

NOTES

1. *The Late Devensian Climate around Morecambe Bay*
By IAIN A. WILLIAMSON, M.SC., B.SC., C.ENG., F.G.S.

Although the Devensian Stage of the Quaternary is indeed characterised by the most recent glaciations of northern Britain and the consequent development of “huge tracts of polar desert” (Salisbury, 1992, p. 4), the inference that such conditions, which would have been totally inimical to any form of human activity, extended throughout late Devensian time, would, I suggest, be disputed by modern “geologists, glaciologists and geomorphologists” (Salisbury, 1992) rather than being accepted by them.

Whilst several phases of glaciation occurred during the Quaternary “Pleistocene” Period, and the most recent episodes were during the Devensian Stage, the climate of the latter was certainly not restricted to one of cold glacial conditions. For although the maximum development of the Devensian glaciation can be dated from *c.* 25000–15000 BP (Pennington, 1978, p. 207), when at its acme the ice sheet reached as far south as the Wash, much of the later part of the stage was characterised by a phase of climatic amelioration which resulted in the melting of the ice. Thus examination and the radiometric dating of sediments at Low Wray Bay, Windermere, indicates that Cumbria was ice-free by 14623±360 BP (Pennington, 1978, p. 209). Furthermore it is noted (Pennington, 1978, p. 219) that, from “pollen and geochemical evidence”, the whole of Cumbria was covered by vegetation up to at least 476 m (1570 ft) during the period 14000–11000 BP. At that time the mean July temperature at Windermere “appreciably exceeded 50°F.” (10°C.) (Manley, 1959, p. 191) and the sea level would initially be at least 33 m (108 ft) below that at present (Rose and Dunham, 1977, p. 119).

A slight climatic recession, the Loch Lomond Readvance or Stadial, took place in Younger Dryas time at *c.* 11000–10000 BP (Pennington, 1978, p. 208) and resulted in a recrudescence of glaciation. This, in Cumbria, was confined to the high level combs and valley heads and is represented by the “hummocky” ground as at the head of Mickleden, Great Langdale (SD 260072) and at Dunmail Raise (SD 329112). The duration of such small ice accumulations, from the evidence of varved sediments within Windermere and most other of the larger Cumbrian lakes, was only some 500 years. Even then, however, the mean July temperature at Windermere may be estimated as “approximately 45.5° F. (7.5°C.)” (Manley, 1959, p. 206) so that arctic/alpine vegetation would certainly exist over most of the area.

In view of the above it may be accepted that most of Cumbria, the Morecambe Bay lowlands, and for at least some of the time, the Bay itself, would have been vegetated during the late Devensian. Accordingly it would be surprising if the area had not been visited by grazing animals, including the Poulton-le-Fylde elk (Salisbury, 1992, p. 4), together with their associated predators including Late Upper Palaeolithic man himself. Indeed it is remarkable that only now is the evidence of such occupation being discovered. It is most probable that other habitation sites will occur, although they are most likely to be concealed beneath the extensive scree which particularly mantle the lower slopes of the limestone escarpments surrounding Morecambe Bay. As geophysical methods improve and their costs inevitably diminish it might be viable, particularly by the application of ground probing radar, to ultimately survey such scree covered areas with this in mind.

Finally, and in fairness to Salisbury’s suggestion of the possible relevance of the “Refugium

Hypothesis" (1992, p. 5), a suggestion was made that the loessic deposits which patchily occur over the limestone upland around Morecambe Bay were of early Devensian age (Vincent and Lee, 1981, p. 292). If so, then the bay and surrounding areas would have been ice-free throughout most of the Devensian. However in a subsequent paper Lee (1985, p. 67) restricted the deposits to Late Devensian.

The weight of evidence suggests that from at least 14500 BP the Morecambe Bay lowlands and southern Cumbria was ice-free, vegetated, and capable of supporting grazing animals. If that was the case, the presence of Man the Predator can always be anticipated.

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2. *Two neolithic stone axes from the Solway Plain*
By IAN CARUANA

Description

1. Axe with pale grey chalky surface with several chips and striations. There is one large weathered chip from the butt end and a discontinuity in the shaping of the left side. The cutting edge is smooth and even. The top is well-polished and the sides have slight traces of facets. The material is probably weathered Group 6 (Langdale) tuff (autopsy by C. Richardson). Length 104 mm; width 64 mm; thickness 30 mm. (Fig. 1).

The axe was found by George Osborne of Sandwath while ploughing at NY 30704776 in early April 1990.

2. Highly polished axe of Langdale tuff (Group 6) without patination. There are several fresh chips together with some weathered ones at the butt end. The cutting edge is very much damaged by weathered chipping, reminiscent of retouch. Length 167 mm; width 75 mm; thickness 40 mm. (Fig. 2).

The axe was found at Lawrence Holme (NY 2352), south of Kirkbride, by William McKie but there is a possibility that it was imported with soil from Oulton (NY 2450).

Comment

Both stones can be classed as true axes (Darvill, 1989). No. 1, despite its small size, lacks the plano-convex longitudinal profile of an adze (*ibid.*, 30–1).

Stone No. 1 is the second axe found in the vicinity of Sandwath (Bewley, 1985). The new find is from high ground above the field of the first find, but like it, remains in isolation. Fieldwalking in the field subsequent to the discovery of the axe produced no further ancient material of any date.

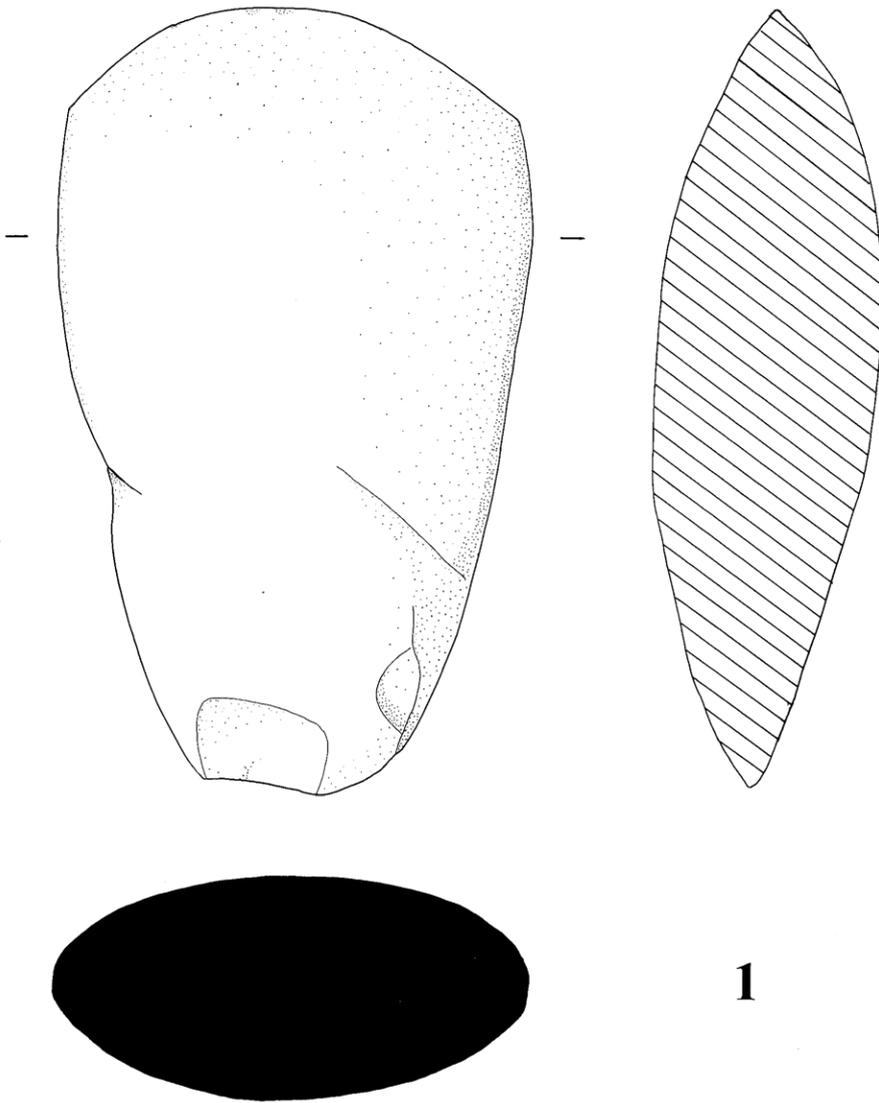


FIG. 1. Axe from Sandwath. Scale 1:1.

Acknowledgements

Both axes remain in the possession of the finders to whom I am grateful for the loan for recording. I would also like to thank David Britton for informing me about the finding of the Sandwath axe and Colin Richardson for identification of the rock type of No. 1.

