

Berkshire Barrows.

PART III.—EVIDENCE FROM THE SAXON CHARTERS.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED—

- AS—Anglo-Saxon.
 BCS.—Birch, W. de G. : *Cartularium Saxonicum*, followed by the number of the charter.
 BAJ.—*Berkshire Archaeological Journal* (nearly all these references are to Dr. G. B. Grundy's papers on the Berkshire Charters).
 B and T.—Bosworth and Toller, *Anglo-Saxon Dictionary*.
 B and T.—(Supplement). Ditto. Supplement.
 Bdry.—Boundary.
 KCD.—Kemble, J. M., *Codex Diplomaticus Aevi Saxonici*.
 N.D.F.C.—*Transactions of Newbury District Field Club*.
 Searle.—W. G. Searle : *Onomasticon Anglo-Saxonicum*.
 T.A.—Tithe Award.

INTRODUCTION.—In Part I of *Berkshire Barrows* (BAJ, XXXIX, p. 186), I wrote : “ The writer hopes on a future occasion to make a study of the barrows mentioned in the Berkshire charters and to publish it as Part III of the present paper.” The following article is in fulfilment of this promise.

As most of the charters mentioning Berkshire barrows are in the Abingdon cartulary, it is natural that most of the sites referred to are in the Vale of White Horse and on the downs to the south, particularly the latter as chalk downs were in great favour for prehistoric settlement ; but a few sites near the Thames and the Ock should be noted.

Most of the charters are in Latin, but the land-surveys attached to them are generally in Anglo-Saxon, and the perambulations normally go clockwise.

In the following list of sites, references will be made to Birch's *Cartularium Saxonicum* and not, except rarely, to Kemble's *Codex Diplomaticus* which is not usually so accurate. An exception to this rule is on O.S. 9 N.W., where Kemble includes a reference to Alfred's beorh which was omitted in error from Birch. References will also, of course, be made to Dr. G. B. Grundy's great paper on the Berkshire Charters (*B.A.J.*, Vols. 27-32) ; if Dr. Grundy had not grouped all the Berkshire Charters together, translated them and identified them with their several parishes and even satisfactorily identified a large number of the spots mentioned in each grant, I should never have had the courage to prepare the present paper.

This paper embodies a study of the sites described in the charters by the words *byrgels*, *heathenbyrgels*, *hlaew*, and *beorh*, and slight variants of those spellings.

1. *Byrgels* certainly means a burial-place, but it may or may not have been covered by a barrow.

2. *Heathenbyrgels*, or heathen burial-place, likewise may or may not have been covered by a barrow, but sites so-called were evidently either pre-Saxon or pagan Saxon.

3, 4. *Hlaew* and *Beorh* were used for mounds or hills, whether natural or artificial. The terms were used in the charters very frequently to denote barrows, but I think they were also used for natural hills more commonly than some have supposed. In King Alfred's Anglo-Saxon version of *Orosius*, Book I, Chapter I, section 12 (Bosworth's edition, 1859) the plural form *beorgas* is used to mean the Alps (*tha beorgas the man haet Alpīs*=the mountains called the Alps); in section 4 of the same chapter Mount Atlas is described as a *beorge*.

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that the value of the present study, as a contribution to barrow-literature, depends entirely on the meaning of *beorh* and *hlaew*. Even where they mean an artificial mound a barrow is not necessarily indicated; e.g. *maer beorh* is the mound on the boundary, but it may refer to a mound that was erected as a boundary mound. I have therefore throughout this paper translated *beorh* and *hlaew* as mound, and not as barrow, except where a barrow is obviously intended; this is to allow for the possibility that such mounds may not have been always barrows, and sometimes indeed may have been natural hills. The word mound is here used, for want of a better word, to mean a rise in the ground, whether natural or artificial.

It should also be remembered that the land surveys attached to the charters may not always have been accurate even when they were written. In the words of Earle (*Land Charters and Other Saxon Documents*, 1888, p. xxvii)—

“How far the landmarks were taken down from actual perambulation, how far the details were gathered from the memory of some old inhabitant, whether the bounds of any township being once in writing were ever revised, or whether they served for a common formula for deeds concerning that township for ever after—these are points which might even yet be tested by actual survey, and with the further aid, where it may be had, of old manorial maps.”

LIST OF BARROWS OR POSSIBLE BARROWS MENTIONED IN THE ANGLO-SAXON CHARTERS.

- 6" O.S. 5 S.E. *Yttinges hlaew* (Ytting's mound).
Appleton charter; BCS 777; BAJ, XXVII, p. 149.

