but there were also pieces of Old Red Sandstone from Eastern Mendip, of Trias from north of Mendip, and several sandstones and limestones of probable Jurassic origin. Thus, despite the absence of oolitic limestone, the barrow still yielded evidence for connections with the areas to the west which provided the dry-stone walling of the West Kennett long barrow and others near Avebury.

Although well-preserved animal bone occurred in the plough-soil over the ditches, and some of it had almost certainly been carried down from the mound, there were no obviously human bones in the sections excavated. If there had been a great mass of skeletons such as that beneath the Fussell's Lodge Long Barrow, (*W.A.M.*, vol. 58, pp. 3-5) some scattered bones would undoubtedly have been found. Thus it may be assumed that burials, if any, were few; it is even possible that, as in the Thickthorn Long Barrow, (*Proc. Preh. Socy.*, ii, 1936, 77-96) there had been none.

Winterbourne Stoke (SU/108428)

During September emergency excavations on behalf of the Ministry of Works were carried out by Mrs. P. Christie at two sites immediately due west of Fargo Plantation in the parish of Winterbourne Stoke. They were:— (1) The extreme western end of the Stonehenge Cursus.

(2) A barrow (Goddard's no. 30) situated at the western end of the Cursus.

(1) *The Stonehenge Cursus*

Cuttings were made across the cursus bank and ditch on the south and west sides; the obliterated northern side was also explored and the line of the ditch established.

The western end consisted of a flat-bottomed ditch 5ft. wide and about 6ft. deep with almost vertical sides. The primary filling was a coarse chalk rubble and fine rain-washed silt, overlaid by dark bands representing buried turf, and a thick, grey silt layer merging into an upper fill of pale brown soil. Flint

flakes and cores occurred in the silt layers and on the floor of the ditch. A berm 8ft. wide separated the ditch from an inner bank which was distinguished only by a hard-packed powdery chalk, described as 'compo' by the late Dr. Stone, (*Archaeological Journal*, vol. civ 1947, p. 15). This compacted chalk rose 2ft. 3in. above the present level of the natural chalk and may represent the original land surface which had been protected by the now vanished bank. The existence of an outer bank across the western end was confirmed by the appearance of similar compacted chalk rising up beyond a 6ft. wide berm.

On the south side the ditch was flat-bottomed and about 3ft. deep; it was 4ft. wide at the base. The inner bank was again indicated by the hard-packed 'compo', and was separated from the ditch by a much weathered berm, 5ft. wide. The dimensions and character of the north ditch were similar to those of the ditch on the south side.

(2) *The Barrow*: (Goddard's Winterbourne Stoke, No. 30), possibly Bronze Age.

This barrow, previously excavated by Colt Hoare, is situated at the western end of the Cursus. The surrounding ditch was completely excavated and proved in most places to be 3ft. 6in. wide and 1ft. 6in. to 2ft. deep. Sherds and flint flakes occurred in the ditch fill.

None of the original mound material remained. As with the Cursus bank, there was a slight rise within the area contained by the ditch, perhaps denoting the land surface formerly protected by the barrow mound. The barrow was originally of bell-type; the mound was 43ft. across and separated from the surrounding ditch by a berm approximately 4-6ft. wide.

A circular cremation pit with its sides discoloured by fire was excavated at the barrow centre, and contained a small quantity of ash and burnt bone. To the west of it four stake holes were traced; one of these from its filling may have contained a laying out peg which was subsequently removed. A curious oval-shaped hollow containing a deposit of ash and charcoal at its base was also discovered on the north-west side of the barrow; it appeared to antedate the ditch.

The crouched skeleton of a child of about seven years old was found in the primary silt of the ditch on the south-west; nearby on the top of this layer were the remains of a newly born infant. Other finds included a fine tanged and barbed arrowhead and pottery, amongst which were fragments of urns and other wares of the Late Bronze to Romano-British periods.

The barrow would appear to belong to the late Wessex Culture period, but might well be earlier.

Fosbury, near Marlborough: (SU/321591) Bronze Age barrows

In August 1959 rescue excavations on behalf of the Ministry of Works were carried out by D. E. Johnston on a group of three barrows near Fosbury in the parish of Tidcombe and Fosbury.

Barrow 1

This was a bowl-type barrow approximately 5ft. high at its centre and 74ft. across. The core of the mound consisted of chalk over which lay a heap of flints; the rest of the mound consisted of loam with flints. On three of its sides chalk from the surrounding ditch had been piled up at the edge of the mound to give the impression of a revetment.

The central grave-pit had been previously disturbed twice, but a fragment of cremated human bone still remained.

Barrow 2

This barrow was ploughed almost flat, but excavation confirmed that it was an elliptical saucer barrow, *i.e.* a low mound with surrounding ditch and external bank. Both profile and section suggested that there had been a berm between the ditch and the encircling bank, a feature apparently unique in barrows of this kind.

Careful search failed to reveal any sign of a grave, but a single cremation was discovered in a shallow scoop in the chalk *outside* the ditch and under the bank.

Barrow 3

This was a small scraped-up mound, which at its centre was only 2½ in. above the general ground surface. There was no surrounding ditch. The mound consisted of loam and flints; the chalk beneath it had a deeply pitted surface suggesting that at some period a copse or spinney had existed over the site.

A cremation burial was discovered slightly off barrow centre. It was contained in an urn lying directly on the original ground surface; the greater part of the vessel had been ploughed away.

Barrows East of the Stonehenge Avenue: (SU/420143) Bronze Age

In Autumn 1959 emergency excavations on behalf of the Ministry of Works were directed by Major H. F. W. L. Vatcher, M.B.E., on two adjacent barrows east of the Stonehenge Avenue.

The larger barrow, of bell-type, was oval and surrounded by an oval ditch; its greatest diameter, measured from centre to centre of the ditch, was 100ft. The longitudinal axis of the barrow ran almost east-west and an extension of this axis followed an alignment through the centre barrow of the New King barrows, and on through the centre of Stonehenge.

Two primary burials were found; they consisted of two inverted urns situated about 15ft. either side of the centre on the longitudinal axis. Both contained cremations: that on the west side of the long axis held a quantity of cloth in varying stages of decomposition.

At the barrow centre was a small, circular, cup-shaped pit 2ft. in diameter and 1ft. deep. The pit was filled with brown earth and capped with a chalk crust. It had cut into a heavy line of turf covering what appeared to be a larger pit, some 6ft. in diameter and 2ft. deep. A single sherd of late Neolithic (Peterborough type) pottery and the remains of an antler were recovered from the larger pit. A section cut through it revealed an absence of silting, and this outer pit may be a natural hole, the sherd and antler being carried down by earthworms before the barrow was built. The small pit on the other hand, was contemporary with the building of the barrow. Sherds of late Neolithic (Rinyo-Clacton type) pottery occurred beneath the old land surface below the mound.

The smaller circle barrow was surrounded by a flat-bottomed ditch 60ft. in diameter. It had been considerably ploughed, and the present level was below any old land surface. No evidence of burials remained. Off centre, approximately 9ft. in from the ditch, an elongated pit 3ft. long and 2ft. deep produced a number of sherds of Neolithic (Windmill Hill type) pottery.

Broadchalke

Emergency excavations at three individual sites in the parish of Broadchalke were carried out by P. A. Rahtz on behalf of the Ministry of Works. These were:—

(1) A barrow on Knighton Hill, (SU/049240).

(2) two linear ditches, (SU/017211, 003212).

(3) A section on Knighton Hill of the Roman Road from Old Sarum to Dorchester via Badbury Rings, (SU/062234).

(1) The Knighton Hill Barrow: Late Bronze Age

The barrow mound was originally 32ft. in diameter, and separated from its ditch by a berm 6ft. wide. The ditch was 10ft. wide and 4-5ft. deep; it was interrupted by a 20ft. wide causeway.

The primary burial lay in a circular pit, slightly off barrow centre. A cairn of flint nodules and chalk had been built over the burial pit, over which was an inner mound of turf and topsoil covered finally by chalk obtained from the ditches. A large barrel-shaped Deverel-Rimbury type urn lay inverted inside the pit and covered a human cremation; sherds of a second vessel together with ash and burnt bone were also recovered from beneath and around the urn rim.

Three stakes had been driven through the pre-barrow surface; these appear to have been burnt away

before deposition of the urn and the construction of the cairn. Animal bones, including part of a sheep's skull, and a number of Late Bronze Age sherds were found on this surface, mostly on the western (entrance) side.

(2) *The Linear Ditches: Iron Age C*

Six ditches span the ridge which carries the Ox-Drove Ridgeway from Salisbury to Shaftesbury. Those sectioned were No. 1, the most easterly, named 'Great Ditch Banks', and No. 3 (un-named) lying just north of Middle Chase Farm. Both have a bank to the west of the ditch; the former is about 500 yards long, the other about 200.

The ditches were each 10ft. deep, of Iron Age C (Durotrigian) construction, and probably of the first half of the first century A.D. There were numerous finds to indicate that occupation behind the ditches had been intensive. The finds included much stratified pottery, burnt daub, quern fragments, a stone mortar, and a brooch.

The excavated ditches appeared to be the eastern defences of an Iron Age C settlement; ditches Nos. 2 and 4 (not excavated) probably constituted the western defences. Thick woodland probably provided a natural defence on their north and south sides. On both sites occupation continued until as late as the 3rd and 4th centuries A.D.

(3) *The Roman Road on Knighton Hill*

The Roman road from Old Sarum to Dorchester via Badbury Rings changes direction on Knighton Hill to avoid a deep coombe; south of this point a trench 130 feet by 4 feet was cut across it.

The agger was 118ft. wide and had a steeply cambered profile. The road section consisted of a layer of flints rammed down on to the old ground surface: above it were thin layers of rammed chalk and clay, capped by rammed chalk and flints which must have formed the working surface of the road. There were no indications of the severe rutting or disintegration to be expected on a trunk road used for over three centuries: it might be doubted from the evidence of this particular section if the road was a main route after all. Perhaps there was an alternative route, possibly along the Ridgeway. Pitt-Rivers found New Forest pottery in the agger of sections across the road at Woodyates (*Excavations*, iii, p. 74). There is no evidence for the use of the road in post-Roman times; only a few miles south it had been cut by the final phase of Bokerley Dyke.

Bury Wood Camp (ST/817740): Iron Age Hill-fort

Bury Wood Camp, situated between Colerne and North Wraxall in the parish of Colerne, is an impressive hill-fort enclosing an area of 32 acres. The camp is bivallate on the south-west, where there are no natural defences. A small excavation was carried out during the summer under the direction of D. Grant-King. Cuttings were made across the passage-way and through the ramparts of the north-east entrance.

Large quantities of pottery and animal bone were recovered from the entrance passage and the upper layers of the rampart; other finds included several quernstone fragments, all of imported Old Red Sandstone. The pottery is remarkably homogeneous, much of it representing a late phase of Iron Age A, but including a few coarse sherds of Iron Age B type. Apart from one or two modern intrusions, no artifacts of later periods occurred. It is highly probable that the north-east entrance together with the univallate defences on the east side of the hill form an early part of the fort.

Further excavations are intended during the summer of 1960, including an investigation of the D-shaped enclosure within the camp.

W.A.H.N.S. Archaeology Sub-Committee Excavations

Excavations directed by the Rev. E. H. Steele, chairman of the archaeology sub-committee of the parent Society, have been conducted at Bilbury Rings and at sites of Romano-British potteries in Savernake Forest.

Bilbury Rings (SU/010363): Iron Age

Bilbury Rings in the parish of Wylve is a hill-fort, some 17½ acres in extent. It has not been investigated scientifically, and the original form of the defences has been so destroyed that there remains little superficial resemblance to the features described by Colt Hoare (*Ancient Wilts*, I, 108). Within the defences is a ditched enclosure of irregular form, the date of which is uncertain. An extensive system of 'Celtic' fields with at least two phases surrounds the hill-fort.

During 1959 a small section was dug across the inner bank and ditch of the main ramparts. The bank had been so reduced by ploughing as to leave no evidence of construction, except for the lowest course of a flint revetment separated from the lip of the ditch by a narrow berm. The V-shaped ditch yielded insufficient evidence for dating, and conclusions about the filling must await a continuation of the section across the outer bank. There is evidence that an attempt was made to recut the ditch in early times.

Column Ride, Savernake Forest (SU/225649): Romano-British Pottery.

The third season at this site was spent in investigating an area to the south-west of kilns 1 and 2 (*W.A.M.* vol. 57, pp. 11, 235), where two further possible kiln sites had been located during a magnetometer survey in 1958 by Dr. Martin Aitken. These proved on excavation to be a new kiln (Kiln 3), and a small clay pit (Pit 2).

Kiln 1

Like Kiln 2 it was of the normal 'up-draught' type consisting of a stokehole pit and a flue-passage leading in to the circular firing-chamber. Two stages of construction were recognised. In stage 1 a solid clay pillar had been built up in the centre of the oven, intended perhaps in part as a support for the oven roof. Very shortly afterwards the floor of the kiln had been raised some 4in., and the central pillar was rebuilt in the form of a U-shaped block. The undamaged state of the kiln walls and the lack of potsherds in the kiln oven and stokehole suggest that kiln 3 had never gone into regular use.

A further survey carried out by Dr. Aitken indicated an additional industrial area which is to be investigated in 1960.

Winterslow: A Roman earthwork (SU/225329)

This site was excavated by Mrs. F. de Mallet Vatcher during 1959. It was thought originally to be a long barrow, but the excavation revealed that it was the downhill half of a Roman amphitheatre of a type similar to those at Woodcutts and Charterhouse-on-Mendip. The uphill half is barely visible, and had probably been destroyed by ploughing: the complete circle, measured from the outer edge of the bank, would have been about 340ft. in diameter.

The excavated portion of the bank had been built up in three stages. First, in order to counteract the slope of the hill a level platform was constructed. Surface material scraped up from inside the circle was then piled on top of this to form the core of the bank. This was capped by the bank proper, built of grey clay, the origin of which is still undetermined. The present height of the bank is 8ft. above the old ground surface.

During the building of the final bank a timber-lined well had been sunk through the chalk; this was excavated to a depth of 60ft. without the bottom being reached.

Pottery of Roman date was found in and under the bank, and also in the well filling. The ancient soil

horizon beneath the earthwork contained much pottery of early and late Neolithic date, showing that there had been in earlier times a considerable Neolithic occupation.

Black Field, Mildenhall: (Cunetio). A Romano-British walled Township

Investigations for the third year were carried out in 1959 at the site of the walled township of *Cunetio*, 1½ miles east of Marlborough, (SU/216695). They were directed by F. K. Annable and Anthony J. Clark. Sincere thanks are once more due to Mr. G. Young and Mrs. Winifred Hannay for permitting the continuation of excavations on the site. To Mrs. Hannay we are also indebted for generous hospitality throughout our stay.

The Excavation

An electrical resistivity survey had indicated where the line of the north wall lay.

Trenches were laid out on the basis of the survey. The line of the wall was traced from the north-east angle of the township. This line ran roughly parallel with the hedge delimiting the northern end of Black Field. The north-west corner of the township wall must lie very near to, or perhaps partly beneath the large stone barn almost opposite Werg Mill House.

The wall foundation shown in the sections was extremely slight except in one cutting where there was a heavy core of unmortared flints. At this point there was a noticeable drop in ground level; perhaps this necessitated building up the wall foundation to ensure that the top level of the wall remained constant throughout its length. The north-east corner was also explored, but owing to excessive robbing it was not possible to determine its layout. Further survey and excavation will be necessary here.

In December, 1959 a single trench 20ft. in length was dug across what was calculated to be the line of the west wall. This line runs in a southerly direction across the small upper paddock flanking Cock-atroop lane. After the removal of what appeared to be more or less normal wall rubble, a well made flooring of large dressed limestone slabs was found 5ft. below ground surface. It extended eastwards along the trench for approximately 10ft. and terminated in a line gently curving across it; its westerly limit almost certainly lies under the modern lane.

This flooring may be the foundation of a gate-tower of a hitherto unknown west gateway. The suggestion is reinforced by the fact that the Roman road from Ogbourne St. George heads direct for the opened trench. Full investigation of the feature is planned for 1960.

Salisbury Museum Sub-Committee Excavations

Work by the Salisbury Museum Excavation Sub-Committee under its director, J. W. G. Musty, has been concentrated on the Early Iron Age and Roman site at Armsley just over the Hampshire border. Other investigations were carried out at Witherington and Newton Tony.

Armsley: (SU/168162) Iron Age/Roman

Armsley is a riverside site on the fringe of the New Forest, some two miles from the nearest New Forest pottery kilns; consequently much Roman-British pottery manufactured at these kilns appears on the site. The earliest pottery found, however, is Iron Age C (Durotrigian) in date, and during the excavations a group of four Durotrigian coins, one of silver, were discovered when sectioning one of the many ditches in the area.

Other features investigated included a Roman pond with a timber-lined dipping well and a rubbish heap of late Roman date. Two buildings were also located, and are to be excavated in 1960.

Witherington: (SU/186251) possibly Iron Age

A trial excavation jointly directed by D. J. Algar and J.W.G. Musty was undertaken at Witherington Ring in the parish of Downton. The site is described by Colt Hoare (*Ancient Wilts*, I, 230) as a ' mutilated earthen work of squarish form '.

Witherington Ring probably represents the result of the scarping of the hill-top through the formation of ' Celtic ' fields extending on the hill-slope. The purpose of the excavation was to investigate this scarping, which is very pronounced around the top of the hill, and might, at first glance, be taken to be the earthworks of a hill-fort. A section was cut at a point where the scarping was most pronounced, but unfortunately it was found that it had been accelerated here by quarrying, perhaps in the 18th century. The trench also revealed a V-shaped ditch of the Late Bronze or Early Iron Age and an occupation layer of similar date.

The excavations were thus inconclusive, and further work will be needed to confirm that the scarping is a result of Celtic field formation; the possibility that it represents the first stages in the construction of a small hill-fort should not be excluded.

Newton Tony: (SU/217403) Post Roman

A buried skeleton of an elderly man was found at the rear of the new Newton Tony school during the making of a path. The burial, an extended inhumation, was orientated east-west with the skeleton's skull to the west. The absence of grave goods prevented the burial being dated, but it is not thought to be earlier than Saxon.

Fyfield Down, near Marlborough: (SU/139707) Medieval

In conjunction with the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, the Nature Conservancy, and the Bristol University Department of Extra-Mural Studies, work under the direction of P. Fowler (Royal Commission) is being carried out on Fyfield and Overton Downs.

Excavation has so far been limited to a site consisting of two adjoining enclosures, together covering a third of an acre, immediately south of Wroughton Copse. The enclosure banks are up to 3ft. 6in. high, but the north side of the larger enclosure was apparently flattened to accommodate a rectangular feature laid out with its long axis across the line of the missing bank. The feature was completely stripped by May 1960, and proved to be the remains of a house 57ft. long by 14ft. wide internally.

The walls were 2ft. thick, but had collapsed to such an extent that they stood only 1ft. high. The masonry consisted of roughly-faced sarsen stones, packed around with smaller stones, and bedded in a mixture of humus, clay and chalk. Evidence of the roofing technique was found in the form of four footings for the spaced upright posts supporting the ridge-pole. Two, and possibly three, entrances were uncovered. This evidence, together with the length of the interior and the possible remains of a partition dividing it in half, suggested that the building was a ' long-house ', and the first of the type to be recognised in Wiltshire.

The greater part of the several thousand sherds recovered were found in and under the rubble of the collapsed walls. Jars, platters and cooking-pots were represented, the whole assemblage being provisionally dated between c. 1150-1300 A.D. A few glazed pieces also occurred and probably belong to the latter part of this period.

Among the many other small finds, sheep bones and an almost perfectly preserved pair of sheep shears point to one probable reason for this medieval downland settlement; other evidence suggests arable farming too. A prick spur, superficially out of place on a peasant homestead, may well be a link with the Knights Templars' holding of Temple Farm, one mile to the north of Wroughton Copse, occupied between 1156 and 1307 A.D. (cf. *W.A.M.* vol. 53, p. 1950, 331. Some of the pottery from Wroughton Copse is identical with that from ' The Beeches ', Manton Down, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to the north-east).

Sections cut across the enclosure banks also produced medieval pottery, and showed that the earthworks consisted of humus, clay, flints and sarsen stones.

Fieldwork has shown that the excavated site is associated with other earthworks in the area. A bank and ditch runs north-east from the adjoining enclosures and 70 yards along it is a third enclosure containing a low platform edged with sarsen stones. These three small enclosures are all at the northern corner of a 12 acre enclosure, defined by a low bank and ditch, which dips down a slope to the south to include part of a sarsen-strewn dry valley bottom. The whole complex of earthworks overlies 'Celtic fields'.

So far the investigation has shown that a complex of hitherto unexamined earthworks on chalk downland represent a pattern of medieval settlement and farming activity superimposed on a much altered 'Celtic field' system. The interest of the site will be increased should the third small enclosure and its associated platform, which is probably the site of more than one building, also prove to be medieval.

NOTES

SARSEN IMPLEMENT OF PALAEO-LITHIC FORM FROM WINTERBOURNE MONKTON. This interesting implement was found by Mr. A. J. Cook of Winterbourne Monkton, on the surface of a ploughed field at the foot of the spur on Winterbourne Monkton Down where Romano-British Site 171 of Mrs. M. E. Cunnington's list (*Romano-British Wiltshire, W.A.M.* xlv, pp. 166-216) is situated. The Grid Reference of the find is SU/113724, the spot lying between the 550 and 572 feet contours. The site is about nine miles from Knowle Farm, Little Bedwyn, and two miles from Whyr Farm, Winterbourne Bassett, where Palaeolithic implements have been found (*V.C.H Wilts.* Vol. I, Part I, 82 and 125).

Implements of sarsen are rare, and owing to the difficulty experienced in working the hard fine-grained sandstone, few can be recognised as such, but this particular specimen is so well finished in every respect that there is no mistaking it. The implement is 5 in. in length, by

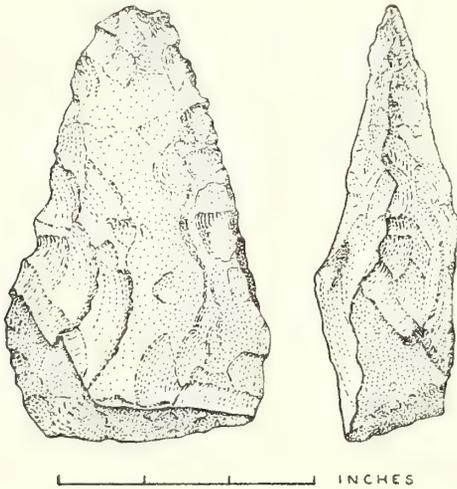


Fig. 1. Sarsen Hand Axe from Winterbourne Monkton.

3 in. broad and 1 in. thick at the heavy butt. From the latter it has been well worked down into a tongue-shaped pick which exhibits all the characteristic features of the Thames Valley form. Both edges, which bear alternate right-angle flaking, are finely trimmed and fairly smooth. A large flake had been taken off transversely at the butt end, leaving it almost flat, and a second obliquely from the thicker side. The sharp edges had then been delicately trimmed,

presumably for hand grasp. No crust remains on the implement, but the whole of the surface on both faces is stained slightly brown. Apart from the worked edges, it bears little signs of wear or weathering. The general outline suggests that it was made from a very heavy flake which had been struck from an already prepared lump of sarsen.

So far I have been unable to find any reference to a hand axe made of sarsen, and for this reason it should be recorded. The implement is preserved in the Avebury Museum.

I am very grateful to Dr. Isobel Smith for the drawing which accompanies this note.

W. E. V. YOUNG.

MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS, MACEHEAD AND AXES.

Three of the specimens described below (fig. 1: 1-3) were originally part of the collections of the late A. D. Passmore, and were purchased by the Society at a sale held at Sotheby's on 16 June 1959.

The axe from Winsley (fig. 1:4) was kindly donated to the Society by the finder, Mr. P. W. Ford of Trowbridge.

Fig. 1:1. Macehead found at "Poor Goss", Aldbourne Common, by the Official Rabbiter, May 1956. Museum acc. no. 8/59/362. South-Western Sub-committee's no. 1109. Identification:—Group VI (Great Langdale, Westmorland).

Overall diameters, 5.1 and 4.4 in.; diameters of hourglass perforation, .95 in. at circular hole, 1.6 and 1.5 in. at outer edges; maximum thickness, 1 in.; weight, 15 oz.

The object has been made from a large flake reduced to the required size and shape by bold retouch on both faces; the edges have been trimmed and blunted by battering. Both the faces and the edges have been lightly ground so as to smooth, but not remove, irregularities. Variations in the degree of grinding suggest that this may have been done with a small rubber held in the hand.

Up to 1951, the date of publication of the latest report by the South-Western Sub-committee (*P.P.S.*, xvii, 99-158), all the known products of the Great Langdale factories were simple axes. As this macehead seems too large to be an axe fragment reworked, it therefore represents a new type in the series. The discoidal form is also unusual, but details of a closely comparable mace-

head from the Isle of Man have been published by Professor Piggott (*Neolithic Cultures of the British Isles*, 1954, fig. 61:3) and assigned to the Ronaldsway Culture. Although Group VI products do not form a component of this culture, they can be dated by associations elsewhere to the same late phase of the Neolithic.

Fig. 1: 2. Fragment of hone, provenance unknown. Museum acc. no. 8/59/363. South-Western Sub-committee's no. 1108. Identification: Fine-grained purplish sand-stone with grains of quartz in a ferruginous cement.

from rather irregular pits sunk in each face. The hone is much larger than those of the Wessex Culture, but a Bronze Age date seems possible.

(Note: This object may be the 'celt drilled through the butt' in the Passmore Collection referred to in *W.A.M.*, xli, 370.)

Fig. 1: 3. Axe from Aldbourne Common. Museum acc. no. 8/59/367. South-western Sub-committee's no. 1110. Identification:—Group I (probably from Mount's Bay, Cornwall).

Length, 3.9 in.; maximum width, 1.6 in.; maximum thickness, 1.1 in.; weight, 5½ oz.

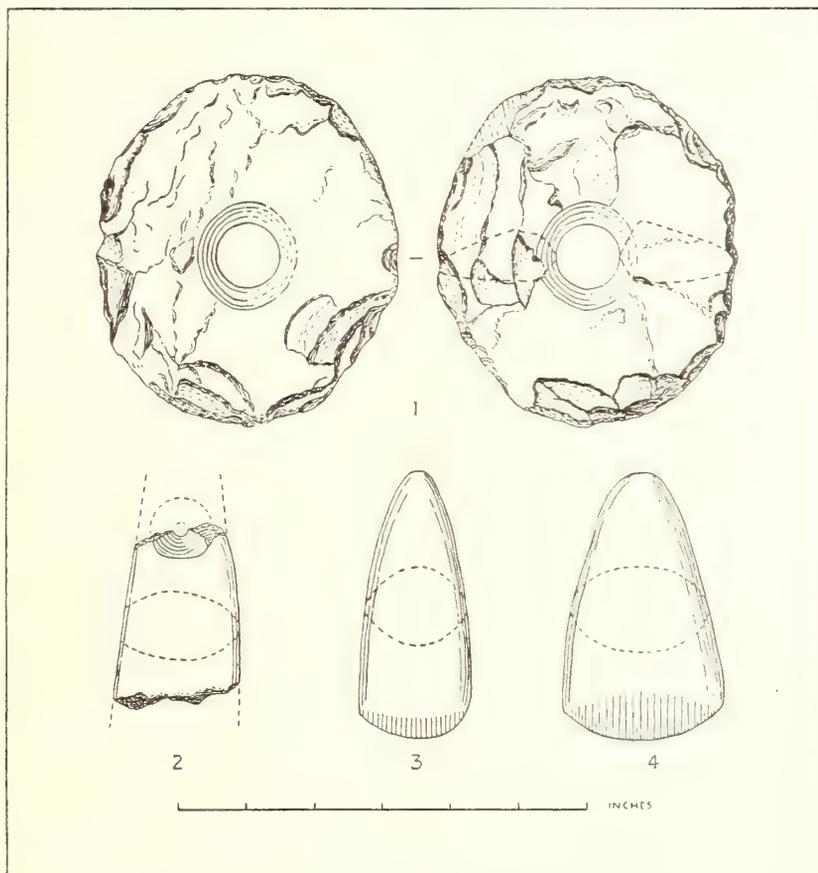


Fig. 1. Macehead and Axes.

The object has been broken across the perforation and again below it. Present length: 2.7 in.; width at perforation, 1.3 in., at lower break, 1.8 in.; maximum thickness 1 in.; diameter of hole, .2 in.; present weight, 4 oz.

This hone was probably 5 to 6 in. long when complete, and somewhat asymmetrical. One side has a flat facet, the other is rounded. The biconical perforation seems to have been drilled

The long narrow shape, sharply pointed butt, and nearly circular cross-section of this small specimen appear to be characteristic of one series of axes produced by the Group I factory (*P.P.S.*, xvii, p. 131, fig. 6, nos. 93 and 517). This factory is thought to have been active at the end of the Neolithic period and a few of its products even occur in finds of the Early Bronze Age (*ibid.* p. 104).

Fig. 1: 4. Axe from a ploughed field at Winsley, Bradford-on-Avon. Museum acc. no. 8/59/359. South-western Sub-committee's no. 1107. Identification:—Greenstone.

Length: 3.9 in.; maximum width, 2.3 in.; maximum thickness, 1.2 in.; weight, 8 oz.

As this axe was a stray find and cannot be assigned on petrological evidence to any recognized factory or source, there is little to be said about it except that the type, with triangular shape and pointed butt, seems to be widespread and to have Western European connections. The axe is more likely to have been manufactured toward the end of the Neolithic period than earlier.

ISOBEL SMITH.

