ROMANO-BRITISH FARMS SOUTH OF THE HOG'S BACK*

BY

ANTHONY CLARK AND JOHN F. NICHOLS

SOUTH-WEST of Guildford there is a small, well-defined region of sandy hills and small fertile valleys, six miles from west to east, two and a half from north to south; bounded on the north by the ridge of the Hog's Back, on the south and east by the River Wey passing Elstead and Godalming, and on the west by the arid sand of the Folkestone Beds, whose sentinel is Crooksbury Hill. The extension of building and cultivation in recent years has produced considerable evidence of the Romano-British occupation of this pleasant countryside; and it is the purpose of this paper to present and assess most of this evidence and also to take the opportunity to fill out the picture by collating earlier published and unpublished discoveries. In this latter connection we must particularly thank Mr. E. E. Harrison of Charterhouse who has very generously taken the trouble to furnish us with details of material in Charterhouse Museum: also Mr. Harrison has been excavating, with the help of his pupils, an Iron Age and first-century Romano-British site in the grounds of Charterhouse itself, and when his description of this shortly appears it will considerably augment the present paper, and should throw some light on the character of the native occupation just before the Roman invasion and the subsequent romanization in this district.

As at Charterhouse, the two main sites investigated by the writers were most intensively occupied soon after the conquest: Binscombe I was first-century, Hillbury first- and second-century. Both produced querns, but only at Hillbury was there any building material, apparently representing a very simple house. The finds from the other sites tell the same austere story. This bespeaks a simple farming community only superficially romanized and probably typical of the lowland countryside for the first century or so after the conquest.

The concentration of finds in this area (see Fig. 1) seems in our present state of knowledge to be exceptional, but reasons for its attractiveness to settlers in this period are easy to find: as Holmes has pointed out in a previous paper,[1] the early growth of London as

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[1] *Sy.A.C.* LI, p. 26.

a nodal point and trading centre seems to have attracted a considerable satellite population to the surrounding countryside, a population many of whom probably made their living by contributing to its greatly increased food requirements. Most of these people naturally settled north of the Downs, but our area, although one may imagine far enough away (about 35 miles) from the metropolis for squatter occupation to have been possible, had very positive advantages. Communication was good: as the map shows, the two tracks of the great east-west ridgeway,[1] one along the crest of the Hog's Back, the other along the more broken Greensand ridge to the south of it, pass through our area; indeed the majority of the sites seem to have been grouped along the latter track. Both tracks connect with the Wey, which could have given direct water transport to London, and, further east at Dorking, with Stane Street, the Roman road from Chichester to London. The region must also have been attractive because of its peculiarly balanced fertility. All around lie Greensand Hills mostly of heartbreaking barrenness, or clayland then clothed with intractable forest; but here the sand is extensively covered by a deposit known as "Loamy Beds" which, around Puttenham particularly, achieve almost the startling redness of Devon soil. These beds are too light to support dense forest and are thus easily cleared and worked, but they are nevertheless rich enough to have provided the early farmer with that balance of workability and fertility that he normally found only on the chalk uplands; and all our definitely early sites except Binscombe I (where, however, the soil was of the same type) lie upon or very near this deposit.

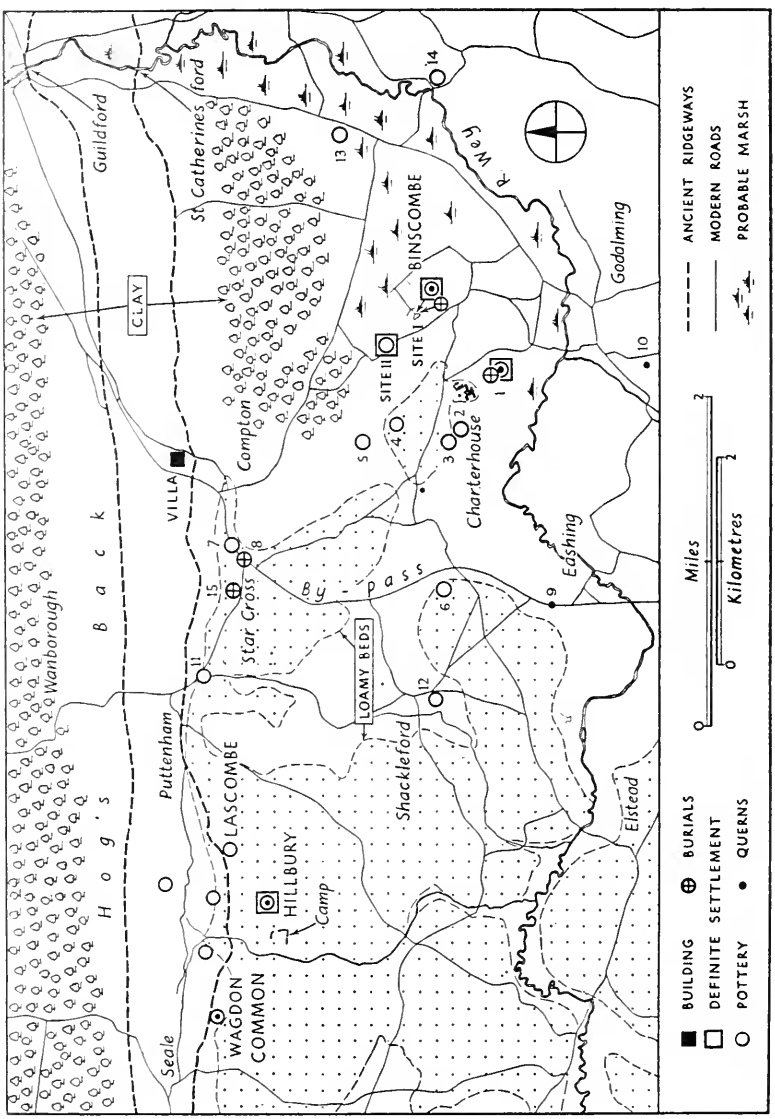
Little is known of the third- and fourth-century occupation of the area, but many of the old sites seem to have been abandoned or rather to have shifted in focus: the villa at Limnerslease, Compton,[2] may be the work of people from the old Compton sites (Sites 7 and 8, below); the people of Binscombe I possibly transferred to Binscombe II, either into a more substantial dwelling or to start a commercial tile-making venture. At Hillbury, the very few tile fragments and possibly third-century sherds found perhaps imply that the building containing brick was similarly later and a little distance from the centre of the investigated site.

BINSCOMBE I (NG. SU/972456)

This site has already been described in the report of the Council of the Surrey Archæological Society for 1953 (*Sy.A.C.* LIV, p. 159), and little need be added. During the building of new houses on the Binscombe Farm Estate, Godalming, in 1953, a cremation burial was found, and a brief emergency excavation was organized. The site stands just uphill from the junction of the Hythe Beds Sand and the Atherfield Clay, near the bottom of the slope from the top of the

[1] See Mr. Margary's recent survey in *Arch. J.* CIX, pp. 39–53, summarized in *Sy.A.C.* LII, pp. 29–31.

[2] *Sy.A.C.* XXVIII, pp. 41–50.



Based upon the Ordnance Survey 1: 25,000 map: Crown Copyright Reserved

Fig. 1.—Map showing Distribution of Sites

Charterhouse plateau, half a mile away, to ground 200 yards away to the north-east that was almost certainly marsh in ancient times—a westerly extension of the present Peasmarsh.

A long trench, laid out where are now the front gardens of nos. 3 and 4, Oak Close, produced many sherds of pottery from the top soil just below the tilth. The hard sand subsoil lay at a depth of 2 to 3 feet and was overlain by about 1 foot of soft earthy sand that probably represented the ancient top-soil. A ditch of parabolic section, uniformly filled with light brown soil, 4 feet wide at the top and penetrating 2 feet 6 inches below the top of the latter layer, was encountered running approximately east-west across the trench. A second trench cut across the projected line of the ditch 25 feet away to the east, the only side available, failed to locate it, and it was therefore likely to have been part of a small enclosure. The rapid silting yielded nothing, but first-century coarse pottery and rotary hand-quern fragments were found in the upper filling. A few feet to the south, the main trench also encountered a steep-sided hollow, filled with brown soil with some clean sand silting, with a fairly level bottom partly covered by a half-inch layer of iron-pan at a depth of 4 feet 6 inches to 5 feet below the modern surface. In such a geological situation as obtains at this site (a thin sand layer overlying clay), hollows of this kind often occur naturally; but it could have been a quarry and, if so, the presence of the iron-pan (which was confined to the hollow only) would attest its antiquity. That the hollow had not been altogether effaced until some time within the last 400 years was demonstrated by the remains in its filling of two fires, represented by layers of charcoal and burnt earth, and both containing fragments of clay-pipe stems, at a depth of 2 feet from the modern surface.

Many sherds were picked up during and after building operations at points downhill from this site, especially at Binscombe Crescent, about 100 yards to the north, and in general these, as the pottery analysis will show, were later than the pottery from the excavated site.

BINSCOMBE II (NG. SU/969459)

Romano-British pottery was found in October 1958 by Mr. E. Etherington while trenching in the north corner of his garden at "Eston," Binscombe Lane, only a quarter of a mile north-west of Binscombe I. Mr. Etherington very kindly informed the writers and assisted them in making a small excavation. A trench 8 feet by 6 feet picked up the beginning of a ditch rapidly expanding in width and depth towards the north-west face of the trench and containing a medley of potsherds, animal bones and building materials, with fragments of charcoal and lumps of baked clay, all suggestive of a deposit made in Roman times of rubbish that had previously accumulated elsewhere. The building material comprised broken roof-tiles, hollow brick voussoirs, bonding tiles and box

flue-tiles, generally broken and abraded and without any trace of mortar or plaster. Some of the tiles appeared to have cracked in firing, and it is perhaps not impossible that the rubbish was in some way associated with a tile-kiln. The pottery included sherds of samian ware of the second century, among which were pieces of two form 37 bowls with figure-decoration identified by Miss Grace Simpson as in the style of Paternus, who worked in Central Gaul during the Antonine period. A fragment of a vessel of form 31 bore a potter's stamp which Mr. Adrian Oswald thought might be that of Matugenus of Lavoye. The coarse pottery was mainly local products of the second and third centuries, extending possibly to the fourth. There were faint suggestions in the surface-contours of the adjoining field of the possibility of a building nearby and it is hoped that opportunity may occur for a further and more thorough investigation.

