ART. III. – *Archaeological Survey of the Howe Robin and Raven Gill Areas – Orton: Occupational Evidence.*

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THE report of our survey of the western side of Crosby Ravensworth Fell, for artefactual evidence of prehistoric habitation, has already been published in the *Transactions* of this Society.[1] Our search has now been extended along the limestone uplands beyond Orton towards Kirkby Stephen and this paper records the finds made to the east of Crosby Ravensworth Fell in an area bounded by Howe Robin to the west, the Orton-Appleby road to the east, Bank Moor to the north and the edge of the Orton Scar limestone to the south.

The upper slopes of Crosby Ravensworth Fell, from Howe Robin towards Long Scar Pike, are composed of a slowly permeable, loamy soil overlying upland clay, with a surface horizon of peat. The whole of this area is covered by typical moorland vegetation, including heather and in some places becomes seasonally waterlogged, giving rise to small temporary ponds. To the east and north of Howe Robin the moorland gives way to an area of limestone pavement and green grasses where the soil is a brown loam of varying depth. This type of soil produces a fairly good permanent grassland for stock rearing. The soil on Bank Moor is slightly different in that it is a light loam, very shallow for the most part, with considerable exposures of limestone pavement.

With the exception of Howe Robin Site 3, all of the artefacts were found on weathered molehills and include artefacts of flint, chert and volcanic tuff, together with a few fragments of heavily grit-tempered pottery. Most of the finds were made within fairly well-defined boundaries, especially in the case of Howe Robin Site 4 and Raven Gill Sites 4 and 7, each of which was mainly confined in an area of about twenty-five square metres.

A map of the area covered is given in Figure 1 and a selection of lithic artefacts is shown in Figures 2 and 4. The decorated pottery fragments are illustrated in Figure 3 and an analysis of all the finds is given in Table 1. All map references are from Sheet NY 61.

HOWE ROBIN

HOWE ROBIN 1 Map reference: 3622 5105/5106 Height OD: 345 metres

In a scatter along a narrow band of grass, between the limestone pavement on the upper slopes of the south side of Howe Robin, we picked up nine flints, including two scrapers and a knife made from a thick blade, struck from the edge of a core as a core trimming flake to renew the striking platform, Fig. 2, 1. The same effect would occur if the original striking platform had been abandoned and the blade struck from a striking platform at right angles to the original. All three tools are made from white flint. The finds also include a blade and a utilised flake, both made from chert. The molehills were rather sparse, making it difficult to identify the centre of concentration of the finds and it is possible that there were two small habitation areas here.

