

ADDENDA ANTIQUARIA

I. PREHISTORIC SITES AND DISCOVERIES.

1. *A stone-axe factory site, Pike o' Stickle, Great Langdale, Westmorland.* By CLARE FELL.

In October 1947 Mr Brian Bunch of Leamington Spa, while on a climbing holiday in Great Langdale, made the important discovery of a hitherto unrecorded stone-axe factory; further investigations by Mr Bunch and others have since yielded more material. It is hoped to publish a full report on the finds in a future volume of *Transactions*, but a preliminary notice of the discovery should not be delayed further.

The main site is situated on the scree which falls from the gully on the eastern face of Pike o' Stickle (274073 to 277063 will be the approximate National Grid reference). Axes in many stages of manufacture, and numerous flakes, have been recovered from the surface of this scree, between about 750 and 2000 feet above O.D. No polished axes have been found, and it is unlikely that the finishing processes were carried out at this altitude. Possible working-platforms have been noted at the sides of the main scree and below Centre Buttress, a little to the north-west; and a small cave in the south-eastern face of the crags of Pike o' Stickle, in which two roughly shaped axes were found, may possibly be connected with the factory. The material used is a flinty epitoditised tuff of the Borrowdale volcanic series.

The site may be compared with the famous axe factory of Craig Lwyd, Penmaenmawr, North Wales, published by S. Hazzeldine Warren (*Journ. Anthropol. Inst.* xlix, 1919 and li, 1921). A small working-site on Mart Crag Moor (265082) near Stake Pass, a short distance to the north-west of the present site, was found by Professor D. M. S. Watson some years ago, and was recently given wider publicity in the first report of the South-Western Museums Stone-Axe Sub-Committee (*Proc. Prehist. Soc. N.S.* vii, 1941, 58-68); that site was no doubt a subsidiary working-floor of the Pike o' Stickle factory, and it is hoped that a petrological report will confirm the identity of the stones used.

The significance of the find can best be assessed when one realises that the researches of Dr J. F. S. Stone and Dr F. Wallis (of the Stone-Axe Sub-Committee) are showing that axes from the Stake Pass—Pike o' Stickle area were even more widely traded through the country than were those from Craig Lwyd; examples are recorded from a Neolithic B site at Abingdon, Berkshire and from a similar horizon at Windmill Hill, Wiltshire, while at North End, Walney Island, axes of Stake Pass stone have been found associated with a flint industry of Bronze Age character (CW2 xlvii 68-77). Further investigations, it is hoped, will throw more light on the nature of the factory and on the length of time that it remained in use.

2. *A Bronze-Age beaker from Ainstable.* By K. S. HODGSON, F.S.A., President of the Society.

In October 1947, when a field half-way between Blinkbonny and Far Harras (538469) in Ainstable parish was being ploughed out for the first time, the tractor-plough displaced a large stone which turned out to be the cover-stone of a small cist containing a beaker. Fortunately the vicar of Ainstable, our member the Rev. K. Harper, saw it and recognised its character. By the kindness of the tenant of the field, Mr Longrigg, Bramery, I was allowed to examine both the cist and the beaker. The cist is neatly made of four slabs of the local red sandstone, 3" or 4" thick; it measures internally 2' 1" x 9" x 1' deep, while the coverstone measured 3' 4" x 1' 11" x 5". It is hoped to investigate further when the crop has been lifted.

The beaker, of type C, is well made, with fine walls 0.5 cm. thick; it is perfect except that there is a hole in one side, and the surface has been eaten away near the base; it is creamy pink in colour. The fracture shows the usual rather crumbly black "biscuit" with many small grits. It is 16 cm. high, 13.5 cm. wide at the mouth and 8.5 cm. at the base; the flat rim slopes very slightly inwards, and the neck has a faint convex curve, joining the body, at 12.5 cm. from the base, at a slight but definite angle; the greatest width comes exactly half-way, at 12 cm.; in places it has almost a slight carination. The base is rather thick, and raised in the centre.

The decoration (fig. 1) is entirely zoned. Round the neck are two bands of the ordinary fishbone pattern, not perfectly distinct; then comes a band of seven shallow grooves, covering the junction between neck and body. The next pattern is a band nearly 3 cm. wide, of slightly curved parallel strokes slanting

upwards from left to right, crossed at each edge by short (0.25 cm.) wider strokes in the opposite direction; the lower edge of this band comes exactly at the greatest width of the beaker. The next pattern is another band of grooves, and below are traces of a repetition of the criss-cross pattern, but here the surface has been almost eaten away, and it is difficult to be quite sure.

