

NOTES

1. *Fieldwalking in the Kendal Area, 1985*

By J. CHERRY and C. A. ELLWOOD

This note gives the results of a small programme of fieldwalking in the Scout Scar–Cunswick Scar area of Kendal. It was not systematically planned but arose rather as a by-product of work on the limestone uplands of East Cumbria (Cherry *et al.*, CW2, 1984, 1985 and 1987) and the survey of settlement sites on the limestone around Scout Scar and Cunswick Scar carried out by members of the Kendal Group of this Society.

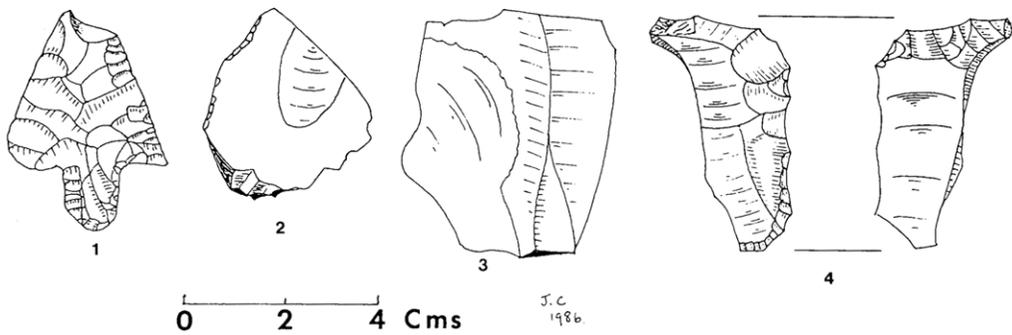


FIG. 1. – Artefacts from the Scout Scar–Cunswick Scar area.

1. Barbed and tanged arrowhead, of the Sutton B type, made from coarse grey flint. Both of the barbs and the point have been snapped off. This was found on an eroded molehill to the north of Cunswick Tarn. (Map reference: 3489 4939).

2. A small sub-triangular flake of unpatinated grey flint with definite signs of wear, due to use, along one slightly curved edge. Found on the surface of a ploughed field above the western edge of Cunswick Tarn. (Map reference: 3488 4938).

3. A fragment of coarse creamy coloured flint or chert, with a pronounced bulb of percussion with no secondary retouch or obvious signs of utilisation. It was found in an erosion on a rough track at Scar Foot, and is somewhat abraded. (Map reference: 3485 4925).

4. A small bifacially worked fragment of white flint which appears to have been broken from a larger piece, probably a knife or scraper. Found in a ploughed field to the south of Scout Scar. (Map reference: 3493 4883).

2. *Saddle Quern from Drigg, Cumbria*

By J. CHERRY, B.SC

The prehistoric occupation of the sand-dunes at Drigg and to the south of the river Esk, at Eskmeals, has already been reported.¹ The finds included a saddle quern and rubbing stone from the northern edge of the Eskmeals dunes. This is now in the Carlisle Museum and Art Gallery. In 1986 the dunes at the southern extremity of the Drigg peninsula were heavily eroded by river

and sea action, and it was here that Mr. R. Orrell of Drigg noticed what appears to be the bottom stone of a saddle quern which had become exposed.

The quern stone is made from a small boulder of Eskdale granite, 36 cm long, 28 cm wide and 13 cm deep, with a smooth slightly concave, upper surface, which is roughly oval in shape.

All the remaining surfaces of the boulder are fairly rough and the bottom of the stone is slightly convex and almost parallel with the upper surface. There are fracture scars at both ends of the quern, which suggests that it was somewhat longer when originally made and may have been broken in antiquity.

Mr Orrell has agreed to deposit the quern at the Carlisle Museum and Art Gallery.

Reference

- ¹ Cherry, J and P. J. "Prehistoric Habitation Sites in West Cumbria: Part IV, The Eskmeals Area". CW2 lxxxvi, 1.

3. *Roman Coin finds from Cumbria* By D. C. A. SHOTTER

Since my last listing (CW2, lxxxvi, 255-7), further finds have come to light:

1. Wigton (Red Dial) (NGR lodged with Carlisle Museum).

- (i) Five very worn *sestertii* – two of Faustina I, and one each of Antoninus Pius, Marcus Aurelius (as emperor) and Faustina II (probably issued in the reign of Marcus Aurelius). The information to hand neither supports nor rules out the suggestion that these coins may derive from a hoard. Their condition, however, suggests a parallel with a group of mid-third-century hoards which consist of worn second-century *sestertii* and fresher *double-sestertii*, issued in period c. A.D. 245-265. (E.g. Flaggrass in Cambridgeshire, see *Britannia* XII (1981), 121).
- (ii) (a) *Denarius* of Hadrian (*RIC* 71 of A.D. 119-122)
 (b) *Sestertius* of Antoninus (Hill 751 of A.D. 147)
 (c) Plated *denarius* of Septimius Severus (*RIC* 226 of A.D. 209)
 (d) *Denarius* of Severus (*RIC* 288 of A.D. 202-10)
 (e) *Antoninianus* of Gordian III (*RIC* 1 of A.D. 238-9)
 (f) Radiate of Tetricus I (*RIC* 62 of A.D. 271-3)
 (g) AE of Constans (LRBC I. 138 of A.D. 341-6).
- (iii) Small hoard or part-hoard: there was no obvious sign of a container, but some coins had a black deposit, which might have been the remains of a leather bag. The hoard closed c. A.D. 370. There were 23 coins as follows:
- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Gallienus 1 | (<i>RIC</i> 166; A.D. 259-268) |
| Victorinus 2 | (<i>RIC</i> 59; ?; A.D. 269-271) |
| Tetricus I 1 | (A.D. 271-273) |
| Illegible Radiate 1 | (c. A.D. 270) |
| Carausius 2 | (<i>RIC</i> 101; A.D. 287-293) |
| Constantine I 1 | (<i>RIC</i> London 154 ff; A.D. 319-320) |
| VRBS ROMA 2 | (LRBC I. 51; A.D. 330-335) |
| GLORIA EXERCITVS 2 | (LRBC I. 48, 64; A.D. 330-335) |
| PIETAS ROMANA 1 | (LRBC I. 105; A.D. 337-341) |
| VICTORIAE D D AVGG Q N N 1 | (LRBC I. 138; A.D. 341-346) |

FEL TEMP REPARATIO

(Fallen Horsemen copies) 5	(c. A.D. 350)
Magnentius 1	(LRBC II. 66; A.D. 351-352)
GLORIA ROMANORVM 1	(LRBC II. 498; A.D. 367-378)
SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE 2	(LRBC II. 486; A.D. 364-367)

For an apparently similar hoard, discovered in the area in 1814, see CW2, lxxxii, 198.