HILLBURY (NG. SU/915469)

Puttenham Common lies wholly upon the Loamy Beds deposit. Its northern boundary follows the Greensand ridgeway as recently defined by Mr. Margary,[1] and its highest part is a level plateau stretching for half a mile from the woodland on the east side of the common to Hillbury Camp on the west side, above the precipitous slope to the stream now dammed to form Trout Pond, more than a hundred feet below. Hillbury Camp, which has given its name to the plateau, has often been called Roman because it is approximately rectangular and probably because the only remains found anywhere near it have been Romano-British; but it is clearly a promontory camp[2] and thus probably of Iron Age date: the north and south ramparts run contour-wise, and the eastern rampart cuts across the neck of the plateau, the regular shape of which has dictated the shape of the camp. The need for a rampart on the west side was obviated by the steep slope already mentioned. The defences nowhere comprise more than a single bank and ditch.

On the north side of the plateau, nearly 400 yards east of the north-east corner of Hillbury Camp, the O.S. 6-inch map[3] marks the site where, according to Frank Lasham,[4] the Rev. C. Kerry in 1870 "excavated . . . 'pavements composed of Roman bricks, slabs of ironstone, Bargate, sandstone and chalk, the latter invariably discoloured by fire.' The largest floor must have been four or five yards square. He found two round dished stones. Here, too, were found fragments of lower millstones or querns, with a whetstone of a reddish fine grain, quite foreign to the soil, and bearing traces of the last implement sharpened upon it. A large quantity of Romano-British pottery was also found." Lasham himself, with F. James,

[1] *Op. cit.*

[2] Or "ridge-end fort," the rather more appropriate label suggested by Mr. J. R. Boyden, in *Sx.A.C.* XCVI, p. 159, for this and other Early Iron Age earthworks of the Wealden fringe.

[3] Surrey XXXI NW.

[4] *Sy.A.C.* XII, pp. 148–9.

cut trenches inside and in the ditches of Hillbury Camp, without finding any evidence by which to date its construction; but ". . . some little distance away, and on higher ground than the camp, about two feet from the surface, a quantity of fragments of Roman pottery and a small bronze fibula were discovered." Their plan and notes were unfortunately lost.[1]

These sites lay overgrown, and the finds scattered, until in 1947 the plateau was ploughed and potatoes planted. The ground was more productive of antiquities than of potatoes, and the experiment was fortunately soon discontinued. Several prehistoric flint-chipping floors were found by Mr. F. S. Clark around the fringe of the plateau and, at Kerry's site, pottery and an assemblage of stone artefacts answering closely to Kerry's description of his own finds, were picked up and are studied in this paper. A fragment of roof-tile and two apparently of box flue-tile were found; also a sandstone block about 4 inches long partly fused by heat.

The area between here and the Hog's Back is remarkably prolific in Romano-British pottery. Lasham says, "I have in my collection a number of fragments of Romano-British pottery turned up by the rabbits from the slopes of the Hills around the neighbourhood." The O.S. 6-inch map marks two sites; Mr. J. H. Money noticed Romano-British pottery scattered around a medieval site[2] he excavated in 1939 at 908478, and Mr. Lowther has picked up pottery in the same area. A bead-rim urn comes from Lascombe, on the ridgeway at the north-east corner of Puttenham Common. This, a fine complete vessel, possibly a funerary urn, was found apparently in the grounds of the house about 1895, and was bought by a Guildford merchant at a sale there in 1953. His son, Mr. David Hone, had the perspicacity to present it to Guildford Museum, where it is now displayed (Cat. no. G7055).

WAGDON COMMON (NG SU/904472)

This site, found by Dr. Peter Stuart and Anthony Clark, lies 200 yards south of the line of the ridgeway, and was also revealed by

[1] Since this was written, Mr. Frere has lent us a copy of notes taken by the late Dr. Wilfrid Hooper, from the Kerry MSS. in Derby Public Library. These describe his excavations in greater detail but add nothing of substance to the matter quoted by Lasham regarding this site. They do, however, mention the discovery of another site "on the lower ground near the road leading from the Little Common across Hillbury. Here to the west of the path and about 18 inches below the surface I found a rough chalk pavement and close to this a quantity of black mould as if once a heap of refuse. In this were many fragments of pottery of a more interesting and ornate character than I had hitherto discovered on the Common. One broken vessel of large dimensions appeared to have contained a quantity of powdered chalk once in a state of solution and apparently used for whitening." He describes and illustrates sherds, probably mostly of large storage-jars, bearing the incised bands of trellis, chevron and scroll decoration characteristic of our area. This would seem to be the site marked on the O.S. 6-inch map about 500 feet WNW of our site.

[2] *Sy.A.C.* XLVIII, p. 117.

post-war ploughing of common land, which in this case has continued. The finds were thinly scattered along the south-west edge of the cultivated area, once the south-west edge of Old Warren, and in rabbit scrapings in the steeply falling ground immediately outside this boundary. The amount of pottery recovered was small and only one other object, a piece of an upper quernstone, was found.

OTHER SITES

The descriptions of most of the sites briefly noticed below have been very kindly supplied by Mr. E. E. Harrison, or derived from Mr. Sheppard Frere's Card Index of Surrey Romano-British sites, in the Library of this Society, and these sources are respectively acknowledged by the addition of the letters EH or CI.

Charterhouse area

Site 1 (NG. SU/966448). This is the well-known settlement which has produced cremation-burials described by Holmes in *Sy.A.C.* LI, pp. 1–28, and a quern (see Stone Implements section, below); and, more recently, a ditch and storage-pit with pottery, which will form the subjects of Mr. Harrison's forthcoming paper. (EH).

Site 2 (NG. SU/960451). Fragments of pottery found in mole-hills. (EH).

Site 3 (NG. SU/958453). Pieces of bead-rim pot found by a gardener at Northbrook House. (EH).

Site 4 (NG. SU/960458). First- and second-century pottery was found here in "Seventeen-acre Field" in 1917. (Mr. A. W. G, Lowther). A second-brass coin of Hadrian was also found at the site. and is now in Charterhouse Museum. (EH).

Site 5 (NG. SU/959461). Part of the base of a vessel of early second-century date was picked up in the field here. The sherd may have reached the spot in recent times, and too much significance should not be attached to its present position. (EH).

Site 6 (NG. SU/945453). Some pieces of pottery found at Hurtmore Holt are in the Charterhouse Museum, but no detailed information about the discovery exists. These sherds are to be published by Mr. Harrison, but it is worth mentioning in advance that one of them is of the same type as the large everted rims from Hillbury (H1–H4), and this is the only other site so far known to the writers to have produced exactly this type. (EH).

Compton

The groups of material from sites 7, 8 and 9 were excavated during the construction of the Guildford and Godalming By-pass, and the pottery and querns were presented to Guildford Museum.

Site 7 (NG. SU/950474, approx.). This material was presented to Guildford Museum (Cat. no. 881) by Lady Boston through Mr. E. N. Baynes, who briefly described it in *J.R.S.* XXIII, p. 207. In Lady

Boston's *History of Compton in Surrey* (1933), pp. 10–11, it is described as having been found in 1932 "somewhat to the end of Sandy Knowe," 3 to 4 feet below the surface. It comprised some coarse-ware sherds, a fragment of samian form 31, and a second brass coin of Gordian III. According to Mr. Baynes the samian was of the later Antonine period and he dated the coarse ware to "the end of the early third century." Mr. Christopher Hawkes's opinion, quoted in Lady Boston's book, was however that the coarse pottery belonged to the second and third centuries. In fact, it is closely comparable with pottery from Binscombe I and Hillbury, and we are inclined to date the surviving specimens to the first and second centuries, but the problem is discussed below in the Summary of the Pottery. (CI).

Site 8 (NG. SU/947473, approx.). This group of pottery (Guildford Museum Cat. no. 498) was found by Mrs. Porter in 1928, and reported in *Sy.A.C.* XXXVIII, p. 233. The find spot is given as "Star Cross," but this is a house some distance from the By-pass, and the place probably meant is the road junction now known as Jackson's Corner, where the road to Puttenham leaves the By-pass. The pottery, the lower half of an urn containing a cremation, and some other sherds, is also described in the Summary of the Pottery. (CI).

Site 9. Easbing

Two upper quernstones, found at an unspecified place in this parish during the construction of the By-pass, are in Guildford Museum, and are briefly described in the Stone Implements section below (Guildford Museum Cat. no. 879).

Site 10. Godalming, Holloway Hill (NG. SU/967433, approx.)

An upper quernstone found here is in the Charterhouse Museum, and is described in the Stone Implements section below.

Site 11. Puttenham, Old Rectory (NG. SU/937475)

A bead-rim urn containing a cremation, together with a bronze brooch and a "saucer and vase," were found here during trenching in 1908. The reference and revised dating appear in the Summary of the Pottery below. (CI). (Guildford Museum Cat. no. S2227).

Site 12. Shackleford

Although the fields around this hamlet have produced a fair amount of material, it is regrettable that in no case is the precise find-spot known. Two cinerary urns[1], one with an associated dish (CI), have been found, and are described in the Summary of the Pottery; and a small butt-beaker, only $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, will be illustrated in Mr. Harrison's forthcoming paper.