The beaker and a photograph of the cist have been deposited on loan in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

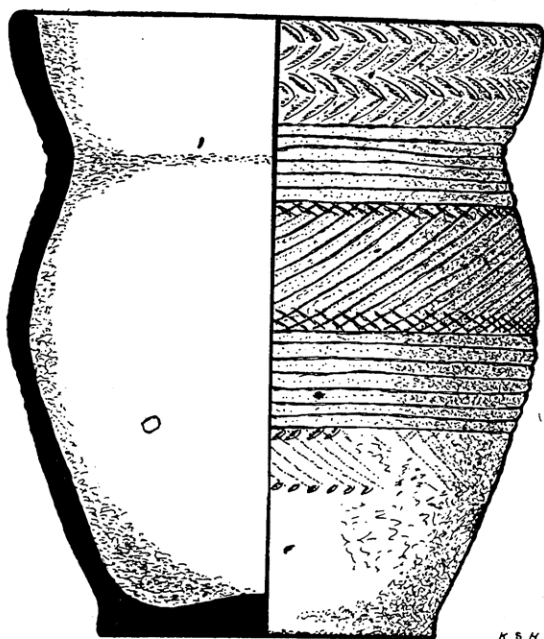


FIG. 1. ($\frac{1}{2}$).

3. *The stone circles in Broomrigg Plantation (542465), near Ainstable.* By K. S. HODGSON.

Excavation has been begun on the complex of stone circles in Broomrigg plantation (CW2 xxxv 77 f.); the site marked C on the map (*ibid.*, fig. 2) was chosen for a start, and it has already yielded evidence of two cists, unfortunately wrecked, in an upper stratum, and one very fine one below the original surface; no datable objects have been found. It is hoped to report fully on these excavations in a future volume of *Transactions*.



FIG. 2.—Stone axe from Holme, Westmorland ($\frac{1}{2}$).

To face p. 217.

4. *The cairn on Coldfell* (606557). By K. S. HODGSON.

The remarkable "bowl and saucer" cairn on Coldfell (see CW2 xliii 170 f. and fig. 2) has been a war casualty. The dome-shaped top has been flattened and covered with concrete, on which a concrete trigonometrical station has been erected. The slabs from the cairn have been thrown into the "saucer," almost filling and concealing it. This unfortunate piece of official vandalism has been brought to the notice of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments, and it is hoped that it will be the last of its kind in our district.

5. *A polished stone axe from Holme, Westmorland*. By Lt. Col. O. H. NORTH, D.S.O., F.S.A., Past President.

Our member Mr R. N. Birley was recently making some alterations to a barn adjoining his house at Holme, Brookland (525789), in the course of which a polished stone axe-head was found, among the rubble core of a wall which was being breached to allow the insertion of a window; I think that the builder who noticed it, and brought it to Mr Birley, is to be congratulated on his alertness. The axe-head is of black vesicular rock, probably basalt—possibly originating from the Giants' Causeway, where similar rock is found; it is rather pitted by weathering, especially on one side. Its dimensions are $3\frac{1}{4}$ " long, and $2\frac{1}{8}$ " tapering to $\frac{3}{4}$ " broad; it was exhibited at our meeting in Carlisle in July 1948, and a photograph of it is reproduced herewith (fig. 2).

II. ROMAN PERIOD AND DARK AGE.

6. *A Roman quern from Totter Gill* (approximately 008317) near Workington, Cumberland. By HERBERT VALENTINE, Vice-President.

A drawing of this stone, here reproduced (fig. 3) was sent to R. G. Collingwood in 1929, and he pronounced it to be Roman, quoting querns of the same type found at Birdoswald and Greatchesters respectively. It is an upper mill-stone, of hard coarse grit, 16" in diameter; the under-side is slightly concave, and a piece of the periphery has been broken off. There is a raised circle in the centre of the stone, where the corn would be fed, but the mill has never been completed, for there is no drilled hole in the centre for the pivot (where the corn should dribble through to the lower stone). In his paper on the coastal signal-stations Collingwood wrote (CW2 xxix 160): "Between no. 13 (Oyster Bank) and Risehow there are two possible sites. The first is half a mile N. of no. 13 and east of Siddick village; the

second another half-mile further N. on the south side of a little ravine in which runs a stream, half-way between Siddick and St. Helens." He does not name the ravine, but I take it to be Totter Gill, on the south bank of which I saw this stone lying in 1929; its discovery there may support Collingwood's suggestion that there was a Roman signal-tower at that point or thereabouts. The stone is now preserved at Park End, Workington (which our

