

ADDENDA ANTIQUARIA.

SOME WEST CUMBERLAND SITES AND FINDS.

Notes by Mary C. Fair (Districts 8 and 9 Committee of Prehistory), on flints and hammer-stones from the West Cumberland Sandhill Sites, some Brothelkeld finds, a stone axe from Silver Tarn (Braystones), and an ancient horse-shoe from Muncaster.

WEST CUMBERLAND SANDHILL OCCUPATION. FLINT WORKING IN THE SANDHILLS.

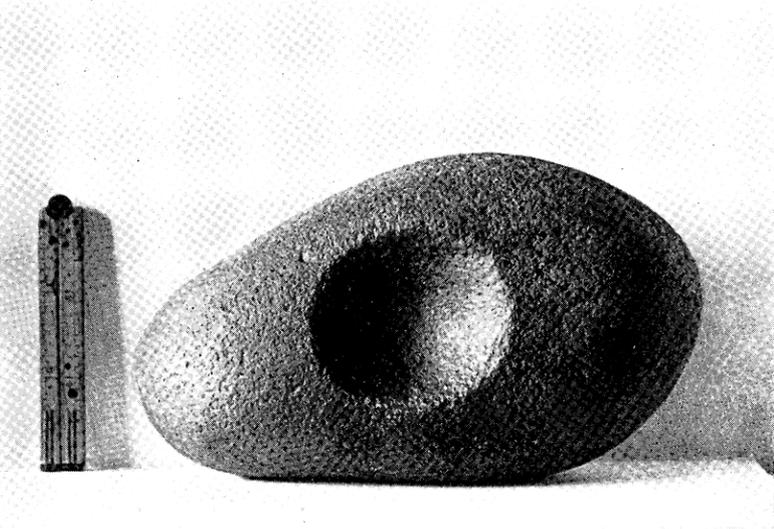
Following the discovery of worked flints during last winter and the spring of this year, the Misses Markham of Eskmeals House continue their valuable work amongst the hollows of the sandhills along the coast between Drigg and Tarn Bay, and have added very materially to the collection of flint implements they have got together, and in addition they have found two most interesting examples of the flint workers' tools in the shape of two beautifully made hand-hammers of polished granite. These hand-hammers I will describe first.

No. 1 is a flat slab of granite, close and fine grained material, ground off at the edges and back, and with a sort of "nose" to give good working facilities. The base is flat. At each side, in the centre of the tool hollows for hand-grips have been most skilfully picked out, $1\frac{1}{8}$ in diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ in in depth at centre. The stone measures $5\frac{1}{2}$ ins. at greatest length, by 4 ins. in height; it is $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. thick; it weighs 2 lbs. $7\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. The granite appears to be somewhat dis-coloured with earth or peat stains.

No. 2. A most beautifully made tool of brownish yellow granite, finely polished and finished. It is of sledge-hammer form, but obviously has not been made with a view to completion by boring for a haft, but is intended for hand use, for which it is perfectly balanced. The bored axe-hammer type may have been evolved from this form of implement. It is $6\frac{1}{2}$ ins. in length, by $3\frac{3}{8}$ ins. at greatest width, and is $2\frac{3}{4}$ ins. deep. At each face a hollow hand-grip has been most skilfully ground out, the finish being most beautifully executed. These hollows are 2 ins. diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep at centre of hole. The tool weighs 3 lbs. 12 ozs.



Hand-Hammerstone, No. 1.

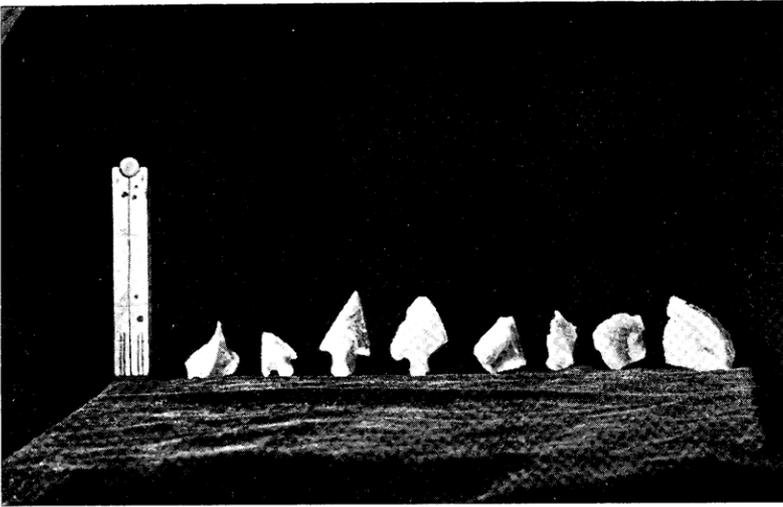


Hand-Hammerstone, No. 2.