References

- Bewley, R.H., "Note on the Discovery of Two Stone Axes in the Solway Plain, Cumbria", *CWZ*, lxxxv, 245-8.
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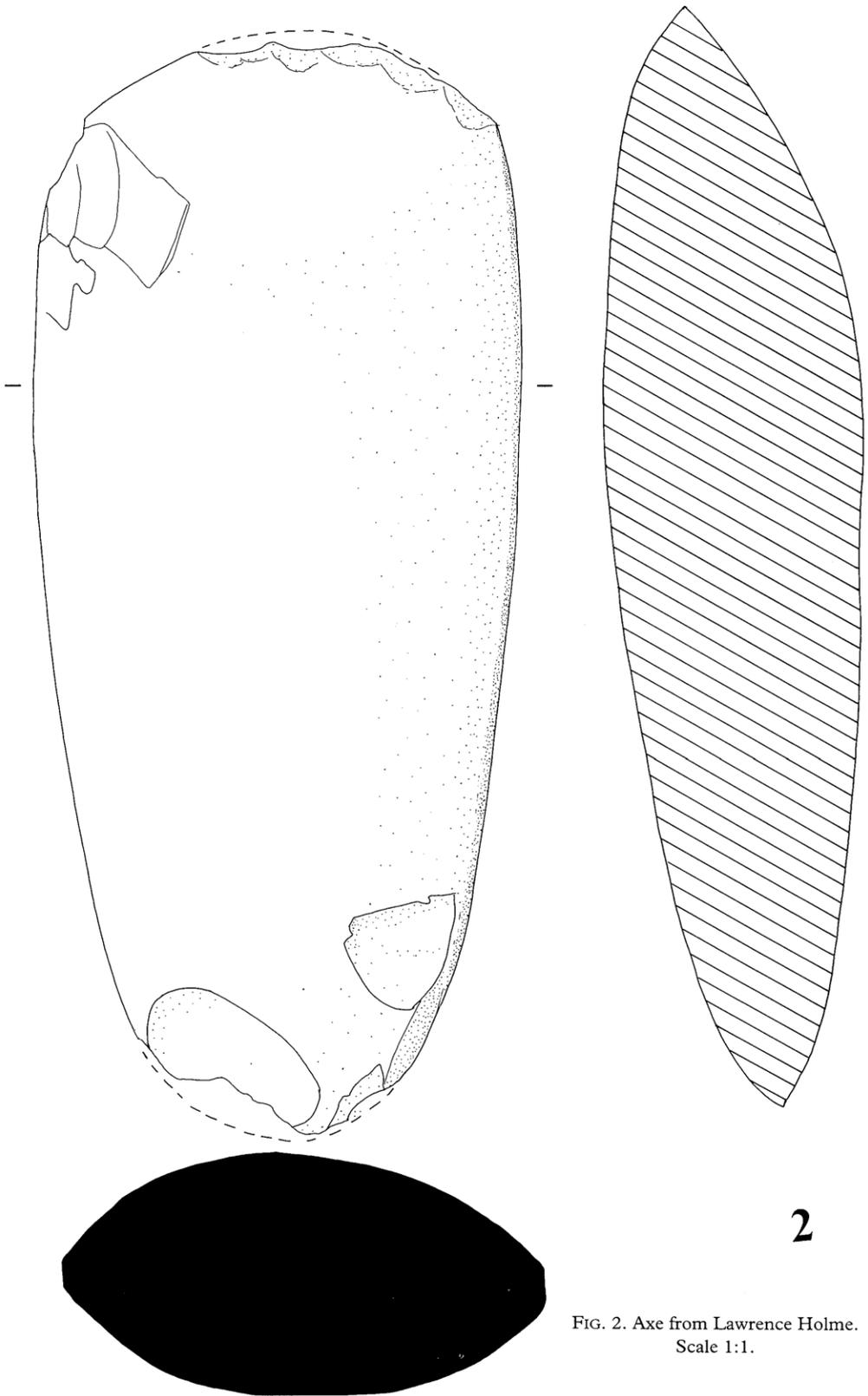


FIG. 2. Axe from Lawrence Holme.
Scale 1:1.

3. *A microlith from Carlisle*
By I. CARUANA AND J. CHERRY

The flint described here is the first mesolithic object recorded from Carlisle. It was recovered during excavations, undertaken in 1989 in preparation for the extension to Tullie House Museum, in a layer dating to the second half of the second century just to the south of the Roman fort defences.¹ The site is described as being on Annetwell Street though the actual findspot is close to the junction of the old and new buildings at NY 3977 5605.

Description (Fig. 1)

The microlith is made from translucent, pale honey-coloured flint, with little evidence of the onset of patination. It is blunted around its three sides. The bulb of percussion has not been removed, making one end seem somewhat rounded. The blunting along each of the longer edges has been taken right up to the bulb, giving the superficial appearance of a hinge fracture. At the opposite end the flint is worked across almost at right-angles to the edges. Length 16.5 mm. Width 5 mm.

Comment

The findspot unfortunately adds very little to the interpretation of this flint. The area below the earliest Roman fort had been extensively cultivated in the pre-Roman period but this had probably taken place some considerable time before the Roman conquest.² No artefacts have yet been recovered from this cultivated horizon on any of the Annetwell Street sites though some neolithic flints came from undisturbed pre-Roman soil at Blackfriars Street, 500 metres to the south.³

The Roman army encountered a clear landscape when it arrived at the River Eden but not one then under cultivation. The first fort was planted in AD 72/3 on land which was not stripped of its vegetation cover. The turf for the first rampart was brought to the site from somewhere in the vicinity. Many of the neolithic flints already recorded from the earlier excavations at Annetwell Street⁴ are directly or indirectly associated with this turf and it is highly probable that they were also imported to the site from elsewhere.

No firm association can be made between the microlith and the earlier lithic finds. On the whole the earlier finds were from the earliest Roman levels i.e. mainly first century contexts. However, the layer which produced the microlith and many of the surrounding layers contained an abundance of residual first century pottery and the microlith could also have been redeposited from an earlier Roman level. On the other hand, the microlith was found very close to a late second-century rampart which was also composed, in part, of turf. Like the earlier rampart turf, it must have been brought on to the site and the microlith may have come with the turf.

One other prehistoric discovery from the immediate vicinity should also be mentioned though it probably has no bearing on the present find. In 1893 during the building of the first extension to Tullie House a bone dart-head of Iron Age date was found.⁵ The dart-head was apparently recovered from the

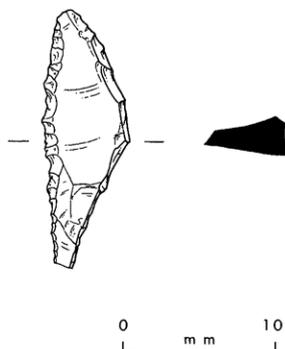


FIG. 1. Microlith from below Tullie House extension. Scale 2:1. (Drawn by S. Winterbottom)

pre-Roman ground surface at a depth of 18 feet. Although the precise find-spot is not recorded it ought to be within about 50 metres of the current find.

The microlith is typical of the geometric Late Mesolithic triangular forms which, together with microlithic rods are among the commonest types found in the Cumbrian coastal and upland assemblages. The flint itself is of the colour often found in prehistoric poverty industries of all periods which depend on the pebbles of the Cumbrian and Dumfriesshire beaches for their raw material.

Late Mesolithic flints, including microliths, have been found in recent years on the limestone uplands of eastern Cumbria, above the Eden valley.⁶ The predominant colours of the uplands flints are grey and white, although pale yellow artefacts have been found; the flint is more opaque than that of the Carlisle microlith and would appear to be grey flint with yellow staining. The recently described collections of Bronze Age and neolithic flints from Skirwith⁷ and Murton⁸ in the Eden valley are also predominantly of grey and grey/brown flint.

The absence of any associated mesolithic tools or waste would indicate that the microlith was "lost" in use. If the microlith is from beach flint, it probably originated from one of the Dumfriesshire sites which lie across the Solway near the mouth of the River Nith. Carlisle would be on the obvious route for people moving from there to the Eden valley. It must also be remembered that the sea level would have been much higher at that period in prehistory and the possibility of a so far undiscovered mesolithic site closer to Carlisle cannot be ruled out.

Notes

- ¹ I. Caruana, *The Southern Defences and Third Century Barracks of the Roman Forts at Carlisle: Excavations on the Tullie House Extension Site 1989* (forthcoming).
- ² D. Charlesworth, "Plough-marks beneath 21, Annetwell St. Carlisle", *CW2*, lxxix, 146-7; I.D. Caruana, *The Roman Forts at Carlisle: Excavations at Annetwell Street 1973-84* (forthcoming).
- ³ C.I. Fell in M. McCarthy, *A Roman, Anglian and Medieval Site at Blackfriars Street, Carlisle: Excavations 1977-9* (1990), 96. (C.W.A.A.S. Research Series No. 4).
- ⁴ C.I. Fell in Caruana, *op.cit.* (note 2).
- ⁵ V.G. Childe, 158-9 in R. Hogg, "The Historic Crossings of the River Eden at Stanwix, and their Associated Road-systems", *CW2*, lii, 131-59.
- ⁶ J. Cherry and P.J. Cherry, *Prehistoric Habitation Sites on the Limestone Uplands of Eastern Cumbria* (C.W.A.A.S. Research Series No. 2).
- ⁷ J. Cherry and P.J. Cherry, "Flints from Skirwith in Carlisle Museum", *CW2*, xciii, 19-24.
- ⁸ C.I. Fell, "Flints from Murton, Asby and Orton Scar", *CW2*, xci, 263-4.

