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MUSEUM NOTES, 2011

1. MISCELLANEOUS ANTIQUITIES FROM THE TYNE VALLEY

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Introduction

Between 1985 and 1995, as part of the Landscape Archaeology programme, undergraduates from the Department of Archaeology at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne took part in a programme of fieldwalking in the Tyne Valley between Throckley and Corbridge. Further work was undertaken by the first author as part of a programme of postgraduate research between 1988 and 1995, and from 1990 these activities were supplemented by those of the Stone Age Tynedale Survey, a fieldwalking programme undertaken by local amateurs but supervised by both authors. During the course of these projects a total of over four million square metres of ploughed surface was searched for artefacts. The focus of this work was the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods, reflecting our research interests at the time, and several interim assessments of the results have already been published (Tolan-Smith, C. 1996 and 1997; Tolan-Smith, M. 1997a). However, a number of other items were spotted and collected. In addition, once our activities became known to local farmers, several casual finds were also brought to our attention. The purpose of this short paper is to publish the more significant of those items; these have been deposited in the Great North Museum.

The paper takes the form of an inventory in which each item is described and details of its find-spot provided. In the case of the prehistoric finds, some comments are offered as to the wider significance of each find, whereas the finds attributed to the Romano-British period are discussed together.

Prehistoric finds

AXE-HAMMER (fig. 1.1): LOUSY PLANTATION, NORTH SIDE FARM, HORSLEY, NZ0967

Description: A wedge-shaped block of sandstone abraded to form a cutting edge at one end with a square-sectioned butt at the other. There is an 'hour-glass' perforation slightly towards the butt at the point of balance. This was presumably intended to hold a wooden haft. The angle of the cutting edge in relation to the axis of the shafthole, and the hammer-like characteristics of the butt, enable this item to be classified as an axe-hammer, an observation confirmed by comparing the metric properties of this piece with those of the corpus of similar implements studied by Roe (1966, 199–203). The slightly concave profile of this specimen and the thickness of its butt enable it to be placed in Class IIa of Roe's (1979, 30) developed scheme.

There is a zone of additional wear on one side close to the perforation. This appears to have been caused by movement while the axe-hammer was held in suspension through the perforation and implies an episode of secondary use as a weight.

Dimensions: 190 mm by 90 mm by 90 mm (at the butt); perforation 45 mm diminishing to 38 mm at the mid point.

Discussion: Axe-hammers are not an uncommon find and several are reported from the Tyne Valley. Allason-Jones (1981, 3–5) provides details of examples from Corbridge and Matfen, whilst the

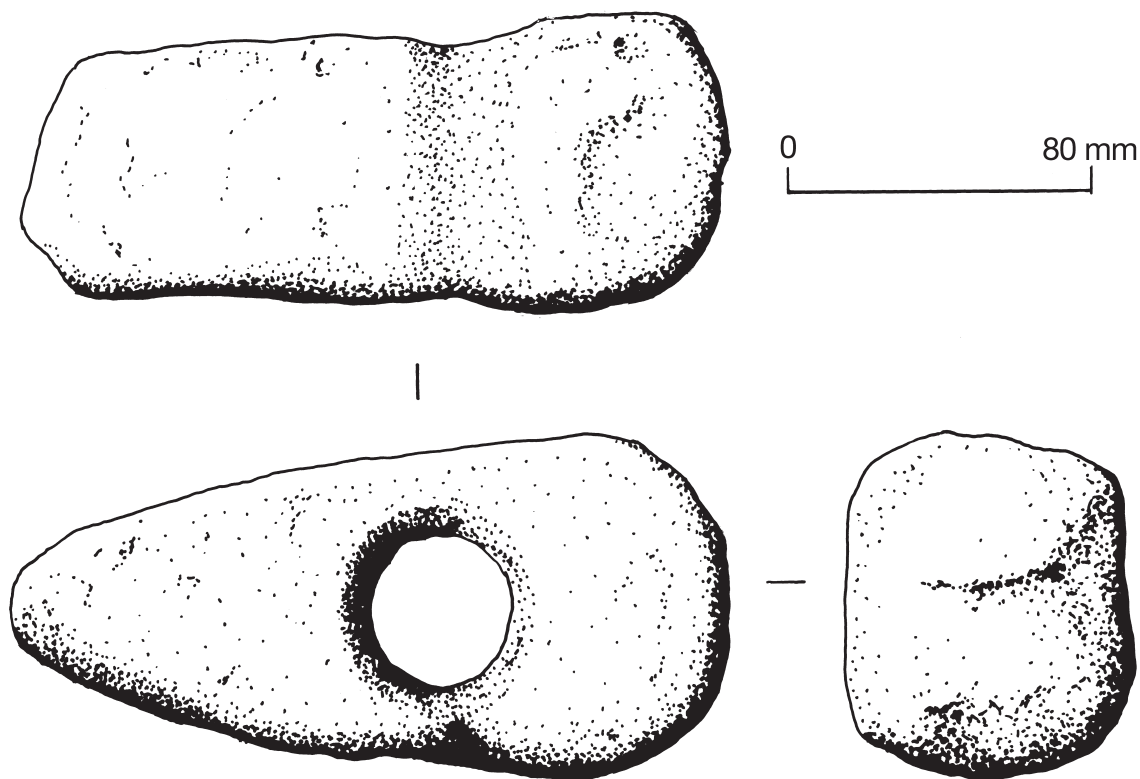


Fig. 1.1 Axe-hammer, from Lousy Plantation.