SANDHILL SITE.

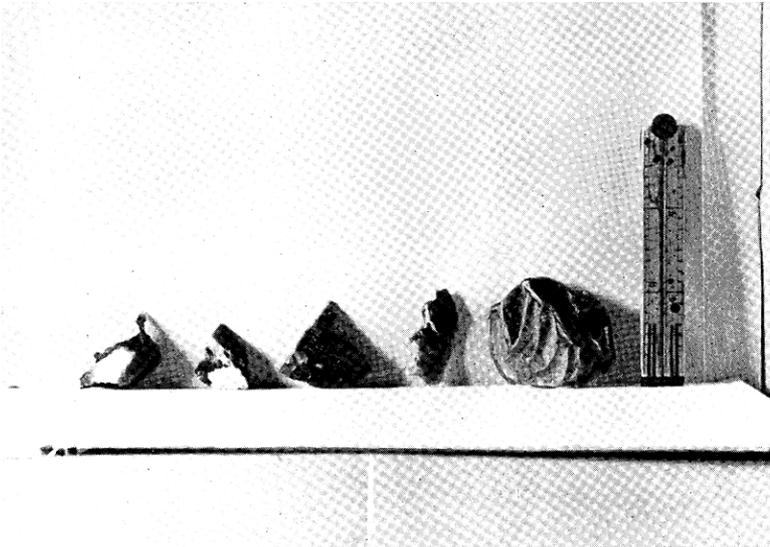
Photos. M. C. Fair, 1937.

Facing p. 214.



Flint Artifacts. Silvery-cream flint.

Left to right: Borer, arrow-tip, arrow-tip (of flinty volcanic ash), arrow-tip with broken barb, scraper, two worker's chips, side-point scraper.



Artifacts of dark, lustrous flint.

From left to right: Dark grey unfinished borer; rosy hued flint scraper; triangular finely-worked artifact of dark grey flint; double hollow scraper of dark grey flint; large scraper of dark grey flint.

SANDHILL SITES.

Photo. M. C. Fair, 1936.

Facing p. 215.

I find an implement of somewhat similar character to No. 1 from Walney Island, described in our *Transactions*, n.s. iv, 328, by the late Mr. Harper Gaythorpe, F.S.A.Scot., when an account is given of "an oval hammer stone of fine micaceous grit," which was dug out of the upper boulder clay in April, 1875, in a brick field nearly opposite No. 1, Dominion Street, Vickerstown South. This example is 4 ins. long, $3\frac{1}{2}$ ins. wide, and 2 ins. thick, weighing 20 ozs. The bell shaped cavities are $1\frac{1}{4}$ ins. diameter and $\frac{5}{8}$ in. deep. A note is added that a hammer-stone of this kind 3 ins. long, was found at Melmerby (Cumberland).

The flint artifacts found by the Misses Markham are of various forms, many of them of beautiful material and finely finished. Arrow-tips of the barbed and tanged form have been discovered of different sizes, two being very small, one (which has one barb broken off), is larger and heavier, while a fourth is made not of flint as are the others, but from a splinter of flinty volcanic ashly stone, a most exquisitely finished example and quite perfect, still very sharp. Scrapers are found in many forms and varieties of flint, some of yellowy-pink flint, some of dark grey flint, while others are of translucent very pale creamy, silvery flint. Most of the implements are still beautifully lustrous, but here and there a patinated example is found such as the borer shown in one of the photographs. One scraper is a double-hollow type such as might be used for polishing and finishing wooden arrow shafts. Secondary working is skilfully executed, and every scrap of workable flint seems to have found a use for the material is found only as beach pebbles: flint is not native to the district and large nodules are not found. Dr. Hollingworth of the Geological Survey, when visiting the site, suggested that the flint pebbles might be carried by ice from further north; flint does not appear to be found on the shore of the Solway on the Cumberland side, so that the deposits would appear to be localised. As well as the artifacts cores are found and workers' chips showing that the making of flint artifacts was actually carried on in the hollows of the sandhills of the West Cumberland coast.