4. *A stone axe from Bigland Hall*

By ANDREW WHITE M.A., PhD., F.M.A., F.S.A.

In July or August 1992 this small stone axe was found by Mr Jim Rogers of Golbourn, near Warrington, while fishing in a tarn at Bigland Hall near Newby Bridge (SD 355828).

The axe, at 95 mm x 41 mm, is of the smallest type of Group VI axes from the central Lake District and has been extensively battered and abraded. On one side a large flake has been knocked off, but since the surface grinding runs across this it may represent ancient damage and repair. Such re-use is not uncommon and there may have been a movement down the scale of size with successive reshaping and sharpenings.

One puzzle about the axe is that it has the number "21" in ink, faintly marked on the butt. This would suggest that it has at one time been in a collection of some sort. It does not look like a standard museum accession number and so is more likely to indicate a private collection.

The axe has been transferred to Kendal Museum.

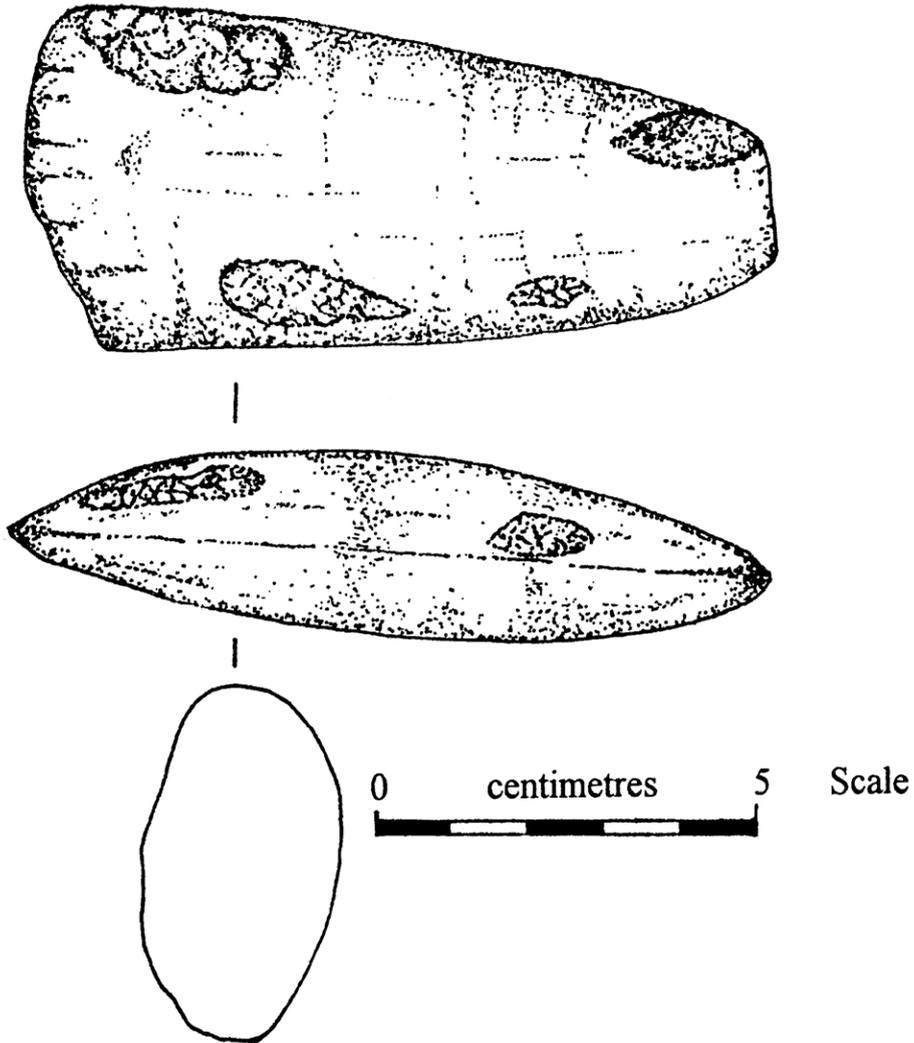


FIG. 1. Stone axe from Bigland Hall (SD 355828) Scale 1:1.

5. *An Early Bronze Age axe from Sandscale, Cumbria*

By ANDREW WHITE, M.A., Ph.D, F.M.A., F.S.A

The axe (Fig. 1) was found by Mr J. Bartlett of Barrow-in-Furness near his fishing hut at Sandscale, Cumbria, a low sandy point which projects into the Walney Channel to the north west of Barrow-in-Furness. The findspot was approx. SD 180740, though no exact location was forthcoming.

I am grateful to David Hughes of the Cumbria Record Office at Barrow for bringing this axe to my attention. Since the sad (and one hopes, reversible) closure of the Furness Museum a number of finds have been referred across the Bay to Lancaster City Museums, as in the present case.

The axe is quite small, 111 mm long and 67 mm across the cutting edge. The two curved sides and blade are quite neatly finished but both main surfaces are convex and rough, with no evidence of hammering. One side is covered in an irregular mottling, perhaps from the

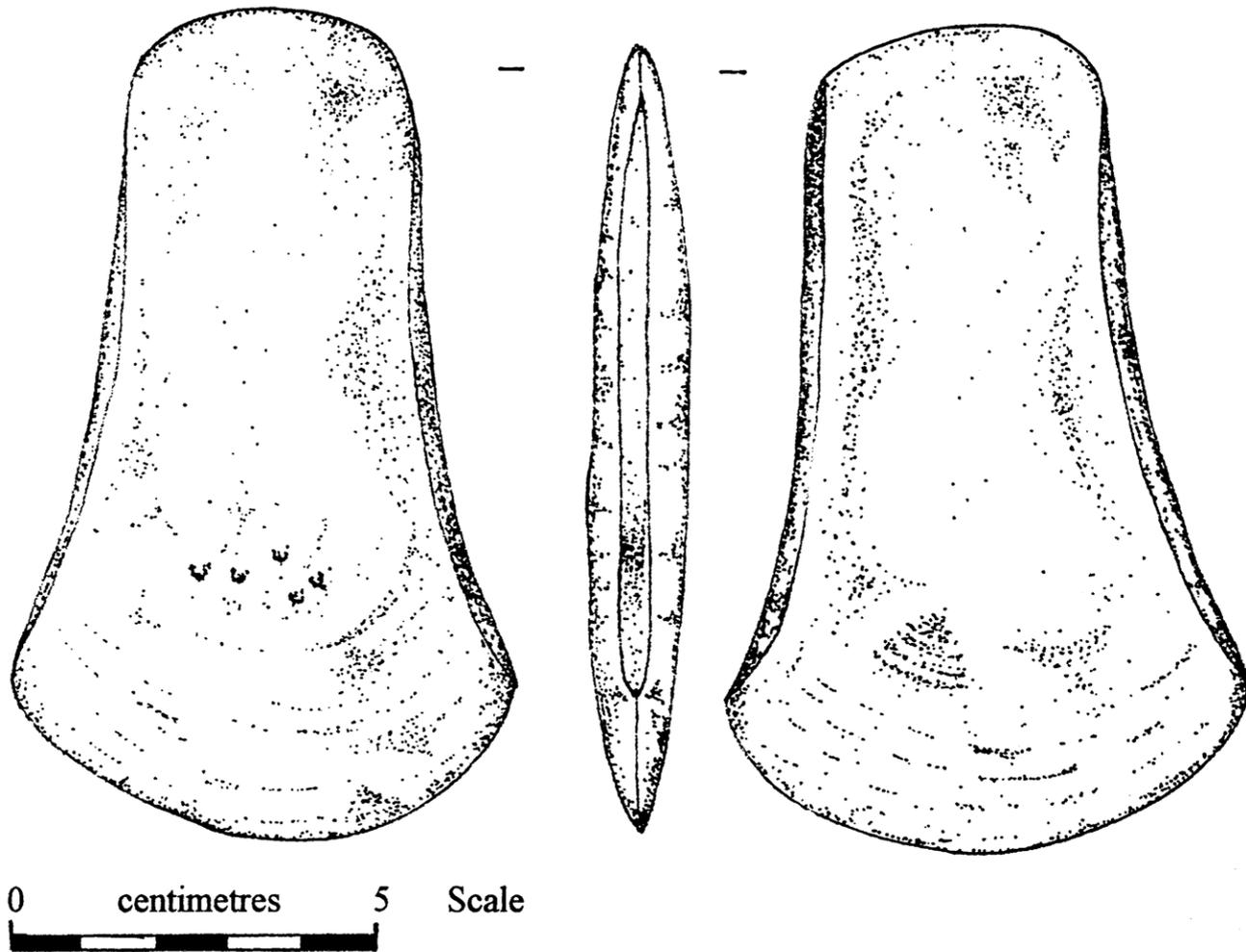


FIG. 1. Bronze axe from Sandscale, Cumbria (SD 180740) Scale 1:1.

“grain” of the stone mould in which it was cast; the other has been more smoothly patinated, but there has been a loss of much of this patina, perhaps due to weathering of this surface. Both surfaces bear a number of irregular indentations, as though struck by a small hard pointed object. That this is not recent is shown by the even patination across several of the marks.

