

## SPETTISBURY RINGS, DORSET

By COLIN A. GRESHAM

Spettisbury Rings or Crawford Castle is one of several Early Iron Age hill forts, which flank the course of the river Stour in Dorset.<sup>1</sup> Not very far distant on the opposite side of the valley are Buzbury and Badbury Rings, while to the north-west are the great fortresses of Hambledon and Hod Hills.

In the neighbourhood of Spettisbury village, the ground on the right side of the river rises very abruptly to a height of between 100 and 150 ft. above the flood-plain. The fort is built on the edge of this steep slope, at a point where it can also occupy part of the crest of a rounded eminence. By choosing this site, the builders had one side of their work naturally defended for them by the drop to the river. An exactly similar use of the same physical conditions is to be seen at Poundbury Camp on the outskirts of Dorchester.

The defences consist of a single bank and outer ditch and are almost entire with the exception of the north-east corner, which has been partly removed by a railway cutting. Round the whole of the southern half of the fort the bank is continuous and built up, on an average, 22 ft. above the original ground level. The ditch remains round this side with a width of about 20 ft. and a depth of some 8 ft. For a distance of 150 ft. on either side of the entrance, which is to the north-west, the presence of the ditch is only shown by the length and greenness of the grass.<sup>2</sup>

The bank on the north side is gradually merged into the natural scarp, which has been in part artificially steepened, and, as the latter increases in height, the former is diminished until it is finally omitted. From this point onwards a small berm can be seen at

<sup>1</sup> Map reference, Dorset, Sheet xxiii N.E.

<sup>2</sup> In 1857 it was recorded that

'The moat passes quite round the fort, and is but little injured,' *Proc. Soc. Ants.*, 1st Ser., vol. iv, 1856-9.

the bottom of the scarp, showing where it has been cut back to form a steep slope about 40 ft. high. There is also some added material towards the top of the slope, placed there to maintain its regular steepness.

The railway cutting comes obliquely across this scarp and squarely across the eastern bank, which

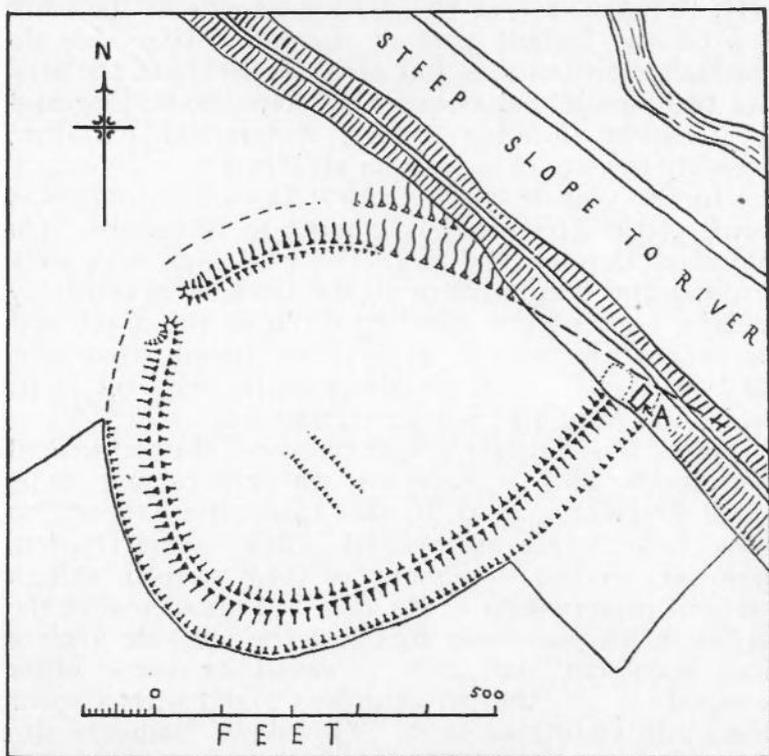


FIG. 1. PLAN OF SPETTISBURY RINGS

A. Site of burial pit.

probably did not turn, but ended with its ditch at the edge of the scarp. Where the ditch is thus sectioned it can be seen to be V-shaped and about 14 ft. deep. It is very unlikely that there was any entrance at this corner.

The north-west entrance now has the appearance of turning outwards, but it seems to have been con-

siderably altered to make an easy approach to the field inside the fort. The southernmost horn of the bank has also been partly cut into, perhaps to provide material for the same operation. It is quite possible that the entrance was originally of the overlapping type.

The interior of the fort slopes gently from south-west to north-east, as the south-west side of the bank lies on the highest part of the hill. There are no visible remains of pits, but near the centre of the area are two parallel banks or rather steps, 90 ft. long and 35 ft. apart, forming a level rectangular platform, possibly the site of some later structure.

In the year 1857 the Central Dorset Railway was being constructed from Wimborne to Blandford. On Monday, October the 19th, the workmen, who were making the deep cutting at the back of Spettisbury village, reached the silted-up ditch at the north-east corner of the fort.<sup>1</sup> Here they found what was described as ' . . . a pit about 35 ft. long, by 15 ft. wide, and from 4 to 9 or 10 ft. deep . . . '

