

SURREY COLLECTIONS



BRONZE AGE URNS OF SURREY.

BY

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SURREY is unfortunate in not having produced in years gone by men like Sir Richard Colt Hoare and Frederick Warne of Wiltshire and Dorset to record its Prehistoric Past. It is true that its antiquities are neither so numerous nor so conspicuous as in those two counties, but for all that it is no mean hunting ground for ancient remains. Not only has very little record of these things been made—I am excluding, of course, the good work done by Mr. Malden and others in more recent years—but many of our prehistoric monuments have been treated with scant respect. We have in the county at least eight or nine major earthworks, which mean ancient habitation, but we have learnt little from any of them. “Cæsar’s Camp” at Wimbleton has been maliciously destroyed; the great camp at Oatlands disappeared under the spades of Lord Lincoln’s gardeners in 1756; the mighty works on Hungry Hill, Aldershot, have been used as a gravel-pit; and now it is impossible to form even an idea of the plan of its original defences. “Cæsar’s Camp” on a bold promontory across the Long Valley has been sadly mutilated by the County Boundary Bank and the trenches of various military operations; the interesting entrance to Holmbury has gone to make room for a trackway crossing the camp; the works at Limpsfield and Woldingham are fragmentary; and the lost camp at Wallington was discovered only by chance building operations which disclosed its filled-in ditch.

Our ancient burial places are in an even worse case. The very important site in Coombe Wood on Kingston Hill has only been recorded in a way to make us realize how much has been lost. Of fifty urns found at Oatlands only one survives, and of many urns found at Chobham only a box of broken fragments in the Guildford Museum makes mute appeal for a fuller record.

But while Surrey has taken no interest in its past, it is somewhat galling to find that most of what we do know about our ancient burial places is due to strangers. We are grateful to them in one way, but we feel the work should have been done by us. Stukeley appears to have opened the Barrows at Wimbledon, and Douglas investigated the Saxon Barrows at Walton Bridge. Pitt Rivers explored the grave mounds on Whitmore Common and took their contents to Oxford; and only recently the Berkshire County Museum secured all the best urns from the Sunningdale Barrow, and we have to journey to Reading to see them. It is time for Prehistoric Surrey to wake up!

The following article is an attempt to place on record all the known accounts of Bronze Age cinerary urns found in the county. Of course, many more have been found during ploughing, house-building, road-making, and sewage operations, and most of these have been destroyed, but perhaps a few have survived, of which some who read these pages may have knowledge; and there may be others in private hands, either fragmentary or complete. May I therefore earnestly implore all who have any knowledge of the existence of a Surrey Bronze Age urn to communicate with me, so that a record may be made in these volumes.

The finds have been grouped in three CLASSES and within these placed under *PARISHES*, which are distinguished by italic capitals and arranged in alphabetical order.

CLASS I. BEAKERS (c. 2000 B.C.).

Vessels found in graves accompanying unburnt burials, introduced into England by a people who migrated northwards from Central Europe along the valleys of the Elbe and

the Rhine, and entered this country, along our east, south-east, and southern shores just before the introduction of bronze, but who continued to bury their dead after that metal had come into use.

CHIDDINGFOLD.

Barrow at Gostrode Farm.

Authority.—Rev. James Douglas, *Nenia Britannica* (1798), p. 162.

Contents.—Remains of a skeleton and an urn.

Present Location.—Not traceable.

(Douglas's Description.)

“ In the parish of Chidingfold, near Godalming, in Surrey, “ close to the division of the County of Sussex, on the 8th of “ November, 1790, I opened a very large barrow, at a place “ called Gostrode, and traditionally preserved by the country “ people under the name of Golden-hoard, from a conception, “ by its artificial structure, of its containing a treasure: the “ only treasures found were the remains of a skeleton, and “ brown vessel of unbaked clay, usually placed in our large “ barrows. The vessel, from the segments of the rim, and “ the application of the segments, might measure about 9 “ inches in height, and seven in diameter at the mouth. It “ fell to pieces on taking out; there was no appearance of “ burnt bones near it; and it is hence reasonable to suppose it “ was not interred for that purpose. Near the skeleton were “ some trifling fragments of corroded brass, probably the “ remains of a clasp or buckle. The base of the barrow was “ about 30 feet to the level of the soil and its elevation about “ four. The ground on which it is situated commands an “ extensive prospect towards the North-east, and is the “ highest of any in the neighbourhood. Before the field had “ been tilled, it had been considerably elevated above the “ surface of the earth; and, within the memory of man, it “ has been considerably depressed by successive plowings over “ its summit.

“ The labourers broke into the centre with a trench 6 feet
 “ by 10, to admit of room for a circuitous research; less than
 “ two feet from the summit the mound gave evident signs of
 “ its having been disturbed from the base of the interment,
 “ by the wood ashes blended with it, and the irregular appear-
 “ ance of the strata. At a depth of four feet, the base of the
 “ barrow, there was a circular hearth of the iron stone of the
 “ neighbourhood pitched in boulders, the size of a man’s fist,
 “ the diameter of which extended about 10 feet; this had
 “ probably served for the hearth of a funeral fire, perhaps for
 “ sacrifice, the body not being burnt, by the stratum of wood
 “ ashes that covered it and by the blackness of the superface
 “ of the stones.”

The barrow is at Gostrode Farm in Chiddingfold (Douglas called it Gorstead). It can still be traced, and the late Rev. T. S. Cooper notified the Ordnance Survey of its position.

TITSEY.

Beaker from Titsey Park.

Authority.—Mr. G. W. Leveson-Gower.

Date of Discovery.—1864 (approximately).

Present Location.—Titsey Collection, Guildford Museum.

In 1864–65 Mr. G. W. Leveson-Gower excavated the site of a Roman Villa in Titsey Park. The pottery and other remains found during these excavations, as well as some cinerary urns from other parts of Surrey, have been placed on loan in the Guildford Museum by Mr. Charles Leveson-Gower. In this collection were some fragments of a Bronze Age “ beaker ” or “ drinking cup,” labelled (by Mr. G. W. Leveson-Gower), “ highly ornamented vase from the Roman Villa at Titsey,” and that it was found during excavations on this site is confirmed by a letter to Mr. H. E. Malden dated November 5, 1912, from Mr. Charles Leveson-Gower.

The presence of a Bronze Age beaker in such a situation is partly explained in Vol. IV. of the Surrey Archæological Society’s *Collections*, where on page 228 Mr. Leveson-Gower writes: “ The numerous flint flakes, worked bones, and fragments of pottery, probably British . . . found on, or close by, the site



(b) FRAGMENTS OF BEAKER
from Oatlands Park,
Walton on Thames



(a) BEAKER
from Titsey Park
(restored)

of the Roman Villa, may be considered as one, among other evidences, of a very early habitation of this spot." The "other evidences" include a polished flint celt and a perforated "greenstone" hammer.

The "beaker" has been repaired and is shown in the accompanying plate, Plate I (a). It is one of the early types of sepulchral pottery found in this country, introduced at the beginning of the Bronze Age, about 2000 B.C., and almost invariably accompanying inhumations, and very rarely associated with a cremated burial. Beakers are very uncommon in Surrey, but the Barrow at Gostrode almost certainly contained one, in association with an unburnt burial, for though it is difficult to be quite certain of what was actually found in this Barrow, Douglas's last sentence definitely states that the body was not burnt by the fire of which traces were found (see "The Gostrode Barrow").

The Titsey beaker is $6\frac{7}{8}$ inches high, and is hand-made. It is composed of a fine clay, light brown in colour, and decorated in zones by means of a pointed stick. Only a few fragments were available for restoration, but sufficient to enable a faithful reproduction of the original outline to be made, and it was possible to utilise all the broken pieces, as can be seen in the photograph. Mr. O. G. S. Crawford has pointed out that the prototype of the Titsey beaker is to be found in Holland, and beakers of the same shape and with similar decoration have been found in Gelderland on the south shore of the Zuider Zee.¹

WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Fragments of a Beaker, Oatlands Park.