The site was certainly between the River Thames and the road from Appleton to Netherton, and it was probably very near the present western boundary of Appleton which forms the western margin of Appleton Lower Common. A spot near here was called Titlar Hill in the TA., as pointed out by Grundy, and this name probably preserves the name of the mound. On visiting the area, 4.ix.38, I found a slight circular rise, perhaps a barrow, 250 yards west of the bdry., at Lat. $51^{\circ} 41' 55''$ and Long. $1^{\circ} 23' 18''$ W. The mound is 35 paces in diameter and 1 ft. high. This is most likely the Ytting's mound of the charter.

This example of Ytting as a personal name is the only one in Searle.

Titlar's Hill is W. of Appleton Lower Common, and the tiny track on W. of the wood is Titlar's Lane. (This was told to Mr. O. G. S. Crawford by an old man living at Sandhill Cottage, opposite the wood, 5.iv.30). Titlar is probably a corruption of Tit low (A.S. hlaew = hill or mound; and Tit is probably from Ytting).

8 N.E. *Laurocan beorge* (Lark's mound, from A.S. Lawerce = Lark).

Buckland charter; BCS, 1005; BAJ, XXVII, 230, 232, and 235.

The bounds of this charter are difficult to identify, but Grundy surmised that the site in question may have been near a field called Greenborough, just north of Mount Pleasant Farm and S.W. of the 4th milestone from Faringdon. I visited this site 21.ix.38, but could find no sign of any barrow in the vicinity.

The field-name Greenborough is preserved in Gimbro' Copse to S.E.

9 N.W. *Aelfredes beorh* (Alfred's mound).

Kingston Bagpuize charter; BCS, 1261; BAJ, XXX, pp. 106-107. (N.B., this point was omitted in error from BCS, but is given in KCD, 1276-7).

The site was probably on the eastern bdry of Kingston Bagpuize and somewhere between the park and Draycott Wood. I searched the area without success 21.ix.38.

Mr. O. G. S. Crawford has also visited the site of *Aelfredes beorh* and found no signs of any barrow.

Over 60 examples of the personal name Alfred are given in Searle, so that a connection with Alfred the Great is in the highest degree unlikely!

9 S.W. *Wintres hlaewe* (Winter's mound or hill).

Garford charter; BCS, 761; BAJ, XXIX, p. 113.

There is no doubt that it stood on the western bdry of Garford and between the Ock and Childrey Brook. Mr. O. G. S. Crawford searched for it on the ground 5.iv.30, and from the air 5.vi.30, but found no traces.

This is the only English example of the Saxon personal name Winter given in Searle; but Winterslow in Wiltshire is certainly derived from Winter's hlaew and there are some very fine round barrows in the vicinity (*W.A.M.*, Vol. xlviii, pp. 174-182).

It is just possible that the Berkshire Winter's low, like Winterdun (B & T) may mean a down or hill on which there was pasturage for sheep during the winter. Support is lent to this view as Crawford saw no sign of a barrow in the Berks. site, either from the ground or from the air.

10 *N.E. Ennan beorh* (Enna's mound).

Bayworth charter; BCS, 932; BAJ, XXXI, p. 56.

This is the only English example of the Saxon personal name Enna given in Searle.

There is no doubt that this mound stood near the mead known as Eney between Radley and Nuneham Park. There are at least two possible sites for Enna's mound—

1. The round barrow at S.E. corner of Radley village, Lat. $51^{\circ} 41' 6''$ and Long. $1^{\circ} 13' 37''$ W. This (seen by L.V.G., 19.ix.38) is a large mound about 4ft. high and some 40 paces in diameter.
2. A circle shown on air-photo 3185/4 at O.S. Office, Southampton, at Lat. $51^{\circ} 40' 53''$ and Long. $1^{\circ} 13' 45''$ W.

12 *N.E. Maer beorh* (the mound on the boundary).

Watchfield charter; BCS, 675; BAJ, XXXI, p. 139.

This site should be just east of Beechy Clump about 1 mile N. of Watchfield. I searched the area without success 21.ix.38. The soil here is sandy, and from the point of view of surface geology there is no reason why a barrow may not have existed here.

12 *N.E. Stan beorh* (the stone mound; see page of this paper).

Watchfield charter; BCS, 675; BAJ, XXXI, pp. 139-140.

This site should be on the E. bdry of Watchfield, by the road N.W. of Bower Copse, but I visited the area 21.ix.38, without finding anything.