STORRIDGE FARM, WESTBURY. A ROMAN LEAD COFFIN. During May, whilst digging a drainage trench, farm labourers uncovered a lead sarcophagus, approximately a quarter of a mile north-west of Storrige Farm, near Westbury, in the parish of Dilton Marsh (ST/847527).

The coffin had been buried on an east-west alignment, and lay 4ft. 6in. below ground surface. Both its sides were badly crushed and bent inwards by the weight of soil above; the lid also had been flattened and forced down into the coffin interior. This was 6ft. 4in. in length, 1ft. 5½in. in width and 1ft. 1in. in depth at the head, and 10in. in width at the foot.

Although badly damaged it was possible to ascertain the method employed in the manufacture of the sarcophagus. The body of the coffin had been cast in two sheets corresponding to an upper and a lower half, each shaped like a rectangle with squares cut out from two corners. The sides and ends were then hammered up and secured by means of small lead flanges, each about 1½in. long, cast with the original sheets on to the top corners of the ends and long sides respectively. These flanges when bent round at right angles retained the sides and ends in an upright position. The two halves of the coffin were joined together by soldering; in this instance the joint had been strengthened by soldering lead strips 1in. wide over the join up both sides. The lid was cast in a single sheet and its edges beaten over after the fashion of a modern biscuit tin to overlap the coffin sides.

An extended inhumation without grave goods lay in the coffin with head to the east. Owing possibly to the waterlogged nature of the ground hereabouts, very little of the skeletal remains had survived except for one or two long bones

and a fragment of the skull. These are now in Devizes Museum awaiting examination.

It is not improbable that a building of Romano-British date also existed nearby. Coarse pottery and roof-tile fragments of normal hexagonal type were recovered from the ditch. The labourers also reported that there were wall foundations in the side of the trench; it was not possible to confirm this owing to heavy rains which flooded the trench for some days.

Information has been recorded on the Ordnance 6in. map, in the Society's records. A photographic record has also been deposited in the Society's library. This is the second lead sarcophagus to be found in this area. The first was discovered in 1851, a quarter of a mile to the north-west of the present find.

F. K. ANNABLE.

BARROWS NEAR BEDWYN COMMON. Two tumuli are shown in *Ancient Wiltshire* lying between Bedwyn Common and Chisbury Wood. Since Colt Hoare's time these have been lost sight of, and in the V.C.H. *Archaeological Gazetteer* are listed as untraced. Now Mr. N. E. Tilley, of Stokke, has located them in what is at the present time a grass field, though in recent years it has been under crops. The field abuts on the north-east tip of Bedwyn Common, with a cottage on the Common edge at B.M. 473. Both barrows are of considerable size though much spread by ploughing. One, on the south side of the field about 100 yards from the edge of the Common, has still an estimated height of 5ft. (more exact measurement is difficult as it is on a slope) with a spread of 120ft. The other, about 30 yards to the north, is some 4ft. high, with a spread of 125ft. In view of their dimensions it is remarkable that they have been so long lost, but they would have been less conspicuous under corn. (N.G.R. 264657).

O. MEYRICK.

BARROW CIRCLE NEAR FROXFIELD. In a field sloping south, about 200 yards north of the London-Bath road, nearly half-a-mile east of Harrow Farm, a lighter ring was noticed in the ripening corn in July, 1959 (N.G.R. 281681). It was visible from the road and still more clearly defined from the opposite slope as an unbroken circle with an estimated diameter of 60 ft. Most probably it marks a barrow ditch, the mound having been ploughed down under long cultivation. Even after harvest the ring could be picked out by the growth of stubble being

notably thicker than over the barrow itself. Although this is not at first sight in a barrow area, it may be noted that about 1 mile west on the same slope three presumed barrow circles have been detected by L. V. Grinsell on an air photograph. Two of these could be seen from the opposite slope in August, 1959, when the dry conditions were favourable for crop marks; possibly the third would have shown up also, but that part of the field was already harvested. Slightly further west, Bronze Age burials have been found in gravel pits (since filled in) near where Knowle Barn stood (*W.A.M.* xlii, 245; xliii, 399).

O. MEYRICK.

DUROCORNIVUM. It has long been known that a Roman station lies on either side of the Wanborough—Stratton St. Margaret road and is portioned out between Covingham, Lotmead and Nythe Farms. If we accept the late A. D. Passmore's argument, summarised in *W.A.M.* lii, 386-7, this is the elusive Durocornivum. When electricity was laid on to these farms in December 1956, watch was kept at some 30 post-holes on behalf of the Ministry of Works for relics of Roman occupation. The probable limits of the occupied area had been defined on a ground-plan by Passmore (*W.A.M.* xli, 278). Within these bounds the throw-up from most of the holes produced sherds, but in no instance were traces of buildings exposed, except for the odd fragment of tile. Passmore in his frequent visits to the site over many years had collected coins and pottery dating from the first to the fourth centuries A.D. This evidence of long occupation was now borne out by a large series of sherds, from bead-rim to late imitation Samian. Included among them were a few specimens of 'rustic' ware, a type not commonly found in Wiltshire, dating probably to about the second century A.D.

One post-hole, beside a track striking west from the road some 300 yards south of Nythe Farm, revealed sherds in such quantity as to suggest a rubbish heap; otherwise the number from each hole could be the normal scatter of centuries of occupation. A selection of the finds has gone to Devizes Museum, by permission of the owner of the land, Mr. J. B. T. Metcalfe.

Now Nythe Farm has been sold to Swindon Corporation, and much of the land is likely to be built over; rescue excavations may be necessary, and there is a good chance of foundations of Roman buildings being uncovered.

O. MEYRICK.

BRATTON. A ROMANO-BRITISH BURIAL. An inhumation of Romano-British date was located in October, 1957 in the garden of No. 10 Westbury Road, Bratton, (ST/908522) when a cess-pit was being dug.

The skeleton, fully extended, was orientated west-east with skull to the west. The presence of iron nails around the skull and feet suggest an original coffin. Over the pelvic region was a broken and incomplete cooking pot of coarse greyish brown ware; fragments of burnt bone were found near the vessel, and may have been inside it at the time of burial. Other small sherds of Samian and coarse ware were scattered in the grave pit, but neither these nor the cooking pot are sufficiently distinctive to allow a close dating for the burial.

The finds along with the skeletal remains have been deposited in Devizes Museum. The discovery has been recorded on the Ordnance Survey 6in. map, and a photographic record placed in the Society's Library. Thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Francis for their co-operation in allowing the burial to be excavated.

F. K. ANNABLE.

MILTON LILBORNE (SU/192582). POTTERY FINDS. During 1958 sherds of Samian and Romano-British coarse pottery of the third and fourth centuries A.D. were picked up on the surface immediately south of Milton Hill Clump and 300 yards north-east of the 'Giant's Grave' long barrow in the parish of Milton Lilborne.

The finds are deposited in Devizes Museum. I am grateful to Messrs. Graham Connah, P. V. Addyman and T. Miles for information regarding the discovery.

F. K. ANNABLE.

A POSSIBLE MEDIAEVAL POTTERY SITE AT LYNEHAM. Kiln ash, iron slag, and quantities of mediaeval sherds of the 13th and 14th centuries date were discovered when house foundations were being laid in Farthing Lane, Lyneham (SU/023789), approximately two miles east of Bradenstoke Abbey.

Many of the sherds were obvious wasters and suggest that pottery kilns existed hereabouts in mediaeval times, but so far no evidence of kiln structures has come to light. A small type series of sherds has been deposited in Devizes Museum through the kindness of the owner of the site.

A further interesting object was also recovered from the same area. This consisted of a small lead disc, roughly bun-shaped and measuring

3 in. in diameter, with a maximum thickness of $\frac{3}{4}$ in. It is pierced, presumably for suspension; the hole, which has a maximum diameter of $\frac{1}{4}$ in., has been pushed through from the back.

A roughly circular area, 2 in. in diameter is slightly sunk below the top surface of the disc, and bears a crude and apparently meaningless device. This comprises a single arm or stem $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick extending across the diameter of the recess; from it radiate at right angles, and on the same side, two smaller arms each $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. wide. Two further arms of similar length and thickness radiate from the circumference in the other half of the recess towards the central stem and roughly at right angles to it. The back of the disc is flat and quite plain. A group of seven sharply scored lines, parallel to each other and each about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. apart is visible on its edge.

The purpose of the disc can only be a matter for speculation unless it was intended as a sort of rough potter's mark. It remains in the possession of Mr. L. V. R. Keniston, of The Bungalow, Farthing Lane, Lyneham, but a full-size drawing has been deposited in the Society's library. Site details have also been recorded on the Ordnance Survey 6 in. maps.

F. K. ANNABLE.

THE OLDEST WILTSHIRE BELLS. The late H. B. Walters in *W.A.M.* Vol. XLIV (1929) listed what he considered the seven oldest Church bells in Wiltshire. These bells are at Tytherton Lucas, Keevil, Teffont Magna, Plaitford, Dilston, Milston and Pertwood.

The honour of being the oldest bells in Wiltshire must be divided between Tytherton Lucas and Keevil sanctus, for both are twelfth century monastic castings. They were not moulded by the usual mediaeval method, but in a lathe as is shown in the Bell Founders' Window at York Minster. They are so alike that it appears probable that they came from the same centre, if not from the same workman's hands. The sanctus bell at Keevil is an exceptionally thin casting in the waist and crown and requires great care in chiming if it is to be preserved. That it is a second hand bell is proved by the lip marks on the stonework of a larger bell in the bell gable within which it hangs. Tytherton Lucas tithes were granted to Monkton Farley Priory by Empress Maud, so perhaps it is to that Priory or its superior House that we may attribute the production of these bells.

Teffont Magna old treble now stands within a window on the south side of the nave, after being broken owing to neglect. It is a contrast to the monastic type of casting, being rough, and sharp-shouldered with the top of the waist thicker than the centre. On the canons surmounting its crown are to be found grains of barley reproduced in bell-metal and on the argent of the main central loop is shown a crushed ear of barley and traces of straw, indicating that during its period of casting barley straw was used to strengthen and ventilate the mould. The only other known examples showing straw and cereal grains are at Brympton, Somerset and Bramshaw, Hants. The Teffont Magna bell is apparently late thirteenth century. As this Church was a Chapel of ease to Dinton which had strong Shaftesbury connections, it is to Shaftesbury one would look for its founder.

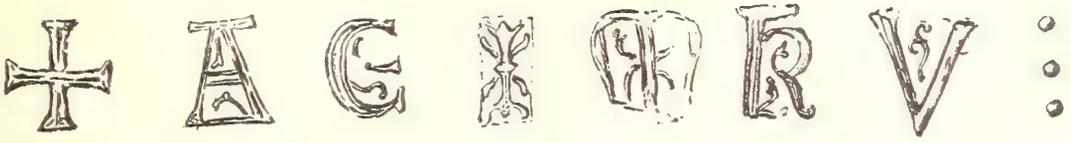
Plaitford's bell has recently been recast and that at Dilston was considered to be so dangerous that the writer was not given permission to inspect it. Since then it has been lowered to the ground and from information given by the Rev. D. V. Galloway it would appear to be at least an early thirteenth century casting.

The Milston bell has a flattened profile between the lip and the centre of the soundbow, both inside and out. This at first suggests a Continental casting but the hump type of moulding wire at the base of the waist makes me think that here we have an English bell cast by a founder who was conversant with Continental practice. As Milston has close ties with Salisbury and is so near to it, perhaps we have here the earliest known Salisbury casting of about the same period as the Teffont bell.

The bell at Pertwood (Fig. 1) is in many respects similar to that at Milston, but its waist is of uneven thickness, thanks to careless setting out on the workman's part. The soundbow is English rather than Continental in type and as Pertwood has Salisbury ties one would be inclined to attribute it to a Salisbury founder, perhaps the successor to the caster of the Milston bell. The canons of both these bells are both of the same section and were both piece moulded.

It was the Pertwood bell that gave the writer one of the highlights in a quarter of a century of bell hunting. Here was a reputed blank long-waisted bell.

No inscription was visible from the ground, but after climbing to the bell I found it to be inscribed + AVE: MARIA in the late thirteenth century letter as shown. The master letters,



Scale  One Inch

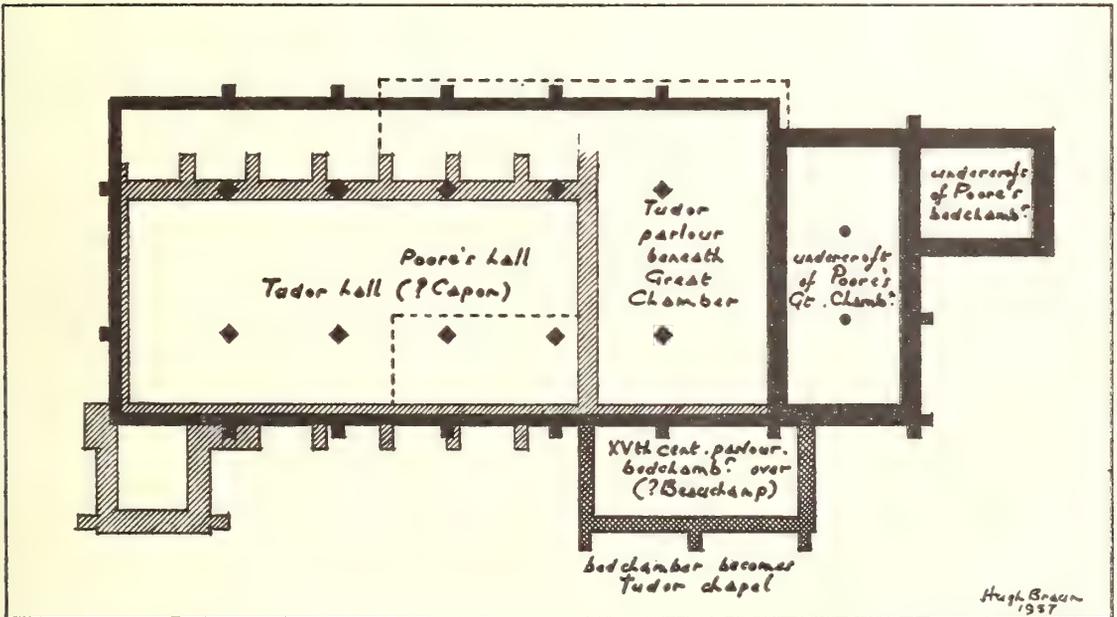
from which the patterns were obtained to mould the inscription, were brush-formed in wax and it is interesting to see how the initial cross was formed, first the horizontal arm to which the vertical arms were added. This bell appears to be unique, for a search through twenty-six counties has failed to produce a bell with similar marks. There is little doubt that this bell at Pertwood, which was hanging in a dangerous state of disrepair when visited, is the oldest inscribed bell in Wilts and probably the earliest inscribed bell we have from the Salisbury foundry.

GEORGE P. ELPHICK.

NOTES ON THE BISHOP'S PALACE AT SALISBURY. (See Fig. 2 below). Begun in 1220, the great hall of Bishop Poore was 125 feet long in six bays as compared with its predecessor at Old Sarum (95 feet long in four bays) and its contemporary at Winchester Palace, 111 feet long in five bays, the last being the work of the same architect Elias de Dereham. All three halls are 58 feet in width.

On 29 April 1384, Parliament under Richard II sat through a stormy session in the great hall at Salisbury.

At the west end of the hall was Bishop Poore's house having his Great Chamber raised in the



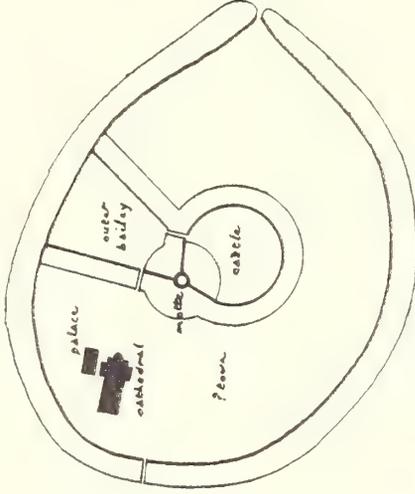
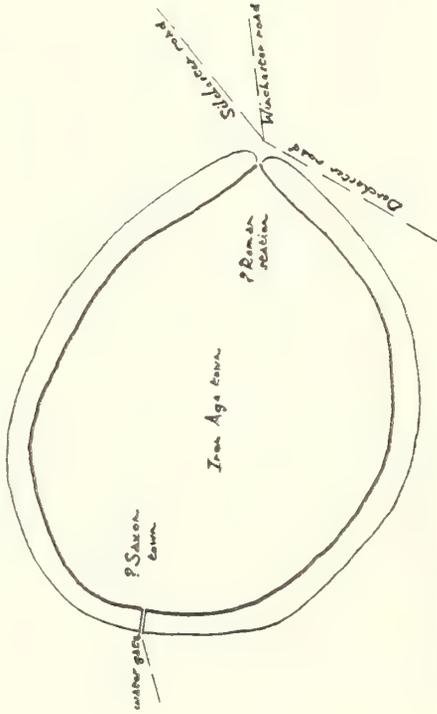
THE PALACE OF THE BISHOPS AT SALISBURY

Fig. 2

PRE - CONQUEST

II

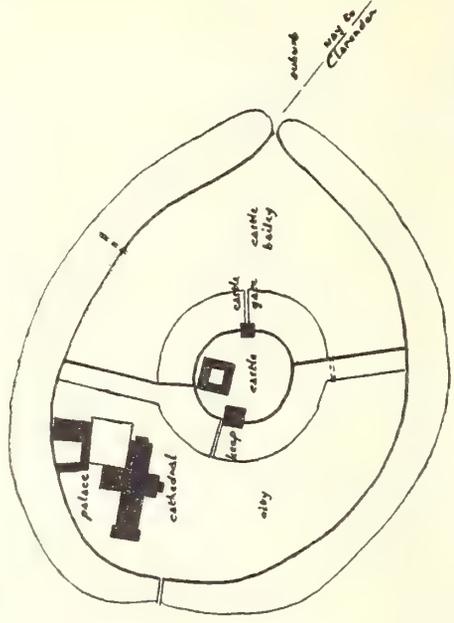
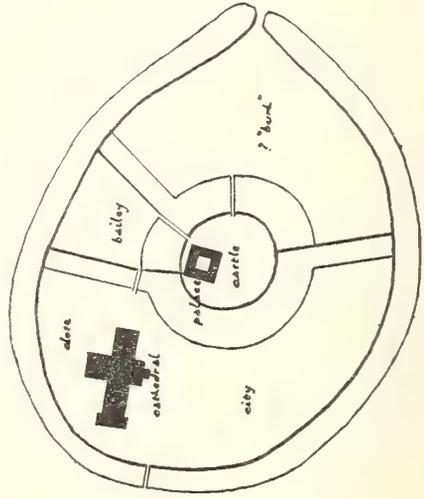
POST - CONQUEST



BISHOP ROGER

IV

HENRY II



Anglo-Saxon
1957

Fig. 1.—The earthworks of Old Sarum

normal fashion over the still existing vaulted undercroft. The annexe to the Great Chamber probably served as the bishop's bedroom.

Late in the fifteenth century a wing was added on the north side of the hall dais. This had a private parlour on the ground floor with a bed-chamber over and is possibly the work of Bishop Beauchamp.

Towards the middle of the sixteenth century the great hall was demolished and a new one built, smaller on plan but lofty in the magnificent style of the period. Behind its dais would have been a new Great Parlour with a new Great Chamber over it. The fifteenth century bedchamber was converted into a chapel and provided with a new east window with one in the parlour below (now transferred to its west wall) to match it. A squint gave a view of the chapel altar from the Great Chamber. The porch tower is of this period which may be contemporary with Bishop Capon.

The whole of the centre portion of the Palace was demolished after the Civil War and replaced at the Restoration by the new building of Bishop Seth Ward.

HUGH BRAUN.

THE EARTHWORKS OF OLD SARUM. Fig. 1, I. The first drawing on the opposite page shows the Iron Age ramparts at the end of the spur with the Roman roads meeting at the eastern entrance within which a posting station would probably have come into being. Subsequent developments suggest that the Saxon town would have been founded at the western end of the enclosure nearer to the water supply offered by the river below.

Fig. 1, II. The motte-and-bailey castle of the Conqueror is seen in the middle of the area with the motte itself overlooking the Saxon town. Beyond the gate of the outer bailey stretches the ecclesiastical enclave dominated by Bishop Hermann's cathedral and the massive two-storied structure forming the episcopal palace. From the town gate a way leads down to the suburb of Stratford beside the river.

Fig. 1, III. The next development is the re-modelling of the castle by partly levelling the conical motte and deepening the castle ditches in order to form a broad plateau motte upon which is raised a new palace planned round an inner court. The eastern portion of the ancient enclosure is brought into the defences, possibly for use as a refuge for the local population and their stock during the anarchy of Stephen's reign.

Fig. 1, IV. Following the ejection of the bishops, the castle is completely re-orientated by enlarging the old outer bailey to take in the whole of the eastern portion of the site, a new main entrance being constructed on this side. Opposite, a postern leads to the city, now over-awed by a tall stone keep rivalling the cathedral towers. The ditch surrounding the whole side is deepened by counter-scarping, and a stone wall is built on the crest of the main rampart. A suburb grows up outside the east gate on the road to the new royal palace of Clarendon. With the evacuation of the Close followed by that of the adjoining areas of the old city, the castle postern on this side is walled up. Only the east suburb remains, reaching its water supply by way of the Roman road, beside which is the Parliament Tree.

HUGH BRAUN.

POST-MEDIAEVAL FINDS FROM LAVERSTOCK, SALISBURY. During the excavation of the thirteenth century kiln site at Laverstock two unusual objects of post-mediaeval date were found. One of these was a hoe with punched initials on the blade; the other a marble with an incised design. I am indebted to Mr. Hugh de S. Shortt for his comments on the hoe. Both objects have been deposited in Salisbury Museum.

The iron hoe (Fig. 1) was found in the soil at the top of a pit which contained thirteenth century pottery wasters (Pit 1). The socket of the shaft is triangular and of fairly massive construction, but the blade was apparently made by hammering the iron into a sheet and folding it back along what became the edge. Further hammering helped to unite the folded sheet, especially along the sides, but the junction can still be seen at the back of the blade, 0.75in. from the socket, and rust has exposed the lamination of the blade on both sides. This weakness in the blade seems to rule out the possibility that the tool was really an adze, for in spite of the strength of the socket, which is deeply lobed at the sides, the blade can never have been very strong. On the under surface of the blade the maker or owner has punched his initials I C. The I is perfectly plain, without serifs, and may, of course, represent J. The C has a flourish at the top; this gives it a Lombardic appearance which is probably deceptive. Although ancient characteristics, such as the sharp-edged lobes of the socket, are found in smith-made implements such as these, they are likely to be late survivals, and it is

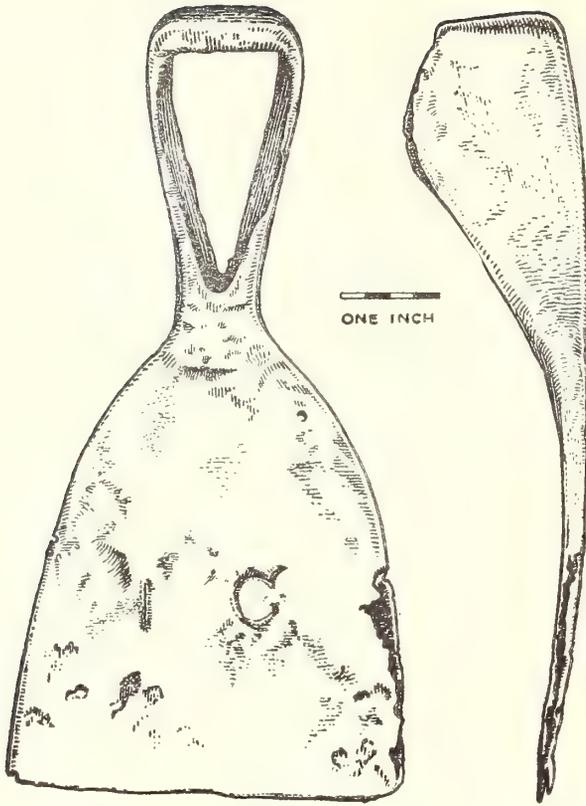


Fig. 1—Iron hoe

to the 18th century that one would be inclined to attribute the practice of stamping initials on objects such as this. Mr. John Higgs, who has seen only a drawing of the tool, has kindly suggested that its purpose may have been for grubbing out roots, as this would require considerable strength in the handle. He does not feel that with this form of socket it can be a hoe in the ordinary sense.

The marble (Fig. 2) came from the site of one of the potter's workshops (Building 1). It is a stone ball (0.7in. in diameter) on the surface of which a design has been scratched. This design is a representation of a balloon with a boat-shaped carriage hanging from it rising above a fence, and therefore the marble is probably not earlier than the late 18th century.

F. H. Garner records in his *English Delftware* (Faber and Faber, 1948) that the balloon ascent of Lunardi in 1783 aroused great interest. The second ascent, he adds, took place a few hundred

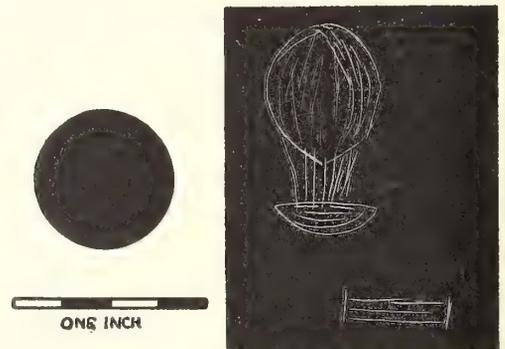


Fig. 2—Marble with incised design

yards away from the Lambeth potteries, and as a consequence an ascending balloon was often used for the decoration of Lambeth delftware. He illustrates a Lambeth plate which has for its central design a balloon rising above a fence.

Is it not possible that this or another similar ascent also inspired a small boy to decorate the marble, or might it have been that a Lambeth plate served as an illustration? If so the fact that the marble should have been lost on the site of a pottery some 500 years earlier than Lambeth is a delightful coincidence.

JOHN W. G. MUSTY.

Miscellaneous Notes

Bronze Pendant from Brixton Deverell. Hugh Shortt has written to correct a minor error in his note *W.A.M.* liii, pages 251-254 illustrated by a figure. The right hand side of that figure shows a bronze pendant, which is described as coming from Stockton Earthworks, and its accession number is given as 40/46. Mr. Shortt points out that the provenance is wrong and that the pendant came from Cold Kitchen Hill, Brixton Deverell. The mistake was repeated by L. V. Grinsell in *V.C.H.* Part I under Stockton.

Annual General Meeting 1957. On page 260 of *W.A.M.* lvii it was said that many of the documents on exhibition at Lacock Abbey were on loan from the County Archives Office. Colonel Burnett-Brown has written to acknowledge the great help given by Mr. Rathbone in the selection and setting out of these documents, but has pointed out that the papers shown had all been at Lacock for many years and are still there.

Hercules and Hydra. As I pointed out in the Bulletin the plate of Hercules slaying the Hydra

at Euridge, near Colerne, opposite page 240 of *W.A.M.* vil. lvii, was inadvertently reproduced upside-down. My sincere apologies to Dr. Shaw Mellor.

Plans of Wiltshire Towns 1/500. Some are out of print, some are available locally, and all can be seen at Chessington or B.M. They are as follows:—

Bradford-on-Avon	13 sheets	1887
Chippenham	24 sheets	1886
Devizes	12 sheets	1886
Salisbury	17 sheets	1880
Swindon	28 sheets	1886
Trowbridge	18 sheets	1887
Warminster	14 sheets	1887

Cricklade St. Sampson. Mr. T.Ramsden-Binks has transcribed every legible M.I. both inside the church and in the churchyard, over 700 in all. This transcription with a fine numbered key plan has been deposited in Cricklade Museum. One may now say that practically all the inscriptions within the church are recorded in this or in Phillipps' list made before the nineteenth century restoration.

Record of Burial near Calne wanted. Hannah, widow of William Baillie seventh Lord Forrester of Corstorphine, is said to have died 15 November 1825, at Calne, aged 84. (Her husband died at Calne in 1763). Does any member know of a record of either burial? She was living at Lippiats, Corsham in 1808.

OBITUARIES

G. M. YOUNG was to make his home for many years at the Old Oxyard, Oare, and during that time developed many personal links with the county. In 1937 elected on the W.A.S. committee, he was President of the Society 1947-49. In 1945 he was made Chairman of the Records Branch, an office which he held for some years. When the Victoria County History was launched in 1948 he was appointed General Editor, and no better choice could have been made. His writings in *W.A.M.* include: *The Antiqua Monumenta of Great Bedwyn* (June, 1932); *On Pond Barrows* (Dec. 1936); *Saxon Wiltshire* (June 1940); *Some Wiltshire Cases in Star Chamber* (Dec. 1944). His Presidential Address on King Arthur was delivered without a script and could only be summarised in *W.A.M.* of June 1948. Care was taken that his later addresses were recorded in full: *Land and People, the History of a County*

(Dec. 1948) and *County History* (Dec. 1949) show his happy blending of wit and scholarship.

The following memoir is reproduced with kind permission of *The Times* from their issue of Thursday, November 19, 1959:—

Mr. George Malcolm Young, C.B., who died in a nursing home near Oxford yesterday, was 77. He was born in 1882, the only son of G. F. Young, of Greenhithe.

From St. Paul's he went to Balliol as a scholar in 1900, and took a First in Classical Mods., a second in Greats and, in 1905, an All Souls fellowship. In 1908 he joined the Board of Education, in what, under the reorganization then in train at the hands of Sir Robert Morant, was to become the Universities Department. In his later life he always spoke of the stormy figure of his first official chief with a respect that amounted to reverence.