Authority.—Personal observations.

Date of Discovery.—About 1911.

Present Location.—Weybridge Museum.

In 1911 a workman brought me two small pieces of a beaker that he had found when digging for the foundations of the first house on the right-hand side of Beechwood Avenue going from St. Mary's Road, Oatlands.

¹ *Gelderland Urns.* Die Steinzeit in dem Niederlanden. Von Nils Aberg. Uppsala University Arsskrift, 1916.

“ Yes,” he said, “ there were other pieces, but the pot was broken when I found it, but I thought it was funnily marked, so I put these two bits into my pocket. They’ve been lying about at home for a time now, and I just heard yesterday you were interested in such things.”

That is all the information I was able to obtain. I did not know the man, but the balance of probability is against the story being untrue, as the fragments were so small and insignificant. He himself attached no importance to them, and he had merely kept them because they were “ funnily marked ”: see Plate I (b).²

CLASS II. CINERARY URNS.

These urns have a large overhanging rim which is often decorated. They date from about 1500–1000 B.C., when the Bronze Age was established.

ARTINGTON.

Bronze Age Urn, with a well-marked rim, found near Henley Grove.

Authority.—Manning and Bray, *History of Surrey*.

Date of Discovery.—1781.

Present Location.—Unknown.

(Manning and Bray, Vol. I., p. 26.)

“ In a field near Henley Grove belonging to one of these farms, and occupied by M^r Thomas Bicknell, as his team was ploughing on Tuesday 29 May 1781 a leg of one of the horses sunk in the ground, and, as appeared upon examination, into an earthen Pot deposited in the chalky rock about two feet below the surface. The Pot, which is of a very coarse earth is narrower at the bottom than in the middle, where it is considerably protuberant, and from whence it arises in the form of a truncated cone to the top;

“ being about seventeen inches in height, and four feet and
 “ four inches in circumference at the widest part. It was
 “ nearly half full of small pieces of bones that had been burned,
 “ but nothing more
 “ was discovered,
 “ though search was
 “ made, that could
 “ point out the char-
 “ acter of the person
 “ whose remains they
 “ were.”

In 1916 I obtained possession of Manning's manuscript of the first volume of his *History of Surrey* (Bray was mainly responsible

for the remaining two volumes). Between the folios was a sheet of paper on which was a drawing of an urn and the above account written underneath, evidently sent to Manning by a correspondent. The drawing is here reproduced.

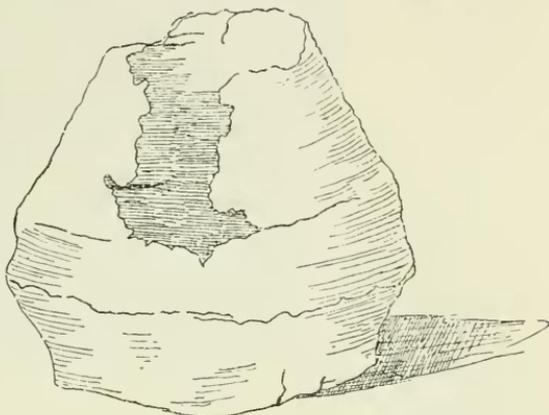


FIG. 1.

COBHAM.

Cremation in Urn at Leigh Hill.

Authority.—Mr. Reginald Smith in *Surrey Archæological Collections*, Vol. XXII., p. 147.

Date.—1908.

Nature of Discovery.—Cinerary urn.

Present Location.—In possession of Mr. Fred Higgs of Cobham.

(From Mr. Reginald Smith's "Report on a First-Century Settlement at Leigh Hill, Cobham," in *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXII., p. 147.)

“ Quite apart from the First-Century Settlement at Leigh
 “ Hill, but still close enough to justify its inclusion in this
 “ report, is a Bronze-age burial found in laying out the grounds
 “ of the house known as Leigh Court. Near the East end of

“ the carriage drive that leads past Appletons, and about 150
 “ yards beyond the Eastern end of the excavations, was found
 “ a circular pit that had been filled in with fine black earth
 “ unmixed with flints or other stones, and apparently screened
 “ with some care. It was about 2 feet deep, and the same in
 “ diameter, and contained a small cinerary urn, which stood
 “ upright on the bottom. Whether it actually contained
 “ burnt human bones, as was most likely, cannot now be
 “ ascertained, as it was at once emptied by the workmen in the
 “ vain hope of treasure; but the type is well known and may
 “ be assigned to the later Bronze Age, when cremation and
 “ urn-burial were generally practised in this Country. The
 “ urn measures 4·8 inches in height and is 5 inches in diameter
 “ at the widest part. It has the usual overhanging rim, and
 “ is ornamented on the rim only, with impressions of a twisted
 “ thong or cord, as is frequently the case in the Bronze Age.
 “ Though the ware is pale in colour and fairly soft, it should
 “ not be described as sun-dried, or un-baked, as the sun could
 “ never have been sufficiently powerful to bake an ancient
 “ British Urn enough to preserve it in moist surroundings for
 “ about 25 centuries. Its preservation is due to baking in an
 “ open fire, in embers, or in an oven made of clay. An example
 “ of this last method dating from about the period of the
 “ Cobham Settlement, has been found in the County (Farnham)
 “ and illustrated in the *Collections*.”¹ See Plate II (a).

Note.—Other pits containing hand-made and turned pottery have been found in the grounds of Leigh Court.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

Cinerary Urns from Kingston Hill.

Authority.—*Proc. Soc. Antiq. and Arch. Journal*.

Date.—1845-69.

Present Location.—(1) One in British Museum.

(2) Fragment in Kingston Free Library.

Few sites in Surrey were as rich in prehistoric remains as the Coombe Woods on Kingston Hill. It is regrettable that of

¹ *S.A.C.*, Vol. XX., p. 231.



(a) URN FROM LEIGH HILL
Cobham



(b) URN FROM COOMBE GRAVEL PITS
Kingston on Thames
(height $13\frac{1}{4}$ inches)

the many relics found there from time to time only a few are recorded. The records are published in various communications to the two journals mentioned above. The relics consist of pottery and metallic objects from late Bronze Age and early Iron Age settlements and burial sites. The discoveries in Coombe Wood are so important that I shall give all the references to them either in full or abstracted, partly to call attention to the site, which may prove fruitful again in the near future, and partly because it is difficult to separate that which refers only to cinerary urns from other matter.

(*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, Series I., June 10, 1845, Vol. I., p. 67; *ibid.*, Series II., 1860, Vol. I., p. 84.)¹

Dr. William Roots exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries a cinerary urn 5½ inches high found at a spot adjacent to Cæsar's Camp on Kingston Hill. The urn is now in the museum of that Society, and is a cinerary urn of the early Iron Age, and in its mouth was a small vessel 1¾ inches high with eight little knobs round it at irregular intervals. Mr. Reginald Smith has kindly identified these urns for me.

Dr. Roots also recorded the finding and destruction of several urns ranged in rows 2 feet under the gravel.

(*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, March 11, 1858, Vol. IV., p. 171.)

“ John Clutton, Esq., exhibited, by permission of H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, the Fragments of a large Black Urn and some parched wheat, which were recently found embedded in the gravel, about 4 ft from the surface, on the Coombe Estate, belonging to his Royal Highness near Kingston Hill Surrey. The discovery was made by some workmen digging gravel, and the vessel was unfortunately much injured. On further search being made several earthenware lumps of quadrangular form were brought to light, one of which was exhibited; it had the appearance of a weight, being slightly pyramidal, and partially pressed at the narrow end. Its height was 5½ inches and greatest width 4 inches. Mr. Clutton added that His Royal Highness had requested

¹ Abstract.

“ that the objects, after being exhibited to the Society, should
“ be deposited in the British Museum.”

The illustration, Plate II (b), shows an urn that is in the British Museum. It was given by Mr. John Clutton, 1861. Height 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

It may be the urn referred to above, or another one which was never exhibited before any society, but which is referred to in the next extract as presented to the British Museum in 1861.

