

CORNISH BRONZE AGE POTTERY

PART II

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The present paper is a supplement to Cornish Bronze Age Pottery, Part I, which appeared in the *Archaeological Journal* for 1944. Some of the urns discussed below were included in the tables at the end of Part I, but not being available for study during the war, were only classified from contemporary drawings made at the time of their discovery. These have now been examined and are here described and illustrated. The remainder are new discoveries and have not been previously published.

NEOLITHIC

There are now three sites in Cornwall where Neolithic pottery has occurred, each of which shows variations. The sherds from Zennor Cromlech¹ suggest Irish analogies with comparisons to related sherds from Orkney. Much the same affinities apply to the four very different sherds from Carrick Crane Crag (fig. 1). The close resemblance in design at least, of these latter sherds to some from a galleried grave from Kercado, Morbihan, and also to some from La Pileta Cave, Malaga² suggests a link with the 'channelled ware' of Western Europe. The corded circular 'maggots' on urn B.14 (fig. 3) recalling those seen on Neolithic pottery from Larne and E. Lothian and the multiple arcaded design on the Bussow Veau urn F.11³ with its suggestion of 'channelled ware' patterns may also be noted. On such slender evidence it is impossible to do more than indicate the possible participation of Cornwall in the western sea route.

Although pottery of the Neolithic period is scanty its traditions persisted and may be traced in several instances in the succeeding Bronze Age. It is, therefore, convenient to discuss the following sherds here.

Carrick Crane Crag, Lowland Point, St. Keverne (fig. 1). Truro Museum

These four most interesting sherds were found in 1919 by Mr. Pengelly in the floor deposit of a narrow cave in some tall rocks at Lowland Point and were given to the late Colonel Pearce Serocold and Mr. Guy Maynard, who in 1933 made a full examination of the site but found no more pottery.

(1) This sherd which is unlike any other found in Cornwall, both in shape and paste, is flat-topped and formed part of the rim of a vessel with sharply slanting sides. The paste is very thick, almost black in colour and of an earthy texture with a very small amount of white shell grit. It is extremely friable and will hardly bear handling.

¹ F. M. Patchett, *Arch. Journ.*, ci 1946), 22, fig. 2.

² Jacquetta Hawkes, *Arch. Journ.*, xcvi (1939), 132, pl. I, 13-15.

³ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 41.

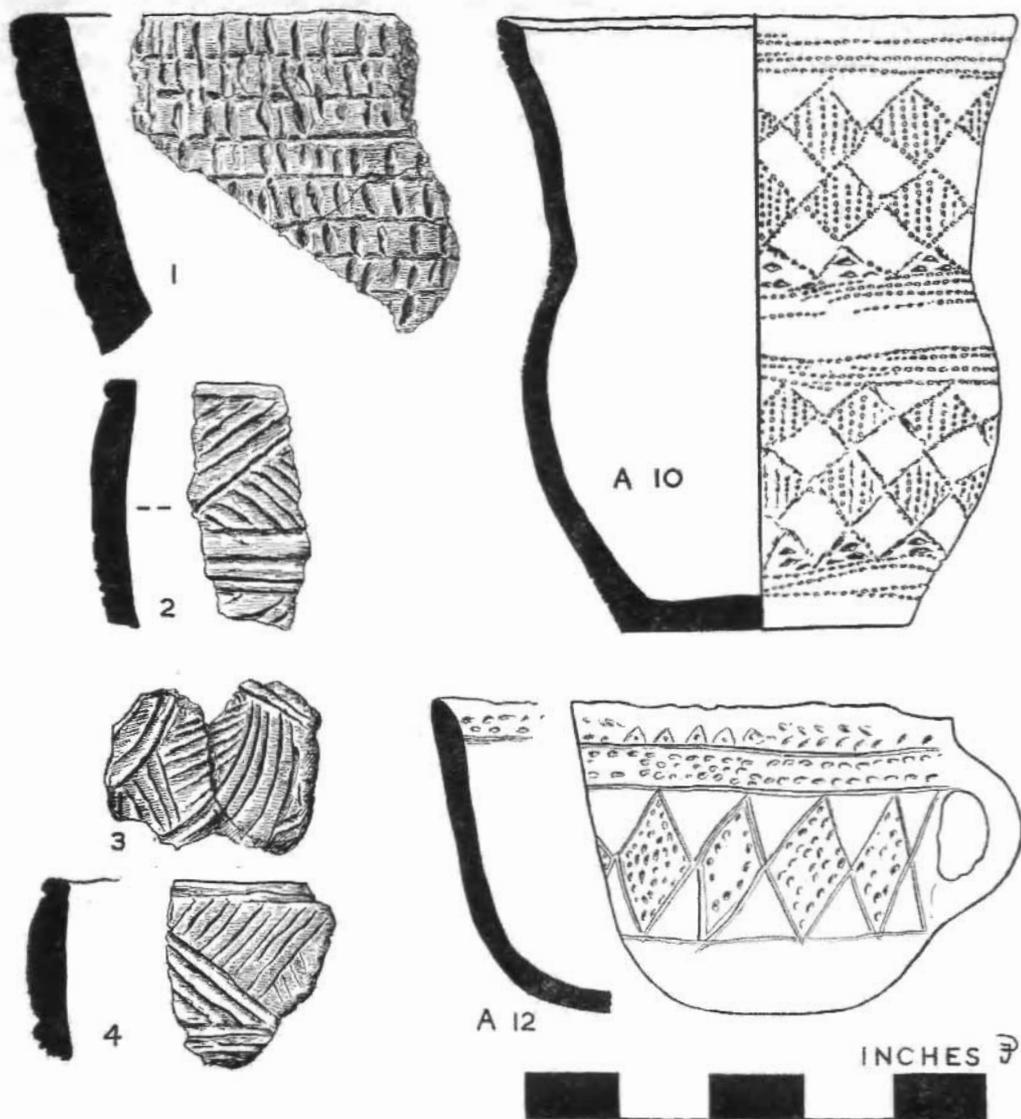


FIG. I.

1-4. Neolithic Pottery from Carrick Crane Cragg ($\frac{1}{2}$).

A.10 Beaker from Tregiffian, St. Buryan ($\frac{1}{2}$).

A.12 Cup from Denzell Downs, St. Columb. ($\frac{1}{2}$)

The design, also unique in Cornwall, is known as the 'ladder pattern', consisting of upright impressions between deeply incised lines, and though roughly executed is very effective. Professor Stuart Piggott has identified it as comparable with pottery from Linkardstown, Co. Carlow, Ireland,¹ and some unpublished sherds in Bute Museum, both of which occur in Neolithic associations.

(2) A rim sherd, diameter 6 in., flat-topped and rounded on the outside. The paste is fine and hard and very fragile. It is tempered with shell grit and fine sand, the fractures which are dark brown show a very evenly mixed and fired texture. The interior of the pot shows signs of burning.

The decoration consists of infilled chevrons lightly incised, with four deeper horizontal grooves below, while beneath these is curved grooving. Curvilinear grooving is a feature on pottery from Unstan, Orkney.

(3) Two sherds of similar paste possibly from the same vessel. The design of intersecting curved lines is in shallow grooving.

(4) Rim sherd, diameter 5 in., of the same paste with rounded rim. It has infilled chevrons with grooves below and signs of a cordon. This sherd compares with one from Kercado, Brittany.²

All these sherds are of the same period as No. 1 in Professor Piggott's opinion and comparable in ornament and texture to sherds from Unstan in Orkney and Eilean an Tighe in North Uist. He suggests they may represent a western sea-route series—Cornwall, Ireland and Scotland—following the megalithic route.

CLASS A. EARLY BRONZE AGE

This series consists of Beakers of both A and B types and also of the pottery resulting from the Breton immigration about 1500 B.C. This culture imposed on the native megalithic and Neolithic traditions proved in the following phases of the Bronze Age to be the most prominent factor in the make-up of Cornish Bronze Age pottery. Little has been found, so far, that can be assigned to this initial period.

Beaker A.10. Tregiffian Farm, St. Buryan (fig. 1). Penzance Museum

Discovered in 1948, the site where the beaker was found lies on the southern periphery of the Rosmodress complex of stone circle, menhirs and barrows.³ This situation gives support to the theory that the circles of standing stones are of beaker date. It was found in a cist measuring 3 ft. 6 in. by 2 ft. and 2 ft. in depth which was sunk in the natural ground and had no bottom stones. The small size of the cist suggests a contracted burial (inhumation) but all evidence of human remains had entirely disappeared owing to the acid nature of the soil. In the opinion of a local potter⁴ the beaker was made of clay probably from the bed of the adjacent stream.