There exists in the Charterhouse Museum a remarkable collection

[1] Guildford Museum Cat. nos. S 8684 (bead-rim); S 7558 (with dish).

of coins from the Shackleford area, known as the Shaw Collection, and Mr. Harrison reports on them as follows:

> The coins in the Shaw Collection were submitted to Mr. W. A. Seaby, the Director of the Belfast Museum, and he identified them as follows:
>
> 4 radiates of Tetricus I or II .. .. .. A.D. 270–3
> 1 of period of Constantine the Great and successors *c.* A.D. 335–40
> 1 of Constantinus II .. .. A.D. 317–40
> 1 probably of Constantius II .. .. .. A.D. 337–61
> 1 of Valentinian I or Valens .. .. .. A.D. 364–78
> 1 of Valentinian I to Valentinian II .. .. A.D. 364–92
> 1 probably of Valentinian I to Valentinian II .. A.D. 364–92
> 2 fragments of Roman fourth-century third brass used as scrap metal probably for fifth-century minimi.
> 1 late fourth- or early fifth-century fourth brass.
> 3 minimi, almost certainly fifth-century and probably struck in Britain.
>
> Seaby also made the following comment: "It looks as if all (except possibly the four radiates) came from Shackleford, where there may have been a fifth-century workshop for making coins out of fourth-century pieces." I should explain that the individual labels have become somewhat confused, but I think that there is no doubt that all the coins belong to the same collection and that their attribution to the Shackleford region is correct.

Shalford

Site 13. Peasmarsh (NG. SU/990465, approx.). The finding of water-worn Romano-British pottery during gravel-digging here was reported in *Sy.A.C.* XII, p. 155.

Site 14. Unstead Farm (NG. SU/994455). A collection of pottery from this site is in Godalming Museum, and may come from the sewage works there. Just possibly, the pottery could have been found at Unstead Park Farm.

Site 15. Wanborough Common (NG SU/944474, approx.)

The following note appears in notes abstracted from the Kerry MSS. already cited (footnote 1, p. 47). The discovery must have occurred about 1864: "About 6 or 7 years ago Mr. Martin Sumner wishing to plant a portion of the Common caused the plot on the hill adjoining Puttenham Common near the highway to be trenched or double digged. The youths employed were Arthur Quenell, Cecil Caesar and Hen. Woodham. About the centre of the piece Quenell came upon a cist of Bargate stone containing two urns filled with charred or calcined bones. One of the urns was removed whole to the Priory and is now in the possession of Mr. Sumner, the other was broken when discovered. The stones were dug up and removed before any survey could be made." (Kerry MSS., Derby, Vol. III, p. 33. On p. 47 a description of the pottery appears.) This discovery was presumably made in the plot now occupied by the house "Wancom Edge," and Kerry is referring to Puttenham Heath, not the Common. One of the rims illustrated has a diameter of about 6 inches and seems to have belonged to the storage-jar type with

undercut rim and cordon at the base of the neck, common in the Farnham and Alice Holt kilns from Hadrian's time onward: the characteristic square section of the rim seems not to be fully developed in this specimen, which is probably therefore from the beginning of the series and of much the same date as the material from site 8, only about 300 yards away. A body-sherd with wavy bands is also shown.

THE POTTERY

Except where otherwise stated, the pottery to be described below is in the common Romano-British sandy rather soft ware, ranging in colour from light grey to buff or black, depending on accidental or sometimes intentional oxidation or reduction effects in firing.

Extensive use has been made of the very thorough and valuable analysis and classification of the early pottery from the Charterhouse and Haslemere cemeteries by Mr. John Holmes in *Sy.A.C.* LI, pp. 1–28. This and the sources of other references are, for simplicity, placed together at the end of the pottery descriptions in the order of their introduction.

Binscombe I

B1–B32. Pottery from the excavated area in Oak Close. No stratigraphical differentiation of this pottery was observed.

B1 and B2. The two cremation urns whose discovery brought the site to notice. B1 is complete, but B2 lacks the rim, which was probably ploughed away.

B1. Holmes, type 20, which he dates early Flavian. Dark grey ware, burnished externally from the inside flat of the rim to the base, except for the underside of the rim and the upper part of the neck, and the central girth-band which bears separate wavy burnished lines. Such a distribution of burnishing or, in later pottery, of slip, was a convention adhered to locally throughout the Roman occupation. For a fourth-century example, see *Overwey*, Fig. 7, no. 24.

B2. "Rustic" vessel in grey-buff ware of standard texture, smoothed, but not burnished, above and below the encrustation, which is crudely applied in a smooth paste and bounded at the top by a slight cordon. In a study of rustic ware in *Ant. J.* XXXVIII, pp. 24–51 (in which this vessel is listed), Mr. F. H. Thompson classifies this form of the treatment, in separate blobs, as "nodular," which is dominant in the south and the only form so far encountered in Surrey; and he notes that, although difficult to date closely, rustic ware achieved maximum incidence in Flavian times. The most unusual shape of the present example suggests evolutionary connection with the poppy-head beaker (cf. *Silchester*, Pl. LXX, no. 160). The base is identical with Holmes, Fig. 3, no. 8, type 28, dated A.D. 70–80.

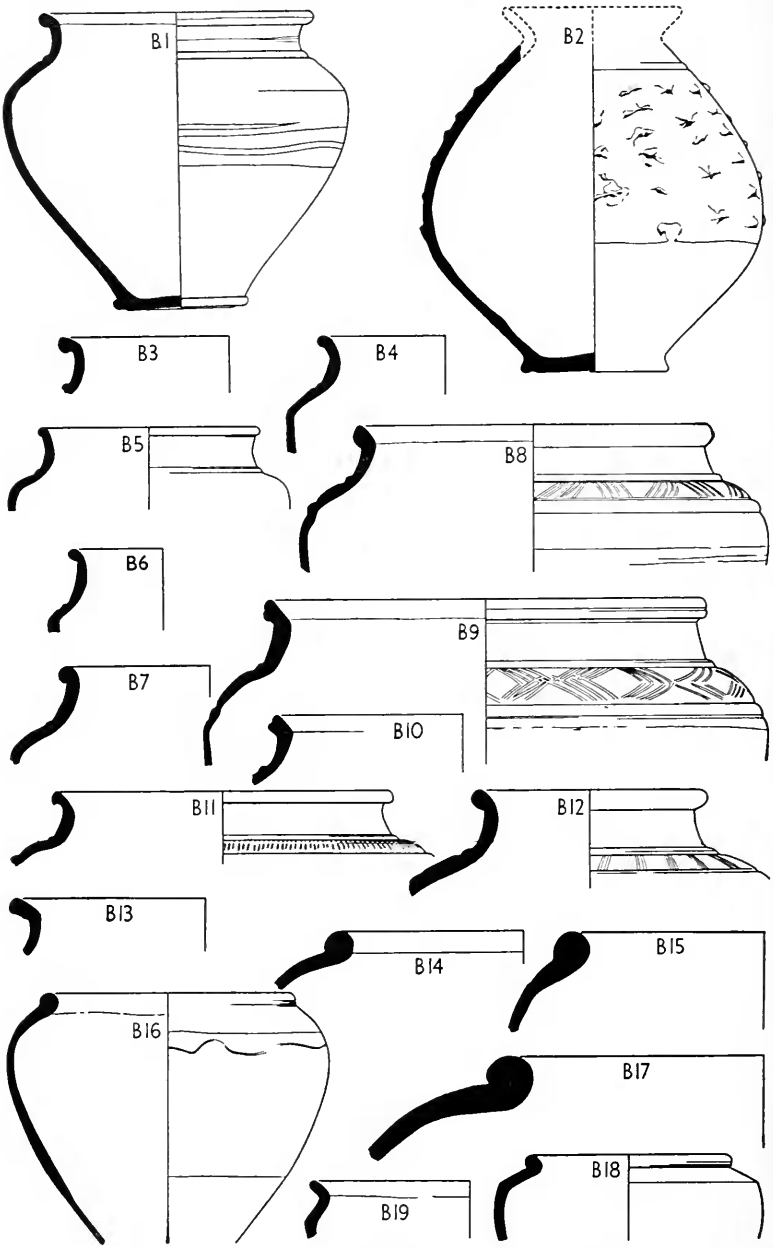


FIG. 2.—POTTERY FROM BINSCOMBE I. Scale ¼.

B3–B7. Holmes, type 21, Flavian. Intermediate in form between types 19 and 20. The carination has become a sharply rounded shoulder which is undecorated.

B8–B11. Holmes, type 19 which, with his type 20, he regards as "succeeding the bead-rim as the standard native jar-type of the Flavian period in Surrey." More reminiscent of the ancestral Belgic cordoned urn than type 20. B8–B10 are closely paralleled by *Alice Holt*, Fig. 3, A–C, and were probably made there. The geometrical shoulder-decoration, and the burnishing of vessels generally, was executed by impressing a blunt tool on the matt surface while it was in the leather-hard condition.

B8, B9. These handsome jars were burnished externally from the inside flat of the rim down to a line at or just below the maximum diameter, except for the band bearing the decoration, in the manner of B1.

B12. Similar to the last type but, with narrow neck and more bulbous body, closer still in form to the Belgic prototype. Cf. *Richborough* I, Pl. XX, no. 4.

B13. Probably a variant of the B8–B10 type, like Holmes, Fig. 4, no. III.1.

B14–B18. A selection of the fairly numerous bead-rim jars from Binscombe: Holmes, type 18. A very common first-century type which Holmes does not think survived after about A.D. 80.

B16. This, with burnished rim and shoulder, below which is a single irregular wavy line, is identical in treatment and in size with *Purberry Shot*, Fig. 18, no. F22, which Mr. Lowther regarded as probably pre-Roman.

B18. Dark grey ware, burnished from the inside of the rim to the carination. An unusual bead-rim vessel to which the writers can find no precise parallel, although many normal bead-rim jars have a shoulder tending to this form. Cf. B15 and *Purberry Shot*, Fig. 28, nos. 6, 17.

B19. Same ware and treatment as B18, but burnishing continues below carination, and the rim is everted rather than a bead.

B20–B25. Dishes and bowls from the excavated area.