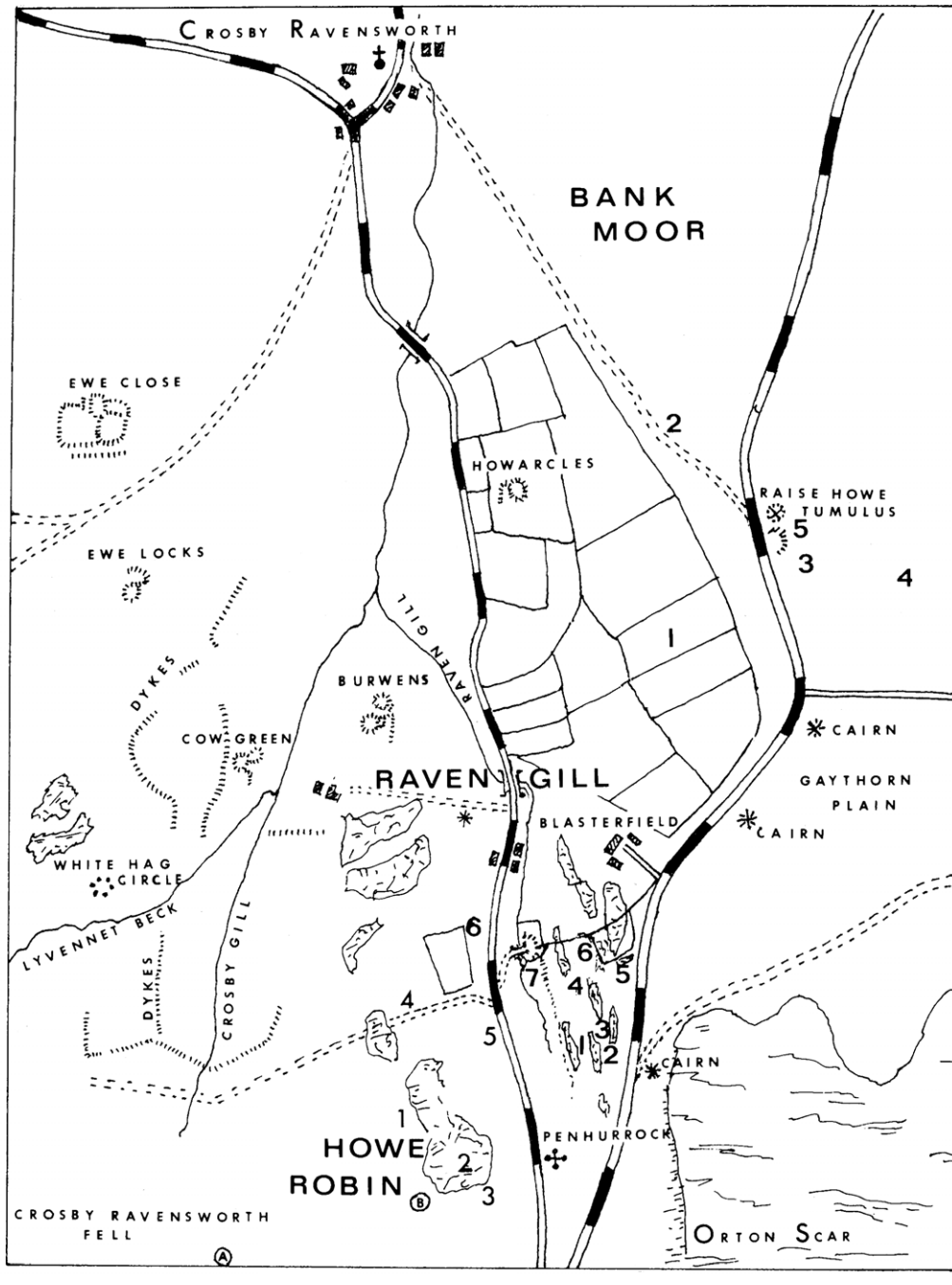

FIG. 1. – The area to the east of Crosby Ravensworth fell showing the positions of the habitation sites discovered during the survey relative to prehistoric burial mounds and later settlement.

HOWE ROBIN 2 Map reference 3625 5104 Height OD: 360 metres

In a small area within an old enclosure on the summit of Howe Robin, we found twenty-three artefacts, including a utilised blade in grey flint with white inclusions, Fig. 2, 2; a utilised flake; two fragments with secondary retouch, broken in antiquity from larger tools; and a small, crudely worked, round-based leaf arrowhead, bifacially worked along both edges bordering the point, Fig.2, 28. Most of the flints show some signs of patination. The assemblage also includes an awl of white chert, Fig. 2, 4, and three flakes of volcanic tuff, two of which have polished convex surfaces.

HOWE ROBIN 3 Map reference: 3625 5103 Height OD: 355 metres

To the south of the summit of Howe Robin is an area of shallow peat with small ponds and water channels. In the dry months of early summer these holes dry out and in one of them, lying on the surface of the base clay and gravel, were one hundred and twenty small spalls of grey flint. Although the spalls could have been eroded from a stratified layer within the peat, it is thought that the depth of peat would not be sufficient for useful investigation of the pollen content.

HOWE ROBIN 4 Map reference: 3623 5111 Height OD: 320 metres

About two hundred metres to the south-west of a small enclosed field, and lying close to the northern edge of a trackway leading from the Crosby Ravensworth road towards Potrigg, were six flints confined within an area of about twenty square metres. These include a utilised flake and a blade with secondary working along the whole of one side and part of the opposite edge, Fig. 2, 3. The longer of the worked sides has been further blunted to produce a finely serrated edge. We also picked up a flake of chert or highly silicified limestone. We have found several tools made from the latter type of material during our searches. The only ceramic evidence found was a small fragment of undecorated heavily grit-tempered pottery.

HOWE ROBIN 5 Map reference 3625 5112 Height OD: 300 metres

Below Site 4 and almost adjacent to the Orton-Crosby Ravensworth road is a sub-circular patch of greener grasses interspersed with limestone pavement. Towards the centre of this we found twelve artefacts of flint and chert. The soil here is shallow and mole activity restricted so that much more material could be concealed. The finds include an awl and two fragments of flint with secondary retouch, together with a broken scraper made from white chert. The secondary working on all the fragments is crude.

HOWE ROBIN 6 Map reference: 3624 5113 Height OD: 305 metres

A scatter of artefacts was discovered near the north-east corner of the small fellside field (see Site 4) about two hundred metres west of the Crosby Ravensworth road. We have not identified the main area of prehistoric activity but the scatter includes a small truncated blade with fine serrations along one edge and some retouch along the other, Fig. 2, 5, and a small fragment of grey flint which appears to be polished on two convex sides bordering a slightly curved edge. The polished surfaces exhibit fine scratch marks and are the only areas of the flint which are patinated, so that it is possible that this fragment has come from the cutting edge of a polished flint axe or chisel. The finds also