2. Burrow-in-Lonsdale (NGR not specified)

The finds were made apparently in the area between the fort and the river Lune; they consist of a copper coin each of Constantine I and Constans (apparently of the period A.D. 330-346), a *denarius* of Sabina (A.D. 127-136), and four worn *sestertii* (two of Antoninus Pius, one each of Faustina I and Marcus Aurelius as emperor).

3. Kirkby Stephen (NGR not specified)

Three coins have been reported – a *denarius* of Vespasian, a *sestertius* of Faustina II, and a *denarius* of Commodus.

4. Watercrook

Two groups of four coins have been reported:

- (i) App. NGR SD 514904
 - (a) *Sestertius* of Hadrian (*RIC* 701 of A.D. 132-4)
 - (b) Radiate of Claudius II (*RIC* 49 of A.D. 268-70)
 - (c) Radiate of Claudius II (*RIC* 266 of A.D. 270)
 - (d) Alexandrian, *tetradrachm* of Probus (A.D. 277-8; J. G. Milne, *Catalogue of Alexandrian Coins* (Oxford, 1971), no. 4522).
- (ii) App. NGR SD 513902
 - (a) *As* of Domitian (A.D. 85)
 - (b) *Denarius* of Hadrian (*RIC* 241A of A.D. 134-8)
 - (c) *Denarius* of Faustina II (*RIC* (Marcus) 744 of A.D. 176-80)
 - (d) *Denarius* of Septimius Severus (*RIC* 264A of A.D. 202-210)

5. Cartmel (?)

It appears that Cartmel was the source of a copper coin issued for Constantine II in A.D. 335-7 (*LRBC* I. 88). (Information from Mr John Marsh).

6. Gleaston Castle (NGR SD 26157185)

Denarius of Antoninus (Hill 508 of A.D. 142)

References

Hill: Hill, P. V., *The Dating and Arrangement of the Undated Coins of Rome*. A.D. 98-148 (London, 1970).
LRBC: Hill, P. V., Carson, R. A. G., Kent, J. P. C., *Later Roman Coinage* (London, 1976).
RIC: Mattingly, H. *et al.* (ed.), *The Roman Imperial Coinage* (London, 1923-1983).

4. *Ancient Road near Lamplugh*

By the late HAROLD DUFF

Ian Caruana writes:

The following note was among the papers of our former member Harold Duff which have been given to the Society by his widow. Although the data contained here is substantially as recorded by the Ordnance Survey and Miss Fair (CW2, liii, 213-5) it is worth publishing the note since it gives first hand observation of the excavations concerned and supplies details of precisely what was undertaken.

This ancient road strikes in a north-south direction across the main highway between Crossgates and Lamplugh Station in the neighbourhood of Lamplugh. Its course is easily visible in the field immediately south of the highway where it appears as a slight elevation taking a straight course to the farther hedge, over which the ditch in the next field shows it in section with several of its foundation stones still *in situ*. It is not quite so apparent in this field but may be detected in the two fields in the sloping ground on the south side of Wood Beck. Its course is much less apparent on the north of the highway.

Our member Mr G. Dickinson of Red How having granted permission to dig in these fields, and having very kindly provided the labour, a section was taken in field No. 119 at a point 49 yds from the hedge. Eight inches of surface soil were removed, beneath which was a layer of gravel from 3 to 6 ins deep, containing ashes. Underneath this was a layer of flat stones which rested on a layer of small rounded boulders which were embedded in very stiff undisturbed clay. The road showed a very obvious camber, but definite kerb stones were lacking, as were traces of side ditches.

Proceeding to the nearby field, No. 117, on the north side of the highway the trace of the road appeared to be marked by a rush-less line running directly through it. A series of cuttings were made on a wide arc across this area but no indications such as those in the last field could be found, undisturbed clay being found about 8-10 ins below the surface. A slight elevation in the lane to the north of this field suggested that the road might cross it at this point. A section taken here again revealed the ancient road with three definite layers of gravel, flat stones and boulders.

Assuming from the two sections taken that the road bended towards Todhole, a series of cuts was made on an arc of 40 ft wide in fields 66 and 67 but with no result. In the wood immediately to the east of the farm the supposed track of the ancient road had been recently excavated. A large irregular block of limestone 4 by 3 by 2 ft had been turned out along with blocks of freestone 3 to 4 ft long together with a number of drift boulders. These appeared to be the foundations of old farm buildings. Other traces of older buildings appeared in this wood including an old well which was discovered filled in two years ago. A Roman coin, now in the possession [BLANK].

Coin here [?] large brass.

Rev. Faustina and Antoninus Pius.

Obv. Ceres with ears of corn and torch.

Comment

The field numbers used by Duff are on the Ordnance Survey 25 in map (1899 edn.) Sheet LXII. 10. Full bibliographical references to the Roman road are given in CW2, lvi, 56-61, supplemented by a later observation reported in CW2, lxxi, 288.

The excavation can probably be dated to the inter-war period. G. Dickinson and Harold Duff both joined the Society in 1921 and Dickinson was listed as a member until 1938. Miss Fair refers to "The sector which I was shown at Gatwra before the war . . ." (CW2, liii, 214) and this surely

refers to the same work. R. L. Bellhouse suggested (*in litt.*) that the trenches may have been dug before 1926 and that the report was submitted to the OS in time for the 1926 edition but I can see no evidence to support this.

