

PLATE I.

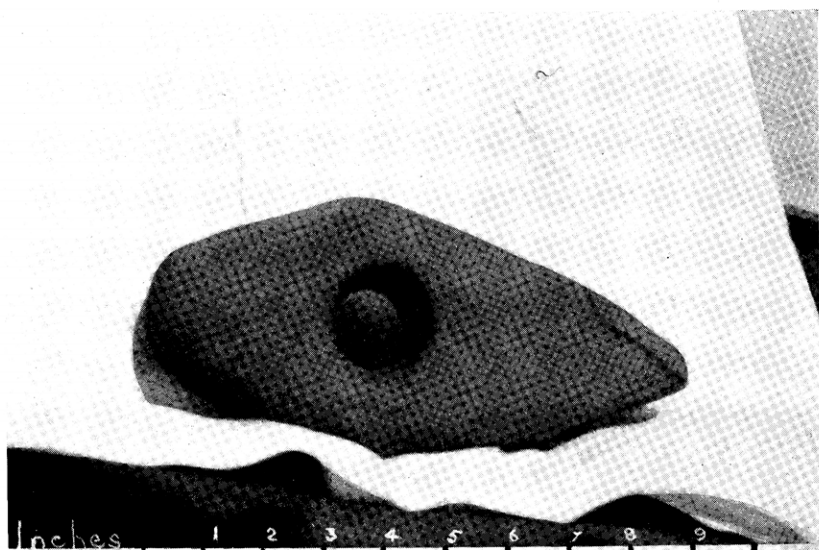


PLATE II.

To face p. 283.

ART. XVII.—*Publication of Four Prehistoric Objects from Millom Area.* By MARJORIE CROSS.

TWO STONE AXE-HAMMERS FROM MILLOM RURAL.

THE two stone axe-hammers figured in Plates I and II were recorded in Mr. W. G. Collingwood's Inventory* and mentioned in N.S. xi, p. 64, but have not hitherto been published.

Both were found in fields at Fenwick (6" O.S. Map LXXXVI SW.), during draining operations, by the ancestors of Mr. Thomas Bowes, the present owner, the first in 1888 in the field to the east of the house, the second in 1860 in the field adjoining it on the south. Both findspots are known and will be entered on the prehistoric map.

They are of the familiar Bronze Age type, and their presence 700 ft. above sea-level and some eight miles from the coast shows how far settlers had pushed up the valleys by Bronze Age times.

The first measures 8 ins. \times $3\frac{3}{4}$ ins. \times $2\frac{1}{2}$ ins. The hole has a diameter of $1\frac{5}{8}$ ins. and is of hour-glass shape. The edges of the tool are polished.

The second measures 9 ins. \times 4 ins. \times $2\frac{1}{2}$ ins. The diameter of the hole is $1\frac{3}{4}$ ins. and it is drilled straight.

The implements are heirlooms in the Bowes family.

AN URN FROM MILLOM RURAL.

The urn figured in Plate III† was found at the Beck farm, near Millom, before 1872, since which time it has been in the keeping of the Lewthwaites at Broadgate. The Inventory speaks of "urns with bones," but I have

* N.S. xxiii, p. 270.

† Mr. W. G. Collingwood's Inventory, N.S. xxiii, p. 270; O.S. i, p. 280-1

not yet been able to trace a second urn. It is a good specimen of Cinerary Urn Type 1, with overhanging rim, hollow neck, and well-marked shoulder, belonging to the early part of the Middle Bronze Age. It measures $10\frac{1}{4}$ inches by $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the top and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the base. It is decorated with irregular triangles, made by cord-impressions on the rim and by incisions on the neck. On the rim the spaces are not filled in the usual manner with parallel hatching. The potter appears to have held the cord fixed with her thumb in one corner and radiated the lines from it as far as they would comfortably reach, covering the remaining space with separate lines in the usual way. I have never seen this pattern anywhere else, but there is a suggestion of radiation on the rim of an urn at Edinburgh,* from Dean Bridge. On the bevelled lip is a double line of cord impressions. The paste is fine and smooth, almost glossy, and brown in colour.

A POLISHED STONE AXE FROM MILLOM RURAL.†

The very fine specimen of polished stone axe shown in Plate IV "was found on Sept. 1st, 1824, in Mr. Cragg's field," at Lowscales, near Millom, and has been preserved by the Lewthwaites at Broadgate. It measures 13 inches by $3\frac{1}{8}$ inches by $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches, comparing in size with some of the large Irish axes cited by Dr. Mahr,‡ who sought a connection between the Neolithic culture of West Cumberland and that of his Irish Riverford folk. But Miss Fair claims the material as a fine flinty tuff indigenous to Wasdale and other places in the neighbourhood, whereas the Riverford clubs and axes were mostly of clay-slate. The colour of the rock is blue, with heavy creamy-grey patina. The butt is flattened and the sides are ground blunt along the whole length of the implement.

* No. 199 in Abercromby's *Bronze Age Pottery*, vol. II.

† Mr. W. G. Collingwood's *Inventory*, n.s. xxiii, p. 270; o.s. i, 280-1.

