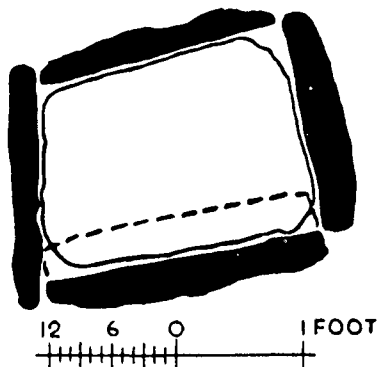


2. A BEAKER BURIAL FROM INNERWICK, EAST LoTHIAN.

W. Macnaughton, tenant of the Board of Agriculture's Lot 114 at Thornton, Innerwick, East Lothian (Haddington, sheet xii (1854)), turned up a cist while ploughing on 18th May. He reported the discovery to the police at Dunbar who removed the urn and bones. The site was visited on the 20th. Mr Macnaughton kindly uncovered the cist which had been filled in.



The cist was sunk in the red till without any cairn on the crest of a low ridge running parallel to Thornton Burn about 20 yards south of the stream, but not quite at the highest point of the ridge which rises a few feet to the west. The cist lay roughly east and west and was composed of four well-fitting slabs, measuring respectively north, in length, 2 feet, east, 1 foot 8 inches, south, 2 feet 3 inches, and west, 1 foot 9 inches. The west end slab overlapped the two side slabs so that the internal width of the cist at this end was only 1 foot 5 inches. The south side slab had tilted inwards under the pressure of the earth outside it, reducing the width of the cist at its mouth to 1 foot 4 inches and 1 foot 3 inches at the east and west ends respectively. The floor of the cist was formed by a single slab, 11 inches below the top of the west end slab and 9 inches below that of the east slab. The floor stone fitted remarkably closely along the edges of the uprights but its corners were irregularly rounded, leaving gaps through which I could put my fingers and feel that the slab rested lightly on the underlying till. All the uprights continued a little below the upper surface of the floor; the southern (which was pulled up) proved in fact to be 1 foot 3 inches high over more than half its length and 2 feet 2 inches high at its eastern end. The corners of the cist were plugged with small stones, but not luted with clay, and some till had worked in through the chinks. The cover stone, which was

¹ In the photographs Breuil thought he could recognise similar figures also in (d) and on the sloping rock surface of Pl. XCII, 2, but on re-examination the marks which he took for artificial seem to us to be probably flaws or weathering scars.

² Cf. Clark, *Proc. Prehistoric Society*, vol. i. (1935), p. 83 and fig. 10.

lying at the side of the field, was an irregular slab, very smooth on its lower face and 3.5 inches thick. What had been its western edge was almost straight and 2 feet 8 inches long; the eastern edge was irregular, but the stone's maximum width was 2 feet (Plate XCIII).

Mr Macnaughton found the Beaker urn lying on its side in the western part of the cist and recognised the skull near the east end. As I found a decayed long-bone (? leg bone) near the north-west corner, it would seem as if the urn must have lain upon or fallen over part of the skeleton.

The beaker of AC type is 8 inches high and $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches at the mouth. The surface, lightly burnished, is a dirty buff, but the core, exposed by chips near the rim, is black. The surface is divided into zones by nine broad horizontal grooves or channels. The broad zones on the neck (between grooves 3 and 4), and the narrower zones on the shoulder (between grooves 5 and 6) and round the belly (between grooves 7 and 8) and a narrow zone below groove 9 are covered with punctuations, arranged irregularly and made with a rather blunt-pointed instrument, presumably of bone. These punctuations have been filled with a white paste, which survives in several. This unusual groove-and-dot decoration is combined with the "rouletted" ornament, made with a short-toothed comb-stamp, which is proper to beakers. Horizontal rouletted lines have been impressed in all the grooves save the uppermost (No. 1), evidently after they were scooped out. Below groove 6 there is a zone of 4 to 6 lines of rouletted impressions that frequently overlap. Finally, the basal zone below groove 9 bears a chevron pattern, formed of bundles of rouletted lines, and is bordered below by two irregular horizontal rouletted lines. The punctuations of the lowest belt had been inserted only after the chevron was completed and neither intersect nor are cut by the comb imprints. Hence, in decorating the beaker, the first step was to hollow out the grooves. The rouletted patterns were then inserted in and between the grooves. Finally, the alternate zones that were still blank were filled up with the punctured bands and encrusted with white paste.

V. G. CHILDE.

REPORT ON THE SKELETAL REMAINS.

This is a burial by inhumation of a child 3 to 5 years of age.

Of the skeleton there are pieces of bones of the skull parietal, occipital and frontal as well as 2 petrous bones; several imperfect vertebrae and ribs; shafts of the long bones of the limbs.

ALEX. LOW.