The findspot of the coin was in the region of NY 07582223. The denomination was given by Miss Fair (*op. cit.* 213) as a *sestertius* when she saw the coin (not now traceable) in the possession of Mr R. F. Dickinson. Dr D. C. Shotton has considered the description of the coin and suggests that it must be BMC 1416 of A.D. 141:

Obv. DIVA AVG FAVSTINA (rather than Ceres)
Rev. Antoninus and Faustina facing CONCORDIAE S C

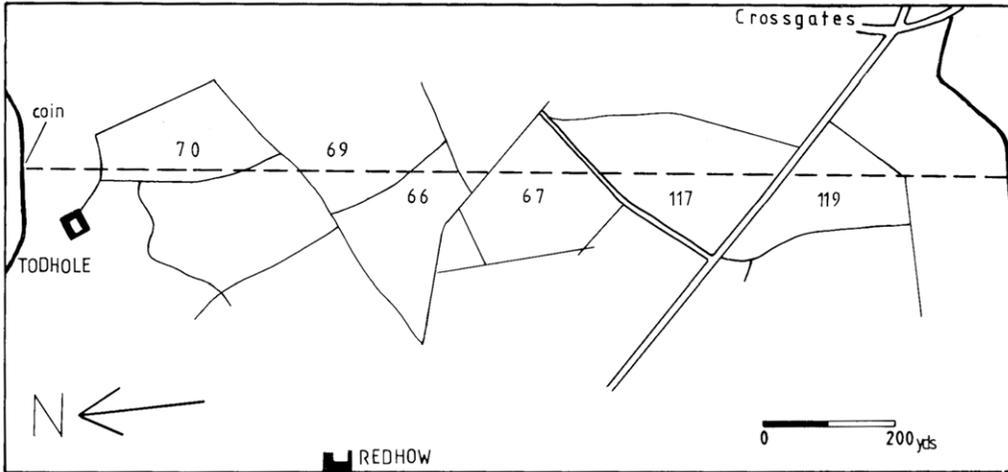


FIG. 1. – Roman Road at Lamplugh

I am grateful to Mrs R. F. Dickinson, R. L. Bellhouse, D. C. Shotton, T. M. Allan and C. Richardson for much help in establishing the details above.

5. *Who Built the Countess's Pillar at Brougham?*
 By BLAKE TYSON

The Countess's Pillar stands on the south side of the A66 road over half a mile east of Brougham Castle. It is one of the best preserved monuments in Cumbria and was erected for Lady Anne Clifford in 1654¹ to commemorate her last parting from her mother in 1616. Published descriptions² do not mention that some masons' marks are carved on its octagonal shaft. There are three † marks, one of which has been vandalised by being cut through by an Ordnance Survey benchmark, and a different mark ☒ occurs a little above the benchmark. But whose marks were they? Following widely held opinion John Harvey, the architectural historian, wrote of masons' marks that "There is no way of connecting them with named masons but they can prove contemporaneity of work".³ Such a statement invites challenge, even in a county like Cumbria where unsuitable rocks limit the geographical distribution of masons' marks to areas of softer building stones.

Recent research has proved some 17th century mason's marks at Whitehaven and St. Bees and needs to be outlined to lay a foundation for further study. Whitehaven's Elizabethan wharf was superseded by a pier built in 1634 by Robert Storey for (Sir) Christopher Lowther. When Sir John Lowther planned to extend this pier in 1679, his agent, Thomas Tickell, obtained an estimate from some Northumberland masons working on the rival pier at Parton. Tickell then persuaded a master mason from Lancaster, whom he referred to as "... our builder of Stainton's house at

St. Bees . . . Richard Caton by name . . .”, to undercut the price and then paid him £50 on 10 July 1679 when the pier contract was signed. Despite many difficulties, the work was completed by 24 September 1681.⁴ The Lancaster masons received a total of £460 in 29 instalments which were acknowledged by the signatures of the principal partners Richard Caton and Roger Lawson and by the marks of four other masons.⁵ These were:

Francis Caton	⌘	Richard Crozier	⌘
John Stainton	⌘	John Jackson	⌘

Despite severe weathering and repair of the soft sandstone which forms the middle part of the “Old Pier” at Whitehaven, Francis Caton’s mark has survived on the third step of the parapet near its join with the older part of the pier. To probe deeper, “Stainton’s house at St. Bees” can be equated with the house at Abbey Farm where Richard Stainton was Sir John Lowther’s tenant. On 11 November 1678, Tickell told Lowther of the contract for building the house for £110 and gave details which match the present building.⁶ The house was finished by 28 December 1679 and the date stone over the gable-end doorway, facing the street, confirms the year in a rather

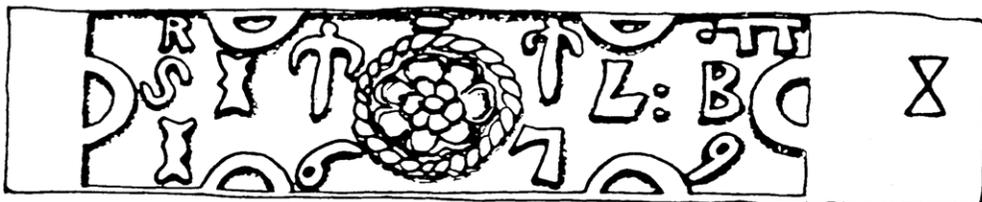


FIG. 1 – The unusual datestone on the house at Abbey Farm, St. Bees, showing John Stainton’s mason’s mark. As Sir John Lowther’s wife had died in London on 9 May 1678 “of a Feavour very rife in Town”, the customary arrangement of husband and wife initials was inappropriate.

uneven lettering style (Fig. 1). The initials **RS** refer to the tenant, **TT** to the agent and **IL : B** to John Lowther, Baronet. The central motif, a rose of “Lancaster” but with seven outer petals, reminds one of the origin of most of Caton’s masons.⁷ Near the right-hand end is the mason’s mark of John Stainton, a common surname at St. Bees but very rare around Lancaster.⁸ As he also had an imperfect impression of the county rose,⁹ he was probably from St. Bees and related to the Abbey Farm tenant whom he commemorated. Certainly several children of a John Stainton were buried at St. Bees after 1682.

Having proved that these two masons signed both their stones and documents with their characteristic mark, we may move on to consider the Countess’s Pillar. Unfortunately, Lady Anne Clifford’s accounts survive for only a brief period from 1665 to 1668¹⁰ so that detailed evidence for its construction is lacking. However, the 1665 accounts contain *receipted* payments and an entry for November mentions £9 15s. 10d.:

Payd the same 29th day to Jonathan Gledall and Danyell Whittfeild, Masons, for 100 Foote of Hewen worke about the 12 Grates in Brough Castle att 7d. the foote £2 18s. 4d.; For 222 Foote of Hewne work about the well att Brough Castle allsoe at 7d. a foote £6 9s. 6d.; And for paving of 48 yards from the Castle Gate to the well at 2d. the yard 8s. . . .¹¹

Both masons signed with their marks: Daniel Whitfield with ⌘ and Jonathan Gledall with ⌘. As this job and the Pillar were for the same employer and were separated by fewer than twenty miles and twelve years, Gledall must surely have been one of the builders of the Pillar. A better candidate would be hard to find.