B20. Holmes, type 22. A distinctive bowl-form centred geographically in Surrey and chronologically in the Flavian period. The type was made in Alice Holt (*Alice Holt*, Fig. 2). The single groove around the edge of the base is characteristic.

B21. Probably a rather degenerate relative of B20 (cf. other variants in *Purberry Shot*, Fig. 29). The distinctive groove is present on the base.

B22. Reconstructed from two disconnected base and rim sherds. Closely similar to such dishes as *Preh. Farnh.*, Fig. 108, no. R128, which is third- or fourth-century, and to a dish from a first-century kiln, not yet published, in Savernake Forest, Wilts. Evidently a long-lived type unreliable for dating.

B23. The rim section of this sherd recalls that of a common wide Belgic platter (e.g. *Verulamium*, Fig. 12, no. 10 and *Camulo-*

dunum, Fig. 47, no. 8), but its small size suggests that it may possibly be merely a lid with the rim adapted to receive that of the vessel covered, thus producing a fortuitous resemblance to the above examples.[1]

B24. Holmes, type 13. Cf. *Richborough* I, Pl. XXVII, no. 87

B26, B27. Apparently late derivatives of the butt beaker. B26 is furrowed all over externally by heavy and careless burnishing, and has a mere ridge on the body to suggest a cordon, but B27 is better made and the cordon well defined.

B28. Roughly finished pedestal base in hard buff ware. A first-century Belgic-derived form.

B29. The only normal "poppy-head" beaker rim found. Probably about A.D. 100.

B30–B32. "Barbarous" types, representing a very small proportion of the total number of sherds from Binscombe I, and all found in the excavated area, which also produced some heavy grey-pink sherds gritted with flint, evidently belonging to vessels of large size.

B30. Shoulder of a large jar in grey-buff ware, with a fumed black surface burnished to a high lustre externally. Very irregular profile. Closely resembles *Park Street*, Fig. 15, no. 21, which was pre-Boudiccan.

B31. Rim of a handmade dish in dark grey paste, sparingly gritted with flint and, apparently, baked clay fragments. Undulating surface inside and out, but burnished all over.

B32. Rim of a handmade dish in very primitive-looking soft, dark grey-buff ware gritted, as B31, with what seem to be fragments of rather harder brown baked clay. Fine impressed lines in groups on internal surface, possibly caused by dry grass used as a packing during firing. This and B31 are probably Iron Age A, and have parallels from a pit of that culture excavated at Charterhouse (see Mr. Harrison's forthcoming paper.)

B33–B48. Sherds from the Binscombe Crescent area, centred 100 yards north of the excavated site.

B33. Vertical-sided bowl with lightly burnished lattice decoration on side, burnishing on top of the reeded rim, in the band at the top of the trellis and on the irregular facets below it; normal grey ware. A late form of the carinated bowls discussed by Collingwood in *The Archæology of Roman Britain* (Methuen, 1930), p. 222, and by Corder in *Ant. J.* XXI, pp. 273–276, and almost certainly of the second century. Cf. Collingwood, Fig. 52, no. 20, A.D. 100–138; and *Verulamium*, Fig. 28, no. 21, *c.* A.D. 160–190. The type seems to have continued to develop slowly in our corner of Surrey, and the fourth-century Overwey vessels, *Overwey*, Fig. 7, nos. 42–48, seem to be its descendants.

B34. Probably a carinated bowl akin to B33. Similar to *Park Street*, Fig. 17, no. 6, from a pre-conquest to mid-second-century pit.

[1] Comparison with slightly more elaborate examples from Charterhouse, to be published by Mr. Harrison, favours the first possibility.

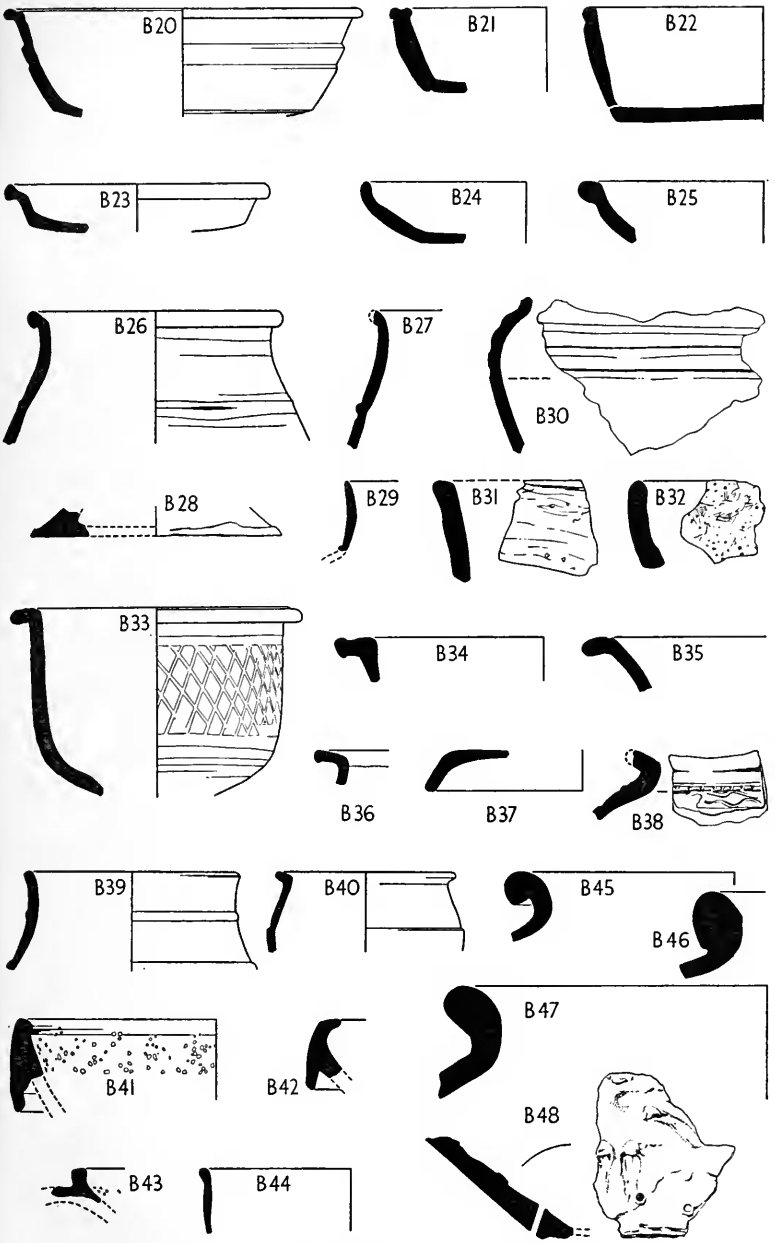


FIG. 3.—POTTERY FROM BINSCOMBE I. Scale ¼.

B35. Smooth, light grey ware. Similar in form to *Park Street*, Fig. 18, nos. 6, 7, which belong to the first half of the fourth century.

B36. Related to H7–H10, discussed below. Probably of second-century date.

B37. Smooth white-buff ware: probably a mortarium cover.

B38. Apparently a bulbous butt beaker, although its roughness makes the angle of slope of the body uncertain. Coarse, hard grey ware, decorated crudely below the rim with a cordon bearing impressed dots and with two irregular impressed wavy lines, all between a pair of faint lines. Cf. *Silchester*, Pl. LXX, no. 152, which is Belgic.

B39. Holmes, type 27. A derivative of the tall, cordoned-necked Belgic jars like *Silchester*, Pl. LXVIII, no. 141. Romano-British examples seem to belong to the first century, and this weak, rimless specimen is probably one of the latest.

B40. An unusual small bowl with an offset at its greatest diameter. A similar vessel, with a wider rim, came from the primary silting of the aqueduct at *Farnham* (p. 52, no. 6), which was cut *c.* A.D. 100; and there seems to be some relation in form to first-century Upchurch ware "ollæ" like *Ashtead* III, Fig. 2, nos. 7 and 9.

B41–B43. Mortaria. Particularly interesting are B41 and B42 which, at first sight, resemble the late "vertical rim" type; but their form and paste, and the chiefly early context at Binscombe, suggest that they should rather be compared with the hitherto little known early wall-sided mortaria found at Colchester (*Camulodunum*, p. 254 and Fig. 53, nos. 1–18), which are entirely pre-Flavian.

B41. Smooth off-white paste, containing fine grit particles. Interior surface grit is of flint.

B42. Smooth off-white paste devoid of grit. No surface grit, at least to the depth of this sherd.

B43. Light buff ware with lighter surface coating: a small, badly worn sherd which belongs to the long-lived type represented by H15, and is closely comparable in treatment with *Overwey*, Fig. 9, no. 97.

B44. Fine orange ware with, inside, grey streaks and a smudge of dark red slip. Fourth-century colour-coated ware.

B45–B48. A selection of the large jars plausibly called storage-jars that most sites produce in moderate numbers. All, except for the comparatively small type represented by B45, in coarse buff or grey ware roughly finished. The heavily undercut rim of B45 suggests a late date, and B46 may be compared with *Preh. Farnh.*, p. 232, no. R3, from a third-century kiln.

B47. Rim of a large jar of very coarse, hard gritty grey-buff ware.