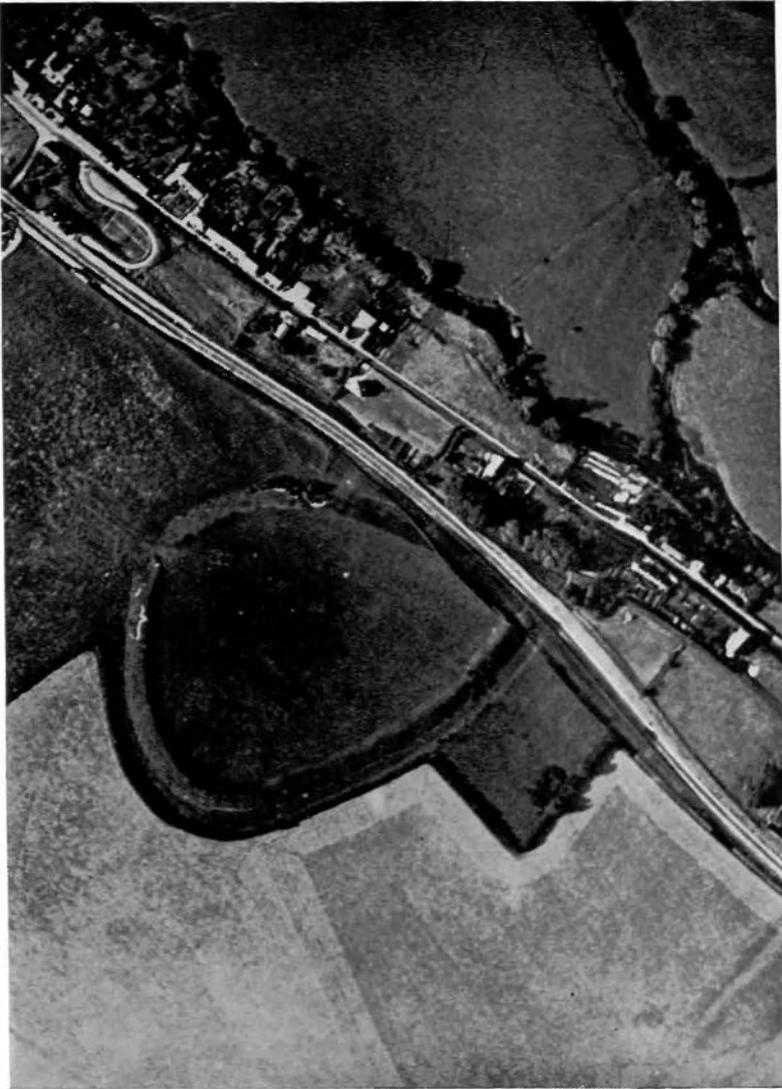
From this, during the next two days, they unearthed between 80 and 90 skeletons, which were said to be ' laid irregularly,' and, in the Antiquaries' report, to have been ' quite earthy and brittle.' Mr. Durden, however, records that many of them were in a high state of preservation.<sup>2</sup> He also says about one of the skulls in his possession that ' on the left side a piece had been cut out with a sword or some other weapon. . . . ' Another skull was found with a spear head still embedded in it. Two skulls from the site were examined by Professor Quekett, who added a note on them to the original report.

The following is a list of objects, definitely recorded as having been found ' among ' the skeletons :—a sword, currency bars, two fibulae, a bronze cauldron, two bucket handles, two bone needles, a weaving

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. Soc. Ants.*, 1st Ser., vol. iv, 1856-9, containing the original report on the objects from Spettisbury, from which the following facts are taken.

<sup>2</sup> Manuscript Note Book No 3, p. 79. There are three of Mr. Durden's note books in the British

Museum, with references to Spettisbury and lists of the objects in them. See also the published *Catalogue of the Museum of Local Antiquities*. Collected by Mr. Henry Durden, edited by George Payne.' Preface dated 1892. Page 40.



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AIR-PHOTOGRAPH OF SPETTISBURY RINGS

(By permission of the Controller of His Majesty's Stationery Office and the Director General, Ordnance Survey.)



BRONZE CHAPES : nos. 1 and 2

comb, two spiral finger rings and a few sherds of pottery, 'with a smooth surface and a dull grey texture; the most remarkable of them had a pierced projection through which possibly a cord was passed.' There were also several iron spear-heads, among which one, not now in the collection, is specially mentioned as being a narrow spiculum,  $9\frac{3}{4}$  in. long, with a quadrilateral blade.<sup>1</sup>

Most of the objects were procured by Mr. J. Y. Akerman, the secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, and exhibited by him. They were finally presented to the British Museum in 1862. A few of them, however, together with a considerable number of other objects, passed into the hands of Mr. Durden of Blandford, a noted local collector. These at length reached the British Museum with the rest of the Durden Collection in 1892.

Mr. Durden in his third manuscript note book mentions a single Roman coin from the site, a second brass of the Emperor Diocletian, and goes on to say, rather sadly, 'No doubt many coins and valuable articles were carted away by the navvies in making the railway, the men were not rewarded for what they did find, or encouraged in any way to be on the lookout, but were threatened to be discharged if they sold a single article.'

He ends by noting that, 'In January 1858 upwards of 40 more skeletons were discovered with a variety of articles that were not allowed to be seen.' There is no evidence to show whether this second find was at the same spot, or somewhere farther along the line.

The archaeologists of the time felt, as well they might, that one of their number should have been allowed to superintend the discoveries, and feeling ran high amongst them about the way in which the material was either lost or gathered into the cabinets of local collectors.

The following is the material now preserved in the British Museum. Those marked A were presented by Mr. Akerman and D are those in the Durden collection.

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. Soc. Ants.*, vol. iv., pp. 190-191.

## BRONZE

*Fibulae*

1.D. An example of La Tène II type, with the foot returned and fastened to the bow with a collar. Bilateral spring with six coils on each side, giving a total width of 2.7 cms. Length 4.9 cms. Entire and in good condition, except for a break in the spring. Fig. 2 (2).

*Lydney Excavations Report*, p. 69, where this brooch is listed and

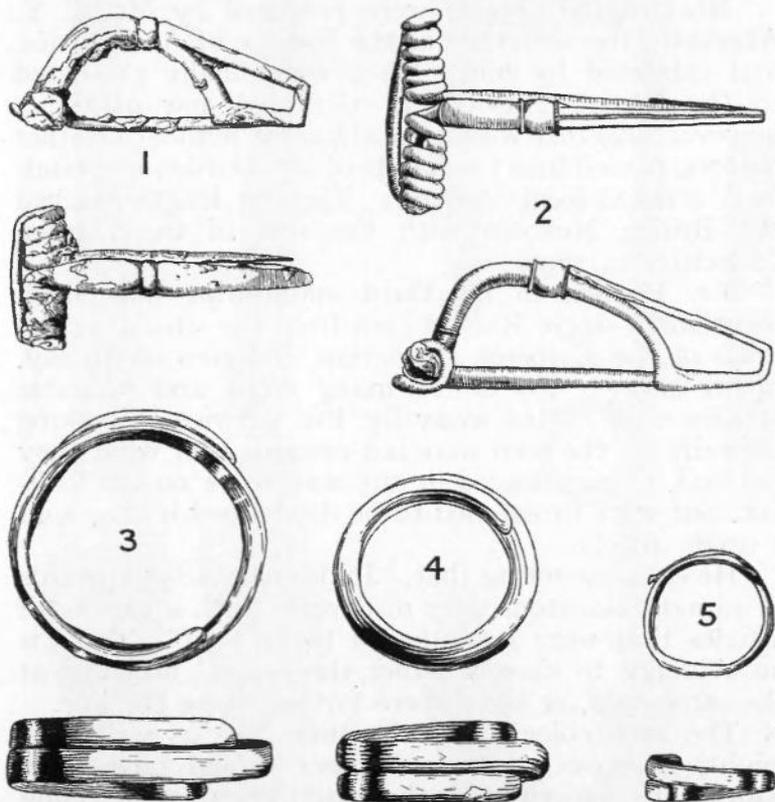


FIG. 2. BRONZE FIBULAE AND SPIRAL RINGS.  $\frac{1}{2}$

placed in class B, 'Late La Tène II brooches, from about 150 B.C.' It is also figured as the typical example on the distribution map.