These two sites on 12 N.E., are very puzzling. It is not a barrow-area, and I suspect that the boundary-mound and stone mound may have been small ones erected for the purpose of marking the boundary, but now destroyed.

13 *S.W. Beahhildae byrigels* (Beahhild's burial-place).

Woolstone charter; BCS, 491; BAJ, XXXI, p. 142.

The site was near Cowleaze Farm on the bdry between Comp-

ton Beauchamp and Woolstone, but a thorough search has failed to reveal the actual mound, if the burial place was covered by one.

13 *S.W. Hwittuces hlaew* (Hwittuc's mound).

Compton Beauchamp charter; BCS, 908; BAJ, XXXIX, p. 88.

I think this was the natural rise north of the Icknield Way and just north of Hardwell Wood. Lat. $51^{\circ} 34' 57''$; Long. $1^{\circ} 35' 14''$ W.

In my paper in Vol. VIII, No. 2 (1939) of *Trans. N.D.F.C.*, I have described the two above-mentioned sites fully with Wayland's Smithy, and have given my reasons for thinking that all three sites were named from figures in the Wayland Smith legend of Northern mythology.

It must suffice here to point out that Wayland was supposed to have committed misconduct with Beadohild and by her had a son named Wittich. I think Beadohild is represented by the Beahhild of the charter, and Wittich is the Hwittuc of the charter. The legend was common in Germany and Scandinavia, and details from it are represented in the Franks Casket. (See also under 19 N.W.: *Weardaes beorh*).

13 *S.W. Hildes hlaew* (Hild's mound, or the mound of the battle).

Compton Beauchamp charter; BCS, 908; BAJ, XXXIX, p. 88.

South of Gallyherns Farm the present Compton Beauchamp boundary coincides with the railway for a straight length of about half a mile. The charter gives this boundary as "from the thorn-tree to the red dyke, and along the dyke to Hild's low." There is a linear earthwork parallel to the railway in Breaches Copse, but it is uncertain whether this is the Red Dyke or whether it is the upcast from the railway cutting; at the eastern end of it, and at the S.E. corner of Longcot parish, is a circular mound covered with trees just west of Knighton Copse, and if this is not a modern dump it must be the Hild's hlaew of the charter. Lat. $51^{\circ} 35' 52''$; Long. $1^{\circ} 36' 13''$ W.

The A.S. Hild may be a personal name, but it can also mean a battle, and the present site may therefore have meant the hill, or barrow, where a battle was supposed to have been fought. The association of barrows with battles has been an item of popular tradition for many centuries.

14 *N.W. Ceawanlaewe* (Ceawa's mound).

Denchworth charter; BCS, 833; BAJ, XXVIII, p. 64, and XXIX, p. 95.

This was between Childrey Brook and Land Brook which are respectively previous and subsequent landmarks of the charter. The site was probably on the present southern bdy of Denchworth which forms the northern bdy of Challow, and Challow takes its name from Ceawa's hlaew. I searched carefully for the site on

4.vi.38, but without success. It may have been where the railway cutting crosses the bdry. This is the only Ceawa given in Searle.

14 *S.E. or 20 N.E. Rypelme hlau* (? the mound of the ripe elm).
Hendred charter; BCS, 1142; BAJ, XXX, p. 49.

Grundy locates this site as possibly on Goldbury Hill or Park Hill, but I am inclined to agree with Peake (*Trans. N.D.F.C.*, VII, p. 94) that it may be intended for Cwicheim's hlaew on O.S. 20 N.E. This is still within a few yards of the western bdry of East Hendred. Another possible site for Rypelme hlaew may be between Cwicheim's low and Park Hill near Elmtree Plantation, but this name is most likely modern. All three sites are near the present western bdry of East Hendred.

14 *S.E. Loddera beorge* (Beggar's mound).

Ginge charter; BCS, 981; BAJ, XXIX, p. 114.

This site is difficult to identify, but I do not think it is in Maypole Clump as Grundy suggested, the very slight rise there probably being due to a tree-planting circle. There is however a slight mound, 25 paces diameter and 2ft. high, to N.W., at Lat. 51° 34' 57" and Long. 1° 22' 17" W., and this may be the Loddera Beorh. The next point in the charter is the Green Lynch, and there is a lynchet forming the N. bdry of the Icknield Way 200 paces to the north. (See also under 20 N.E.).

? 15 *S.W. Thrym beorgan* (the three mounds or hills).

Hendred charter; BCS, 1142; BAJ, XXX, p. 49.