When the board's Standing Advisory Committee for University Grants—the predecessor of the University Grants Committee—was set up in 1911, Young became its first secretary. In 1917 he was appointed C.B., and was made joint secretary to the short-lived, and now almost forgotten Ministry of Reconstruction. He also served in Vienna at the end of the first war, and spent some time in North Russia.

In the 1920's Young left the Civil Service to devote himself to literature. His first book, his *Gibbon*, came out in 1932, when he was in his fiftieth year. He had already, in an essay on "Victorian History" published in 1931, shown his mastery in this field, and the Oxford University Press asked him to edit two volumes of essays on *Early Victorian England*. This work came out in 1934, and at once established its authority. In the following year Young published his *Charles I and Cromwell*, a slight essay, and in 1936 there came *Victorian England: the Portrait of an Age*, an expansion of the editorial essay he had written for *Early Victorian England*. The "Portrait" was at once recognized as an outstanding piece of interpretation, and it is not too much to say that in the more than 20 years since it appeared its reputation and influence have grown steadily. Young was now writing regularly in weekly newspapers and reviews; for a brief while after the resignation of J. L. Garvin he wrote leading articles for the *Observer*, and in later years, he reviewed for the *Sunday Times*. He republished his essays and addresses in *Daylight and Champaign* (1937), *To-day and Yesterday* (1948), and *Last Essays* (1950).

Meanwhile he had undertaken the official biography of Earl Baldwin, and this appeared in 1952. Young was never altogether happy in the task; the materials available for his use had proved unexpectedly scanty; and his frank criticisms of Baldwin in some respects, although they were balanced by a fine recognition of his qualities and of his great services to the country, were not everywhere accepted. In 1947 he undertook the editorship of the Victorian volume in the series of *English Historical Documents*, but, unfortunately, bad health limited his share in the final stages of this.

In 1937 Young was appointed a trustee of the National Portrait Gallery, in 1938 a member of the Standing Committee on Museums and Galleries, in 1947 a trustee of the British Museum and in 1948 a member of the Historical Manuscripts Commission. The work these appointments entailed lay very close to his heart, and,

until his health began to fail, he gave it a great deal of time and thought.

In his middle years Young settled in Wiltshire, and made himself an authority on the archaeology and history of his adopted county. He also interested himself in educational movements in Swindon. His re-election to an All Souls fellowship in 1947 gave him a centre at Oxford again, and he spent more and more time there, settling in his college when he gave up his Wiltshire home. Young was very much an All Souls man; the mingling of established scholars with a succession of young fellows and constant visitors from the outside world provided a society congenial both to his tastes and to his views.

The range of Young's intellectual interests reflected not only the personal discomfort he felt if he were not on terms of understanding with what he met in the world, but also his strong conviction that the maintenance of older catholic conceptions of scholarship, with what changes a changing world imposed, was important both to scholarship and to society. The break in his career was in a sense a superficial one; care for the university of knowledge and preoccupation with the horizon of change had been his official concerns, and they remained the dominant theme of much of his writing. The Civil servant had by no means been useless to the future historian and essayist. Young thought of scholarship, perhaps—though rather by habit than principle—as a tool for deepening and refining the common interests of the world. He wrote always for the public, rather than for an academic audience, though for a public that he assumed to be both busy and equipped to understand. His essays had the informality, and the unexpectedness, of the best talk; his books were, in spirit, longer essays. But, if as a consequence the shelf of his works is a short one, few writers have said so many good things on so many subjects.

As literature was, to Young, a discipline of the mind and imagination, so history was always a branch of literature. He recognised all that professional techniques had done to deepen it, but he openly feared lest, in universities, it should become too much of a profession—"historians left with no higher aim than to teach the teachers of history how to teach their successors." In an early essay, he applied—with a pardonable slight misquotation—Pope's line to historical research—"Light dies before that uncreating word." His own well-known recommendation to

students of history was "to go on reading until you can hear people talking."

Personally, Young was a man of great distinction, a fascinating conversationist, drawing on the resources of an almost phenomenal memory (he would relate with unaffected vanity that he had once been dubbed a "pantomath"), generous in his acceptance of ideas and points of view not his own, and in his appreciation of people —taking as real an interest in the talk of Wiltshire countrymen and railway workers as in that of scholars and statesmen. He was an Hon. D.Litt. of Durham and of Cambridge, and an Honorary Fellow of Balliol.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR THOMAS RALPH EASTWOOD, D.S.O., M.C., died at Cannes on Feb. 19th, 1959, aged 68. Son of Col. H. de C. Eastwood, D.S.O., educated at Eton, he passed from Sandhurst into the Rifle Brigade in 1910, and was appointed A.D.C. to Governor of New Zealand 1912. In 1914-18 War he served first in German Samoa and later in Gallipoli, France and Belgium; afterwards he was on Lord Rawlinson's staff in N. Russia. He commanded a division in France 1939-40, taking part in the Dunkirk evacuation. He then became Director-General of the Home Guard, helping to mould it into an efficient fighting force. Retiring from the Army in 1947 he lived at Vasterne Manor, near Wootton Bassett, 1950—56. Here he was for some years chairman of the local magistrates, and of Swindon and District Hospital Management Committee, also holding various local offices of distinction. In national affairs he had been deputy chairman of British Red Cross Society, chairman of the War Disabled Help Department, and a member of the Army and British Legion Benevolent Fund Councils. He leaves a widow.

Obit.: *Wilts Gazette*, Feb. 26th, 1959.

REGINALD ARKELL died at Marston Meysey on May 1st, 1959, aged 76. He was the fourth of seven sons of Daniel Arkell, of Butler's Court, Lechlade. Joining the publishing firm of George Newnes, he founded and edited various magazines, retiring in 1956. He was a profuse and versatile writer, notably of light verse, book and lyrics of many revues and musical comedies, popular works on gardening, and novels usually set in the Upper Thames country; also a frequent broadcaster. He leaves a widow and one son.

Obit.: *Wilts Gazette*, May 7th, 1959.

LIEUT.-COLONEL ROBERT HENRY CUNNINGTON died in a London hospital on May 5th, 1959, aged 82. Son of Albert and nephew of Benjamin

Howard Cunnington, he was born at Devizes Castle and soon showed that he had inherited the flair for archaeology and geology which had been transmitted through five generations. His father died at the age of 29, and he chose the Army as his career, serving with the Royal Engineers until his retirement in 1926. At this time Capt. and Mrs. B. H. Cunnington were about to start excavations at Woodhenge and he was enrolled as site surveyor, assisting regularly later at such other sites as Yarnbury and The Sanctuary on Overton Hill. In 1935 he published *Stonehenge and its Date*, now superseded as the result of the work of Atkinson, Piggott and Stone. Among his contributions to *W.A.M.* were: *The Recent Excavations at Stonehenge* (June 1929) summarising Col. Hawley's periodic reports in the *Antiquaries Journal*; *Effect of Cloudbursts on Earthworks* (Dec. 1936); *River Captures near Devizes* (June 1937); *Valley Cultivation on the Chalk* (June 1941); *Tabular Sarsens and Mud Cracks* (Dec. 1946); *Devizes Castle* (June 1947); *The Cunningtons of Wiltshire* (June 1954); *Marden and the Cunnington Manuscripts* (June 1955). The subjects of these last two papers were to be expanded in a work which he was preparing for publication at the time of his death. In this he sought to bring into greater prominence the part played by William Cunnington not only as an excavator but in the role of adviser to Colt Hoare in the production of *Ancient Wiltshire*. In earlier years he had formed a notable collection of fossils, which are now in the British and Dorchester Museums. He leaves a son and two daughters.

Obit.: *Wilts Gazette*, May 14th, 1959.

LIEUT.-COLONEL ALFRED HIGGINS BURNE, D.S.O., C.I.E., O.B.E., F.S.A., died at Dartford, Kent on June 2nd, 1959, aged 72. Fifth son of Col. S. T. H. Burne, educated at Winchester, he passed from Woolwich into the R.A. in 1906, was awarded D.S.O. and bar in 1914-18 War and was six times mentioned in despatches. Retiring in 1935 he rejoined the Army in 1939 and commanded 121st O.C.T.U., R.A., till 1942. A prolific writer on military history and military editor of Chambers' Encyclopaedia, his two best known books are perhaps those on English battlefields from the 1st to the 17th century, on which he was the foremost authority. Contributions to *W.A.M.* included *Ancient Wiltshire Battlefields* (Dec. 1950); *Battle of Mertune* (June 1952); and *Wansdyke West and South* (Dec. 1953). His learning was graced always

with humour and had a general appeal, as when he addressed members of this Society on the scene of the Roundway Down battle of the Civil Wars in September, 1958.

Obit.: *The Times*, June 3rd, 1959.

THE REV. RICHARD HENRY LANE died at Marlborough on Dec. 24th, 1959. Second son of Canon H. T. Lane, of St. Albans, educated at Dover College and Keble, Oxford, ordained 1913. Red Cross ambulance driver in 1914-18 War. Assistant chaplain and master at Marlborough College, 1924-48, acting as Chaplain for one year, 1928-29. On retirement made himself readily available for duties in Marlborough and Pewsey Rural Deaneries. A keen archaeologist and adept at repairing clocks and watches in his spare time. He leaves a widow.

Obit.: *Marlborough Times*, Jan. 1st, 1960.

GRAHAM CALLOW, D.S.O., M.C., died at Milton Lilborne on Jan. 3rd, 1960. Born in Derbyshire he served with Sherwood Foresters in 1914-18 War and later in Nigeria with 3rd Bn. Nigeria Regt. After studying law, he was appointed Commissioner of Peace in Nigeria 1922-34; Magistrate in the Protectorate Court 1934-7; Crown Law Officer in Sierra Leone 1937-40; Deputy Assistant Provost Marshal 1940-41; Judge of Supreme Court of Nigeria 1941-5, before taking up a similar post in Malaya 1945-50. After his retirement came to live at Milton and became Chairman of County magistrates' court committee. Also served on committees set up by Wilts Quarter Sessions and on Wilts Standing Joint Committee, and conducted public inquiries for County Council. For some years up to his death he was joint secretary of Tedworth Hunt. He leaves a widow.

Obit.: *Marlborough Times*, Jan. 8th, 1960.

THE RIGHT HON. REGINALD HERBERT, 15th EARL OF PEMBROKE AND MONTGOMERY, M.V.O., died at Wilton House on Jan. 13th, 1960, aged 79. Educated at Eton and Sandhurst, he was commissioned in Royal Horse Guards 1899; A.D.C. to C.-in-C. Ireland 1912-14; A.D.C. to G.O.C. III Corps, 1918; Chevalier of Legion d'Honneur. Retiring in 1919 with rank of Lt.-Col. took a

prominent part in local affairs and was twice Mayor of Wilton. Keenly interested in horticulture and silviculture, the grounds of Wilton House being notable for many fine specimens. He succeeded to the title in 1913. In 1904 he married Lady Beatrice Paget, who survives him with three sons and a daughter.

Obit.: *The Times*, Jan. 14th, 1960.

CAPTAIN THE HON. CHARLES CURTIS CRAIG died at Malmesbury on Jan. 28th, 1960, aged 90. Of Irish descent, educated at Clifton College, he served in 1914-18 War with 11th Royal Irish Rifles, being wounded and taken prisoner; Chevalier of Legion d'Honneur. Brother of Lord Craigavon, Prime Minister of Ulster, he was Conservative M.P. for S. Antrim 1903-22 and for County Antrim 1922-9, and was for a time Parliamentary Secretary to Ministry of Pensions. On retirement he lived at Old Brewery House, Malmesbury and as a member of this Society took an active interest in its affairs.

Obit.: *Wilts Gazette*, Feb. 4th, 1960.

JOHN LINDON CALDERWOOD, C.B.E., died at Swindon on Feb. 7th, 1960, aged 72. Son of Dr. G. Calderwood, of Egremont, Cumberland, educated at St. Bees School and Caius Coll., Cambridge. After service with King's Liverpool Regt. in 1914-18 War, he joined Townsends, a Swindon firm of solicitors, eventually becoming senior partner. Elected to Borough Council in 1922, he was Mayor of Swindon 1931-2 and played a leading part in founding the Library Service and Arts Centre; he also formed the Swindon Council of Social Service in 1932. A past President of Swindon Rotary Club and a prominent Freemason, acting as Provincial Grand Registrar in 1934. From 1934 a member of the County Council and from 1940 an alderman, becoming Chairman in 1940, when he resigned from the Borough Council. In 1950 he was made a Freeman of Swindon. Awarded the C.B.E. for services to local government 1957. He was latterly chairman of the committee of Wilts V.C.H. In earlier years a keen sportsman, he was from 1939 severely handicapped by ill-health, but overcame his disability to a remarkable degree by sheer strength of will. He leaves a widow.

Obit.: *Wilts Gazette*, Feb. 11th, 1960.

REVIEWS

Victoria County History: Wiltshire, Vol. I, Part 1. Edited by R. B. Pugh and Elizabeth Crittall. Pp. xxi, 279; 9 maps. Oxford University Press, London 1957. £5 5s. 0d.

Contrary to the practice adopted previously in other counties, the first volume of the Victoria County History of Wiltshire deals with the archaeology of the County, and not with its natural history. This volume is divided into two parts. The part now under review is a gazetteer of all the sites, Prehistoric to Saxon, within the County; the second part, yet to appear, will be a commentary on the first part.

As the publisher's note reminds us, this volume has a certain number of original features. These are the comprehensive nature of the gazetteer and the set of coloured distribution maps which supplement it. The distribution maps use a morphological base map, specially prepared for the History, and a commentary on this map is provided by Miss Joyce Gifford in a chapter entitled 'The Physique of Wiltshire'.

The Gazetteer, which makes up the greater part of the volume, has been prepared by Mr. L. V. Grinsell and one cannot fail to be impressed by the result of the tremendous task he has undertaken.

As this volume was published three years ago, there has been ample opportunity to determine its usefulness, and of this there can be no doubt. The possession of the Gazetteer is an undeniable 'must' for those actively engaged in archaeological work in the County.

In using this volume your reviewer has, however, encountered certain minor difficulties which are bound to arise in any classification of such a mass of information. These are principally in locating particular sites or finds. The classification of sites and finds under parishes makes it necessary to know in which parish a certain site lies. For example, the searcher for Little Woodbury or the Petersfinger Saxon Cemetery will be lost unless he remembers that they are situated in Britford and Clarendon parishes respectively.

The answer to this problem of locating sites could lie in the series of maps, and one wonders why a normal topographical map to the same scale as the others was not included to make this possible. The present distribution maps possibly try to achieve too much. The Early Iron Age map has 57 separate symbols, so that any sig-

nificant distribution patterns are lost or at any rate are not immediately obvious.

In these maps the intention, presumably, has been only to show sites of known date at the time of publication; this might leave the casual user with certain misleading impressions. The Romano-British map shows a vast acreage of field systems, dated presumably mainly on the basis of surface pottery finds, but the Iron Age map shows only a very small area, which must represent but a fraction of the true field acreage in the Iron Age. Similarly the Late Bronze Age map shows a concentration of linear earthworks, dated by the late Dr. J. F. S. Stone, in the Porton-Winterslow area, but none, except for Grims Ditch, in the rest of Wiltshire. There appears to be none shown on the Iron Age map. Thus the casual user might reasonably assume that linear earthworks are comparatively scarce in Wiltshire rather than the opposite as is the case. It might have been better to show all the linear earthworks on a separate non-period map: the field systems could also have been included.

All the linear earthworks are listed in a table at the end of the volume as well as field systems, enclosures and hillforts. The pride of place in the series of tables must however belong to those listing the barrows. To the compilation of the latter tables Mr. Grinsell has brought his long interest in the subject, and in twenty-five tables, occupying some 112 pages, he has collected a wealth of detail on Wiltshire barrows. As with the General Gazetteer section the casual user might find it difficult to locate quickly a particular site in these tables, but again this is inevitable with the tabulation of such a mass of information.

The difficulty of locating material quickly detracts but little from the usefulness of this volume, and every archaeologist must be heavily indebted to Mr. Grinsell for his work. The value of this book must surely be increased even more when it is joined by its companion part, for which we wait with not a little impatience, having had sufficient time to save the not inconsiderable sum which will be needed to purchase it. Finally, one is left with the thought that the Gazetteer will rapidly become out-of-date in view of the tremendous amount of excavation now being carried out within the County. Is it possible that a supplementary volume might be published—in say ten years' time—to keep it up to date?

Salisbury

John Musty

A Guide to Prehistoric England. By Nicholas Thomas. Illustrated. Pp. 268. Batsford's, 1960. Price 30s.

This book is doubly welcome. It is the first book by the former curator of Devizes Museum and it is the first guide to prehistoric England in the traditional guide book form. Those who have heard Mr. Thomas lecture at an archaeological site will not be surprised to see that his gift of clear, concise and imaginative exposition has been used to the full, and his wide experience as a field archaeologist makes him an ideal person for a work of this kind.

The book consists primarily of a gazetteer of sites which, although, as the author says, not exhaustive, nevertheless covers the majority of important prehistoric earthworks in England.

The gazetteer is divided into counties and under these headings the sites are arranged alphabetically in archaeological periods. Each site is described with a remarkable economy of words and a great deal of information is given. The whereabouts of finds are mentioned. An asterisk indicates a reference to the site in a select bibliography. There is a long introduction, an index and a glossary of archaeological terms. The great pains that the author has taken not only to locate the site for the reader but also to provide him with other practical information can best be shown by an example which starts 'Gloucestershire (1in. O.S. Sheet Nos. 143-5, 156-7). *Hetty Pegler's Tump*, chambered long barrow (SO/789001) W. of B.4066, 1 mile N. of Uley church (B.4066). Finds in Guys Hospital Museum. Entry key at nearby farm: torch necessary.' It would be useful if more Ancient Monuments under the guardianship of the Ministry of Works and therefore accessible to the public could be so described: this is now only done in a few cases. Mr. Thomas' guide also makes us wish for similar information about National Trust property which is accessible to the public subject to the requirements of farming, forestry and the protection of nature.

There are sixty-nine illustrations, mostly photographs. It is not known what technical difficulties may have been involved in the production of these plates but on the whole they are not good and their quality does some disservice to an otherwise excellent publication. For example, the air photograph of the Normanton barrows is so dark that only a few barrows can be distinguished and from the picture it is hard to believe that this group is 'perhaps the finest in Britain'. Likewise in the aerial view of the

central Knowlton *henge* monument one cannot make out the features of bank and ditch, and the church in the centre is indistinguishable; the illustration is most unworthy of a site described as 'one of the most unusual and romantic in Britain.' There are also a number of photographs of excavations, but here again the reproduction robs them of much of their value; in this sort of photograph especially, the clearest of reproductions is essential. The diagram showing ground plans of barrow groups is welcome, for it emphasises the importance of considering them as cemeteries and not merely as a number of barrows close together, which can be ploughed between without detriment to the whole. In a guide book like this, which the reader will carry with him in the field, illustrations should surely be selected principally with a view to his guidance. Might not site plans such as are used in the inventories of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments be of more assistance, especially with large earthworks like hillforts, so deceptively simple on the map, so bewilderingly large on the ground? A plan or at least a good air photo is essential for their appreciation. Plans of chambered tombs are also desirable.

The author is right to point out the need for getting permission to visit a site. Most are on private land, and it is possible that this guide book form may suggest the sort of accessibility that is often taken for granted when using other guides.

The book will be invaluable to students of adult education classes and other groups who wish to see the subject of their studies in the field and to many others at home and on holiday. One has only to look at the bibliography to see in what a variety of journals the sources of information lie scattered and much gratitude is due to the author for bringing them together in this way.

One hopes that the users of this book will not be disappointed at what they see, or rather what they do not see: on the chalk lands of Wessex particularly and doubtless in many other places, the plough and the bulldozer are levelling the land as never before. The author remarks on the arrogant fashion of the Romans in cutting their road through the Oakley Down barrow cemetery. One wonders what posterity will think of us who can no longer say with Sir Thomas Browne:—

'obelisks have their term and pyramids will tumble, but these mountainous monuments may stand and are likely to have the same period with the earth.'

Sir Richard Hoare, the re-arrangement of whose Bronze Age collection was originally proposed by Mr. Thomas, wrote in his introduction to *Ancient Wiltshire*:—

'I think it a duty incumbent on me, so to lay down each track, and so to note down each individual tumulus and earthen work . . . that the follower of my steps shall experience no difficulty in tracing out any particular object which may excite his curiosity.'

One feels that could Hoare have read this book he would have nodded his head in approval.

Berwick St. James R. W. H. Willoughby

Soils for the Archaeologist. By I. W. Cornwall. Pp. 230; figs. 19. Phoenix House, 1958. Price 50s.

Until recent times the stock-in-trade of the archaeologist has consisted largely of objects recovered from the soil during the course of excavations. The study of such artefacts, as they are termed, enables him to interpret ancient man and his multifarious activities. Inevitably however, archaeology has come to realise that these in themselves constitute only a part of the full context; a close investigation of the actual soils in which these manifold objects lie buried is also essential to complete the archaeological record. By an examination of soil deposits and their interpretation an impressive body of complementary information can be acquired concerning early man and the environment in which he lived.

This book is an attempt to describe for the archaeologist the scientific methods by which such information may become available. We can learn how soils are formed, and of the significant differences they may show between ancient and modern environments; how human artefacts become buried, either by natural geological processes or by later human and animal activities. We may even be able to arrive at some estimate of the periods in which early human events took place.

The book is divided into four sections, the first of which deals with processes connected with the formation of soils and the occasional presence of artefacts found in strata formed by natural processes or by human interference. Archaeologists should read with care Dr. Cornwall's chapters on the natural fillings of pits and ditches, and the significant part played by the earthworm in the burial of loose objects and even large structures.

Part II is concerned with the processes of weathering in connection with the formation of

soils and soil classification. This portion of the book contains information which, though undoubtedly of interest to the specialist, is of less value to the field worker. Parts III and IV deal respectively with techniques, both physical and chemical, for the examination of soil samples, together with the interpretation of results after analysis. Examples of soil investigation carried out by the author at actual sites are included. Here again, although the author claims that many of the methods explained can be practised by the archaeologist using a minimum of chemical equipment, it is doubtful if the practising archaeologist will ever be free to avail himself of the time or expertise necessary to undertake even these unspecialised examinations.

This is an impressive and difficult book. Truly impressive for the extent of Dr. Cornwall's learning which it displays: difficult since it will stretch to the limit the archaeologist's capacity to absorb the specialised scientific detail contained therein. Nevertheless, it makes a valuable contribution in emphasising the need for a greater application of scientific techniques to archaeological studies if the full story of man is to be told. Difficult though it may be, the book should be available for reference in all archaeological libraries.

Devizes

F. K. Annable

Windmill Hill and Avebury. A short account of the excavations 1925-1939. By Isobel Foster Smith. Pp. 24. Barrie Books, 1959. Price 5s.

Since the excavations at Windmill Hill 1925-29 and at Avebury 1934-39 and the provision of a museum to hold the finds, Avebury has come to rank as one of the best known archaeological sites in the country. Every year it is visited by thousands, from foreign savants to parties of school children. The need for a guide of general appeal is met by this attractive production, which should have a ready sale. It describes the process of the excavations and depicts the tools, pots and other relics of the neolithic people who lived there. From these it builds up a vivid account, as full as present knowledge and the exigencies of space permit, of their way of life and the methods used in the construction of both the settlement and the ceremonial area. The lavish illustrations are excellent in their variety.

Fitting tribute is paid to the late Alexander Keiller and to W. E. V. Young, who has been actively associated with Avebury since 1925, first in excavating and later as curator of the museum, but surprisingly no mention is made of Stuart Piggott, to whom is due much of the credit for

the results achieved during his years as assistant director and for the interpretation of the whole complex.

Dr. Smith has the right qualifications for her task, having conducted recent work to solve some outstanding problems at Windmill Hill and also around those stones of the Kennett Avenue lying in part buried on the line of the planned widening of the Bath Road at West Kennett. The views expressed in the guide can therefore be taken as authoritative and abreast of the current trend of thought.

There is a brief account of the Sanctuary on Overton Hill excavated by the Cunningtons in 1930, the finds from which are in Devizes Museum. May we hope that, when the next edition is called for, Silbury Hill or at least its surrounding moat will have been investigated and the results included in the guide? Not long before his death Dr. O. G. S. Crawford spoke of this as perhaps the site most demanding the attention of the excavator.

Many who live near Avebury have visitors who ask to be taken to see it and then pose awkward questions. This booklet can be confidently recommended as a primer to all these and others who want to know the answers.

Ramsbury

O. Meyrick

Stonehenge and Avebury. An illustrated guide. Text by R. J. C. Atkinson. Cover Picture and reconstruction drawings by Alan Sorrell. Maps and plans by Reitz. Pp. 63. H.M.S.O. 1960. Price 3s.

This is an admirable guide book. The text by Professor Atkinson is clear, easy to follow, and interesting throughout; the illustrations and imaginative reconstructions are excellent and will be found particularly helpful for following the various stages in the construction of Stonehenge; and the price is mercifully low.

The guide starts with a short account of the various communities who lived in southern England between 2400 B.C. and 1400 B.C. and built the monuments described in the pages which follow. Then comes an account of Stonehenge on lines which will be familiar to readers of Professor Atkinson's book on that monument, which was reviewed in *W.A.M.* No. CCVI (1958) pp. 86-7 and which has just been reissued by Penguin Books. There is an illustration of the carving of the dagger first noticed in 1953 and Professor Atkinson maintains his view that it is Mycenaean. Readers may remember that on

this point Humphrey Case in the review mentioned above wrote as follows:—

'Mr. Atkinson plainly believes that it represents a Mycenaean dagger, but, generously and characteristically, admits this belief to be a matter of opinion. Bearing in mind the limitations of the material, another opinion is worth expressing—that the carving shows a bronze-hilted dagger (*Vollgriffdolch*) of Oder-Elbe type; the implications are hardly less interesting.'

Short accounts follow of Woodhenge, Avebury, the West Kennett Long Barrow, the Overton Hill Sanctuary, Silbury Hill, and the earthworks on Windmill Hill. Last comes a description with useful illustrations of the way in which the monuments, particularly Stonehenge, may have been built. Professor Atkinson gives interesting figures, based partly on his own experiments in 1954, of the manpower that may have been required. He estimates that 'To bring the eighty odd stones of Stonehenge more than twenty miles from the Marlborough Downs may well have occupied a thousand men for several years.'

There is no list of books and periodicals for the benefit of those who would like to read more about the monuments, but it is explained that many finds from them can be seen in the Society's museum at Devizes and the South Wiltshire Museum at Salisbury. It would be helpful if, in a future edition, the hours and fees of admission for these Museums could be listed on the last page, which gives these particulars for Stonehenge and the Avebury Museum.

Salisbury

E. E. Sabben-Clare

Town and Country in Roman Britain. By A. L. F. Rivet. Pp. 195; 1 plate; 7 figs; 2 maps. Hutchinson University Library 1958. 10s. 6d.

The author states in his preface that this book, which deals solely with the civil organisation of Roman Britain, is aimed more particularly at

'that growing body of intelligent and energetic amateurs who attend summer schools and provide the labour force of innumerable excavations whose interest in the subject has already been aroused and who have read general books on it'.

Within the scope of that statement this is an excellent book and one which will be indispensable to the more serious amateur for whom it is intended.

The author's style is entertaining and the arrangement of the book extremely well-planned. A particularly valuable feature is the addition of selected bibliographies relating to each chapter, to which the author adds sound comments of his own on the merit of individual works.

The book starts with a chapter dealing with the literary, epigraphic and archaeological sources relating to the period. Chapter II contains an excellent summary of the immediately preceding Iron Age, essential to any study of the Roman period. This is followed in Chapter III by a description of the Roman system of provincial government. I would commend especially his discussion of the development of the Romanised town (Chapter IV) out of the native pattern of development. But it is as well to emphasise the caution the author himself expresses over the controversy concerning the defences of Romano-British towns. Far too little work has been done to allow us to date with anything like precision the periods of their construction.

For example at *Cunetio* (Mildenhall) the earthwork preceding the late stone defences clearly bears in its regular playing card outline the mark of the military engineer, but has not yet produced any evidence that will allow it to be assigned to the military phase. But we can support Mr. Rivet's point in this chapter (p. 97) that when in the later phases of the period bastions were added to already existing walls, no attempt was made anywhere to reduce the town's area. Again at *Cunetio*, the stone defences may with little doubt be claimed as an enlargement of the earlier double-ditched enclosure. It is true we are yet without much evidence of the true function of the lesser walled towns of Roman Britain, but they must surely have had a significant part to play in the organisation of the country as a whole.

Chapter V is taken up with a description of the gradual Romanisation of the countryside, the origin and growth of the villas, their inhabitants and their economies. Much of what the author says in this chapter seems to me to be original and provocative, especially his conception of the term 'villa'. In his definition of the term he lays emphasis on the degree of civilisation of the owner. He also quotes evidence to stress the economic basis of the villa and its importance as a productive unit. The final chapter includes a review of the 'civitates' or tribal areas of Roman Britain, of particular value as a quick source of information within a single volume.

I can certainly recommend this book. Its author was largely responsible for the production of the latest map of Roman Britain, and in performing this task he was clearly drawn to an exhaustive study of the literature of the period.

His researches have served him well in this publication.

Devizes

F. K. Annable

Local History in England. By W. G. Hoskins, Longman's, 1959. 25s.

We live in an age thirsting for potted knowledge and we look to the braver of our scholars to supply such. The responsibility of the 'potter' is very great. This is a good book, written by a bold man indeed. Mr. Pugh's last edition of 'Cox' emphasised the approach *via* the P.R.O. Here the author has attempted a wider survey, and with success.

The reviewer (who would not have written half such a good book) must note those things which have been omitted, or which, in his opinion, are too lightly dealt with. Our own county should be much in mind. It is perhaps as well to make a list, leaving out the smaller points.