2.A. A type transitional between La Tène II and III, with a decorative survival of the collar. Bilateral spring with four coils on each side, to a width of 2.0 cms. Length 3.9 cms. Entire and in fair condition, the spring still retaining an iron core. Fig. 2 (1).

*Glastonbury Lake Village*, vol. i, p. 196. This brooch is compared with the six specimens of class D. It closely resembles number E.22.

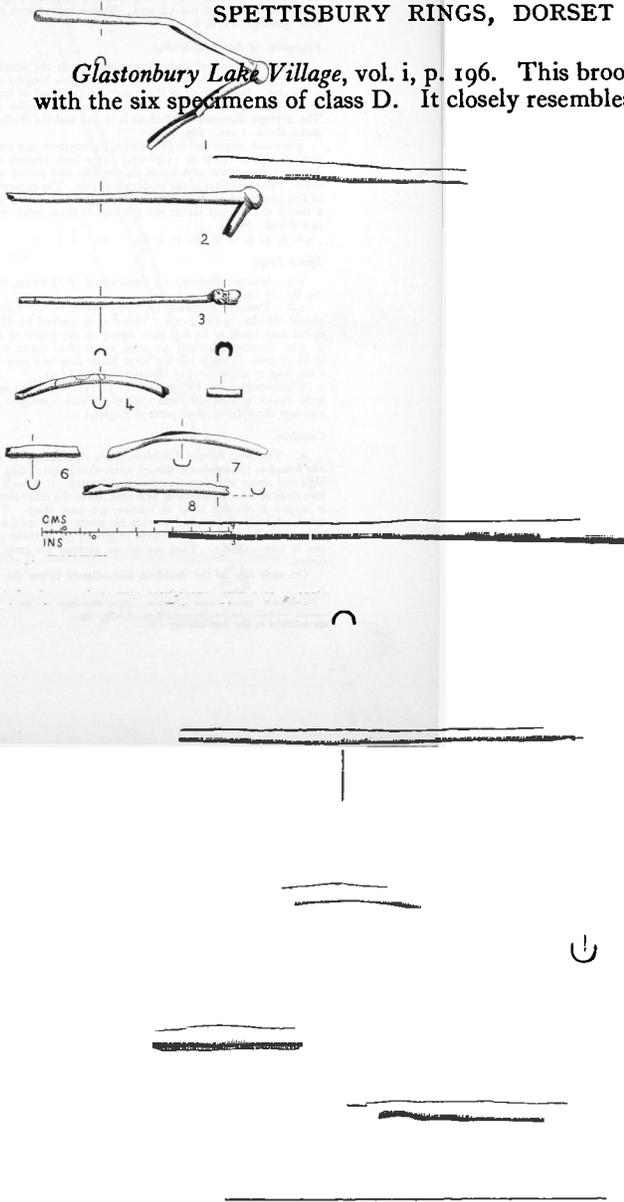


FIG. 3. FRAGMENTS OF BRONZE SCABBARD-BINDING

*Chapes*

i.D. A fine bronze chape with heart-shaped extremity. Length 14.5 cms., breadth at the top 3.4 cms. Entire and in good condition. Pl. ii. 1.

2.D. A more decorative and lighter type, with heart-shaped extremity and a cross strut composed of two adjoining circles. The top pierced with two rivet holes, trimmed round. Original length 13.4 cms., breadth at top 3.2 cms. Broken in two with part of one side missing. Pl. ii, 2.

#### *Fragments of Scabbard-binding*

There are nine of these fragments, which are semicircular in section, 1 and 2 have bulbous ends joining two lengths together in a V-shape. Some or all of them may be identified as fragments of sheath-binding of late date.<sup>1</sup> 4-8 are various similar fragments. The average diameter of all these is .6 cm. and the thickness of the metal about .1 cm. Fig. 3.

9 is much larger and heavier and in its length of 34.0 cms. has four projections for rivets at 11.5—11.5—10.0 cms. centres to centres. Three rivets remain with heads on one side and curled tails on the other. The diameter of the binding is .7 cm. The general heaviness of this piece and its projecting rivets suggest that it was not part of a sword sheath, but rather the binding of some solid object, such as a shield. Fig. 4.

A. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7. D. 1, 3, 9.

#### *Spiral Rings*

1.D. Internal diameter 1.5 cms., spiral of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  turns, oval ribbon .25 by .15 cms.

2.D. Internal diameter 1.9 cms., spiral of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  turns, ribbon almost circular, .4 by .3 cms. This ring is marked by Mr. Durden in his note book as having been found on the finger of a skeleton.

3.D. Internal diameter 2.7 cms., spiral of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  turns, oval ribbon .5 by .3 cms. This is too big for a finger ring and may have been a toe ring or some form of fastener. Fig. 2 (3-5).

*Glastonbury Lake Village*, vol. 1, p. 211. Over 20 spiral rings were found at this site, and the Spettisbury examples are listed amongst those from other parts of England.

#### *Cauldron*

A. The fine Bronze Cauldron from Spettisbury is similar to one found at Glastonbury, though somewhat larger, being 19.5 cms. high and about 28.0 cms. in greatest diameter. It is built up on an iron ring, of internal diameter 24.0 cms., on to the inner side of which is lapped a circular hoop of bronze, 5.0 cms. deep. The hemispherical body is attached to this by rivets with stud-like heads, 1.0 cm. in diameter. There were originally 32 of these rivets, but one is now missing. They are on an average 3.0 cms. centre to centre.

On each side of the cauldron immediately below the rim were

<sup>1</sup> Compare those from Bredon Mrs. Hencken in *Arch. Journ.* xciv Camp, Gloucestershire, where they (1939), 65. are ascribed to the first century A.D.



two attachments for handles, whose shape can be seen now in the corrosion of the metal. They were probably plates of bronze, each fastened by two rivets and having cast on them some form of projection to which the handle could be fixed.