The paste is of typical A Beaker ware, fine with very little grit, evenly mixed and fired and light red in colour. A good deal of the original burnished surface remains. Its in-turned rim, outward splay of the neck, central construction and globular body place the beaker in Phase I of Abercromby's A type. The dimensions are height 6 $\frac{7}{8}$ in., rim diameter, 5 $\frac{1}{8}$ in., base diameter, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

¹ S. P. Ó'Ríordáin, *P.P.S.*, xiii (1946), pl. iv, fig. 4.

² Z. de Rouzic, *Le Mobilier des Sepultures Préhistoriques*, Morbihan (1931), fig. 8, no. 7.

³ W. Copeland Borlase, *Noenia Cornubia* (1872), 245.

⁴ C. J. Ludlow, *The Lamorna Potteries, Penzance*.

The decoration is carefully executed and the design pleasing with its clever use of plain and shaded surfaces; it is stamped with a notched bone. The main pattern consists of alternate plain and hatched diagonal squares on both neck and body, bordered by plain zones between horizontal lines; fingertip impressions occur in the lower triangles. The zoning confirms its early attribution. It is closely related to the Wessex type of beaker which had a wide distribution throughout south-west England.

The nearest analogies to the Tregiffian pot are a beaker from Durrington, Wilts., now in Devizes Museum¹, which compares with it both in shape and zoning; while the design is comparable to a beaker from Sterndale, Derbyshire, in Sheffield Museum.²

The fact that two A beakers, this and the one from Prah Sands³, occur in the neighbourhood of Mount's Bay suggests that this was the point of entry into West Cornwall of the people using the A beaker who probably came down the Channel from the Wessex area about 1900 B.C. or a little later. This view is supported by the fact that the stone axe-hammers which are associated with the A Beaker culture occur at many places in Penwith⁴ as do tanged and barbed arrowheads.

A.12. *Denzell Downs, St. Columb* (fig. 1). *British Museum*

Found by W. Copeland Borlase in a barrow, one of five in a group on Denzell Downs,⁵ each of which originally had a ring of stones surrounding it.

'The barrow in which this cup was discovered, was 80 ft. in diameter and 9 ft. high, containing strata of different-coloured soils. At a depth of 5 ft. in the exact centre lay a deposit of very small chippings of burnt bones and ashes mixed with a yellow clay.

3 ft. west of this and on the same level was another vein of bone and splinters. 3 ft. north-east of the first find at a depth of 9 ft. from the top of the tumulus lay a large deposit of burnt bone and ashes. A slight pit had been made for it in the solid ground, but no kist vaen, side stone or cover. This fact leads to the supposition that a wooden or wicker framework now decayed, originally served as a kist. Lying in the midst of the bones and serving as a receptacle for some of them, with a turf on its mouth was the curious cup here figured.'

In shape it is a cup with a rounded base, plain round handle and a slight internal bevel at the rim. In *Cornish Bronze Age Pottery, Part I*, this cup, being then unavailable for inspection was sketched from the published illustration⁶ in which it appears to have a foot-ring owing to being placed on a stand for photographic purposes. This led to its mistaken description as a true Aldbourne cup with a handle. The paste is of B Beaker type without visible grit. The edges are soft with a greyish look at the fractures. It compares with that of the Harlyn Bay Beaker sherds.⁷ The exterior is smooth and of a pink colour while the interior has a yellow wash. The decoration is in three bands divided by incised lines, the uppermost, just below the rim, has a design of plaited cord which changes half-way round to incised triangles enclosing a single dot. The second band has two or three incomplete rows of twisted single cord impressions. The broadest band, stretching to the bottom of the handle, is composed of diamond shapes of incised lines variously decorated inside with small

¹ Abercromby, *B.A.P.*, ii (1912), pl. v, f. 4.

² I am indebted to Mr. George Willmot for this reference.

³ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 23, fig. iii, A.3.

⁴ Gulval, Gurland, Cury, Boscean, Heamoor,

Kelynack, Trewern, Higher Roseworthy, all now in Penzance Museum.

⁵ W. Copeland Borlase, *op. cit.*, 244.

⁶ Abercromby, *B.A.P.*, I (1912), fig. 301.

⁷ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 23, fig. 3, A1, 2.

irregular stabs. Although it has no foot-ring it has the pointille decoration of the Aldbourne cups and in spite of its beaker-like paste it is definitely not a Beaker as it accompanied a cremation. Therefore it must be the result of the primary Breton movement into Cornwall at a time when Beaker traditions were strong, dating from the last part of the early Bronze Age.

A.13. *Rillaton, Linkinghorne. British Museum* (not illustrated)

The Rillaton urn¹ and gold cup found in a long grave under a stone barrow near the Cheese-wring in 1818.

'A pile of stones 90 ft. diam. covered an oblong cavity 8 ft. × 3½ ft. × 3 ft. ht. Each of the sides of this grave was formed of three stones set on edge, one stone placed in the same manner closed each end, a long flat stone lay at the bottom and a tenth stone covered the whole. Along the floor lay the remains of a skeleton "extended". Near the breast stood an earthenware pot (now lost) and within it a golden cup. A flat stone 16 in. square leaning diagonally against the Western side of the cist covered these vessels. The earthenware vessel was broken in removing it but the fragments exhibited the usual incised ornamentation of early British pottery.'

Other relics found in the same tomb—but unfortunately mislaid—included a small piece of ornamental earthenware, a bronze spearhead 10 in. long, a metallic rivet, pieces of ivory and a few glass beads. The gold cup with its distinct Mycenaean characteristics, which cannot be later than 1500 B.C., and the beads which may have been faience, or if really glass, Egyptian, fit the Wessex evidences of trade, starting c. 1500 B.C. Had the large pot survived it would probably have given additional dating evidence. This important burial links Cornwall with the Mediterranean trade in the later part of the Early Bronze Age, the Cornish contribution doubtless being tin.

A.14. *Cataclews Bay II, Harlyn². Truro Museum*

This small vessel formerly placed in Class E must now be placed in the Early Bronze Age as it was accompanied by a stone axe-hammer or battle-axe of Beaker date.

MIDDLE BRONZE AGE

1400 B.C. TO 800 B.C.

The urns in this period fall into three main classes, each with a different origin and character, running concurrently. The first to be described is Class B, which consists of large ribbon-handled urns of biconical shape, the outcome of the Breton immigration in the preceding period. These are now the native element and to them the Overhanging-rim fashion must be added, coming in from outside, i.e. from Wessex which produced Class D.

The food-vessel type of urn, Class E, with dual sources of origin—Ireland and Wessex—arrived a little later in the story but then developed side by side with the other two classes.

Class C is a later form of B and D and runs on to the Late Bronze Age which should now be put to 800 B.C. in Cornwall.

¹ W. Copeland Borlase, *op. cit.*, 37

² Patchett, *op. cit.*, 38 and 39, fig. 9, E. 12 and table v.

During this period many miniature urns were found associated with the larger forms to which they compare closely even to the handles. In some cases they contained a 'snuff-coloured powder' which may have been the remains of food.

These small urns appear early in the chronological series, most frequently with the Ribbon-handled classes B and C, only in two cases in Class D and one in Class E though that example from Treworrick, is a true food-vessel. The custom had died out by the Late Bronze Age.

The first part of the Middle Bronze Age was Cornwall's 'Golden' age when Cornish tin played a vital part in Mediterranean trade as indicated by the faience beads found in the Carn Creis barrow. The gold crescents at Harlyn and other places show a flourishing connexion with Ireland whose trade with the continent passed through Cornwall. Cornwall was then strong enough to influence Wessex but later in the Middle Bronze Age this trade died down and though Wessex continued to dominate Cornish culture, the Cornish elements died out in Wessex. The trade with Ireland continued as the Irish still needed the tin, but cross peninsula trade routes were idle as the Wessex-Irish trade went by other routes.

CLASS B. LARGE RIBBON-HANDLED URNS AND ASSOCIATED MINIATURE VESSELS

B.II. *Nanstallon, Bodmin and Lanlivet. Truro Museum* (not illustrated)

This urn was discovered in 1883 in Shepherd's House barrow on New Down close to the ancient trackway from Ruthern Bridge to Bodmin.¹ It was on the western side not in the centre, upright on a 'beautifully clean floor' not on a slab. 'Spar stones of handy sizes had been put in, closely round it to fill up the space about it. The contents were black and oily with bits of white projecting.' The barrow had been levelled but the cairn had been composed of quartz and spar stones. In it was found half of a smooth water-worn pebble, scratched on one face; a triangular-holed stone about 3 in. across and $\frac{3}{4}$ in. thick was also discovered. The hole about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter was irregularly bevelled, cut from both faces.

The urn has a flat base and widens gradually to the two handles which are of broad looped form. It curves towards the rim, height 20 in., rim diameter 15 in., base diameter 6 in., handles width $3\frac{1}{2}$ in.