The various County and Regional Societies might have been given more attention. Many of such, like our own, have exceeded the century, and few places within their range have escaped some useful notice. The local historian in Wiltshire will probably begin by going through the indexes of *W.A.M.* and *Wiltshire Notes and Queries*, examining Goddard's *Bibliography*, and stealing much time from our patient and knowledgeable librarian. It can hardly be over-emphasised that the beginner must first find out what work has already been done.

The chief motives which shape all history are security, wealth, fear of hell fire, and the ladies. Genealogy is but lightly considered. The very extensive library and MS collections of the Society of Genealogists are not mentioned. Local genealogies provide the *reasons* for a host of historical developments.

The local historian should, as a goal of perfection, go through the titles of every land owner in his district. An enormous amount of useful information can be obtained from this exhausting task.

The Hundred Courts, Hundred bounds, ancient Common Meads, and *hamms* might receive more attention: also the methods of allotment of Commons and Forests after Enclosure. In this, the author might have drawn on his recent large experience. Other matters deserving mention, or more than a few lines, are the Charity Commissioners' reports, the smaller religious Houses, the militia lists, the local officers—constables, haywards, reeves, bailiffs—, village crosses, blind houses, stocks, pounds,

inns, poor houses, watercourses and their deviations, bridge repairs, Quarter Sessions' Orders of Deviation, knighthood compositions, Herald's Visitations, notices from *The Gentleman's Magazine*, briefs, local celebrities, and skirmishes, battles, and marches of armies in the neighbourhood examined.

The Vestry Books and the Monumental Inscriptions in church and churchyard are often sources of valuable information. The National Buildings Record deserves a notice.

In a book written perhaps largely for beginners it should be pointed out that the 6in. O.S. is *not* a cadastral map. For the proper study of roads, field boundaries, watersheds, and the important ditch, the 25in. must be used. There are two books which must be at hand, *The Handbook of British Chronology* and the *Handbook of Dates*.

The statement on page 109 concerning the 1956 O.S. map of Roman Britain that 'No road is marked unless its authenticity has been established beyond doubt' is not true.

It may well be asked how such a book might be kept to the present size if so much more is to be included. In the reviewer's opinion the Appendix might well have been omitted, together with the many references to completed local works, highly interesting though they are. The Additional References list might well have been shortened and a few cautions added here and there. The twenty-five lines given to *The Old Straight Track* are surely waste of space. Watkins has been long forgotten, except for his ingenious work on the photographic exposure meter.

But twenty authors set to write on this subject would provide an enormous variety of presentation and content. And if each had to review the other nineteen, the result would be astonishing!

May I conclude by saying that I consider this a valuable book and that I advise the local historian to buy one. I have.

Cricklade

T. R. Thomson

Round About The Little Steeple. By Ida Gandy. Pp. 192, one plate, map. Allen & Unwin 1960. Price 18s.

Most Wiltshiremen know something of the story of George Ferebe, who on the return from Bath in 1613 of James I's Queen, Anne of Denmark, arranged a concert to greet her, as she crossed over the Wansdyke. This book is woven round the life of Ferebe and is in fact a history of the village of Bishop's Cannings. The writer was

born in the vicarage and knows the place and people intimately; so that after reading the book it is almost possible to think the thoughts and recognise the foibles of all the Slopers, the Drews and the Stevens, who crowd its pages in their contact with the Ferebes and Ernles.

There is careful documentation of the salient events, and little resort to fiction; the double dangers of whimsicality and dullness are happily avoided. The style is easy and unassuming, the learning lightly displayed; and the effect is enhanced by a well-printed pocket-size format, albeit somewhat marred by more than the usual number of misprints.

It is good to read of the original grant of a fair to be held on St. Anne's day on Tanhill in 1499, a place then called Chalborough Down. Despite this reference, the ghostly wraith of an ancient landowner called Anne, first imagined by Canon Jones, is conjured up to account for the name of the hill, whereas we had thought she had been well and truly exorcised by the learning of W. H. Stevenson and G. B. Grundy.

A pleasing feature of the book is the complete poem of welcome that Ferebe composed for the benefit of Queen Anne. There appears to be but one copy of it (in the Bodleian), but it is a pity that the four vocal parts are no longer available.

The Slopers, a well known Cannings family, are sometimes referred to as the Slops. This must surely be the result of a misreading or miswriting of the contemporary abbreviation of p for per, rather than the replacement of the trade of sloper by the 'slops' they manufactured—slops may be thought of as the medieval equivalent of the modern jeans and sports jackets.

There is no reference to the presence of Dissenters in the village; but in April 1774, 'the people, called Methodists came to preach at Bishops Cannings and Robert Harraway joined with some other riotous persons in molesting their Assembly, and abusing their Persons'. He was compelled publicly to acknowledge his fault in the *Marlborough Journal* (April 15).

At first sight the subject of this book seems slight, but the bounds of space and time implied are widened to include much that happened before and after 1613 and many places beyond the parish bounds of Bishops Cannings itself. We finally close the volume with grateful thanks for the retelling of the simple day-to-day events of a fast disappearing rural life.

Preshute,
Marlborough

E. G. H. Kempson

Wiltshire Forefathers. By June Badeni. Privately printed 1959 (obtainable at The Workbox, Malmesbury). Price 21s.

A gossipy book about North Wiltshire seats and families, which I found to be of very great interest. It draws largely from well-known sources, but contains a good deal of information not easily come by, such as matter contained in the Jackson papers at Burlington House. The very sketchy pedigrees are intended to be merely illustrative of the text; judging from that on page 39, they are not to be trusted. All the children of Sir John Danvers the Regicide, with the exception of John, were by his *second* wife Elizabeth Dauntsey. To the best of my recollection his first wife had a dozen children before he married

her. Henry died in 1654 not 1655. The heiress Ann, the poetess, was worth a mention.

As one with some slight knowledge of the Hungerford family, I find it impossible to believe the statement on page 55 that 'the Crewe-Milnes family are the only lineal descendants remaining in England of the once numerous family of Hungerford.'

There are many good stories told, old and new. That of old Colonel Haydon (p. 130) is worth the guinea! It is a pity that the index is not full, and irritating to find the cartographer Dury given as 'Drury' throughout, but the book as a whole is amusing and valuable as long as the necessity for checking is borne in mind.

Cricklade

T. R. Thomson

CURATOR'S REPORT FOR 1959

INTERIOR REORGANISATION

Towards the close of the year work was begun on redecoration of the museum interior. To those of us working daily within the building it has become increasingly evident that many display rooms were becoming noticeably dirty and in need of a freshening coat of paint. The heating system within the museum consists of an anthracite burning furnace which each winter disseminates a fine layer of dust throughout every room, despite all attempts at its prevention. Until we can afford some cleaner form of heating we must resign ourselves to periodic redecoration if the museum is to remain as attractive as it now is. But there is a further reason for the work now in progress. Early in 1960 the new Bronze Age room will be formally opened by Professor Stuart Piggott, Abercromby Professor of Prehistoric Archaeology, Edinburgh University.¹ It is essential and proper that we should have the museum looking at its best for this occasion, which, in the archaeological world, is something of an event. Thus, up to the time of writing this report, the Picture Gallery and our two Recent History rooms have been decorated throughout, and work is also in progress on the Centenary room.

For some considerable time the need has been felt for space where specimens, heavy books and maps can be spread about for study, or examination. This need has been amply met by converting the room adjoining the library into a workroom. Work benches and shelves have been fitted around three sides of the room with shelves and drawers beneath for storage. Two large

¹Opened on Saturday, 21 May 1960. See p. 428—ED.

map cabinets, the property of the late Alexander Keiller, have been incorporated into one side of the room; they are proving invaluable for storing large-scale drawings and our 6in. and 2½in. maps of the county. We are grateful to Mrs. Keiller for a most useful gift. Insulation board for pinning maps and drawings has been fitted against one wall and this room has also been decorated. The further addition of a door to the library end of the room now effectively shuts off the museum working quarters from the library.

THE COLLECTIONS

The task of displaying the important and well-known Stourhead Collection in the new Bronze Age room is at last completed. It is perhaps regrettable that amongst so many other museum activities the work of completion has taken so long. But delay is inevitable whilst there is only one salaried Curator, who must attempt to carry out all the manifold services expected of the local museum with the exception of those provided by the librarian. Like our friends at Salisbury we find it impossible with such limited curatorial resources to provide even a small part of the services demanded of us by scholars, schools, and the general public.

Nevertheless, it is hoped that the importance of this unique collection will compensate for the long delay in its rearrangement. Details of the display are to be found in a previous report (*W.A.M.*, vol. 57, p. 266), and need not be repeated here. Perhaps we should emphasise however, that the collection has been specifically arranged to meet the needs not only of the interested layman, but also of the serious student.

One feature introduced into the room has been a number of folding panels fixed in convenient positions around the walls; these contain additional data on each of the exhibits with brief bibliographies. This extra information is primarily for the student, but it was thought worth while to include it on account of the specialised character of the Stourhead Collection, and its importance in the study of the British Bronze Age.

In the Centenary room, two large cases illustrating artefacts of the Palaeolithic and Neolithic periods have been re-displayed. Groups of recent finds have also been arranged in the Recent Acquisitions case in the Entrance Hall.

VOLUNTARY ASSISTANCE

Ever since it began the Society has owed its continuance and its reputation to the voluntary efforts of the high-minded amateur concerned to assist in the preservation of the material culture of his region. Under our present social and economic conditions the need for volunteer help within the Museum and the Society is even greater than before.

We have again been fortunate this year in receiving sterling assistance from a number of helpers. Some of them are newcomers; some are old and tried members who continue to make their much-valued contributions to the welfare of the Museum.

Substantial progress has been made in building up a card-catalogue of our geological collections by Mr. Paul Pickering, who spent six weeks in completing the whole of the Cretaceous section of this assemblage. Advice on the question of an efficient cataloguing system was kindly given by Dr. Curtis, Keeper of Geology at Bristol City Museum. Mr. G. Hedworth has also performed a valuable service for students in transferring archaeological data from the Goddard 6in. maps on to the interleaved copy of L. V. Grinsell's *Gazetteer of Prehistoric and Roman sites in Wiltshire*. The numbering system used by the late Canon Goddard for referring to individual barrow sites throughout the county has also been added on interleaved sheets to our 2½in. maps covering the county, thus providing a useful source of quick reference.

We cannot fail to acknowledge Mr. N. U. Grudgings' continued contributions of slides and photographs. He has given us, in addition to numerous archaeological photographs, over sixty miniature coloured slides dealing with the archaeology and natural history of the county.

Our slide collections are now beginning to grow apace, and our aim is to build up a large collection which will eventually be available on loan to lecturers and schools. Mr. Grudgings also undertook a great deal of the photography at the Mildenhall excavations this year, both in black and white, and in colour.

Another keen member, Mr. John Mead, has drawn, for eventual publication, almost the whole of the type series of pottery from the Savernake pottery kilns, a task which represents many hours of voluntary labour. Mr. Brian Anthony, during a short stay at the Museum, most willingly washed a great deal of pottery from this same site and we are grateful for his help. He also arranged a number of display cases within the Centenary room.

Neither should we forget the work of our Mrs. Cole, or of Mr. Cole, whose labours provide a vital contribution to the overall reorganisation of the Museum.

PUBLICITY

During last year nineteen groups of museum specimens were lent to individuals, schools and institutions for teaching purposes. In addition a comprehensive selection of pottery, bronze and iron objects and bone implements was exhibited at the 'Open Day', held at Salisbury on 18 October 1959 and organised by Group XII (Wessex) of the Council for British Archaeology.

A further museum postcard, that of a Romano-British candlestick in the form of a cockerel found at Nettleton, is now on sale. This brings our total of postcards up to seven.

Two new publications, *A Guide to Avebury* by Dr. Isobel Smith, and *The Nature of Wansdyke* by Anthony J. Clark have also been put on sale.

It is most pleasing to report that the Ministry of Works has arranged for a large notice to be displayed at the West Kennett long barrow informing visitors that the finds from this site are deposited in the Museum.

VISITORS

It is disturbing to note that there has been a considerable drop in attendance by the general public this year: this decline in attendance has been noticed at other museums in the county. On the other hand, the number of school children who visited the museum and were given guided talks by the Curator showed an increase. In 1959 there were 478 in 16 parties; there were 451 in 1958.

Museum Visitors:				
1958:				
Jan.—March	...	...	...	288
April—June	...	...	...	808
July—Sept.	...	...	...	1039
Oct.—Dec.	...	...	...	306
				—
		Total	...	2441
				—
1959:				
Jan.—March	...	...	...	384
April—June	...	...	...	535
July—Sept.	...	...	...	949
Oct.—Dec.	...	...	...	235
				—
		Total	...	2103
				—

In addition groups from various universities, local societies and institutions visited the Museum and were given talks by the Curator. We were pleased this year to receive a visit from the Drenst Prehistoric Society of the Netherlands, who much enjoyed their tour of the Museum. On a few occasions the museum was opened to parties outside normal hours.

On 31 October 1959 the Records Branch of the Society held their Annual General Meeting in the Museum lecture hall. The Council for the Preservation of Rural England also held their General Meeting here on 20 October 1959.

LECTURES

During the winter of 1959 the Curator gave twelve lectures on Prehistoric and Roman Britain to a Workers' Educational Association group at West Ashton. Further lectures on various aspects of archaeology and the Society were given to the Classical Association of Reading University, the Chippenham Rotary Club, the Godolphin School, Urchfont Manor and other local groups and societies.

ASSISTANCE IN RESEARCH

An important function of the museum is to make its collections available to visiting scholars and students for purposes of research. We have been glad to welcome this year, amongst others, Mr. G. C. Dunning, H. M. Inspector of Ancient Monuments, who is an authority on the Anglo-Saxon and Mediaeval periods; Mr. G. C. D. Longworth of Cambridge University, who has drawn all our Bronze Age urns; Mr. R. Brothwell of the Duckworth Institute of Anthropo-

logy, Cambridge, who is researching on prehistoric skeletal material; and Mr. Graham Connah, also of Cambridge University, who is working on the material from Knap Hill excavations. Dr. Isobel Smith, who is working on the report of the excavations carried out at Avebury by the late Alexander Keiller, is also a frequent visitor.

A group of fifteen bronze daggers, knife-daggers, and bronze pins from the Stourhead Collection was lent temporarily to the Oxford University Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art. This loan was made in connection with a programme of analyses of prehistoric bronzes initiated by this laboratory with the support of Professor C. F. C. Hawkes and Professor Grahame Clark.

TECHNICAL

A small group of ironwork was cleaned in the Museum laboratory for the Bristol University Archaeological Society.

Thirteen cooking pots and storage jars excavated from the Romano-British Kiln site in Savernake Forest were repaired and fully restored, and a number of others partially restored.

A late Bronze Age urn and an interesting mediaeval jug from Old Sarum collection have been repaired for Salisbury Museum.

FIELDWORK

A third season of excavations under the patronage of the Society was carried out at the Romano-British township of Cunetio (Mildenhall). Details are reported elsewhere in this issue (Excavations and Fieldwork, 1959, p.397). Generous donations were made towards the expenses of the dig by the Society Committee, by Mr. E. C. Barnes, our President, and by an anonymous donor who made us a gift of £20. The recovery of chance finds made during the year is also reported in the Shorter Notes section of this issue.

ACCESSIONS

The Society Committee gratefully extends its thanks to all those who have made gifts or loans during the year. Notable amongst these is a small group of artefacts of the Mesolithic period found in north Wiltshire; these were kindly donated by Mr. J. Tucker, a member of the Society who is keenly interested in the period.

Two further additions by purchase to our collections should be mentioned. The first is a cabinet of some 600 silver and bronze coins of

Roman date, all found in the area of the Roman settlement at Wanborough. The second consists of a group of interesting finds including a fine polished axe of foreign stone, and a stone mace-head of late Neolithic date. Both have been examined petrologically by Bristol City Museum. We are indebted to Mr. C. Blunt, F.S.A., for assistance in the purchase of the coins.

Geology

Fossil long bone, unidentified. Length 10in. Found in the Pyramid Gravel Pit, Sutton Benger. Originally in the collections of the late A. D. Passmore. Purchased. 8/59/360.

Specimen block of Bath Stone with a core of crystalline formation. Obtained from the Corsham Stone Quarries. Mr. R. W. Head. 10/59/371.

Twenty-one Selenite crystals found in the Bradford Clay. Exact locality unknown. Mr. A. Shaw Mellor. 11/59/373.

Prehistoric

Flint scraper of greyish-white mottled flint, with steep end flaking. Probably Mesolithic. Found in the grounds of Box House, Box. Mr. A. Shaw Mellor. 12/59/378.

Group of flint cores and scrapers, micro-burins and graters, found at Summerlands Farm Gravel Pit, Christian Malford. 1/59/345.

Group of flint microliths, cores and scrapers, found at Cocklebury. Mesolithic. Mr. J. Tucker. 1/59/346.

Group of flint blades, micro-burins and cores found at Langley Burrell, Peckington. Mesolithic. Mr. J. Tucker. 1/59/347.

A blunted blade and the tip of a microlith found at Kellaways. Mesolithic. Mr. J. Tucker. 1/59/348.

A crescentic microlith found at Lanhill. Mesolithic. Mr. J. Tucker. 1/59/349.

A microlith and a single micro-burin found at Park Lane. Mesolithic. Mr. J. Tucker. 1/59/350.

Butt end of a Neolithic polished axe of white flint with some reworking. Length 4in. Found near Poulshot Lodge. Miss Rosemary Ventham. 3/59/352.

Neolithic polished axe of foreign stone. Length 3½in. (Petrological Report No. 1107, a greenstone). Found in a ploughed field at Winsley, Bradford-on-Avon. Mr. P. W. Ford. 8/59/359.

Butt portion of a polished axe made from sarsen stone. Length 3¾in. Found at Liddington. 8/59/361.

Macehead with hour-glass perforation, overall diameter 5in. Found at 'Poor Goss', Aldbourne Common. (Petrological Report No. 1109. Group VI). 8/59/362.

Fragment of large perforated stone, perhaps a whetstone. Length 2¼in. Locality unknown. (Petrological Report No. 1108, a sandstone). 8/59/363.

Fragment of ground sarsen stone, butt end ground flat. Possibly part of a perforated hammer. Found at Liddington. 8/59/364.

Butt end of a polished flint axe, with reworking on the end. Length 3½in. Found in Stock Lane, Aldbourne. 8/59/365.

Polished axe of foreign stone, length 3¾in. Found at Aldbourne. (Petrological Report, No. 1110, Group I).. 8/59/367.

Flint fabricator, length 3½in. Found at Stock Close, Aldbourne. 8/59/368.

The above, all probably of Neolithic date, were originally in the collections of the late A. D. Passmore of Wanborough, and were purchased at a sale held by Sotheby's on 16 June 1959.

A large hammerstone and two flakes of Neolithic date, picked up by the donor at the Garreg Fawr outcrop of the Craig Llwyd Axe Factory. Mr. H. Ross. 11/59/374.

Fragment of cutting end of polished flint axe. The centre part of the cutting end seems to have been deliberately blunted and polished. Found on a spoil heap during excavations at the West Kennett long barrow. Mr. N. Hubbard. 12/59/380.

Roman

Small fragment of tessellated pavement c. 3½in. square. Found on the site of the Box Roman villa. Master R. Head. 1/59/344.

Sherds of greyish-brown pottery, including rim fragments of eight separate vessels; c. 2nd cent. A.D. Found during building operations in High Street, Bromham. Mr. V. T. Humphries. 3/59/353.

Sherds of coarse pottery and Samian ware of 3rd and 4th centuries A.D. Surface finds immediately south of Milton Hill Clump in the parish of Milton Lilbourne. Mr. G. Connah. 4/59/354.

Pestle of coarse, almost laminated limestone. Length approx. 3in. Locality unknown. Pur-

chased from the collections of the late A. D. Passmore. 8/59/366.

Fragments of tile, Samian ware and coarse pottery of approx. 2nd century A.D., found during digging close to a pond $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-east of Norbin Barton (N.G/82956595). Anonymous donor. 11/59/376.

Two skeletons, possibly of Roman date, recovered during the building of a house at Studley (NG/964971). 11/59/377.

Melon Bead of blue green glass, diameter 1in. Locality unknown. Mr. R. Hatchwell. 12/59/379.

Mediaeval

Quantity of sherds probably of the 14th century. Found in association with kiln ash whilst digging foundations for a house at Lyneham. Keniston & Smith, Drapers, Lyneham. 8/59/369.

Recent

Cup-shaped sheep bell stamped I.B (James Burrough, Devizes 1738-55). Original clapper replaced by a key. Given to the donor by a shepherd from Imber. Mr. R. E. Lever. 1/59/343

Cider or wine-jar, height 17in., with single two-ribbed handle. The name EDWARD MANDRY, TROWBRIDGE is stamped on the shoulder of the vessel. 18th or 19th century. Purchased. 1/59/351.

Painted wooden marble gaming board origin-

ally belonging to B. H. Cunnington. 18th or 19th century. Mr. R. E. Sandell. 7/59/355.

Brass rumbler or crotal bell with initials R.W. (Robert Wells, 1760-81). The number 18 is stamped on the top of the bell. Formerly belonging to the donor's uncle, B. H. Cunnington. Dr. C. Willett Cunnington. 8/59/358.

Doll, head and shoulders of wax, lower portion stuffed. Fully clothed in a linen dress with a small red-flowered pattern. 18th century. Mrs. O. L. Twissell. 7/59/372.

Rectangular copper hot-water bottle, probably used in a horse-drawn carriage and placed at the passenger's feet. 19th century. Miss Maud Godfrey. 11/59/375.

Numismatics

AE farthing of Charles I. Found in the donor's garden. Mr. J. Burrows. 7/59/356.

AE 1st. brass, perhaps of Trajan. Obv: bust of Emperor. Rev: standing figure within a temple, two Victories holding globe within a pediment. Found at Potterne. Mr. A. Martin. 8/59/370.

Large collection of AR and AE coins in a cabinet. The coins are reputed to have come from the Romano-British settlement at Wanborough (*Durocornovium*). Purchased from the collections of the late A. D. Passmore at a sale held at Sotheby's on 23 April 1959. 7/59/357.

ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY, 1959

BOOKS BOUGHT

Along the Road to Frome. C. Hollis. Harrap 1958. Autobiography of the Member for Devizes from 1945-1955.

Register of Roger Martival, Bishop of Salisbury 1315-1330. Canterbury & York Society. O.U.P. 1959.

Visitations of Dorset 1623; Gloucester 1623 & 1682-3; Somerset 1623. Harleian Society.

Medieval Cartularies of Great Britain. G. R. C. Davies. Longmans: 1958. Contains much useful information about lands in Wiltshire belonging to the monasteries.

Three Valuation Books from the Devizes area.

H. de N. Lucas

Coinage of Ancient Britain. R. P. Mack. Spink & Son. 1953.

C. E. Blunt

Coins of the Ancient Britons. J. Evans. Russell Smith. 1864.

C. E. Blunt

Archaeologia. Volume 97.

Dr. T. R. Thomson

Handbook of Geological Terms. D. Page. Blackwoods. 1859.

P. Pickering

Wiltshire Forefathers: Countess Badeni. 1959. Contains an interesting account of the history of many North Wilts villages.

Author

BOOKS PRESENTED

British Knapweeds.

Donor

Marsden-Jones & Turrill. Ray Society. 1954.

Authors

PAMPHLETS BOUGHT

- Letter to the Inhabitants of Warminster.*
John Owen. 1845. Concerns a dispute
between the Reverend Arthur Fane,
Vicar of Warminster, and John Owen the
Presbyterian Minister, over the burial of
a Unitarian in the churchyard.
- Self-annihilation*, by John Clark. Trowbridge.
1784. Sermon preached at the funeral
of Mrs. Joanna Turner.
- Infallible Remedies for the perfect cure.*
Edward Goldney. 1770.
- Observations on Milling Broad and Narrow
Cloth.* R. Brooks. 1743. Richard
Brooks of Devizes was the inventor of an
instrument called a Regulator.
- Charter of William III for incorporating the
Clothiers and Weavers of Wilton.* Collins.
Salisbury. 1756.

PAMPHLETS ETC., PRESENTED Donor

- Hindon Highway* R. E. Lever
accounts. 1875.
- Annotated map of Pop-
plechurch area.* Dr. T. R. Thomson
- Articles of the East
Knyle Benefit Soc-
iety.* 1870. R. D. Owen
- Two plans of earth-
works at Kent End,
Ashton Keynes.* G. M. Knocker
- Anglo-Saxon penny
coinage of Wessex* Author
C. E. Blunt.
- Presidential address to
Royal Numismatic
Society.* 1958. C. E. Blunt
- Various papers on Gro-
veley and Stone-
henge.* V. S. Manley

- P.R.O. copy of Court* E. Kedward
*Roll of Littleton
Drew, 38 Henry VI.*
- Report on an investi-
gation into the origin-
al course of the River
Avon at Melksham.* P. Hutchings
- Notes on Saxon Bound-
aries of Liddington
and Wanborough.* Dr. T. R. Thomson
- Preshute, St. George's* E. G. Kempson
Church. Kempson
& Lane. 1959.
- A relation of the death
of Primitive Perse-
cutors.* Bishop Bur-
net. 1713. K. H. Rogers
- Chartism in Somerset* Author
and Wiltshire. R. B.
Pugh. 1959.
- Some sidelights on* Author
*Recusancy finance
under Charles II.* J. A.
Williams. 1959.

PHOTOGRAPHS PRESENTED Donor

- Collection of photo- F. Berrymore
graphs of Avebury.
- Photographs of Devizes A. J. Salmon
and an engraving of
the Reverend R.
Elliott, 1803-53.
(Elliott ran a school
in what is now the
Society's Museum).
- Photographs of Topo- N. U. Grudgings
graphical and Nat-
ural History interest.

RECORDS BRANCH

REPORT ON THE PERIOD 1957-1960

The following volumes have been issued since
the end of 1956:

- Vol. for 1957 (XIII): *Progress Notes of Warden
Woodward for the Wiltshire Estates of New
College, Oxford, 1659-75*, edited by R. L.
Rickard, M.A.
- Vol. for 1958 (XIV): *Accounts and Surveys of the
Wiltshire Lands of Adam de Stratton*, edited
by M. W. Farr, M.A.
- Vol. for 1959 (XV): *Tradesmen in Early Stuart
Wiltshire*, edited by N. J. Williams, M.A.,
D.Phil. F.S.A.

The volumes for 1960 and 1961 are both in the
press.

In 1957 the membership of the Branch reached
its highest level with 161 personal and 74 institu-
tional members, a total of 235. Since then the
number of personal members has dropped to
136, which with 75 institutions brings the
total membership to 211.

It is very satisfactory to note, on the financial
side, that the covenant scheme, in abeyance
since 1955, owing to the Inland Revenue's un-
willingness to meet the Branch's claims, began
to operate again in 1959, the Revenue authorities

having reconsidered the position. Also in 1959 Swindon Corporation generously increased its annual grant from £125 to £175. Important donations include a grant of £350 from the Marc Fitch Fund for Vol. XIV, and £20 and £5 respectively from W. D. & H. O. Wills, Ltd. and Edward Ringer & Biggs, Ltd., for Vol. XV. As from 1960 the annual subscription to the Branch becomes £2, an advance directly due to the increased cost of printing.

The following is a record of the venues of the

Annual Meeting of the Branch and of the papers read:

1957 Salisbury Museum: 'Peter le Neve, a Seventeenth Century Keeper of Public Records' (N. J. Williams, M.A., D.Phil.).

1958 Adderley Library, Marlborough College: 'Wiltshire Prisons' (R. B. Pugh, M.A., F.S.A.)

1959 The Museum, Devizes: 'Twenty-one Years of the Records Branch' (R. B. Pugh).

1960 St. Catherine's Hall, Chippenham: 'Life in a Tudor Palace' (N. J. Williams).

ACCESSIONS TO THE COUNTY RECORD OFFICE 1959

Probate. The probate records of the Archdeaconry Court of the Sub-Dean of Salisbury, 1581-1858, and of the Salisbury peculiar jurisdictions, 1545-1858.

Borough. Calne Borough Records: volume of extracts from the Town Book of the borough, 1603-1793, briefs and petitions about elections, 1705-1734, miscellaneous material relating to guild stewards and electoral rights, 1588-1790.

Borough Court of Quarter Sessions. Devizes: summary convictions and recognizances from 1842, jury lists and calendars of prisoners from 1891, etc.

Parish. Amesbury, council minutes, etc., from 1894; Biddestone, council minutes from 1894; Bishopstone (near Salisbury), council minutes from 1905, etc.; Britford, council minutes from 1894; Bromham, tithe documents, 1814-58; Collingbourne Ducis, overseers' disbursements from 1770, rate books from 1836; council minutes from 1897; Everleigh, miscellaneous council records from 1895; Melksham Without, council minutes from 1894, etc.; Mere, miscellaneous records from 1689, including night watch book, 1831, and silk girls' book, 1830-2; South Wraxall, council minutes from 1894, etc.; and Wilcot, council minutes from 1894, etc.

Charity. Volume of records concerning an unidentified charity centred upon Devizes, 1795-1809.

School. Bratton British school log-book, 1863-1899.

Family Estate and Manorial. Sir Philip Antrobus, Bt., M.C. Eight hundred and thirty-one documents comprising the manorial records, deeds (mainly leases), estate and other documents of manors and estates in Amesbury, 13th-19th centuries.

Bristol Corporation. File of manorial court papers, Tilshead, 1598-1616.

D. Cottrell, Esq.: Deeds, Avebury Trusloe and Beckhampton, 1561-1823.

Dorset Record Office. Volume of Ley Family notes including section on John Ley's voyages, early 17th cent.