volumes of the *Northumberland County History* record others from Edgewell Colliery, Prudhoe (NCH 12, 9), Denton Hall (NCH 13,16) and Shildon Lough (NCH 10,334). They are dated to the Bronze Age and are usually recovered as casual finds. The circumstances of the recovery of the axe-hammer described are unclear, it having been found by the farmer during the course of agricultural operations. The general location of the find spot does call for some comment. It is reported to have been found in the vicinity of a parcel of land known as Lousy Plantation, the first element of which refers to the poor condition of the ground there. It marks the site of a small Late Glacial lake that was probably drained and turned into farmland during the Middle Ages or in the post-medieval period. The possible significance of this lies in the fact that two other axe-hammers from the area, both from Shildon Lough, 1 km east of Aydon (NCH 10, 334), were found in a similar situation. The possible association of perforated axe-hammers with bodies of fresh water may suggest that they were used as net sinkers, an interpretation which would be consistent with the secondary wear noted on the Lousy Plantation specimen. There are also records of one or more dug-out canoes being found at Shildon Lough when the lake was drained in 1779 (NCH 10,334) and a perforated axe hammer would make a serviceable anchor.

SHAFTHOLE ADZE (fig. 1.2): LEAZES COTTAGE, CORBRIDGE, NY996662

Description: A sandstone pebble, wedge-shaped in profile and tapering towards one end, with an hour-glass perforation. Both the upper and lower surfaces of the pebble have been ground smooth though the latter has suffered extensive damage, as has the narrower, tapered end. The angle of the