B48. Body fragment which adjoined a broken-off and apparently very thin base. Two perforations right through from the outside and, inside, the frequently encountered "finger-dragging"

effect. The same ware as B47 and possibly from the same vessel, although a perforated bead-rim with rope-like decoration is normal for this type, which is discussed by Frere in *Ewell Council School*, pp. 51–53 (the almost complete specimen found there is now displayed in Guildford Museum). The "finger-dragging" was clearly intended to roughen the interior of the vessel and certainly not to reduce its thickness: the scraped up clay was usually left in place at the end of the marks, and the effect is obtained in an unpublished example found by Major Wade in the Alice Holt kilns by means of the impressions of an annular stamp. This treatment, together with the perforations, which seem always to have been made in the rim and shoulder and close to (but not at) the base, would have encouraged the passage of air between the walls of the jar and its content, even when the jar was covered, thus inhibiting germination and the formation of moulds while excluding vermin. Modern polythene potato-bags are similarly perforated for these reasons, and the potato-bags also demonstrate that root crops provide their own ventilating passages. The roughening of the interior of the Roman jars may have helped to provide ventilation for a close-settling content like grain, and one may suggest that if the jars were occasionally grasped in both hands and briskly rotated to and fro (perhaps easier to suggest than to do!), any tendency for the grain to pack against the side would have been counteracted.[1]

Hillbury

H1–H8. Bulbous wide-mouthed jars with everted rims, in sandy, rough-surfaced ware. A distinctive Hillbury version of the Domitianic to mid-second-century type represented here by H9 (q.v.), which is in the same ware and has a groove in the same position as the double groove of H1 (reconstructed from fragments of two different vessels). *Richborough* III, Pl. XXXVII, no. 261, dated A.D. 80–120 and *ibid.* I, Pl. XXIV,

[1] Mr. Frere tells us he now believes these jars were used as bee-hives, and this ingenious idea seems plausible. The internal roughening would have provided keying for the combs and a foothold for the bees; the perforations seem too small for bees to pass through and would have served for ventilation. Perhaps the jars stood upside down on a support that enabled the bees to enter under the rim. The beehive explanation accords well with the great importance of honey to the Romano-Britons, for whom it was the only available sweetening material, and would fill a gap in the picture of the economy of these farms that we have derived from the other finds; also, as pointed out under H22 below and in Mr. Frere's discussion, the type had the wide distribution in space and time that one would expect of such a functionally definite and universally useful device as a hive. Mr. Frere observes that "Vergil, *Georgics* IV, 45–6, mentions only bark skeps, etc., but he does say 'yet do you keep them snug smearing the chinks of their chambers with smooth clay and flinging down a few leaves'." The idea of making the whole hive of clay might have developed from this practice. At any rate the two restorable examples from Ewell lay in a mass of clay, *Sy. A.C.* XLVIII, 52, 54. For pots used as hives in ancient Egypt, see *Antiquity*, XVI, 212.

no. 43 are similar and have the groove below the rim, although most of the Hillbury specimens, like H1–H4, have rims of nearly twice the diameter of these examples. More in keeping with the average size at Hillbury is *Ashtead* I, Fig. 4, no. 14, which has a rim-diameter of 9 inches and was found with a jar like B12. Bead-rim vessels usually have a groove below the rim which is similarly wide, and some of the Hillbury bead-rims were in the same ware as the present type, so that if, as the comparative material suggests, the type first appeared about A.D. 80, the likelihood that it was evolved from the bead-rim, with some influence from Holmes's type 34, is very strong. H6–H8 are examples of wide cordons, with impressed decoration and in the same coarse ware, which probably belonged to more elaborate vessels of this type than H1, although none, unfortunately, survived with a rim.

H9. A version of H1–H5. A single groove remains below the rim, although there could have been more. Cf. *Ashtead* III, Fig. 3, no. 1, from a context with a coin of Domitian. The type was made at Alice Holt (*Alice Holt*, Fig. 3) and was still being made, though usually in rather more elaborate forms, in the Stoneyfield and Mavins kilns at Farnham, which apparently started work about the middle of the second century (cf. *Preh. Farnh.*, Figs. 103, 104, 105).

H10–H13. Holmes, type 34, which he dates late first- or early second-century. Holmes regards the type as probably a development of his type 19 (e.g. B8, B9) restricted to the West Surrey region, but the group of profiles in *Alice Holt*, Fig. 3 suggest an influence from the H1–H9 type, above. H10–H13 are all in normal smooth grey ware, H11 and H13 with reduced black surface. On H10 and H11 cordons remain at the base of the neck.

H14. Similar in treatment to *Park Street*, Fig. 16, no. 1, which is probably first-century and anyway not later than A.D. 140.

H15. Smooth, soft, light grey ware.

H16. One of two similar dishes of a well known type most common in Antonine times. This version, with its heavily sloped side and lack of external burnished trellis decoration, seems to be an early form. Cf. *Richborough* I, Pl. XXIV, no. 46, late first- or early second-century; and *Farnham*, no. 12, from the primary silting of the aqueduct cut about A.D. 100.

H17. Dish or cover related to B23, (q.v.)

H18. Cover with internal grooving. Cf. *Preh. Farnh.*, Fig. 104, no. R90: another Mavins kiln product.

H19-H21. Mortaria firmly grouped around the reign of Hadrian.

H19. Soft white clay. Resembles *Ewell Council School*, Fig. 5, no. 10, which is compared with an example from Ashtead dated Hadrianic. Probably from the Oxfordshire kilns.

H20. Soft orange-buff ware. Very similar to *Ewell Council School*, Fig. 5, no. 17: Hadrianic. Probably from Oxfordshire.

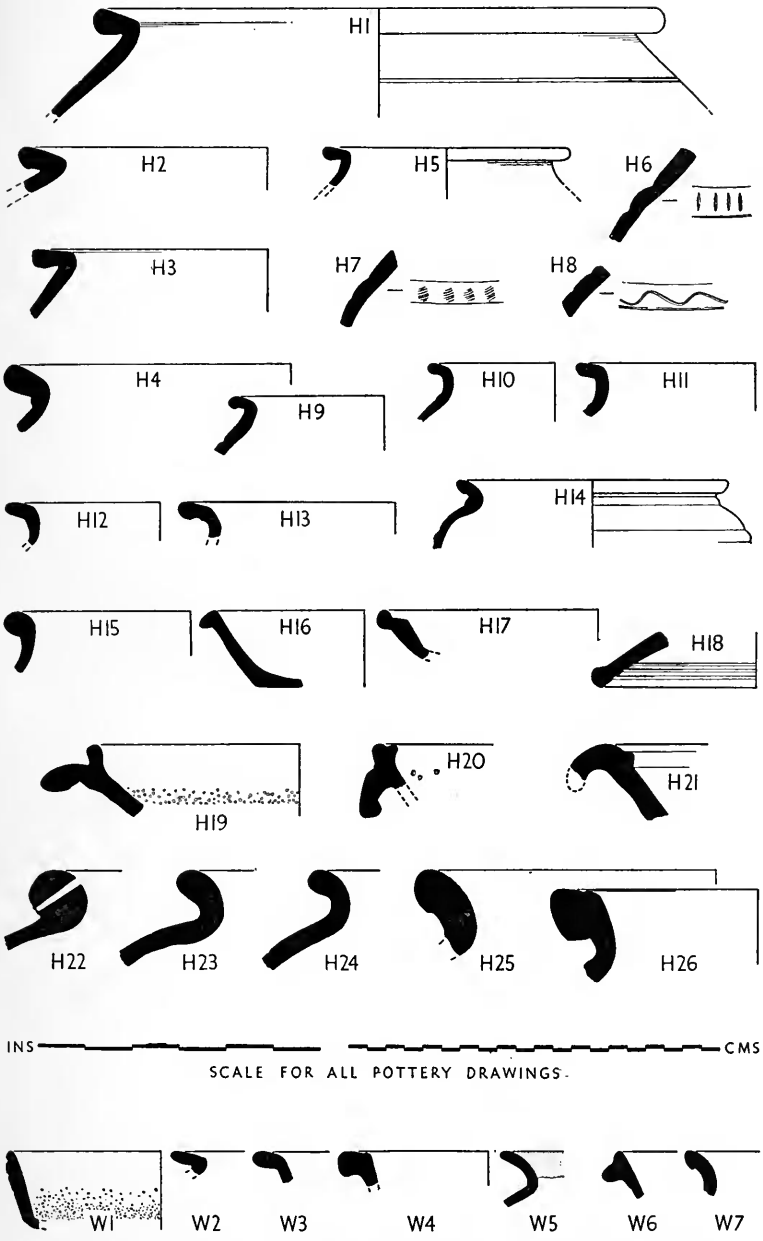


FIG. 4.—POTTERY FROM HILLBURY AND WAGDON COMMON. Scale $\frac{1}{4}$.

H21. Hard white pottery; no grit, at least on the remaining one-inch depth of the inner surface. The type is discussed by Corder in *Ant. J.* XXI, pp. 278f, and belongs generally to the first half of the second century.

H22–H26. Storage jars, the first four in coarse wares.

H22. Perforated rim, in sandy grey ware, of a jar similar to B48 (q.v.) and identical with *Ewell Council School*, no. 12, in the rim of which the holes are at the same angle, and sometimes have exactly the same curious property of just failing to penetrate the surface on the outside, as though the potter was blindly following a model and not really aware of their true purpose (if we have deduced anything like their true purpose). A second sherd, not illustrated, has exactly the same "rope rim" as the Ewell example and as others from Wagdon Common and the fourth-century kilns at Overwey. Clearly a type which remained unchanged through the centuries.

H25. Raised rim, very slightly undercut, represented in various sizes by several examples from Hillbury.

H26. Soft grey ware, smoothly finished. A type produced in the Alice Holt and Farnham kilns from Hadrianic times to the third century. Cf. *Preh. Farnh.*, Fig. 97, no. R5; *Alice Holt*, Fig. 4.

Eight fragments of samian ware (not illustrated), all but one of soft paste with badly eroded glaze, were also found at Hillbury. Four of the soft sherds had identifiable rims, and dates were assigned to them by reference to Oswald and Pryce as follows:

HS1. Large portion of a dish of form 36. Diam. *c.* 7·6 inches. Trajanic-Hadrianic.

HS2. Form 33. Diam. *c.* 4·2 inches. Mid-second century.

HS3. Form 38. Diam. *c.* 6 inches at rim. Antonine.

HS4. Form 18/31 or 31. Diam. uncertain. A small fragment that could be of any date from Domitian to Commodus.

One of the dominant types at Hillbury was the bead-rim, similar to B14–B17, which seems to have died out about A.D. 80. The site also produced a Flavian dish of the same type as B20. A few rims tending to the form of W5, and a single rim of a flanged bowl like W6, suggest that occupation could just have overlapped the third century.