I think this refers to three natural eminences immediately east of the road from East Hendred to Scutchamer Knob, and just north of the Icknield Way. I have searched in vain for barrows in this area.

15 *S.W. Abban byorh* (Abba's mound: compare the derivation of Abingdon from Abban dun).

Hendred charter; BCS, 1142; BAJ, XXX, p. 50.

This site was probably on E. bdry of E. Hendred, near the Icknield Way, but my search there was unsuccessful.

Abba was a common Saxon personal name, eleven examples being given in Searle.

15 *N.W. Anlipan beorh* (the single mound).

Milton charter; BCS, 935; BAJ, XXXI, p. 112.

The site of this was probably north of the railway and east of Milton village, on ground now occupied by the War Dept. I was caught and searched as a suspicious character while trespassing here when looking for this site two or three years ago. My unfinished search was unsuccessful.

19 *N.W./N.E. Hodan hlaew* (Hoda's mound or hill).

Charters of Kingston Lisle, Uffington and Ashbury; BCS, 687, 899 and 1121; BAJ, XXVII, pp. 159-160; XXXI, pp. 34-5.

This was south of the hill-fort on Rams Hill. I have searched this area very thoroughly for barrows but can find none. Is it possible that Hoda's low was not a barrow, but the hill south of Rams Hill? This is the only Hoda in Searle, but there are two Hods.

19 *N.W./N.E. Stanhlaew or Bradstones* (the stone mound or hill, or broad stones).

Charters of Ashbury, Uffington and Kingston Lisle. BCS, 687, 899 and 1121; BAJ, XXVII, pp. 163-4, and XXXI, p. 34.

This site was south of Hoda's low. If it was a stone barrow it may have been the chambered long barrow I found on O.S. 19 N.E., in 1935; but it is more likely that it refers, not to a barrow, but to the down known as Kingston Warren Down, which is sprinkled with sarsens. The stan hlaew of the Uffington charter would then mean the hill covered with stones, and this would accord well with the fact that the same boundary-point is called Broad stones in the charters of Ashbury and Kingston Lisle. Sarsens were doubtless formerly more abundant here than they are now (see *Geological Survey Memoir to Sheet 13*, 1861, pp. 47-8).

19 *N.W. Weardaes beorh* (Weard's mound, Watchman's mound, or perhaps more probably the Beacon mound).

Charters of Woolstone and Ashbury; BCS, 491 and 902; BAJ, XXVII, p. 166, and XXXI, p. 144.

Along the eastern bdy of Woolstone and south of Uffington Castle are two barrows—Idlebush barrow and the disc-barrow to the south. There is little doubt that Idlebush barrow, the more prominent of the two, was the Weard's barrow of the charter. For the name, compare Weardanhyl = the Beacon-hill, in BCS, 663.

Might Weardae have been a corruption of Wadé, the father of Wayland the Smith?

19 *N.W. Welandes Smiththan* (Wayland's Smithy).

Compton Beauchamp charter; BCS, 908; BAJ, XXIX, pp. 87-89.

I have described this reference very fully in *Trans. N.D.F.C.*, Vol. VIII, No. 2, 1939; see also the present paper, page 106, where I have referred to the legend of Wayland with which Beahhild's byrigels, Hwittuc's hlaew, and perhaps Weardaes beorh were also probably associated.

19 *N.W.* *Eceles beorh* (Ecel's mound, or the mound of the church).
Ashbury and Uffington charters; BCS, 902, 899 and 687;
BAJ, XXVII, 154-5 and 168-9.

The site of this was somewhere between Alfred's Castle and the Icknield Way, and was probably near or south of the Ridgeway. There is a barrow on arable land 400 yards north of Red Barn (Lat. $51^{\circ} 33' 7''$ and Long. $1^{\circ} 36' 7''$ W.) and this would accord well with the data of the charters. The site is not marked on the latest maps prior to 1938. No personal name Ecel appears in Searle.

19 *N.W.* *Dinra beorh* (Coin mound, or perhaps the hidden mound).

Compton Beauchamp charter; BCS, 908; BAJ, XXIX, p. 89.