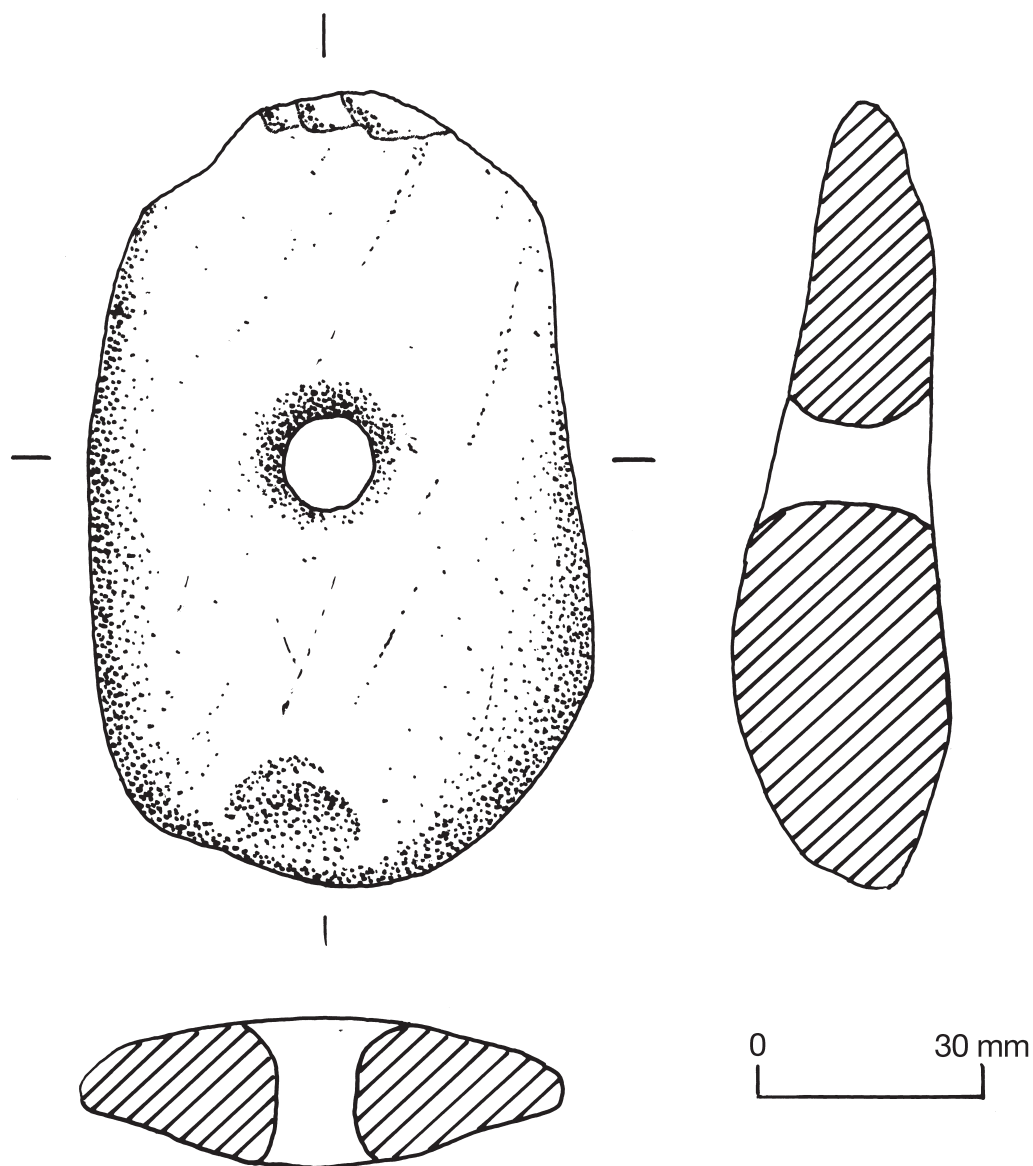


Fig. 1.2 Shafthole adze, from Leazes Cottage, Corbridge.

cutting edge in relation to the axis of the shafthole suggests that this implement should be classified as a shafthole adze (Roe 1979, 36–8).

Dimensions: 105 mm by 67 mm by 29 mm.

Discussion: Shafthole adzes are a poorly defined implement category with few chronological associations, though Roe draws attention to an example from the upper levels of one of the ditches at Windmill Hill, in Wiltshire (Roe 1979, 36), implying a *terminus post quem* in the Neolithic period or later.

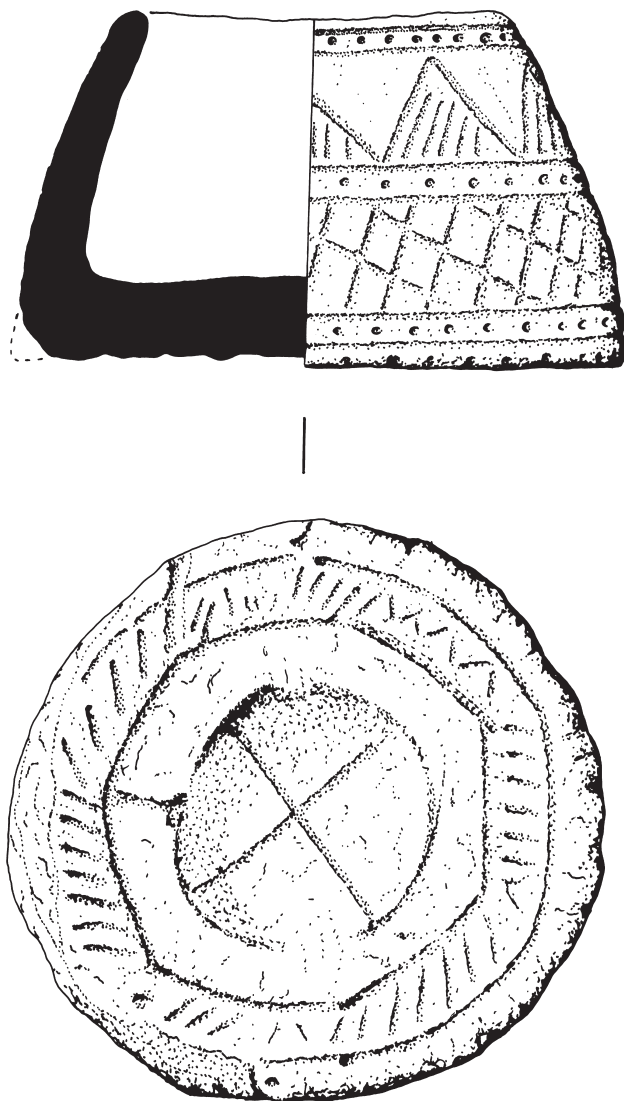


Fig. 1.3 Contracted mouth accessory cup, from Mount Huly, Horsley.

0 40 mm

CONTRACTED MOUTH ACCESSORY CUP (fig. 1.3): MOUNT HULY, HORSLEY, NZ0865

Description: The external surface of this small ceramic vessel is divided into two horizontal zones, the uppermost decorated with in-filled triangles while that below is filled with a pattern of cross hatching. Above and below these zones of decoration are horizontal bands of small circular depressions, with a similar band separating the two zones. The base is decorated with a cross pattern surrounded by a roughly incised line and a zone of rough herringbone.

Dimensions: 60 mm high, 70 mm rim diameter, 110 mm base diameter.

Discussion: This is the first vessel of this type to be found in Northumberland. It was found by a local farmer, engaged in the ploughing of a piece of pasture known to have lain undisturbed for at least 100 years, on the surface of the ground close to the site of a stony hedge bank that had been removed prior to ploughing. This bank may have incorporated a pre-existing cairn, and in any case the vessel is likely to have come from a funerary context. Its closest parallel is with a vessel from Loose Howe, Yorkshire (Longworth 1976). That vessel was associated with a secondary cremation and a Collared Urn and was broadly dated to the Bronze Age.



Fig. 1.4 Cornelian intaglio, from High Close House, Wylam. Scale 6:1.