(*Archæological Journal*, July, 1863, Vol. XX., p. 372.)

“ Mr. Walter H. Tregallas gave the following notes on some
“ fragments of ancient Pottery and Copper, which he had
“ brought for examination; they were found in ‘ The George
“ Gravel Pits ’ on Kingston Hill, Surrey during recent diggings
“ as shewn by a sketch of the site which he placed before
“ the Meeting. . . . The larger piece of pottery exhibited,
“ was found by me in situ on May 10th last, in what is known
“ to the labourer as a ‘ pot hole.’ The ground had evidently
“ been disturbed where it lay, and bore marks of having been
“ subjected to the action of fire, an appearance which the
“ pottery itself also presents. The pot-hole measured 7 ft
“ wide by 3 ft deep. Numerous other remains have been
“ found consisting of pottery and tiles, and some burnt wheat;
“ human teeth and bones; a boar’s tusk; a small earthen
“ vessel probably a drinking cup which I have not seen;
“ cakes of copper of which a fragment is exhibited; examples
“ found in 1858 and 1861 were presented to the British Museum
“ by the Duke of Cambridge the owner of the Coome Estate,
“ but these were in very small pieces; a small oblong plate of
“ lead; charcoal, the durability of which is well known; a small
“ stone disc with a convex surface; and a large block of sand-
“ stone also with a convex surface; the manufacture of the
“ pottery is very rough, and it has not been formed on a lathe.
“ It is without ornament; another and smaller fragment, how-
“ ever, found apart from the larger one bears traces apparently
“ of ornament, though this may have been for some purpose
“ which I have been unable to discover. The ornamentation
“ consists of small holes which passed nearly through the

“vessel. One of the Dorsetshire Urns found by the late Mr. Sydenham and Mr. Warne has a series of somewhat similar holes running round it in five or six lines. The fragment which I had removed from the spot where it had rested for so many centuries is different in fashion from that of any which, in my limited experience, I have met with. The nearest approach to it, that I have seen is an Urn figured in the *Archæologia*, Vol 30, p 330, Pl 17, Fig 1, but is only $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high and 4 inches in diameter at the mouth. It was found in a barrow 3 miles west of Dorchester, near the skeleton of an infant; the side of that Urn has a double curve instead of one continuous curve as this had. Imperfect as the fragment is enough remains of it, to show that it was probably a wide mouthed vessel; from its inverted, though somewhat oblique position, and from the cinereous character of the gravel around it, it will probably be allowed that the Urn was sepulchral. . . . The ground has been under cultivation for so long a time that there are no signs of barrows or other elevations on the surface but the numerous fragments which have been found without any systematic search, seem to indicate that there was at one period an extensive British Settlement near this site. . . . The gravel pits are within 2 miles from the Entrenchment on Wimbledon Common.”

(*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, March 23, 1865:
Series II., Vol. III., p. 90.)

“W. H. Tregellas Esq., has presented to the British Museum part of an Urn from Kingston, found at the bottom of a shallow circular pit filled up with earth, which had possibly been the site of an ancient British habitation, as well as a piece of roughly smelted copper similar to that exhibited to the Society by W. Ludlow Roots Esq.”¹

It has not been possible to trace this urn.

(*Archæological Journal*, 1868: Vol. XXV., p. 154.)²

W. H. Tregellas, Esq., exhibited specimens found in the George Gravel Pit on the Coombe Estate, Kingston Hill.

¹ *Proc.*, Series II., Vol. II., p. 81.

² Abstract.

1. A large sepulchral urn of coarse material, hand-made, of unusually graceful outline, and differing from most objects of a similar character in its base moulding or expanding foot. The zigzag ornament was made with a blunt chisel-shaped tool. The vessel measures 10 inches in height, diameter 8 inches. See Plate III (a), which is taken, by permission, from the plate illustrating this note in the *Journal*.

2. Two small vessels of a finer material, and more carefully manufactured, probably on a wheel. (This is late Keltic pottery.—E. G.)

3. Circular cylinders of imperfectly baked clay. (Loom weights.—E. G.)

4. A cockcomb-like fragment of pottery.

All the above were discovered in "pot-holes" 3 to 4 feet below the surface, the holes appearing to follow some sort of order in their arrangement.

REIGATE.

Barrows on Reigate Heath.

Authority.—Ambrose Glover in a letter to *Archæologia*, Vol. XVII., p. 325.

Opened.—1809.

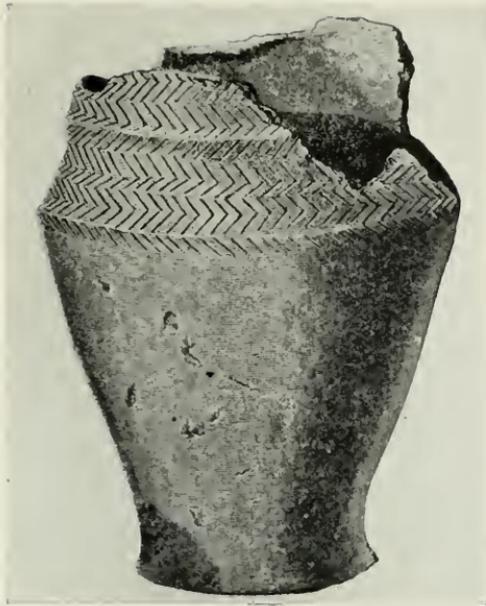
Contents.—(1) In a cavity in rock at base—burnt bones.
(2) Urn containing ashes—probably Bronze Age cremation. (3 and 4) Nothing found.

There are now seven barrows to be seen on Reigate Heath.¹ Of these four are dealt with in the following pages, but of the others no details are to be found.

(*Archæologia*, Vol. XXVII., p. 325.)

"December 6, 1810. Ambrose Glover Esq in a letter addressed to W^m Bray Esq. Treasurer, communicated to the Society an account of the opening of some Barrows on Reigate-Heath He says 'at the North West corner of the Common, called Reigate-Heath, part of the Waste of the

¹ *V.C.H. Surrey*, Vol. III., p. 230.



(a) URN FROM COOMBE GRAVEL PITS
Kingston on Thames



(b) URNS FROM OATLANDS
Walton on Thames

“ Manor of Reigate, belonging to Lord Sommers, and just at
“ the entrance of the road leading from Reigate towards
“ Dorking, were four hills of a conical shape, very near to each
“ other, which had been generally considered to have been
“ natural formations. In the Autumn of 1809 some planta-
“ tions being about to be made under my directions, by way of
“ adding scenery to the spot, I ordered some clumps of trees
“ to be planted on these eminences. On removing the earth
“ I found it was composed of a blackish mould, mixed with a
“ white sand, being exactly the same soil as the superstratum
“ of the common. Having learned so much, I caused the earth
“ to be removed, till the workmen came to the rock of sand
“ of which the superstratum of the common consists. Below
“ the largest of these barrows (for such I was now satisfied they
“ were) was found a circular space of about eighteen inches
“ diameter, and fifteen depth, formed out of the solid rock, in
“ which was found a quantity of ashes mixed with much
“ charred wood. The depth from the crown of this barrow
“ to the sand-rock below was about six feet. This discovery
“ being made, the workmen were directed to proceed with
“ greater care; and on examination of another of these barrows
“ were found an urn of coarse baked clay, of a palish red
“ colour but unfortunately this was broken by the workmen,
“ who, coming suddenly upon it, struck it with their tools,
“ and broke it into pieces. This also appeared to contain
“ ashes, with some small pieces of charred wood. The rim
“ and the body of the urn were rudely ornamented with rows
“ of diagonal lines. The ware seems to have been very badly
“ tempered, is but little baked, and is very easily broken.
“ The two other barrows were composed of the same soil, but
“ upon opening them nothing was found. In the *Archæologia*,
“ Vol. 13, p. 404 an urn is described which seems to have
“ somewhat resembled, both in shape and substance that
“ which I have mentioned.’ ”

The urn illustrated in the volume of *Archæologia* referred to is of the same type as that from Kingston: see Plate III (a).

WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Bronze Age Cemetery at Oatlands.

Authority.—Personal observation. See *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXV.

Date.—1907.

Nature of Discovery.—Cremation in urns.

Present Location.—Weybridge Museum.

In 1907 two urns were found by William Puttock, a reliable man, gardener to the late Professor A. J. Butler of Oatlands Wood, in a small patch of ground cultivated as a kitchen garden south-east of Oatlands Church, between the road and the railway. No relics were found with the urns, nor was there any sign of a barrow. The urns were filled with charcoal and burnt human bones. They are hand-made, but are very hard and well burnt and red in colour. The more perfect one is 13 inches high, and has a pattern on the rim of three horizontal lines impressed with a thong of twisted grass or sinew: see Plate III (b); also plan, p. 25.

The Silvermere Barrow (South of St. George's Hill,
near Weybridge).

Authority.—(1) Brayley and Britton, *History of Surrey*, Vol. II., Part 2; (2) *Surrey Archæological Collections*, Vol. XXIV., p. 53.

Opened.—1830.

Contents.—Three cinerary urns.

Present Location.—One urn in possession of A. Seth Smith, Esq., Silvermere, Cobham. Two not traceable.

The Silvermere Barrow lies south of the road leading from Byfleet to Cobham. It is half a mile south of the "camp" on St. George's Hill, and by the side of the track which ran to the main entrance. Its site is covered by a house called "Silvermere." It was discovered about 1830 when the foundations of the house were being laid. No details as to the size of the mound is given in Brayley's *History of Surrey*.

Three urns were found, filled with bones and charcoal. Two were not preserved, and no description of them is extant. The other is at "Silvermere," and by a whim of the builder of



(a) URN FROM THE SILVERMERE BARROW
Weybridge



(b) URN FROM THE HALLAMS
Womersh

the house, it was made a "tenant's fixture," and is referred to as such in the title-deeds. There is no mention of any primary interment in the original description.

The urn at "Silvermere" is in a fair state of preservation, and has been lined with plaster of Paris. It is made of a clay singularly free from added "grit," though a few fine particles can be found here and there. The clay is light brown in colour, and it has been baked before an open fire, the firing possibly being assisted by hot charcoal placed inside.

It is a hand-made urn, made before the introduction of the potter's wheel, but it is most beautifully shaped, the short curve of the rim contrasting well with the bold profile of the body. When I first saw it in July, 1911, one side was broken, and it had the appearance of having been made up of pieces of clay, about the size of the palm of one's hand, $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch thick, pressed together; it has since been repaired, and this feature is no longer recognizable. The rim is decorated with a pattern made by strands of twisted grass pressed into the wet clay before baking. The whole surface is covered by a veneer of smooth paste which has flaked off in many places, exposing the rough clay underneath: see Plate IV (a).

WONERSH.

Cinerary Urn at Blackheath.

Authority.—Personal observations and information supplied by Mr. C. D. Hodgson of "The Hallams," Shamley Green.

Date of Discovery.—1900.

Nature of Discovery.—Cinerary urn.

Present Location.—In Guildford Museum.

This urn, Plate IV (b), was found near the former (see below under *Wonersh*), during the widening of the carriage drive up to "The Hallams." There appears to have been no tumulus over it, and it was found $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep in the Folkestone sand enclosed in a cist made of slabs of ironstone. The urn contained burnt bones, and was inverted; no implements were found, though a careful search was made. It was intended to keep it *in situ* carefully protected from the frost, but unfortunately it fell to pieces. Mr. Hodgson presented the remains to Guildford Museum, and they have been repaired.

The urn measures 17 inches in total height, and 17 inches in diameter at the broadest part. The rim is 4 inches deep and 14 inches in diameter at the mouth of the vessel.

With the exception of four (originally five) knobs at the junction of the rim with the body, there is no decoration of any description. These knobs are features to be noted and can be observed in urns from Sunningdale, Whitmore Common, and Chobham Park Farm, and they are probably degenerate handles.

The urn is made of most friable clay mixed with a quantity of coarse grit and very indifferently burnt. It belongs to a type certainly uncommon in Surrey, but it is probably derived from one which is not infrequently found in Dorset, and a similar urn was found by Colonel Hawley near The Bustard Inn, on the Devizes Road, and is now in the Salisbury Museum.¹

CLASS III.

Urn with straight or gently curved sides without overhanging rims, and frequently ornamented by an encircling fillet of depressions made either with the finger or the end of a stick. These urns are often bucket-shaped, and they were in use at the end of the Bronze Age. They were probably introduced by invaders who entered England from the south.

CHOBHAM.

Urn from Chobham Park.

Authority.—Mr. Elsley, curator at Guildford Museum.

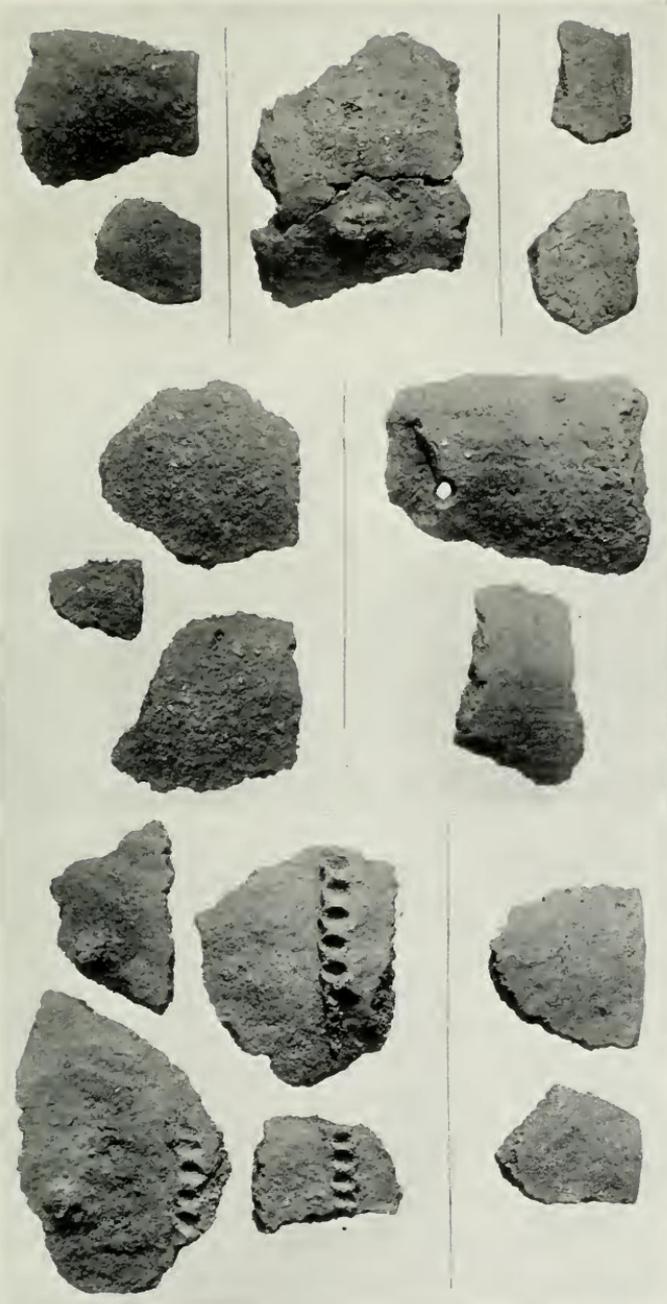
Date of Discovery.—1902.

Nature of Discovery.—Cinerary urns.

Present Location.—Guildford Museum.

I have been able to obtain little or no history of this find. In 1912 I found a box in the curator's room full of fragments of large urns. No details were forthcoming as to the finding of these urns beyond the fact that they were dug up at Chobham Park Farm in 1902 during some digging, and that no barrow marked the spot.

¹ *Wills Arch. Magazine*, Vol. 36, p. 625.