Dinra beorh may be derived from *dinor* = a coin, or it may be a corruption of *dirne* = hidden. The site in question was evidently situated on the downs between the Icknield Way and the Ridgeway, and the mound or barrow may well have been hidden from view to anyone on the Ridgeway, or to anyone climbing up the hill from the Icknield Way. While some barrows can be seen from afar, every barrow-hunter has met with those curious examples which are so placed that they cannot be seen from a distance, and one is unaware of their existence until within a few yards of them. The *dinra beorh* of the charter was north of the Ridgeway and east of Wayland's Smithy, probably due north of Hardwell Barn. The curious zig-zag course of an old footpath between Hardwell Barn and the Icknield Way is probably the eastern bdy of the Saxon parish of Compton Beauchamp which did not include Hardwell, and the *dinra beorh* was somewhere along this line. Grundy suggested that it was a barrow where coins had been found. It cannot have been Wayland's Smithy (where Iron Age currency bars were found in 1919 and it is just possible some may have been found in Saxon times) because Wayland's Smithy appears in a later portion of the same charter. Can *dinra beorh* mean the *hill* where coins have been found?

19 *S.W.* *Dude beorh* (Duda's mound).

Ashbury and Uffington charters; BCS, 687 and 899; BAJ, XXVII, pp. 154-5.

This site is described in the Ashbury charter as *beorh* = mound or barrow, and in the Uffington charter as *byrig* = camp. Grundy considered *byrig* = camp the correct version and identified it with Alfred's Castle. In my *White Horse Hill* (1939) I have given reasons for identifying Alfred's Castle with the Aescesburh from which Ashbury takes its name, and as *Dude beorh* (or *byrig*) is the next boundary-point northwards, I think it is the barrow about 150 yards north of Alfred's Castle.

19 *S.W. Hundes hlaew* (Hound's or Dog's mound).

Ashbury and Uffington charters; BCS, 687 and 899; BAJ, XXVII, pp. 163-4.

19 *S.W. Hafoces hlaew* (Hawk's mound).

Ashbury and Uffington charters; BCS, 687 and 899; BAJ, XXVII, pp. 163-4.

Grundy identifies these sites tentatively with the S.W. and S.E. boundaries of Compton Beauchamp parish. There is no sign of any mound at either place. At present I cannot suggest any alternative position for either of these sites.

19 *S.W. Hafoces hlaew* and *Hundes hlaew*. Mr. O. G. S.

Crawford (note on O.S. map at Southampton) thinks these may be Idlebush barrow and the disc-barrow to S., on 19 N.W.

20 *N.E. Cwichelmes hlaew* (Cwichelm's mound).

The holding of a gemot at Cwichelmes-hlaewe is referred to in KCD, 693, and the mound is also mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle under date A.D.1006. The same Chronicle mentions the death of Cwichelm in A.D.636, and the granting to his son of 3000 hides of land at Ashdown in A.D.648. There is another Cwichelmes Hlaew in a charter of Ardley, Oxfordshire (Grundy, *Saxon Oxfordshire*, 1933, p. 2). See also *Dict. Nat. Biog.*, article Cwichelm. (For Rypelme hlaew, which may be a variant of Cwichelmes hlaew, see under 14 S.E.).

20 *N.E./S.E. Gemaerbeorg* (the mound on the boundary).

Lockinge charter; BCS, 523; BAJ, XXX, p. 114.

This was somewhere on the western bdry of East Lockinge. Two possible sites are—

1. The Brokenbarrow of the Farnborough charter, on 20 S.E., where the parishes of Wantage, East Lockinge, and Farnborough meet; this site was suggested by Grundy.
2. The barrow immediately north of the Ridgeway and west of the Wantage monument, on 20 N.E., as suggested by Peake in *N.D.F.C.*, VII, p. 90. This barrow is still on the W. bdry of E. Lockinge.

20 *N.E. Lilla's hlaew* (Lilla's mound or hill).

Ginge charter; BCS, 981; BAJ, XXIX, pp. 114-117.

The reference here is to *Lillan hlaewe Crundele* (the quarry or chalkpit of Lilla's mound or hill). The context suggests, in my opinion, that *hlaew* may here mean hill and not barrow or mound, since a quarry or chalkpit is more likely to be in a hill than in a barrow; but on the other hand it may have been a barrow that had been partly quarried away. If a barrow is meant, it may have

been an example, not on the 1910 edition of 6" O.S., just north of the Ridgeway and south of Midsummer Wood, Lat. $51^{\circ} 33' 32''$ and Long. $1^{\circ} 22' 40''$ W. This is however a very low mound and it is difficult to believe that it could ever have had a quarried appearance.

Two Lillas are mentioned in Searle.

20 *N.E. Loddera beorh* (Beggar's mound or hill).

(See under 14 S.E.).