Lascombe

This bead-rim urn (Fig. 5) is perfectly preserved except for a bad crack starting at the rim. Dark grey to buff sandy paste, with four light grooves below the rim, and one to three irregular and deeper grooves about the greatest diameter, below which are numerous wide burnished lines. The narrow neck, globular body and heavy grooving suggest a date late in the history of the type, probably A.D. 60–80, and it was very probably connected with the Hillbury occupation, only 600 yards away.

Wagdon Common

W1. Straight-sided dish with three grooves round the outside and slight carination at the base. Reduced black surface with a trace of light slip inside. As has been remarked in connection with B22, the type is long-lived, but the use of slip seems to be a criterion of a fairly late date in this region, and the only published example of the form from the Farnham kilns with

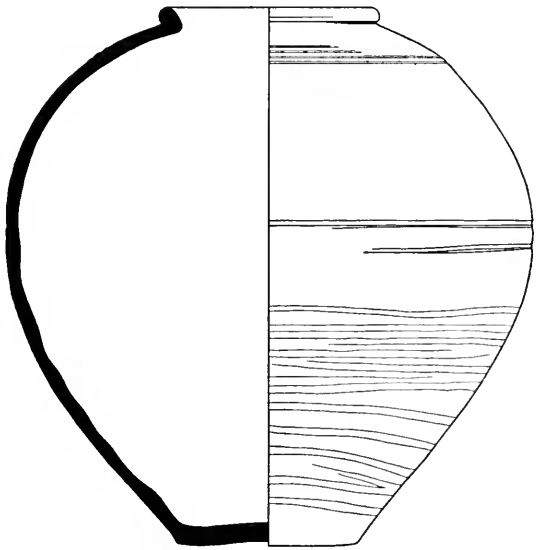


FIG. 5.—THE LASCOMBE URN. Scale ¼.

similar external grooving is the rather more decorative *Overwey*, Fig. 8, no. 76, which belongs to the latter half of the fourth century.

W2. Flat-topped rim with shallow groove on top near inner edge. Cf. *Preh. Farnh.*, Fig. 103, no. R76.

W3. Like W2, this could be a product of the Stoneyfield or Mavins kilns which seem to have operated from the mid-second century into the third.

W4. Heavily worn rim similar to *Overwey*, Fig. 7, no. 47.

W5. Diam. *c.* 5 inches. Smooth hard grey ware with white-grey slip on rim internally and extending from lower part of rim to shoulder externally. The common late everted-rim type. The body seems to have been considerably greater in diameter than the rim, making a third-century rather than a fourth-century date probable.

W6, W7. Types common in the third- and fourth-century Farnham area kilns.

A jar-rim with lid-groove, closely similar to *Overwey*, Fig. 6, no. 6; rims identical in type to H19 and H21; and one of the undatable "rope rims" were also found at this site.

Summary of the Pottery

At *Binscombe I*, all the pottery from the excavated site can be placed between the dates A.D. 43–100, and is probably entirely Flavian.[1] Forms like H1–H5 and H7–H10, which began life in the very late first century are conspicuously absent and, while bearing in mind the dangers of arguing *ex absentia*, one may perhaps tentatively suggest that the occupation of the site ceased about ten years before the end of the century. At Binscombe Crescent, only about 100 yards away, we seem to have a different type of site: the pottery is thinly scattered and there were no signs of filled ditches or occupation levels during building work, yet all four centuries of the Roman occupation seem to be represented. The explanation possibly lies in the fact that this site stands upon the bank of a former lake or marsh (see Fig. 1), and was probably a venue for fishers, wildfowlers and reed-gatherers long after the early agricultural site had been abandoned and replaced by the possibly industrial establishment Binscombe II, a quarter of a mile away.

As already mentioned above, the small amount of pottery so far recovered from *Binscombe II* includes second-century samian ware. Among the coarse ware were flanged bowls like W6 and an everted-rim jar in which the rim is greater in diameter than the body, a later form than W5. The site may therefore be provisionally regarded as having been occupied during the second and third centuries, and probably into the fourth.

Most of the pottery from *Hillbury* appears to belong to the last years of the first century and the first half of the second century, and there is sufficient coincidence of types with those from the early site at Binscombe to suggest that the occupation of the two places overlapped in date. Especially is this true of the bead-rims, which were one of the commonest types at both sites. Some of both the samian and the coarse ware, including H10–H13, could belong to the latter half of the second century or even to the third, though nothing essentially of the third century was found. If, then, we accept Holmes's deduction that the bead-rim probably did not survive after A.D. 80 in Surrey, the dates A.D. 70 to 200 will probably cover the occupation of the particular site in question, although, as has already been suggested, the rather sparsely represented later pottery and the couple of tile fragments may have spread from a later development near by, possibly Kerry's site 500 feet away, the pottery from which could easily be late, judging from his illustrations; and he figures another vessel, from an unspecified position—a tall jar with square-section, apparently undercut rim, and trellis decoration on the body—that must be at least as late as the third century.

[1] Excepting B31 and B32, which are probably intrusive.

Of the few sherds from the *Wagdon Common* site (it produced only fifteen rim fragments), the majority are definitely late. So far as one can tell from such small sherds, W2 and W3 are similar to the late first- and second-century types represented by H9 and H10–H13 respectively, but these and derived forms were made, rather conservatively it would seem, in Stoneyfield and Mavins kilns (*Preh. Farnh.*, pp. 243–247), which Mr. Lowther thinks operated well into the third century. A pottery group of strong general similarity, dated third- to fourth-century, came from the Roman building at Worplesdon (*Sy.A.C.* XLIX, p. 109), and this included a rim like W2. At all events, the scanty occupation at Wagdon Common, with no obvious attraction as at Binscombe Crescent, is not likely to have lasted long, and a date within the third century seems probable for it.

The table below attempts to show the relative prevalence of well-defined pottery-types at Hillbury and from the early site at Binscombe I, and is intended to give some indication of the significance of particular forms for dating the sites and of their relative importance in the people's life, although it will be appreciated that these two things are to some extent inextricable. The figures are based on counts of the numbers of different vessels represented by rim sherds only, the number from Hillbury being 140; from Binscombe I, 63. The percentages are the nearest round figures to the calculated values. The later Binscombe material was not analysed because of smallness of numbers, lack of any dominant types, and probable contamination from the earlier site. The first of these two reasons also applied to Wagdon Common. Storage-jars generally could not be considered as a type because, apart from the obvious examples with heavy rims, many other vessels must have served this purpose, especially the large everted-rim and bead-rim types. The much greater proportion of miscellaneous forms at Hillbury, mostly small bowls with simple outcurved and beaded rims, suggests that the potters had time to widen their selection of designs as the countryside settled down under Roman rule.

	Binscombe I %	*Hillbury* %
Flavian jars with cordoned shoulder, *e.g.* B1, B3–B12, and derivatives, *e.g.* H10–H13	62	22
Bead-rims	18	9
Everted rims, mostly large, *e.g.* H1–H6	—	11
"Rope-rim" storage jars	—	2
Mortaria	—	4
Samian	1	4
Very coarse and handmade	5	1
Dishes and lids (mostly dishes)	6	16
Third-century types	—	4
Miscellaneous	8	27
	100	100

Compton (including site 15, Wanborough Common). The occupa-

tion here seems to have extended from the first to the third century. Mr. Baynes's group, with which he found the coin of Gordian III (A.D. 238–244), includes several examples like H9; two bowls like B1, one with sharper carination; and a dish like B20. Indeed, if the coin was truly associated with the pottery, it might imply that these forms survived later hereabouts than we have conceded in this analysis, although the dating bracket at Hillbury would allow of this. Local conservatism of design is apparent in other types described above, and we are in need of closely dated sites of the third and of the latter half of the second century to elucidate this uncertainty. Mrs. Porter's group, a bead-rim, another dish like B20, and a flanged bowl of the same type as W6, is similarly enigmatic, if again it is a true group, and again reminds one of the Hillbury picture.

Shackleford. The first of these urns, about 7 inches high, again closely resembles H9, and was found with a dish in orange ware of the same type as B24. The urn has two slight grooves on the top of the rim and a cordon below it. The group probably belongs to the last twenty years of the first century. The second urn is a bead-rim of late type with two pairs of grooves on the shoulder: probably about A.D. 80.

Puttenham, Old Rectory. The urn found here, and described by Elsley in *Sy.A.C.* XXII, p. 200, as "late Celtic," is now displayed in Guildford Museum and seems in fact to be an early Romano-British bead-rim vessel. The associated pots have apparently been lost.

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THE STONE IMPLEMENTS

Rotary Querns

These, the standard corn-grinding equipment of Roman Britain, and the ancestors of all subsequent stone mills, were represented by four examples from Binscombe, ten from Hillbury and one from Wagdon Common. It is a curious fact that all, except one from Binscombe and one from Hillbury, are upper stones, but one may guess that the reason for this is that the lower stones are so shaped that they are inherently stronger and were firmly based on the ground, so that they would have been less frequently damaged and discarded. In contrast with other stone apparatus (except the mortar from Hillbury), all the rotary querns were made of Bargate sandstone, which suggests a compact local industry specializing in their manufacture, probably in the Godalming area, where the stone outcrops most accessibly. Bargate was probably chosen in preference to other local stones because its hardness represented an appropriate compromise between workability from the mason's point of view and durability from the user's: it contains hard inclusions which, although causing it to wear irregularly (see Pl. VI, 1), reinforce the softer body material and, incidentally, probably minimized the amount of triturated stone mixed with the flour produced by the querns. Most of the querns are of the type having a markedly concave upper stone with a round or oval central hole and a radial slot on the upper side of the stone to take a handle lever. Wedged tightly into the central hole, but not completely blocking it, there was originally a wooden plug, the "rynd," drilled to receive a pivot of wood or iron in the convex lower stone, this bearing being arranged to keep the two stones slightly separated. The lever was secured in its slot by being attached to the rynd, and at its other end there would have been a vertical handle for easy turning. The corn to be ground was poured through the central hole on either side of the rynd.