The paste was fairly firm but crumbled easily and has a smooth unglazed surface. The colour is a deep brown almost black. The decoration was made by pressing a close three-stranded plait of rushes or fine throngs on the clay while it was soft. The design is in regular very sharp horizontal chevrons to half-way down the handles, outlined by two horizontal lines with two lines on the rim. The inner bevel has the horizontal chevrons, the handles five or six lines. The bones inside the interior had been burnt and were mixed with ashes.

This account has been taken from the article in the *Journal of the Royal Institute of Cornwall*.

B.I3. *Tregaseal I. St. Just-in-Penwith* (fig. 2). *British Museum*.

This urn was discovered in 1879 by W. Copeland Borlase in a barrow on Tregaseal Downs.² The barrow was of an oval shape; it had a wall of large stones and contained a long-chamber. The urn was a secondary burial as it had been placed in a small

¹ Rev. W. Iago, *J. R.I.C.*, x (1890), 196.

² W. Copeland Borlase, 'Typical Specimens

of Cornish Barrows', *Arch.*, xlix (1885), 194.
Abercromby, op. cit., ii, 357.

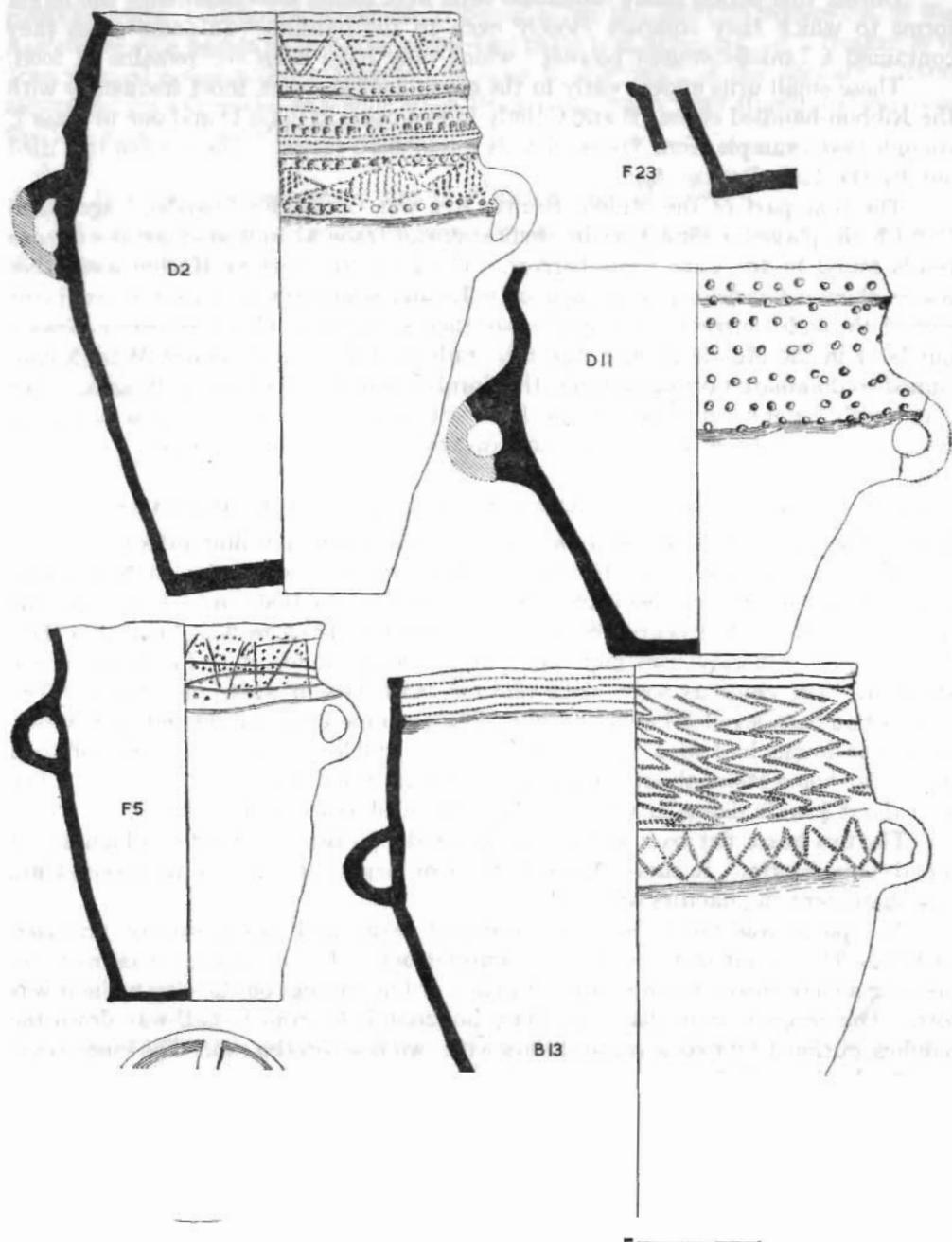


FIG. 2. URNS

D.2. Chapel Carn Brea, St. Just-in-Penwith.
 D.II. Bochym, Cury.
 F.23. Ligger Point, Cubert.

F.5. Glendorgal, Lower St. Columb Porth.
 B.13. Tregaseal, St. Just-in-Penwith, with cross from
 inside of base.

square cist against the north-west end of the original chamber, inverted over a cremation. The cist was full of fine earth in which was the urn. Copeland Borlase gives its height as 21 in. although now, possibly owing to shrinkage through drying, it only measures 20½ in. ; the rim diameter is 16 in. It is very broad at the handle level from which it tapers sharply to its somewhat small base. The internal bevel is hollowed denoting its early type. It has wide ribbon-handles measuring 5 in. across with a distinct droop and a carination at the lowest handle level. On the inside of the base is a raised cross evidently to strengthen it, this feature occurs on one other urn in Cornwall, a large urn from Boleigh of which only the handles remain. The paste is typical of Middle Bronze Age urns having large sharp grit and dark fractures. The urn is a rather dark brown colour lighter towards the base.

The decoration is in a fine three-cord plait and consists of a wide band of sharp horizontal chevrons from the rim to the top of the handles with a trellis pattern below, outlined by horizontal lines in the same technique. The bevel has four rows of single twist cord impressions and the handle is also decorated. This is a most beautiful urn both in form and decoration.

This urn compares with the Broham urn, Oliver's Camp, Wilts.,¹ which, in shape shows the Cornish element in Wessex in the early part of the Middle Bronze Age. The Broham urn was associated with a knife dagger which Fox and Grimes² show to be of early Middle Bronze Age date. This dagger compares closely with one from Harlyn found with the larger urn B.2.³ This urn is also comparable in form with the urn from Wessex. The handles of these large urns either bridge the carination or start or end from it indifferently.

The Broham urn shows Pyrenean affinities in its finger-tipped bands which occur there on large urn-like pots starting in the Beaker period and lasting to a date parallel with the English Middle Bronze Age. Professor Hawkes associates these Pyrenean regions with the Mediterranean connections that brought to England the faience beads and the Mycenaean form of cup as at Rillaton coming via the Mediterranean coast between Catalonia and Marseilles across south-west France to the Biscayan Coast.

B.14. Cornwall (fig. 3). British Museum

This urn⁴ is without exact provenance. Nothing can be discovered except that it was found in Cornwall and was bought at the sale of W. Copeland Borlase's collection. It is relatively small and dumpy in shape, with a wide rounded base, and two cordons, the lower somewhat uneven. The rim has a short internal bevel. The handles are upright having lost the droop of the earlier urns in this series. The paste is of Middle Bronze Age texture, hard and heavy with large pebble grit and is fairly well fired ; the exterior of a light brown colour is smoothed. The decoration in lightly impressed twisted cord is elaborately arranged, having four horizontal lines below the rim and under these a wide band of small vertical chevrons above a row of semi-circular impressions of the same cord twist. Between the cordons occur horizontal chevrons with the semi-circular impressions below them.

These circular 'Maggots' are unusual, they occur on Neolithic pottery at

¹ *Devizes Museum Catalogue*, ii, 2nd ed. (1934), 50, pl. x, 10.

² *Arch. Camb.*, 83 (1928), 148 f., 161 f.

³ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 30, fig. 6, B, 2 and D.

⁴ Abercomby, *op. cit.*, 1, 3.

Larne, Antrim,¹ and at Peebles in Scotland, and here may be a relic of the Neolithic tradition in Cornwall. The urn contained a cremation.

B.24. Leskys III. Boscregan, St. Just-in-Penwith (fig. 4). British Museum

This little urn was found in the Eastern barrow of a pair on Leskys Carn overlooking the sea. The barrow was surrounded by a ring of granite stones enclosing a bank of earth and stones 2 ft. in height, its diameter was 18 ft., an inner ring of stones 6 ft. in diameter contained ten deposits of pottery resting on the natural soil, in one or two cases the urns were inverted.