Knowle Hospital Management Committee. Deeds relating to Berwick St. John, Coombe Bissett, Combe and Harnham, Fisherton Anger, Highworth, New Sarum, and the manor of Wexcombe, 1723-1838, personalty deeds, 1830-47, estate papers, 1822-1868 and personal documents, relating mainly to the families of Finch and Tanner, 1757-1907. J. B. Kidston, Esq. Bonham family: Deeds, Hazelbury, East Knoyle, and Mere, 1578-1853; map, Hazelbury, Box and Ditteridge manors, 1626.

Messrs. Ormond and Fullalove. Survey, farms belonging to G. T. B. Turner, Esq., in Penleigh (Wilts), Beckington (Somerset), and Stratton St. Margaret (Wilts), with maps, finely drawn on skin by A. Crocker, 1793.

Messrs. Osborne, Ward, Vassall, Abbot & Co. About 350 documents, mainly deeds, relating to the estates of the families of Cresswell of Pinkney Park, Wilts., Deverell of Rodney House, Clifton, Bristol, and Smith of Ashton Court, Long Ashton, Somerset, 1544-1881, in Bristol, Colerne, Great Sherston, Ledbury (Herefordshire), Ogbourne St. Andrew and Ireland.

Col. N. F. Penruddocke. Penruddocke family of Compton Chamberlayne, deeds, 1565-1868; manorial records, 1597-1858; mercantile records, 1747-59; letters and papers concerning the rising in the West (Col. John Penruddocke), 1655.

Lt.-Col. Sir Michael Peto, Bt. Approximately

130 deeds relating to the manor of Iford, the manor of Rowley *alias* Wittenham and property in Farleigh Hungerford, Westwood and Freshford, 1700-1858, and some probate documents, 1740-1797.

Royal Institute of British Architects. Set of thirty-two drawings from the office of William Burn, concerning Spye Park, 1864-71.

Sir Anthony Rumbold, Bt. About 370 deeds, from 1366, and other documents of the Bennett family archives, with private papers of Prince Rupert, including holograph letters of Charles I and others, 1643-72, records of commissioners for subsidies mid.-16th cent.-1696, legal records mainly of the 17th cent., records of the Labourers' Revolt, 1830, some State Papers, 1628-73, and personal papers, 1519-c. 1906.

R. E. Sandell, Esq. Two volumes, courts of survey, manors of the Hungerford estate, c. 1580-1613.

A. G. Southby, Esq. Southby family of South Marston: Deeds, 1596-1781; estate papers, 1624-c. 1851.

Dr. E. Spielmann. Corderoy family: deed book, Collingbournes and Chute, late 15th cent. Trust Houses Ltd. Customs of Corsham manor, 1827.

William George's Sons, Ltd. Survey and valuation, Box, Ashley and Ditteridge, 1793-4.

Messrs. Winterbotham, Ball & Gadsden. About 80 deeds, mainly 19th cent., relating to Brinkworth, Crudwell, Hampstead, Limerick, Oaksey and Wootton Bassett; a court book of the manor of Purton, 1736-1740; and some estate records and household accounts, 19th cent.

N. Yeatman-Biggs, Esq. Topp and Biggs families of Stockton: deeds, estate records and private papers, 1638-1915.

Deeds. For many places in Wiltshire, in particular Bolehyde in Kingston St. Michael, 1549-1757; Bradford-on-Avon, 1786-1848; Broad Chalke, 1599-1828; Melksham, 1759-1853; Ridge in Chilmark, 1720-1837; Trowbridge, 1716-1886; and Wilton, 1695-1804.

Business.

Bristol Corporation. Documents relating to the Calne Gas and Coke Co., 1835-60.

Business Archives Council. Papers relating to the business house of Hindley of Mere, trading with Hamburg, Lisbon, St. Petersburg and elsewhere, including parts of letter-books, parts of account books, some letters and personal papers, 1760-1832.

G. T. O. Hobbs, Esq. Carpenter's account books N.T. & G. T. Hobbs, North Bradley, 1858-c. 1933.

Miss R. V. Savage. Daily order book of Messrs. Kemp and Hewitt, woollen cloth manufacturers, 1891-93.

G. Woodman, Esq. Counterfoil books, steamship tickets, Liverpool—New York, etc., late 19th century.

Societies.

S. Soames, Esq.: Marlborough Armed Association papers, 1798-1802.

British and Foreign Bible Society, Trowbridge Auxiliary Branch, minutes 1852-1924.

A.R.P. G. H. Hillier, Esq., Atworth warden's minutes, etc., 1939-41.

Solicitor's Deposit. Messrs. Mullings, Ellett & Co., Cirencester. North Wiltshire material: deeds, from 1589; manorial records, Minety, 1711-1925, and others; parliamentary elections in Cricklade, 1831-1889; inclosure and tithe proceedings, 18th and 19th cents.; education, late 17th cent.-1901; parish, 1741-1889; business, 1770-1885; estate, 1718-1918, etc.

Miscellaneous.

Trowbridge, Melksham and District Water Board. Petition of the inhabitants of Trowbridge to the House of Lords for a water supply, 1873.

Dr. Romana Bartelot. A collection of records including two pages of ordinances drawn up for the better regulation of the gild of cordwainers, tanners and glovers of Devizes, mid. 16th cent.; sheets from a court book, manors of Abingdon Court and Melksham Canonicorum, 1498-1512; deeds relating to Aldbourne, 1606-1632; receipts 1714, 1753, and articles of agreement 1746. Executors of the late W. H. Yeatman-Biggs, Esq. Two manuscript volumes on the history of Stockton, 1847-1952; illustrated by wash drawings and photographs, by Thomas Miles M.A. and W. H. Yeatman-Biggs.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1959

The Annual General Meeting of the Society for 1959 was held in the Great Hall of Littlecote Manor, by kind permission of Major George Wills, at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 26 September, 1959. There were well over 100 persons present; a number of these were members' guests. The President, Mr. E. C. Barnes, was in the Chair.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting for 1958 were read by the Hon. Secretary and confirmed. The Hon. Treasurer then presented his accounts and balance sheet for 1958. He drew attention to the very satisfactory solution of the long standing question about the recovery of Income Tax on the Covenants given by members. Such recovery had now become possible and the sum of £470 9s. 6d. had been already paid to the Society in respect of the years 1953-6. A similar sum should be recovered for the period 1956-9. Entrance fees had gone up by £25 but this source of income had now ceased with the increase in membership fees. Subscriptions showed an increase of £12, based on the old subscription rate of £1 a year. An encouraging feature was the increase of almost £60 in receipts from dividends. The amount received for admissions to the Museum, however, was down by £30 and the receipts from the sale of books were also reduced. Outing profits, too, were not so large as in 1957.

On the expenditure side there was a reduction in salaries, as there was no longer an Assistant Curator. Other items of expenditure remained as before. The Committee was continuing with the policy of putting the Museum into a first class state of repair and consequently considerable amounts had to be spent on the buildings.

The Hon. Treasurer then turned to the Balance Sheet. On the liabilities side he pointed out that the overdraft at the Bank of some £800 at the end of 1958 had been largely liquidated. On the assets side no revaluation had been made of the freehold properties or of the Society's investments. The total amount expended by the Society on the Bronze Age Room and not yet recovered amounted to some £758 7s. 4d. as shown in the item Sundry Debtors.

With the introduction of the new rate of subscription and the continued support of the Wiltshire County Council the Hon. Treasurer believed the Society could look forward with confidence to giving members real value for their subscriptions.

The Accounts and the Balance Sheet were then adopted. Reports on various other aspects of the Society's activities were then made as usual by the Librarian, the Curator, the Secretary of the Archaeology Sub-Committee, the Secretary of the Natural History Section and the Editor of the *Magazine*. The report of the Secretary of the Natural History section is reproduced on p. 430; information similar to that given in other reports will be found in the article on Excavation and Fieldwork in 1959, (p. 391) in the Curator's report (p. 419) and the list of Accessions to the Library (p. 423).

The Society next turned to the election of officers. The Committee, under Rule X, put forward the following names:—

Hon. Secretary	... Mr. A. M. Hankin, C.M.G.
Hon. Treasurer	... Mr. F. W. C. Merritt
Hon. Auditor	... Mr. J. Brookfield
Hon. Librarian	... Mr. R. E. Sandell
Hon. Editor	... Mr. E. E. Sabben-Clare assisted by Mr. O. Meyrick and Mr. J. M. Prest

Hon. Meetings
Secretary ... Mr. R. W. H. Willoughby

To fill vacancies on the Committee:—

Miss J. De L. Mann
Mr. R. W. H. Willoughby
All the above were elected.

This concluded the business part of the meeting. While it had been going on, guests of members had been shown round the house in parties. Members were now free to join them and did so in considerable numbers, finishing their tour at the kitchen where a buffet tea was served. It was a most enjoyable afternoon and the President expressed the Society's most grateful thanks to Major George Wills and to all those at Littlecote Manor who had helped with the tour of the house and the other arrangements for their kindness and hospitality.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Jargon. I have recently been reading Professor Grahame Clark's fine paper on the late O. G. S. Crawford (from the *Proceedings of the British Academy*, Volume xlv, price 2s. 6d.).

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The author describes Crawford's success in launching the journal *Antiquity* and summarises the type of articles thought suitable for it as follows:—

'Everything that threw light on the unwritten history of mankind was acceptable, provided it was written in such a way as to be readily apprehended by any reasonably well-educated person.'

I am convinced that Crawford's policy was right and that a similar policy should be followed by County Magazines like ours. Such Magazines can only continue to flourish if they publish the results of local research. But they can also only flourish if they have plenty of members; and even the most loyal of members can not be expected to read the results of such research unless they are presented in a clear and interesting form. It is a commonplace that archaeology in its great progress has acquired a specialised vocabulary of its own and that sometimes only a technical term will give an author's meaning concisely and with accuracy. That is no reason for the preference some archaeologists appear to show in their writing for jargon over plain English; too often our appetite for reading about finds of interest is blunted by overmuch technical stodge.

* * * * *

New Books. After that, it is a delight to turn to three new books written with the authority of the expert but 'readily apprehended by any reasonably well-educated person.' They are Stuart Piggott's *Approach to Archaeology*, which will be reviewed in our next issue, Nicholas Thomas' *Guide to Prehistoric England*, reviewed on p. 413, and R. J. C. Atkinson's *Stonehenge*. The last book was reviewed in *W.A.M.*, CCVI (1958), pp. 86-7 but has now appeared in a Pelican edition at 5s. I hope our contributors—and may they be many!—will take them as their models.

* * * * *

There are several other new publications to which I should like to draw readers' attention. First there is the *Guide to the Records in the Custody of the Clerk of the Peace for Wiltshire*, published in 1959 by the Wiltshire County Council. This was compiled by Maurice Rathbone, the County Archivist, and has a foreword by P. A. Selborne Stringer, Clerk of the County Council. The price is 5s. Next there is a booklet illustrating objects acquired in the Salisbury Museum during the last hundred years. It is entitled *Salisbury Museum 1860-1960 The Col-*

lections Illustrated and costs 5s. The publishers are the Salisbury Museum and the printers Bennett Brothers of Salisbury. Then there are the last two Records Branch publications namely *Accounts and Surveys of the Wiltshire Lands of Adam de Stratton*, edited by M. W. Farr (1959) and *Tradesmen in Early Stuart Wiltshire*, edited by N. J. Williams (1960). The price of each volume to members is £2; to non-members the price is 45s. Dr. Williams is also bringing out a book on palaces entitled *The Royal Residences of Great Britain*. It will be illustrated and is due to appear in October. The price will be about 25s. and the publishers Barrie & Rockliff. I hope to have all these reviewed in our next number.

* * * * *

Erratum. As I already have said in the *Bulletin*, the Plate to illustrate Dr. Shaw Mellor's note on p. 240 of *W.A.M.* lvii (1959) was inadvertently reproduced upside-down. My apologies to the author.

* * * * *

The opening of the Bronze Age Room at the Museum, Devizes. The Bronze Age room housing the famous Stourhead collection was opened by Professor Stuart Piggott on Saturday 21 May 1960. Details will be given by the Curator in his next report but readers might meanwhile like to read the text of Professor Piggott's opening speech, which he has kindly made available to us. The Professor addressed his audience before lunch in the Town Hall and spoke as follows:—

When invited to perform the ceremony of opening the new Bronze Age Room I was both flattered and touched. I have long held the Museum of the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society not only in archaeological esteem, but in personal affection. I have known it for over 30 years as a student—at my first visit very young and very ignorant; to-day not so young but still conscious of my ignorance and, thank God, still a student. Even if I did not (as irreverent undergraduate notes sometimes hint) know Sir Richard Colt Hoare and Mr. William Cunnington personally, I did at least know, and was notably befriended by, the latter-day Cunningtons—B. H., M. E. and R. H.—in our Museum here.

But of course to-day, with the new display of the Bronze Age collections foremost in our minds, it is essentially Colt Hoare and William Cunnington the First that we celebrate. How could they have known, as they dug their barrows and made their notes, and engaged Mr. Crocker to do the drawings, that they were making a contribution to the scholarship of antiquity that would endure the erosion of the centuries and attain international fame?

For let us remember that the Bronze Age collections in our Museum—I hope you won't mind my saying 'our', but I like to remember that it is the Museum of a Society of which I am proud to be a member—that these collections are not only something remarkable in Wiltshire, in Wessex, in England, but throughout the world of archaeological learning. This is one of the few provincial collections in the country that contains material that is fundamental to our understanding of the formative period around 1500 B.C. not only in Wiltshire, but in the Old World at large.

Hoare and Cunnington: *si monumentum requiris*—I was going to add *circumspice* but recall that we are physically unable to do so at the moment. They made the discoveries; Hoare published them and preserved them in their associated groups with an accuracy as commendable as it was uncommon at his date. The society continued in the task of conservation and protection and ever moving with the times, has seen to it that its collections are displayed in terms of modern standards of presentation. I saw something of this from the inside and know what devoted work went into the achievement we can now appreciate; Mr. Nicholas Thomas and Mr. Kenneth Annable, Mr. Sandell and the late Mr. C. W. Pugh, Mr. and Mrs. Cole—they were all in it, up to the neck, beavering away—and of course enjoying every moment of it even though they did grumble hideously from time to time. And they weren't the only ones, and only time prevents me mentioning more names.

In the Bronze Age collections as with the Museum collections at large, the Society took over a responsibility to scholarship and to public instruction that can never have been visualized at its founding a century and more ago. It not only accepted the responsibility, but it took up the challenge of adapting its guardianship in terms of the changing climate of thought. New demands are now made on museums, undreamed of in those days when Kilvert was one of our members. Scholars on the one hand and the public on the other, expect a New Deal. And in Devizes they are getting it, with the newly arranged Bronze Age room as another instalment.

Ladies and gentlemen, I declare the Bronze Age room opened, even if *in absentia*.

* * * * *

Salisbury Museum centenary celebrations. The opening of the Bronze Age Room at Devizes was followed by celebrations of Salisbury Museum's centenary on 25 May, 1960.

That evening about two hundred and seventy Members and guests were received by the President, Lord Pembroke. The Mayor and

Mayoress of Salisbury (Councillor and Mrs. Kidwell) and Mr. Stevens, Chairman of the Wiltshire County Council, were also present. When everyone had arrived and sherry had been drunk, a concert arranged by Mr. E. Woodward was given in the Stevens Lecture Theatre. Apart from a few 17th century madrigals, this was a concert of 18th century music, some of which was played on the Museum's own instruments; those used were a violin by Sexton made in 1744, another by Benjamin Banks of Salisbury in 1783 and a 'cello from Teffont Ewyas Church by Dearlove of Leeds in about 1814.

Before opening the exhibition of recent fieldwork in the Salisbury area, arranged in the Blackmore Museum by Mr. J. W. G. Musty and his volunteers, Professor Stuart Piggott gave the centenary address. He mentioned the great debt owed to the Blackmore and Stevens families in building up the Museum, not forgetting Mrs. Frank Stevens, whom everyone was so pleased to see present and enjoying the occasion. Professor Piggott stressed the need to look forward as well as back at centenaries. He felt that an assistant curator and a fully qualified technical assistant were minimum additional requirements in the Museum and that a budget of £3,000 a year would be more realistic than the present.

The exhibition was then opened and inspected and the *soiree* finished after coffee and further refreshments prepared by Miss Dawes and a number of kind helpers.

The evening was described on the following day in the B.B.C.'s "Round up" by Vivian Ogilvie, one of the guests.

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Ministry of Works Grant. The Ministry of Works have generously contributed to the cost of production of the articles in this issue by Faith Vatcher and Messrs. J. W. G. Musty and P. A. Rahtz. The Society is most grateful for this assistance

NATURAL HISTORY SECTION
HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT (A.G.M., 1959)

The Natural History Section membership has remained steady during the past year and has reached a total of 242, of which 114 are full members of the Society, an overall increase of six.

A programme of some 40 meetings, most of them field meetings, covering a wide range of interest and territory, was planned by Miss B. Gillam, Hon. Meetings Secretary, and will not be completed until November. Members who attend these meetings constantly express their pleasure in the opportunities for personal observation, afforded by their leaders. We are very indebted to Miss Gillam for all she does to make these meetings such an important and enjoyable element in our activities.

The sales of Mr. J. D. Grose's *Flora of Wiltshire* have now cleared the cost of publication and copies have been sold to France, Belgium, Norway, Germany and one copy even to Moscow. (Total 418 copies.)

Mr. L. G. Peirson's *Wiltshire Birds* was published by the Section early in the year. As members will remember, Mr. Peirson died before he could put the handlist in final form; thus completion fell upon Mrs. E. C. Barnes and we have her to thank for most of the work which went into the production of this useful little book. Some 250 copies have been sold but we need to sell another 200 to clear the cost of publication.

At the request of the Committee, Dr. Chas. de Worms, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.E.S., has put in hand the preparation of a check-list of Wiltshire Lepidoptera and it is hoped that it will be possible to finance this publication also, in due course.

C. SECCOMBE HETT, Hon. Secretary.

FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES, 1959.

Report by the the Hon. Meetings Secretary, BEATRICE GILLAM.

A programme of forty meetings was arranged for 1959. The average attendance did not reach the high total of 1958 but was similar to that of previous years. Several very wet spring meetings and the uncomfortably high temperature and humidity of several days in the long dry summer were responsible for this lower figure.

During the year ornithology took us to Ramsbury Manor Lake for the first time where over 500 Mallard were gathered; to Coate Water in late summer where a few waders on passage were feeding on the shores of the half-empty lake; to Sandridge Vale and Stert Valley to hear evening bird-song and to the Ridgeway above Avebury for a winter walk when thirty species of birds were identified including Stonechats and a Sparrow Hawk.

Botanical meetings were well scattered over the county from Conkwell Wood in the West to Everleigh Ashes in the East, and from Pepperbox Hill and Clarendon in the South to Lacock and Kellaways in the North, with Imber in the centre. Everleigh Ashes produced three plants growing in unusual habitats, *Lotus uliginosus*, *Agrostis palustris* and *Symphytum officinale* in addition to several other uncommon species. At Pepperbox Hill we joined members of the Salisbury and District Field Club in their survey of the flora of the area for Nature Conservancy. On an uncultivated area beside the Lacock gravel pits, shortly to be bull-dozed, a solitary plant of *Bupleurum rotundifolium* caused much excitement, while at the Sahara Sand Pits the magnificent specimens of *Coronilla varia* and the white variety of *Epilobium hirsutum* were of particular interest and beauty.

Two contrasting geological studies were carried out. One, in torrential rain, to seek out and find explanations for the dry valleys and springs of Salisbury Plain, and the other, in blazing sunshine, to make a detailed investigation of a section of the bank of the River Avon at Kellaways and discern the variation of flora with the varying type of soil.

A damp evening resulted in moths being scarce when a mercury vapour lamp was set up in Mrs. Seccombe Hett's garden at Box, though about forty species had been identified when the meeting broke up in the small hours of the morning.

The long dry summer resulted in a very poor crop of fungi. Only the very poisonous *Amanita Phalloides* was found in good condition at our meeting in Savernake Forest in October.

All-day coach excursions to the coast were very popular. Bridgewater Bay was visited on 1st February to observe birds in a winter coastal habitat. Many members had their first sight of Godwits, Grey Plover, Turnstones, Dunlin and White-fronted Geese on a bright cold day. Another memorable day was spent in June on the cliffs of Portland Bill and on the pebbles of the Chesil Beach. Mr. Goldstraw showed us some of the varieties of these areas including the lovely Yellow Horned-poppy (*Glaucium flavum*). Of the many birds seen a Little Gull, Terns and a colony of breeding Fulmars were outstanding.

We made two visits to neighbouring counties by kind invitation of the North Gloucestershire Natural History Society and the Bath Natural History Society respectively. The former was to the River Severn at Frampton in April; birds were unusually scarce but we were fortunate to see a Garganey and a Sanderling. The latter visit was to Sedgemoor when the acid-loving flora was the principal study.

Only one indoor meeting was arranged this year. This was an illustrated talk given by Mr. J. H. Savory entitled "The Caves of Mendip". Some of the slides were remarkable. Taken many years ago by magnesium flash they clearly indicated the hazards of pot-holing.

Members are very fortunate to be invited to all the winter lectures arranged by the Bath Natural History Society and more have taken advantage of this generous invitation during 1959. A large number also attended the excellent film show given to Marlborough College Natural History Society by Mr. H. G. Hurrell to which we were kindly invited. His delightful shots of tame otter cubs and remarkable sequences of wild badgers on Dartmoor were a great treat.

The thirteenth Annual General Meeting of the Section was held at the Lackham School of Agriculture on 4th July. Following the formal business Mr. Charles Floyd gave a stimulating account of the aims and work of Nature Conservancy and The Council for Nature. After a walk through Lackham Woods and along the bank of the River Avon the Museum of Agricultural Implements was visited. Many of the exhibits are on permanent loan by the Parent Society.

THE WEATHER OF 1959.

By R. A. U. JENNINGS.

We shall always remember the lovely summer, which may be fairly counted among the "classics." The evidence of the last hundred years shews that we may expect more memorable summers than we think. Each man will have his own criteria of pleasantness. No summer has had a higher mean temperature than 1947: 1911 had the hottest days, the lowest rainfall and the most sunshine: 1868, 1887, 1893, 1899, 1911, 1921, 1933, 1934, 1940, 1949 and 1959 were all remarkable. For all-round virtue perhaps 1899 and 1959 are the winners, though those of us who are salamanders would prefer 1911 and 1947. At any rate 1959 got into its stride in May, and rejoiced our hearts and browned our faces until the second week in October: and it gave us the driest and sunniest September on record.

The rest of the year had no unusual features except for December's rain.

In the summary R means Rainfall; T. Temperature; S. Sunshine; + means excess; — means deficiency; O means nearly normal.

	R.	T.	S.	
Jan.	+	—	++	Icy, then wet.
Feb.	— —	O	+	Nearly the driest on record.
March	+	+	O	Normal.
April	+	+	+	A good growing month.
May	—	+	+	} All beautiful.
June	O	+	+	
July	—	O	++	
Aug.	—	O	++	
Sept.	— —	+	++	
Oct.	—	+	+	Dry and sunny.
Nov.	+	+	+	Mild and pleasant.
Dec.	+	+	+	Exceptionally wet.
1959	+	+	++	Memorably happy.

WILTSHIRE BIRD NOTES FOR 1959

Recorders: RUTH G. BARNES, GEOFFREY L. BOYLE AND R. L. VERNON

Contributors:

Dr. J. S. Ash	...	...	J.S.A.	Marlborough College N.H. Society	M.C.
David Barnes	...	...	D.G.B.	F. H. Maundrell	F.H.M.
Mrs. Barnes	...	...	R.G.B.	Owen Meyrick	O.M.
Geoffrey L. Boyle	...	...	G.L.B.	Mrs. Dorothy Newbery	D.N.
C. J. Bridgman	...	...	C.J.B.	R. Norman	R.N.
J. L. R. Burden	...	...	J.L.R.B.	J.C.C. Oliver	J.C.C.O.
Miss Butterworth	...	...	M.B.	G. G. Oxborrow	G.G.O.
John Buxton	...	...	E.J.M.B.	Mrs. Oscar Peall	D.P.
Howard J. Clase	...	...	H.J.C.	Oscar Peall	O.M.P.
G. W. Collett	...	...	G.W.C.	C. M. R. Pitman	C.M.R.P.
Major W. M. Congreve	...	...	W.M.C.	R. H. Poulding	R.H.P.
Christopher Cutforth	...	...	C.A.C.	Brigadier J. R. I. Platt	J.R.I.P.
H. W. J. Cuss	...	...	H.W.J.C.	Countess of Radnor	I.R.
F. P. Errington	...	...	F.P.E.	Mrs. Cyril Rice	M.G.R.
Mrs. E. V. Forbes	...	...	E.V.F.	Peter Roberts	P.R.
George H. Forster	...	...	G.H.F.	Brigadier Searight	E.E.G.L.S.
Miss M. C. Foster	...	...	M.C.F.	Mrs. Seccombe Hett...	C.S.H.
D. W. Free	...	...	D.W.F.	A. Smith	A.S.
David Fry	...	...	D.E.F.	R. J. Spencer	R.J.S.
Miss Beatrice Gillam	...	...	B.G.	Col. J. K. Stanford	J.K.S.
Brigadier A. E. Hawkins	...	...	A.E.H.	B. M. Stratton	B.M.S.
G. W. Hemmings	...	...	G.W.H.	Miss E. M. Thouless	E.M.T.
Anthony Horner	...	...	A.G.H.	J. L. A. Tyler	J.L.A.T.
E. H. Jelly	...	...	E.H.J.	Dr. C. N. Vaisey	C.N.V.
Brian W. Jones	...	...	B.W.J.	R. L. Vernon	R.L.V.
E. L. Jones	...	...	E.L.J.	Geoffrey L. Webber	G.L.W.
W. P. Lawrence	...	...	W.P.L.	Miss E. M. Wright	E. M. W.
Mrs. Lawson	...	...	V.C.L.	Douglas Mann	D.M.
Julian Lawson	...	...	J.R.L.	Abbreviations used in the text:	
C. G. Lock	...	...	C.G.L.	Gravel Pits	G.P.
Miss Mary Luckham	...	...	M.K.L.	Sewage Farm	S.F.

Two species were added to the Wiltshire list in 1959. First, the Little Ringed Plover, which but for disturbance might have remained to breed, and secondly a female Bluethroat, a passage migrant, which kindly chose an observer's garden in which to pause and rest.

Three other species made their third appearance in the county: a sea duck, the Velvet Scoter, last seen here in 1889, arrived at Ashton Keynes after stormy weather; and two interesting waders, the Black-tailed Godwit and the Curlew Sandpiper, were also observed.

Other rare visitors were a pair of Snow Buntings at Liddington Castle, only the fourth record this century, while a less rare wanderer, a Puffin, appropriately billeted himself on the Royal Naval Test Squadron at Boscombe for his night's lodging.

Interesting and apparently new bird behaviour was first noticed when Great and Blue Tits were found roosting in the street lamps of Salisbury. Only once before, in 1943, have gulls roosted in Wiltshire but this year there was a small Autumn roost of Common Gulls on sandpit pools near Calne.

Water Rails were recorded more frequently than usual in autumn and winter, and unusually large flocks of Snipe were seen in the valleys of the Kennet and the Salisbury Avon, both early in the year and again in autumn and winter.

5. GREAT CRESTED GREBE. At Coate Water seven pairs were present, Mar. 29th (G.L.W.). Two females seen with young, May 3rd (M.C.F.). Due to very low water level one nest found high and dry, Apr. 26th, and subsequently several nests found in which eggs were lost or eaten (G.L.W., H.W.J.C.). Two pairs hatched young at Corsham Lake (G.W.H.) and also at Braydon Pond (R.G.B.). At Bowood Lake there were four pairs with 3, 3, 3 and 4 young on Sept. 13th (B.G.). A pair nested in early April at Westbury Ponds and hatched a second brood in first week of July (R.L.V., E.E.G.L.S.). A bird was sitting at Stourhead Lake, May 7th, and another at Fonthill Lake, May 14th (B.M.S.). A pair with young seen at Steeple Langford, June 25th (C.M.R.P.).

28. CORMORANT. Three at Longford, Jan. 18th (M.K.L.). Eleven on a tree at Shootend, Mar. 16th (H.J.C.) and over forty in a tree at Trafalgar in March (I.R.). On Britford water-meadows there were eight in a dead tree, Dec. 12th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

30. HERON. The number of occupied nests in heronries this year was as follows: Great Bradford Wood, 24 or 25 (R.J.S.); Leigh, 1 (E.J.M.B.); Bowood, 24 (G.L.B.); Conkwell Wood, all four nests occupied in 1958 were deserted this year (C.N.V.); Savernake Forest, 3 (M.C.); Trafalgar, 4 (P.R.); Boyton, 3 (J.R.I.P.); Longford, 2 or 3 (I.R.); Hurdcott, not reported.

A Heron ringed as nestling, 19.5.55 at Clairmarais: 50° 45' N. 2° 15' E. (Pas-de-Calais) France recovered dead 3.4.56 near Chippenham 51° 27' N. 2° 07' W. (cf *British Birds*, LII, p. 483).

38. BITTERN. One flushed at close quarters when shooting in Britford water-meadows, Sept. 15th, when ' woodcock-like colouring, ruff-like neck, dagger-like bill and trailing legs in flight ' were noted. It descended into reeds from which later in the day it was again flushed by a dog and this time winged its way slowly towards the Avon (C.A.C.).

45. MALLARD. Maximum numbers at Coate Water c. 800, Dec. 20th (G.L.W.) at Bowood 400+, Oct. 18th (B.G.), and at Ramsbury Manor Lake c. 500, Oct. 24th (R.J.S.). Several observers report successful breeding. Brood numbers high and death rate very low in Swindon area (G.L.W.).