A STONE AXE FROM SILVER TARN, BRAYSTONES.

Mr. John Southward of Newbiggin, Waberthwaite kindly brought to me for report a stone axe turned up by a farmer during agricultural operations on the western side of Silver Tarn, which tarn is quite near to the west side of the site of the famous Gibb (or Ehenside) Tarn which when drained during the middle of the 19th century brought to light the Neolithic settlement. Silver

Tarn is now a mossy, peaty, reedy area more semi-swamp than actual pool, and I think is slowly drying up. The stone axe is made of volcanic flinty, fine-grained, ashy material, bluish-grey, with a slight patina. It has been much broken underneath and at its cutting edge which does not seem to have been completed though the roughing out for final fine polishing is quite definite. The implement has its sides rounded off, not ground to the straight edge that local stone axes so frequently have. It is $5\frac{5}{8}$ ins. long, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ins. broad at widest part. Its depth is $1\frac{1}{4}$ ins. It weighs 1 lb. 2 ozs.

SOME BROTHERELKELD FINDS.

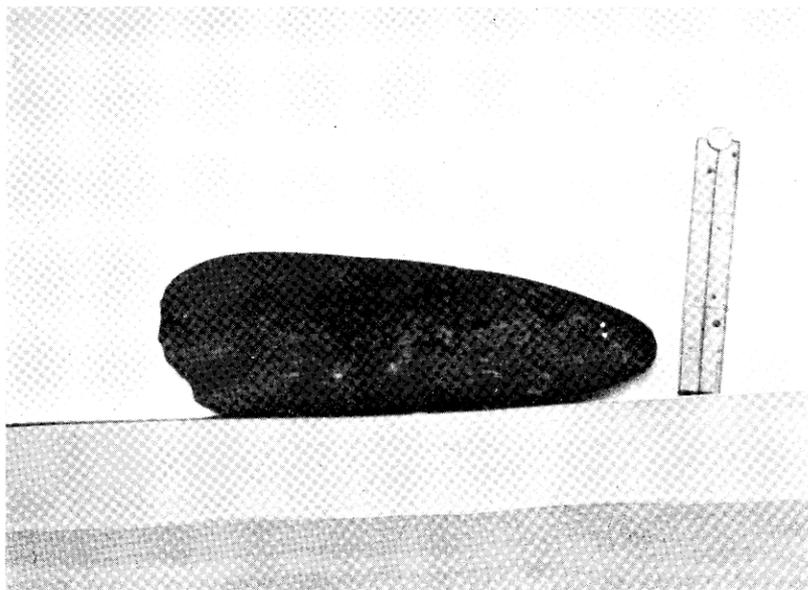
Our member Mr. Joseph Harrison of Brothelkeld lately brought to my notice a very delicately formed stone axe he had found when repairing a wall on the farm. Incidentally this wall was built about ninety years ago of stone which had formed the foundations of the ancient road formerly existing across the fields from the crossing of the river Esk to the foot of Hardknott Pass. The road was broken up to facilitate cultivation of the fields, and the stones of the foundation used to build enclosing field walls. The lane which forms the present approach to Hardknott Pass was then formed to replace the ancient paved road. Mr. Harrison's axe is of the pointed butt type, its sides like the Silver Tarn example rounded off, not ground to the straight edge. It is of volcanic flinty ash, patinated and earth-stained. The implement is $5\frac{1}{2}$ ins. long, 2 ins. wide at widest point, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. thick. It is damaged at its cutting edge. This is the second stone axe to be recorded for Brothelkeld.

Mr. Harrison also brought to my notice an interesting diamond-shaped stone he had turned up when draining his pasture at the Roman fort on Hardknott Pass. This stone which is of very fine-grained red freestone become very hard with use, has been a whetstone probably used as such by the Romans when in occupation of the fort. It measures $4\frac{1}{4}$ ins. by $3\frac{1}{4}$ ins. and is 1 in. thick.