FRAGMENTS OF URNS FROM CHOBHAM PARK FARM
Chobham



No. 2 in Table



No. 4 in Table

URNS FROM SUNNINGDALE

The fragments represent the remains of at least eight or nine urns. No one piece fits any other, but they are remains of urns exactly similar to those found at Sunningdale, and must be a burial-place of the same people. One urn is similar to, and has the same ornament as, the one found on the lawn at "The Hallams," Shamley Green (see under *Wonersh*, above).

They are all fragments of red, hand-made, fairly well-fired coarse pottery, apparently straight-sided, pail-shaped vessels. One, already referred to, has a fillet of depressions made with a blunt stick, another has been decorated with knobs, and a third has a neat hole drilled through it; but the rest are all plain and differ only in size and the coarseness of their grain (Plate V).

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

Kingston Hill.

Authority.—The Curator of the Kingston Museum.

Date of Discovery.—Not known.

Nature of Discovery.—Cinerary urn.

Present Location.—Kingston Free Library and Museum.

Mr. Carter has in his charge in the museum at the Kingston Free Library some fragments of one or more cinerary urns from Coombe Wood, Kingston Hill. The remains of a large red urn with straight sides can be distinguished. It is similar to some of the urns reported from Chobham Park Farm, and Sunningdale.

SUNNINGDALE.

The Sunningdale Barrow.

Authority.—*Proc. Soc. Antiq.*, Series II., Vol. XXI., p. 303.

Opened.—December, 1901.

Contents.—Twenty-three cinerary urns, two cremated interments without urns.

Present Location.—Seven urns in Reading Museum; one and fragments in Guildford Museum; one in private hands at Sunningdale.

(*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, Series II., Vol. XXI., p. 303.)

“ O. A. Shrubsole Esq. read the following paper on a tumulus containing urns of the Bronze Age, near Sunningdale Berks, and on a burial place of the Bronze Age at Sulham, Berks.”

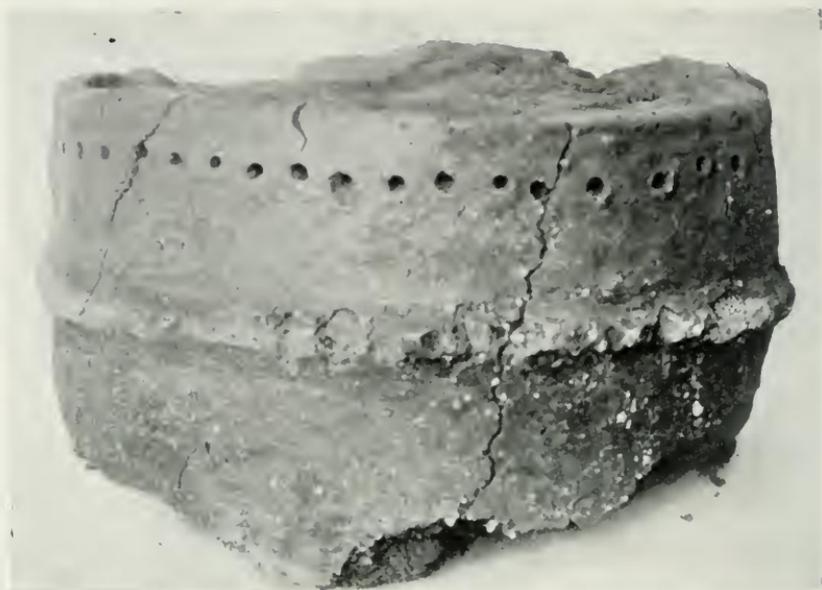
Note.—Sunningdale is on the Berkshire-Surrey border, but the Barrow is in Surrey.—E. G.

“ In December 1901, Mr. W. G. Craig of Camberley, communicated to the Curators of the Reading Museum the fact that, in the course of laying out the ground for Golf Links at Sunningdale, he had met with some ancient pottery (believed by him to be Roman,) with a request that the matter might be investigated.

“ On visiting the spot it was seen that three British urns had been unearthed in the course of removing earth from the top of a mound which was intended to be a ‘teeing’ place. This mound was in fact, although not so indicated on the ordnance Survey Map, a round barrow of large size, situated on a part of the heather-clad tract known as Chobham Common, a little over 200 feet above the sea level, and about a furlong South of Sunningdale Station. It was about 6 feet in height and 75 feet in diameter.

“ Permission having been obtained from Mr. T. R. Roberts it was decided at once to open the barrow. For this purpose Mr. Craig lent us some of his workmen, and under the supervision of Mr. T. W. Colyer, the Assistant Curator at the Reading Museum, and myself, a trench four feet wide was cut through the barrow from North to South, and was carried to a depth slightly below the original surface level. A similar trench was subsequently cut at right angles to this. In digging these trenches, and in previous shallow excavations, eleven urns, and one interment of cremated bones without an urn, were met with, all more or less near the surface of the mound: but we did not find any primary interment or any indication of one, although the excavation was considerably widened at the centre of the barrow, and was continued to two feet below the natural surface, as great a depth as was possible at the time. As the ground was required by the contractors, and as we found no dis-

PLATE VII



No. 8 in Table



No. 12 in Table

URNS FROM SUNNINGDALE

“turbance of the soil or anything affording us any encouragement to go further I had the trenches filled in. While the result is not absolutely conclusive, I think there is some high probability that there was no primary interment in this case.

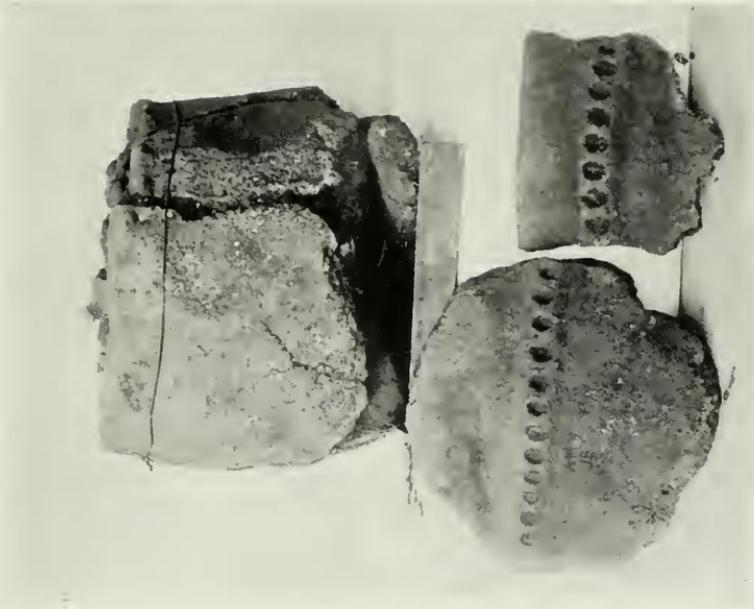
“We then turned over the soil of the mound with the result that twelve more urns were brought to light. In all eleven urns were found in the normal or upright position, and twelve were inverted. In addition to these, in two instances we found cremated remains without an urn, deposited in hollows about 18 inches deep, which had been lined with pieces of soft sandstone, and covered over with a slab of conglomerate. Both these materials were probably derived from the local gravel.

“There is evidence therefore of 25 interments, with a distinct preference for the South West side of the mound; for on the North West, North East, and South East sides, taken together, there were only seven interments, and these were near the middle. This preference for the sunny side, is of course in accordance with custom, but it is noteworthy that even the South East side has been neglected, as will be seen by the ground plan.

“Some of the urns were found about a foot below the present surface, others were quite near the surface; but it should be mentioned that some years previously the barrow had been lowered about two feet by a former occupier of the land, with the result that most of the urns were mutilated and some possibly destroyed. Very few have been obtained entire. In most cases according to position, either the top or bottom of the urn has been removed. Fortunately in the cases where the urns were inverted, we have been enabled to see the nature of the ornamentation. It is to be regretted that this interesting series of urns has been to a large extent dispersed before all of them could be properly examined, repaired, and figured. Mr. Roberts however kindly presented seven of the portions of urns to the Reading Museum, and these have been carefully restored as far as practicable by Mr. T. W. Colyer, who also rendered valuable assistance in the work of investigation. The notes taken of the remainder are necessarily imperfect, and with regard to three of them we have no details.