A search for more detail showed that Jonathan Gledall was paid 3s. on 10 August 1665 “for stopping the Dropp in Cliffords tower in Brough Castle” where the roof was probably leaking

and, on the same day, he received £4 more “for getting of two Millstones on Loven Scarre¹² for my milles at Bongate [Appleby] according to agreement”. Daniel Whitfield is also mentioned elsewhere in the accounts. On 12 September 1668, he was paid “for Slateinge & pointing over the Hall here att Appleby Castle for himself and his men 5 dayes . . .” and, on 2 September, he had received £4 12s. 2d. “for himselfe and others imployed in the repaireinge of Pendraggon Castle”.

It is not clear whether both men were born locally. Gledhill, variously spelt, is so uncommon in Westmorland that the only 17th century entry on the Mormon microfiche refers to Brough-under-Stainmore, where Johnathon Gladdell married Margret Knustup on 24 September 1663.¹³ Their children were not baptised there. The Kirkby Stephen registers record the burial of Jonathan Gledall on 15 July 1679 and the marriage of Judith Gledall (presumably his daughter) to Richard Bell on 3 March 1689/90 but, as these registers do not survive before 1647, the baptism of neither mason has been proved. Daniel Whitfield probably belonged to the Mallerstang family of that name for, on 1 April 1671, “Elizabeth the Daughter of Daniell Whitfeild : Mall¹⁴” was baptised at Kirkby Stephen.

A search for masons' marks on structures associated with Lady Anne Clifford, from Skipton to Brougham, failed to reveal further evidence of Gledall or Whitfield's work. Brough castle was particularly disappointing since, of the 24 hearths for which tax was paid in 1665, we know that the masons worked on half of them. However, stone-robbing by Lady Anne's descendants, especially of dressed stones on exposed corners, has destroyed all the evidence and only one mark

* was found on a groundfloor fireplace in the southwest corner of the keep. Now that the identity of one of the builders of the Countess's Pillar has been established, a broader search must be made to discover the marks of other masons who signed documents of many kinds with their professional symbol, if only to prove that it was normal practice.

Notes and References

- ¹ The date 1654 is carved on the north face of the square upper portion but a tablet on the south face gives the date 1656, the year of the first distribution of alms from the stone bench nearby and the 40th anniversary of the last parting.
- ² R.C.H.M., *Westmorland*, (1936), 62b; G. C. Williamson, *Lady Anne Clifford* (1967), 386 (chapter xxiii); M. Holmes, *Proud Northern Lady* (1975), 157.
- ³ John Harvey, *The Master Builders* (1973), 46 (caption to Fig. 28).
- ⁴ For full details see B. Tyson, “Some Harbour Works in West Cumberland before 1710”, *Ancient Monuments Society, Transactions*, 29 (1985), 173-208. The Appendix deals with Abbey Farmhouse at St. Bees.
- ⁵ C.R.O., Carlisle, D/Lons/W, Whitehaven Town 6a.
- ⁶ C.R.O., Carlisle, D/Lons/W, Tickell Correspondence, Box 2, letter 379.
- ⁷ Richard and Francis Caton were sons of William Caton of Langthwaite near Scotforth, baptised in 1650 and 1654 respectively. Richard Crozier of Scotforth had seven children baptised at Lancaster between 1673 and 1690. Roger Lawson of Quernmore was buried at Lancaster in 1710 and probably lived at Skerton before 1680. John Jackson remains unidentified.
- ⁸ As evidenced by entries in the St. Bees and Lancaster parish registers.
- ⁹ “The heraldic Rose . . . was always represented . . . with *five* displayed petals . . .”. A. C. Fox-Davies, *The Art of Heraldry* (1904), 197a.
- ¹⁰ C.R.O., Kendal, WD/Hoth.
- ¹¹ Previously, on 20 November, Edward Thorneborough, “my Bailiff of Brough” had been reimbursed for paying for “121 Loads of hewne stone, for the well and 12 Grates att Brough Castle, at 6d. the Load £3 os. 6d.; For 160 Loads of Wall-stone and pavinge about the sayd well att 3s. a score £1 4s. od. . . . [and for] a Labourer 3 dayes att 8d. . . . for levellinge about the sayd well 2s.”
- ¹² Loven Scar is 1½ miles southeast of Outhgill in Mallerstang. Presumably the millstones were obtained from the vast spread of large fallen gritstone blocks below the Scar produced as a result of landslipping during the Pleistocene (Glacial) period. *British Regional Geology, Pennines and Adjacent Areas*, HMSO (1954), 73.

¹³ The microfiche lists only three Gledhills for Westmorland, three in Cumberland and two in Co. Durham, but about 200 in Lancashire, mainly 18th and 19th century, along the Pennine fringe near Oldham and Rochdale. By contrast, the Yorkshire microfiche has about 3,000 mainly in the Halifax/Huddersfield area and, particularly in the 17th century, at Elland parish between the two towns. If this very specific distribution indicates where Jonathan Gledall originated, the only suitable baptism on the microfiche was on 19 February 1631 at Elland.

6. *Iron Mining on the high fells above Eskdale and Langdale, and miners' roads*
By SUSAN JOHNSON

In many years of walking the high fells above Eskdale I have seen traces of the iron ore miners of earlier centuries. There is now a roofless stone hut of these miners high above Lingcove at GR 237062, on the west of Yeastyrigg Gill where that runs between tight banks under Bowfell. Although in 1932 a fireplace and chimney could be seen, now just the walls stand, of which the northern one is one great rock (Plate 1). The east wall hides the chimney.



PLATE 1. – Miner's hut.

(*Photograph by Albyn Austin*)

The main vein of ore is here at about 2,500 feet above sea level, and well below the watershed ending Eskdale's parish, but W. G. Collingwood wrote that ore was taken uphill over Ore Gap from Eskdale to Langstrath,¹ and thus "Langstrath was disafforested by the iron smelters".