46. TEAL. Maximum numbers at Coate Water in early part of year c. 200 (G.L.W., E.L.J.) and c. 350 in December (G.L.W.); 40—50 at Wilton Water, Oct. 18th (J.L.R.B.); and c. 100 at Clarendon Lake, Sept. 19th (D.E.F., A.J.H.). It is possible that a pair bred in Coate area as a drake was seen in May and June (M.C.F., G.L.W.) and a female with two young, July 26th (G.L.W.).

50. WIGEON. Maximum number at Coate Water c. 50, Feb. 22nd (M.C.F.); fifteen pairs at Braydon Pond, Mar. 15th (D.G.B.); and 40 at Clarendon Lake, Dec. 24th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

52. PINTAIL. One male at Lacock Gravel Pit, Dec. 15th (G.L.B.) and a male at Coate Water, Dec. 20th (G.L.W.).

53. SHOVELER. At Coate Water a male was seen in February, March, May and December (G.L.W.). At Braydon Pond three were present, Feb. 15th, and one, Mar. 15 (D.G.B.); seven on Dec. 4th and two Dec. 30th (R.G.B.). One on the Mill Pool, Maiden Bradley, June 20th and Aug. 9th (J.C.C.O.). A pair at Clarendon Lake, Feb. 28th, and a single bird, Aug. 26th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

55. SCAUP. A female was seen with Tufted Duck and Pochard on Chilton Foliat Broad Water, Jan. 24th. It was observed from a distance of 200 yards with 8×30 binoculars and telescope. ' The white patch round the bill was quite broad and large and very noticeable. The shape of the head was slightly different, and the general build up was different to the female Tufted Duck it was near. It was slightly lighter in colour '. What appeared to be the same bird has been seen again at Ramsbury and Chilton Foliat at close quarters early in 1960 (V.C.L., J.R.L.).

56. TUFTED DUCK. A bird with three young on the River Kennet at Mildenhall, Aug. 2nd (O.M.). At least six pairs bred at Clarendon Lake and broods of ten and six were seen on June 20th, seven on June 24th, ten on July 27th and seven on Aug. 1st. All the young birds had left by the first week of September (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

Maximum numbers: 70 at Chilton Foliat, Jan. 24th (M.C.F.); 21 at Braydon Pond, Feb. 15th (D.G.B.); c. 30 at Shearwater, Jan. 24th and c.40 at Fonthill Lake, Jan. 19th (B.M.S.); 40—50 at Long-leat Lake, Apr. 11th (R.J.S.) and 30—35 at Wilton Water, Sept. 15th (J.L.R.B.).

57. POCHARD. Maximum numbers: at Longford, Feb. 8th, c. 26 (I.R.); Southampton Road G.P., Jan. 18th, 25 (M.K.L.); Shearwater, Jan 25th, c. 30 and Fonthill, Jan. 19th, c. 35 (B.M.S.); Braydon Pond, Dec. 30th, 18 (R.G.B.).

60. GOLDEN-EYE. One female at Coate Water, Feb. 22nd and Mar. 15th (G.L.W., M.C.F.).
62. VELVET SCOTER. On Dec. 12th a bird was watched for some time through a telescope, magnification 60, on a gravel pit near Ashton Keynes. It appeared wholly black with the exception of yellow bill and white mark at eye. No white was visible on wing when on water but eventually it took flight when large white patches were seen on trailing portion of wings. The bird landed on a nearby pit and was disturbed by fishermen and returned to the first pit (G.L.W.). This is the third record for the county, the last occurrence being in 1889.
73. SHELD-DUCK. An immature bird on the mud of a small nearly dried up pool at Bowood, Sept. 13th, where it stayed over a fortnight (B.G.).
Four Cape Sheld-Duck were seen on Wilton Water, Aug. 22nd, and three were shot there at dusk early in September. One was sent to the Wildfowl Trust from which it was learnt that the place from which they had escaped was unknown (V.C.L.).
- GREY GEESE. A skein of c.30 seen flying west over Ramsbury, Jan. 24th (O.M.). Two flying over Coate Water, Feb. 21st (G.L.B.). Two skeins comprising c. 30 birds flying due south at approximately 1,000 ft. over Boscombe Down, Apr. 6th (G.H.F.). A skein of c. 24 flying N.W. over Trowbridge, Oct. 1st (A.S.). Thirteen birds flying at great height to N.N.W. near Old Totterdown, Oct. 31st. They finally disappeared into high cloud. The Meteorological Office at Boscombe and Upavon estimated these clouds as 1/8 Cumulus 2,500ft. (other cloud formation was considerably higher) so that the geese were flying not lower than 2,500ft. (B.G.). A skein of eighteen flying west at West Ashton, Nov. 1st (A.S.).
76. WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE. A skein of c. 70 flying N.W. over Ramsbury, Jan. 24th (V.C.L., J.R.L.). A skein of c. 30 flying low at Longford, Feb. 1st (I.R.). A bird in first winter plumage on Coate Water, Feb. 15th (G.L.W.).
81. BARNACLE GOOSE. Five resting by the River Avon above Longford, Apr. 13th. There was no sign of rings on their legs (H.J.C.).
82. CANADA GOOSE. Six birds at Coate Water, Feb. 7th, and four in March (M.C.F., E.M.T. et al). A pair remained, Apr. 12th, and were seen investigating the reed beds, but as the water level dropped they appeared to lose interest and left (G.L.W.).
86. BEWICK'S SWAN. A single swan seen flying westwards at c. 150ft. near Chippenham, Dec. 13th. Smaller than Mute Swan, no wing-music heard when overhead. Four single-note calls heard (C.J.B.).
91. BUZZARD. A pair nesting in Hill Deverill area, May 20th, and a pair in a fir tree in Longleat Woods, May 28th. Also reports of other pairs in Longleat area (E.H.J.). A family party of two adults and three young seen near Longleat, Sept. 2nd (R.H.P.). Three to five pairs believed to have nested in Maiden Bradley area of which two were probably successful (J.C.C.O.). A pair nested near Etchinghampton (D.M.). Birds seen throughout summer, and nesting suspected, on War Department land between Bratton and Imber (E.E.G.L.S.). During autumn up to six birds seen on the Porton ranges (G.H.F.). A party of four over Clarendon Lake, Sept. 19th (D.E.F., A.G.H.). Parties of three were seen near E. Knoyle, Apr. 3rd (B.M.S.) and near Wilton Water, Oct. 18th (J.L.R.B.). Over thirty records were received from many observers throughout the year of single birds or pairs.
104. HOBBY. First seen in spring, May 16th (R.L.V.); May 22nd (E.J.M.B.). One pursued in flight by a pair of Swallows which were uttering a plaintive cry, July 7th (R.G.B.). Swallows and Martins flying to roost over Clarendon Lake were chased by a male bird, Sept. 14th, which caught and ate several on the wing (D.E.F., A.G.H.). No breeding records received this year.
105. PEREGRINE. One seen being mobbed by a crow at Foxham, Jan. 24th, and one flying low over Cole Park, May 4th (E.J.M.B.). One flying westwards at Britford, Apr. 15th (D.E.F., A.G.H.). One by Salisbury Cathedral spire in evening, Sept. 18th (M.K.L.). An adult at Ham Hill, Sept. 20th (G.L.W.).
107. MERLIN. Single birds seen flying across road near Little Toyd Down, Jan. 9th (J.S.A.) and flying fast round Tan Hill, Mar. 3rd (G.L.B.). One was pursuing a Skylark near Barbury Castle, Nov. 1st (G.L.W.).
110. KESTREL. Whilst watching a Barn Owl hunting at Walcot, Jan 31st, a Kestrel was heard calling rapidly and just as the Barn Owl dropped into grass a hen Kestrel stooped at the owl which then flew carrying a small vole or mouse. The Kestrel attacked again and this time struck the owl heavily forcing

it to the ground. For a few seconds there was a confused struggle on the ground, literally a *mêlée* of wings and tails, and the Kestrel flew off with at least part if not all of the rodent (G.L.W.).

Five young ringed in nest in elm at Durrington, June 6th. One was recovered at Bulford six weeks later having crashed into wire netting round a tennis court (P.R.). One ringed near Hockley, Hants, 14.6.58 found dying at Upper Upham, 8.1.59, 36 miles N.W.

115. RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE. Single birds near Keevil, Jan. 12th, and Stanton St. Bernard, Mar. 15th (G.L.B.). A pair near Cleverton, June 6th (R.G.B.). A pair with six chicks in July at Cole Park (E.J.M.B.), and a family of five on Roundway Hill, Aug. 6th (B.G.). A pair throughout the year on Porton Range (G.H.F.).

117. QUAIL. First heard Pitton, May 18th (C.M.R.P.); Aldbourne, May 27th (M.C.F.). A pair bred in grassland at Upper Woodford and chick found, June 13th (P.R.). Birds heard calling at the following places:—between Tottenham Wood and Coulston Hill, June 7th (M.G.R.); two, possibly three, on Walkers Hill (J.L.R.B.); two in barley at Odstock (P.R.); one in barley near Rockley, June 14th, and two in wheat at Corton Down, June 28th (R.J.S.); one in clover near High Post, July 4th to August (G.H.F.); one in cornfield above West Lavington, Aug. 9th (B.G.); and two pairs in cornland near Broad Hinton throughout the summer (H.W.J.C.). Last noted Oct. 5th, Clarendon (C.M.R.P.).

120. WATER RAIL. Single birds reported as follows:—at Clarendon Lake, Jan. 17th and at Britford, Feb. 28th (D.E.F., A.G.H.); at Coate Water, Jan. 18th (E.L.J.); in reed bed at Corsham Lake, Mar. 14th and Nov. 8th (G.W.H.), at Upper Woodford, Sept. 17th and Dec. 28th and at Britford, Sept. 26th (D.E.F., A.G.H.), at Mildenhall, Oct. 4th and at Axford, Oct. 25th (M.C.F.). Seen feeding in River Kennet below Ramsbury Manor Lake, Oct. 24th (B.G., R.J.S., A.S.). Also seen on various dates on River Kennet at Ramsbury (V.C.L.); by the Avon at Middle Woodford, Oct. 1st (H.J.C.); on the Bourne at Idmiston, Oct. 18th (F.P.E.), where it wintered (G.H.F.). A pair seen feeding at Wilton Water, Oct. 18th and one, Dec. 11th (J.L.R.B.). At least two calling in reeds at Harnham, Dec. 15th (H.J.C.). They are regular winter visitors to the Longford-Charlton water-meadows (I.R.).

Observers may be reminded that there is only one breeding record for the county—that for 1951, observations during the breeding season therefore will be valuable.

125. CORNCRAKE. Single birds seen from combine harvester near Lockeridge in barley, Aug. 19th, and in wheat, Aug. 24th (C.A.C.). Seen on 4 occasions in August at Charlton (G.G.L.).

126. MOORHEN. A nest with eggs found on May 24th in the middle of a bridle track, an unusual situation, in Spye Park at some distance from the nearest pond. The nest situated in a tuft of marsh grass was lined with oak leaves (R.J.S.). A nest near Ford, Apr. 29th, was built at a height of 20ft. in hanging intertwined stems of *Clematis vitalba* (C. J. B.).

127. COOT. Owing to falling water level most of the birds at Coate Water lost their eggs to rats and foxes (G.L.W.).

133. LAPWING. On downs near Wroughton on Jan. 4th a flock of c. 1,500 birds, and on Jan. 10th 3-4,000, flying south during the morning, and c. 2,000 flying west in afternoon (G.L.W.). On the same afternoon a very large weather movement to the S.W. with other species had been seen taking place on a broad front over the Faringdon-White Horse Hill area in Berkshire (E.L.J.). A return movement noted Jan. 18th when several thousand birds flew N.W. over Swindon during morning (G.L.W.), and at Liddington c. 1,500 an hour were seen flying N.E. along the escarpment (E.L.J.).

On Aug. 9th on Avebury Down there was much bickering and chasing to be seen in a large flock of immature birds. The 'vent-display' was observed and some birds were seen to throw scraps of material over their shoulders, probably a secondary sexual display (G.L.B.).

134. RINGED PLOVER. Coate Water observations: one, Jan. 10th; two, Aug. 5th; three, Aug. 9th; and nine, Aug. 16th (G.L.W.). One, Aug. 22nd (B.G., R.J.S.).

135. LITTLE RINGED PLOVER. At a gravel pit birds were present during spring and might have nested but for being continually disturbed (G.L.W. and D.E. Felstead). At Coate Water, Aug. 16th, two were watched at close range, one a juvenile the other adult. Both were seen in flight when absence of wing bar was noted and call-notes heard several times. Both still present, Aug. 18th (G.L.W.). Also at Coate Water ten were seen, sometimes at 15 yards range, feeding on the mud, Aug. 17th. The absence of wing bar and small size were noted (H.W.J.C.). These are the first records for Wiltshire.

140. **GOLDEN PLOVER.** On Jan. 18th in a movement of Lapwing c. 100 passed E. and N.E. over Coate Water (E.L.J.). Small numbers were seen at Broome S.F. in January (G.L.W.) and at Liddington in February (M.C.F.). Over 150 on Keevil airfield, Feb. 2nd, and smaller flocks until early March (R.L.V.). First seen on Old Sarum airfield in autumn, Aug. 22nd, and c.350 there, Dec. 28th (D.E.F., A.G.H.). c.50 on Colerne airfield Oct. 6th (C.J.B.), and c.70 at Odstock, Dec. 13th (F.P.E.).
145. **SNIPE.** On Jan. 4th on flooded meadows at Littlecote 106 were counted in 100 yards and many more seen in flocks; on Feb. 14th there were "literally hundreds" (M.C.F.). Large flocks were also seen there, Mar. 9th (V.C.L., J.R.L.). Far greater numbers than usual in the Longford and Charlton water-meadows in autumn, "they were in hundreds" (I.R.). Between 4-500 at Broome S.F., Nov. 8th and c.200, Nov. 15th (G.L.W.). About 500 in flooded meadows at Harnham, Dec. 9th, and c.200, Dec. 15th (H.J.C.). At Idmiston c.45, Dec. 30th (F.P.E.). These numbers are unusual and the large spring flocks would appear to negative the suggestion that the size of the autumn flocks was due to summer drought conditions elsewhere.
147. **JACK SNIPE** One shot on area of very dry burnt grass on top of downs on Imber Ranges, Jan 16th. No water within two miles, an unusual place to find one (J.R.I.P.). Three at Broome S.F., Jan 17th, and again on Nov. 8th and 15th (G.L.W.). At Coate three were seen (one caught in mist net) Mar. 15th, one seen on Apr. 12th and one, Nov. 7th (G.L.W.). One near Cricklade, Feb. 8th (H.W.J.C.) and one at Maiden Bradley on dates in March (J.C.C.O.).
148. **WOODCOCK.** Nest with four eggs found in Savernake Forest area, Apr. 11th (H.W.J.C.), and a roding bird seen there at dusk, May 30th (R.G.B.). Three roding in Clarendon Woods, May 30th, and four together, June 9th (D.E.F., A.G.H.). Four seen, including one roding, in Maiden Bradley, June to July (J.C.C.O.). Much more plentiful than usual on the downs round Imber and a number shot on the open hillside Nov./Dec. (J.R.I.P.).
150. **CURLEW.** A nest was cut out of mowing grass in Inglesham area but the young had hatched and made off with the parent birds (F.H.M.). A pair seen and breeding strongly suspected near Cricklade (H.W.J.C.). A nest with one cold egg partially covered by dead grass in Sandridge Vale, Apr. 4th, was found to have been destroyed without trace, May 4th (R.J.S.). Possibly four pairs between Etchilhampton and Wedhampton, Apr. 21st (R.J.S.). Breeding pairs reported from Etchilhampton area by D.M. At least two pairs in Swindon area May 3rd (G.L.W.). There appeared to be fewer breeding pairs in Keevil—Bulkington area than usual (R.L.V.). A pair near Sedgell in early April (B.M.S.). Calling heard in late April near Wroughton and Blunsdon (C.S.H.) and near Calne (B.G.). Many records outside the breeding season.
154. **BLACK-TAILED GODWIT.** On Jan. 10th, a party of seven were feeding in the late afternoon on a partly flooded meadow bordering the Thames above Cricklade (H.W.J.C.). A party of seven first seen in flight around a field near Harnham, then feeding, and later at rest in a damp grassy meadow, Apr. 3rd. Two were still present all the following day and were seen by several observers (H.J.C.). Full descriptive notes were received with both records. There are only two previous records for the county.
156. **GREEN SANDPIPER.** Seen by several observers in January, February, March, April, August, September and December.
159. **COMMON SANDPIPER.** Seen by many observers in April, May, June, July, and August.
161. **REDSHANK.** Three pairs near Etchilhampton, Apr. 5th (R.J.S.). A nest with two eggs near Cricklade, Apr. 12th (H.W.J.C.). Young birds seen at Chilton Foliat, May 27th (M.C.F.). A pair bred at Clarendon Lake, and young seen June 6th (D.E.F., A.G.H.). This bird is quite a common breeder in the river valleys to the east, west and south of Salisbury as well as in the Amesbury area (P.R.).
178. **DUNLIN.** At Coate Water the following numbers were seen—two, May 3rd (V.C.L., J.R.L.); two July 12th and Aug. 23 (G.L.W.), and one, Aug. 16th (G.L.W.) and Aug. 19th (H.W.J.C.).
179. **CURLEW SANDPIPER.** One clearly seen in flight with two Dunlin at Coate Water, Aug. 23rd, and call note heard (G.L.W.).
189. **STONE CURLEW.** First seen Apr. 1st (W.M.C.). A bird was flushed from two eggs, Apr. 26th, but on May 2nd the eggs were found to have been crushed by the wheels of a Crop Sprayer and the birds had disappeared. A second pair seen nearby, Apr. 28th, had two eggs on May 2nd. This field had not yet been sprayed and it is not known whether the nest survived. Both nests were on heavily stoned

ground in young wheat (R.J.S.). In another area three pairs bred; one nest in young barley contained two eggs, May 23rd, chipped eggs, May 28th, and young seen June 1st (D.E.F., A.G.H.). Reports also from this area from P.R. and B.G. A pair seen with young, May 16th (W.M.C.). A pair with one full grown young on a stony field, Aug. 8th (G. L. B.). Three birds seen of which two appeared to be sitting in a field of young wheat but no nest was found, Apr. 30th, and a bird was seen running as if from a nest in a flinty wheat field, May 18th, but no nest found (B.G.). Pairs seen in an area from April to October (G.H.F.). Last seen in autumn Oct. 17th (G.H.F.), and Oct. 18th (C.A.C.). Breeding localities not given for security but all were in different districts.

198. GREATER BLACK-BACKED GULL. Small numbers, under six, noted by six observers in January, November and December. Three feeding on a dead pheasant in stubble field at High Post, Dec. 28th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

199. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL. Seen at Coate Water in ones and twos during every month of the year (G.L.W.), and in other areas reported by many observers in every month *except* May, June and October. Fifty birds feeding in pasture near Etchilhampton, Mar. 30th (R.J.S.). A movement eastwards along the Bristol Avon at Seagry in ones and twos throughout the day, Aug. 9th (R.G.B.). Winter records as follows:—a party 20-25, mainly adults, near Westbury, Dec. 24th (R.H.P.); two at Bowood Dec. 12th (B.G.), and one at Chippenham, Dec. 22nd (G.W.C.). There were large parties as usual on Keevil aerodrome throughout the winter but as in 1957-58 they were usually outnumbered by the Common Gull (R.L.V.).

200. HERRING GULL. At Coate Water two adult, two immature birds, Jan. 18th (E.L.J.); one adult, Aug. 9th (G.L.W.) and one, Sept. 20th (M.C.F.); two adults at Brinkworth, May 15th, and a few days later (E.J.M.B.).

201. COMMON GULL. Small numbers roosted on Calne Sandpit pools during October and November and early in 1960 they numbered c.40 (B.W.J.). There has only been one previous record of roosting in Wiltshire, in 1943, when Common and Black-headed Gulls roosted for a time in the Kennet Valley above Marlborough.

208. BLACK-HEADED GULL. A flock of 200-250 over ploughs near Little Chalfield, Feb. 14th (R.J.S.). The largest flock seen at Lower Everleigh was c.200-300 of which about 2/3 were Black-headed and 1/3 Common Gulls (J.L.R.B.).

211. KITTIWAKE. An exhausted immature bird found at Charlton, Feb. 25th, had to be destroyed (C.G.L.).

212. BLACK TERN. Two flying up and down the Kennet and Avon Canal hawking dragonflies and other insects at a spot between Wilcot and Woodborough, May 22nd (A.E.H.). One seen flying for some time over Coate Water, May 26th (V.C.L., J.R.L.).

217/218. COMMON/ARCTIC TERNS. A bird seen at Coate Water, Apr. 26th, was most probably a Common Tern. The underparts pure white, wing tips fractionally shorter than tail when at rest. The bill was half red, half black (G.L.W.). One flying near Salisbury, Sept 23rd (G.G.O.).

230. PUFFIN. A bird in first winter plumage landed at Boscombe Down in an exhausted condition and spent the night at the R.N. Test Squadron, Nov. 22nd. It was released on the following day when the strong winds had dropped (G.H.F.).

232. STOCK DOVE. Bird disturbed from nest with eggs on the ground under a sheet of corrugated iron on Downs above West Lavington, Aug. 9th (B.G.). From 200-300 feeding on arable near Thingley, Feb. 28th (G.W.C.). Of pigeons shot near Upton Lovel about 40% were Stock Doves (J.R.I.P.)

235. TURTLE DOVE. First noted Apr. 26th, Axford (B.G.); May 1st, Collingbourne Kingston (J.L.R.B.); May 3rd, Granham Hill (D.P.) and Coate (M.C.F.). Last seen Sept. 16th, Lockeridge (C.A.C.); Sept. 26th, Cole Park (E.J.M.B.).

237. CUCKOO. First heard Apr. 12th, Spye Park (R.J.S.); Apr. 13th, Coate (M.C.F.); Ford (D.E.F., A.G.H.); and Devizes (E.M.W.); Apr. 14th, Seend Cleeve (R.J.S.) and E. Knoyle (B.M.S.). Several eggs and young found in Reed Warblers' nests at Coate Water (G.L.W.).

247. TAWNY OWL. One seen hunting bats near their roost at dusk at Cole Park from April to July (E.J.M.B.). The Handbook does not mention bats among the prey of the Tawny Owl. One newly hatched chick and one egg in a nest-box in spruce at Farley, Apr. 15th (W.M.C.).

248. LONG-EARED OWL. One was watched in a pine tree on the Marlborough Downs by five observers for some time on Mar. 21st. It remained motionless in full view and ear-tufts and amber eyes were noted. It was joined by a second bird and towards dark the moaning song was heard (B.G.). One seen, and ear-tufts noted, perched on a fence on the Marlborough Downs in evening, May 29th (V.C.L., J.R.L.).
249. SHORT-EARED OWL. Three birds soaring and hunting between Chitterne and Shrewton, Mar. 18th, and a single bird seen flying low and settling in long grass near Imber, Dec. 12th (J.R.I.P.).
252. NIGHTJAR. First heard May 30th, Clarendon (D.E.F., A.G.H.). A 'nest' found with first egg laid on June 15th in Savernake Forest area (H.W.J.C.). About seven pairs in Maiden Bradley parish, three proved to have bred and one of these raised two successful broods (J.C.C.O.). Two pairs bred at Longleat and one pair near Horningsham (R.L.V.). Pair successfully reared young near Alderbury (P.R.). A pair rearing their second brood in a young fir plantation at Clarendon had two chicks about four days old, July 27th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).
255. SWIFT. First seen Apr. 24th, Stoford (W.M.C.); Apr. 26th, Keevil (R.L.V.) and Coate (M.C.F., G.L.W.); May 2nd, Melksham (R.J.S.) and Malmesbury (E.J.M.B.). Last seen Aug. 17th, Aldbourne (M.C.F.); Aug. 19th, Swindon (G.L.W.).
258. KINGFISHER. During the year 18 birds were ringed on the moat at Cole Park (E.J.M.B.).
261. HOOPOE. One seen on the bank of the Kennet and Avon Canal between Wilcot and Woodborough, Mar. 23rd—24th. Another observer who was present saw presumably the same bird about a mile further west, Mar. 26th (A.E.H.). One was seen between Chicklade and Wylve on the morning of Apr. 19th (D.N.). One present for several days in May at Druid's Lodge was handled on one occasion when it got caught in a fruit net (per J.S.A.).
262. GREEN WOODPECKER. One feeding in a small patch of unfrozen mud at Broome S.F., Jan. 11th (G.L.W.). One feeding on Marlborough Downs at least $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from nearest tree, Oct. 18th (G.L.W.).
263. GREATER SPOTTED WOODPECKER. A nest with young well feathered at Bratton, May 28th (E.E.G.L.S.). A bird seen feeding young in garden at Seagry, June 18th (R.G.B.). Another seen feeding young near Studley (J.L.A.T.). A bird fed from a half-coconut at Upton Lovel, Jan. 3rd-10th (J.R.I.P.), and one fed daily at a bird table in Seagry from Dec. 14th (R.G.B.).
264. LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER. Notes on this species will be included in the results of an Enquiry in a future report.
271. WOODLARK. Noted on Porton Range, Feb. 28th, and several pairs bred of which some were on the Wiltshire side of the county boundary (G.H.F.). Song heard from two territories at Maiden Bradley (J.C.C.O.).
274. SWALLOW. First seen Mar. 29th, Coate (M.C.F., G.L.W.); Apr. 1st, Lockeridge (C.A.C.); Apr. 6th, Westbury (R.L.V.); and Inglesham (F.H.M.). A pure white bird seen by several persons in garden at Longleat in June (E.H.J.). Last seen Oct. 9th, Compton Bassett (B.W.J.); Oct. 11, Collingbourne Kingston (J.L.R.B.); Oct. 12th, Aldbourne (M.C.F.). Single birds passing through at Chippenham, Nov. 7th, and Colerne, Nov. 16th (C.J.B.).
276. HOUSE MARTIN. First seen Apr. 12th, Fonthill (G.G.O.); Apr. 13th, Lockeridge (C.A.C.); Apr. 15th, Marlborough (D.W.F.); Last seen Oct. 9th, Keevil (R.L.V.) and E. Knoyle (B.M.S.); Oct. 11th, Collingbourne Kingston (J.L.R.B.) and Walcot (G.L.W.); Oct. 12th, near West Woods (C.A.C.).
277. SAND MARTIN. First seen Mar. 26th, near Salisbury (H.J.C.); Mar. 27th, Bowood (G.L.B.); Mar. 29th, Coate (M.C.F., G.L.W.). At least eight pairs nesting in drains at Fisherton St. in Salisbury (P.R.). Large numbers of birds feeding nearly fledged young in Sahara Sandpits, Sandridge. Some birds bringing foecal sacs from inside nests and dropping them c.30-40 yards away (B.G.). In August and September 200-300 roosted in reed-beds at Clarendon Lake with smaller numbers of House Martins and Swallows. After the attacks of a Hobby at dusk, Sept. 14th, the roost was deserted (D.E.F., A.G.H.). Last seen Sept. 17th, Harnham (H.J.C.); Sept. 20th, Ham Hill (G.L.W.).
279. RAVEN. Two seen in flight at Idmiston, Oct. 11th (G.H.F., F.P.E.).
281. HOODED CROW. At Broome S.F. two were seen on Jan. 17th, and one on Nov. 8th, which was reported to have arrived there two days previously (G.L.W.).