In two pioneer articles,[1] Dr. E. Cecil Curwen traced the evolution of the rotary quern in Britain from pre-Roman times to the end of the occupation, an evolution chiefly marked by diminishing thickness and grinding angle, accompanied by appropriate modification of the rynd and of the method of securing the handle, and finally the introduction of an adjustable pivot in the lower stone. Our specimens, with the handle groove in the upper stone (Fig. 6, BL1) and only partial perforation of the lower stone for the pivot (Fig. 6, BL4), are, with one possible exception, of Curwen's first-century type. In the type which Curwen considers to have evolved from this

[1] *Antiquity* XI, pp. 133–51; and XV, pp. 15–32.

during the second century, increasing thinness of the upper stone made a handle slot impracticable, and the handle was apparently attached only at the centre where the formerly oval hole was replaced by a rectangular one to grip it. At least two methods of handle fixture, suggesting the difficulties and experiments that led to the adoption of the latter method, were used at Binscombe; but the handle slot was still present at Hillbury and at the apparently third-century Wagdon Common site, and it looks very much as

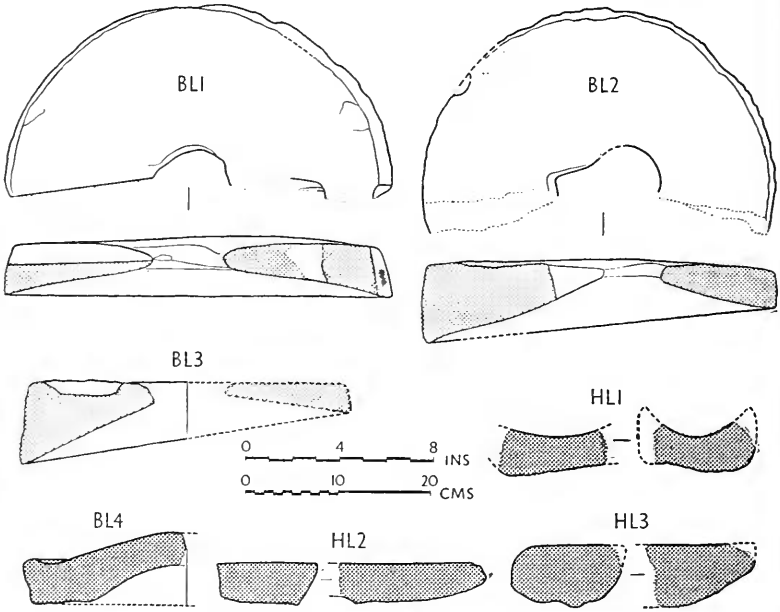


FIG. 6.—STONE IMPLEMENTS FROM BINSCOMBE I AND HILLBURY. Scale $\frac{1}{8}$. Light tint=sections of upper stones; dark tint=sections of lower stones; heavy broken lines=conjectural restorations; light dotted lines=present lines of breakage; light continuous lines=surface detail.

though there was no development of the rotary quern after the end of the first century in our area, in spite of the Binscombe experiments.

Binscombe I. Although fragments of only four rotary querns were found at this site, each showed features divergent from the standard type.

BL1 (and Pl. VI, 1). 16·5/2·5 inches.[1] Well-finished upper stone,

[1] These dimensions, given for each rotary quern fragment where they are ascertainable, are as follows: upper stones, diameter/maximum thickness at rim; lower stones, diameter/thickness at rim/thickness at centre. As mentioned above, Curwen has shown that the ratio of thickness to diameter has some chronological significance, which may become more useful as our knowledge of querns increases. The maximum thickness at the rim is given, for this must be closest to the thickness before wear, usually particularly heavy on one side, took place.

reconstructed from two adjoining fragments. Opposite, but not in line with, the handle slot, the broken edge shows signs of an irregular but smooth artificial hole passing through from the top to the grinding surface, and there is a rounded vertical slot in the outer edge. The hole seems most reasonably explicable as having held an auxiliary handle fixed vertically through the stone in the manner of later querns, although the function of the vertical slot is enigmatic.[1] Another explanation is possible: the natives of the island of Socotra in the Indian Ocean support the upper stone of their rotary querns by a rope from a beam above, attached to the stone opposite the handle;[2] the separation of the two stones can thus be nicely adjusted by slightly raising or lowering the handle, and the grinding is performed by an oscillatory motion. The hole in the present quern could have held a plug for the attachment of such a rope, and the thinness of the centre of the stone certainly leaves little room for the normal rynd support. This suggestion may be a wild guess for Romano-British Binscombe, but it does seem that we can permit ourselves some play of the imagination in attempting to explain these querns. Adjoining the handle slot, a small vertical smoothed patch in the central hole is indicated in the drawing, and probably represents wear due to a loose handle-mounting or rynd.

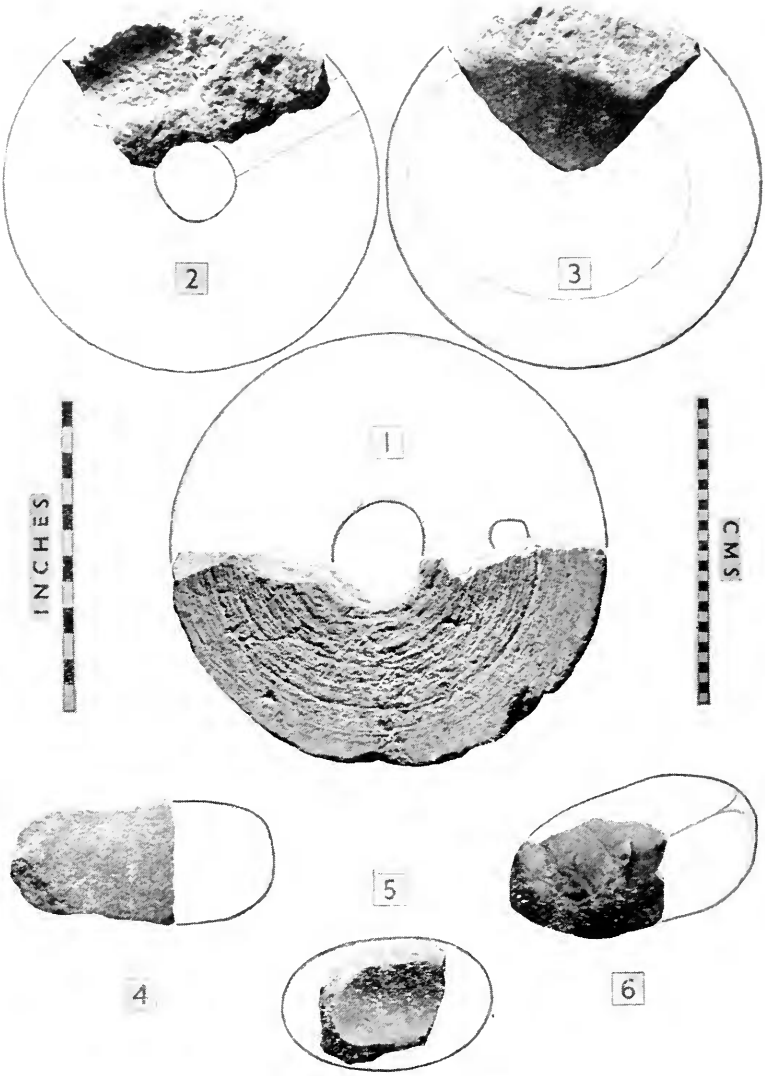
BL2. 15·2/3·2 inches. Upper stone, rather rougher than the previous one, reconstructed from three adjoining fragments. Worn unevenly, although the hole seems always to have been off-centre. More than half this stone is preserved, but there is no sign of a handle slot, and the apparently artificial rectangular extension of the central hole suggests that the later type of handle was used. Above and to the left of the centre in the plan drawing, the upper edge is interrupted by a little smoothed hollow bevel almost certainly (in spite of some damage here) not more than 1·2 inches wide and extending only about 0·7 inch down the side of the stone: it seems too sharply defined to be due to hand wear, and is even more enigmatic than the vertical groove on BL1.

BL3 (and Pl. VI, 2). 14/3·5 inches. A fragment of another obliquely worn upper stone with a shallow oval hollow in its upper surface. This shows no sign of wear and was probably therefore a receptacle for unmilled grain rather than, say, a hand grip for rotation.

BL4 (and Pl. VI, 3). 14/2/3·2 inches. The only lower-stone fragment found. The central pivot-hole seems to have been not more

[1] Unless (and this is a slender possibility) it had the same purpose as the vertical slotted projections on the probably pre-Roman Iberic quern-type described by Childe in *Antiquity* XVII, p. 20, Fig. 1. In this, the handles were presumably placed in the slots and held in position by ropes or thongs tied round the perimeter of the stone.

[2] B.B.C. Television film made by an expedition from Oxford and Cambridge Universities.



STONE IMPLEMENTS FROM BINSCOMBE I AND HILLBURY. (pp. 65-70)

1. Working surface of upper quernstone BL1, showing second hole.
2. Top of upper quernstone BL3, showing hollow and handle slot.
3. Underside of lower quernstone BL4, with hollow indicating re-use as mortar.
4. 'Mealing stone' HL2. 5. Mortar HL1. 6. Whetstone HL4.

(*All reconstructed outlines are purely conjectural*).

than about half an inch in diameter at the top and was almost certainly of the early type that passed only part of the way through the stone. The stone is well worn, as the raised rim left around the grinding surface indicates, and its most interesting feature is an eccentric worn hollow on the underside that must represent secondary use as a mortar, possibly (although there was no evidence for this) after the stone had been broken.