This small urn of which only the rim and 2 in. of the walls survive, was probably the vessel containing a food deposit, accompanying the large urn B.9, which contained cremated bones. A full account of the various deposits was published by W. Copeland Borlase.² If his surmises are correct, i.e. that the decoration covered the whole body of this little urn, it would seem to be in the food-vessel tradition, a supposition confirmed by its well-marked internal bevel and the thickness of its walls. By comparison with other small pots associated with large urns of this class, it is probable that it had handles though none have survived. The evenly-fired paste, dark throughout and of early type, has soft fractures; it contains some crushed shell and a small amount of mica. The colour is pinkish brown. The decoration of tightly twisted cord impressions with slanting lines is finely executed on the bevel and five close lines under the rim. There are five rows of diagonal marks below in alternating directions.

This decoration compares with that on a food-vessel rim from Maiden Castle³.

B.26. From the Cheesewring Area. Linkinghorne, Plymouth (destroyed in the war).

In a barrow consisting mainly of stones and containing ashes and calcined human bones, also a small vessel 'resembling a plate with a hole in the centre and a raised rim supported by four little legs or pillars'⁴ possibly an incense cup and this urn B.26. The urn was probably 20 in. to 22 in. in height. Its rim diameter was 15 in., base 6½ in. The paste of ordinary coarse granitic clay of the locality, was not well fired though hardened and blackened by the ashes of the funeral pile. The decoration was in lines and chevrons, coupled or alternated with oval indentations; some of the lines are of cord impressions. In shape it compared with B.14 with a rather wide rounded base and large handles.

CLASS C

In the later forms of B with softer outline, the carination disappears but its place is sometimes marked by a cordon. The Irish influence shows itself in the broken design on several urns of this class.

¹ *P.S.E.A.*, vii (1932), pl. 62, fig. 6.

² W. Copeland Borlase, *J.R.I.C.*, vi (1878), 201, pl. ii, fig. 5. Abercromby, *op. cit.*, 11.

³ R. E. M. Wheeler, *Maiden Castle Report* (1943), 152, pp 30 and 67.

⁴ *Trans. Plym. Inst.*, x (1887-1890), 244.

C.6 *Clahar Gardens II. Mullion* (fig. 4). *British Museum*

From a barrow 36 ft. in diameter covering a ring of stones.¹ Four urns were found in the centre, the one here described being contained in a cist of four stones with a flat stone as cover. The urn was inverted and rested on a stone.

The rim was slightly everted and has a very short internal bevel. The handles are solid but the perforated tradition is indicated by a groove on the side of the lug. The cordon recalls the biconical urns of earlier date; the urn tapers gradually to its base. The paste is of a rather late type with small grit and is badly fired; the exterior of a pinkish colour is smoothed.

The decoration is very delicate and was probably made with a stamp to imitate cord technique as it is in double lines which keep exactly the same distance apart, this design is repeated on the bevel.

The neat decoration and solid lugs together with its paste indicate a date late in the series for this urn.

C.13. *Clahar Gardens III. Mullion* (fig. 3). *British Museum*

The urn² was found in the same barrow as C.6 three struck flint flakes also were discovered. The urn was found in pieces close to a ribbon-handled urn of biconical shape with design of impressed cord arranged as that on the Tredinney urn F.22.

These may have been the primary burial. Whether they were contained in a cist is unfortunately not recorded.

This small plain vessel is roughly made with a carination just below the two clumsy imperforate lugs. These start only an inch below the rim which has a short internal bevel. The paste is of late type with fine sandy grit, but not well fired. It is red brown in colour and the outer surface is smoothed.

C.7. *Boskednan, Gulval* (fig. 4). *British Museum*

The urn was discovered by W. Copeland Borlase in 1872;³ the barrow from which it was taken, cut into the circumference of the Boskednan Circle of Standing Stones. It had been rifled so it was impossible to judge either its height or size but the four sides of a cist 4 ft. by 2 ft. 6 in. by 6 in. were found, the cover stone of which was missing. The fragments of the urn were three feet away. From its profile it is late in the series. The elongated bevel is hardly more than a thickening of the rim. The handles recall in their shape the trumpet lugs of the Neolithic tradition. In form it was probably like the Tredinney Urn F.22 (fig. 3), with a fairly wide base.

The paste is coarse and heavy with sharp dark fractures containing small whole pebbles, Middle Bronze Age in character. The outside has a greyish slip and the inside shows signs of burning.

The decoration made with a fine twisted cord consists of three rows on the rim with rows of short diagonal lines in alternating directions forming a kind of chevron design below. On the inside bevel are three double lines of the cord impressions. It was associated with burnt wood and ashes.

¹ W. Copeland Borlase, *Noenia Cornubia* (1872), 225-228; Abercromby, *op. cit.*, ii, 429.

² W. Copeland Borlase, *op. cit.*, 225.

³ Copeland Borlase, *op. cit.*, 280. H. O'N. Hencken, *Archaeology of Cornwall and Scilly* (1932), 84.

C.12. *Carn Creis III. Boscregan, St. Just-in-Penwith* (fig. 3). *British Museum*

Found in the barrow on the south peak of Carn Creis¹ overlooking the sea. A natural rock of square tabular shape was surrounded by a ring of stones, diameter 18 ft. This barrow construction is not uncommon in W. Cornwall. The filling of the barrow had been partially removed but two feet of it remained on the south side and in this, resting against the side of the rock were this urn, the plain biconical urn B.21² with four others,³ part of a globular vessel of glass, 12 faience beads and a V. perforated button. This small vessel with a broken rim was placed in Class G in the previously published part of this paper. It was probably a secondary interment as it appears to be of later date and may possibly have been associated with one of the larger vessels which has not survived. It was definitely not associated with either the beads or the glass.

It had two lugs when found but only one remains. It is very roughly made showing signs of fingering. It is slightly biconical and the surviving lug is small and imperforate.

The paste is sandy, which generally denotes a late date, containing small crushed granite backing slightly micaceous and is lightly fired.

The exterior is smoothed and light brown in colour. It contained a snuff-coloured powder which fact seems to indicate that it was an accessory vessel.

CLASS D

In this Class Overhanging-rim fashions derived from Wessex at about the same time as Class B developed, run with it concurrently. There were probably later infiltrations both from Wessex and other areas where the Overhanging-rim tradition was strong but the very late form did not develop in Cornwall and the class had died out by the Late Bronze Age.

D.2. *Chapel Carn Brea, St. Just-in-Penwith* (fig. 2). *Truro Museum*

From a barrow on the top of Chapel Carn Brea Hill which was excavated in 1907 by Mr. H. King.⁴ The barrow was made of small weathered stones and measured 18 ft. by 7 ft. by 3 ft. A standing stone in position at the north end suggested a circle of stones. It contained a cist of flat-faced stones supporting a single slab and full of earth in which stood the urn. The cist was 2 feet 6 in. square, height 2 ft. 6 in. In it were a few bones and three flint flakes. The urn was upright and contained earth and partially cremated bones with granules of quartz and felspar. The bones indicated a small individual. On a further exploration of the barrow another broken urn was found on the western side away from the cist. It was probably smaller, one handle and the base were missing and could not be found. This seems to suggest that either old and damaged domestic vessels were sometimes used for funerary purposes or the breakage had a ritual signification. This broken urn had a band round the rim $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide of a repetitive pattern of acute angles bordered by four horizontal lines above and three below in impressed cord technique.

¹ Copeland Borlase, *J.R.I.C.*, vi (1879), 207.

² Patchett, *op. cit.*, 30, fig. 6, B. 21.

³ Beads of a similar paste were found in a barrow in Kent. This burial, except for its provenance is a good example of a Cornish one as it contained a large urn with four handles

decorated with chevrons of impressed cord, an incense cup and two other small vessels, one of which compares with the small urn from Boscawen-un. C.10. *Arch. Cant.*, ix (1874), 24, pl. ii.

⁴ *Man*, ix (October, 1909), 147.

Some of the sherds had holes made after firing, i.e. repair holes, another proof of previous use.

D.2, a very handsome urn, is a hybrid combining features of both B. and D. classes. It has three slight cordons, one defining the collar and the others limiting the lowest band of decoration. The collar is in the overhanging-rim tradition, but the urn's biconical form and large ribbon-handles denote the Breton tradition of Class B, though the handles have not the distinctive droop of the early urns in that class and it lacks the graceful curve of the body. Here it narrows gradually to the base which rises to the centre. The paste is of typical Middle Bronze Age texture, containing a large amount of granite grit and having a black core. The outer surface is smoothed and there are signs of burnishing inside.

The decoration is unusually elaborate, executed in rather coarse twisted cord. Its three zones each have a different design. Besides the cord ornament there are impressions of what seem to have been a hazel-nut kernel used endways and sideways. This very unusual feature occurs on one other urn, that from Bochym D.II (fig. 2) below. There is a deliberate break in the design which is most likely due to superstition. Such intentional gaps are a feature on Irish vessels¹ and have been noticed on other Cornish urns. The handle is decorated with crossed lines of the impressed cord.