282. **ROOK.** A rookery of 22 nests in a tall hawthorn hedge near All Cannings Cross at heights from 12 to 15 feet (R.J.S.). A rookery of c.200 nests in a copse on northern borders of Allington Down (R.J.S.). A new rookery near Sherrington Bridge in April, an offshoot from Stockton Park (B.M.S.). A roost of several thousand Rooks and Jackdaws at Longford, to which according to records since 1930's birds had returned within a few days of Aug. 20th, was deserted this year perhaps because of dying trees (I.R.).
288. **GREAT TIT.** Found roosting in street lamps at Salisbury, Dec. 9th. Five present in lamps, Dec. 29th (F.P.E.), cf. Blue Tit.
289. **BLUE TIT.** Discovered roosting in street lamps in Salisbury. Subsequent observation shows this to be common for outskirts of the city. Numbers are high, 50% of lamps being occupied in some areas. Some ringing of these birds has been carried out, 20 during 1959 (F.P.E.). A bird seen by a friend of observer removing fur from a dead mouse (G.L.W.). Bird ringed as nestling 1.6.57 at Parkend, W. Gloucester found dead at Limpley Stoke 17.9.58, 30 miles S.S.E. (cf. *British Birds*, Vol. LII, p. 472).
293. **WILLOW TIT.** Two feeding on seeds of Field Maple in Bybrook Meadows near Ford, Feb. 1st (C.J.B.). At least two pairs in Coate area (G.L.W.) and birds also noted there Mar. 7th (G.L.B.) and Sept. 27th (E.L.J.). One seen and identified by song in a fir at Clarendon (D.E.F., A.G.H.). One heard and later seen near Shearwater, Nov. 28th (M.B.).
300. **DIPPER.** Breeding confirmed in Castle Combe area (H.W.J.C.) and beside the River Nadder (B.M.S.). A pair reared one young only by the River Ebbel (P.R.). One seen on the Ebbel in December (I.R.).
302. **FIELDFARE.** Last seen in spring Mar. 29th, Coate (G.L.W.); Apr. 4th, c.100 at Allington Down, Apr. 17th, Great Bradford Wood (R.J.S.). First seen in autumn Sept. 13th, c.30 at Longford (M.K.L.); Oct. 18th, Coate and Marlborough Downs (G.L.W.). A movement towards S.W. along northern escarpment of Marlborough Downs throughout morning, Nov. 1st (G.L.W.). Flocks noted as being particularly large at Bratton, Nov. 7th (E.E.G.L.S.), and one flock estimated at c. 2,000 at Tilshead, Nov. 9th (P.R.).
303. **SONG THRUSH.** First egg laid at Chilton Foliat, Mar. 9th (H.W.J.C.).
304. **REDWING.** Last seen in spring Mar. 17th, Lockeridge (C.A.C.); Mar. 29th, Coate (G.L.W.). First noted in autumn Oct. 8th, when heard flying over Swindon, Oct. 18th, Ramsbury (G.L.W.); Oct. 21st, East Knoyle (B.M.S.).
307. **RING OUZEL.** A male in bushes by the Ridgeway near Bishopstone, Oct. 5th. Excellent views obtained of the white collar and pale wing feathers although the bird was wary and soon flew up and dived into bushes. The hard call note was heard (E.L.J.).
308. **BLACKBIRD.** First eggs laid on Mar. 14th at Chilton Foliat (H.W.J.C.); bird on three eggs at Stoford, Mar. 19th (W.M.C.), early dates.
311. **WHEATEAR.** First seen Feb. 21st, Porton (G.H.F.); Feb. 28th, Larkhill (O.M.P.); Mar. 22nd, Imber (G.L.B.). Last seen Oct. 7th, Colerne (C.J.B.); Oct. 18th, Porton (C.H.F., F.P.E.); Nov. 7th, Liddington Castle (B.G.).
317. **STONECHAT.** Except for one August record near Clarendon Lake (D.E.F., A.G.H.) all others were in January and February and from October to December. Pairs seen near Harnham in January (H.J.C.); Ramsbury in February (M.C.F.); Walcot in February and December (G.L.W.); Imber in October (G.L.B.), and near Avebury and on Totterdown in October (G.B.). Birds were seen on Porton Ranges and Beacon Hill in autumn and winter where juniper seems to be part of the habitat (G.H.F.). Only nine other records, from G.L.B., B.G., D.E.F., J.R.I.P.
318. **WHINCHAT.** First seen Apr. 5th, Harnham (H.J.C.); Apr. 26th, Porton (G.H.F.). A pair feeding young in nest on Imber Downs, May 22nd (G.L.B.); two families were seen there, Aug. 2nd (B.G.). Last seen Sept. 9th, Walcot (G.L.W.) and Pewsey (M.C.F.); Sept. 14th, Allington (B.G.).
320. **REDSTART.** First seen Apr. 13th, Shaw (C.A.C.); Apr. 18th, Idmiston (G.H.F.); Apr. 20th, Lower Pertwood (B.M.S.). A nest in a hole in willow at Coate, May 17th and two young birds seen, Aug. 16th (G.L.W.) Young birds seen in gardens at Ramsbury, June 24th (O.M.) and Allington, Aug. 2nd (B.G.). Last seen at Clarendon, Aug. 26th (D.E.F., A.G.H.); Clarendon, Aug. 30th (C.G.L.); Sept. 9th, Upton Lovel (J.R.I.P.).

321. BLACK REDSTART. One seen at Porton, Oct. 15th (F.P.E. with A. Dunthorn).
322. NIGHTINGALE. First heard Apr. 12th, Coate (G.L.W.); Apr. 14th, Sandridge Vale (R.J.S.); Apr. 18th, Rood Ashton (R.L.V.). Noted on Porton Range where two pairs probably bred some 500 feet above sea level (G.H.F.). Last seen Sept. 23rd, Clarendon (C.M.R.P.).
324. BLUETHROAT. A female appeared in observer's garden at Idmiston, May 25th. 'It was identified by its whitish eyestrip and the red in the tail which was visible when it flew. The general appearance of the bird was robin-like although the tail was shorter and the stance more upright. Head, back and rump were grey brown. The white eyestripe was superciliary and the lores buffish. A white moustache, white throat and white underparts gave a bright appearance but it had a dark ring from below the bill around the breast where it was more spotted. Bill dark with yellow at gape. Legs brown grey. Red outer tail feathers, the remainder being like the back but all with a black terminal band. Its behaviour was slightly skulking and it kept round the base of the hedges in the garden but it was surprisingly confiding nevertheless. No calls were heard.' The bird was watched at close range in good light and was seen by Mrs. Forster (G.H.F.). It was also watched for half an hour by J.K.S., at times at 12-15 yards range. The eyestripe, gorget patch and orange-red tail patches were clearly seen though no blue which points to an immature bird. This observer has seen many Bluethroats in Lapland and Burma. This is the first record for the county.
327. GRASSHOPPER WARBLER. First heard Apr. 17th, three in Great Bradford Wood (R.J.S.); Apr. 20th, seen near Lockeridge (C.A.C.); Apr. 26th, Coate, where later on May 31st at least twelve were singing (G.L.W.). First egg laid at Blunsdon, May 8th (H.W.J.C.). At least three pairs nested near Clarendon Lake (D.E.F., A.G.H.). Also noted at Ramsbury (V.C.L.), Chilton Foliat (M.C.F.) and Shearwater (R.L.V.).
333. REED WARBLER. First noted Apr. 26th, Coate Water (M.C.F., G.L.W.). Total population at Coate appeared to be c.60 pairs and 27 nests found (G.L.W.). In one nest at Coate first egg was laid Aug. 6th, a late date (H.W.J.C.). Last seen Sept. 16th, Coate (G.L.W.).
337. SEDGE WARBLER. First heard Apr. 4th, Clarendon Lake (D.E.F., A.G.H.); Apr. 8th, Harnham (H.J.C.); Apr. 12th, Coate Water (G.L.W.). Last noted Sept. 11th, Harnham (H.J.C.); Sept. 16th, Coate (G.L.W.).
343. BLACKCAP. First noted Mar. 19th, Box (C.S.H.), an early date; Apr. 9th, Idmiston (G.H.F.); Apr. 13th, Shootend (H.J.C.). Last seen Sept. 13th, Coate, and Sept. 20th, Ham Hill (G.L.W.).
346. GARDEN WARBLER. First noted May 10th, Coate (G.L.W.); May 14th, Fisherton Delamere (B.M.S.); May 16th, Ramsbury (M.C.F.).
347. WHITETHROAT. First noted Apr. 15th, Britford (D.E.F., A.G.H.); Apr. 19th, Coate (G.L.W.); Apr. 20th, Idmiston (G.H.F.), Crockerton (B.M.S.), and Lockeridge (C.A.C.). A nest with first egg near Cricklade, Apr. 28th, an early date (H.W.J.C.). An adult ringed at Cole Park, July 25th, killed by a cat at Corsham, Aug. 18th (E.J.M.B.). Last seen Sept. 26th, Cole Park (E.J.M.B.).
348. LESSER WHITETHROAT. First noted Apr. 26th, Keevil (R.L.V.) and Coate (G.L.W.); Apr. 29th, East Knoyle (B.M.S.). Last seen Sept. 13th, Coate (G.L.W.).
354. WILLOW WARBLER. First heard and seen Mar. 5th, Box (C.S.H.) and Mar. 9th, Little Langford (W.M.C.), very early dates. Then not noted until Apr. 3rd, Harnham (H.J.C.); Apr. 4th, West Ashton (R.L.V.); Upavon (J.L.R.B.) and Allington (B.G.). Bird seen lining nest with feathers in an old ivy clad tree stump 7 feet from ground, June 6th, rather an unusual site (R.L.V.). Last seen Sept. 6th, Coate (G.L.W.).
- One ringed as juvenile 27.7.58 at Rodbourne Cheney, Wilts, recovered dead or dying 18.8.58 at Headington, Oxford, 27 miles E.N.E. (cf. *British Birds* Vol. LII, p. 477).
356. CHIFFCHAFF. First heard and seen Feb. 28th, Box (C.S.H.) an early date; Mar. 15th, Coate (M.C.F., G.L.W.). Last noted Oct. 10th, Cole Park (E.J.M.B.); Oct. 11th, Upavon (J.L.R.B.) and Rockley Down (G.L.W.).
- One ringed full grown 4.4.58 at Swindon, 5° 33' N. 1° 47' W., recovered 14.10.58, shot or killed by man at Puerto de Santa Maria, 36° 36' N. 6° 14' W. (Cadiz) Spain. (cf. *British Birds*, Vol. LII, p. 477).

357. WOOD WARBLER. First noted Apr. 24th, Ford (C.J.B.); May 4th, Maiden Bradley (J.C.C.O.). Only three other records in roadside beeches between Stratton St. Margaret and Stanton (C.S.H.), at Longleat May 23rd (B.M.S.), and three or four singing at Clarendon, May 9th (C.G.O.).
366. SPOTTED FLYCATCHER. First seen May 7th, Porton (G.H.F.); May 8th, Savernake Forest (D.P.) and Keevil (R.L.V.). Last seen Sept. 3rd, Seagry (R.G.B.).
373. MEADOW PIPIT. At least 45 roosting in reed bed at Coate, Nov. 7th (G.L.W.).
376. TREE PIPIT. First seen Apr. 6th, Yatesbury (R.N.). Noted below Windmill Hill, East Knoyle, May 28th (B.M.S.) and in Savernake Forest (M.C.F.). One pair probably bred on Porton range (G.H.F.).
- 380 (a). PIED WAGTAIL. The roost at Coate Water numbered c.60, Mar. 7th (G.L.B.), c.200, July 23rd and Nov. 7th (G.L.W.), and 250+, Sept. 27th (E.L.J.).
- 380 (b). WHITE WAGTAIL. A male by Longford Castle Bridge, Apr. 13th. Observer noted the grey rump and brown primaries, pearl back sharply separated from the black crown which was not joined to the black crescent on the breast. (H.J.C.).
381. GREY WAGTAIL. Records of breeding from Cole Park (E.J.M.B.); Slaughterford and Ford (C.J.B.); Coate (G.L.W.); Cricklade (H.W.J.C.); two pairs near Keevil (R.L.V.); Axford (M.C.F.), Chilton Foliat (H.W.J.C., E.L.J.); Stithcombe and Marlborough (D.W.F.); Crofton (J.L.R.B.); Longleat (R.J.S., E.H.J.); Stourton Garden, Fisherton Delamere and Fonthill (B.M.S.).
382. YELLOW WAGTAIL. First seen Apr. 4th, Harnham (H.J.C.); Apr. 14th, Lacock (G.L.B.); Apr. 19th, Coate (G.L.W.) and Idmiston (G.H.F.). A pair bred near Keevil (R.L.V.). A pair seen at Coate had three young, June 17th and a nest with five eggs found at Walcot, June 28th, subsequently hatched and the chicks were ringed. One juvenile was retrapped two months later roosting in a reed bed at Coate. In this reed bed a large number were roosting Aug. 18th (G.L.W.). Last seen Sept. 8th, Coate (G.L.W.); Sept. 17th, Harnham (H.J.C.).
384. WAXWING. Two seen near Porton Station, Feb. 23rd. They had also been seen earlier in the day in the same area by Mrs. Forster. The birds were probably first winter birds rather than adults judging by the general drabness of the plumage (G.H.F.).
388. RED-BACKED SHRIKE. A pair observed in area where breeding thought to have taken place in 1957. Nest found on May 23rd at top of thorn tree. Young being fed in nest on June 24th, and two flying young seen on July 4th (G.L.B., R.L.V.).
389. STARLING. Six adults seen 'anting' on lawn at East Knoyle, July 21st (B.M.S.). There was a roost at Crooked Soley early in the year (W.P.L.), and another of several thousand birds was seen in a fir clump near Ogbourne St. George, Oct. 24th (G.L.W.).
391. HAWFINCH. One seen at Trowbridge, Jan. 24th, and reported with description in the *Wiltshire Times* of Jan. 30th. Three seen flying from hedge to hedge, Jan. 10th at Shaw (C.J.B.) and one flying from tree to tree, calling, at Corsham Court (E.M.T.).
394. SISKIN. A solitary bird at Maiden Bradley, Feb. 10th (J.C.C.O.). A female seen feeding on alder spikes by Bowood Lake when others could be heard, Mar. 15th (B.G.). Eight together on alders at Maiden Bradley, Dec. 22nd and the following week (J.C.C.O.).
397. REDPOLL. Two seen and others heard calling in scrub and fir trees on Rockley Down, Oct. 11th (G.L.W.). Two on an apple tree in garden at East Knoyle, Oct. 17th, when loud 'tree' sometimes thought to be the call of the Greenland race was noted (B.M.S.). A female with a large flock of finches near Pewsham, Oct. 23rd, was very light coloured with very distinct light buff wing bars and the feathers on the back appeared to be fringed with buff. It was considered to be of the Northern race, a Mealy Redpoll (J.R.A.T.).
404. CROSSBILL. The following were seen near Maiden Bradley. Until early March up to 30, usually 12-15 on most days. Single birds on June 30th and July 18th and a few odd birds during the latter half of July. From July 1st-25th numbers varied from 3-10 and none were seen later. It was a notably poor year for conifer seed, the good 1958 crop of spruce was exhausted by March and apart from a little pine there was nothing to attract the birds (J.C.C.O.).

407. CHAFFINCH. Over 200 roosted in rhododendrons by Clarendon Lake with small numbers of Bramblings, Linnets and Greenfinches in December (D.E.F., A.G.H.). A female ringed 7.10.56 at Ranst: 51° 11' N, 4° 34' E. (Antwerp) Belgium was found dead or dying at Chippenham, 22/3/58, 51° 27' N, 2° 07' W. (cf. *British Birds*, Vol. LII p. 492).

408. BRAMBLING. Only record early in year, one near Atworth, Jan. 25th (B.G.). First noted in autumn a female trapped for ringing Sept. 30th, Cole Park—an early date (E.J.M.B.); Nov. 18th, Heytesbury (J.R.I.P.). Several at Bapton, Nov. 23rd (B.M.S.). A few were noticed near Oare, Nov. 20th, and large flocks, Nov. 27th, which remained until the snow of 12.1.60. These flocks were predominantly of Bramblings, with Chaffinches, Goldfinches, House and Tree Sparrows. They fed in kale fields and on weeds in young orchards. The observer notes that in 25 years such large flocks of Bramblings, Finches and Buntings have not appeared (D.P.). Forty in kale near Alderbury, Dec. 24th and 20+ roosting in rhododendrons at Clarendon Lake, Dec. 30th (D.E.F., A.G.H.).

410. CORN BUNTING. Several males singing at Barbury Castle, May 15th, which is above the 850ft. contour, cf. note in *Wiltshire Birds* (E.J.M.B.). A bird seen near Cricklade, Mar. 1st (H.W.J.C.) and a pair nested near Keevil but the nest was destroyed by a grass mower (R.L.V.). These are both unusual areas.

415. CURL BUNTING. Five near Odstock, Jan. 1st (M.K.L.). Probably bred at Idmiston (G.H.F.). Two seen by Clarendon Lake, Dec. 12th (D.E.F., A.G.H.). The only records received.

423. SNOW BUNTING. At Liddington Castle on the afternoon of Nov. 7th an unfamiliar call was heard and a small bird landed on the bank on the west side of the castle. It immediately started feeding and gave a good opportunity for watching in a fair light through X8 glasses. The most striking points noted were—very light underparts, dark cheek patches, tawny patches at the side of the breast, and rather long tail. When it flew large white wing patches and white outer tail feathers were visible and the melodious call was heard. In sunlight from about 10 yards distance further details noted were, a small stubby yellowish bill with darker tip, black legs, black tips and edges to primaries, striped black and fawn mantle and the cheek and chest patches were now seen to be chestnut-fawn. The rest of the head was soft grey with a darker crown. The bird was feeding on grass seeds. On returning later the bird (a female) was seen to be accompanied by a male. They kept very close to one another as they fed and allowed approach to within 10 yards. The plumage of the male was very light—white underparts, flanks, most of the wings and head except for a narrow darker crown stripe. The black ends of the long primaries were most striking. Rounded head noted. In flight this bird appeared nearly all white. When about to land the flight was quick and twisting, almost wader-like (B.G.). Recorded in only three winters this century, the last in January 1951.

425. TREE SPARROW. One visited observer's bird table at Idmiston on an unrecorded date in June (G.H.F.). One near Bishopstone, Oct. 5th (E.L.J.). Several feeding on road and in kale field near Oare with Bramblings, Nov. 29th (D.P.). c.6 in a tree in observer's garden at Codford, Dec. 12th (E.V.F.). Three in a tree near the Avon at Harnham, Dec. 15th (H.J.C.).

Checklist numbers of those species which, though not mentioned in these notes, were recorded in 1959:—9, 84, 93, 116, 118, 234, 241, 246, 272, 280, 283, 284, 286, 290, 292, 296, 298, 299, 301, 325, 364, 371, 392, 393, 395, 401, 409, 421, 424.

THE STATUS OF RED-BACKED SHRIKE IN WILTSHIRE

By GEOFFREY L. WEBBER.

During the years 1956—1959 an enquiry has been taking place into the status of the Red-backed Shrike in the county.

The enquiry was commenced after it appeared that the Red-backed Shrike was decreasing in some of its haunts. Although the enquiry was not as exhaustive as it might have been due to lack of observers, it did give a reasonable cover of a large area of suitable habitats.

In the northern part of the county the species is now virtually extinct as a breeding bird; one area in the north-east between Swindon and Marlborough which during the years 1940—1950 supported at least ten pairs now has only one. The north central and western areas appear to have never had more than a very few nests and in the years under review Shrikes were not seen even on passage.

The escarpment of Salisbury plain and the plain itself, especially the areas occupied by the military authorities still have several pairs, with probably maximum number of 15 pairs in 1953. From comments which observers have made from long experience in these areas this would indicate a very considerable decrease in the last ten years. It is interesting in connection with the foregoing that the Rev. George Marsh writing in the middle 19th century states "this bird is very common in the county. I have shot and preserved very many of them".

In the extreme southern fringe of county adjoining the New Forest where ideal habitat abounds, numbers appear to be holding their own and no noticeable fluctuations have been reported. This area, however, has not been adequately covered and no definite conclusions can be reached; this statement also covers the western areas of county.

The reasons for apparent decline in the north and central areas are not obvious, in the north east there has been a certain amount of habitat destruction, but in central areas suitable habitat has tended to increase rather than the reverse. Food shortage would not appear to be a contributory factor with a possible exception of some marginal habitats. At one nesting site a pair continued to breed in a very untypical habitat until the male failed to return in 1957.

In conclusion, it would appear that the Red-backed Shrike has definitely decreased during the last ten years, at least in Wilts. It would be interesting to know if a corresponding decrease has been noticed in any other parts of Britain. As the species is near its western limits in this country it may be that a restriction of range is taking place.

The following took part in the enquiry and I thank them for their generous help.

Mrs. Barnes, Miss B. Gillam, Geoffrey Boyle, E. J. Cruse, E. Browning, Miss M. C. Foster, Marlborough College Natural History Society, Peter Roberts, R. J. Spencer, B. M. Stratton, Colonel J. K. Stanford, J. Tickle, Mrs. Seccomb Hett, Dennis Felstead, R. C. Vernon.

WILTSHIRE PLANT NOTES (20)

(Third Supplement to The Flora of Wiltshire)

compiled by

DONALD GROSE, Downs Edge, Liddington

Additions to Recorders				
<i>A. G.</i>	? A. Gerrish	? Salisbury	1859	E L
<i>Barling</i>	D. M.	Cirencester	1959	237
<i>Berry</i>	Mrs. D. M.	Warminster	1959	
<i>Cleverly E. V.</i>		Bromham	1959	
<i>Cleverly P.</i>		Bromham	1959	
<i>Eldridge</i>	Miss E.	Salisbury	1859	E L
<i>Eldridge C.</i>	Miss	Salisbury	1862	E L
<i>Gough P. M.</i>	Miss	Salisbury	1959	
<i>Kay</i>	H.	Calne	1959	
<i>Munro-Smith</i>	Dr. D.	Bristol	1958	G
<i>Osmond</i>	E.	? Warminster	1862	E L
<i>Parsons F.</i>	Mrs.	Broad Town	1959	
<i>Stevenson W.</i>	Miss	Chippenham	1959	
<i>Tiffin</i>	Mrs. E. A.	Salisbury	1867	E L
<i>Tiffin A.</i>	Miss	Salisbury	1862	E L

Addition to Herbaria

EL The herbarium of Ellen Eldridge. It contains plants gathered near Salisbury between 1859 and 1868, some of which are 'First Records', and is now in the possession of Mrs. M. L. Graham, Godalming.

Undated records are for 1959. A date in heavy type preceding a record indicates first evidence of that species in Wiltshire. Numerals in heavy type refer to the botanical divisions as delimited in *The Flora of Wiltshire* and the frequency standard is employed as described there.

Thalictrum flavum var. *riparium* (Jord.) Common Meadow Rue. **7.** In countless thousands on the dry bed of Nine Mile Water for half-a-mile from its source, *I. M. Grose* (G)! It was seen in this locality by Mrs. Welch in 1940 but only in very small quantity.

Anemone apennina L. **8.** Naturalized in a wood at Heytesbury, *Berry*.

Ranunculus trichophyllus Chaix. **2.** Gravel-pit, Lacock, *Collett*. **8.** Dew-pond, Bishopstrow Down, 1955.

R. hederaceus L. Ivy-leaved Crowfoot. **10.** Britford, 1862, *Eldridge* (EL).

R. arvensis L. Corn Crowfoot. **5.** Milford, 1862, *Eldridge* (EL). **8.** Corton, *Carey* (G).

R. ficaria var. *bulbiferus* Marsden-Jones. **10.** Wood near Witherington Farm, *Sandell*.

Helleborus viridis L. Green Hellebore. **1.** Hedge near Corsley, *Wycherley*. **2.** South end of Bincknoll Wood, *F. Parsons*!

Aquilegia vulgaris L. Columbine. **8.** Wood, Corton Hill, *Carey*.

Aconitum anglicum Stapf. Monkshood. **9.** Roadside between Hindon and East Knoyle, *Stratton*.

Berberis vulgaris L. Barberry. **3.** Common Platt, *Ridou!* **10.** Near Downton, 1862, *Eldridge* (EL).

Mahonia aquifolium (Pursh) Nutt. Oregon Grape. **4.** Hedge, far from houses, Green Hill.

Papaver somniferum L. Opium Poppy. **8.** Corton, *Carey*.

P. argemone L. Rough Long-headed Poppy. **8.** Corton Down, *Carey*.

P. hybridum L. Rough Round-headed Poppy. **7.** Frequent.

Arabis hirsuta (L.) Scop. Hairy Rock Cress. **2.** Frequent. **8.** Bishopstrow Down, 1955.

Cardamine pratensis L. Form with double flowers. **8.** Longbridge Deverill, *Collett*.

Erophila verna (L.) Chevall. Vernal Whitlow-grass. **8.** Wall, Imber, 1955, *Sandell*. Bishopstrow Down, 1955. Corton Down and Long Bottom, *Carey*.

Hesperis matronalis L. Dame's Violet. **7.** Rubbish-tip near Everleigh Ashes, *Ridou!*

Arabidopsis thaliana (L.) Heynh. Thale Cress. **8.** Track on Corton Down, *Carey*.

- Sisymbrium officinale* var. *leiocarpum* DC. 7. Dunch Hill.
Thlaspi cheiranthoides L. Treacle Mustard. 2. River-bank, Chippenham Bridge, *R. J. Pankhurst!*
 7. Redhorn Hill, 1923, *Heginbothom*.
Sinapis alba L. White Mustard. 5. Fallow field, Dean Hill.
Erucastrum gallicum (Willd.) O.E. Schulz. 6. Sidbury Hill. Chalkpit Hill. 7. Brigmerston Down,
I. M. Grose! Haxton Down, *Fitter*. Dunch Hill. Milston Down. Now an abundant species on tank
 tracks in this area. 8. Track near Wadman's Coppice.
Diploxys muralis (L.) DC. Sand Rocket. 2. Gravel-pit, Lacock, *Frowde!*
Thlaspi arvense (L.) Penny Cress. 1. Devizes, 1923, *Heginbothom*.
Neslia paniculata (L.) Desv. 8. Chicken-run, Corton, *Carey* (G).
Rapistrum rugosum (L.) All. 7. Rubbish-tip near Everleigh Ashes, *B. E. Pankhurst* (G)!
Reseda luteola L. Dyer's Rocket. 7. Frequent.
Viola odorata L. Sweet Violet. 7. Frequent. Var. *subcarnea* (Jord.) Parl. 8. Corton, *Carey* (G). Var.
variegata DC. 8. Corton, *Carey*. Var. *imberbis* (Leight.) Henslow. 7. Wilcot. 8. Corton, *Carey*.
V. hirta x *odorata*. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*.
Polygala oxyptera Reichb. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*.
Saponaria officinalis Soapwort. 3. Roadside near Common Platt. Roadside, Castle Eaton. 7.
 Rubbish-tip near Everleigh Ashes, *B. E. Pankhurst!* 8. Longleat, *Stratton*. 9. Bemerton, 1866,
 (EL).
Melandrium album x *rubrum*. 6. Everleigh Ashes. 8. Bishopstrow Down, 1955, *I. M. Grose*.
Agrostemma githago L. Corn Cockle. 5. Frequent.
Minuartia tenuifolia (L.) Hiern. Fine-leaved Sandwort. 8. Bishopstrow Down, 1955.
Sagina nodosa (L.) Fenzl. Knotted Pearlwort. 8. Sherrington Bottom, *Carey* (G).
Spergula arvensis var. *sativa* (Boenn.) Mert. & Koch. Corn Spurrey. 2. Whetham.
Spergularia rubra (L.) J. & V. C. Presl. Sand Spurrey. 8. Wilton Churchyard, *Stevens* (G).
Malva neglecta Wallr. Dwarf Mallow. 2. Bromham, 1923 and Clears Common, 1927, *Heginbothom*.
 3. Roadside, Castle Eaton, *I. M. Grose!*
Radiola linoides Roth. Allseed. 5. Nightwood Copse, *Timperley*.
Geranium pyrenaicum Burm. f. Mountain Crane's-bill. 8. Imber, 1955.
G. lucidum L. Shining Crane's-bill. 5. Milford, 1861, *Eldridge* (EL).
Oxalis corniculata L. 2. Seagry, *Barnes* (G). Gravel-pit, Lacock, *B. E. Pankhurst!*
O. europaea Jord. 8. Stockton.
Impatiens capensis Meerb. Orange Balsam. 1859. 'Stratford', *A.G.* (EL).
Ulex minor Roth. Dwarf Furze. 8. Great Ridge, *Carey* (G).
U. gallii Planch. Western Furze. 3. Stonehill Heath.
Ononis spinosa L. Spinous Rest Harrow. 6. Clarendon Hill. 7. Near Lidbury Camp. 8. Corton
 Down, *Carey*. Down near Wadman's Coppice.
Medicago arabica (L.) All. Spotted Medick. 9. Churchyard, Donhead St. Mary, *Stratton*.
Melilotus altissima Thuill. Common Melilot. 8. Roadside near Imber.
M. alba Desr. White Melilot. 7. Wood Bridge. Rubbish-tip, Everleigh Ashes. 8. Upton Lovell,
Berry.
M. officinalis (L.) Lam. Field Melilot. 7. Wood Bridge. 8. Imber.
M. indica (L.) All. Small-flowered Melilot. 2. Bromham, *P. Cleverly*. 8. Chicken-run, Corton,
Carey (G).
Trifolium medium Huds. Zigzag Clover. 5. Pepperbox Hill, *Sandell*. 6. Frequent.
Astragalus glycyphyllos L. Sweet Milk Vetch. 5. Chickard Wood, *Timperley!*
Vicia sylvatica L. Wood Vetch. 9. Dinton, 1865, *Eldridge* (EL).
Prunus cerasifera Ehrh. Cherry Plum. 9. Near Fonthill Lake and near Tisbury Cross, *Stratton*.
Geum rivale x *urbanum*. 6. Everleigh Ashes.
Fragaria moschata Duchesne. Hautbois Strawberry. 1. Near Rood Ashton House; det. J. E. Lousley.
 This species, which was formerly cultivated, is now apparently very rare; I have not seen it before.
F. indica Andr. Yellow-flowered Strawberry. 2. Garden casual, Chippenham, *Collett* (G)!
Potentilla anglica Laicharding. Procumbent Tormentil. 5. A small colony on Dean Hill, a most un-
 usual habitat (G).
Alchemilla vestita (Buser) Raunk. Lady's Mantle. 1. Field adjoining Ruddlebats Hanging, Urchfont.