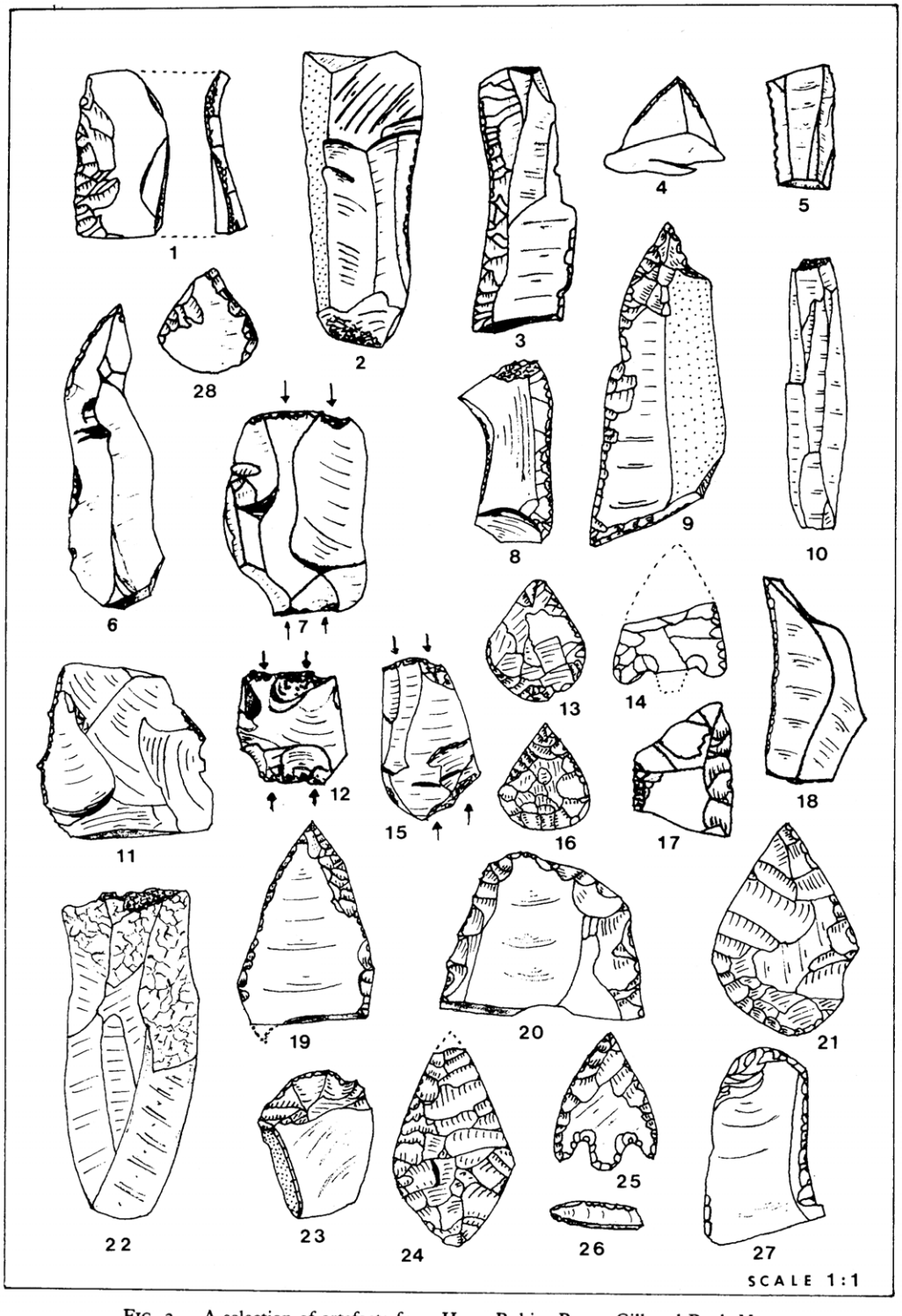

FIG. 2. – A selection of artefacts from Howe Robin, Raven Gill and Bank Moor.

include a blade of chert and two flakes of volcanic tuff, both of the latter having pronounced bulbs of percussion. One of the tuff flakes has been struck at right angles from the edge of the striking platform of a core and neither shows any signs of a polished surface. Towards the western edge of the scatter, about fifteen metres from the field wall, we found a number of sherds of heavily grit-tempered pottery, including a fragment of a beaded rim with no trace of decoration. In the same molehills we discovered several very small flakes of volcanic tuff, none of which had any polished surface. Two metres to the north of these, embedded in the turf, was a small polished stone adze or chisel, Fig. 4.

Other finds on Howe Robin include two knives worked on blades of black chert,[2] Fig. 1, B, and a blade of grey flint of similar length, Fig. 1, A.

RAVEN GILL

On the gentle slopes to the east of Raven Gill, below the Orton-Shap road to the south of Blasterfield farm, is a series of bands of limestone pavement, interspersed with areas of well cropped grasses, lying parallel to the Gill. These grassy areas contain a large number of molehills, many of which are old and weathered; it was on these that most of the evidence of prehistoric habitation was found, although a number of flints were actually seen to be lying on the grass with no evidence of soil disturbance. The western slopes of Raven Gill have yielded, so far, only a single flint artefact although there is an abundance of molehills and a small field on this bank was searched after ploughing.

RAVEN GILL 1 Map reference: 3631 5109 Height OD: 317 metres

Towards the lower end of a band of grass between the limestone clints, we picked up fifty-seven flint artefacts, the majority of which were either white or mottled grey in colour, the only exceptions being two broken pieces with secondary retouch, a utilised flake and two waste flakes, all of mottled brown flint, and two flakes of pink flint. Most of the flints exhibit signs of the onset of patination.

The lithic assemblage also includes thirty-five artefacts of grey or white chert, although six of the grey cherts might be better classified as heavily silicified limestone. We also found a large core or hammerstone of coarse green/grey volcanic tuff, a struck flake of similar material and a flake of finer grained volcanic tuff with a convex polished surface.

About forty metres to the south of the centre of the main flint scatter, just beyond the main limestone outcrop, we picked up a small fragment of heavily grit-tempered pottery, with incised linear decoration. (see Appendix 1).

Among the flints is a fragment of polished flint in the form of a chisel, Fig. 2, 22. From the flake scars running down its length, this object could have derived from the reworking of a polished flint axe. It is fire-damaged along one side and at its butt end. The flint chisel is said to be a tool type associated with the Grooved Ware culture, and Manby[3] suggests that this association extends to similar chisels of stone (see Appendix 3). A stone chisel was reported by Greenwell[4] from a tumulus at Little Kinmond, which lies less than two kilometres to the south-east of Howe Robin.

Another interesting tool is in the form of a thick flake of triangular section, finely blunted along one edge to form a cutting tool and which has been retouched at both ends to form a double-ended borer, Fig. 2, 9. Found close by was an unworked blade

with narrow blade scars along its dorsal surface, Fig. 2, 10. Both artefacts are heavily patinated.