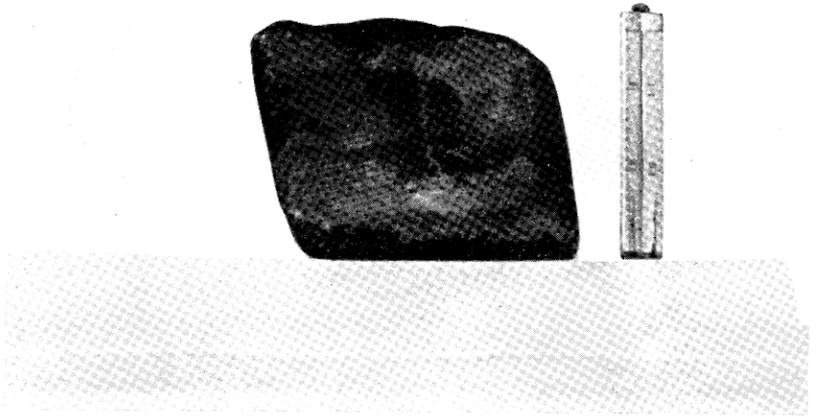
Mr. Harrison's careful preservation of finds likely to prove of archaeological interest on his farm includes some hard river pebbles which have been ground and polished into finely finished balls, probably used as sling ammunition. A small one is $\frac{7}{8}$ in. diameter, while others of larger size are $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. and $1\frac{3}{4}$ ins. diameter respectively. A larger river pebble of $5\frac{1}{4}$ ins. diameter may have been a ballista ball.



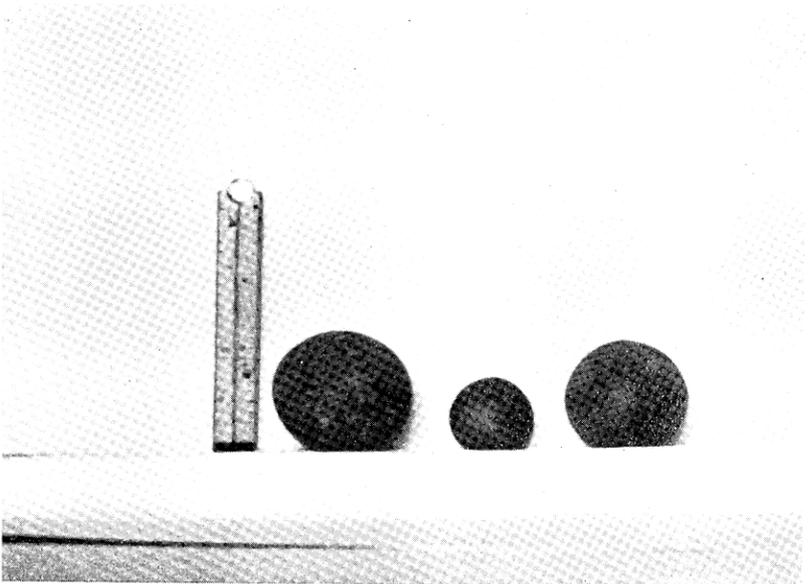
BRAYSTONES.
Stone Axe from Silver Tarn (west side) shore.



BROTHERELKELD.
Pointed butt Stone Axe.



HARDKNOTT.
Diamond-shaped freestone whetstone from Roman Fort.



BROTHERELKELD.
Sling balls.

AN ANCIENT HORSE-SHOE FROM MUNCASTER.

Mr. Mason, head gardener at Muncaster Castle, has in his possession an ancient horse-shoe which came to light during clearing and replanting of the woods within Muncaster Castle grounds, when an old road, long overgrown and forgotten, was found, on it the horse-shoe. The shoe is 5 ins. long and 5 ins. across overall. It has 8 nail holes along its outer side, somewhat irregularly placed. The arms of the shoe are $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. across. It is of a type in use during the Middle Ages and is also of the same size as some of the Roman horse-shoes reported from time to time, but the latter have not usually so many nail holes as the Muncaster example. It has the same general appearance as a horse-shoe stated to have been found on the battlefield at Battle Abbey near Hastings several years ago.

The old road noted by Mr. Mason is on a line which may have been originally a Roman track; other known ancient highways came up from the ford at Waberthwaite, one passing between the Castle and Muncaster church, and so over the hill to the north, with a branch turning east to Eskdale and Hardknott Pass.

ADDENDUM. RAVENGLASS CROSS.

There has been considerable speculation from time to time as to what became of the stones forming the base of Ravenglass market cross, when removed from their place in Main Street. This problem is now solved by a Ravenglass resident who showed me this summer where the stones (or at any rate some of them) still lie covered with turf of the village green overlooking the Mite estuary. I could see part of one heavy stone of hard grey granite early in the summer, but the grass has now grown so thickly that the stones are no longer visible.