Early Bronze Age flat axes of any of the various types are fairly uncommon in the North West; there are a dozen or so from Cumbria and about the same number from Lancashire and Cheshire. The former include Brough-under-Stainmore, Castle Sowerby, Gleaston Castle, Greystoke, Holme, Roose, Skelton, “Temple Sowerby” (2), Vale of St. John and “Westmorland” (2), (Clough, 1969), while the latter include Aldingham, Grimsargh, Read, Pilling, Blacko, Barrow-in-Furness (2), Rixton-with-Glazebrook, Grappenhall, Croft, Great Harwood, Cowling, Radcliffe and Tattenhall, (Davey & Forster, 1975) and more recently Capernwray (Wegber), Borwick and Thurnham, (Penney, 1975; Olivier, 1987; White, 1986–7).

However, of all these axes there is one which forms a very close comparison. This is the axe from Skelton, near Penrith (Clough, 1972). Because of the rough, apparently unfinished, shape and the lack of any obvious hammering, together with their small size, Harbison has described objects of this type in Ireland as “ingots”, suggesting that though axe-shaped, they are not in fact axes. Clough rightly argues that finished axes of a similar size are well-known and that they would require a blank like this. The greater number of these axes in Ireland, together with the coastal location of the find, suggests that Ireland may be the source of the Sandscale axe.

In this case it may be viewed as a rough blank for export, to be finished by other hands, paralleling in a way the manner in which Neolithic stone axes were roughed-out close to the rock-source but taken away to be finished elsewhere. The findspot of the Sandscale axe reinforces Clough’s argument that the Skelton axe is a trade item from Ireland.

References

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- White, 1986–7, A. White, “A Bronze Age Flat Axe from Crook, Thurnham”, *Contrebis*, XIII, 29–30.

6. *Cause of death of the Humans recovered from the Dog Hole, Haverbrack* By K.P. BLAND

In a previous volume of these *Transactions* (Benson & Bland, 1963, *CW2*, lxiii, 61–76), an account was given of excavations at a cave known as “The Dog Hole” on Haverbrack Bank (OS Grid ref. SD(34) 484803). Amongst the material recovered were the remains of at least 23 humans. Although mostly young adults, their ages ranged from 6 years to more than 50 years of age. The remains were scattered in a very wet marly limestone block mixture with no apparent habitation layers. Associated artefacts dated the human assemblage to between 2nd and 9th centuries AD. Most of the artefacts suggested 2nd to 3rd century AD rather than



PLATE 1. Enlargement of part of the proximal head region of a human rib from the Dog Hole, Haverbrack, showing cut-marks. The grid superimposed on the ribshaft is in mm.

later. An entirely satisfactory explanation for how the remains came to be in the cave could not be devised at the time of writing the original report as the causes of death of the individuals was unknown.

A recent reappraisal of the human bone material has now shed some light on the mode of death of at least two of the individuals. Two fragments of human rib probably belonging to two different individuals both bear cut marks near the end that articulates with the vertebral column. The marks on one of the bones are difficult to interpret due to the small size of the fragment. However, on the other rib fragment (Plate 1) the marks are clear and deep. This rib is from around the thoracic 7 position (i.e. upper middle of the back) and has been damaged by a sharp, strong blade approaching from the sternal side. The damage is in keeping with a long blade thrust into the chest just below the lower end of the sternum – such a stab wound would have passed through the atrial part of the heart and caused rapid death. A second smaller cut-mark nearby suggests that two thrusts were applied with the blade. The implement causing the damage must have been about 1–1.5 cm broad at the tip and have been at least 20 cm long – a sword or hand-held shafted spear are possible candidates. The location of the wounds would suggest this was a carefully calculated assault rather than a battlefield injury. The above findings illustrate how important even fragments of ribs can be in disentangling aspects of archaeological interpretation.

I am grateful to Dr G. Findlater, Department of Anatomy, University of Edinburgh Medical School for useful discussions.

7. *Two Roman brooches from Cumbria*

By PHILIP CRACKNELL, CARLISLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

The two brooches described below belong to a distinctive group of the Trumpet type, termed "Backworth" after the chained pair of elaborate silver-gilt brooches¹ that made up part of the hoard discovered about 1811 near Backworth, Northumbria, and now displayed in the British Museum. Although the type has a relatively limited distribution confined to the north of England and to southern Scotland, these are the first examples from Cumbria known to the author.

1. Backworth-type Trumpet brooch (Fig. 1.1)

Found by a metal detector² near to the Roman fort at Watercrock, Kendal (SD 5180 8940). The find spot is one mile (1.6 Kilometres) to the south of the fort, an area which is well beyond the known extent of the associated *vicus*.

Only the head and part of the upper bow survive from a large brooch that was originally about four inches (100 mm) in length (see Fig. 1.1a). It is broken at the point where the central "acanthus"-style ornament, that is typical of the Trumpet, begins. The remains of three leaves of the upper part of the ornament can be seen just above the break. The head of the brooch is plain except for an incised line and slight step running around the edge, and four horizontal mouldings that run across the rectangular panel below the chain-loop. This decorated panel is a representation of the separate collar often found on Trumpet brooches of the type where the chain-loop is formed from a piece of copper alloy wire that swivels and is held in place by having the ends secured in each end of a hollow tube passing through the coils of the spring. The large head-loop is decorated with four deeply incised curvilinear grooves, a feature paralleled on the Backworth pair of brooches. The rear of the head is hollow and there is no trace of either the pierced lug or vertical bar³ that would have anchored the separate coiled spring.

Length – 36 mm

Width – 39 mm

The brooch has been purchased by Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery (Accession number 1992–119).

2. Backworth-type Trumpet brooch (Fig. 1.2)

Found during the excavation that preceded the building of Carlisle Cathedral Treasury.⁴

Only the upper part of the leg survives from a large brooch that was similar in size to brooch 1 (see Fig. 1.2a). This small fragment comes from just below the "acanthus"-style decoration. There is a slight central arris. The decoration consists of two horizontal mouldings marked with diagonal milling above a deep horizontal groove and an incised vertical groove along each side that originally ran the length of the leg. On the rear face there is the start of a catchplate.

Length – 31 mm

Width – 15 mm (max)

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Ae 289

Both brooches were submitted for non-destructive analysis, using an energy-dispersive X-ray fluorescence (XRF) system,⁵ to ascertain the composition of the copper-alloy. The analyses were performed on the prepared bare metal surface of each brooch, rather than on any corroded surface, and it is therefore likely that the recorded percentages of the different metals are a true reflection of the alloy used to cast each brooch. The main elements alloyed with copper are zinc, tin and lead, and most objects of copper-alloy contain all three in varying proportions. The resultant alloys have different properties which make them especially

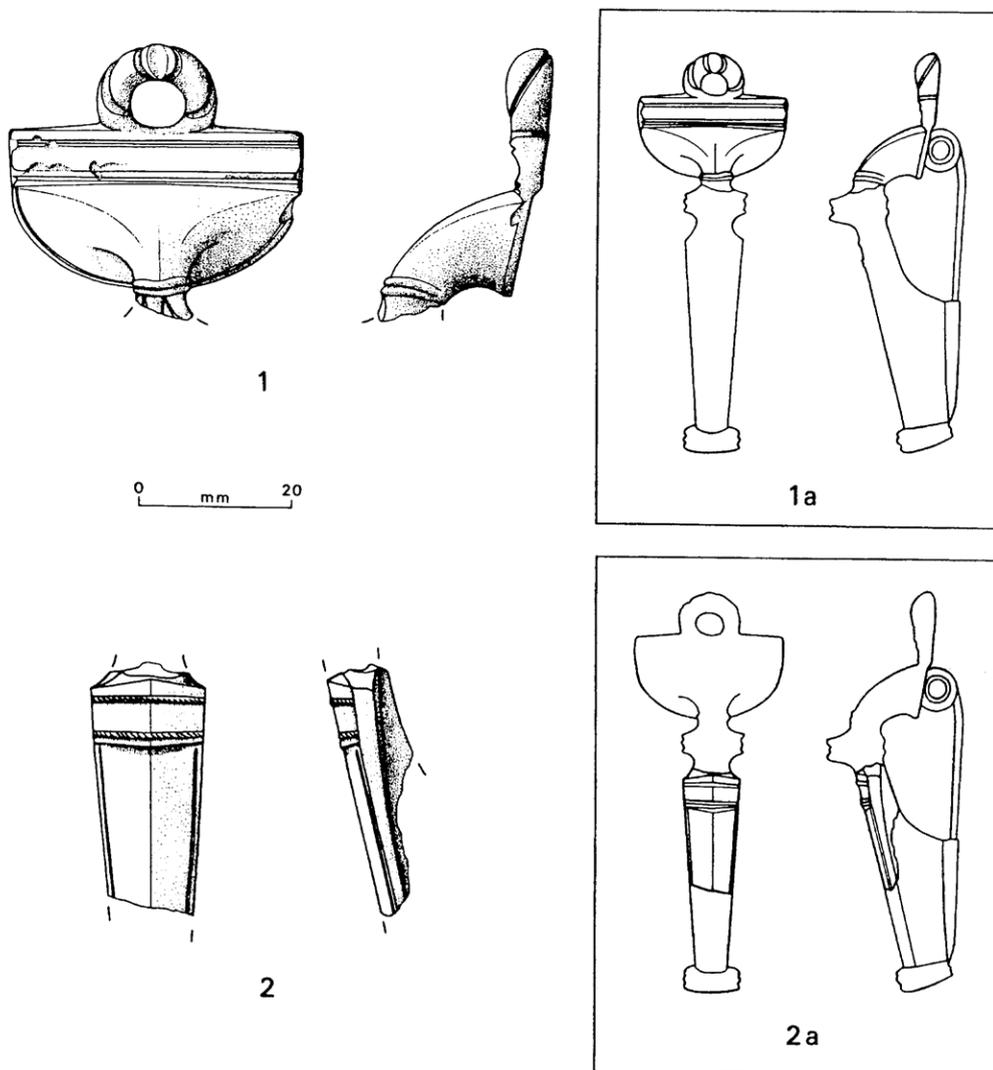


FIG. 1. 1 - Brooch from Watercrook (scale 1:1). 2 - Brooch from Carlisle (scale 1:1). 1a and 2a (scale 1:2).