D.II. Bochym, Cury (fig. 2). Truro Museum

No details of the discovery of this urn are available. It is a very clumsy-looking urn disproportionally wide and narrowing sharply, to a small base. The collar is narrow and there is a rough cordon at handle level. The handles are missing. The paste is hard and heavy with a dark core and is of Late Bronze Age character with small backing and a gritty texture except near the rim where it is burnt smooth. The colour is pink to grey. The decoration is unusual and carelessly executed, consisting of uneven horizontal rows from rim to handle of round impressions made by the kernels of hazel nuts. From its degenerate contour, paste and rough decoration, it is probably late in date though D.2 (fig. 2), the only other urn to show kernel impressions is of an early type.

D.I3. Carnkief I, Perranzabuloe (fig. 3). Truro Museum

This urn and the food-vessel type urn E.I4 were found by Mr. A. D. Nicholls. They were together near the edge of a barrow and were obviously a second interment. The primary burial, also of food-vessel type was not much earlier in date. This is a typical collared urn of Abercromby's type I; it compares with a series from Dorset.² In shape it is tripartite, having a rather narrow rim and a very distinct inward turn, well marked neck and cavetto moulding. The shoulder angle and the largest diameter of the rim are equal and the form is asymmetrical tapering gradually to a narrow rounded base. The measurements are, height 11½ in., rim diameter 9 in., base 7¾ in. The paste is of Middle Bronze texture containing rather large grit with whole pebbles and showing sharp fractures. The urn was built up on the coil system. Unlike most others of this class in Cornwall it has not acquired handles and has no decoration.

¹ I am indebted to Miss Lily Chitty for this information.

² Abercromby, *op. cit.*, cii, 8, pls. lxii and lxiii. (These Carnkief urns will be published fully by Mr. Nicholls.)

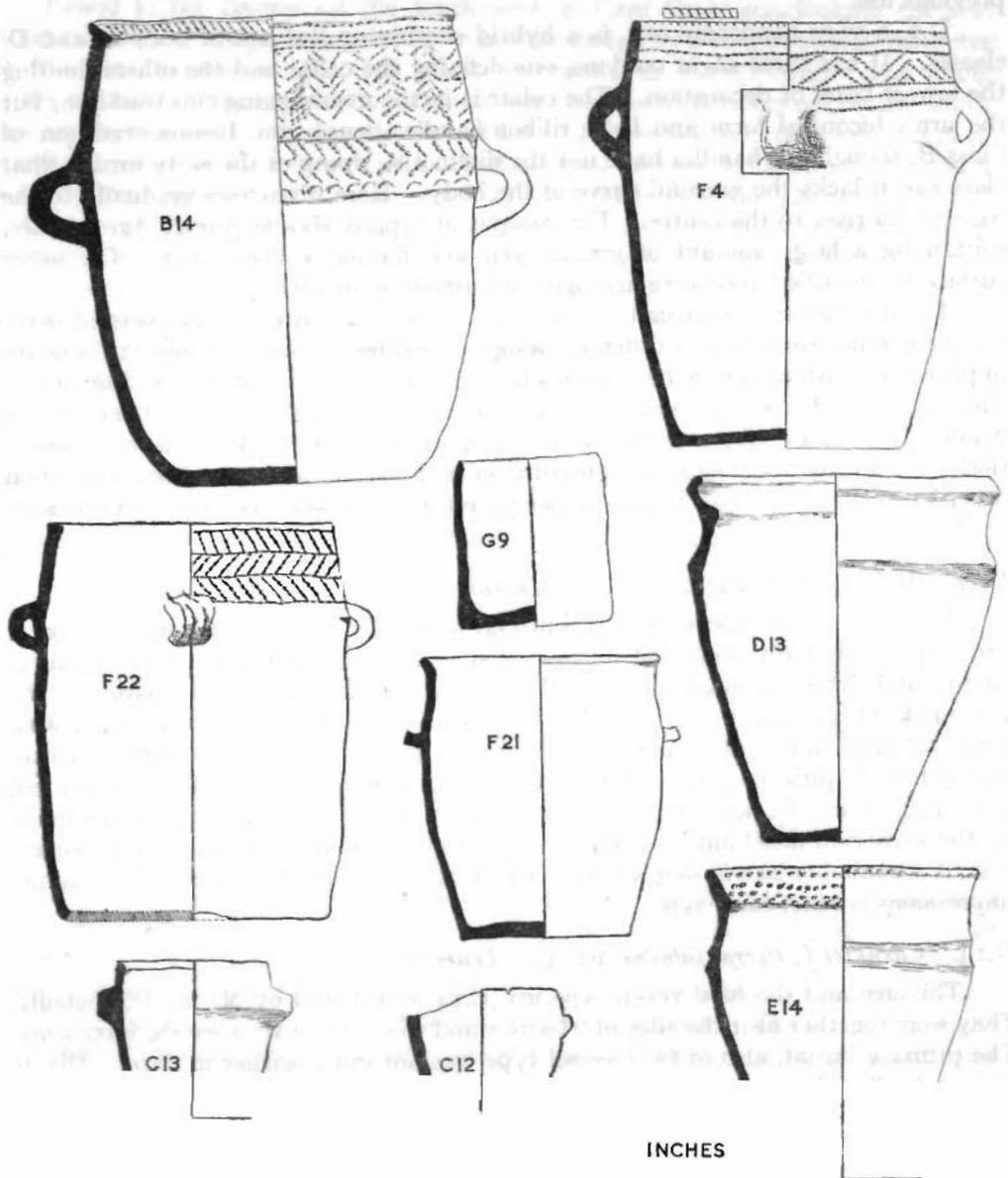


FIG. 3. URNS

B.14 Cornwall—Provenance unknown.
 F.4 Merrow, Gerrans.
 F.22 Tredinney, St. Buryan.
 D.13 Carnkief I. Perranzabuloe.
 E.14 Carnkief II. Perranzabuloe.

F.21 St. Just-in-Roseland I.
 G.9 Ballowal II, St. Just-in-Penwith.
 D.13 Carn Creis III. St. Just-in-Penwith.
 E.14 Clabar Gardens III. Mullion.

The fact that this urn has no handles and a narrow collar perhaps indicates that it was one of the first of its type to reach Cornwall.

CLASS E. FOOD-VESSEL TYPE

E.13. *Pentire Glaze, St. Minver* (fig. 4). *Truro Museum*

This was found at Pentire Glaze in 1910.¹ Unfortunately no details of the discovery are available except that with it were associated a cremation and the exceptionally fine flint spear-head or dagger illustrated of Middle Bronze Age date. The shape of the food-vessel is uncommon. It is biconical and has only a thickening or very slightly defined cordon where grooves generally occur. The base is thick, rising to the centre and in some places pinched, the vessel being asymmetrical in outline, the internal bevel is narrow. The great height above the cordon recalls the vessel from Bushmills, Dublin.² The nearest analogies are a food vessel from Argharrel³ and Ridgeway Hill, Dorset.⁴

The paste is thick and very heavy containing a large amount of rather small grit. The surface is rough and of a texture common in Cornwall at the end of the Middle Bronze Age. In colour it varies from red to brown and has a black core. The decoration is of fingernail impressions arranged in columns from rim to base, with deliberate breaks in the design stressing a probable Irish origin. The nail marks have obviously been made by a small hand with very long nails. This form of ornament, without parallel in Cornwall, is found both in Scotland and Ireland. One food-vessel from Darnhalls, Peebleshire⁵, has horizontal nail marks while on one from Muirkirk⁶ they are in columns. Though the form of the Pentire Glaze pot suggests the urn complex, the overall decoration and thick walls put it among food-vessels.

The flint dagger is an unusual accessory and as far as can be ascertained the association is unique in Cornwall.

E.14. *Carnkief II, Perranzabuloe* (fig. 3). *Truro Museum*

This urn like its companion D.13 (fig. 3), has strong Wessex affinities, both in form and ornament. It was everted over the other urn forming a lid. It has an out-turned rim and two slight cordons defining the shoulder, recalling the characteristic groove common on food-vessels. The neck is very slightly curved and the internal bevel is wide but not well defined. The shape is distorted especially near the base which in some places is quite flat and elsewhere shows an off-set, the profile of the urn differing on each side. It has rather a 'foreign' look having a more slender outline than most Cornish urns of this type, which as a rule taper sharply. Height 9 $\frac{7}{8}$ in., rim diameter 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., base diameter 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

The paste of Middle Bronze Age type, with somewhat large grits but no mica, is a pink to buff colour, showing dark fractures. The stabbed decoration replacing cord ornament is a feature in Wessex of this class of urn. It appears on food-vessels from the Badbury Barrow, Dorset,⁷ Wilsford, Wilts.,⁸ and several Cornish examples,

¹ Patchett, *Ant. Journ.*, xxviii (1948), nos. 3 and 4, 184. I am indebted to the Right Hon. Viscount Clifden for allowing me to study this food-vessel.