Although the thickness of the hammered bronze, which forms the body of the cauldron, is not more than .06 cm., it is still in very fair condition, only a small part having been broken and lost. Pl. iii and Fig. 5.

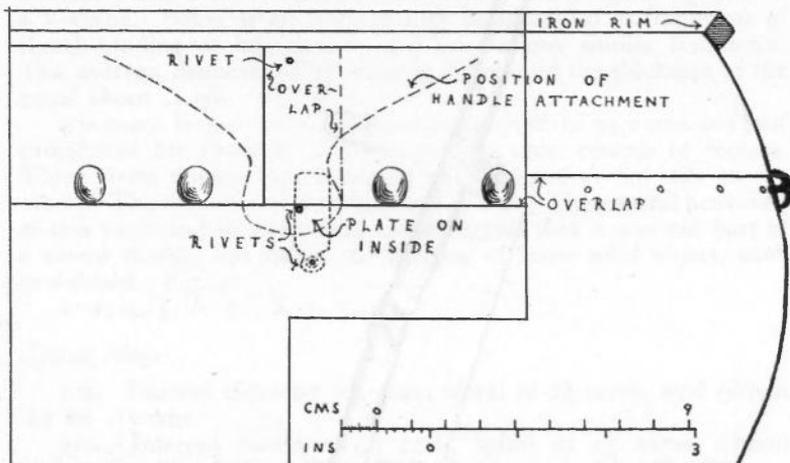


FIG. 5. CONSTRUCTION OF BRONZE CAULDRON

The cauldron is figured and described in the *Glastonbury Lake Village*, vol. i, p. 181.

## IRON

### *Spear Heads*

There are nine examples, probably of native Iron Age origin, all with closed sockets. Numbers 1-4 are leaf-shaped with a central rib down the blade. Similar examples come from Hunsbury (*Arch. Journ.*, xciii, p. 62) and elsewhere, and this appears to be the most usual type for the period. 5 is paralleled at Glastonbury (vol. ii, p. 381). 6 and 7 are of another type found at Glastonbury and Hunsbury (*Arch. Journ.*, xciii, Pl. xiii). 8 and 9 with their flat ribless blades may have Roman connections. Pl. iv.

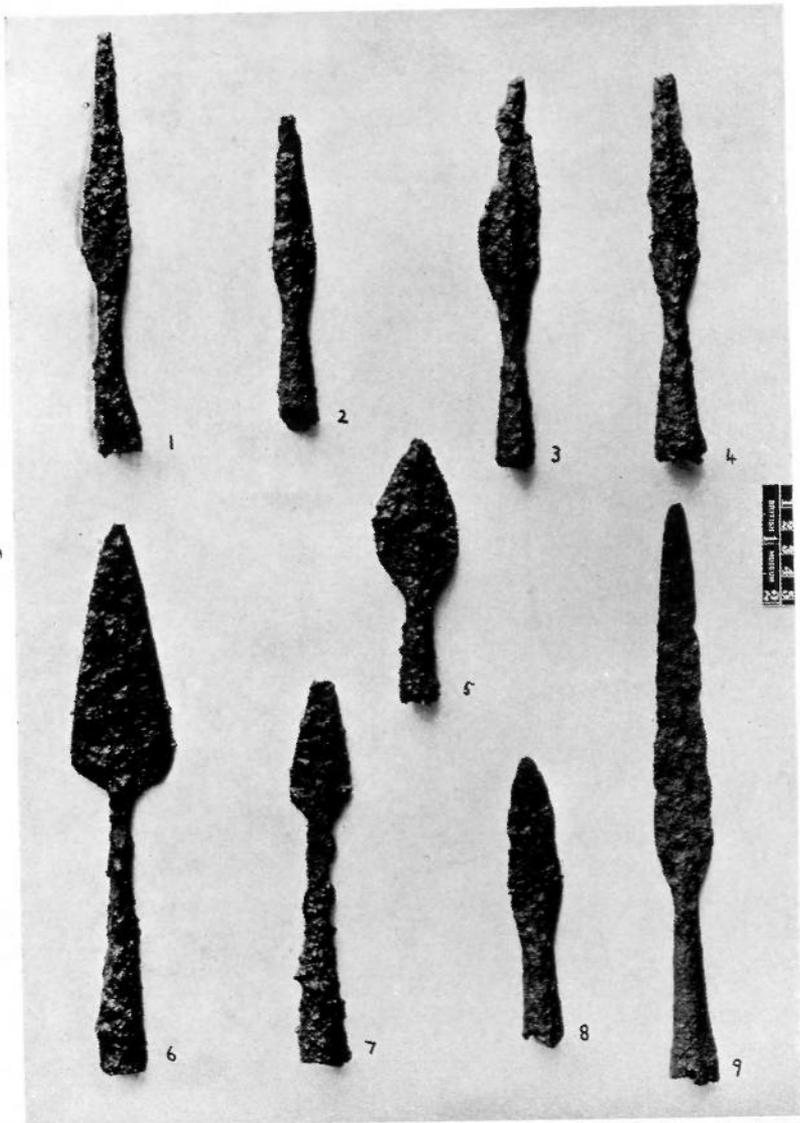
1.D. Length 18.0 cms., maximum width of blade 2.0 cms., external socket diameter 1.9 cms. Tip and socket slightly broken.

2.D. Length 13.5 cms., blade 2.2 cms., socket 1.9 cms. Tip and socket broken.

3.D. Length 17.4 cms., blade 2.5 cms., socket 1.8 cms. Blade partly broken, recorded as being found with a skeleton in October 1857.



BRONZE CAULDRON



IRON SPEAR-HEADS : nos. 1-9

4.D. Length 16.5 cms., blade 2.4 cms., socket 2.0 cms. Tip broken, remains of a rivet on one side of socket.

5.D. Length 11.2 cms., blade 3.5 cms., socket 1.7 cms. Entire.

6.D. Length 23.0 cms., blade 4.2 cms., socket 2.0 cms. Entire.

7.D. Length 16.0 cms., blade 2.7 cms., socket 2.0 cms. Tip broken, remains of wooden shaft in socket.

8.A. Length 12.3 cms., blade 2.2 cms., socket 1.9 cms. Socket broken.