But the tradition at Eskdale's nearest farm, Brotherelkeld, in 1955 was that this ore was taken by horse track – still partly visible – first downhill into Green Hole, then up over Moasdales Saddle to Gaitscale (now ruined) and the Wrynose to be smelted at Hacket, Little Langdale. My father, the Reverend H. H. Symonds, found this track near Gaitscale, and the name Iron Gate on the Wrynose road just south-east of that farmstead may hold a memory of that use. Thirty years

ago he found it running west with some north, uphill from Gaitscale, passing under nineteenth century walls. Its course, because pitched, was clear in places on the east of Moasdale Gill, and it was discoverable again at Moasdale Saddle, going through the more westerly dip. We can see some great rocks pushed aside here for it. But the clearest part now is on the slope just above the west of Yeastyrigg Gill, below the hut. Spate and frost have removed much.

Ore Gap and Throstlegarth (where Lincore and Esk join) was, according to Mary Fair as quoted by W. G. Collingwood,² a route "used for the iron miners' and smelters' business". This lacks precision. It could mean that miners lived in Eskdale and travelled from Brothelkeld to and across Throstlegarth Bridge to their working hut, before extracting ore.

To find by what routes, and why, late seventeenth century miners and their successors took ore, I searched records of mine, bloomsmithy, furnace and forge with help from Doctor Arthur Raistrick of Skipton and Mr Albyn Austin of Whitehaven. The Geological Survey Special Reports on Haematites³ indicate that ore was mined in the high fells, around the year 1700 and after, at Red Tarn; "near the top of a hill in the neighbourhood of Crinkle Crag";⁴ at Browney Gill; at Ore Gap;⁵ at Bowfell;⁶ at Green Hole, Lingcove; and at Angle Tarn under Bowfell's north face.⁷

Here are some details. From Red Tarn ore was brought by pack-horse way to the Wrynose and then near Wilson Place to Hacket.⁸ Red Tarn was "certainly mined by Mr Cram just before 1869", and again 1872/5.⁹

The mining "near Crinkle Crag" may well have been at the gill marked by the Ordnance Survey "Rest Gill". It runs north-west from Crinkles towards Green Hole, is red to the eye, and older Eskdale people have called it "Rust Gill". Ore from it could join the track from Yeastyrigg Gill. Ore Gap's miners may have sent their ore to Langstrath until they had used up its trees, and later to Hacket, via Moasdale. Green Hole is a neighbouring site. From Browney Gill the direct uneasy way was into Oxenden.¹⁰

Where could ore from these sites go to be smelted? The present Hacket Forge was a bloomsmithy – that is a combination of a bloomery and forge. A bloomery produced blooms, a forge a beaten bar of iron. A bloomsmithy had never more than moderate demand for ore. A Calgarth man's will of 1634/5 about the forge "at Hacket" mentions "iron at forge ready for drawing out",¹¹ but the main furnace in Langdale must have been elsewhere. John Postlethwaite¹² records that, according to John Robinson, a furnace "in Langdale" was constantly supplied in about 1709 with local iron. Similarly the Geological Survey Report indicated that "at Hacket or Langdale was a bloomery forge".¹³ The Survey emphasized that around 1700 there was a furnace "in Langdale" separate from Hacket Forge in Little Langdale,¹⁴ and to it was sent "ore worked in the hills of the central Lake District". Mary Burkett found mention of a 1704 smelthouse in a will referring to Fell Foot – "a pair of large bellows at the smelthouse and some wood at the forge and How".¹⁵ These seventeenth century references are confirmed by archives of the Pennington manor of Little Langdale. At Hacket in 1631 was a "Forge or Iron Worke for making barre iron". But it is clear from the manor's records of 1749-1843 that the name Hacket included a hamlet of several dwellings.¹⁶

I do not know whether the "furnace" was here, or perhaps in Great Langdale. Dr A. Raistrick wrote that it was the Company of Mines Royal Copper which in 1697 was making iron "at Hacket".¹⁷

So to go from these high and rocky strips of ore to a low site in Langdale or Langstrath, or even Eskdale, these weather-hampered miners may have tried various ways, generally, I take it, with ponies. An indenture of 1709 between the "Governours and Assistants and Societys of and for Mines Royal" and one Moses Stringer "recognises great costs and charges and dangers already spent and risked . . . in searching opening, working, digging, Proping, Levelling, Aditing and Draining Mines and his Art and Judgement in making Bridges over the most rapid Rivers and making Safe and Passable roads over Craggy and Steep Mountains to facilitate Mineral Carriage . . .". Like this Moses, men toiling about Bowfell and Crinkles must have had art and judgement – courage, too.¹⁸

Notes

- ¹W. G. Collingwood, *The Lakes Counties* (edition of 1932), 37.
- ²CW2. xxviii, 127.
- ³*Geological Survey Special Reports on Mineral Resources*, vol. VIII, Haematites of W. Cumberland (1919) (Another edition, 1924 differs.)
- ⁴"Miscellaneous Mining Notes", *Geological Magazine* (1865), 95, note signed DM.
- ⁵John Postlethwaite, *Mines and Mining in the Lake District* (1913).
- ⁶Dr Arthur Raistrick, *Quakers in Science and Industry*, 168.
- ⁷*Geological Survey Special Reports on Mineral Resources*, Haematites (2nd edn. 1924).
- ⁸Letter from Dr A. Raistrick to S. Johnson, 7th July 1986.
- ⁹John Bolton, *Geological Fragments* (1869).
- ¹⁰John Postlethwaite, *op. cit.*
- ¹¹CW2, lxiv, 192.
- ¹²John Postlethwaite, *op. cit.*
- ¹³Geological Survey Special Reports, 1924, 2.
- ¹⁴*Ibid.*, 3, 4.
- ¹⁵CW2, lxx, 273.
- ¹⁶C.R.O. (Carlisle), D/Pen 53.
- ¹⁷Dr A. Raistrick, *op. cit.*, 168.
- ¹⁸British Museum Loan MS 16, part 2, 721C.

7. *As soon as you can say "Jack Robinson"*.
By DOROTHY HINCHCLIFFE, M.SC.