Romano-British finds

CORNELIAN INTAGLIO (fig. 1.4): HIGH CLOSE HOUSE, WYLAM, NZ117667

Description: An oval cornelian intaglio, convex on both faces, missing the upper arc. The face is carved with the figure of Mercury looking left, nude apart from a *chlamys* (a short cloak) draped over his right forearm. He carries a *caduceus* (a herald's wand) in the crook of his right arm and an elongated money bag in his extended left hand. The ground is indicated by a single short line. This intaglio can be paralleled closely by an example in yellow cornelian from Verulamium (Henig 1978, no. 38). Henig gives a list of continental parallels to this type and suggests that the prototype may have been a Polykleiten statue. Early second century AD.

Dimensions: surviving length 13 mm, original length 14 mm; width 11 mm.

FRAGMENT OF SHALE ARMLET (fig. 1.5.i): HORSLEY WOOD ENCLOSURE, HORSLEY, NZ095649

Description: A fragment of a shale armlet of semi-oval section with a slight convexity to the inner face. No trace of decoration. Shale armlets of this type can be found in Iron Age contexts in the south of Britain close to the source of Kimmeridge shale but in the north they tend to date to after AD 100 and may have been cut from shale found in the North Tyne valley, Derbyshire or Midlothian (Allason-Jones and Jones 1994).

Dimensions: internal diameter 80 mm; thickness 15 mm.

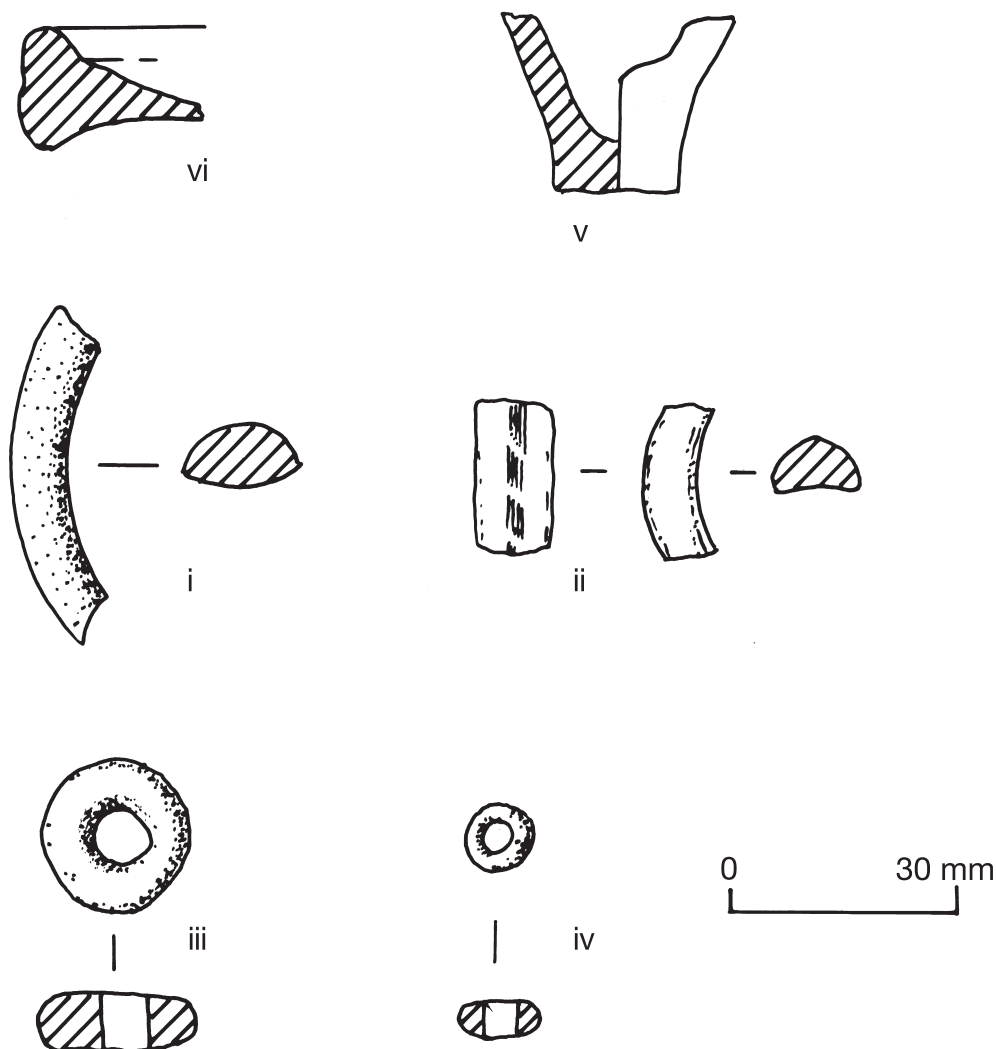


Fig. 1.5 (i) Shale armlet fragment, from Horsley wood enclosure, Horsley;
(ii) glass armlet fragment, from Pike Hill, Horsley;
(iii) and (iv) glass beads, from High Close House, Wylam;
(v) base sherd of Nene Valley Ware, from Lousy Hill, Horsley;
(vi) rim sherd of Oxford Ware, from Harlow Hill.