The finds also include a blade-like flake taken from the edge of the striking platform of a core by striking the latter parallel to its surface, Fig. 2, 8. The straight edge which exhibits the remains of blade scars has been re-trimmed to form a knife or side-scraper, while the opposite side, which is thinner and slightly concave has been serrated to form a raw-like edge. This piece is only lightly patinated.

There were no tools of any significance among the chert artefacts.

RAVEN GILL 2 Map reference 3632 5109 Height OD: 318 metres

In a grassy area to the east of Site 1 and separated from it by a narrow band of limestone pavement, we found a concentration of struck cherts and flints, including a core of chert and one of flint, Fig. 2, 7, together with a small knife in white flint with very fine blunting along a slightly concave edge, Fig. 2, 18, and a small fragment of similar material with secondary retouch.

RAVEN GILL 3 Map reference: 3632 5110 Height OD: 319 metres

This site lies about eighty metres north-east of Site 1 between the limestone pavement and the road, the artefacts being confined mainly within an area of about sixty square metres. This site has so far yielded twenty-six flints including blades, fragments with secondary retouch, a utilised flake, a scalar core, Fig. 2, 12, and a thick blade of white flint, pointed at one end and worked along one curved edge bordering the point, Fig. 2, 6. The flint collection also includes a small round-based leaf arrowhead, in white or patinated flint, Fig. 2, 13, and a fragment of a knife or fabricator, in heavily patinated pink flint, triangular in section and retouched along both parallel edges, Fig. 2, 17.

In addition to the flints we found eleven artefacts of grey chert including two blades and two scrapers together with a small chip of volcanic tuff with a sharply curved polished surface.

RAVEN GILL 4 Map reference: 3631 5111 Height OD: 318 metres

On a small area of sheep cropped grass amongst the rough grasses to the north of Site 1, we found four small fragments of heavily grit-tempered pottery, one of which is decorated (see Appendix 1). Associated with these were seven flint artefacts including a worked-out core of mottled grey flint, Fig. 2, 15, and a thin white flake with fine blunting on parts of two edges, Fig. 2, 11.

RAVEN GILL 5 Map reference: 3631 5112 Height OD: 320 metres

Ninety metres north-east of Site 4 was a scatter of struck flints and chert with no defined centre of concentration. The flint artefacts consist of five flakes, a blade, a fragment from the bulbar end of a blade, a broken flake with shallow secondary working along one edge, terminating at the break and a worked-out core. The chert artefacts include a core, a blade and a scraper. A fragment of a tanged and barbed arrowhead in grey chert, Fig. 2, 14, was found close by between Sites 4 and 5.

RAVEN GILL 6 Map reference: 3630 5112 Height OD: 317 metres

About one hundred metres north-west of Site 4 is a fairly extensive area of cropped grass and on this, just below a wide band of limestone pavement, we found a number of flints including two utilised flakes, four blades and a small finely worked leaf arrowhead in lightly patinated mottled grey flint, Fig. 2, 16. The finds also include two blades of dark grey chert and a flake of volcanic tuff with traces of pebble cortex.

RAVEN GILL 7 Map reference: 3628 5113 Height OD: 292 metres

On a small level area on the east bank of Raven Gill was a comprehensive collection of artefacts concentrated mainly in an area of about twenty-five square metres. The flints included two blades; a knife in clear brown flint, Fig. 2, 27; three scrapers, one of which is worked on the end and sides of a snapped flake of mottled brown flint, Fig. 2, 20, another is an end-scraper made from coarse grey flint, Fig. 2, 23; a truncated fragment of a thick blade in grey flint, triangular in section, heavily patinated and utilised along one edge; a comparatively large, round based, finely worked leaf arrowhead in white or heavily patinated flint, Fig. 2, 21; and a *petit tranchet* derivative arrowhead in lightly patinated dark grey flint, class H in Professor J. G. D. Clark's classification,[5] Fig. 2, 19. Slight blunting along the tranchet edge is reminiscent of a more sophisticated arrowhead of similar type of Eskmeals sand-dunes.[6] The oblique lop-sided class H arrowhead is the principal type found on the Durrington Walls style, Grooved Ware sites at Rudston Wold.[7]

The finds also include several flakes of chert and a flake of volcanic tuff. A few metres south of the main lithic concentration we picked up three fragments of heavily grit-tempered pottery in a pale brick coloured fabric. On the opposite bank of Raven Gill and few metres upstream we found one flake of white flint.

BANK MOOR

The Orton-Appleby road runs downhill past Blasterfield farm before rising to above three hundred metres at the summit of Bank Moor. To the west of the road, the ground falls away steeply towards the Orton-Crosby Ravensworth road. Here we were able to search a field on a less steep slope which was ploughed during the period of the survey (Site 1). The sites on Bank Moor also include three which lie to the north of Westgill Hill and to the east of the Orton-Appleby road, (Sites 3, 4 and 5).

BANK MOOR 1 Map reference; 3635 5125 Height OD: 285 metres

We searched the whole of the ploughed land and although we found a number of artefacts these were not concentrated in any particular area. Among the flints is a fabricator fragment, a side scraper, a thumbnail scraper and a blade fragment, all of mottled grey flint. We also found chert artefacts including a core, two blades (one grey, one black) and a scraper.

Considering the extent of the area ploughed, we were disappointed in the quantity and quality of the artefacts found.