well suited to specific functions, or to specific manufacturing techniques. For example, heavily leaded alloys are difficult to smith as they crack, and they are usually used for castings which are not intended to take great strain. On the other hand a high-tin bronze is hard and brittle, but is also a fairly white alloy and takes a good polish, making it particularly well suited for cast mirrors. The alloy for Brooch 1 was found to be a high-tin bronze, the tin level being in the region of 30%, with small amounts of lead and zinc also present. Similarly, Brooch 2 was cast from high-tin bronze, with the tin level in the region of 20% and only very small amounts of lead and zinc present.

The "top of the range" brooches of this style are represented by the silver-gilt pair from the Backworth hoard and a gilded example from Vindolanda,⁶ which was too corroded to determine whether the body of the brooch was silver or copper-alloy. It would seem likely that the next

category would be either a copper-gilt or solid silver brooch,⁷ with the cheapest version being a brooch of ungilded copper-alloy. The two brooches discussed here have an unusually large percentage of tin in their make-up, and while this would produce an inherently brittle object, which was undoubtedly the reason for the fracture of both brooches, there is the obvious advantage of being able to give an object of copper-alloy the appearance of silver, an effect still apparent today. There are two possible reasons for the brooch makers (or maker as both brooches could be the product of a single individual or workshop) adding the large proportion of tin. Firstly, that this was the means of producing a cheap imitation of a solid silver brooch, thus making it available to a greater proportion of the general public. Or, secondly, that the maker was deliberately attempting to deceive his clientele by passing off the brooches as silver. Any metal worker casting such high quality objects would be aware of the properties resulting from an alloy of this type. The brooch would be brittle, and because of its functions as a sprung cloak fastener requiring, at the least, some degree of flexibility, would be likely to fracture at an earlier rather than a later date. However, the spring and pin may have been of a different alloy which allowed the required flexibility. On balance, it seems likely that any design defects were outweighed by the opportunity to purchase a large ornate brooch that was comparatively cheap.

In essence the "Backworth" type brooch is a particularly large Trumpet brooch characterised by ornate "Celtic" style decoration. Neither brooch described here was recovered from a datable context but the type can safely be placed within the period dating from the last quarter of the first century through to the middle of the second century. Indeed, the Backworth hoard contained several coins, the latest of which was of Antoninus Pius, struck in AD 139.

Notes

- ¹ See pages 173–81 and plate 5 in P. Brewis, "British brooches of the Backworth type in the Black Gate Museum, Newcastle-upon-Tyne", *Archaeol Aeliana* Ser 21 3, (1924).
- ² Mr Hogg from Kendal found the brooch and brought it to the attention of Mr Colin Richardson, of Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, who allowed me to illustrate and describe it.
- ³ See the large silver brooch from Great Chesters, page 32 and plate 37 in D.J. Smith, *An Illustrated Introduction to the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle-upon-Tyne* (1974); and plate 10 in P. Brewis, *ibid.* note 1.
- ⁴ Mr Graham Keevill, who directed the Cathedral excavations on behalf of Carlisle Cathedral and Carlisle Archaeological Unit, allowed me to publish the brooch in advance of his report.
- ⁵ Ms Jennifer Jones, of the Department of Archaeology, University of Durham, kindly carried out the analysis of both brooches, and I am indebted to her for her report.
- ⁶ In M.E. Snape, *Roman Brooches from North Britain*, (forthcoming), brooch number 184, figure 15.
- ⁷ Such as the large silver brooch from Great Chesters (see footnote 3 for references). Although this brooch is not a close parallel for the Backworth type, it does exhibit some of the salient features of the type.

8. *A watching brief at 46–52 Lowther Street, Carlisle* By PAUL FLYNN

A watching brief was carried out by Carlisle Archaeological Unit in July and August 1990 during construction work following the demolition of the properties 46–52 Lowther Street. The area involved covered 17.0 m of the street frontage, and extended for 21.0 m to the east (Fig. 1). Extensive cellarage had removed much of the archaeological deposits on the western half of the site.

It was hoped that the continuation of a known Roman road and the position of the medieval town ditch would be identified, as well as any other archaeological features to the east of Lowther Street.

Archaeological work was limited to the cleaning and recording of as many sections as

possible, a task hampered by the instability of some sections and the rapidity with which concrete was poured into the foundation trenches, as well as the danger afforded by working machinery. Consequently the various deposits recorded cannot all be adequately identified, and those that can be identified cannot be interpreted in detail.

The archaeological features

To the east of the cellar approximately 1.0 m of archaeological deposits survived. Overlying the sandy clay natural subsoil was a light grey silt (22), varying in texture from very sandy to very silty with some charcoal flecks in places, though generally clean. The deposit was widespread and some 0.10 m deep. Overlying this silt was a dark grey humic old ground surface (21). Several shallow V-shaped cuts into the subsoil probably indicate ploughing. These plough marks were some 0.04 m deep and 0.4 m apart, with a fill the same as the old ground surface, which varied in depth from 0.02 m to 0.12 m. It was best preserved where it was sealed by the metalling of an east-west orientated road, 20 (Fig. 2).

A section through the road metalling (Fig. 3) showed the primary road, 20.1, to lie directly on the old ground surface, and to have a width of 5.5 m and a depth of 0.2 m. Three resurfacings (20.2–20.4) increased the width of the road to 6.0 m and the depth of metalling to 1.0 m. The road was traced for a distance of 9.0 m, and was also visible at the western edge of the site.

A spread of cobbles and pebbles in grey silt (56), between 0.1 m and 0.2 m thick, was traced for a distance of 5.5 m south of the road (Fig. 2), at which point it was cut away by a recent intrusion. These cobbles overlay the old ground surface and may represent a cobbled yard associated with the primary phase of the road. The surface was traced for a distance of 5.5 m from the eastern edge of the site, but was not visible in section some 3.0 m further to the west. It is possible that this feature respected the position of ditch 42, which together with ditch 28 appeared to form the north-eastern corner of an enclosure parallel to, and some 3.0 m south of, the southern edge of the road. The ditches cut the old ground surface and appeared, stratigraphically, to be early. Ditch 28 survived to a depth of 0.8 m and a width of 1.0 m. Ditch 42 was of similar depth and width, but with a somewhat sharper V-shaped profile. The silt fills of both ditches contained much animal bone and several sherds of second-century pottery.

In the metre or so of stratigraphy surviving above these features, several possible pits and other features were observed which attest to activity along the line of the road throughout its history, although the nature of this activity could not be determined.

The deposits on the western half of the site had been destroyed by the excavation of a substantial ditch (19; Fig. 2). Only the base of the ditch survived below the cellar floor. The ditch, where seen in section, had a depth of 1.2 m, and below the cellar floor it had a width of over 6.0 m. A detailed section was not drawn but clear silt lines were observed. The fill was generally a dark grey sticky silt. The estimated minimum dimensions of the ditch, based on the relative depths of the natural subsoil, are 12.0 m wide at the lip and 3.4 m deep below the present ground surface. The western edge probably lies below the pavement on the eastern side of Lowther Street.

Discussion

The earliest activity on the site, represented by plough marks and the old ground surface, is undated but precedes the construction of an early road surface. Similar indications of ploughing have been noted elsewhere in Carlisle.¹ The metalled road, which was located in

several places during excavations in The Lanes,² was probably the principal east–west route into Roman Carlisle. The cobbles to the south of the road may represent a yard, with the adjacent ditches representing a property boundary of a type noted along the line of the road further to the west.³ All the surviving deposits to the east of the cellar are believed to be Roman in date, and demonstrate continued activity along the road line east of Lowther Street. Twenty-seven sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the site, nine of which were from ditches 28 and 42. The pottery ranges in date from the late first/early second centuries, probably to the Antonine period.

No dating evidence was recovered from the large ditch cutting across the western half of the site (19). It is best interpreted as the medieval town ditch.