9.A. Length 24.7 cms., blade 2.5 cms., socket 2.1 cms. Entire, remains of wooden shaft in socket.

Four other examples have flat blades and unclosed sockets. They are probably of Roman manufacture and similar to those found at Maiden Castle. Pl. v.

1.D. Length 21.0 cms., width of blade 3.6 cms., external diameter of socket 2.3 cms. Entire.

2.D. Length 12.7 cms., blade 3.4 cms., socket 1.9 cms. Tip and socket broken.

3.D. Length 9.3 cms., blade 3.0 cms., socket 1.9 cms. Almost entire.

4.D. Fragment of a blade with the beginning of an open socket. Tip broken away. Length now 9.5 cms., width 4.8 cms.

#### *Plough Share*

D. A pointed bar of iron 16.5 cms. long with one end roughly formed into a socket for attachment to the wooden part of the plough. Greatest diameter about 3.0 cms. Pl. vi. 1.

Similar examples come from Bigbury, *Arch. Journ.*, vol. lix, p. 214 and vol. lxxxix, p. 105; Hunsbury, *Arch. Journ.*, vol. xciii, p. 62; Mount Caburn, *Sussex Arch. Colls.*, lxviii.

#### *Knives*

1.D. Knife with socket. Length 23.7 cms. The blade slightly curved, entire. Pl. vi. 2.

2.D. Knife with tang. Length 9.5 cms. The blade partly broken, original length about 14.0 cms. This is the more usual form of Iron Age knife. Pl. vi, 3.

#### *Shears*

D. A small pair of shears. Overall length 7.4. cms. One blade broken in half, the other with its tip missing. The spring about .6 cm. wide and .3 cm. thick. Pl. vi, 4.

#### *Circular Disc*

D. Use unknown. Diameter varying between 6.4 and 5.9 cms. and thickness between .2 and .3 cm. A central perforation .7 cm. diameter. Pl. vi, 5.

#### *Bucket Handle*

D. A thin rod of iron bent in a half circle of radius about 9.0 cms., with the ends turned upwards and outwards. Too small to have belonged to the cauldron. Pl. vi, 6.

*Keys*

1.A. An almost entire sickle-shaped key, made from an iron rod about 1.0 cm. square in section. The handle end is provided with a small loop. Overall length about 50.0 cms. Pl. vi, 7.

2.A. Part of a smaller one with the loop broken off. Pl. vi. 8.

*Sword*

A. A fine iron sword, entire and retaining about 8.0 cms. of an iron scabbard on its blade. Total length 79.0 cms., including a tang 12.5 cms. long. The blade has a width of 4.0 cms. and a thickness of .3 cm., only tapering slightly at its extremity. At the point of junction between tang and blade a decorative fillet partly surrounds a circular stud. Pl. vii.