There is a possible site of this 300 yards E. of Blacksnail Cottages and just below the 397' altitude mark, Lat. $51^{\circ} 34' 32''$ and Long. $1^{\circ} 21' 56''$ W. It is a circle on one of Major Allen's air-photos, No. 4/191. Is it possible that the name may mean Poor Man's Hill, and have been applied to a natural down? Names such as Starveall Hill and Starveacre Farm are common to-day, and are supposed to indicate poorness of the soil.

20 *S.W. Borsenan beorge* (Burst or broken mound).

Brightwalton charter; BCS, 743; BAJ, XXVII, p. 226.

There is a barrow, or probable barrow, north of the wood called The Beeches on top of Woolley Down and just inside the Brightwalton bdry, Lat. $51^{\circ} 31' 55''$ and Long. $1^{\circ} 24' 43''$ W., and this seems to be the broken barrow of the charter. It is exactly where Grundy stated the mound should be. The mound is very low, being 1ft. high and 16 paces in diameter.

20 *S.W./S.E. Brocenan beorg* (Broken, or opened, mound).

Farnborough charter; BCS, 633; BAJ, XXIX, p. 103.

This site was near the N.W. corner of Farnborough parish, probably between Lattindown Farm and the little track going N.E. from Sparrow's Copse. Grundy records the field-name Brokenberry here, which is a survival of the Saxon name. The supposed remains of the barrow described by Grundy as 1 furlong E. of the N.W. corner of the parish are, in my opinion, the remains of old diggings. Could the reference have been to the hill, the surface of which was broken by quarrying?

20 *S.E. Fearnbeorghe* (the ferny mound or hill).

Farnborough charter; BCS, 633; BAJ, XXIX, pp. 101 and 105.

The name Farnborough is evidently derived from Fern barrow or Fern Hill. The site was probably near Whiteshute Row at the eastern end of Furze Lane. There is still a good deal of bracken-fern here, and the chalk is covered with clay-with-flints which encourages vegetation. I believe *fearnbeorghe* is the ferny hill, not the ferny barrow, of which there is no sign. Barrows are very scarce on clay, and it is very doubtful if a barrow ever existed here. Site visited 20.ix.38.

21 *N.E. Totan Cumbe aet tham beorge* (mound or hill at Tota's Combe).

Blewbury charter; BCS, 801; BAJ, XXVII, p. 204.

As pointed out by Grundy, Tota's Combe survives in the field-name Tadcombe Piece south of the Icknield Way near Upton Lodge. The barrow or hill must have been the hill to S.W. of Upton Lodge, or a barrow near it. No barrow is visible near here, although I searched the area thoroughly on 18.ix.38, so I think the reference is to the hill. Tota's Combe is of course the valley to E.

21 *S.W. Foxes beorge* (Fox barrow).

Blewbury charter; BCS, 801; BAJ, XXVII, 203.

There is no doubt this is a barrow, and it is the barrow still called Fox Barrow adjoining Grim's Ditch at the meeting point of the parishes of Compton, Blewbury, and East Ilsley.

21 *S.E. Bradan beorge* (Broad mound or hill).

Blewbury charter; BCS, 801; BAJ, XXVII, pp. 202-3.

The Blewbury charter includes also the parishes to the east of Blewbury, and the broad mound or hill was probably south of Dean's Bottom on the southern bdry of Aston Tirrold parish. There is a prominent hill here which may be the broad beorge of the charter, as no barrow is visible on this hill. Site visited 18.ix.38.

21 *S.E. Byrgeles* (the burial-places).

Blewbury charter; BCS, 801; BAJ, XXVII, p. 202.

This site was on or near Lowbury Hill, where there is at least one barrow and a possible second example as well as the rectangular camp.

22 *N.W. Miclan beorge* (the large mound or hill).

Blewbury charter; BCS, 801; BAJ, XXVII, p. 200.

Grundy has identified this site as on the western slope of Lollingdon Hill, north of the Icknield Way. On visiting the site 18.ix.38, I could find no sign of a barrow, and I am inclined to think that the reference is to Lollingdon Hill itself, which is a very prominent rounded hill.

26 *N.E. Lytlan beorh* (the little mound or hill).

Chieveley and Peasemore charter; BCS, 892; BAJ, XXVII, p. 242.

This was on the hill between Eastley Copse and Brightwalton Holt, due south of Roughdown Farm. I visited the site on 20.ix.38, but could find no sign of any barrow. I believe the reference is to the hill itself.

26 *S.W./S.E. Cardan hlaew or Cerdan hlaew* (Carda's or Cerda's mound).