BANK MOOR 2 Map reference: 3634 5132 Height OD: 314 metres

The whole of the summit of Bank Moor was covered by a large number of mole-hills, but despite a careful search we found only one fragment of patinated flint and a bulb of

grey chert snapped from a thick blade, with some blunting along one edge. By the side of the track leading to Bank Head, on the remains of a very eroded molehill, we found a tanged and barbed arrowhead of the Sutton B type, slightly ogival in shape with the tang a little longer than the barbs, Fig. 2, 25.

BANK MOOR 3 Map reference 3639 5129 Height OD: 310 metres

To the south of the disused quarry on Raise Howe, a valley runs down towards Westgill Wood. On the upper end of this we found a small concentration of flints including a fragment of a serrated blade and a leaf arrowhead, Fig. 2, 24, both made from mottled grey flint.

BANK MOOR 4 Map reference: 3642 5129 Height OD: 288 metres

About one hundred metres below Bank Moor 3 we found a number of flints, some of which were white and others mottled grey, including three scrapers. One of these was finely blunted around its curved edge. Also in the assemblage are two unworked blades and a small battered back blade which is Mesolithic in character, Fig. 2, 26.

BANK MOOR 5 Map reference: 3638 5131 Height OD: 325 metres

On the higher ground to the north-east of the Raise Howe tumulus was a scatter of artefacts with no definite centre of concentration. These include several flakes of white flint and three fragments of chert. One of the latter is the distal end of a blade and another is a blade-like flake worked along one edge to form a knife.

Discussion

The pattern of prehistoric burials on the higher ground, in the form of cairns and stone circles with later settlements on the lower slopes, which obtains on the west side of Crosby Ravensworth Fell, is followed in the Raven Gill area. One hundred and fifty metres to the east of Howe Robin 2 is Penhurrock, where a scatter of boulders on the top of a slight prominence by the Orton-Crosby Ravensworth road is all that remains of a prehistoric burial. In 1883, Rev. Canon Simpson wrote, "At a place called Penhurrock, on the same moor as the circles at Odendale, there still exists one of these stone circles, connected with which, at no distant period, there was a large barrow. Tradition says that when the barrow or hurrock was removed burnt bones were found deposited in a small cist-shaped hole cut into the rock, and covered with a flat stone".[8]

Tumuli are marked on the O.S. Map on both sides of Raven Gill near Gilts farm, about two hundred metres downstream from Raven Gill 7. Adjacent to the Orton-Appleby road there are several small unrecorded tumuli on Gaythorn Plain, and above, at the summit of Bank Moor is the tumulus known as Raise Howe, which lies on the northern edge of an old limestone quarry. Some six hundred metres to the north-west of Howe Robin is the cairn known as Robin Hood's Grave.

Lower down the slopes below Howe Robin and Bank Moor, above the Lyvennet Beck, are the remains of the stone-built settlements of Cow Green, Burwens and Howarcles, all of which lie about the two hundred and sixty metre contour, as do the settlements of Ewe Close and Ewe Locks, which are situated below Seal Howe. All the

settlement sites near Crosby Ravensworth have been surveyed and reported in *Transactions* by R. G. Collingwood.[9]

As on Seal Howe the evidence of early prehistoric habitation occurs mainly between the two hundred and ninety and three hundred and fifty metre contours with the greatest concentration of artefacts being grouped around the three hundred metre contour.[10] The smaller occupation areas at the top of Seal Howe and the summit of Howe Robin are very exposed to wind and weather but most of the remainder enjoy more sheltered aspects; this is especially so with Raven Gill 7 which lies in a deep hollow on the banks of the Gill.

Most of the sites have a reasonable access to water at least on a seasonal basis, nevertheless water supplies would be restricted during the summer months when it would be expected that the uplands would have been more climatically attractive for habitation. However in a limestone area such as this, it is possible that there have been considerable changes in the natural drainage since prehistoric times.

In our efforts to determine the culture and origins of these people we have to rely upon typological comparisons with other known sites, and geographically the most likely place from which they could have originated is from the east, over the Pennines. The museums of Yorkshire contain a large number of Bronze Age and Neolithic artefacts from the Wolds, most of which are surface finds made as a result of the continued ploughing of the fertile land of the Wolds since the Enclosures of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The destruction of any surface evidence of prehistoric habitation by ploughing, and the subsequent random collecting of artefacts without adequate recording has meant that our knowledge of prehistoric occupation sites in Yorkshire is not as comprehensive as it might have been. However, reports by T. G. Manby of the excavation of a series of pits in the chalk and gravels of the Central Wolds, which had escaped destruction by agricultural or manufacturing processes, and the study of associated finds in the plough soil overlying the pits, has given us valuable information, particularly on the later Neolithic period, and enabled us to make useful comparison between the Cumbrian and Yorkshire sites.[11]

The flint chisel fragment from Raven Gill 1 can be compared with polished flint chisels from Grooved Ware sites on the Yorkshire Wolds, although polished flint chisels are rare and the possibility that the Raven Gill specimen is a fragment of a reworked axe cannot be discounted. Most of the chisels, so far recorded, come from the Yorkshire Wolds, although stray finds are noted from other northern counties, and more significantly perhaps, from the Pennines.

All the arrowheads found so far, closely associated with other artefacts, have been of the leaf variety, with the exception of the Class H *petit tranchet* derivative found on Raven Gill 7. The leaf arrowhead found on this site differs from the others in that it is much bigger, although of the same round based form. Leaf arrowheads were not found by Manby on the Yorkshire Grooved Ware sites, where the predominant form was the *petit tranchet* derivative, most of which belonged to Class H. Leaf, tanged and barbed, and *petit tranchet* derivative arrowheads were found on the Peterborough Ware sites of Rudston Wold and Boynton. While on the Grimston Ware sites excavated at Cottam Warren and Rudston Wold only one arrowhead was found, and that was leaf shaped.