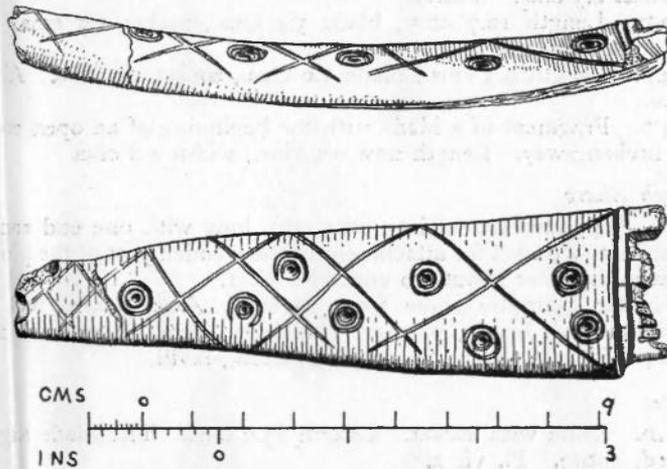


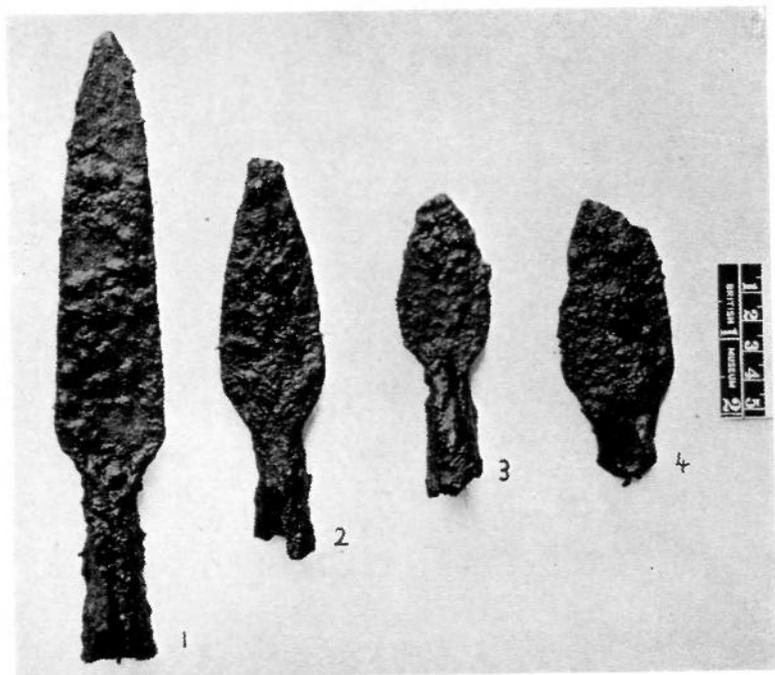
FIG. 6. BONE WEAVING COMB

*Currency Bars*

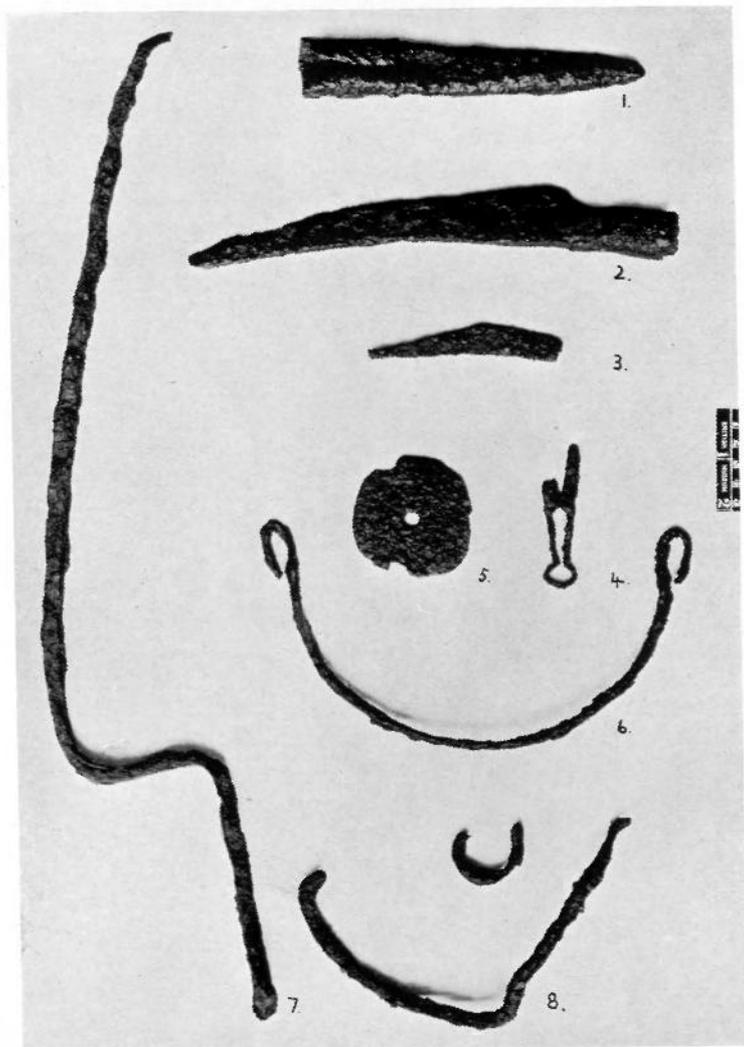
There are four complete examples of these and the end of a fifth. Two sizes are represented, the larger being about twice the weight of the smaller. In his article on Currency Bars in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Lond.*, 2nd series, xx, p. 182, Mr. Reginald Smith compares them with a number of others found at Malvern, to which they closely correspond. His standard weight for the larger size of bar is 9,50 grains or 619.4 grammes and for the smaller 4,770 grains or 307.4 grammes. Pl. vii, 1-5.

1.A. Large size. A fine and entire example. Length 79.0 cms., width tapering from 4.0 cms. to 3.0 cms., and thickness about .5 cm. Weight 7,656 grains or 497 grammes.

2.E. Large Size. Part of the 'handle' missing. Length 74.5 cms., width tapering from 4.0 to 3.0 cms., thickness about .5 cm. Weight 6,726 grains or 436 grammes.



ROMAN TYPE JAVELIN-HEADS : nos. 1-4



(1) Iron Ploughshare ; (2, 3) Iron Knives ; (4) Iron Shears ;  
 (5) Iron Disc ; (6) Bucket Handle ; (7) Sickle-shaped Key ;  
 (8) Fragments of Ditto.

3.A. Small size. The 'handle' broken. Length 53.5 cms., width 2.5 cms., the tip tapering to 2.0 cms., thickness .5 cm. Weight 4.703 grains or 305 grammes.

4.A. Small size. The 'handle' broken. Length 57.5 cms., width 2.0 cms., thickness about .3 to .4 cm. Weight 3,117 grains or 202 grammes.

5.D. Part of the 'handle' end of a large size bar 12.0 cms. in length.

The total weight of the two small size bars is 7,820 grains, which compares closely with the 7,656 grains of the complete large bar.

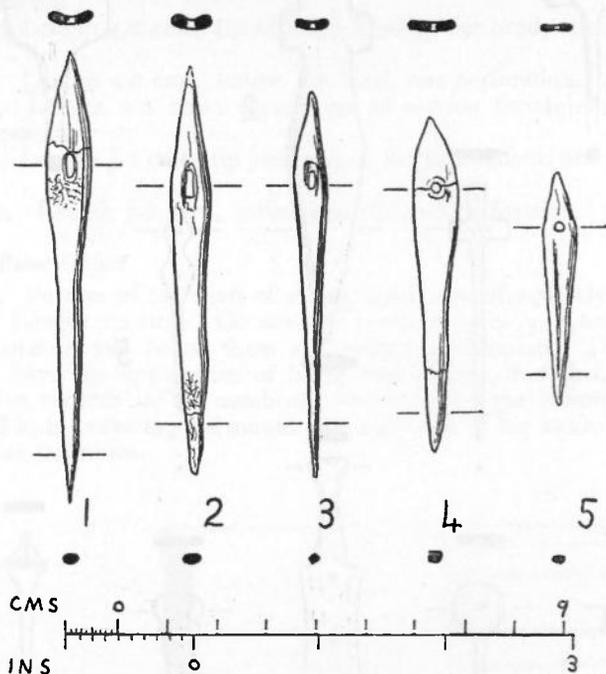


FIG. 7. BONE NEEDLES

#### BONE

##### *Weaving Comb*

A. All the teeth are broken, making the present length 13 cms. The greatest width at the base of the teeth is 3.1 cms. The back of the comb has a decorative design engraved on it, composed of intersecting lines and concentric circles. Fig. 6.

This comb is quoted on page 278 of the *Glastonbury Lake Village*, vol. i, and, of the six types recognised among the many examples from that site, is of the 4th.

##### *Needles*

There are five plain bone needles of the usual type. Fig. 7.

- 1.D. Length 9.0 cms., broken and mended.  
 1.D. Length 7.8 cms., tip missing.  
 3.D. Length 7.4 cms., entire.  
 4.D. Length 6.4 cms., broken and mended.  
 5.A. Length 4.6 cms., broken in three parts.