A ditch was observed by Hogg in a sewer trench some 5 m north of the present excavation.⁴ It was V-shaped, 4.3 m wide and cut 2.4 m into the clay subsoil. It appeared to be on a similar alignment to Lowther Street, its centre-line being some 4.6 m west of the building frontage on the east side of the street. Its relationship to the present ditch must be regarded as uncertain, although Hogg thought it was Roman.

Acknowledgements

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Notes and References

- 1 For example, M.R. McCarthy, *A Roman, Anglian and Medieval Site at Blackfriars Street, Carlisle: Excavations 1977*, CW Research Series 4 (1990), 13–14.
- 2 M.R. McCarthy, *Roman and Medieval Carlisle, The Lanes Volume I: Excavations at Old Grapes, Crown and Anchor, and Lewthwaite's Lanes 1981–2* (forthcoming), CW Research Series 8.
- 3 *Ibid.*
- 4 R. Hogg, *CW2*, lv, 65, and unpublished site notes.

9. *Recent finds of Roman coins in Cumbria*
By DAVID SHOTTER

Hoards

1. Hackthorpe: a find of 25 *aes* coins was reported to have been made in 1992 to the east of the village. The coins are mostly in good condition, and exhibit little wear; all were issued in the period AD 346–353, and the majority are issues of the rebel-emperor, Magnentius (AD 351–353). It was a period which was politically unsettled, but which saw a temporary recovery in the size and quality of the *aes* coinage; it is unlikely that the savings-period went beyond the mid-350s. There is no other hoard from north-west England terminating in this period, unless a rather dubious group of mid-fourth-century coins from Ravenglass constituted the whole or part of a hoard (Shotter, 1990, 206). Indeed, it is rare to find a hoard so dominated by coins of Magnentius.

There was no sign of a container, and it may be assumed that the coins were originally concealed in a leather purse or some other perishable container.

The present group of coins, which remains (1993) in the possession of the finders,

serves to draw attention to questions concerning activity in the Roman period in this part of Cumbria. In recent years, two other hoards have been reported in the vicinity – one, from Cliburn, consisting of tetrarchic coins (Shotter, 1990, 188), and the other, from Great Strickland, which was made up of radiate copies (Shotter, 1990, 190). The area was clearly significant because of the junction of two roads – from Chester up the Lune valley, and from York across Stainmore – and because of the presence of two Roman forts – at Brougham and Old Penrith – which between them will have constituted a significant market for those involved in agriculture. Indeed, we may assume that this area of good agricultural land will have been at a premium for discharged veterans of the Roman army and for wealthy local farmers of Brigantian/Carvetian stock. It is worth remembering that one of the inscriptions which records the existence of the *civitas* of the Carvetii comes from the Brougham-area (*JRS* LV (1965), 224). There is little doubt that the establishment of such an area of local autonomy presupposes wealth on the part of local tribal leaders, and that the source of that wealth is most likely to have been agriculture.

The Coins

Constans	2	(<i>LRBC</i> II. 46, 185)
Constantius II	1	(<i>LRBC</i> II. 40)
Magnentius	22	(<i>LRBC</i> II. 5, 7, 8(4), 11(4), 19, 53(2), 56(3), 58, 209, 227(2), 427, 437)

All are issues of western mints –

Amiens	11
Arles	2
Lyons	4
Trier	8

(Information from Malcolm Whiteside)

Later in 1992, 143 *aes* coins were donated to Liverpool Museum, although they derived from a discovery made “in the Penrith-area”. It is now clear that these coins were found at the same time as the 25 listed above, and that 139 of them are part of the same hoard. Provisional identifications of these have been made by Dr Robert Philpott, Field Archaeologist at Liverpool Museum, and it is understood that a full study and publication will follow. *Provisional* identifications by Dr Philpott reveal the following constitution of the 139 coins –

Constans	11 (or 12)
Constantius II	15 (or 14)
Magnentius	96
Decentius	10
Illegible	7

The remaining four coins, discovered at the same time but for obvious reasons not part of the same hoard, are listed below in 12.

2. Maryport: an elderly resident of Maryport recalls the discovery around 1920 of what sounds like a hoard of *aes* coins in the vicinity of Mote Hill, which is the conjectured site of milefortlet 25 of the coastal defences (Bellhouse, 1989, 56).

(Information from Roger Lister)

3. Barnscar: it is reported (*CW*1, xii, 179) that in 1730 a “considerable number” of Roman silver coins were discovered during demolition of a structure on a prehistoric site.

Casual finds (Shotter, 1990, 234–246)

1. Birkrigg: a very worn and degraded radiate copy (*c.* AD 270) was found in 1992. Neither obverse nor reverse was legible. (Information from Mrs Nancy Dixon)
2. Barrockside Fell: a radiate copy, evidently of Gallienus (*RIC* 177?), was found in 1992. The precise location has not been specified, although it appears to have been close to the site of the presumed fortlet/watchtower (Collingwood, 1931).
3. Barrow-in-Furness
 - (a) a Constantinian *aes* issue was found in 1966 near the school on Barrow Island.
 - (b) A number of coins are said to have been found *c.* 1900 at a house on Abbey Road.
4. Beetham: a number of Roman coins (and objects of many periods) have been found in recent years at a variety of locations in the vicinity of Beetham Hall Farm. The Roman coins are clearly casual losses, and do not cohere into a hoard; thus, their discovery raises the possibility of a Roman site (presumably of a military nature) in the area. The coins are –
 - (a) *Sestertius* of Antoninus Pius (AD 138–161)
 - (b) Radiate copy of Tetricus I (AD 271–3)
 - (c) Radiate copy of Tetricus II (rev. Mars, of AD 271–3)
 - (d) *Aes* of Constantine I (*LRBC* I. 51 of AD 330–5)
 - (e) *Aes* of Valens (rev. *SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE*, of AD 364–75)

It is understood that further coins have been discovered in the area, but remain in the possession of their finders.
(I am grateful to Mr and Mrs J.A. Gibson of Beetham Hall Farm for allowing me access to these coins, and Mr John Anstee for drawing my attention to the finds.)
5. Brougham: excavations in 1991 by Lancaster University Archaeological Unit on a post-Roman site on the line of the Shell-pipeline yielded a fragmentary, but little-worn, *denarius* of Julia Paula, the first wife of Elagabalus (*RIC* 214 of AD 218–222).
6. Cockermouth: some years ago an *aureus* of Nero was found (*RIC* I.² 52 of AD 64–5). The coin is in private ownership, although it is currently (1992) on loan to the Senhouse Roman Museum at Maryport. (Information from Ian Caruana)
7. Hethersgill: a little-worn *denarius* of Trajan (*Hill* 582 of AD 113) has been found in a private garden at Rackbridge. (Information from Colin Richardson)
8. Maiden Castle-on-Stainmore: Carlisle Museum has recently acquired a collection of material made by the Rev. T. Westgarth, formerly Vicar of Stainmore. Westgarth excavated at Maiden Castle in 1914 (*CW*2, xv, 192f; xxvii, 174). Although his reports refer to only one coin (an “unidentifiable minim”), it is possible that three coins in the collection do in fact derive from that site; they are accessioned as 1992 – 58, 10–12. The coins consist of –
 - (a) Radiate copy of Divus Claudius (*RIC* 261 of AD 270)
 - (b) *Aes* issue of Constantius II (*LRBC* II. 1222 of AD 351–4)
 - (c) *Aes* issue of Gratian (*LRBC* II. 320 of AD 367–75)

Although the bulk of known material from Maiden Castle is early in date, the recent recognition of the late use of the signal-station at Bowes Moor reinforces the possibility of

- similar late use of other Stainmore sites (Shotter, 1990, 83). (Information from Colin Richardson)
9. Maryport: a number of coins have been reported to the Senhouse Roman Museum from locations close to the site of the Roman fort:
 - (a) *Denarius* (little-worn) of Domitian (*RIC* 166 of AD 92)
 - (b) *Sestertius* of Antoninus Pius (*RIC* 655 of AD 140–4)
 - (c) *Dupondius* of Septimius Severus (reverse illegible)
 It is now clear that an *antoninianus* of Trajan Decius (listed as a Maryport site-find in *CW2*, xci, 272) was in fact found at Mote Hill in 1978. The coin, which is little-worn, is now in Whitehaven Museum. (Information from Roger Lister)
 10. Newby Bridge: Roman coins are said to have been recovered in 1845 during work on the slipway.
 11. Old Carlisle: an *aes* issue of Faustina I is reported to have been found in a field to the west of the fort-site. (Information from Colin Richardson)
 12. Penrith (Hackthorpe): four *aes* coins were found in 1992 at the same time as the hoard described above in 1, but evidently unrelated to it. The coins are:
 - (a) *As* of Domitian (AD 81–96)
 - (b) *Antoninianus* of Valerian (AD 253–9)
 - (c) Radiate copy of Victorinus (*RIC* 110 of AD 269–71)
 - (d) *Aes* probably of the Valentinianic period (AD 364–75)
 (Information from Dr Robert Philpott)
 13. Scalesceugh: a *sestertius* of Hadrian (*RIC* 763?) has been found close to the site of the Roman tiler.
 14. Tebay Gorge (Powsons Knott): excavations in 1991 by Lancaster University Archaeological Unit on the Shell pipeline yielded a very worn *dupondius* of Marcus Aurelius (AD 161–80).
 15. Workington (Clay Flatts): a little-worn *aes* issue of Valens (*LRBC* II. 288 of AD 364–7) was found during construction of a bungalow. (Information from Roger Lister)
 16. Wreay (near Carlisle): a little-worn radiate copy of Claudius II (*RIC* 67) was found in 1992 in a private garden (NGR lodged with Carlisle Museum). (Information from Colin Richardson)

Abbreviations and References

JRS: *Journal of Roman Studies*

Hill: Hill P.V., *The Dating and Arrangement of the Undated Coins of Rome, AD 98–148* (London, 1970).