" The following is a summary of the results:

No.	Condition.	Present Height.	Diameter.	Position.	Shape, etc.
		<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>		
1	Upper part nearly gone	16	15	Upright	Cup shaped. A fillet impressed with dots 3 inches below rim.
2	Upper part gone	12	15	Upright	Barrel shape. No ornament now visible.
3	Imperfect	—	—	Inverted	—
4	Lower half gone	8½	16	Inverted	Nearly cylindrical. Plain fillet below rim. Well baked.
5	Imperfect	—	15	Upright	—
6	Fragments	—	14	Upright	—
7	Upper half gone	7	14	—	No ornament now visible.
8	Lower part gone	9	13½	Inverted	Cylindrical. Rim marked by dots: 1 inch below it is a band with punctured holes; 3½ inches below it a fillet with finger impressions.
9	Upper part gone	—	—	Upright	—
10	Fragments	—	—	Upright	—
11	No urn	—	—	—	Ashes deposited in hollow lined with stones and covered by slab.
12	Restored: base smashed	16	18	Inverted	Flower-pot shape, slightly contracted at top, rim projecting. 3½ inches below it a narrow fillet, with impressed dots. Part of a plain vessel 4¾ inches in diameter found in the urn. This is the largest of the urns.
13	Slightly damaged	—	—	Upright	On foundation of sandstone fragments.
14	Base gone	7	9½	Inverted	On foundation of sandstone fragments. Similar fragments were packed round the urn. Barrel shaped, cracked, a hole drilled each side of the crack. Plain fillet 3½ inches from rim. Part of a vessel 4 inches in diameter found inside.
15	Fragments	—	—	Inverted	—
16	Imperfect	—	—	Inverted	—
17	Base gone	8	10	Inverted	Barrel shaped; found on a basis of soft sandstone.
18	No urn	—	—	—	Similar to No. 11.
19	Fragments	—	—	Inverted	—
20	Fragments	—	—	Inverted	—
21	Fragments	—	—	Inverted	—
22	Entire	9	7	Inverted	Barrel shaped; base rounded. Four bosses on the urn, which is the smallest of the series; a flint "strike-light" was found inside.
23	No particulars	—	—	—	—
24	No particulars	—	—	—	—
25	No particulars	—	—	—	—



No. 17 in Table and Two fragments

URNS FROM SUNNINGDALE



No. 14 in Table

“ The urns are all of course hand-made pottery, from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in thickness, imperfectly to fairly well baked, and strengthened by small quantities of flint in the paste. They all belong to the same general type (being mostly flowerpot or barrel shaped) which, according to Canon Greenwell is characteristic of Dorsetshire and the neighbouring districts (*vide* ‘ British Barrows,’ Fig. 55, urn from Bishopston, South Wilts, p. 68; see also Rev. A. C. Smith, *British and Roman Antiquities of North Wiltshire*, p. 11). This is also the type of the urns found at Sulham (Berks) to be hereafter described, and of those found at Dummer (Hants) which are in the Reading Museum. Nevertheless there is considerable difference in the size, shape and ornamentation of the Sunningdale urns, from which it is reasonable to infer that the interments took place at different times, and that the barrow in which they were placed was in fact the cemetery of a village community. The makers of the urns were on the whole sparing in the use of ornament. There is no linear pattern on any of them; but the form and the design are always in excellent taste. All the urns were filled with burnt bones and charcoal, mixed in some cases with earth. The two interments without urns may have been the remains of children or of persons of small importance; but in these cases the ashes were deposited with considerable care. Although, with the exception of a flint pebble which appears to be a ‘ strike-alight ’ no artificial object other than the pottery has been found, there can be little hesitation in assigning this round barrow with its contents to the age of Bronze. The difference in the size of the urns may indicate perhaps in most cases differences of age; but the large urn with a small vessel inside suggests a person of some importance in the community. In one other instance (No. 14) part of a small vessel was found.

“ As already stated more than half the urns were found in an inverted position. Two explanations of this practice have been offered, one being that it was intended to more effectually secure the contents.

“ In this case it is not easy to see why some urns should be inverted and others not. Another explanation is that it was thought to be a means of preventing the spirit of the

“deceased from returning to vex the living. This fear of the dead is quite in accordance with existing beliefs in many parts of the World and may have led to the practice of cremation, as we know it has led to other devices to keep the spirit from doing harm; and it is only natural to suppose that some spirits would be feared more than others.

“On the assumption that there is no primary interment in this tumulus, the question may be asked: Why then was it raised? An explanation seems to present itself in the fact that tumuli had come to be regarded as sacred places, as domed tombs are at the present day in various parts of the world; and where cremation was a settled custom, there was an obvious economy in having a common ‘consecrated ground’ for persons of no political importance.

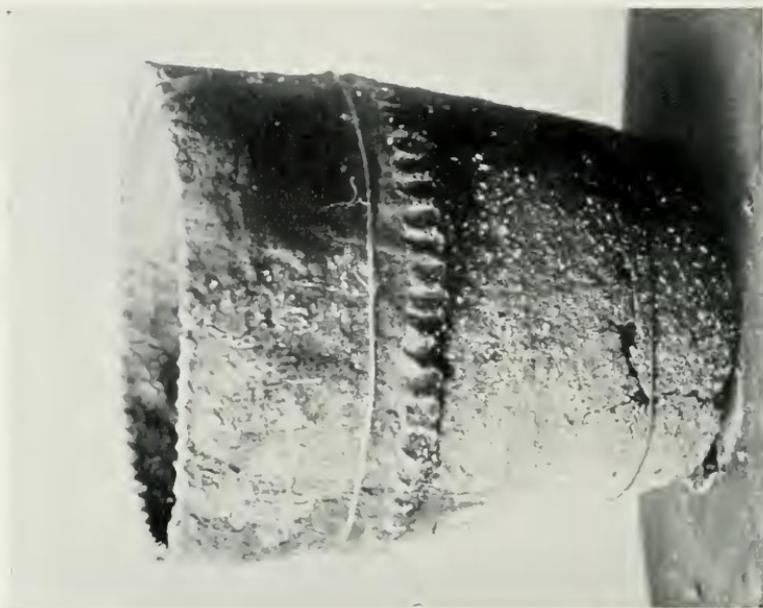
“This, it may be added, is not an isolated example in Berkshire. Among the group of barrows, known as ‘Seven Barrows,’ near Lambourn, one, in which no primary interment was found, was stated to have been ‘completely filled with British urns’ (Rev. J. Adams, *Trans. of the Newbury District Field Club*, i. 178, 197). In this case wood ashes were found on the floor in the centre of the mound. With regard to the group of urns found at Sulham without a tumulus, it may have been thought that the naturally elevated ground, sufficiently answered the purpose.

“At a short distance from the Sunningdale tumulus containing the urns, and, on slightly lower ground, are two very small tumuli in good preservation; but as they are on the Golf drive, we were unable to obtain permission to examine them.”¹

The paper then goes on to describe the very similar urns found at Sulham in Berkshire, and also some Bronze Age urns found at Grovelands Gravel Pit, Tilehurst Road, Reading; Wallingford; Theale, near Reading; Padworth; Mortimer; and Maidenhead.

Brief mention is also made of similar finds in Dorset, viz.: Wareham, twenty-four urns (Warne, *The Celtic Tumuli of Dorset*); Upwey Down, nearly twenty urns; Woodsford, twelve urns, some inverted in a low tumulus; Rimbury, near Charlbury Hill, nearly one hundred urns.

¹ They were still untouched, June, 1912.



