

Miscellanea

POLISHED STONE AXE FROM ACTON BROOK.

The fine, polished, stone axe found in Acton Brook, 700 yards west of Acton Bridge Station in 1925 by the late F. R. Longshaw (*Ant. J.* vii, p. 60) has been presented to the Grosvenor Museum (Accessions No. 24.P.52) by his widow, Mrs F. R. Longshaw of Weaverham.

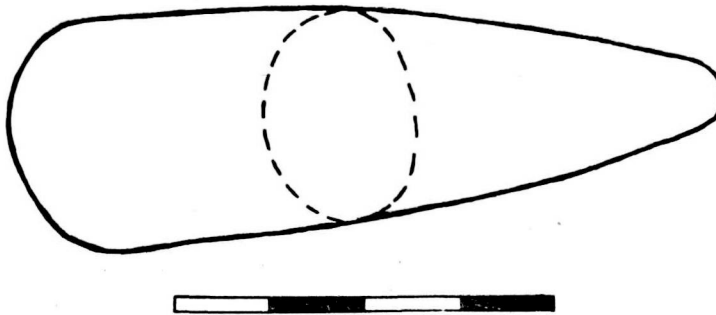


FIG. 17

GRANITE AXE FROM HOLLOWMOOR HEATH.

A granite axe (fig. 17) said to have been found on Hollowmoor Heath, near Barrow (Cheshire) has been placed on loan at the Grosvenor Museum by Rev. M. Ridgway. It is $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, weighs 26 oz. and tapers to a pointed butt, slightly chipped on one side.

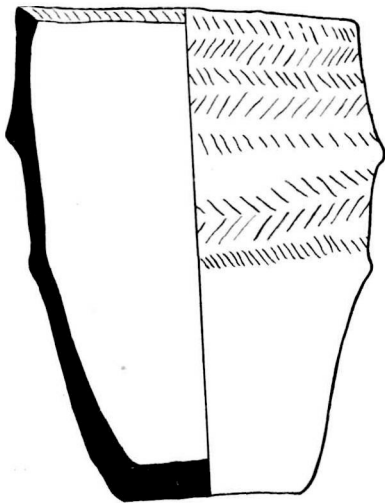


FIG. 18 ($\frac{1}{2}$)

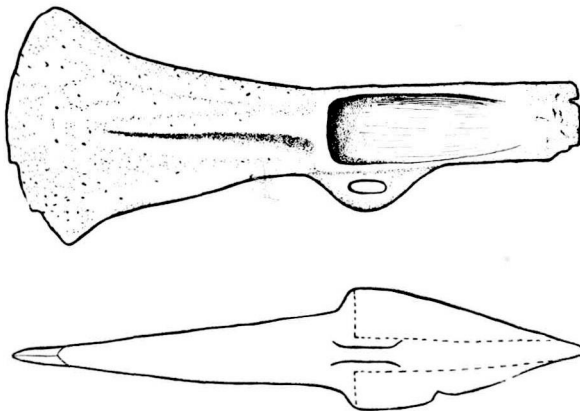


FIG. 19 ($\frac{1}{2}$)

CINERARY URN FROM KELSALL.

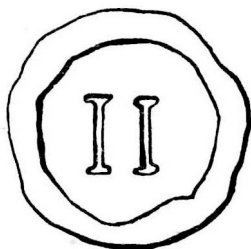
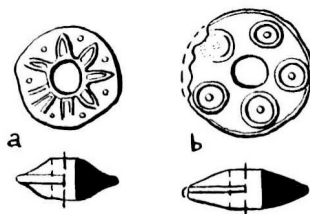
A tripartite cinerary urn of the Middle Bronze Age (fig. 18) found during excavations undertaken in 1950 by Mr. G. Leach in a nursery, east of Kelsall, is now in the Grosvenor Museum (Accessions No. 30.P.52). The urn was found inverted. It is slightly asymmetrical, its height varying from $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches to $9\frac{3}{4}$ inches, with a rim diameter of 7 inches and a base diameter of $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches. It is made of coarse, buff fabric, slightly blackened towards the rim. Both the rim and waist are decorated with a series of shallow incised lines forming an irregular, chevron pattern, and the interior of the rim is decorated with a single row of oblique, incised lines. A photograph of the urn appeared in the *Cheshire Historian* No. 1 (1951) p. 27. A report of the excavation is forthcoming.