Hillbury. One fragment each of nine different upper stones and one lower stone were found here. As far as can be seen from single rather small pieces, these querns were similar to those from Binscombe, except that one was much more rough-hewn, and there are no signs of any of the unusual Binscombe characteristics, though this again may be partly due to the small portion of each quern found. Although only one fragment retained part of the handle-slot, the central holes were apparently round or oval and not adapted to take the typologically later centrally fixed handle discussed above. Approximate dimensions where ascertainable for the upper stones were as follows: 14/3·2; 14/3; 14/2; 16/2·8; 18/2·4 inches. The small lower-stone fragment was worn down to a thickness of 1·3 inches at the rim.

Wagdon Common. The single fragment of a small, obliquely worn upper stone found here had broken along the handle slot, the weak line along which all the other pieces from these sites with any remnant of the slot had broken. The type of central hole could not be ascertained. Approximate dimensions 13/2·3 inches.

Charterhouse. Complete quern with handle-slot and oval central hole in upper stone. The upper stone is so much greater in diameter than the lower that they may represent two different querns. Dimensions: upper stone, 14/4·5 inches; lower stone, 11·5/4/5 inches.

Godalming, Holloway Hill. Closely similar to above. Dimensions: upper stone, 14·4/4·5 inches; lower stone, 13·5/1/2·5 inches.

Easking. Each of the two fragments, found in the By-pass cutting here, represented more than half an upper stone. They are again similar to the Binscombe querns, with handle-slots, but the central holes are roughly rhombic, with rounded corners, the handle-slot issuing from one of the obtuse corners. Presumably this arrangement was designed to allow plenty of space on either side of the rynd for pouring in the grain, and was probably a mere variant of the oval hole. Dimensions: 14·6/3·5; 16·6/2·3 inches.

Other Implements

This very interesting group, all from Hillbury, consists of a mortar; two "mealing stones"; two, or possibly three, whetstones; and an indeterminate convex stone.

The mortar. (HL1 and Pl. VI, 5). This, like the rotary querns, is of Bargate sandstone, and only a fragment of the base remains. The internal curvature, as the sectional drawings show, was greater one way than the other, suggesting that the mortar was oval. Wear

on the underside indicates that it was stood on a hard surface when in use. It is interesting that stone mortars are, or were during this century, in use in the Isle of Foula, Shetland,[1] alongside rotary querns not much more developed than those we have described. Cf. BL4, above.

"*Mealing stones*" (HL2 and Pl. VI, 4; HL3). These are both broken, but were originally long rather thin stones, smoothed on one side. They might have been interpreted as whetstones, but the characteristic irregularities of such are absent, and the nature of the wear—slightly convex laterally and concave longitudinally, passing right up to the edges of the stone—implies that a large flat upper element, perhaps of wood, for no suitable stone object was found, was rubbed along the top of them. HL3 is a carstone pebble showing signs of slight faceting by windblown sand before use, and was probably picked up on the local hills; and HL2 is of sarsen,[2] the beautiful fine grey siliceous sandstone, which occurs near Hillbury at the interface of the Barton Sands and Plateau Gravel on Chobham Ridges,[3] at the southern tip of which, for instance, only three miles from our site, it is readily accessible on Surprise Hill, and has been locally used for building (e.g. Puttenham Church tower) for centuries.[4] The stone has also been found in the Netley Heath deposits[5] on top of the Downs to the east of Guildford, and great blocks of it still lie below the Downs in Weston Wood, presumably derived from the Netley Heath deposits by natural erosion or human agency, beside the ancient ridgeway that passes Hillbury nine miles away. The sarsen implements from Hillbury have all been stained pink to red by the sand in which they have lain.

The only similar implements known to the writers are in Devizes Museum, Wiltshire (*Devizes Museum Cat.* nos. 714, 715, 716; all from a Romano-British site at Westbury, Wilts),[6] and the similarity is very close indeed: these too are in sarsen, and 714 and 716 are complete, 5–6 inches wide, 1·5–2·5 thick and *c.* 12 long, compared with HL2, *c.* 4·7 inches wide and 2 thick and HL3, *c.* 5 inches wide and 2·7 thick. Although the coincidence is remarkable, it probably does not imply that the stones were traded along the Harrow Way (the westward extension of our ridgeway), for Westbury is in sarsen country, and the carstone specimen at Hillbury suggests local manufacture, as does the presence of sarsen locally;[7] but in view of

[1] *Antiquity* XI, Pls. I and III. The settlement at Hillbury must have been very like this Foula croft.

[2] We are indebted to Mr. G. M. Davies, M.Sc., F.G.S., of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, who identified this stone as sarsen, and also identified HL6 and pointed out to us the presence of sarsen in Weston Wood. We are grateful, too, to Dr. D. P. Young, who acted as intermediary.

[3] See Dines and Edmunds, *Geology of the Country around Aldershot and Guildford*; D.S.I.R., 1929, pp. 102, 121, 123–4.

[4] *Ibid.*, p. 162. [5] *Ibid.*, pp. 116, 118.

[6] Noticed by Curwen in his first article, p. 137. (See p. 65 above, note 1.)

[7] And possible ancestors of this quern type have been found at Farnham. A large, apparently Late Bronze Age, saddle quern (*Preh. Farnh.*, pp. 169–70, Fig. 69 and Pl. XVI) provides a precedent for the use of sarsen; and two much

the rarity of this type, remarked by Curwen also, there is possibly some indication here of an exchange of ideas along that ancient route which, we must emphasize, passes within a few yards of the Hillbury site.

Although it means the same as "quern," and the implements are in fact small saddle querns, the term "mealing stone" has been taken from the Devizes Museum Catalogue as a distinguishing name for this type which, in a settlement using much larger and more efficient rotary querns, probably fulfilled some fairly insignificant domestic purpose. It must be cautiously admitted that at both Hillbury and Westbury the association of these querns with Romano-British material is only circumstantial but, being so small, they should belong to the end of the prehistoric series and there is no reason why this should not have survived into the Roman period.

Whetstones. None of these has been drawn. HL4 and HL5 are large, seemingly natural, blocks of sarsen badly shattered, apparently by frost action.

HL4. (Pl. VI, 6). This remnant, 5 inches long, has a rounded end, but expands to a roughly square section, *c.* 4·5 inches square, at the break. It is smoothed on two adjacent sides in the irregular manner characteristic of sharpening stones.

HL5. This stone is so badly shattered that only part of one face remains. The fragment is about 7 ×4 ×5·5 inches deep.

HL6. A small fragment, about 3·5 ×4·5 ×2 inches, of chert from the Hythe Beds which occur below the Bargate Beds most extensively around Compton and Godalming hereabouts. The fragment shows signs of having been used as a whetstone.

Although Kerry's finds (see above) have been lost, we can now classify them with some confidence. His "two round dished stones" must be companions of our single mortar; and his "whetstone of a reddish, fine grain, quite foreign to the soil" is another sarsen whetstone stained, as were all the sarsen objects we found at Hillbury, by the Loamy Beds subsoil.

CONCLUSION

Holmes, summarizing the evidence from the cemeteries at Haslemere and Charterhouse, says: "By the first quarter of the second century the picture has changed and the old sites have ceased to be occupied." The change was "probably not unrelated to the growth of the villa system and the great increase in the size and prosperity of London soon after its recovery from the Boudiccan disaster."[1] The examination of more sites has modified this picture. Our new knowledge suggests that the early sites more often suffered a change in centre of gravity than abandonment. At Binscombe this

smaller and probably later querns of different materials (*ibid.*, pp. 170, 192, 194 and Pl. XIX) are approaching the size and shape of the Hillbury and Westbury specimens.

[1] *Sy.A.C.* LI, pp. 27–8.

seems certainly to have happened, at Hillbury probably; at Compton the new focal point was probably the Limnerslease villa half a mile away, and at Charterhouse itself Mr. Harrison has found later material a little distance from the original site. Generally the change seems to have taken place later than Holmes suggested, more towards the end of the second century perhaps, and seems to be marked by a transfer to more substantial premises. There is a hint at Binscombe that the move was accompanied by a change from pure farming to the making of tiles. At least nothing drastic seems to have happened, and the movements were probably perfectly natural developments for a countryside settling down to civilization for the first time ever. The growth of organized industry, the cultivation of heavier soils as the land was cleared, and the enclosure or growth of the simple peasant holdings into villa estates: all these unprecedented agencies were redistributing the population in the second century. The coins from Shackleford are probably the shadowy witnesses of another villa that may one day be found.

Holmes has also remarked the contrast between the Haslemere and Charterhouse pottery, the former rounded in form and often decorated, the latter angular and plain;[1] and from this he deduced that Haslemere was colonized by the Atrebates of the west and Charterhouse from the eastern Belgic region. Harrison has pointed out to us, however, that the angular ware is not particularly typical of the east, nor the rounded ware of the west. For instance, there were examples of Holmes's carinated type 20 at Silchester, and Holmes himself cites them as comparative material. The pottery from Binscombe I is certainly not of the same type as that from the Charterhouse cemetery, only a few yards away, but belongs to the Haslemere family. The Binscombe pottery is also broadly later than that from Charterhouse but contemporary with that from Haslemere, and now Harrison has found the rounded pottery in a later context at Charterhouse itself. Clearly the difference is a matter of date, and the wide later distribution of elegant jars like B8 and B9 must be due to the vigorous salesmanship of peddlers from the expanding pottery factory of Alice Holt Forest, rather than the more dramatic possibility of a population moving from the west.

Acknowledgments

First we must express our warmest thanks to the volunteer diggers and field workers whose sacrifice and enthusiasm made it possible to write this paper. The more significant material from the Binscombe sites has been placed in Godalming Museum, that from Hillbury and Wagdon Common in Guildford Museum,[2] and we are extremely grateful to the respective curators, Mr. Stanley Dedman and Dr. Enid Dance, for giving every facility for drawings to be made and much other help. We hope we have sufficiently acknowledged our indebtedness to others in the body of this report.

[1] *Ibid.*, p. 12.

[2] Interim Cat. no. RB 862.