FRAGMENT OF GLASS ARMLET (fig. 1.5.ii): PIKE HILL, HORSLEY, NZ081656

Description: A fragment of an armlet of triangular section made from translucent pale blue glass with a twisted cord of dark blue and white glass at the apex (Kilbride Jones 1938, type 2; Price 1988, type 2Ai). This is one of the commonest forms found in the north of England where it tends to have a small internal diameter: the Yorkshire examples vary between 70 mm and 32 mm, although the majority are 50 mm or smaller (Price 1988 344). Those found in datable contexts group in the late

first century or very early second century AD and often have strong links with the military (Allason-Jones 1991).

Dimensions: internal diameter: 60 mm, approx.; width 7 mm; thickness 10 mm.

GLASS BEADS (fig. 1.5.iii and 1.5.iv): HIGH CLOSE HOUSE, WYLAM, NZ117667

Description: These two annular beads were found one within the other. The larger of the two is of medium size made from translucent 'natural' glass — i.e. pale watery green glass that has not had the colour removed — with a swirl of the same colour, whilst the smaller annular bead is of dark blue translucent glass. The former can be assigned to Guido's (1978) Group 6iia, most of which come from Roman sites and were made from recycled Roman bottle-glass, although there are some pre-Conquest examples. They continue well into the fifth century AD but are mostly early. The smaller bead can be assigned to Guido's Group 6ivb, a common type of bead on Roman sites but only when there is a noticeable native element. They were imported through the south west from the sixth century BC but persist into the post-Roman centuries. The positioning of the small bead within the larger one is unlikely to be fortuitous, and indeed when found they were initially thought to be a single object.

Dimensions: diameter 17.5 mm, thickness 7 mm, hole diameter 7.5 mm; diameter 7 mm, thickness 3 mm, hole diameter 3.5 mm.

POTTERY

During the course of the fieldwalking programme five sherds of pottery were collected that can be confidently attributed to the Romano-British period. These consist of two sherds of Samian, single sherds of Oxford and Nene Valley wares and a sherd of coarse ware.

Samian ware (i): Horsley Wood Cottages, Horsley, NZ100652

A heavily abraded rim sherd from a Dragendorff 37 bowl: 40 mm by 27 mm.

Samian ware (ii): Horsley Marsh, Horsley, NZ103669

A small heavily abraded rim sherd probably from a Dragendorff 37 bowl: 27 mm by 27 mm.

Nene Valley ware (fig. 1.5.v): Lousy Hill, Horsley, NZ097670

A base sherd, 28 mm in diameter, of a colour-coated beaker: 28 mm by 23 mm.

Oxford ware (fig. 1.5.vi): Harlow Hill, NZ076677

A rim sherd (60 mm by 30 mm) of a flat plate, 320 mm in diameter, with traces of an orange/pink slip.

Coarse ware: Horsley Wood enclosure, Horsley, NZ093647

A small body sherd of oxidized coarse ware: 18 mm by 24 mm.

DISCUSSION

The context of discovery of the Romano-British finds deserves some comment. The shale bangle was discovered immediately adjacent to the ploughed remains of Horsley Wood Romano-British enclosure, where it may have been dropped or, more likely, found its way onto the fields through manuring from a midden perhaps located in the adjacent settlement. Research in the area has demonstrated that the find-spot occupied part of a surrounding Romano-British field system (Tolan-Smith, M 1995). The intaglio and two glass beads were all retrieved from within the boundaries of Close House West Romano-British enclosure. The glass bangle fragment was not found in association with a known native settlement. All of these finds lie in the hinterland of Hadrian's Wall.

The discovery of what are usually described as exotic, although not necessarily high quality, Roman items associated with native settlements is relatively common in Northumberland. Usually such items have been recovered through excavation (Jobey 1966) and their presence is normally interpreted as evidence that Romano-British farmers were acquiring Roman goods probably in return for trading local surplus (Higham 1986). Research is suggesting ever more strongly that links were established between the Roman army and the native farming population (Breeze 1990; Anderson 1992; Tolan-Smith 1995), and that the latter were perhaps more heavily engaged than previously thought in supplying the army with local products in return for Roman items.

The group of finds under discussion adds little to the problem of dating such settlements. All indicate occupation during the second century or beyond. The two sherds of Samian can be dated to the first half of the second century, whilst the date-ranges of the Nene Valley and Oxford Ware sherds are somewhat later: the late second to the fourth century in the case of the former, and the late third to the fourth century in the case of the latter. The coarseware sherd cannot be dated but was found at the site of the Horsley Wood Romano-British farmstead while one of the two Samian sherds came from the vicinity of the putatively similar site at Thonichester (Tolan-Smith 1995, 1997a). The find spots of the other three sherds appear less significant, although the second Samian sherd was collected from the area immediately south of the Roman fort and vicus at Rudchester. These sherds were probably transported to their find spots along with cart loads of farmyard manure and provide an indication of the extent to which the landscape of the Hadrian's Wall zone was under cultivation during the Romano-British period.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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2. THE WALL, A PLAN AND THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS ACTS

Lindsay Allason-Jones and Frances McIntosh

In *Archaeologia Aeliana* for 2004, the late John Charlton recorded his memories of the events in the 1930s and 1940s which included the passing of the Ancient Monuments Act on which our current legislation for protecting Britain's heritage is based. In that important paper, he described how the Darlington engineer, John Frederick Wake, put forward a proposal in 1930 to quarry whinstone at Melkridge at a rate of 200,000 tons per year. This led to a public outcry and to a long drawn out battle between the need for jobs at a time of high unemployment, and a desire to maintain Britain's heritage. This paper looks at the events of 1930 and 1931 in the light of the discovery in the Society's collection of an album of photographs prepared by Mr Wake's company, Roman Stone Ltd, for the Public Inquiry that followed the furore.