PALSTAVE FROM GREAT SUTTON.

A single-looped palstave (fig. 19) was found a few years ago under a bush by a hedge in Church Lane, Great Sutton. It may have been brought to that position recently in road-building material, though this seems unlikely. It is $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches long and weighs $15\frac{1}{4}$ oz. The blade has a shallow midrib on each side below the stop ridge. This palstave is unusual in having the loop above the stop ridge. Mr. Frank Jones, the occupier of a bungalow near the find spot, has presented the palstave to the Grosvenor Museum (Accession No. 76.P. 51).

ROMAN COIN AT ANTROBUS.

The Rev. O. M. Tyndale, Vicar of Antrobus, reports that a small bronze coin of Gallienus (253-268 A.D.) was found by Mr. Thomas Wilkinson, a farm-worker, in 1948. The coin has been identified by Manchester Museum. It was found in a field near Whitley Reed, bounded on two sides by Reed Lane and Reedgate Lane (O.S. 6in., sheet, XXVI N.W.). The Roman road from Warrington to Northwich lies about half a mile to the west (Watkins, *Roman Cheshire*, p. 67).

FIG. 20 ($\frac{1}{4}$)FIG. 21 ($\frac{1}{2}$)FIG. 22 ($\frac{1}{2}$)

ROMAN LEAD WEIGHT FROM CHESTER.

A small, Roman lead weight (fig. 20) has recently been given to the Grosvenor Museum (Accessions No. 2.R.52) by one of our members, Miss M. Dandy. It was found about twenty years ago in the garden of a house in Cambrian View, then

occupied by Miss Dandy. It is marked II (*unciae*), a nominal weight of 841.7 grains. It actually weighs 833.4 grains, an error of only .1%. It is $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter and $\frac{5}{16}$ inch thick and is similar in type to the other Roman weights in the Museum *C.A.J.*, vii, p. 89; xxxviii, p. 176).

A DECORATED, LEAD SPINDLE-WHORL FROM TARVIN.

A decorated, lead spindle-whorl (fig. 21a) was recently found in excavations for the foundations of council houses in Hockenhull Av., Tarvin, on the east side of Hockenhull Lane. The spindle-whorl is of biconical form, 1 inch in diameter with a central hole $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter. It is decorated with a faint, cast pattern of lines forming a petal-like motif and dots on both surfaces. A similar whorl (fig. b), now in the Grosvenor Museum (Accession no. 262) was found in Love St., Chester in 1908 in excavations for Love St. school. It is decorated on both sides with dots inside circles and has been thought to have been Roman. Lead spindle-whorls of Roman origin are fairly common but are usually flat, pierced discs (cf. Brecon, fig. 62; Leicester, Jewry Wall pl. xxii b; Caerhyn, fig. 50, nos. 4 and 5; Gellygaer, p. 86; Castleshaw, pl. 19; Melandra, p. 104 erroneously described as weights). A thicker example of a roughly biconical form was found at Colchester (Camulodunum, fig. 64 no. 4) and is probably of first century date. In the absence of any closer parallels, the period to which this decorated example can be ascribed, cannot be stated for certain, but it is probably Roman.

A MEDIAEVAL TILE FROM LINENHALL STREET, CHESTER.

A small, elongated, hexagonal tile (fig. 22) was found in Linenhall Street in 1950 and presented to the Grosvenor Museum (Accession No. C.C. 731). It is $\frac{3}{4}$ in: thick and the design is line-impressed, a technique typical of Cheshire tiles of the 14th century, and the whole surface is covered with a dark, brown-green glaze. The design appears to be a man's face with leaves issuing from his mouth and may represent the "Green Man," a well-known figure in folklore associating with spring customs. A similar motif appears as a boss on the vaulting on the north side of the Cathedral Cloisters.