- Agrimonia odorata* (Gouan) Mill. Fragrant Agrimony. 7. Brigmerston Down.
Rosa rubiginosa L. Sweet Briar. 6. South slope of Sidbury Hill. 1862. 'Old Castle', *Eldridge* (EL).
Pyrus communis var. *achras* (Gaertn.) Wallr. Wild Pear. 2. Birds Marsh, *B. E. Pankhurst*.
Crataegus oxyacanthoides Thuill. Midland Hawthorn. 3. Wanborough Marsh, *I. M. Grose*! Common
 Head, *I. M. Grose* (G)!
- C. monogyna* x *oxyacanthoides*. 2. Cocklebury. 3. Stratton Park and Horpit, *I. M. Grose*!
Saxifraga tridactylites L. Three-fingered Saxifrage. 8. Bishopstrow Down, 1955, *Nurse*!
Sedum telephium L. Orpine Stonecrop. 5. Farley, *Timperley*.
Epilobium roseum Schreb. Pale Willow-herb. 8. Imber.
E. adenocaulon Hausskn. 6. Everleigh Ashes.
E. obscurum Schreb. 7. Near Everleigh Ashes.
E. lamyi F. Schultz. 9. Gasper, *Fitter*. The third record for Wiltshire.
Oenothera biennis L. Evening Primrose. 2. By Chippenham Bridge, *Pankhurst* (G).
O. erythrosepala Borbas. 2. Sand-pit, Sandridge, *R. J. Pankhurst*! 8. Roadside, Shear Water, *Carey*
 (G). Imber, 1955, *Nurse*!
- Sison amomum* L. Stone Parsley. 7. Waste ground, Lower Woodford, *Newall*.
Scandix pecten-veneris L. Shepherd's Needle. 8. Corton, *Carey*.
Silaum silaus (L.) Schinz & Thell. 7. Brigmerston Down, *I. M. Grose*!
Cornus stolonifera Michx. 9. Holloway, *Stratton*.
C. mas L. 2. Malmesbury Common, *B. E. Pankhurst*.
Adoxa moschatellina L. Moschatel. 8. Great Ridge Wood, *Carey*.
Symphoricarpos rivularis Suksd. 8. Wood, Corton Hill, *Carey*.
Galium cruciata (L.) Scop. Crosswort. 7. Plantation, West Everleigh Down.
G. mollugo x *verum*. 7. Side of downland track north of Larkhill, with parents (G).
G. uliginosum L. Bog Bedstraw. 7. Manningford Bruce.
Anaphalis margaritacea (L.) Benth. Pearly Everlasting. 8. Great Ridge Wood, *Carey* (G)!
- The record for Stone Hill (254) was an error.
Gnaphalium sylvaticum L. Heath Cudweed. 2. Bowood.
Inula helenium L. Elecampane. 1. Near Crosswelldown Farm, West Ashton, *Haythornthwaite*. 2.
 Hullavington, *Kay*.
Guizotia abyssinica (L.f.) Cass. 2. Waste ground, Chippenham, *Pankhurst* (G).
Bidens cernuus L. Nodding Bur-marigold. 9. Frequent.
Galinsoga ciliata (Rafn.) Blake. 2. Market-place, Chippenham, *Hunt* (G).
Anthemis cotula L. Stinking Chamomile. 2. Gravel-pit, Lacock, *R. J. Pankhurst*!
Chrysanthemum segetum L. Corn Marigold. 2. Field near Whetham.
Matricaria chamomilla L. Wild Chamomile. 6. Cow Down, Everleigh, *I. M. Grose*!
Tanacetum vulgare L. Tansy. 9. Between Fonthill Lake and Fonthill Gifford, *Stratton*.
Petasites fragrans (Vill.) C. Presl. Winter Heliotrope. 7. Rubbish-tip near Everleigh Ashes.
Senecio erucifolius L. Hoary Ragwort. 8. Bishopstrow Down, 1955, *I. M. Grose*!
Cirsium vulgare (Savi) Ten. Spear Thistle. Fasciated form. 2. Colerne, *Frowde*.
C. eriophorum (L.) Scop. Woolly-headed Thistle. 7. Upavon Hill. 9. Hare Warren, *Lywood*. Wilton,
Stevens.
Centaurea cyanus L. Cornflower. 5. Cornfield, Whiteparish Hill, *Stevens*.
C. diluta Aiton. 2. Casual, Lacock, *B. E. Pankhurst*!
Cichorium intybus L. Chicory. 8. Frequent. 9. Near Willoughby Hedge and Upton, *Stratton*.
Hieracium subleptostoides (Zahn) Druce. 8. Corton, *Carey*; det. C. West.
Taraxacum palustre (Lyons) DC. Marsh Dandelion. 2. Damp ground below Truckle Hill, *Munro-*
Smith (G)! Det. R. D. Meikle.
T. laevigatum (Willd.) DC. 4. Wansdyke at Tan Hill, *Sandell*! 5. Pepperbox Hill, *Sandell*.
Mycelis muralis (L.) Reichb. Wall Lettuce. 6. Beech-wood, Clarendon Hill.
Cicerbita macrophylla (Willd.) Wallr. 9. Roadside between Tisbury and Ansty, *Stratton*.
Specularia hybrida (L.) A. DC. Venus's Looking-glass. 8. Frequent.
Monotropa hypophegea Wallr. 1867. 'Berwick St. James', *Tiffin* (EL).
Lysimachia punctata L. 2. Waste ground, Chippenham, *Hunt*; det. J. E. Lousley.

- Buddleja davidi* Franch. 10. Whitsbury Common (Hants).
Vinca major L. Greater Periwinkle. 3. Common Platt, *Ridout*. 7. Stratford, 1862, *A. Tiffin* (EL).
Blackstonia perfoliata (L.) Huds. Yellow Centaury. 8. Corton Hill, *Carey*.
Gentianella anglica (Pugs.) E. F. Warburg. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*. Imber, 1955.
Menyanthes trifoliata L. Bogbean. 9. Burcombe, *P.M. Gough*.
Polemonium caeruleum L. Jacob's Ladder. 5. Established in Bentley Wood, *P. M. Gough*.
Cynoglossum officinale L. Hound's-tongue. 9. Bemerton, 1862, *Eldridge* (EL).
Symphytum peregrinum Ledeb. Prickly Comfrey. 8. Churchyard, Bishopstrow, *Stratton*.
S. officinale L. Comfrey. 6. Site of pond, Everleigh Ashes (G). A rare plant in this waterless district.
Borago officinalis L. Borage. 2. Gravel-pit, Lacock, *B. E. Pankhurst!*
Lycopsis arvensis L. Bugloss. 8. Imber, *Whiting!*
Pulmonaria officinalis L. Lungwort. 8. Wood on Corton Hill and track between Sherrington and Codford, *Carey*.
Myosotis sylvatica (Ehrh.) Hoffm. Wood Forget-me-not. 8. Established in wood on Corton Hill, *Carey*.
M. arvensis var. *sylvestris* Schlecht. 8. Corton Hill, *Carey*.
M. hispida Schlecht. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*.
Echium vulgare L. Viper's Bugloss. 8. Imber, *Lywood!*
Calystegia sylvestris (Willd.) Roem. & Schult. 7. Rubbish-tip near Everleigh Ashes.
Solanum nigrum L. Black Nightshade. 7. Stratford, 1862, *Eldridge* (EL). Wood Bridge.
S. sisymbriifolium Lam. 2. Cocklebury, *Rice* (G)!
Datura stramonium L. Thorn-apple. 2. Basset Down, in kale, plentiful and of enormous size; some plants were nearly five feet high. 7. Lower Woodford, *Newall*. 8. Stockton, *Yeatman-Biggs*. Purple-flowered form. 2. Great Somerford and Upper Seagry, *Barnes*. This form has not been noted for Wiltshire before.
Hyoascyamus niger L. Henbane. 8. Stockton, *Yeatman-Biggs!*
Verbascum nigrum L. Black Mullein. 6. Everleigh Ashes, *Pankhurst!* 8. Imber.
Kickxia elatine (L.) Dum. Fluellen. 6. Track, Everleigh Ashes, *B. E. Pankhurst*.
K. spuria (L.) Dum. Round-leaved Fluellen. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*.
Antirrhinum orontium L. Lesser Snapdragon. 9. Bemerton, 1862, *C. Eldridge* (EL).
Digitalis purpurea L. Foxglove. 3. Oaksey Nursery. Stonehill Heath. 10. Whitsbury Common (Hants).
Veronica polita Fries. Grey Field Speedwell. 8. Imber, *B. E. Pankhurst!* Corton, *Carey* (G).
V. filiformis Sm. 2. Hullavington Airfield, 1958, *Pankhurst*. 8. Corton, *Carey*.
V. scutellata L. Marsh Speedwell. 7. Stratford, 1868. *Eldridge* (EL).
Euphrasia nemorosa (Pers.) H. Mart. Common Eyebright. 1862. 'Old Castle', *Eldridge* (EL), sub *E. officinalis*.
Rhinanthus calcareus Wilmott. 2. Box, *B. E. Pankhurst*. The first record for the Wiltshire limestone. 8. Well Bottom, *Carey*.
Orobanche minor var. *compositarum* Pugs. 3. Gorse Hill, apparently on *Crepis taraxacifolia*.
Verbena officinalis L. Vervain. 9. Fonthill Bishop, *Stratton*.
Mentha longifolia (L.) Huds. Horse Mint. 2. Hullavington, *Pankhurst*.
M. longifolia x *rotundifolia*. 2. Chippenham, *B. E. Pankhurst*.
M. verticillata L. Whorled Mint. 7. Manningford Bruce.
Thymus drucei Ronn. Wild Thyme. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*.
Molucella laevis L. Shell Flower. 9. Among lettuces, Milton, *Stratton*; det. R. D. Meikle.
Amaranthus retroflexus L. 9. Harnham Hill, *Lywood*.
Chenopodium polyspermum L. All-seed Goosefoot. 2. Gravel-pit, Lacock. 5. Farley, *Timperley*.
C. murale L. Nettle-leaved Goosefoot. 2. Stanton St. Quinton, *Pankhurst!* det. J. P. M. Brenan.
C. bonus-henicus L. Good King Henry. 5. Livery Farm, *I. M. Grose!*
Atriplex patula var. *bracteata* Westerl. 2. Gravel-pit, Lacock, *Stevenson*. 7. Dry pond at source of Nine Mile Water.
Polygonum nodosum Pers. Spotted Persicaria. 2. River-bank, Chippenham Bridge (G). 4. Dew-pond, Furze Hill, East Kennett.
P. bistorta L. Bistort. 8. Longbridge Deverill, abundant, *Collett!*
P. cuspidatum Sieb. & Zucc. 8. Roadside south of Long Knoll and Norton Ferris (v. c. 6), *Stratton*.
Rumex pulcher L. Fiddle Dock. 5. Livery Farm, *Timperley!*

- R. pulcher* x *sanguineus*. 5. Livery Farm, *Timperley* (L)! det. J. E. Lousley. This hybrid dock has not been recorded previously for Wiltshire.
- Daphne laureola* L. Spurge Laurel. 10. Wood near Witherington Farm, *Sandell*.
- Euphorbia lathyris* L. Caper Spurge. 3. Casual, Old Swindon, *I. M. Grose*!
- Cannabis sativa* L. Hemp. 2. Waste ground, Chippenham, *Hunt*.
- Salix purpurea* L. Purple Willow. 2. Malmesbury Common, *R. J. Pankhurst*.
- Neottia nidus-avis* (L.) L. C. Rich. Bird's-nest Orchid. 1. Wood near Cuckoo's Corner, *Gillam*. 2. Between Bromham and Rowde, *E. V. Cleverly*. 5. Wood on Thorny Down, *Hutchison*.
- Cephalanthera damasonium* (Mill.) Druce. 5. Frequent. 9. Hare Warren, *Stratton*.
- Epipactis sessilifolia* Peteam. Violet Helleborine. 2. Near Bromham, *E. V. Cleverly*; Det. D. P. Young.
- Anacamptis pyramidalis* (L.) L. C. Rich. Pyramidal Orchid. 6. Everleigh Ashes. 7. Frequent.
- Orchis ustulata* L. Burnt Orchis. 8. Bishopstrow Down, 1955, *Owen*! Frequent in the district.
- O. morio* L. Green-winged Orchis. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*. 9. Hindon and near Chicklade Bottom, *Stratton*.
- O. mascula* L. Early Purple Orchis. 8. Corton Down and Great Ridge Wood, *Carey*.
- O. strictifolia* Opiz. Early Marsh Orchis. 9. Bemerton, 1862, *Eldridge* (EL).
- Orchis praetermissa* Druce. Common Marsh Orchis. 4. Track near King's Play Hill, *E. V. Cleverly*. 8. Sherrington Down, *Stratton*; det. V. Summerhayes. Particular interest attaches to these two records: taken with three other recent occurrences of the species on dry chalk downs (254) it seems possible that the habitat requirements are being modified. Longbridge Deverill, *Collett*!
- Orchis fuchsii* Druce. 1861. 'Dean's Terrace', *Eldridge* (EL), sub. *O. maculata*.
- Ophrys insectifera* L. Fly Orchid. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*.
- Hermidium monorchis* (L.) R. Br. Musk Orchid. 5. Dean, 1861, (EL). 8. Corton Down, *Carey*.
- Gymnadenia conopsea* (L.) R. Br. Fragrant Orchid. 9. Chalk-pit near Chicklade Bottom and near Hindon, *Stratton*.
- Platanthera bifolia* (L.) L. C. Rich. Lesser Butterfly Orchid. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*. 9. Grovely Wood, 1955, *Sandell*.
- P. chlorantha* (Cust.) Reichb. Greater Butterfly Orchid. 8. Great Ridge Wood, *Carey*.
- Iris foetidissima* L. Gladdon. 5. Wood between Pitton and Nightwood Copse, *Timperley*.
- Galanthus nivalis* L. Snowdrop. 4. Wansdyke near Gore Copse. 7. Wood, Wilcot. 8. Wood, Boyton, abundant, *Carey*.
- Allium vineale* L. var. *vineale*. Crow Garlic. 8. Near Imber.
- Convallaria majalis* L. Lily of the Valley. 5. Wood on Dean Hill, *Sandell*.
- Ornithogalum umbellatum* L. Star of Bethlehem. 1. Thirteen Hundred Down, *Wycherley*. St. Joan à Gore Cross, 1955, *Sandell*. 8. Corton Down, *Carey*. 10. Broad Chalke, 1868, (EL).
- Colchicum autumnale* L. Meadow Saffron. 3. Cricklade, 1940, *Pankhurst*. Water-meadow near Castle Eaton, abundant, *Amor*! 8. Longbridge Deverill, 1862, *Osmond* (EL).
- Juncus subnodulosus* Schrank. Blunt-flowered Rush. 7. Manningford Bruce.
- Typha latifolia* L. Great Reed-mace. 8. Great Ridge Wood, *Carey*!
- Butomus umbellatus* L. Flowering Rush. 2. By Chippenham Bridge, *Hunt*. 5. Laverstock, 1862, *Eldridge* (EL).
- Isolepis setacea* (L.) R. Br. Bristle Club-rush. 5. Nightwood Copse, *Timperley*.
- Carex disticha* Huds. 8. Longbridge Deverill.
- C. otrubae* Podp. Common Fox Sedge. 8. Longbridge Deverill.
- C. piraiei* F. Schultz. 2. Ford, *Munro-Smith*, det. E. C. Wallace.
- C. remota* L. 8. Longbridge Deverill.
- C. ovalis* Gooden. 7. Manningford Bruce.
- C. distans* L. 2. Ford, *Munro-Smith*.
- C. demissa* Hornem. 5. Nightwood Copse, *Timperley*.
- Panicum miliaceum* L. Common Millet. 2. Gravel-pit, Lacock, *Pankhurst* (G)!
- Setaria viridis* (L.) Beauv. 2. Gravel-pit, Lacock, *Pankhurst*!
- Phalaris canariensis* L. Canary Grass. 7. Rubbish-tip near Everleigh Ashes, *Ridout*!
- Phleum nodosum* L. 5. Frequent. 7. Frequent.
- Agrostis gigantea* Roth. Black Bent Grass. 5. Fallow field, Dean Hill.

- A. stolonifera* var. *palustris* (Huds.) Farw. Marsh Bent Grass. 6. Abundant on a dry woodland ride, Everleigh Ashes.
- Calamagrostis epigejos* (L.) Roth. Wood Smallreed. 8. Great Ridge Wood.
- Aira praecox* L. Early Hair Grass. 6. Everleigh Ashes.
- Holcus mollis* L. Creeping Soft Grass. 6. Everleigh Ashes.
- Helictotrichon pratense* (L.) Pilger. Meadow Oat-grass. 5. Dean Hill.
- Cynosurus cristatus* L. Crested Dog's-tail. Proliferous form. 5. Redlynch, Gibbs (G).
- Dactylis glomerata* L. Cock's-foot. Proliferous form. 8. Imber, Collett (G).
- Poa angustifolia* L. Narrow-leaved Meadow Grass. 3. Kemble (Glos) and Fox Hill, Barling (237, 1959).
- Desmazeria rigida* (L.) Tutin. Hard Poa. 7. Dunch Hill. 8. Imber, 1955.
- Vulpia bromoides* (L.) S. F. Gray. Squirrel-tail Fescue. 6. Everleigh Ashes.
- Festuca heterophylla* Lam. 2. Hullavington, Pankhurst. The first record for North Wilts.
- F. arundinacea* Schreb. 7. Trackside, Netheravon Down.
- Brachypodium pinnatum* (L.) Beauv. Tor Grass. 6. Hog Down.
- Osmunda regalis* L. Royal Fern. 10. Alderbury, Stevens (G)! It is tempting to suppose that this is a true survival of a species which was thought to have been extinct as a native for well over a hundred years. The plant has formed a tussock about two feet high which must be extremely old.
- Blechnum spicant* (L.) Roth. Hard Fern. 6. Brick-pit, Wilton Brail.
- Asplenium adiantum-nigrum* L. Black Spleenwort. 1. Railway bridge near Ruddlebats Hanging, Urchfont.
- Polystichum setiferum* (Forsk.) Woyнар. Soft Shield Fern. 2. Allington, 1958, Pankhurst.

ENTOMOLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1959

By B. W. WEDDELL

Considering the ideal summer we enjoyed in 1959, one would have thought that the Lepidoptera of this country would have made a good showing after a number of years in the doldrums. On the contrary alas, records from all quarters are even more sparse and disappointing than those of the last few years.

I quote one of the most experienced collectors in the county, "In my experience it was the poorest season I ever remember, except for certain butterflies. Outstanding was the scarcity of all larvae both in Spring and late Summer, the very small number of moths at Mercury vapour lamp after early June, and the almost complete absence of moths at ivy bloom in Autumn."

There is a distressing change taking place in the ecology of the county. The absence of rabbits resulting in the uncontrolled growth of rank grasses, plus intensive cultivation has utterly ruined most of our noted downland localities. Much of our woodland too is being ruthlessly cleared and either ploughed or replanted with quick yielding conifers.

The old order changeth. Soon the commoners will become rarities, and the present rarities will be extinct—all very depressing for the naturalist.

This is a dismal comment on an already doleful enough year's records of Lepidoptera in the county. However we must keep on making the most of what we have left, and hope for the odd bright spot to come our way in the future.

CONTRIBUTORS

M.C.F.	Miss Muriel Foster, Aldbourne.
M.C.	Marlborough College N.H.S.
G.W.C.	Mr. G. W. Collett, Chippenham.
D.R.	Mr. David Rees, Bradford-on-Avon.
C.F.	Mr. Charles Floyd, Holt.
B.W.	Mr. B. W. Weddell, Trowbridge.
R.A.J.	Captain R. A. Jackson, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), F.R.E.S., Codford.
C.M.R.P.	Mr. C. M. R. Pitman, Salisbury.
M.B.	Miss Mollie Bird, The Deverills.

PHENOLOGICAL REPORT

	Average date	1959	Difference
Large White	23.4	19.4	+4
Marbled White	26.6	19.6	+7
Meadow Brown	15.6	4.6	+11
Cinnabar	19.6	26.6	-7
Garden Carpet	23.4	30.4	-7
Brimstone Moth	7.5	16.5	-9
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	C.M.R.P. 19.4 M.C. 5.5.	
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>	C.M.R.P. 6.5. Gynandromorph probably unique.	
Pale Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias hyale</i>	C.M.R.P. 12.8.	
Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>	R.A.J. 17.6. Very early date.	
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	C.M.R.P. 6.5. Immigrants arriving.	
Chalkhill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	R.A.J. 14.7. Emergence beginning.	
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	C.M.R.P. 8.4.	
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	R.A.J. 29.5. Unusual form. C.M.R.P. 5.8. Second brood.	
Silver-spotted Skipper	<i>Hesperia comma</i>	C.M.R.P. 10.8.	
Striped Hawk	<i>Celerio lineata</i>	C.M.R.P. 5.6.	
Small Elephant Hawk	<i>Deilephila porcellus</i>	R.A.J. 10.8. 2nd brood. Unusual.	
Hummingbird Hawk	<i>Macroglossum stellatarium</i>	B.W. 12.10. M.B. 5.11 C.M.R.P. 12.7.	

Broad-bordered Bee Hawk	<i>Hemaris fuciformis</i>	M.C. 20.9. 2nd Brood.
Lobster Prominent	<i>Stauropus fagi</i>	M.C. 26.6.
Figure of Eighty	<i>Tethea ocellaris</i>	M.C. 26.6.
Common Lappet	<i>Gastropacha quercifolia</i>	M.C. 14.6.
Emperor	<i>Saturnia pavonia</i>	C.M.R.P. 5.4.
Barred Hooktip	<i>Drepana cultraria</i>	M.C. 11.7.
Large Footman	<i>Lithosia quadra</i>	M.C. 11.7.
Sycamore Dagger	<i>Apatele aceris</i>	C.M.R.P. 28.5.
Heart and Club	<i>Agrotis clavis</i>	M.C. 21.6.
Dusky Sallow Rustic	<i>Eremobia ochroleuca</i>	C.M.R.P. Larvae seen 31.5
Straw Underwing	<i>Thalpophila matura</i>	M.C. 18.7.
Large Ranuncule	<i>Antitype flavicincta</i>	B.W. 18.9.
Orange Ear	<i>Gortina flavago</i>	M.C. 19.7.
Downland Wainscot	<i>Oria musculosa</i>	M.C. 18.7. 19.7. Believed to be the most Northernly record.
Small Dotted Buff	<i>Petilampa minima</i>	C.M.R.P. 22.4 Freak date.
Northern Drab	<i>Orthosia advena</i>	C.M.R.P. 12.4.
Chamomile Shark	<i>Cucullia chamomillae</i>	R.A.J. 3.5. Believe new to county.
Dark Spectacle	<i>Abrostola triplasia</i>	M.C. 5.6. A rare insect here.
Small Scallop Wave	<i>Sterrrha emarginata</i>	M.C. 18.7.
Greater Cream Wave	<i>Scopula floslactata</i>	M.C. 18.8
Clay Triple-lines	<i>Cosymbia linearia</i>	
Barred Tooth-striped	<i>Nothopteryx polycommata</i>	C.M.R.P. 11.3.
Grey Mottled Carpet	<i>Colostygia multistrigaria</i>	R.A.J. Due to emerge in March, but hatched 3.11—26.12. Bred in natural conditions.
Drab Carpet	<i>Minoa murinata</i>	M.C. 25.5.
Oblique Striped	<i>Mesotype virgata</i>	R.A.J. Bred 26—30.9. Due following May.
Sharp-angled Carpet	<i>Euphyia unangulata</i>	M.C. 18.5.
Large Argent-and-Sable	<i>Eulype hastata</i>	M.C. 23.5.
Marbled Pug	<i>Eupithecia irriguata</i>	M.C. 9.7.
Bordered Pug	<i>Eupithecia succenturiata</i>	B.W. 10.7.
Haworth's Pug	<i>Eupithecia haworthiata</i>	M.C. 20.7. R.A.J. 22.6.
Tawny-barred Angle	<i>Semiothisa liturata</i>	M.C. 4.5.
September Thorn	<i>Deuteronomos erosaria</i>	B.W. 18.9.
Purple Thorn	<i>Selenia tetralunaria</i>	C.M.R.P. 1.4. M.C. 9.7.
Willow Beauty	<i>Cleora rhomboidaria</i>	B.W. 27.6. Melanic form.
Grey Birch Beauty	<i>Aethalura punctulata</i>	M.C. 21.5.
Scarce Forester	<i>Procris globularia</i>	M.C. 27.5. A new locality.

REVIEW

The Bronze Age Round Barrow in Britain. An introduction to the study of the funerary practice and culture of the British and Irish Single-Grave People of the second millennium B.C. By Paul Ashbee, pp. 215; xxxii plates; 61 figs. London: Phoenix House Ltd. 50s.¹

In his preface to this book Mr. Ashbee says, 'A decade of excavation, in which I have played a part, has resulted in the careful examination and record of greater numbers of Britain's round barrows, and their associate monuments, than ever before. Thus the present time is particularly apt for this personal assessment of what is known of our round barrows and their builders.'

It is equally apt that this assessment should have been undertaken by Mr. Ashbee who has established himself in the post-war years as the leading specialist in the art of 'barrow-surgery'.

Mr. Ashbee covers his subject in fifteen chapters written in an attractive, vigorous, crisp and readable style. There are occasional lapses as when we read on p. 97, 'They [Thurnam and Evans] were honoured, and their names are writ large in the Victorian Valhalla of the Natural Sciences beneath the Puginesque Gothic roof of the Blackmore Room in Wiltshire's Salisbury Museum.'

In the early chapters we cover familiar ground with 'The Beginning of Barrow Study', 'The External Forms of Round Barrows' and 'Topographical and Environmental', although in the latter chapter some new thinking is introduced on the grouping of barrows. Mr. Ashbee suggests that the grouping of barrows into cemeteries of three types, which he defines as *linear*, *nuclear* and *dispersed*. Cemeteries of the first two types occur at Stonehenge and Avebury; the third type is mainly found in the North Country.

In his chapters dealing with 'Barrow Structure', 'Stake and Post Circle Barrows' and 'Burials and Graves' Mr. Ashbee sets out the results of the last decade of excavation. All the new information, along with the old, is skilfully marshalled and supported by some 400 references; the result will serve us well as a concise source of information on these matters.

The chapter on 'Grave Furniture' similarly provides a concise account of the different categories of grave goods, with the classification of some artifacts into types. In this chapter, however, the reader may be irked by some of the illustrations. Although there are a number of original drawings, others would seem to be from old blocks. Some of the illustrations show a

series of numbered objects; these are referred to in the text as a class of artifacts without any reference to the individual numbers. Thus one reads, 'There are three varieties of Deverel-Rimbury urn (Fig. 44)', only to find that Fig. 44 is a group of thirteen cinerary urns, presumably taken from an excavation report. No further reference is made to the Figure, thus the opportunity is lost of identifying certain of the urns as bucket, barrel or globular. Worse still 'Aldbourne Cups, Fig. 45' reproduces in addition to Aldbourne Cups eleven other artifacts, just because they happen to be on the original block!

In the remainder of his book Mr. Ashbee discusses the cultures responsible for barrow building, their origins, affinities and chronology. As in his earlier chapters he skilfully marshalls the evidence and discusses among other things the origins of the Wessex Culture and the Deverel-Rimbury folk. Mr. Ashbee also presents his chronological material in tabular form and it is a pity that he has not broken away from the prevailing fashion which treats the composition of such tables as if the printed page were a blackboard to be written upon without regard to the rules of typographical display. Such tables for charts cease to serve their proper function unless they can be easily interpreted without a great deal of effort.

In his concluding chapter 'Barrows, The Future and the State', the author has possibly strayed somewhat from the original purpose of his book in that he enters the field of present-day archaeological 'politics'. Leading up to his suggestion of the appointment of a Queen's Antiquary he surveys the structure of 'Official Archaeology' in this country and considers the various departments concerned. Even some of his fellow excavators are not safe from condemnation. These he describes (p. 197) as Itinerant *soi-disant* archaeologists, inexperienced and untrained in all but the barest rudiments of their craft and lacking full appreciation of the complexities and comparative material comprising their continent's prehistory, may have done their best, but the consequences of this use of official moneys might have been foreseeable! Doubtless this book will remedy their deficiencies! !

Salisbury.

John Musty

¹ A page-proof of this book was received at the time of going to press. In view of its Wiltshire interest it was decided to print this brief preliminary review without prejudice to a more detailed notice in a subsequent issue.

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1959

LIABILITIES	£	s.	d.	ASSETS	£	s.	d.
<i>Sundry Creditors</i>	853	5	6	<i>Freehold Property</i>			
<i>Capital A/c</i>				40/41 Long Street as at 31/12/58	5394	14	10
Balance at 31st December, 1958	23051	14	0	<i>Investments:</i>			
<i>Add:</i> Income over Expenditure				As per balance sheet 31/12/57	16739	7	6
for year ending 31/12/59	188	13	7	Additions or sales during year	NIL		
				<i>Sundry Debtors:</i> amount recover-	16739	7	6
				able from Carnegie Trust 1957			
				1958	284	18	1
				1959	473	9	3
					33	18	0
				<i>Cash on Deposit:</i>	792	5	4
				Somerset and Wilts Savings Bank			
				(Building Reserve A/c)	197	1	9
				Somerset and Wilts Savings Bank			
				(Life Membership A/c)	384	15	9
				Lloyds Bank Ltd.—Current A/c	581	17	6
				Lloyds Bank Ltd.—Capital A/c ...	474	11	9
				Cash in hands of Treasurer	93	6	6
				Cash in hands of Curator	6	16	3
					10	13	5
					£24093	13	1

WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
Cost of Magazine	821	15	6	Entrance Fees			
Salaries and N.H. Insurance	830	2	9	Subscriptions	878	15	8
Fire and other Insurance	50	18	4	Members Donations	7	16	10
Fuel and Light				Life Membership—Admissions	81	5	0
Repairs to premises and decorations				Dividends	720	10	3
Stationery							
Travelling				Somerset and Wilts Savings Bank			
Laboratory				Interest :			
Water Rates				Building Rescvc A/c.	3	8	6
Subscriptions				Life Membership A/c.	9	14	0
Library				Income Tax recovered	29	11	7
Telephones					257	13	0
Postages				Museum Admissions or Donations			
Museum Purchases				Library Fees	287	4	7
Hon. Treasurer				Sale of books and Magazines	48	3	3
Bank Charges				Wilts County Council	3	2	6
Bronze Age Room				Natural History Section	42	2	3
Sundry and contra items				Outings Profit	600	0	0
Archaeological Sub-Committee				Bronze Age Room	5	16	0
Curator—Petty cash items				Sundry and contra items	33	18	0
Accountant							
					1	10	0
					8	10	0
					1	16	2
					1	1	6
Excess of income over Expenditure	2611	13	6	Income Tax recovered under covenants			
	188	13	7	to year	15	12	7
				Capital Distribution—Bairds & Co.	50	0	0
				Addition to Building Fund			
					£2800	7	1

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