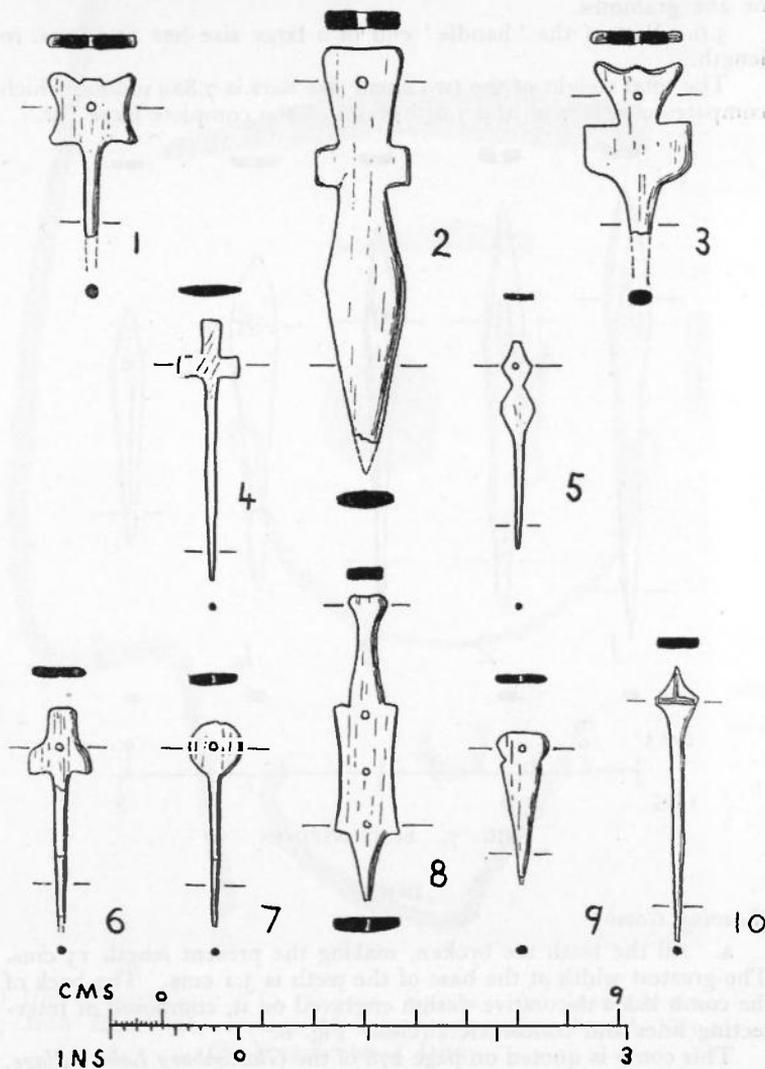


FIG. 8. BONE PINS. NOS. 1-10

*Pins*

D. The ten bone pins with decorative heads are of a very uncommon type. All except two have one or more small circular

perforations, while numbers 4 and 5 are of a finer, whiter bone than the rest. Fig. 8.

1. Length 3.0 cms, most of point broken away, flat head with one small perforation.
2. Length 7.8 cms., tip broken, flat in section throughout, one small perforation.
3. Length 3.0 cms., most of the point missing, head flat, one perforation.
4. Length 5.3 cms., entire, flat head, no perforation.
5. Length 4.2 cms., entire, flat in section throughout, one perforation.
6. Length 4.2 cms., tip of point missing, flat head, one perforation.
7. Length 4.0 cms., entire, flat head, one perforation.
8. Length 6.0 cms., entire, flat in section throughout, three perforations.
9. Length 3.0 cms., tip just broken, flat throughout, one perforation.
10. Length 5.6 cms., entire, head flat, no perforation.

#### *Cut Bone Object*

d. Portion of the shaft of a long bone, cut off squarely at each end. Length 7.2 cms. On one side are three holes .3, .5 and .3 cm. in diameter, and below them a T-shaped perforation. The three holes have the appearance of being countersunk, but this, as Mr. Durden records in his notebook, was done by the labourer, who found it, in removing the mould with the point of his knife. Fig. 9. Use unknown.

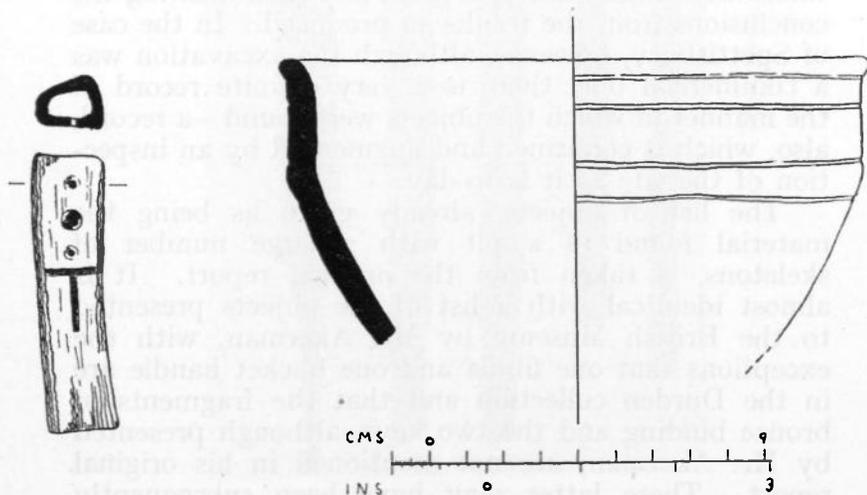


FIG. 9. CUT BONE OBJECT.  $\frac{1}{2}$   
HAND-MADE BOWL

## POTTERY

A. Only one sherd was preserved from the site. It is part of the rim and shoulder of a hand-made bowl, of dark muddy-brown colour with a smooth surface. It has two shallow grooves under the rim and two similar ones on the shoulder. Fig. 9.

It seems that this type was not found at Maiden Castle, but it appears to be closely paralleled at Hengistbury Head, by the bowl number 6 in Bushe-Fox's class C. 'Hengistbury Head Report' (*Soc. Ant. Lond.*), p. 38, and Pl. xix.

While visiting Spettisbury in March 1938 I found three small sherds of pottery all in the make-up of the bank, where rabbit holes had exposed it, two on the north side and one on the south-west. Dr. R. E. Mortimer Wheeler has kindly examined these and writes :