This saying is attributed to Robert Brinsley Sheridan, as he inveighed against John Robinson when they were Members of Parliament on opposing sides, in Lord North's Administration. Sheridan made a derogatory remark about Robinson, who was then Secretary to the Treasury. Members shouted "Name, name, name", so Sheridan replied "You know I cannot name him, but I could, – as soon as I can say Jack Robinson".

The incident is often recounted in histories of Appleby, where Robinson lived, and where in 1765 he re-built the White House (CW2, lxxxv). He was M.P. for Westmorland at the time, the report is fully authenticated, and we cannot refute it. It is particularly in our mind this year, 1987, when the White House is swathed in scaffolding in a fight against dry rot.

However, as it stands, the incident is difficult to understand, because surely Sheridan was naming his opponent. The only explanation must be that the phrase was already in the language from an earlier time, and members accepted it as such.

Now a most interesting comment has come my way, which offers a satisfactory explanation. Mr G. Abbot, who is a retired Yeoman Warder of the Tower of London, avers that the phrase was in popular use for a hundred years before the Sheridan-Robinson debate, and it refers to Sir John Robinson, who was Commanding Officer at the Tower from 1660-1679, and the phrase referred to the speed of beheading with the axe.

Consequently Sheridan could use the phrase with impunity, and not transgress the ruling that members cannot be referred to by name – a ruling which still applies today. So rather than challenging Appleby's anecdote, this new information makes it more credible.

8. *High Mill, Lorton, from its deeds of 1728-1940*¹
By JEREMY GODWIN

High Mill, Lorton, extant in 1478 as "the fulling mill called Overcornemyne", a ruin, in Carlisle Priory's estate,² stands about half a mile south of High Lorton village, at grid reference NY 159252, on the Whit Beck; it is not to be confused with the mill upstream, east of High

Lorton, at NY 164256, a thread-mill in 1863.³ From 1728 the High Mill was a watermill for corn, with drying-kiln attached; it had ceased as a mill by 1883.⁴ Its tenure was customary of the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle's Manor of Lorton, rent 5s. 4d., until 1922 or after.⁵

The Mill and kiln⁶ were sold with two closes called Bocard Lands (3 acres) for £119 in 1728 by John Tubman of Cockermouth, gent., and his mortgagee, to John Allason, yeoman, of Low Swinside. He kept the lands but sold the Mill and kiln for £100 in 1730 to a Lorton miller, John Taylor, who (with his neighbour Peile, mortgagee) sold it for £140 in 1741 to a Greysouthen yeoman, William Noble, who by May 1743 had moved to Lorton and built a house at the High Mill. By 1750 he was miller there, but sold it to his mortgagee Barnes's widow for £93 in August 1750, as "Corn and Wheat Mill and Kiln", the sole mention of wheat in these deeds. Even so, and even allowing for the £35 mortgage begun in 1743, the sale-price was still £12 less than in 1741. The Barnes family kept the Mill until February 1801, when John Peile Barnes of Lorton, gent., sold it, with kiln, cottage, and garden, for £150. But the Barneses were farmers, not millers, at heart, and by 1801 the mill and kiln had been disused "for some years past".

The new owner, William Wallass or Wallace of Maryport, yeoman, did not move to Lorton, but soon restarted the mill there, with enterprise and vigour. Seven weeks after buying the Mill, he paid £305 for the four closes (7 acres) along the south bank of the mill-race (i.e. the Beck), between the Mill and the Lorton-Brackenthwaite road. Next he demolished and rebuilt the Mill and kiln on the same site; it was ready by December 1801, when he bought a nearby sliver of meadow; and it was running again by March 1802, when he mortgaged it for £350, as miller in Maryport. By 1817, however, he had returned to farming; he let the Mill etc. for nine years for £60 p.a. in February 1817 to two Hodgsons (one was miller at High Mill, the other was yeoman in Kirkbride) and one Kendal (miller at "Southet Mill"). Four years after his death in 1820,⁷ his family⁸ sold the estate for £1,005 to George Hodgson, miller, of Double Mills near Cockermouth, who let it from Double Mills; his tenant in 1829 paid £75 p.a. In 1829 he mortgaged it for £500, and in February 1831 he and his mortgagee⁹ sold it, with its land and stints or allotments in lieu, for £1,050 to George Richardson father and son, millers, of Abbey Mills, Holm Cultram (by 1837, of Gamelsby Mill near Aikton). George (senior) died yeoman of Low Dockray Rigg, Wigton, in 1858, leaving Lorton High Mill to another son, Joseph, who was milling there by 1859 (George his brother had just made his will, and died in March 1860). Joseph promptly mortgaged it for £300 to John Stalker of Isel Old Park, yeoman, in August 1859, and for £1,000 in April 1860 to three yeomen named Little from Holm Cultram, who in 1863 assigned their mortgage to John Stalker, still in Isel. By 1868 Stalker had moved to Lorton, and in 1880 he acquired the whole estate. By 1885 he and his wife had moved into the High Mill's house; the family still owned it in 1940,¹⁰ but as farmers and gentlemen: the Mill was still going in 1862,¹¹ but had ceased by 1883.¹²

Thus the Mill's descent, in brief. These deeds contain several descriptions of the premises, notably in 1824, 1829, 1860 and 1862, supplemented by the Ordnance Survey maps and by the directories. In February 1824 the buildings comprised house, byre, stable, outhouses, the newly-rebuilt Mill, "well supplied with Water, and having two Water Wheels and Drying Kiln Dressing and Barley Mill Dressing Machine One Pair of French Burrs and other Appurtenances . . . Together with all . . . Ropes Pullies Tackling" (lack of punctuation *sic!*). In 1829 the Mill was conveyed "Together with all . . . Mill Dams, Mill Ponds, Mill Races, Water Sluices, Troughs, Floodgates, Waterfalls, Water Wheels, Dressing Mills, Barley Mills, Dressing Machines, French Burrs, Stones, Tackling, Machinery";¹³ the O.S. 25 in. 1st Edition shows a mill-race and sluice, but no dam or pond; by 1899 the mill-race south of the sluice (i.e. past the Mill itself) had disappeared.¹⁴

In 1860 the average repair bill had been £8 "for many years", for the "Water Corn Mill, sluices, water banks, dam head, and water wheel"; the Mill was at that time let for £66 p.a., and insured for £3 os. 9d. a year. The mortgagees, Little, changed their insurers (the new premium, for £700 insured, was £1 19s. 9d.!), and the new policy, dated 1862, describes the buildings etc. thus:¹⁵