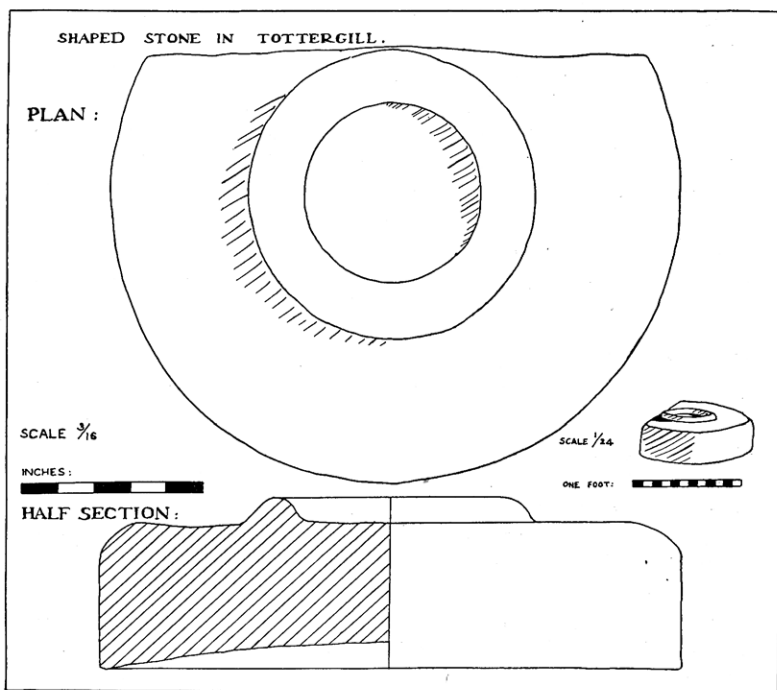


FIG. 3.

late member, Miss Helena Thompson, on her death in 1940 left to that town for a museum).

7. *Roman finds on the Cumberland coast.* By M. C. FAIR, Honorary Member.

The following finds, not all of them recent, ought to be placed on record in our *Transactions*. (a) At *Braystones* (007059) a hoard of Roman coins was found, towards the end of the 19th century when a well was being sunk: they included at least one

Commodus, but there is no further record of them, and I have been unable to trace their present whereabouts; they were at one time in the possession of Lady Hutchinson. (b) At *Warborough Nook* (008053) I was fortunate enough to find a small number of sherds of Roman pottery from an occupation-site eroded by the Ehen; it seems doubtful if there is anything else left there to enable us to determine the character of the site, but a coastal signal-tower is perhaps the likeliest structure to have stood there; Mr J. P. Gillam has kindly examined the pottery, and his report upon it is given below, p. 220. (c) At *Starling Castle* (013043), a modern cottage on a site long occupied, a *sestertius* of Antoninus Pius, assignable to A.D. 138, has been found not long ago; it is now in Whitehaven Museum, the curator of which, Mr Hay, has been good enough to give me particulars of it. (d) At *Ravenglass* (087958) eroded material on the seaward face of the Roman fort includes very massive construction beams, and freestone blocks which have been burnt very heavily, giving further evidence for its destruction by fire at a period which remains to be determined; the bulk of the fort site is likely to be inaccessible for excavation for many years now, for the young trees planted there during the war have made such rapid and vigorous growth that they would interfere decisively with a planned dig. (e) At *Muncaster Castle* (104964) a gold coin of Theodosius I (A.D. 379-395) was found *circa* 1800 in the foundations of the 14th-century pele tower; it is in Lady Ramsden's collection at Muncaster, where I have seen it. (f) At the *Parkhouse* (131986) kiln site, near Ravenglass, it has been possible to examine what seems to have been a potters' workshed or perhaps the supervisor's house; it had a floor of tiles and walls of timber and wattle and daub, and had finally been destroyed by fire; the finds included sherds dried and hardened but not kiln-fired. It is known that at least three kilns have been found and destroyed at this site; their products included floor-tiles and bricks, flue-tiles, *tegulae* and *imbrices*, box-tiles, fire-bricks and pottery.

8. *Recent discoveries at Hardknott Castle.* By M. C. FAIR.