URN FROM OATLANDS
Walton on Thames



URN FROM SUNNINGDALE
No. 22 in Table

Mr. Reginald Smith contributed a note to the effect that urns very similar to the Sunningdale specimens had been found at Ashford, Middlesex (*Journal Brit. Arch. Assoc.*, Vol. XXVII., p. 449). Most of them were inverted and the bases had been ploughed off. They are in the British Museum. Smaller specimens with a row of bosses near the lip were known from Neolithic times, but one found at Colchester similar to those at Sunningdale had an iron spear-head inside, which suggested the latest Bronze Age or transition to that of iron.

The illustrations, Plates VI to IX (a), are of the urns in the Reading Museum. One incomplete urn and many fragments formerly in the Club House of the Sunningdale Golf Club, were kindly deposited in the Guildford Museum by permission of the committee of the club in 1913.

The photographs of the urns were taken by Mr. T. W. Colyer, assistant Curator of the Reading Museum, and I gratefully acknowledge his permission to publish them.

WALTON-ON-THAMES.

Bronze Age Cemetery at Oatlands.

Authority.—Personal investigation (see *S.A.C.*, Vols. XXIV. and XXV.).

Date.—1893.

Nature of Discovery.—Cremations in urns.

Present Location.—(1) One urn in private collection of Dr. Frank Corner, "The Manor House," Poplar; (2) a fragment in Weybridge Museum.

In Oatlands Park is a large Bronze Age cemetery on the north side of the railway, and it is said that some urns were found when the railway cutting was made about 1830.

Roughly speaking, the cemetery lies between Oatlands Church and St. Mary's Road, and extends from the railway northwards half-way towards Oatlands Drive, but its full extent has never been mapped out, and urns are said to have been found further west along Oatlands Avenue parallel to the railway.

The discoveries were made in 1893 when the roads were

being trenched for new sewers; about twenty urns are said to have been found in Oatlands Avenue, some in St. Mary's Road, a small group of seven in Beechwood Avenue south-west of Oatlands Church, and others at various places over the area. The information was given me by various navvies who were at work at the time, and they all corroborated each other's stories.

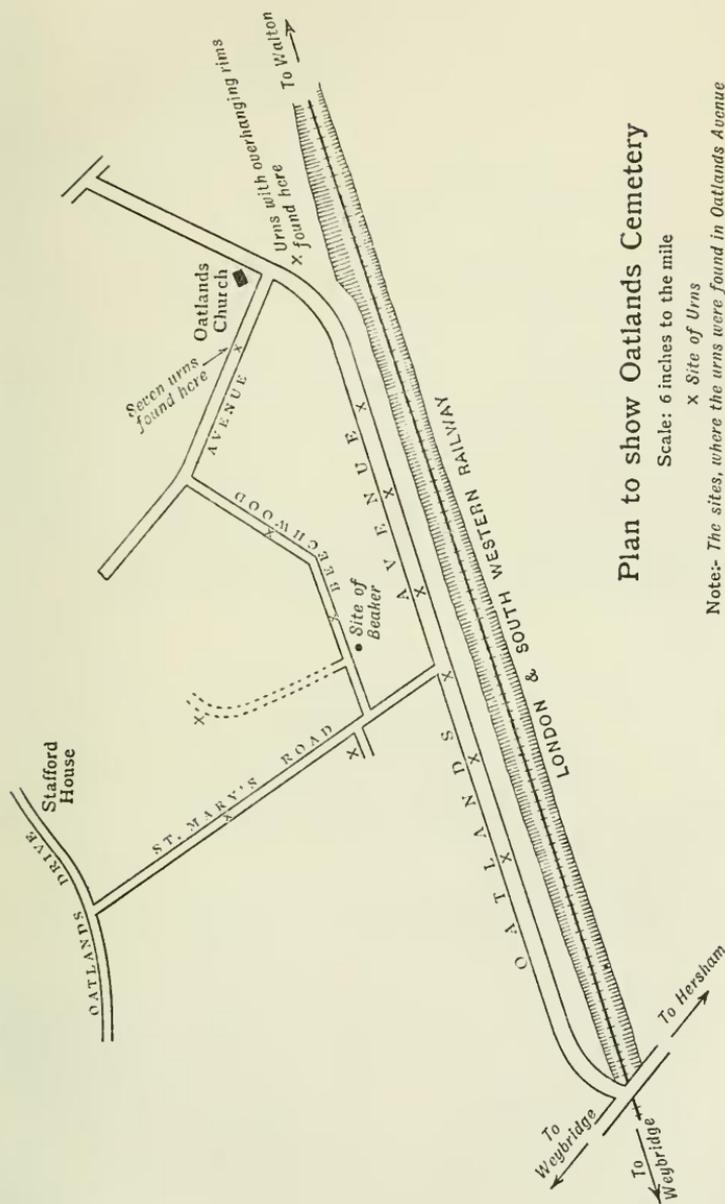
Most of the urns were broken up during the men's dinner-hour by being used as "potshies," but many more were smashed in the trenches. Most of the men estimate the total number found at about fifty, but I have no confirmation of this.

Of the small group found near the church one went to Dr. Corner of Poplar, and is illustrated in Plate IX (b). I was uncertain at one time whether the urn illustrated was Dr. Corner's or one like it, as they are said to have been all the same, but I know now that it is his. Another urn was sold to a local builder, who allowed it to fall to pieces in his yard. The rest are untraceable.

The urn is hand-made, of clay mixed with a great quantity of very coarse flint grit. It has been baked in an open fire, and at the junction of the middle and upper thirds is a fillet of depressions made by a finger-tip pressed into the wet clay, and the impressions are so narrow they can only have been made by a woman's finger. (The two lines above and below the fillet are pieces of string to keep the vessel together.) There is another circle of finger-tip markings just inside the lip.

In outline the urn can be said to be bucket-shaped, and the type occurs elsewhere in Surrey (see below, under *Worplesdon*). Sir John Abercromby would trace them from the Pyrenees, through France to Dorset, and from Dorset eastwards along the Thames Valley, north of which they do not occur. A small fragment of an exactly similar urn was found in making a road at the south end of the garden of "Strafford Lodge"—*i.e.*, just a little to the north of Beechwood Avenue. It was given to me, and is now in the Weybridge Museum.

I have no record of what any of the urns were like that were found in other parts of the area, but I have already recorded a beaker from Beechwood Avenue and two urns with overhanging rims from a spot south-east of the church.



Plan to show Oatlands Cemetery

Scale: 6 inches to the mile
 X Site of Urns

Notes: The sites, where the urns were found in Oatlands Avenue and Beechwood Avenue are approximate only.

FIG. 2.

There seems to be no doubt that there was a ford across the Thames in very early days. I am no believer in the Cowey Stakes either as a British defence against Cæsar or as a Romano-British obstruction to the passage of Saxon ships, for personally I think they are the remains of a bridge. The ford was above the stakes, opposite the Water Works and at the old termination of Walton Lane, an old footpath across the meads. At this spot thirty years ago large flat slabs of flint were found in the river: William Hickman, foreman of one of the Thames conservancy dredgers, has told me of the difficulty he experienced in dredging a channel through this paved passage which stretched from side to side of the river; a difficulty confirmed in a subsequent talk I had with the engineer on the dredger, who remembered only too well how the lips of his buckets suffered. Such a ford would give access from the further side of the river to the top of St. George's Hill, where there is a fine hilltop "camp," and a track from the ford to the camp would pass close to the great "camp" of Oatlands, destroyed in 1756 by Lord Lincoln. Such a trackway might possibly account for the presence of the urn-field.

WONERSH.

Cinerary Urn at Blackheath.

Authorities.—*Proc. Soc. Antiq.*, Series II., Vol. XVIII.; *S.A.C.*, Vol. XV., p. 156; personal observations.

Date of Discovery.—1900.

Present Location.—In possession of the finder, Mr. C. D. Hodgson, "The Hallams," Shamley Green.