M. C. FAIR.

A NOTE ON CHIMNEY-SWEEPING.

Since the old series of our *Transactions*, comparatively little has been published concerning the old implements, etc. that were in ordinary use not so long ago and that are peculiar to our district. It is in the hope of reviving interest in our local material culture that I am writing this note.

The accompanying photograph shows a *Bob-Hollin*. Mr. James D. Harrison of Crosthwaite, Westmorland, made it specially for me and supplied me with the following details of its manufacture and use. It consists of a number of holly twigs and short boughs, cut fresh and tied together with common string.

There is a half-stone weight suspended from it, called the *plumb-bob*; the one in the illustration belonged to Mr. Harrison's grand-mother. The implement then needs only to be hung on the end of a cart-rope to be ready for use.

To use it you climb to the house-roof and lower the *Bob-Hollin* down the chimney in short jerks by means of the cart-rope. Another member of the family stands in the kitchen to call out when it has reached the bottom. You then raise it again, and lower it, two or three times. After that your chimney is clean. The hollin, of course, varies in size according to the width of the chimney. Mr. Harrison always used the hollin until he moved into a new house this year, for you cannot use it when there is a cowl or fancy pot on your chimney. Once he used ordinary sweep's brushes, but they got stuck, and he had to use the old hollin to dislodge them. Now it is "going out," but there are still a few people who use it.

Mr. J. D. Burrow of Hill Top, Crosthwaite, was able to give me another account of how the Bob Hollin was used. One man climbed onto the roof and lowered a rope down the chimney. Another man stood in the room below and tied the hollin onto the rope; he also tied the end of a second rope onto the hollin and called out when he had finished. Then the first man pulled the hollin up until it reached the top of the chimney. The second man then started to pull down. The process was repeated until the chimney was clean.

In former days they used to use whins as well as holly for this purpose.

The *Bob-Hollin* is a relic of the old self-sufficing days when people had to rely on the materials at hand and could not furnish their wants by a bus-trip to the nearest town. It was practical and efficient for the old type of chimney, but a new type is coming in; you had to make a hollin yourself, but you can buy sweep's brushes; the hollin is old-fashioned and brushes are up-to-date.

EDWARD M. WILSON.

RECTORS OF AIKTON.

| | | |
|-----------|-------|--|
| | | William de Aldwerke. |
| Edward I. | 1304. | Richard de Aikton. William de Somerset. |
| | 1305. | Richard de Askelby. Robert de Halghton. Thomas le Spencer. |



BOB HOLLIN.

Facing p. 218.

| | | |
|-------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| Edward III. | 1339. | William de Salkeld. |
| | 1352. | William Beauchamp. |
| | 1354. | William Chamberlayne. |
| | 1371. | Robert de Kirby. |
| | | Thomas Halton. |
| | 1373. | Thomas Coke. |
| | | John de Middleton. |
| Richard II. | 1378. | John de Kirby. |
| Edward IV. | 1465. | Richard Morland. |
| | | Christopher Cranefield. |
| Henry VII. | 1509. | Robert Lowther. |
| Henry VIII. | 1535. | John Robynson. |
| | | Nicholas Crawhall. |
| | 1542. | John Blythe. |
| Elizabeth. | 1563. | William Lowden. |
| | 1572. | Robert Allenby. |
| | 1583. | Roland Hauxbie. |
| | 1591. | William Lawson. |
| | 1592. | Edmund Hewitt. |
| | 1598. | Thomas Blayne. |
| Charles I. | 1642. | Thomas Head. |
| | 1646. | James Halton. |
| Commonwealth. | | Richard Sharples. |
| | 1650. | William Lampit. |
| | | Roland Nicholls. |
| William and Mary. | 1694. | Richard Threlkeld. |
| Anne. | 1707. | Richard Holme. |
| George II. | 1739. | William Lindsay. |
| | 1753. | Henry Lowther. |
| George III. | 1780. | Dr. Lowther. |
| George III. | 1814. | Dr. Satterthwaite. |
| George IV. | 1828. | Richard Fell. |
| Victoria. | 1845. | Samuel Goodenough. |
| | 1858. | Joseph Sturdy Hodgson. |
| | 1868. | Joseph William Hodgson. |
| | 1872. | George Edmund Hasell. |
| George V. | 1911. | William Jefferson. |
| | 1928. | Harold Ogle Luckley. |

44 names, but several long intervals.

Compiled by Rev. H. O. Luckley, 1937.