

XV.—NOTES

1. *Romano-British Burials at Beadnell, Northumberland*

It is regretted that work on the skeletal remains from these burials (AA 4, 1971, p. 53) is not yet complete, but the report will be published as soon as it is possible to do so.

J.W., C.H.T.

2. *Some local finds of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age stone implements in private possession*

1. Polished stone axe-head; Fallodon (fig. 1, no. 2)

This axe-head was found by Mr. Andrew Rogerson in the Fallodon area (NU:2023) but no more precise provenance is known. It is only 96 mm in length and appears to have been reworked. Short of full petrological examination it is almost certainly a Langdale product.

At present it is housed in the Rogerson collection and is additional to the items recorded by Miss N. Newbigin in *Arch. Ael.*⁴, XIX (1941). For some years the whereabouts of this collection has been difficult to establish and it is only recently that it came to light briefly in Wooler, whilst in transit from one branch of the family to another. The objects of jet, probably the chief items of interest in the collection, are still carefully preserved. A further addition since 1940 is a neolithic transverse arrowhead (class G) of coffee coloured flint, reputedly from Beadnell.

To complete the record it is perhaps as well to add that Greenwell's barrow no. CC (*British Barrows*, 418ff.), from which the jet beads came, is still to be seen on a slight knoll

on the north side of the track leading to Blawearie (NU:082223). Two cists, one previously containing the Food Vessel (Abercromby, *Bronze Age Pottery* no. 124) and the other the necklace of beads, are extant. Although much disturbed the monument might still be worthy of further investigation. Six smaller, unrecorded cairns lie in the bracken on the south side of the track but it is difficult to know if these are sepulchral in nature or the result of field-clearance.

2. Polished stone axe-head; Milfield (fig. 1, no. 1)

This fine axe-head, in private possession, was picked up some years ago on the east side of the A697 as it approaches the village of Milfield (NU:9433). It is 235 mm in length and does not appear to be reworked. Although the precise provenance is unknown it would have been in the region of the Milfield henges and almost opposite to the Coupland henge. It is, therefore, a further if slight addition testifying to the early importance of this area of the Till Valley (*Arch. Ael.*⁴, XLIX (1971), 123ff.).

3. Polished stone axe-head; Tynemouth; not illustrated

A small axe-head with a narrow butt was found in 1961 in digging a back garden at 19 Barrington Avenue, Marden, Tynemouth (NZ:351709) and remained in private possession. It was 120 mm in length and 57 mm in maximum breadth. Hand examination suggested that it was a Langdale product and had been reworked.

4. Axe-hammer; Blackhall Mill (fig. 1, no. 4)

This fine specimen was found during house-building in the early 1930s at Blackhall Mill, Co. Durham, just to the north-east of the bridge which carries the road to Chopwell across the River Derwent (NZ:122569). It is 224 mm in length and, as in the case of a number of axe-hammers and earlier varieties of the battle-axe series, is slightly dishd on the surfaces, here in the area of the hole and the hammer