In 1900 the Rev. T. S. Cooper reported the discovery of this urn, which was found on the property of Mr. C. D. Hodgson of "The Hallams." It was found on the lawn immediately north of the house under a small round Barrow which was almost entirely obliterated. In the centre, a little below the ground level, were a few flat slabs of ironstone on which the urn had been placed. When found it was in small fragments, but it contained calcined bones. Over and above the urn slabs of ironstone had been heaped, and over these the Barrow had



from Site (a)
(height $13\frac{2}{3}$ inches)



from Site (b)
(height $9\frac{2}{3}$ inches)



from Site (c)
(height $9\frac{2}{3}$ inches)

URNS FROM WHITMORE COMMON, WORPLESDON

Barrow No. 1

been built up, though it was impossible to estimate its original height as at the time of discovery it was hardly perceptible above the surface of the ground. The soil for a considerable distance on all sides had been subjected to great heat, proving that the body had been burnt on the spot. The soil was carefully sifted and two flint implements were found which had not been burnt by the fire. One was a nicely worked circular "scraper," flat on one side, but chipped on the other and round the edge; the other was a small axe-shaped implement of much rougher finish.

From an examination of the fragments it is evident that the urn was a straight-sided pail-shaped vessel similar to one found at Sunningdale, and a similar urn found at Chobham Park Farm (see above). It is hand-made, and below the rim is a fillet ornamented by circular depressions made with the end of a stick. It has not yet been restored.

WORPLESDON.

Barrows on Whitmore Common, near Worplesdon.

Authority.—*British Association Report*, 1877, p. 116 (written by General Pitt Rivers).

Opened.—1877, by General Pitt Rivers.

Contents.—Five cinerary urns, in two Barrows.

Present Location.—In Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford.

(*British Association's Report*, 177, p. 116, on "Some Saxon and British Tumuli near Guildford.")

"The Author¹ considered that in one of the tumuli, the central interment whether burnt or otherwise must have been placed on the surface of the ground and the mound raised above it, but no trace remained. Near the centre of the mound however, three British urns were found with burnt bones in them, probably he thought secondary interments, but possibly the original interment for which the mound was raised. It was evident that this was a British Barrow of the Bronze Age. A peculiarity of the mound was that it

¹ General Pitt Rivers.

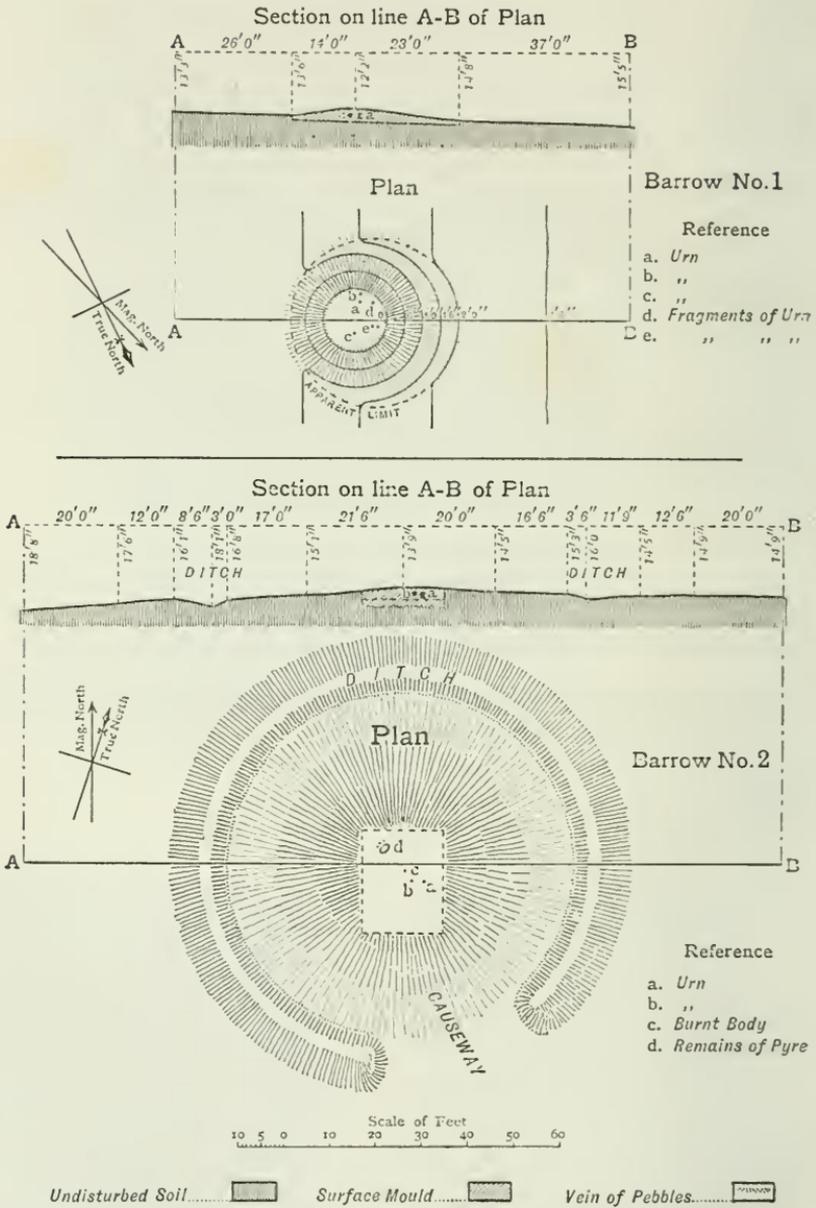
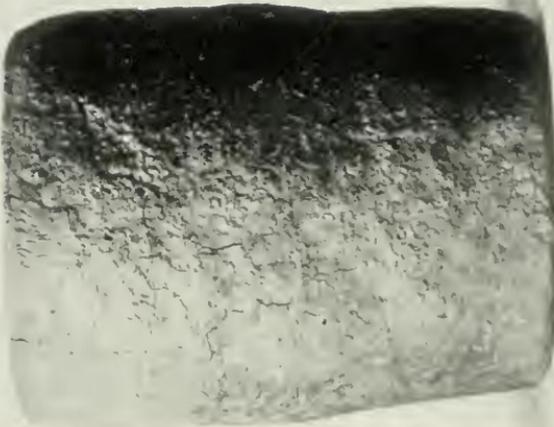


FIG. 3.—PLAN OF BARROWS ON WHITMORE COMMON, WORPLESDON.



from Site (a)
(height $15\frac{3}{8}$ inches)



from Site (b)
(height $12\frac{3}{8}$ inches)

URNS FROM WHITMORE COMMON, WORPLESDON
Barrow No. 2

“ contained no flakes, shewing that the custom of throwing
“ them into Barrows was not universal. In another tumulus
“ near this one, the Author found no central grave, but a
“ layer of black coal probably the result of a fire, was found
“ just beneath the surface; although in the centre a small hole
“ was clearly seen where no doubt a burnt body had been
“ deposited. There were a great number of burnt flints but
“ no flake or implement of any description.”

This brief and inadequate account appears to be all that has ever been published on the Whitmore Common Barrows. The urns, however, are preserved in the Pitt Rivers Museum at Oxford, and Mr. Henry Balfour has kindly supplied me with photographs of all of them, and I am indebted to him for permission to publish them. It appears, however, that though General Pitt Rivers never published any account of his excavation on Whitmore Common, he undoubtedly intended to, and a carefully prepared plan was made and a proof printed. By an amazing piece of good fortune this proof came into the hands of Mr. Frank Lasham of Guildford, who obtained it from one of General Pitt Rivers' assistants many years ago. He has kindly allowed it to be reproduced.

Mr. Balfour wrote to me that the urns in Plate X came from Tumulus No. 1 from the sites marked *a*, *b*, *c*, fragments being found at *d* and *e*. The urns in Plate XI were found in Tumulus No. 2 from the sites *a* and *b*, a burnt body being found at *c* and remains of the pyre at *d*. The Mutilated Barrows can still be seen on Whitmore Common on the west of the railway, and their sites are marked in the map of Pre-historic Remains, in the Victoria County History, *Surrey*, Vol. I.