Welford charter; BCS, 877 and 963; BAJ, XXXII, pp. 23 and 25.

This is the only personal name Carda given in Searle. Grundy thinks the site was S.W. of Breach Barn (26 S.E.) where there is a field called Burrough Field. I searched for this site 12.vi.38 without success, but most of the ground has long been under cultivation. The bounds of this grant can only be identified tentatively.

26 *S.E. Green barrow, or Green hill.*

Welford charter; BCS, 877 and 963; BAJ, XXXII, pp. 24, 29.

This site was probably in or near the belt of timber called Wadling's Border, but I searched for a barrow here without success on 12.vi.38; the undergrowth in the belt of timber is very thick, and it is possible for a barrow to be hidden there. The bounds of this grant can only be identified conjecturally.

27 *N.W. Cat beorh* (Cat mound).

Chieveley and Peasemore charter; BCS, 892; BAJ, XXVII, pp. 237-8 and 242-3.

This was in the wood on the bdy of Catmore and Peasemore, where there was very dense undergrowth at the time of my visit (29.v.38) and my search was unsuccessful, unless the reference is to the hill E.S.E. of Catmore and not a barrow.

27 *N.W. Byrgelsas* (the burial-places).

Chieveley and Peasemore charter; BCS, 892; BAJ, XXVII, p. 238.

There is little if any doubt that the barrow on Barrow Hill, Beedon, is here referred to, and there may of course have been more than one barrow here originally.

35 *N.W. Stan Cystlun* (?Stone cist or Roman foundations).

Chieveley and Peasemore charter; BCS, 892; BAJ, XXVII, p. 240.

This is a very puzzling reference. Bosworth and Toller in their Anglo-Saxon dictionary translated *stan ceastel* as chestnut tree (!), but in their supplement they corrected this to (i) an old Roman or British earthwork, or (ii) a heap of stones.

To enter fully into a discussion of *stan ceastel* and *stan cystlun* would be outside the scope of this paper as it would involve a study of all the other examples in the charters.* It must suffice to point out that in the Hants charter of Brown Candover (BCS, 596) *stan cistel* meant a Roman villa which stands on the spot now called Stanchester.

* The words have been dealt with fully by Dr. Grundy in *Essays and Studies*, VII, 43-47.

Wiltshire evidence pointing to Roman foundations as the meaning of *stan ceastel* is given in Grundy's *Wilts Charters* (*Arch. Journal*, Vol. 76, p. 224). Other Wiltshire evidence, indicating either Roman foundations or else a stone cist, is given by Grundy in *Arch. Journal*, Vol. 77, pp. 10 and 33.

As to the present site, there is not the slightest doubt where it was: it was between Bussock Camp and the Winterbourne Stream south of Ogdow Barn. I have searched the area most carefully on two occasions, but there is no sign of anything megalithic. As the charter states that a stone way led to the *stan cyslun*, I am inclined to think that a Roman site was indicated.

35 *N.W. Twig beorgas* (the two barrows).

Chieveley and Peasemore charter; BCS, 892; BAJ, XXVII, p. 241.

These are the two barrows between the Winterbourne Stream and Ogdow Barn, on the 1932 Edn. of 6" O.S. map, but not on the earlier editions. They are overlapping barrows, and have the appearance of an oval mound about 2ft. high and 45 paces long.

39 *S.W. Ruwan beorg* (Rough mound or hill).

Winkfield charter; BCS, 778; BAJ, XXXII, p. 17.

According to Dr. Grundy, this site was probably on the western bdy of Winkfield, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile E.N.E. of Lily Hill. I have not visited the area.

44 *S.W. Heafd beorh* (the barrow on the headland).

Brimpton charter; BCS, 802; BAJ, XXIX, p. 207.

This is one of the barrows on Brimpton Common.

44 *S.W. Imman beorge* (Imma's Barrow).

Brimpton charter; BCS, 802; BAJ, XXIX, p. 209; *Archaeological Journal*, Vol. 78, p. 102.

This is one of the barrows on Brimpton Common, probably the example on the Berks-Hants border (BAJ, XL, 44 S.W., No. 4), as it is also mentioned in a Hants charter. It is interesting to note that there is also an Imma's barrow in a Gloucestershire charter (Grundy, *Gloucestershire Charters*, p. 76).

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE BARROWS ETC. IN THE CHARTERS.

Animal and Bird Names.