It is well known that Mr Wake's plan, having acquired the surface rights between Shield-on-the-Wall and Housesteads, was to open new quarries with the intention of using the Great Whin Sill for the production of tar macadam (figs. 2.1 and 2.2). The inevitable waste was to be used in the manufacture of concrete pipes. The plan was expected to provide employment for 500 men. What is less well known, however, was that these plans also involved an extensive infrastructure to deal with the resulting stone harvest. Publications as far away as Wellington, New Zealand, took up the story. According to the 14 August 1930 edition of the [Wellington] *Evening Post*, 'arrangements have been made also for cable transport to a point near Haltwhistle station' (fig. 2.3) 'and for quay accommodation at Gateshead for unloading bitumen from abroad and for the export of the prepared material' (figs. 2.4 and 2.5). It went on to say that 'the projected quarrying would be attended by the erection of high steel buildings for receiving and grading the stone, and they would be covered with galvanised sheeting. The process of grading, being noisy, would do much to disturb the peace of the countryside; while the buildings themselves would inevitably disfigure the landscape'. 'The slopes

Fig. 2.1 A section of an annotated panoramic view of the area destined for mining. Taken from the Roman Stone Ltd. album.

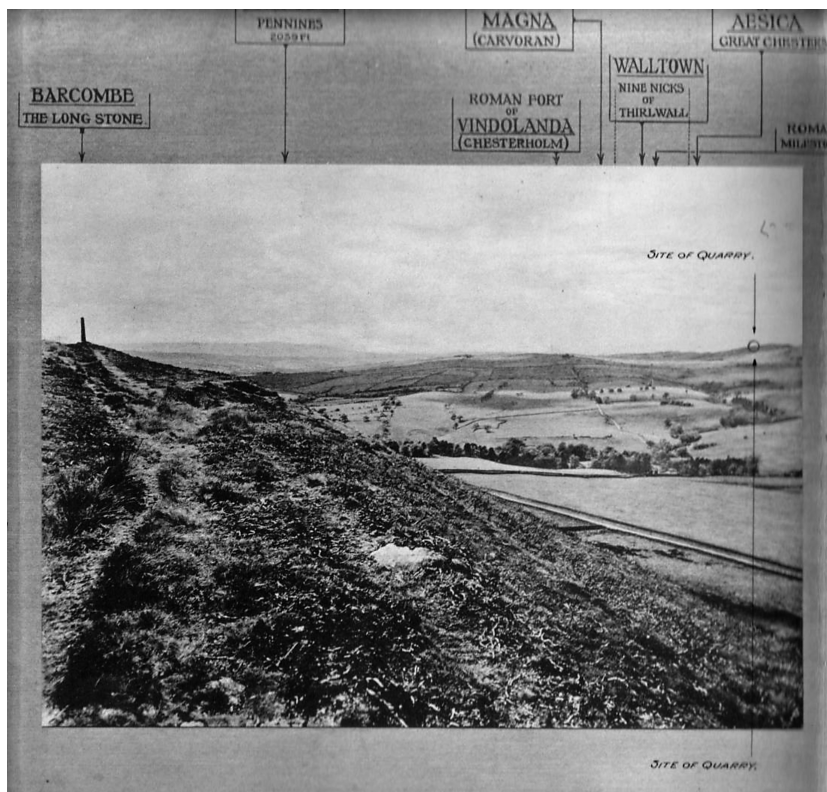


Fig. 2.2 A section from the panoramic view 'showing the area of the proposed quarry on Shield-on-the-Wall. In the foreground is the main Newcastle/Carlisle Road. The view is taken from the south looking north. The position at which it is proposed to open the quarry is indicated by a cross on the sky-line and the actual quarry floor by a horizontal line. The quarry floor will be about 50ft above the Vallum which will not be interfered with or obstructed'. Taken from the Roman Stone Ltd. album.





Fig. 2.3 '... view of the Blackett Sidings and site on which screening and tarmacadam plant will be erected. These sidings are at Melkridge Village, $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles from the quarry. Stone will be brought by means of gravity aerial ropeway from the quarry'. Taken from the Roman Stone Ltd. album.



Fig. 2.4 'View of the site acquired by us near the approach to Scotswood Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne. Railway sidings to the right. On this site it is proposed to make tar bitumen compounds &c for treating road stone, and also to make cement concrete goods such as flags, sills, pipes, &c, &c, using the broken stone from our quarries as the aggregates'. Taken from the Roman Stone Ltd. album.