“Water corn mill and kiln (for drying grain only) communicating therewith, known as Lorton High Mill, containing only two pairs of stones but no other fireheat than for said kiln; Warranted that no shells nor husks of oats, rice, or of any other grain be separately ground therein nor in any building communicating therewith,	£160
The water wheel therein,	£20
The millwrights’ work, including all the standing and going gear, mill stones, wire machines, and dressing mills therein,	£120
A dwelling house (in no hazardous tenure), situated about five yards from said Mill,	£130
Stable adjoining,	£40
Byre adjoining,	£30
Barn, byre, and pigsties, all under one roof, about thirty yards from said Mill,	£200
	<hr/>
	£700

Stone and slated buildings.”¹⁶

Notes and References

- ¹ C.R.O., Carlisle, DX/1162/1-4, deposited in October 1987 by Mr H. M. Huck, High Mill Cottage there; cited thus, e.g. “Bundle 1” for DX/1162/1.
- ² Dr Angus H. L. Winchester, *Landscape and Society in Medieval Cumbria* (1987), 146.
- ³ Ordnance Survey 1 : 50,000 Landranger Sheet 89 (1986); O.S. 25 in. 1st Edition, Cumberland Sheets LV.14 (1863), Thread Mill, and LXIII, 2 (1861-62), High Mill. The Thread Mill in 1863 had a chimney, gasometer, mill-race, and houses called “Tenters” nearby.
- ⁴ These deeds’ two deeds-schedules (both in Bundle 3, 1860 and 1870) both begin at 1728. See the directories for the Mill’s cease.
- ⁵ Bundle 3, Succession Duty return 1922 (Tom Stalker deceased).
- ⁶ Source for this paragraph is Bundle 1.
- ⁷ His Trustees included Thomas Dunnet of Maryport, “one of the Inspectors of the White Herring Fishery”. Dunnet is a Caithness surname.
- ⁸ Widow Eleanor, Maryport; son William of Carlisle, gent.; daughters (Mrs) Sarah Fearon and Elizabeth Wallace.
- ⁹ Miss Sally Porter of Wigton.
- ¹⁰ Bundle 3. For Mrs Stalker’s house-improvements c. 1930, with block plan of the Mill, house, cottage, etc. (all named), see the fine plan, sections, and elevation here.
- ¹¹ Bundle 3, 1862 insurance policy (Imperial Fire Insurance Co., London).
- ¹² T. Bulmer, *Directory of West Cumberland* (1883), 524.
- ¹³ Bundle 1.
- ¹⁴ O.S. 25 in. 1st and 2nd Editions, Cumberland Sheet LXIII, 2.
- ¹⁵ Bundle 3, 1860 Succession Duty return.
- ¹⁶ For the buildings’ locations cf. the c. 1930 block-plan (Note 10 above).

9. *Shuttle and Bobbin found at the Black Bull Hotel, Coniston* By JOHN DAWSON

Whilst he was working at the Black Bull Hotel, Coniston, in November 1984, on behalf of the licensee, Mr R. E. Bradley, Mr Peter Dixon discovered a shuttle and a bobbin. Mr Dixon was sawing through an upstairs door-frame when he made the discovery. If weaving had been carried on in the loft above, the two items could have been dropped, and fallen inside the structure of the wall so that it would not have been possible to retrieve them at the time.

The shuttle is a hand-shuttle, of wood, with the date 1780 stamped at one end of its upper face. At the other end are what appear to be the initials W W incised partly within a roughly semicircular

incised frame within which has been scratched a drawing of a handloom, threaded up, ready for use. The shuttle is curved, for easy holding in the hand. Dimensions: the incised rough semicircle measures 3.5 cm along its base, and 2.5 cm to its apex. The loom incised within is 1.7 cm square. The shuttle itself measures 25.0 cm from point to point. It is 6.0 cm wide at its widest point. The scooped-out area measures 12.4 cm in length by 4.7 cm in width. The lines of this scooped-out portion follow the curves of the shuttle. The slit in the base of the scooped-out portion is 8.3 cm long by 1.1 cm wide. It is rather like a tiny letter box in appearance. The hole for the thread to pass through, at the top of the curve in the side of the shuttle, is 1.5 cm in diameter. The nose at each end of the shuttle is grooved, and the grooves are fitted with irons, like tiny clog irons. The grooves are similar in size, running back 6.0 cm on the top side of the shuttle's curve, and 9.0 cm on the bottom side.

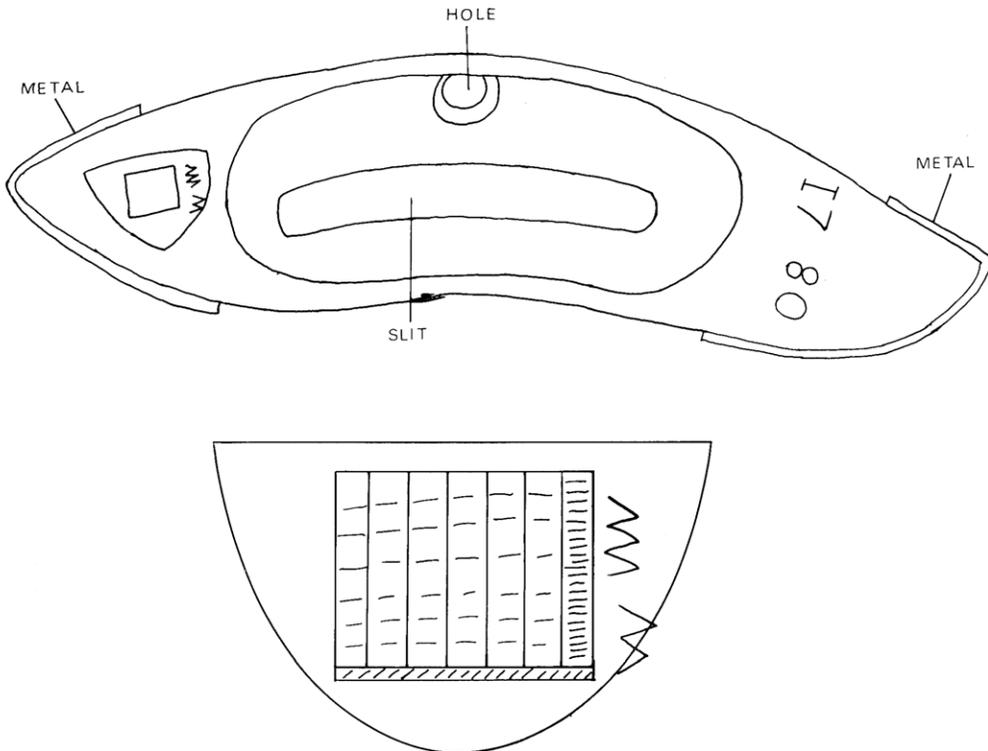
The bobbin, of wood, very light in weight, measures 17.0 cm from end to end with 4.5 cm as the circumference of its central spindle. The length of this central section is 13.0 cm. The diameter of the hole passing through the whole length of the bobbin is 9 mm. The diameter of the circular stop at one end of the bobbin is 5.0 cm, and of the one at the other end, 4.0 cm.