A significant factor in the comparison of the Howe Robin-Raven Gill sites with those from the Yorkshire Wolds is the occurrence, in both areas, of flakes and fragments of

polished volcanic tuff of Lake District origin. Some of the material reported by Manby from the Grooved Ware sites of the Central Wolds exhibited polished surfaces, as did that from all but one of the Peterborough Ware sites, where it was assumed that they were the waste product of the reworking of polished tools such as axes or mace-heads. This view is substantiated by the discovery of the adze on Howe Robin 6. This tool, Fig. 4, is made from a thick flake, possibly struck from a discarded axe, and flakes have been detached from both edges of the dorsal surface, presumably to facilitate hafting. Both dorsal and ventral surfaces are polished at the cutting edge and on the high points. If the edge flaking was carried out subsequent to polishing, as appears likely, then a number of polished flakes, of the type we have found, would be produced. It is interesting to note that macroscopic examination of the polished surfaces of the tuff flakes from Howe Robin and Raven Gill has revealed signs of wear due to use. The possibility of the movement of people from east to west across the country is further supported by the finding of andesic tuff, which does not exhibit the flaking characteristics of Group VI material, on Raven Gill 1. It is thought to be similar to rock from Cross Fell in the Pennines.

As is to be expected from a surface collection from molehills, the potsherds that we have found have been small fragments and crumbs so that we consider outselves fortunate to have found three pieces with identifiable characteristics. We have also noted that the potsherds are not found together with the highest concentrations of flints but are usually found towards the edge of the scatter. The discovery of Beaker, Peterborough Ware and Grimston Ware complements the lithic finds and supports the view expressed in our earlier paper that there was prolonged use of the limestone uplands in prehistoric times.[12] The finding of so much pottery also suggests that each individual collection of habitation evidence represents rather more than fleeting occupation and supports the theory of seasonal occupation over a period of several weeks.

The use of chert, limestone and quartzite to temper the fabric suggests that the pottery was made locally, probably on the site where it was found, using the clay which underlies the peat in such places as the higher ground of Howe Robin and Crosby Ravensworth Fell. When the survey of the limestone uplands is completed it is hoped to make a more detailed study of the various grits used to temper the pottery, in order more closely to identify the source of these materials.

Our searches have included most of the area from Howe Robin to Crosby Lodge and over the whole of Bank Moor. We have also searched the only two fields that were ploughed during the period of our survey. Thousands of molehills have been examined, the vast majority of which yielded nothing and we are reasonably satisfied that we have identified most of the occupation areas on the drier ground. Following our discovery of the flint spalls in the peaty area near the top of Howe Robin we intend to renew our efforts to search erosions in the wetter peaty uplands of the fell.

Acknowledgements

We wish to thank Miss C. I. Fell, Mr T. G. Manby and Mr R. V. Davis for their contributions to this report, and Mr D. Pattinson of the Lowther Estates for permitting us to walk over Crosby Ravensworth Fell. The manuscript was typed by Mrs J. Cherry who, together with Mr J. D. Ellwood, completed the survey team.

TABLE 1. – Analysis of Artefacts

SITE	HOWE ROBIN						RAVEN GILL							BANK MOOR				
SITE NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5
TYPE OF ARTEFACT																		
(i) Flint																		
Waste flakes etc.	6	16	120	2	4	7	37	7	15	5	5	3	15[e]	4	1	9	15	5
Fire damaged	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cores	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Core trimmings	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Blades	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	—	2	4	2	1	—	—	2	—
Retouched blades/knives[c]	1[a]	1	—	1	—	1	4	1	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	1[b]	—
Utilised flakes	—	3	—	1	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous retouched pieces	—	2	—	—	2	—	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scrapers	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	3	—
Awls	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrowheads	—	1[l]	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[l]	—	—	1[l]	1[l] 1[pt]	—	1[t & b]	1[l]	—	—
Polished flint	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	9	23	120	6	7	11	57	11	26	7	9	10	24	8	2	12	22	5
(ii) Chert[d]																		
Waste flakes etc	2	5	—	1	4	7	26	12	7	1	2	3	6	14	—	—	—	1
Cores & trimmings	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Blades	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	1	2	—	2	1	—	—	2
Utilised flakes	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scrapers	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Awls	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrowheads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[t & b]	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	7	NIL	1	5	10	35	13	11	1	6	5	6	18	1	NIL	NIL	3
(iii) Volcanic tuff																		
Waste flakes etc.	—	3[b]	—	—	—	7[b]	2[b]	—	1[b]	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cores & trimmings	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Adze/chisel	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	NIL	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	9	3	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	1	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(iv) Potsherds																		
Decorated	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Undecorated	—	—	—	1	—	23	—	—	—	4	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	NIL	24	1	NIL	NIL	5	NIL	NIL	12	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

a – worked on core trimming flake.
b – includes tuff with polished surface.
c – includes serrated edge tools.
d – includes silicified limestone.
e – includes one flake from across the Gill.
f – battered back bladelet.
l – leaf.
t & b – tanged and barbed.
pt – *petit tranchet* derivative.

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[7] T. G. Manby, *op. cit.*

[8] Rev. Canon Simpson, 'Stone Circles near Shap, Westmorland', CW1, vi, 176.

[9] R. G. Collingwood, 'Prehistoric settlements near Crosby Ravensworth', CW2, xxxiii, 201.