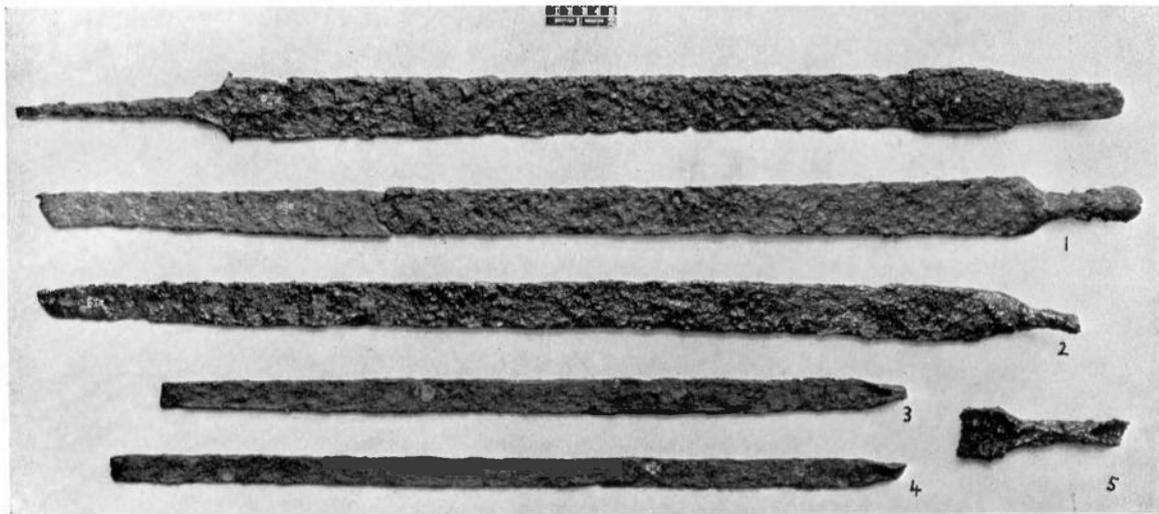
'The fragments of pottery are of the normal Wessex Iron Age A fabric, in one case perhaps originally coated with a red haematite slip which has, however, almost entirely worn off. The sherds are too fragmentary to indicate the form.'

Objects recorded in the Durden notebooks but not in the British Museum are a twisted iron bucket handle and whetstones.

## CONCLUSIONS

In studying finds from a non-archaeological excavation, the usual method of procedure is that of classifying the material into various groups, by comparing them with similar dated objects, and then drawing the conclusions from the results so produced. In the case of Spettisbury, however, although the excavation was a commercial one, there is a very definite record of the manner in which the objects were found—a record, also, which is confirmed and augmented by an inspection of the site as it is to-day.

The list of objects, already given as being the material found in a pit with a large number of skeletons, is taken from the original report. It is almost identical with a list of the objects presented to the British Museum by Mr. Akerman, with the exceptions that one fibula and one bucket handle are in the Durden collection and that the fragments of bronze binding and the two keys, although presented by Mr. Akerman, are not mentioned in his original report. These latter may have been subsequently acquired by him or not thought worthy of mention in a short paper. With this exception, then, it may be



IRON SWORD. CURRENCY BARS : nos. 1-5

taken with some certainty that all the Akerman material came from the pit.

With respect to the Durden collection the evidence is even less clear. Firstly, it would seem that the fibula is one of the two recorded by Mr. Akerman, for his description is as follows :—' Two fibulae of bronze, lyre-shaped and of Roman form ; one is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. long and in perfect condition, retaining even its polish, and having a spring still elastic.' This may well describe the one in the Durden collection, which does still retain its polish and though its spring is broken, it is likely that this is recent, perhaps done by someone wishing to show its elasticity. It is, however, practically 2 in. long, but the fact that the other fibula is exactly  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. long suggests a confusion of notes and makes it seem very probable that the two fibulae in the British Museum are the same two that are recorded as being found in the pit.

For the rest of the material there is no definite information except that it came from Spettisbury. Possibly Mr. Durden himself did not know the exact find-spot, but he gives no hint that it may have come from anywhere else but the pit, and he expressly says that objects found at a later date were not allowed to be seen. The area from which these objects could have come is not great, as the railway cutting only skims the extreme corner of the camp, removing perhaps 30 or 40 ft. of the bank and some 360 square yards of the interior.

The next point to be considered is the nature of the pit itself. Its discovery is described in the report in these words :—' At the north corner, through which the railway cutting passes, the moat is filled in. The men working there . . . came upon a pit . . . ' This seems to imply that the pit was in the silted-up ditch, of which some 40 ft. must have been removed by the railway cutting. The dimensions of the pit are given as 35 ft. by 15 ft., and it was from 4 to 9 or 10 ft. deep. From this it would be quite feasible to suggest that the pit was nothing more than the natural silting of the ditch, but it is impossible to imagine nearly a hundred burials made separately in so small an area.

Taking into account, also, the skull with the spear head in it and the skull cut by a sword, there is a good weight of evidence to show that at Spettisbury Rings in the silting-up of the north-east extremity of the ditch, where it ended on the edge of the natural scarp, was a burial pit, containing the bodies of the victims of some encounter at the site. There is no evidence of ceremonial burial, but rather the reverse, and it is likely that the bodies of attacker and attacked were piled in together.

In trying to date such an engagement by the objects found with the bodies, one is immediately drawn to the four arrow- or javelin-heads and the narrow spiculum with a quadrangular blade, all of Roman origin, for these imply the presence of Roman troops and strongly suggest the equating of this burial pit with the 'War Cemetery' at the east gate of Maiden Castle. Some of the fragmentary scabbard-bindings are also consistent with a date about the time of the Roman conquest.

There is, unfortunately, the conflicting evidence of the two brooches and also possibly the two more elaborate chapes. It may, of course, be justifiable to dismiss these by saying that they were lost in the silt of the ditch before the pit was dug, for, unless it can be believed that the defenders of the fort against the Romans were wearing heirlooms between 100 and 200 years old, it is necessary to suggest that here there were burials of two periods and that the bodies and material have been mixed. In support of this there is the fact that, while one recorder mentions that the bones had become 'quite earthy and brittle,' the other remarks that many of them were 'in a high state of preservation.'

None of the material from Spettisbury Rings need be older than 150 B.C., and the fort may well have been built between that date and 100 B.C. by people of the Iron Age A culture. There is no surface indication of the remodelling or rebuilding of the defences, and the site was probably occupied until the Roman Conquest. The level terrace in the centre of the fort may be the site of a later structure built within the area.

These points can only be settled by excavation, which would be well justified at this site, as even a single cutting across the bank and ditch, near the north-east corner, would produce considerable knowledge of the history of the fort, not to mention the probability of a very large number of good 'finds.'

Lastly I wish to express my thanks to Dr. R. E. Mortimer Wheeler, who suggested this recension of the Spettisbury material, and to Mr. C. F. C. Hawkes, who introduced me to Spettisbury and through whose kindness I was able to study and draw the material. I am also very grateful to the British Museum authorities for taking the photographs and allowing me to publish them.