LRBC: Hill P.V., Carson R.A.G., and Kent J.P.C., *Late Roman Bronze Coinage* (London, 1960).

RIC: Mattingly H., Sydenham E.A., and Sutherland C.H.V., (Eds.), *The Roman Imperial Coinage* (London, 1923–85).

Bellhouse, 1989: Bellhouse R.L., *Roman Sites on the Cumberland Coast* (Kendal).

Collingwood, 1931: Collingwood R.G., "A Roman Fortlet on Barrock Fell, near Low Hesket", *CW2*, xxxi, 111–18.

Shotter, 1990: Shotter D.C.A., *Roman Coins from North-west England* (Lancaster).

10. *Two silver objects from the Levens Park Cairn*
By PERCIVAL TURNBULL

Between 1968 and 1971 excavations were carried out in Levens Park, near Kendal, by Mr David Sturdy. The main focus of attention was Site B (at SD 505862), a large boulder mound some 24 metres in diameter. The work has not yet been fully published but a brief summary¹ makes it clear that the main periods of activity represent a complex multi-phase burial cairn associated with Beaker material in the primary grave. The site seems to have been considerably disturbed at different periods but the excavator tentatively identified a possible Dark Age or other early post-Roman modification, supposedly as a small farmstead. Most of the finds from Sturdy's campaign, with the site archive, were recently deposited in Kendal Museum.

Among the finds from Site B is a bag containing two small pieces of silver: the objects were found together in the upper part of the cairn material, on the eastern side of the site (the original site label is marked "clearance of baulk"). They are:

- (a) a ring, rather bent, of round-sectioned silver wire. There is no sign of a join.
- (b) a small, flat piece of silver which appears to have been clipped or filed from a larger piece, the one straight edge representing a surviving edge of the original object.

Each object was analysed by Energy Dispersive X-Ray Fluorescence and accurately weighed using an analytical balance. The results were:

(a) the ring:	silver 98%	(b) the scrap piece:	silver 99%
	copper 2%		copper 1%
	weight 1.352 grammes.		weight 1.348 grammes.



FIG. 1. The silver objects from the Levens Park cairn. Actual size.

The results are interesting. The silver is in each case very pure, but the one per cent difference in the copper content is sufficient to distinguish the two pieces as not deriving from the same melting. The weights also are extremely close and, although such a thing is difficult to determine when only two pieces are in question, their closeness suggests that they had been kept deliberately to a known weight or value.

The most likely context for the silver is that it represents an Anglo-Scandinavian deposit inserted into the top of the cairn either because of the site's numinous associations or merely as an easily-remembered hiding-place for valuables. The quantity is so small that the probability suggests itself that it is all that survives of a larger hoard.

Acknowledgements

The writer would like to thank Mr David Sturdy for giving him access to his material, Miss Jennifer Jones for arranging the EDXRF analysis and Mrs Jane Thompson for the drawings.

Notes and References

¹ Sturdy, D. (1972), "A Ring-Cairn in Levens Park, Westmorland", in *Scottish Archaeological Forum*, 4, 52-55.

11. *The damage done to the Bewcastle Cross in 1890*
By HENRY SUMMERSON

A little over a century ago the editor of its *Transactions*, R.S. Ferguson, made a report to the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society concerning damage recently done to “the Bewcastle Obelisk” – better known as the Bewcastle Cross.¹ Ferguson’s report to the Society, dated at Bewcastle itself on 21 August 1891, repeated word-for-word one he had already presented to the Society of Antiquaries of London on 15 January of that year.² In both these communications discretion and tact caused Ferguson to remain silent as to the exact circumstances behind, and the responsibility for, the injury done to the monument. In a letter to the Earl of Carlisle shortly after the incident, and now to be found in the archives at Castle Howard, he was less reticent. Its own *Transactions* show that members of the Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland had visited Bewcastle on Friday 25 July 1890, when the Society’s president, Canon William Greenwell, described the Cross to the visitors.³ It was following this excursion that leave was sought, and obtained, to take a cast of the monument, with the results that Ferguson describes in his letter. At a time when there is a good deal of debate concerning the future management of the nation’s historic monuments, there is a certain topicality in this account of the damage done to one of them by unskilful handling.

Lowther Street, Carlisle, Sept. 13 1890

Dear Lord Carlisle,

I write to tell you of the miserable plight the Durham & Northumberland Archae: Society have reduced the Bewcastle Cross to, a ghastly, raw & yellow sore! No road surveyor could have done worse!

That Society visited Bewcastle a few weeks ago, & afterwards Canon Greenwell, their president, wrote to the rector of Bewcastle for leave to make a mould from which to reproduce a cast of the cross for the library at Durham. The rector asked my advice: I recommended him to give permission, & I certainly thought a request by Greenwell could hardly be refused & that the operation would be done with the same care, as the S Kensington people did the Gosforth Cross: in fact I expected the SK people would have been employed.

I heard no more until the Rector wrote on Monday saying the attempt was a failure, & the cross was injured, & asking me to come & advise him. I went yesterday: the ghastly appearance is not the worst: the man employed, a man from Corbridge, put up a ladder against the stone, & so knocked bits off it: his moulds adhered to the stone, & he prized them off with a chisel, bringing away flakes of stone as long as a finger: others hang loose.

He proposes to try again next week, but the Rector will, rightly, not allow him. I have advised him so. It is a most unfortunate thing: Greenwell of all men, one would have thought, could be relied upon; but he is old, seems to have left it to others, who left it to a Corbridge plasterer. The cross itself is not very stable: I propose to consult with my brother & run cement under it, where a large cavity exists: the socket has split.

Yours truly, Ric^d S Ferguson.

Castle Howard Archives (J22/43), Castle Howard, York – published by kind permission of the Howard Family.

Notes and References

¹ CW1, xii, 51–56.

² *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London*, 2nd series, 13 (1889–1891), 219–223.

³ *Trans. Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland*, 4 (1890–1894), ix–xi.

12. *Dinogad's Smock*
By C. CESSFORD

The Gododdin poem, which is traditionally supposed to have originated in sixth/seventh century AD south-east Scotland, contains a number of interpolated verses, one of the most prominent of these is known as Dinogad's Smock [for full English translations see Jackson 1969, 151 and Jarman 1988, 68]. This verse [A.LXXXVII] has little in common with the rest of the Gododdin corpus and is a lullaby to the baby Dinogad which describes his father's hunting activities. The verse is usually thought to be set in north-east England but it is more likely to have originated in the north-west of the country instead. A clue to the geographical locale of the poem is given by line C.A. 1114;

penn pysc o rayadyr derwennydd

(Williams 1938, 44).

A fish from the falls of Derwennydd

(Jackson 1969, 151).

Derwennydd can be equated with the modern river names Derwent and Darwen (Jackson 1953, 282 and 353). There are a number of river Derwents in northern England including examples in County Durham, East Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Cumbria. Of these the example in County Durham is viewed by Kenneth Jackson as the most likely because it is "within the bounds of Gododdin territory" (1969, 46) and this has been generally accepted, though with some apparent reservations (Jarman 1988, lxiii and 153). This river, which flows into the Tyne opposite Newcastle, however, lies entirely south of Hadrian's Wall and there is no evidence that this area was part of Gododdin territory during the post-Roman period. Instead it is most likely to have formed part of the Anglo-Saxon, and previously British, kingdom of Bernicia. There is thus no real reason to prefer the Derwent of County Durham to the other examples, though of course it is still the closest to the kingdom of Gododdin. Indeed if, as is universally accepted, Dinogad's Smock is an interpolation, there is no reason why it should be located in, or even near to, the kingdom of Gododdin. Thus the Derwent in County Durham is no more likely a possibility than any of the others. The Derwents in Yorkshire and Derbyshire are perhaps too far south to be likely candidates, though the Gododdin poem does mention a single warrior Madog from the kingdom of Elmet in Yorkshire (Taylor 1992) in verse B.XCIV. The fish is described as coming from the *rayadyr* [falls/waterfall] and this suggests that the river Derwent in question is the example in Cumbria. Cumbria's river Derwent possesses the notable Derwent Falls whilst none of the other Derwent's have any waterfalls of a substantial nature.

Another clue that the river Derwent is the Cumbrian one is contained in the three lines prior to the mention of the Derwent [C.A. 1111–13]:

*pan elei dy dat ty e vynydd.
dydygei ef penn ywrch penn gwythwch penn hyd.
penn grugyar vreith o venydd.*

(Williams 1938, 44).

When thy father went to the mountain
He would bring back a roe-buck, a wild boar, a stag,
A speckled grouse from the mountain.