‡ *Proc. Pre. Soc. n.s. vol. III, part 2, Plate XX, No. 8.*

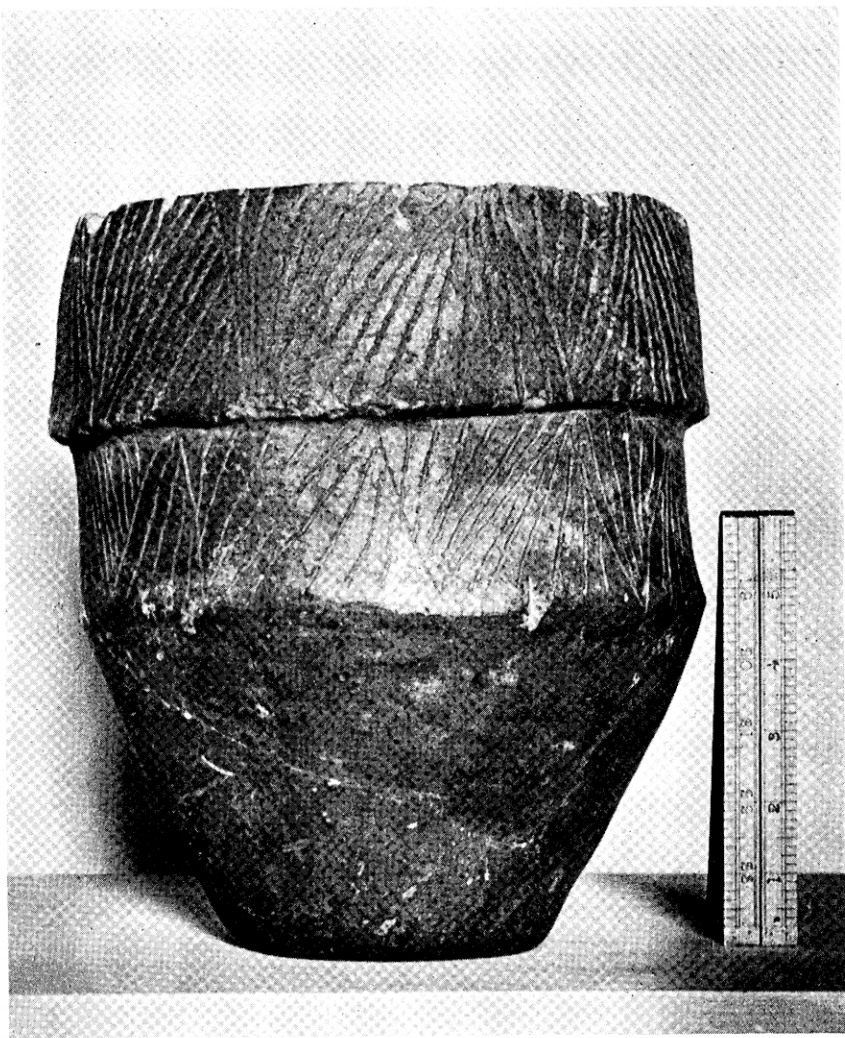


PLATE III.—Urn from Millom Rural.

To face p. 284.

Photo by Miss Fair.

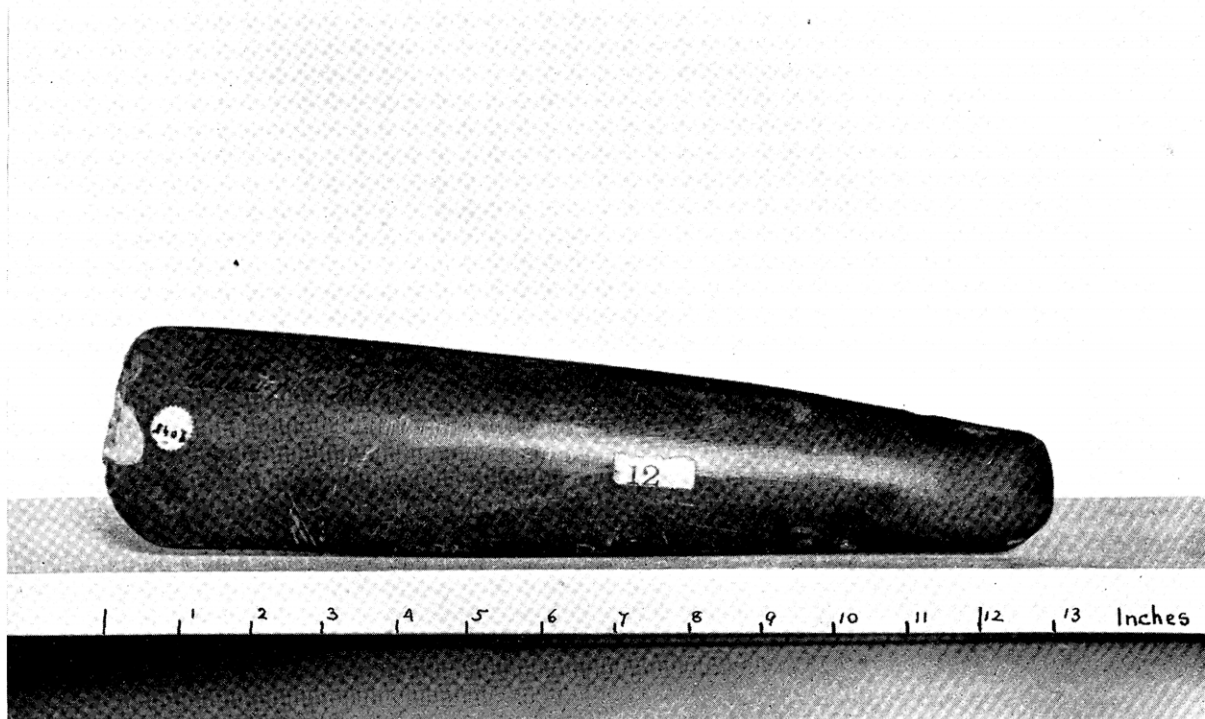


PLATE IV.

To face p. 284.

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Photo. by Miss Fair.