Some interesting details have been noted during recent visits to Hardknott Castle (218015). In the *praetentura* at least one barrack-building was destroyed by fire, and its gable end fell outwards, where it still lies. The east tower has yielded some fragments of dirty yellowish-grey sandstone, such as I have noted at Ambleside and Moorsby, quite unlike the red freestone

normally used at Hardknott; it seems possible that it was used in repairs to the original structure. Close to the *porta praetoria* was a fragment of a red freestone inscribed slab, heavily burnt, retaining part of a very well and deeply cut letter, the lower part of an I or T probably; and in the *principia* was a good-sized fragment of red sandstone, deeply burnt, which had what looked like folds of drapery carved on it. These last two finds have been carefully buried, to preserve them from damage or destruction. The site has suffered a good deal in the past year or two from "howking" by irresponsible visitors, and it is greatly to be hoped that the Ancient Monuments Department may be able to protect it from further damage of that kind; one day this Society ought really to undertake further excavations there, in order to clear up the structural history and the chronology of its occupation: it is clear that the previous excavations left the barrack areas in the *praetentura* and *retentura* virtually untouched, and digging there should certainly produce ample evidence of the kind required.

9. *Roman pottery from Warborough Nook.* By J. P. GILLAM.

The six pieces of Romano-British pottery (fig. 4), found by Miss Fair at Warborough Nook (see p. 219 above), include four to which the probable period of use may be assigned within narrow limits; I give a brief description of each piece, and references to some dated parallels already published in our *Transactions*.

1. Rim and shoulder fragment of black fumed cooking-pot; grey gritty fabric in fracture. Though there is insufficient of the wall surviving to show any cross-hatching, the section is sufficient to identify this as an example of a very common type, securely dated by numerous stratified parallels; it occurs throughout period I on Hadrian's Wall, but seems to be commonest in the period 160-180. Cf. *Poltross Burn* (CW2 xi) pl. III 22, a piece of wall period I b.

2. Several fragments, including part of the shoulder, of a necked jar in red, gritty fabric. The shape is that of a wheel-made cooking-jar commonest in period I a, though it is found occasionally before and afterwards; the fabric is less common, but I have noted it in Hadrianic deposits.

3. Small fragment of a mortarium; neither the diameter nor the precise angle of this piece is certain; the fabric is whitish buff, and fairly soft, and no grit survives. Thin, soft or sandy, white rims are common in Hadrianic deposits; cf. *Poltross Burn* pl. IV 2 (period I a) and *Birdoswald* (CW2 xxx) 3 (period I).

4. Amphora fragment, in typical buff sandy fabric.
5. Fragment of wide-mouthed jar; hard and smooth fabric, biscuit-coloured throughout; there are no close parallels known to me. Miss Fair notes, however, that the Parkhouse pottery kiln produced similar wares.
6. Very small fragment of a mortarium-rim in hard white pipeclay fabric; the piece is water-worn. The vessel from which it came belongs to a type characteristic of the early years of the fourth century; cf. *Bewcastle* (CW2 xxxviii) fig. 22, 14 (end of period II).

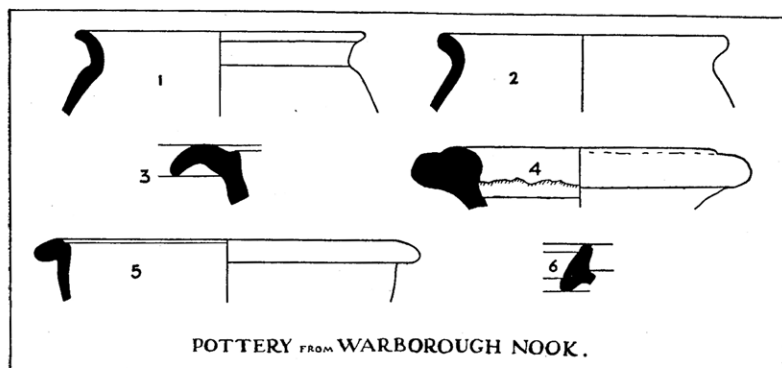


FIG. 4.

Nos. 1-3 are all of second-century date, 2 and 3 being probably and 1 possibly Hadrianic; there is no doubt as to the Diocletianic date of no. 6.

10. *A forgotten discovery at Kirkstone Pass.* By ERIC BIRLEY.

I have recently come across a passage in West's *Guide to the Lakes* (3rd ed., 1784, p. 144) which seems to have escaped the notice of subsequent writers on our district; it is not mentioned, for example, in W. G. Collingwood's careful inventory in CW2 xxvi 1 f.: "That the Romans have had engagements at *Kirkston* pass, is evident from the Roman arms that were lately found in the adjoining moss, and the many heaps of stones collected thereabouts, which have the appearance of barrows." It is hoped that the publication of the present note may lead to more light being thrown on this tantalising reference; in particular, it remains to be seen whether West was correct in attributing the arms—presumably metal weapons of some kind—to the Roman

period, and it is not clear whether they were found close enough to any of the "barrows" for an association to be inferred. Perhaps some of our members who live in that district may be able to reconnoitre the Kirkstone area, to see if any of the barrows are identifiable.