[10] Cherry and Ellwood, *op. cit.*, 21.

[11] T. G. Manby, 'Neolithic Occupation sites on the Yorkshire Wolds', *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*, Vol. 47, (1975), 23 and 'Grooved Ware sites in the north of England', *B.A.R.*, 9, *1974*.

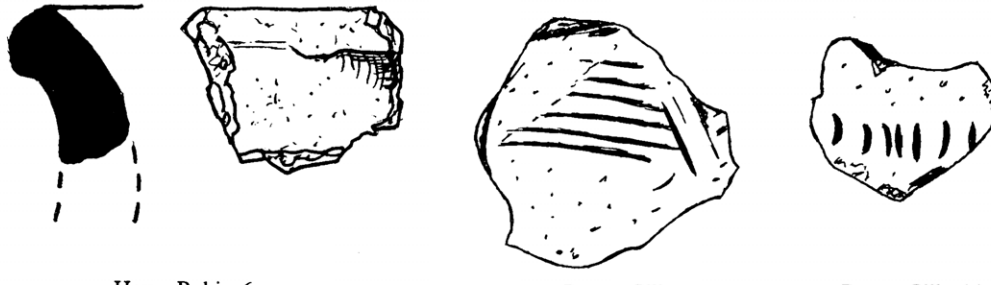
[12] Cherry and Ellwood, *op. cit.*, 25-27.

Appendix I

Pottery

BY T. G. MANBY

A group of small sherds and crumbs are difficult to classify as regional comparative material is scarce.



Howe Robin 6
Scale 1:1

Raven Gill 1

Raven Gill 4(a)
Scale 1.2:1

FIG. 3.

Howe Robin 4. A small crumb of soft porous pottery, orange fabric – Prehistoric.

Raven Gill 1. Decorated sherd; orange exterior, brown interior, angular stone grit. Wall thickness 8 mm. On the exterior a boldly hatched triangle executed with a sharp point – Beaker.

Raven Gill 4.

a. Decorated with a whipped cord maggot impression, small sherd with brown exterior, grey core and interior scaled off. Dark grey chert grit and stone tempering.

b. Small sherd, laminated dark grey fabric, dark brown exterior, much angular grit. Also a small crumb in this fabric.

c. Small weathered sherd, brown fabric with angular grit.
d. Weathered sherd, brown with angular grit.
Available characteristics indicate Peterborough Ware.

Raven Gill 7. One small sherd and eleven crumbs. Orange fabric, stone grits up to 10 mm long.

Howe Robin 6. The largest group of sherds and crumbs.

a. Rim, angle and diameter uncertain but likely to be an outcurving rim with externally beaded lip. Compact brown fabric with buff tones, evidence of laminated structure, much angular grit including opaque quartzite.
b. Six small sherds and 13 crumbs. Compact buff fabric with orange surface. Opaque quartzite and stone grits up to 4 mm. long. Wall thickness 8 mm.
c. Small sherd, buff fabric exterior with brown interior, hard angular grits, wall thickness 9 mm.
d. Weathered sherd, orange brown, stone grit.
e. Small sherd, orange exterior, brown interior, concave external face. Stone grit temper, wall thickness 8 mm ?
f. A base angle ? flat surface with interior scaled off. Friable, orange, with much angular grit – decayed granite. A second small sherd with two crumbs.

The rim (a) is comparable with Grimston style rims and the majority of other sherds would not be against such an attribution except (f).

Discussion

The small size of the sherd material makes attribution difficult and fabric is the principal criterion, but the scarcity of comparative Neolithic pottery in the region is a handicap. Raven Gill Site 4 sherds have characteristics of Peterborough Ware, especially the used of crushed chert as a tempering agent. This material is a feature of Peterborough Ware from the Craven sites in the Yorkshire Pennines and the Peak District of Derbyshire. The nearest Peterborough Ware to Crosby Ravensworth comes from Brougham, some 12 miles to the north-west, published by Clare Fell, who considered all known Neolithic pottery from the Lake District.[1] Amongst these finds is the chert gritted shoulder from Dog Hole Cave, Warton, and sherds from Walney Island and Ehenside Tarn on the coast, also the bowl from Lancaster.[2]

The attribution of the Howe Robin Site 6 finds to the Grimston style of the Earlier Neolithic fills the distributional gap of this style between the concentration in Eastern Yorkshire[3], Northern Northumberland[4] and finds on the western coast of the Lake District from Ehenside Tarn,[5] and Trough Head (Barrow-in-Furness Museum). To the south, only Portfield, overlooking central Ribblesdale, has produced Grimston style pottery in the central Pennines.[6]

References

[1] C. Fell, 'Neolithic Finds from Brougham', CW2, lxxii, 36-43.
[2] S. H. Penny, 'A Mortlake Bowl from Lancaster', *Lancashire Archaeological Journal*, i (1978), 5-8.

[3] N. Newbigin, 'The Neolithic Pottery of Yorkshire', *Proc. Prehistoric Society*, 3 (1937), 186-216.
[4] R. Miket, 'The Evidence for Neolithic Activity in the Milfield Basin, Northumberland', *Settlement and Economy in the Third and Second Millenium B.C.* (Brit. Archaeol. Rep., 33, 1976, 113-42).
[5] C. Fell, *op. cit.*
[6] Personal communication from P. Beswick.

Appendix II

Macroscopic Examination of Lithic Material from Howe Robin and Raven Gill
By R. V. Davis, B.Ed., F.G.S.