The frequency with which barrows and other earthworks are named from animals and birds is shown in Lark's mound (8 N.E.),

Dog's mound and Hawk's mound (19 S.W.), Fox barrow (21 S.W.) and Cat mound (27 N.W.). No satisfactory explanation of this feature in the naming of earthworks appears to have been suggested.

Personal Names.

The sites named from persons are Ytting's hlaew (5 S.E.); Alfred's beorh (9 N.W.); perhaps Winter's hlaew (9 S.W.); Enna's mound (10 N.E.); Beahhild's byrigels (13 S.W.); Hwittuc's hlaew (13 S.W.); perhaps Hild's hlaew (13 S.W.); Ceawa's hlaew (14 N.W.); Abba's beorh (15 S.W.); Hoda's hlaew (19 N.W./N.E.); perhaps Weard's beorh (19 N.W.); Welandes Smiththan (19 N.W.); perhaps Ecel's beorh (19 N.W.); Duda's beorh (19 S.W.); Cwichelmes hlaew (20 N.E.); Lilla's hlaew (20 N.E.); Carda's hlaew (26 S.W./S.E.).

These sites may indicate the person buried in the barrow, or the person on whose property it stands, or the person who erected it, and some of the sites so-called may well be natural hills.

Beahhild's byrigels, Hwittuc's hlaew, Welandes Smiththan, and perhaps Weardaes beorh, all seem to have got their names from figures in the legend of Wayland the Smith.

Gemaer beorg (20 N.E./S.E.) and

Maer beorh (12 N.E.) = the Mound on the Boundary.

This may mean a barrow used as a boundary-point, or a non-sepulchral mound erected for the purpose of marking a boundary.

Stan beorh (12 N.E.); *Stan hlaew* (19 N.W./N.E.).

I have already given reasons for thinking that the site on 19 N.W. is a hill covered with sarsens. As to other sites the name stan beorh may denote (1) a cairn; (2) a barrow marked by a boundary-stone; (3) a barrow to which stones were customarily added by passers-by out of respect for the dead, as has been done until very recently, if it does not still persist, in Scotland and elsewhere; (4) a chambered barrow, or (5) a mere heap of stones piled up to mark a boundary.

Borsenan beorge (20 S.W.) and *Brocanan beorg* (20 S.W./S.E.).

These names indicate that some barrows had been opened during or before Saxon times, unless they occasionally refer to hills partly quarried away.

Ruwan beorg (39 S.W.).

This is a common name. The Anglo-Saxon *ruh* in this context probably means uncultivated, and the reference is either to an uncultivated hill, or to a barrow covered with vegetation, perhaps standing in a cultivated field. Compare the barrow near Rowbury (26 S.E.).

LIST OF SITES CALLED HEATHENBURIALS.

- | | | | |
|---|------|--|------------------------------|
| 5 | S.W. | Near, or perhaps on
Harrowdown Hill | } Berks A.J., XXX, 118, 119. |
| 9 | N.W. | Near the Lamb & Flag
Inn. | |

There is a rise in the ground W. of this Inn, which may mark the site.

- | | | | |
|----|---------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 10 | N.W. | Between Northcourt and
Radley Park | Berks. A.J., XXVII, 138. |
| 10 | N.W.(?) | | " " XXXI, 51. |
| 12 | N.E. | | " " XXXI, 137. |
| 13 | S.W. | West of Uffington | " " XXVII, 167. |
| 15 | N.E.-16 | N.W. | " " XXVII, 214. |
| 21 | S.E. | | " " XXVII, 202. |

I have thought it well to list the *heathenburials* without describing them in detail. The prevailing view is that they are probably not the sites of barrows, but what is needed is a personal inspection of all the sites so-called in several counties. In his *Saxon Oxfordshire*, 1933, p. 49, Dr. G. B. Grundy wrote that *heathen burials* "differed from *beorhs* and *hlaews*, and in no traceable instance are they associated with a tumulus of any kind." Kemble, however, writing nearly a century earlier (*Codex Diplomaticus*, Glossary), thought that some heathenburials may have been barrows.

CONCLUSION.

Broadly speaking, my search for barrows in the Berkshire charters was rather disappointing. I think some writers have too readily assumed that the words *beorh* and *hlaew* generally meant a barrow, whereas those words would seem to have been used sometimes, if not frequently, to mean a hill. The problem is rendered more difficult because most hills on the chalk or limestone are (or were) crowned with barrows. It is clear that when deciding whether a *hlaew* or *beorh* was a barrow or a hill, each example requires careful study in the field, and also if possible, from the air, combined with a very close study of the charter(s) in which it is mentioned.