² L. Chitty, *Ant. Journ.*, xiii (1933), 259.

³ *J.R.S.A.I.*, lxviii (1938), 302, fig. 2.

⁴ Abercromby, *op. cit.*, i, fig. 1.

⁵ *P.S.A. Scot.*, lxiv (1929), 26.

⁶ *Ibid.*, lx (1925), 151.

⁷ Stuart Piggott, *Ant. Journ.*, xix (1939), no. 3, 291.

⁸ J. F. S. Stone, *W.A.M.*, xlviii (1938), 362.

Treworrick I, E.2 and Penquite E.8.¹ Here on E.14, it is consisting of stabs probably made with a bone, four incomplete rows on the bevel and a single one on the outer lip of the rim.

E.15. *St. Just-in-Roseland* (fig. 4). *Truro Museum*

This little food-vessel was found in 1949 by Dr. and Mrs. E. G. Bousfield in a Cornish hedge, which was being demolished. A full account of this discovery will be published by them later. It was associated with the Late Bronze Age urn F.21 (fig. 3): unburnt human bones and a tiny whetstone.

The food-vessel is of Abercromby's Type IV, the neck has a very slight curve and the internal bevel is rather deep and hollowed. The base rises a little to the centre.

The paste, which is fairly coarse and heavy, containing a large quantity of grit with a little mica, is of Late Bronze Age texture. It is light brown in colour with a smoothed surface and was made on the coil system. The decoration consists of seven concentric rows, deeply impressed, resembling cord but probably made with a stamp of small triangular teeth. The eighth row is certainly of impressed cord.

The very deep impressions, probably made when the clay was very wet, give a corrugated appearance to the profile. Height $5\frac{1}{8}$ in., rim diameter $5\frac{1}{2}$ in., base diameter $3\frac{3}{8}$ in. The small whetstone compares with one from Winterbourne Stoke, Wilts.,² and is probably of local stone. Several of these have been found in Cornwall and are evidence of the Wessex connexion.

Most of the following examples are taken from the Catalogue of W. Copeland Borlase's Museum and are now in the Penzance Museum. From the lower grave in the large mound on the top of Chapel Carn Brea comes an unperforated whetstone. Two others were found with the Brane urn³ one $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. long being of 'black marble' the other smaller one of brown sandstone.⁴ In the main chamber of the Tregaseal barrow among the primary deposits was a perforated specimen of sandstone. On the surface at Bosvargus St. just a black whetstone showing signs of use was found with another perforated stone possibly a charm. Neither of these seems to have been associated with the little urn from the same place. Another was found in a barrow at Chapel Euny.

The two recent discoveries of food-vessels at Carnkief and St. Just-in-Roseland must both be closely connected with the Wessex Food Vessel culture though the former is early in the Middle Bronze Age and the latter may possibly link up with the second period of trade with Ireland at the time of Towednack Gold Hoard.⁵

LATE BRONZE AGE

The start of the Late Bronze Age in Cornwall must be put forward to 800 B.C. The migrations from the Pyrenean region are unlikely to have been as early as was originally stated.⁶ This view was based upon the chronology put forward by Dr. Bosch-Gimpera⁷ who took the earliest Urnfield-Hallstatt material in Spain to

¹ Patchett, *Arch. Journ.*, ci (1946), fig. 9.

² Stuart Piggott, *P.P.S.*, iv, pt. i (1938), 72, fig. 10, 2.

³ Patchett, *op. cit.*, fig. 8, D.7.

⁴ W. Copeland Borlase, *Noenia Cornubia* (1872), 213.

⁵ C. F. C. Hawkes, *Man*, 32 (August, 1932), 181.

⁶ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 41, Note 2.

⁷ Bosch-Gimpera, *Two Celtic Waves in Spain*, (British Academy, 1939).

be Hallstatt A, eleventh-tenth century B.C., whereas it is really Hallstatt B¹ and dates from the eighth century. In view of this the movements of the Pyrenean people which were the outcome of the Hallstatt immigration must also be later.

There may have been trading settlers from that region a little before who provided the foreign element in Class F, which modified the native urn forms of the C. and D. classes as it shows gradually.

In the eighth century B.C., the Cornish were again engaged in the foreign tin trade, the Irish and Wessex trade routes through Cornwall active once more and Cornish elements re-appear in Wessex.

No metal objects are found in Cornish burials of this period and therefore dating evidence must be sought for in the Wessex urns with Cornish affinities of which the Late Bronze Age urns at Hengistbury Head,² Winterslow,³ Sturminster Marshall⁴ and Crichel⁵ are examples.

The Winterslow urn has a distinctly Cornish appearance though no exact parallel occurs. The nearest in profile is B.17 Harlyn Bay IV⁶ which is early in the Middle Bronze Age. The decoration on the Wessex urn of horizontal chevrons is a late feature in Cornwall. In Wessex the pronounced carination seems to continue to the Late Bronze Age though in Cornwall it has practically disappeared by the last part of the Middle Bronze Age. With the Winterslow Urn was a razor of Class I.⁷

The Crichel B.9, page 61, fig. 7, compares in outline with the Trevelloe Urn of Class C⁸, as this class continues down to the beginning of the Late Bronze Age they need not be far apart in date. The handles on the Crichel urn are of a type that is late in Cornwall. The Bronze Age urn from barrow B.8 at Crichel, page 71, fig. 18, which is there compared to Cornish Middle Bronze Age urns, in form compares with the late Bronze Age urn from Conquer Downs.⁹

Abercromby shows handled urns from Dorset of this period¹⁰ which surely owe their handles to Cornwall and there again the carination persists.¹¹

CLASS F

Consisting of the preceding Middle Bronze Age forms of Classes C and D with modifications introduced probably by Pyrenean incomings after 800 B.C.

F.4. *Merrows Farm, Gerrans* (fig. 3). *British Museum*

The site was half-a-mile from the coast.¹² The urn was found upright, 3 or 4 ft. from the surface covered with two slates. It was filled with the calcined bones of a fully grown adult, and ashes. It is 13½ in. high and the rim diameter 10 in. It is a barrel shape with four medium-sized ribbon handles high on the body and a shallow internal bevel.

The paste is of a gritty texture with somewhat small backing. The exterior has a fine matt surface and is of a light brown colour. It is well fired though with a black

¹ C. F. C. Hawkes, *P.P.S.*, xiv (1948), 213-15.

² Bushe Fox, *Excavations at Hengistbury Head* (1915), pl. iv, 1.

³ F. Stevens and J. F. S. Stone, *W.A.M.*, xlviii (1938), 174.

⁴ British Museum.

⁵ S. and C. M. Piggott, *Arch.*, xc (1944), 61.

⁶ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 30, fig. 6, B.17.

⁷ C. Piggott, *P.P.S.*, xii (1946) 122 and fig. 5.

⁸ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 33, fig. 7, C.3.

⁹ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 45, fig. 12, G.4.

¹⁰ Abercromby, *op. cit.*, pl. lxxxv, 362, 367.

¹¹ I am indebted to Professor Hawkes for the dating material from Wessex.

¹² *R.R.I.C.*, xxii (1844), 19; Abercromby, *op. cit.*, ii, 364.

core at the fractures. The paste recalls that of the Conquer Down Urn.¹ The decoration is narrow, reaching only to the top of the handles and made with a single twist of rather coarse cord. An unusual feature is the decoration on the top of the rim as well as on the bevel inside. Abercromby places it in his Southern Type III, Group I, but the slates on the mouth, the paste and neat narrow decoration point to a Late Bronze Age date.

F.5. Glendorgal, Lower St. Columb Porth (fig. 2). Truro Museum

The urn was discovered in 1850² when an old hedge which had originally been cut into the barrow was destroyed. It was on a rocky mound on the south side of the Porth. A flat stone covered the small pit 2 ft. deep, lined also with flat stones in which the urn lay. It was inverted over a heap of black earth, bones and ashes. The urn is bucket-shaped with two plain handles and narrows gradually to the base which has a distinct offset. Its contour is uneven and there is a slight cordon at the top of the handle. The rim is flat topped and slightly everted but not thickened. The paste which is sandy, full of fine grit with a few medium-sized pebbles and some mica, is very well fired. The colour is a pale yellow with signs of burning on the outside.

The decoration, very carelessly executed, is of uneven incised lines, three or four horizontals, crossed by vertical and diagonals. On one side only it has stabs or dots irregularly spaced between the lines. Although it has definite affinities with the Place urn, Fowey,³ both in form and style of decoration, the handles and the cordon are reminiscent of the preceding Middle Bronze Age.