Fig. 2.6 (above) Mr Lansbury and his entourage visiting the Wall (photograph reproduced courtesy of Newcastle Chronicle and Journal Limited).



Fig. 2.7 (right) Mr F. J. Wake showing the First Commissioner, George Lansbury MP, the plans for the proposed quarry (photograph reproduced courtesy of Newcastle Chronicle and Journal Limited).

Commissioner of Works, on 28 April 1930, a letter which was published in *The Times* on 3 May. This was only one of many letters objecting to the scheme which was sent to *The Times* throughout April and May 1930. Table 1 provides a list of those who wrote in to voice their views, from Grey of Fallodon to the Women's Institute, Rudyard Kipling and Josiah Wedgwood. Most of these letters stated their authors' support for the stand taken by the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne and praised their prompt action at raising the resolution. *The Times* also chronicled events in this debate and thus created a timeline of the activity through 1930.

The level of public outcry was such that Lansbury had to respond, and on 23 April he visited the Wall to consider the evidence provided by Wake and to survey the ground for himself. He did not travel to the North East alone but brought with him C. R. Peers, the Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments (who was also the President of the Society of Antiquaries of London), and an under-secretary at the Department of Works, Mr. Raby.¹ They were guided along the Wall by Mr Parker Brewis who was the Office of Works' Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Northumberland (and also vice-President of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne). An article in *The Journal* on 24 April summarised Lansbury's visit to the area and provided images of the occasion (figs. 2.6 and 2.7).

Lansbury was also accompanied by members of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, by civil servants, members of the Haltwhistle Labour Party (including Mr B. J. Taylor, the chairman), representatives of Roman Stone Ltd, and large numbers of newspaper reporters. One *Newcastle Journal* reporter wrote in the article on 24 April that 'it

Table 1 Correspondents to *The Times*, April–November 1930

NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne	11 April	Announcing their resolution against the quarry
Society of Antiquaries of London (President)	12 April	Supporting Newcastle Antiquaries' view
National Trust (Chairman of Executive Committee)	12 April	Asking for Parliamentary intervention
G. M. Trevelyan	16 April	Bemoaning the lack of protection for the Wall
Charles Roberts	16 April	Recommending a regional planning scheme
Council for the Preservation of Rural England (Vice-President)	17 April	Supporting views of National Trust and Society of Antiquaries
Cumberland and Westmorland Archaeological Society	24 April	Expressing grave concern — sent a copy of their resolution to the Prime Minister and Leader of Opposition
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society	25 April	Supporting Newcastle Antiquaries' view
Mr. Leigh	28 April	Commenting on issues of scheduling and lack of protection
Members of Oxford University: Grey of Fallodon (Chancellor) F. Holmes Dudden (Vice-Chancellor) Hugh Cecil (Burgess) C. W. C. Oman (Burgess) Herbert L. Wild (former Bishop of Newcastle) H. A. L. Fisher, A. D. Lindsay, F. W. Pember, W. R. Buchanan Riddell, M. E. Sadler, H. J. White, F. G. J. Anderson, Gilbert Murray, John L. Myres, Charles S. Sherrington, Cyril Bailey, R. G. Collingwood	3 May	Copying a letter they had sent to Mr Lansbury asking for limits to quarrying
Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies	8 May	Expressing grave concern — a copy of their resolution was sent to the Prime Minister
Group of Professors and Lecturers in History from various universities: F. E. Adcock, Cambridge J. G. C. Anderson, Oxford	23 May	Copying a letter sent to the Prime Minister, asking for a larger stretch of Wall to be protected

Table 1 *Continued*

NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
B. Ashmole, London D. Atkinson, Manchester N. H. Baynes, London T. Rice Holmes H. Stuart Jones, Vice Chancellor, Wales F. G. Kenyon, Director, British Museum G. Macdonald J. W. Mackail, Royal Academy E. H. Minns, Cambridge J. L. Myres, Oxford H. A. Ormerod, Liverpool Rennell Rodd		
The British Academy (President)	27 May	Copying a letter sent to the Prime Minister, appealing for more protection of national monuments
Women's Institute	30 May	Demanding a strengthening of the 1913 Ancient Monuments Act
From the House of Commons: Rudyard Kipling Charles Oman H. A. L. Fisher Josiah C. Wedgewood John Buchan George Macdonald Philip E. Pilditch	29 July	Pressing Mr Lansbury to introduce his Bill and reassure people as to the negotiations made with the company
Vaughan Cornish	7 November	Recommending the area become a National Park

was a most stimulating experience... [to see Lansbury] ... clad in a well-worn blue serge suit, a 'billy-cock' hat crowning his white locks, poised on the Wall where Hadrian's men wrought and fought'. At Housesteads, the official entourage inspected the surviving remains and 'characteristically, the minister conversed warmly with the eighty-one-year-old keeper of the fortification, Thomas Thompson [described by the *Journal* reporter as 'a modern Caesar', who ensured all the party paid their sixpence entrance fee], before pondering the moral and political dilemma revealed by the threat of extensive quarrying to the Roman Wall' (Shepherd 2002, 1).