(Jarman 1988, 68).

The simplest hypothesis is that the river Derwent was close to some mountains [*vynyd/venyd*] where Dinogad's father went hunting when he was not fishing in the river. The Cumbrian Derwent is of course close to a number of mountains including Great Dod, Helvellyn and Skiddaw. None of the other Derwents in northern England flow close to any mountains.

The fact that the river Derwent in the Gododdin poem had a waterfall and was close to mountains suggests that Dinogad's Smock may have originated in Cumbria. If this is so how did it come to be incorporated in the Gododdin corpus? During the sixth century the territory of the river Derwent was not part of the kingdom of Rheged proper but was held by the dynasty of Pabo which can probably be associated with Papcastle (Miller 1975; also Higham 1986, 253–56), situated just north of the Derwent. This dynasty seems to have disputed control of Cumbria with the dominant dynasty of Urien. Pabo's son Dunod the Stout fought at the battle of Arthuret, near Carlisle, which the *Annales Cambriae* record as the *bellum Armterid* of 573 AD (Morris 1980, 45 and 85). Indeed the similarity of the names Dinogad and Dunod is suggestive and it is not impossible that they are the same person, though this is unprovable. If this was so then the poem would have to date to prior to Dunod's death in 595 AD which is also recorded in the *Annales Cambriae* (ibid, 45 and 86). At this battle Dunod was an ally of Cynfelyn of Strathclyde and it is probably this link with the more northerly kingdom that explains the inclusion of Dinogad's Smock in the Gododdin poem.

The Gododdin contains one interpolated verse which definitely came from Strathclyde, the Domnall Brecc stanza, which celebrates the victory of the Britons of Strathclyde over the Scots of Dalriada at Strathcarron in 642 AD (Jackson 1969, 47–8; Jarman 1988, lxi–lxii). One of the four Gorchanau, which are separate poems incorporated in the Gododdin manuscript, mourns the warrior Kynfelyn [Cynfelyn] (Jackson 1969, 51–3; Jarman 1988, lxxv–lxxviii) who is not mentioned anywhere else in the Gododdin and is described as coming from *gwyned* [Gwynned – C.A. 1383] in north Wales. Nonetheless it is still possible that he could be the same Cynfelyn whom Dunod was allied with at Arthuret. The Gorchanau displays certain later alterations (Jarman 1988, lxvii) and, given the importance of Gwynned in the Gododdin poem (Jackson 1969, 27–8), it is possible that two warriors with the same name, one from Strathclyde and one from Gwynned, have become confused. It has been suggested that, after the extinction of the kingdom of Gododdin by Northumbria in the 630s, an oral version of the Gododdin poem reached Strathclyde where it remained until the ninth century when it was transmitted to Wales in manuscript form (Jarman 1988, lxxviii–lxxv). Given the alliance between the dynasty of Pabo and Strathclyde, the most likely explanation is that Dinogad's Smock was transmitted from Cumbria to Strathclyde sometime in the late sixth or early seventh century and thus became incorporated in the Gododdin poem. Alternatively the poem could easily have been transmitted directly from Cumbria to north Wales and become incorporated in the Gododdin there.

Given that the geographical elements in Dinogad's Smock indicate that it is set in Cumbria, and that a verse from here could quite easily have become incorporated in the Gododdin poem, this would make it the only surviving poetry that may be associated with the dynasty of Pabo rather than that of Urien. Indeed, given the doubts about the date of much of the poetry attributed to Taliesin, Dinogad's Smock may be the only genuine early medieval poetry to survive from Cumbria. As such it provides a fascinating insight into the aristocratic lifestyle of the area and hunting in particular. Species hunted include wild boar [*gwythwch/wythwch* – C.A. 1112–1116], deer [*hyd/ywrch* – C.A. 1112], fish [*bysc/pysc* – C.A. 1109/1114], fox [*llwynain* – C.A. 1116], grouse [*grugyar* – C.A. 1113], lynx [*llewyn* – C.A. 1116] and marten [*balaot* – C.A. 1102], though the lion [*llew* – C.A. 1110] mentioned figuratively is unlikely to have been native to Cumbria at this time. It also provides information about the existence of slaves [*wythgeith* – C.A. 1104] and the use of various pieces of equipment such as spears [*llath* and *gicwein* – C.A. 1106 and 1115], a club [*llory* – C.A. 1106] and a coracle [*coriwc* – C.A. 1109].

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13. *Miss Patrickson's Charity for Houghton: some particulars of poor relief outside Carlisle in the 19th century*

By W. DENT

Houghton is three miles to the north-east of Carlisle. Between 1839 and 1841 a church was built there to serve outlying parts of Stanwix Parish. The district assigned to the new church had a population of 810 but only 308 persons actually lived within the Township of Houghton.¹ In 1854 Miss Isabella Patrickson, Independent, of Houghton Townhead, bequeathed money to found a charity to be administered by the clergymen and churchwardens of Houghton: one moiety was for the benefit of poor and indigent persons residing in the Township of Houghton and the other for the school at Houghton. On 6 January 1858 Houghton's curate, Rev. Dr Buck,² gave charge of this fund to his churchwarden, Peter James Dixon.³ A continuous account of disbursements was kept from that time to 1940. The account is usually restricted to names/amounts but the entries for the winters of 1858 and 1859 give more particulars. Through the kind permission of Rev. Angus Macleay and the churchwardens the two winter accounts are transcribed below.

1858 Dr.

Jan'y 13	To Interest received from Bank,	£6-0-10
Jan'y 6	To Bal. from last year per Dr. Buck,	2-5- 0 1/2
		<hr/> £8-5-10 1/2

1858 Cr.

Jan'y 9	By James Fileen for school purposes	£3-0- 5
Jan'y 7	By Sarah Kirk, one petticoat 3/3 + shawl 8 1/2	3-11 1/2
	By Dinah James (or Burns), one blanket,	6- 3
	By Currie, 3yds 1/2 flannel @ - per yard,	3- 1 1/2
	By Campbell, one blanket,	4-
	By Heslop's wife, petticoat 3/3, two shawls @ 8 1/2	4- 8
	By Brown, petticoat,	3- 3
	By Jane Mean, petticoat,	3- 3
	By Jane Todd, white flannel (see Coals)	" "
	By Richard Sinclair, one blanket,	6- 3
	By John Dailey, do.	4-
13	By Mary Thompson (single), 1 Load of Coals,	6- 5

	By Mary Thompson, 1 Load of Coals,	6- 5
	By Betty Graham, 1 do.	6- 5
	By Ward, 1/2 a load of coals,	3- 2 1/2
	By Hill, do.	3- 2 1/2
14	By Isaac Bowes, 1 load of coals,	6- 5
16	By Joseph Little, Moss Cottage,	6-
	By Armstrong, Houghton,	7-
	By Jane Todd, 1 load of coals,	6- 5 1/2
	By Mary Jackson, Houghton,	6- 6
	By Tweddle, Houghton,	5-
	By Corrie do.	3- 8 1/2
		<u>£8-5-10 1/2</u>

Peter James Dixon,
Churchwarden.

Jany 18th 1858.

1859 Dr.

Jany 12 To dividend from Bank, £6-0-10

1859 Cr.

Jany 13	By Fileen, School Master,	£3-0- 5
	By Joseph Little, Moss Cottage,	4-
	By Jane Todd, Houghton,	2- 6
	By Hill, (this entry stroked through)	- - -
	By Dinah James,	2-
	By Betty Graham, 1/2 cartload of coals,	3-
	By Tweddle, do	3-
	By John Dailey, do	3-
	By Corrie, 1/2 cartload of coals 3/- Ticket 1/-	4-
	By Brown, 1/2 cartload of coals,	3-
	By Richard Sinclair, do	3-
	By Ward,	2-
	By Heslop, 1/2 cartload of coals,	3-
	By Mary Thompson, 1/2 coals + Ticket 1/-	4-
	By A. Campbell, "	3-
	By Robert Kirk, 1/2 cartload 3/- + Tickets 2/-	5-
	By Armstrong, "	3-
	By Mary Jackson, " 3/- + Ticket 1/-	4-
	By M. Thompson,	2- 6
	By Isaac Bowes,	4-
	By George James,	2- 5
		<u>£6-0-10</u>

Peter James Dixon,
Churchwarden.

Notes and References

- ¹ The District was, “bounded by the parishes of Rockcliffe, Kirklington, Scaleby & Crosby-on-Eden and, within Stanwix Parish, by the Townships of Tarraby, Stanwix, Etterby, Stainton, & Cargo”. (“Assignment of District” dated 22-11-1841); the population of this District is first given in the Rights of Patronage drafted on 13-6-1841; and the population of Houghton Township is given in the 1841 census.
- ² Rev. Dr Buck, formerly of the Indian Army and D.C.L. of Cambridge, was Houghton’s curate from 1849–1860 according to parish registers and accounts, but “incumbent for 16 years” according to his church memorial. The difference may be accounted for by additional years before his death in 1864.
- ³ The churchwarden, Peter James Dixon, was the son of John Dixon, manufacturer, of “Knells”, Houghton.

Other information is from the Parish account: “Miss Patrickson’s Charity”.