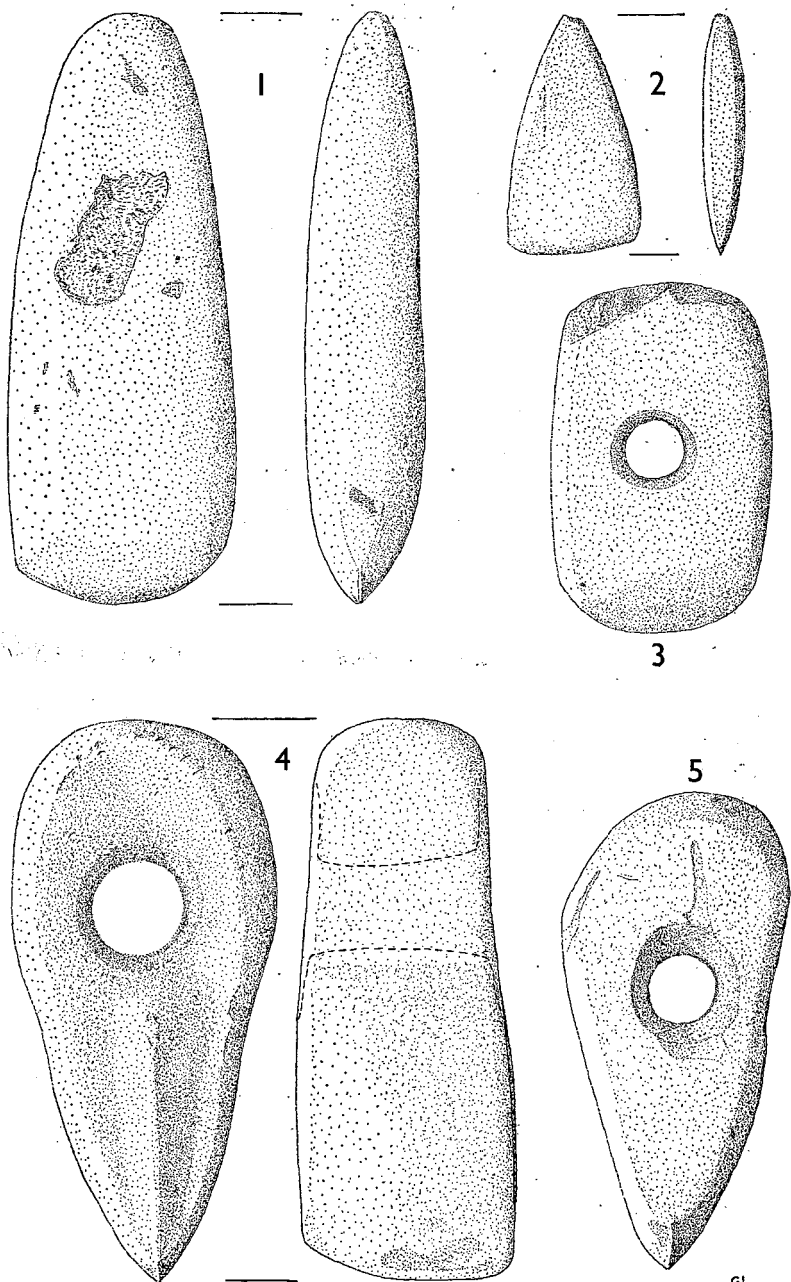


FIG. 1. NEOLITHIC AND EARLY BRONZE AGE STONE IMPLEMENTS (4)

end. On one face only, on the blade end, there is a slightly raised and well formed rib. Local parallels for such a feature are difficult to find but there is an axe-hammer from Carruchan, Dumfriesshire, which has a similar rib along the centre of the top and bottom surfaces at the blade end (*Trans. D. & G. Soc.*, XLIV (1967), 76 no. 88). The surfaces seem to have been subject to some polishing, a process more usual in the battle-axe series (v. *P.P.S.*, XXXII (1966), 199ff.). The material is grey wacke possibly from some source in the Southern uplands.

5. Axe-hammer; Thornborough (fig. 1, no. 5)

This somewhat clumsily formed axe-hammer was turned up by a mechanical cultivator in 1967 in the field immediately north of Thornborough High Barns (NZ:017656). It is in the possession of Mr. D. V. Orton, the owner of the farm, to whom one is indebted for information.

6. ? Mace-head; Cairnglastenhope (fig. 1, no. 3)

This mace-head or adze has been drawn from a photograph, since the present whereabouts of the object is unknown. It is c. 150 mm in length and the perforation appears to have a slight hour-glass shape to it. No other information is available other than that it was found many years ago at Cairnglastenhope by the Chirdon Burn (NY:7580).

G. JOBEY

3. *An unpublished intaglio from Corstopitum*. Plate XXIII, 2

Following on from last year's paper in this journal by Martin Henig¹ I am recording here an intaglio found some years ago at Corstopitum, and hitherto unpublished. The present whereabouts of the intaglio are unknown and the illustration given here is of an impression which I made

¹ M. Henig. "Museum Notes 1971. The Huntsman Intaglio from South Shields." *A.A.* 4, vol. xlix, pp. 215-230.

when I last saw it. It is a chance surface find from a point near the centre of the east-west road as exposed at present. The stone is an oval cornelian, measuring 14 mm × 11 mm on the engraved surface, and is in a good state of preservation apart from a small chip missing from the edge above the head of the engraved figure.

The figure itself is a draped female facing right holding an ovoid object, possibly a bowl, in her raised left hand before her, while her right arm extends downwards behind her holding a baton-like object. Before the lower half of the figure is another feature which may simply be folds of drapery or which may be a more fundamental part of the design. There is a noticeable resemblance between this and engraved gem no. 22 in D. Charlesworth's list² and so our intaglio may perhaps depict Ceres with a stylised bowl and corn ears but this is by no means a definite attribution.

N. SHIEL

² *A.A.* 4, vol. xxxix, p. 23 and pl. ix, no. 11.