No other positive evidence for weaving being carried on at the Black Bull Hotel has yet to come to light.

Both shuttle and bobbin are in good condition, and remain in possession of Mr and Mrs Bradley.

Margaret Dawson made sketches of the shuttle when it was examined for compiling the above description on 14th November 1986.

Note: If, indeed, the marks do represent the initials W W. It has not been possible to identify anyone with those initials living in Coniston at the relevant time.



Proceedings

Compiled by D. MORGAN

Summer Meetings 1987*Friday 12 June*

Over eighty-five members and guests assembled for a Summer evening at Hutton-in-the-Forest by permission of the Lord Inglewood. The house and family were described by the Hon Richard Vane after which members were conducted around the house and then assembled in the Great Hall for sherry. The evening ended with a buffet supper in the Cloisters.

Saturday 4 July

Over seventy members assembled at Branthwaite Hall by permission of British Coal, Opencast Executive, and heard an address from Mr T. Clare. Miss A. M. Branthwaite spoke on the Branthwaite family.

Members then went on to Workington Hall, by permission of Allerdale District Council, former home of the Curwen family, which was described by Mr T. Clare.

After lunch in Workington, members proceeded to Mirehouse, Bassenthwaite, and were welcomed by Mr and Mrs J. F. H. Spedding who conducted parties round the house. Members were also able to see a display, on behalf of the Save the Children Fund, of Royal Wedding Dresses.

After taking tea at Mirehouse, members were free to visit St. Bega's Church, Bassenthwaite, by permission of the Reverend J. Mellish.

Saturday 18 July

Because of the heavy downpour which persisted all day, and problems with one of the coaches, the programme had to be curtailed.

Members assembled for coffee at Ribchester Parish Hall after which a visit was paid to the Parish Church by permission of the Reverend J. Levick who described the Church. Members then visited Ribchester Roman Fort with Mr B. J. N. Edwards, as guide.

The party proceeded to Whalley and after lunch visited Whalley Abbey, by permission of the Diocese of Blackburn. This was followed by a visit to Whalley Parish Church and Saxon Crosses, by permission of the Reverend J. M. J. Ackroyd. A description of the site was given by Mr B. J. N. Edwards.

Tea was taken at The Inn at Whithwell and this was followed by a General Meeting with the President, Mr J. Cherry, in the Chair.

Autumn Meeting 1987

Sixty-six members attended the Autumn meeting which was held in East Anglia from 7 to 12 September, with headquarters at the University of East Anglia, Norwich.

A break in the journey south was made to enable a visit to Lincoln Cathedral, by permission of the Dean and Chapter. After a welcome by the Dean, members were free to enjoy the Cathedral and/or the City.

A sherry reception was held before dinner and afterwards an introductory lecture was given by Mr Brian Ayers of the Norfolk Archaeological Unit.

On Tuesday morning members were taken to Norwich Castle Museum where they were free to visit items of their choice. This was followed by a visit to Norwich Cathedral, by permission of the Dean and Chapter, where guided tours were given. A picnic lunch was taken by the river.

The afternoon was spent at Wymondham and began with a visit to the Abbey Church, by

permission of the Reverend J. Riviere, which was described by Mrs Godfrey. A perambulation of the town followed, arranged by Miss Janet Smith, vice-president, and members of the Wymondham Society, and ended with a visit to the Heritage Museum. Tea was taken at the Abbey Hotel.

The first visit on Wednesday was to Sutton Hoo, by permission of the Sutton Hoo Society and described by Sqd Leader R. A. Beardsley. After a picnic lunch at Needham Market, members proceeded to West Stow Saxon Village where they were addressed by Mr A. Baxter.

The final visit that day was to Grimes Graves, by permission of English Heritage, which was described by Mr J. Lord who also gave a demonstration of Flint Knapping. Members who wished were able to descend into one of the mine shafts.

That evening our two drivers gave a slide-show which included pictures of previous years excursions.

On Thursday a brief visit was made to the Saxon Church at East Lexham, by permission of the Reverend D. J. Munt. This was on the way to Castle Acre where visits were made to the Parish Church of St. James the Great, by permission of the Reverend Canon D. W. Price, the Castle and the Priory by permission of English Heritage. Our guide in Castle Acre was Mr R. Rickett of the Norfolk Archaeological Unit. Lunch was taken at The Granery, Little Dunham.

The afternoon was spent at Sandringham by gracious permission of HM The Queen. The coaches were met on arrival and short talks given on Sandringham after which members were free to visit the house, church and grounds.

After dinner Mr Peter Wade-Martins, Norfolk County Archaeologist gave a talk on archaeological work in the county.

The first visit on Friday was to Burgh Castle, where the speaker was Miss R. Newman. Members also visited the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul at Burgh, by permission of the Reverend Dr J. Quinn. After a picnic lunch at Wroxham members went on to Salle Church by permission of Canon G. Dodson, who with Mr B. Stimpson, Churchwarden, described the church.

Members next visited Blicking Hall, National Trust, where they toured the House and grounds and had tea.

Dinner that evening was in the Sainsbury Centre and was followed by a talk by Mrs A. Humphreys who remained to given information as members viewed the exhibits.

The journey north on Saturday was interrupted to visit the Flag Fen Excavations, by the Fenland Archaeological trust for English Heritage. The Bronze Age Excavations were described by Dr Francis Pryor.