F.10. Bosvargus, St. Just-in-Penwith (fig. 4). Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

No details as to the discovery of this urn are available except that it came from a cist covered by a barrow⁴. It is very small only 4 in. high and of a squat shape. It has an internal bevel, deep for its size, rather like that on the Boskednan urn, C.7 (fig. 4) in shape. There is a rough cordon just below the handle and the contour is uneven. Abercromby places it in his Rimbury group⁵ but the cordon indicates it as a descendant of the biconical urns of the Cornish Middle Bronze Age. The handles are merely imperforate knobs, the walls are thick for the height and the base slightly offset and very thick.

The paste of Late Middle Bronze Age character, contains small grit including quartz and some mica and is a dark brown colour. The outer surface is smoothed and it shows signs of being made on the coil system.

The decoration which is somewhat scanty is carried out in loosely twisted cord and consists of widely-spaced diagonal lines on the bevel while outside there is the same bordered by horizontal lines.

It contained bird bones as in the case of a small urn from Rough Barrow, Cheselbourne Common, Dorset.⁶

¹ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 47.

² Copeland & Borlase, *op. cit.*, 200, and *R.R.C.*, xii (1850), 157; Abercromby, *op. cit.*, 364.

³ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 46 and fig. 12, G.3.

⁴ Hencken, *op. cit.*, 96.

⁵ Abercromby, *op. cit.*, 444.

⁶ *The Barrow Diggers*, Anon. (1839), pl. 9, 92.

F.22. *Tredinney, St. Buryan* (fig. 3). *British Museum*

This urn was discovered in 1868 by W. Copeland Borlase¹ in a barrow diameter 38 ft. mounted on a pile of natural rocks and surrounded by a ring of sixteen large granite blocks set on end. Under a flat stone was a cist 1 ft. 4 in. by 1 ft. 6 in. constructed of eight stones in two layers of four each. These had been so closely fitted round the urn that they had to be removed to extricate it. It stood inverted on a turf which lay on a flat natural rock. The urn was filled with bones not very thoroughly burnt, which from their size were probably those of a woman or a small

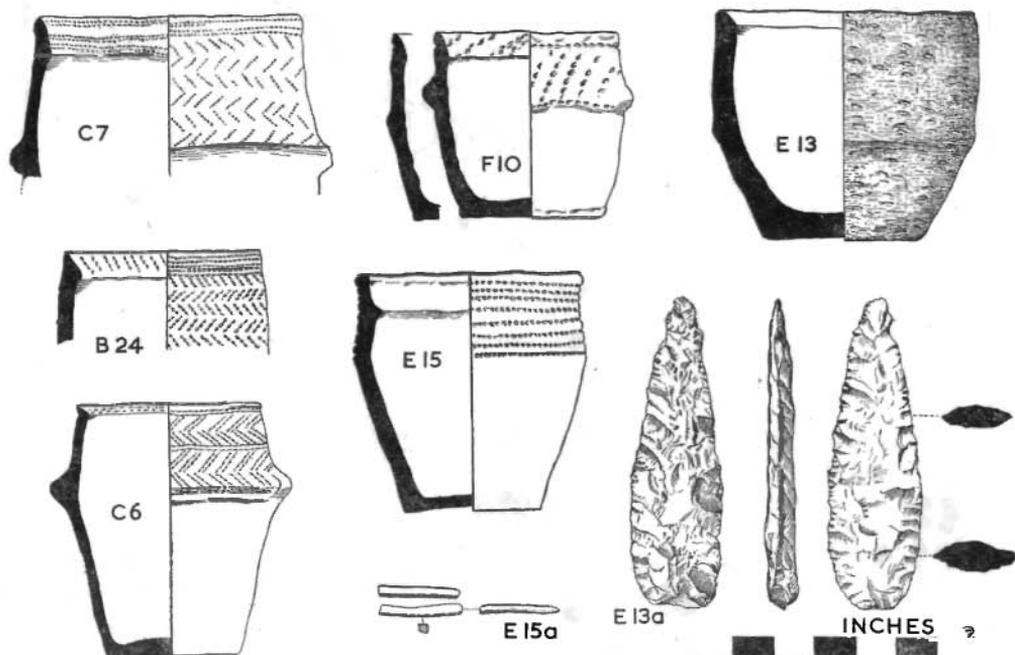


FIG. 4. URNS AND FOOD VESSELS ($\frac{1}{4}$).

- | | | | |
|-------|------------------------------|-------|---|
| C.7 | Boskednan, Gulval. | F.10 | Bosvargus, St. Just-in-Penwith. |
| C.6 | Clahar Gardens, II. Mullion. | B.24 | Leskys, Boscregan, St. Just-in-Penwith. |
| E.13 | Pentire Glaze, St. Minver. | E.15 | St. Just-in-Roseland II. |
| E.13a | Spearhead ($\frac{1}{2}$). | E.15a | Whetstone. |

man. The sloping stone in the centre of the barrow was surrounded by ashes and charred wood and beneath it was a cartload of ashes. Two flint flakes were found amongst these and two more were inside the urn. The urn had no base so it may be supposed that it had been purposely removed to allow the cremated bones from the sloping rock to be swept into it.

The urn itself is bucket-shaped almost the same breadth down to the base which shows signs of being slightly rounded. There is a faint carination at handle bevel and the rim is somewhat thickened at the tip. The four handles are a rather lumpy survival of the ribbon-handle tradition and are high on the body of the urn. The paste is thin containing shell grit and some crushed granite. It has a dark core and is not well fired. The outside is smooth and the cremation had been placed in the urn

¹ W. Copeland Borlase, *op. cit.*, 231 Abercromby, *op. cit.*, ii, 365.

when hot. It is brown to red in colour. The decoration is narrow and carried out by a loosely twisted cord composed of three rows of short oblique lines in alternate directions outlined by horizontal lines.

This herring-bone design is a favourite one throughout the Bronze Age and has a wide distribution. The handles are decorated with three vertical lines which is an unusual feature on urns of this date when they are generally plain.

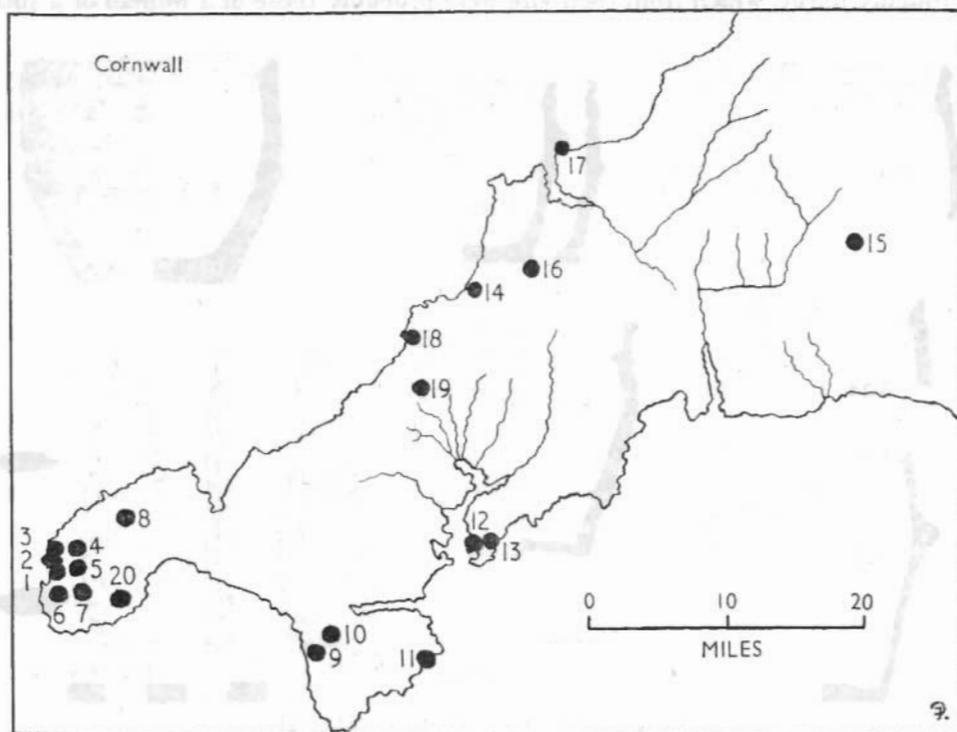


FIG. 5.

1. Carn Creis. 2. Carn Leskys. 3. Ballowal. 4. Tregaseal. 5. Bosvargus. 6. Chapel Carn Brea. 7. Tredinney. 8. Boskednan. 9. Clahar Gardens. 10. Bochym. 11. Carrick Crane Crag. 12. St. Just-in-Roseland. 13. Gerrans. 14. Glendorgal. 15. Cheesewring. 16. Denzell Downs. 17. Pentire Glaze. 18. Ligger Point. 19. Carnkief. 20. Tregiffian.