11. *An ancient site in Cartmel.* By ERIC BIRLEY.

Mr A. L. Dickinson, of Wharton House, Cartmel, reports the discovery of a previously unrecorded settlement, of indeterminate date, in Toad Mire wood, Barns Bank (377783), a quarter of a mile south-west of Cartmel village. The site is on a little plateau, and the remains include an enclosing wall, some 4 ft. thick at base, about 200 yds. north to south, 150 yds. east to west at its north end and 70 at the south, where the main entrance seems to have been; in addition, there are trackways, hut-circles and various other structural features, suggestive of considerable occupation, possibly over a long period. The site is much overgrown, and it has not yet proved practicable to make a detailed survey of it; but it seems clear that it is a "settlement" of the type common in our district in general, and in Westmorland in particular (see *RCHM Westmorland, passim*), the occupation of which may have fallen anywhere in the period from shortly before the arrival of the Romans to A.D. 1000 or so. It is hoped that it may be possible to investigate it more fully, and to include a report on it in a future volume of *Transactions*.

III. MEDIAEVAL AND LATER.

12. *A twelfth-century charter: a correction.* By M. C. FAIR.

Mr R. Sharpe France's note in CW2 xlvii 241 f. discusses a charter from the muniments of Sir Roger Hulton, Bart., and suggests that it may have related to Drigg (065991) chapel; but the Rev. C. M. Lowther Bouch and Mr C. Roy Hudleston point out to me that it must really relate to Yanwath in Westmorland; the charter records a *Donacio* (and not an *advocatio*), that is to say a gift (and not specifically an advowson), and CW2 xlv 37 shows what the gift was: it was the marriage dower of Agnes, wife of Anselm le Fleming and daughter of Edgar of Dunbar and his wife Alice, daughter of Ivo de Greystoke. Ivo and Alice settled upon their daughter Agnes, in free marriage with Anselm le Fleming (de Furness), half their land of Euanwit (Yanwath in Westmorland, member of the Barony of Greystoke), as is set forth in an unpublished charter of about 1180 in the Rydal Hall collection of Deeds. By an earlier charter of c. 1150/60 Walter,

son of Ivo de Greystoke, confirmed to Alice his sister, on her marriage to Edgar, son of Earl Gospatric, Yanwath and Knock Salcock in Westmorland, and other property in Northumberland and Yorkshire (*Newminster Chartulary*, Surtees Society, 117). There is no evidence that Anselm le Fleming was the founder of the chapel of St. Peter at Drigg, which he expropriated to Conishead Priory; his connection with Drigg was not through his father Michael de Furness, but evidently through the family of Greystoke and his wife Agnes. The manor of Drigg was held in moiety between the family of le Fleming and the Stutevilles of Lyddel, being of the Barony of Lyddel held under the Barony of Egremont in Coupland (*Knights' Fees and Serjeantries* 10 Edward I). Nicholas de Stuteville (of Lyddel) granted land in Drigg to St. Bees Priory before 1184 (*Register of St. Bees* 456-7); Robert de Yanwath and the monks of Calder Abbey also had land in Drigg (*ibid.*, 458).

13. *An eighteenth-century medal from Holme, Westmorland.*
By R. N. BIRLEY.

A medal issued in commemoration of Admiral Vernon's capture of Portobello in 1739 was found, during the summer of 1948, built into the rubble filling of a wall of the house known as Springfield, Holme, the residence of Mr T. T. Atkinson. Edward Vernon entered the Navy in 1707, and in between spells of sea service he sat in the House of Commons during the long peace with Spain while Walpole was Prime Minister; during this time he was constantly urging war with Spain, from whom there were rich pickings to be had, and finally—no doubt to keep him quiet—he was given six ships, with which he took Portobello, losing only seven men in the process. There are no fewer than 78 varieties of the Vernon Portobello medal on exhibition in the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich and catalogued in "British and Foreign Medals relating to Naval and Maritime Affairs" (1937); the present specimen appears to correspond with no. 15 in the series. The obverse shows Admiral Vernon himself, with the inscription: "The British Glory Revived by Admiral Vernon"; the reverse shows his six ships, with the inscription: "He Took Portobello with Six Ships Only, Nov 22, 1739."