Howe Robin 2

Fragment 1:– A piece of cream-coloured very fine-grained tuff weathering slightly to a darker grey colour, with no trace of green, but with superficial iron oxide staining. One surface is polished and shows distinct signs of wear suggesting that the flake has been struck from a previously used tool. It compares generally with ignimbrites from the Great Langdale area.

Fragment 2:– More porous than Fragment 1; there is greater penetration of secondary staining and a noticeably coarser texture at the bulb of percussion. It exhibits a work worn polished surface and appears to have been struck from a previously used tool. It compares well with the pale-coloured, medium-grained tuff of traditional Group VI from Great Langdale.

Howe Robin 6

Fragment 1:– This is a fine-grained rhyolitic tuff with numerous small patches of iron bearing mineral giving a typical brown speckled appearance. Its surface suggests that this rock would splinter rather than produce the well defined characteristic fracture patterns usually associated with Group VI material.

Fragment 2:– Probably struck from the same piece of rock as Fragment 1. Neither flake shows any sign of wear.

Raven Gill 1

Fragment 1:– Unusual speckled grey andesic tuff which does not display the characteristic fracture patterns of Group VI material. It is doubtful whether this rock would have flaked adequately to make an axe and therefore would be more likely to be a discarded hammerstone. It could have originated from Great Langdale although rock of similar appearance outcrops in the Cross Fell Inlier, about twelve miles north of Orton.

Fragments 2 and 3:– These are of the same rock type, similar in colour to Fragment 1 but with more pronounced conchoidal fractures and lacking any lighter coloured speckles. These could be of Great Langdale origin. Fragment 3 has a polished surface with signs of wear.

Raven Gill 3

One fragment with a work-worn polished surface. Within this small flake is an interesting lithological change from coarse grain to fine grain. Probably Great Langdale in origin.

Raven Gill 6

One fragment of extremely fine grained rhyolite-ignimbrite rock, weathered to a pale grey colour with superficial iron staining and with numerous particles of iron oxide clearly visible. A distinctive rock which resembles Group VIII or XI.

Raven Gill 7

A fragment of rock similar to that from Raven Gill 6, but darker in colour and with less regular conchoidal fracturing. It is less ferruginous but shows patches of similar patination. It is probable that the specimens from Raven Gill 6 and 7 are pieces from the same rock. Both specimens should be subjected to thin-section examination.

Appendix III

A small adze or chisel blade from Howe Robin 6, Crosby Ravensworth parish

By Clare I. Fell

This partly polished small adze, or chisel blade (Fig. 4) has been made from a plano-convex flake of fine-grained grey/green tuff, similar to Group VI (Great Langdale). Length 64 mm, width

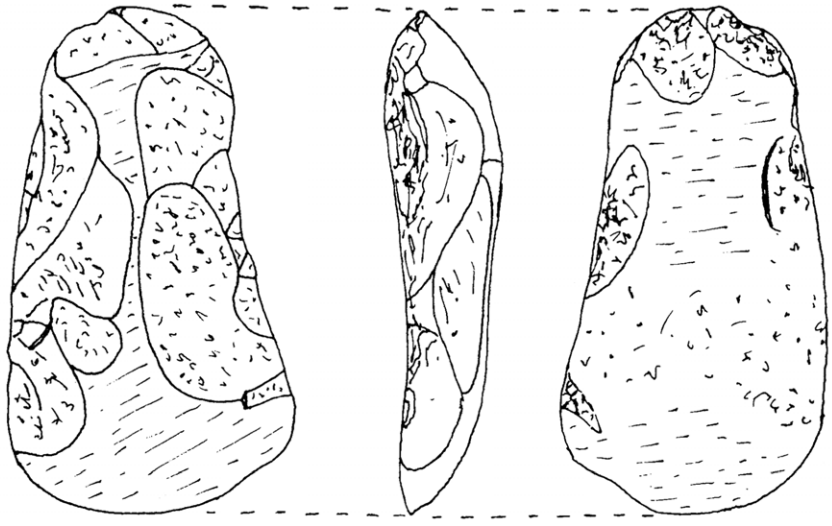


Fig. 4. – Polished adze or chisel from Howe Robin 6. Scale 1:1

of cutting edge 34 mm, thickness near the butt end 11 mm, weight 38 grammes. The under side has been ground and polished near the butt, at the cutting edge, and the convex side has areas of polish along its ridge and at the cutting edge.

This is a wood-working tool, similar to the chisels which T. G. Manby associates with Neolithic Grooved Ware sites, though this type commonly have more parallel sides. He illustrates an example comparable with this implement from Aldro, East Yorkshire[1] and lists a stone chisel from Greenwell's Barrow 179 at Little Kinman, Orton.[2] A small polished flint axe was found

with Beaker burials by J. R. Mortimer at Barrow C63 in the Garton Slack group[3] and in our own area a diminutive Group VI axe, or chisel, was found at North End, Walney Island.[4]

A possible date late in the third, or early in the second millenium b.c. is suggested.

References

[1] T. G. Manby, *Grooved Ware sites in the North of England. B.A.R. No. 9, 1974, 90 and Fig. 34, 7, Fig. 38.*

[2] W. Greenwell, *British Barrows* (1877), 395-6.

[3] J. R. Mortimer, *Forty Years Researches in British and Saxon Burial Mounds of East Yorkshire* (1905), 215, Fig. 541. T. G. Manby, in *Stone Axe Studies* (1979), C.B.A. Research Report No. 23. Ed. T. H. McK. Clough and W. A. Cummins, 69.

[4] CW2, xlvii, 68-71, Fig. 1, S26.