F.21. St. Just-in-Roseland I (fig. 3). Truro Museum

This bucket-shaped urn was found with the little food-vessel E.15 (fig. 4). It is of a somewhat clumsy shape with an uneven outline. The out-turned rim with a lightly defined internal bevel is a feature on many Late Bronze urns in Cornwall and but for the carination at handle level, a hangover from biconical urns of earlier date, this urn would be in Class G. The handles have a rather peculiar outline standing out boldly from the body.

The paste is dark cored, containing fine grit with only a few larger pebbles and is of Late Bronze Age type. In colour it is pale brown with a smooth surface that may

be due to a slip. The nearest analogy is Creen F.19¹ though no handles were found to that urn of which only a few sherds survive. These plain bucket urns appear in Cornwall in the early part of the Late Bronze Age when a definite strain from abroad can be noticed prior to the Deverel-Rimbury immigrations after 600 B.C.

These two urns link up with the second period of trade with Ireland at the time of the Towednack Gold Hoard.²

F.23. Ligger Point, Cubert (fig. 2). Truro Museum

The urn to which this rim and base belong was found some years ago by Mr. L. Penna by whom it will be published more fully.

It has a slightly projecting rim with a thin bevel. The sides slope sharply to an offset base. The two lumpy handles correspond to those on the Tredinney urn F.22 (fig. 3). It has no decoration. The paste, late in texture, is very dark at the core and light red brown outside. It is derived from the food-vessel type of urn but has the unusual feature of handles, except for which its form compares with that of an unpublished urn from the Scilly Isles now in the British Museum.

CLASS G

This class has a starting date of c. 600 B.C. when the Deverel Barrow people reached Cornwall. Mrs. Piggott has identified two stages of the Deverel-Rimbury immigration, the first having only barrows and penetrating far inland, the second having urnfield cemeteries and not so far reaching. It would appear that only the first reached Cornwall, towards the end of the Late Bronze Age and succeeded in penetrating to the tin areas of West Penwith and round St. Austell. These urns persist down to the arrival of Early Iron Age people probably about 250 B.C.

G.9. Ballowal II, St. Just-in-Penwith (fig. 3). Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

This was found by W. Copeland Borlase³ on Carn Gluze, in a barrow of the most elaborate construction. It contained an outer wall of massive blocks of granite, diameter 67 ft., surrounding a second wall, diameter 30 ft., the latter very well built and corbelled in some places to a height of 12 ft. enclosing a pile of stones. A third concentric wall also corbelled but of smaller stones, was inside. The space between these walls was piled with large flat stones dropped in aslant. The central circle is 22 ft. by 27 ft. diameter. Six cists and two graves were disclosed in the barrow. This urn⁴ was in a little cist in the central wall 3 ft. by 1 ft. covered by three stones, but curved and open at one end. The urn was upright, filled with dark earth and charred wood, on the top of which lay two small burnt bones. In the same cist was another small urn with two imperforate lugs, now lost. G.9 of a plain cylindrical shape without handles has a slight short internal bevel, thin walls and a thick base rising to the centre.

The paste has a small amount of rather coarse grit and contains very little mica. It is dark brown in colour, red where the surface is abraded. It is distinctly late in form and paste and very degenerate.

¹ Patchett, *op. cit.*, 43, fig. ii, F.19.

² C. F. C. Hawkes, *Man*, 32 (August, 1932), no. 222, 181.

³ W. Copeland Borlase, *J.R.I.C.*, vi (1878), 195.

⁴ Abercromby, *op. cit.*, ii, 454. —

Bodrifty, Mulfra Hill, Madron

A habitation-site excavated by the West Cornwall Field Club (Archaeological) has yielded pottery with finger and finger-tip markings, which compares with that found at Newbarn Down, Sussex, and Martin's Down Camp, Cranborne Chase. Some Middle Bronze Age sherds also occur together with transitional and Early Iron Age pottery. This site is not far from Kerrow and Conquer Down, both with urns of Deverel type.

In accordance with a request the barrows have been described as fully as possible from the old records, chiefly those of W. Copeland Borlase, who owned to opening over two hundred. His book, *Noenia Cornubia*, is an invaluable mine of information.

The most common form of barrow in Cornwall is more or less circular, usually of small stones, sometimes of earth and sometimes of both, often containing a ring of stones. This seems to be a persistence of megalithic tradition, no doubt encouraged by the fact that stone was so easily obtained. It has been said that the Beaker users originated this form but this does not seem likely to have been the case in Cornwall where so few beakers have been found.

Another form of construction was to build the barrow over flat natural stones which had apparently served as pyres, this formation occurs also on the Scilly Isles, most of such sites are in West Cornwall.¹

The earlier barrows contained long stone chambers or cists as at Tregaseal, but most of these have been mutilated and their contents have disappeared. None of the urns here described can be definitely traced to a long chamber.

Most barrows contained square cists which decrease in size until in the Late Bronze Age they are only large enough to hold the urn.

In a 'Survey of Cornwall' by Richard Thomas of Falmouth² published weekly in the *West Briton* in 1851-1852, which unfortunately does not cover every parish, 490 barrows are listed with their diameters and in some cases a line of description. Out of this number 28 had ditches, 27 were made of stones, 12 of earth and stones, while 12 contained a ring of stones. A few have double rings. All these barrows are on Map 3 in 'Cornish Bronze Age Pottery, I'.

The new discoveries discussed in the present paper throw some additional light on the distribution of the urns. The Carnkief urns, both with strong Wessex affinities on a site three miles inland from Perran Beach, indicate a transpeninsula trade route from Wessex via the Fal Estuary to the North coast and Ireland, while the St. Just-in-Roseland food-vessel and urn show the starting-place of this route on the south coast.

The food-vessel from Pentire Glazewhere there is a small concentration of barrows is evidence of an early date for the use of the route from the Fowey River to the Camel Estuary much used in later times.³ As the trade would have been carried in canoes the rivers would be used as far as possible but few sites on the estuaries with adjacent settlements are recorded.

It is significant that Class E urns of Irish and Wessex derivation are not found

¹ Escolls, Boscawen-un, Durval Down, Crowan Beacon, Carn Creis, Tredinney, Morvah Hill, Karnmemelez, Carn Marth, Gwenap, and Tresco, Scilly.

² I am indebted for this to Mr. Ashley Rowe who lent me his typed copy of the Survey.

³ Hencken, *op. cit.*, 181.

in the tin-bearing districts, this in a lesser degree applies also to the over-hanging rim urns derived from Wessex.

The Breton immigrants who introduced the most powerful strain in the Cornish urns seem to have had complete control of the tin areas especially that of West Penwith as appears from Map 5 in Part I of this paper. This control persisted through the Bronze Age until the arrival of the Deverel people who apparently gained a foothold though the distinctive features of their pottery were much modified by the strong native tradition.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am greatly indebted to the following for kindly allowing me to include their new finds prior to their own publication: the late Lt.-Colonel O. Pearce Serocold, C.M.G., and Mr. Guy Maynard—the sherds from Lowland Point St. Keverne; Dr. and Mrs. E. G. Bousfield—an urn and food-vessels from St. Just-in-Roseland; The Rev. C. B. Crofts, M.A.—the beaker from Treggiffian, St. Buryan; Mr. A. D. Nicholls—two urns from Carnkief and Mr. L. Penna sherds from Ligger Point.

I should also like to thank the Rt. Hon. the Viscount Clifden for lending me the food-vessel from Pentire Glaze. I am also indebted to Sir Thomas Kendrick, F.S.A., and Mr. J. W. Brailsford, F.S.A., of the British Museum, the late Mr. G. Penrose, Truro Museum, and Mr. J. Cable, B.A., of Penzance Museum for permission to draw many urns from the Collections.

My thanks are also due to Professor Stuart Piggott, F.S.A., for identifying the sherds from Lowland Point, and lastly to Professor C. F. C. Hawkes, F.S.A., for his continued interest and practical help.

The following corrections should be made in *Cornish Bronze Age Pottery, I, Arch. Journ.* ci:—

Page 30. Caption. B.21, Carn Creis III, should read Carn Creis II.

Page 38. Line 8, for 'Class E', read 'Type 3'.

Page 41. Line 17. For Fig. 10, F.10, read Fig. 10, F.11.

Page 42. Illustrations. 'F.10' should read 'F.11' and in the Caption 'F.10 Bosvargus' should read 'F.11 Bussow Veau'.

Page 45. In the illustration G.5. Gwallon Down should have four small handles; an old drawing from the Copeland Borlase manuscripts in Truro Museum shows them.

Table III, C.11, delete 'ass with B.13'. C.5, Tredinney is now in Class F. Table VI.

Table V, E.12, is now Class A.14. Table I.

Table VII, G.11 and G.13. now in Class C. Table III.