As a result of his visit, Lansbury wrote to the Prime Minister, Ramsay MacDonald, on 9 May, explaining that if the quarrying was stopped the Government would have to pay £20,000 in compensation to Roman Stone Ltd. On the other hand, he pointed out 'more serious still, the quarrying as it progresses will tend to create a meaningless cliff on the southern side ... out of all relation to the natural features' (PRO: WORK 14/1257/184682). He had

clearly realised, as a result of his visit, that the setting of Hadrian's Wall was as important as the monument itself. This latter point was not one shared by everyone, as Lansbury went on to inform the Prime Minister that he had been under pressure from members of the local Labour Party: 'The last resolution that I have received from them is to the effect that, "We urge the Government to give immediate consent for employment, believing as we do that the principal portions of the Wall can be preserved without danger by quarrying operations" ' (*ibid.*).

The political background to this visit, and to the resulting 1931 Ancient Monuments Act, was tense. The Labour Party had won the General Election in 1929 and appointed George Lansbury to the post of First Commissioner of Works. This was not a post which was considered particularly important, as its role was largely to preserve about 300 designated ancient buildings, to maintain a range of government buildings and to oversee the royal parks, but it did bring with it a seat in the Cabinet. At the same time, Mr Lansbury was given the task, which was much more to his taste, of drawing up policies to relieve unemployment, which had risen steadily from just over a million in 1921 and was to reach 2,750,000 by July 1931 (Postgate 1951, 245). Attempts to deal with the situation by the Unemployment Committee, on which Mr Lansbury sat, had failed repeatedly, invariably due to internal political factions.

The country was not only facing rising unemployment but also a financial crisis. The Royal Commission appointed to investigate Britain's financial situation declared the country to be £120 million in debt. It was recommended that the government should find savings of £80 million, of which £66 million should be taken from the unemployed by a cut of 20 per cent in unemployment benefit. It was against this background that George Lansbury found himself facing the problem of Hadrian's Wall and the threat posed to it by quarrying. To fight for a Bill which would deny employment to a considerable number of men for forty years could, in the circumstances, be considered political suicide, particularly given Lansbury's own interest in the rights of the working man and his seat on the Unemployment Committee (Postgate 1951).

On 2 June, Lansbury bravely announced a compromise proposal to Parliament, by which quarrying would be confined to a limited area, 'to preserve the ground between Hadrian's Wall and the *Vallum* to the south' (*The Times*, 3 June 1930). The quarries at Walltown and Cawfields, with long term leases to 1981 and 1943 respectively, would be allowed to continue their work until the end of their leases.

Lansbury does not mention the Ancient Monuments Act in his memoirs (1935) and nor does his son in the biography he wrote on his father (1934), so we must conclude that in the family circle the passing of this Act was not considered to be of much importance. It is to be noted, however, that not only did Lansbury get the Act through the legislative process, and with dispatch, it was the only Bill he got through (Shepherd 2002, 270). As his biographer and son-in-law, Raymond Postgate, states:

'Nothing, indeed, which he sponsored was to be carried out, with the odd exception of a bill for safeguarding the ancient monument of Britain, made necessary by a proposal to quarry away the foundations of the Roman Wall. It was introduced in the House of Lords, passed down to the House of Commons, where opposition members, on personal appeals from Lansbury (he thanked them for 'your compassion for one of the ancient monuments') pushed it through Committee and received the Royal Assent on June 11th 1931 — the sole work of Lansbury's that is on the Statute Book' (Postgate 1951, 264–5).

Not only was this Lansbury's only success in legislation, it was one of the very few Bills that made it through the 'log-jam of held-up Bills' in Parliament that year (Postgate 1951). For example, the Town and Country Planning Bill, and the Mining Welfare Bill failed completely, while Bills for the repeal of the Trade Union Act of 1927, for electoral reform, the abolition of university seats, and the Education Act, all struggled through at each stage.

The Ancient Monuments Act may be seen today as a major coup. 'The threat to Hadrian's Wall from quarrying, and the need to remedy the deficiency of the 1913 Act in failing to allow the payment of compensation to owners, stimulated the 1931 Act. This Act, with its provision for preservation area schemes (only applied to the central sector of the Roman Wall), brought Ancient Monuments legislation for the first time into the wider planning sphere' (Saunders 1983, 20). However, in truth, the act simply gave the First Commissioner of Works the powers to make Planning Schemes and to pay compensation. Under these powers, a Planning Scheme was devised which controlled the area from Walltown to Chesters. However, it failed to stop the existing quarrying. In 1938, the quarrying at Walltown reached the area of Turret 45a when, as described by John Charlton (2004), the country's more comfortable financial situation allowed the Government to acquire the relevant length of Wall and the mineral rights in the immediate vicinity of Turret 45a, as well as to pay £1,000 and £15,000 in compensation to the owner of the mineral rights and to the quarry company, respectively.

As is clearly recorded by Charlton's paper, the Second World War brought new threats to the Wall through the demand for whinstone to surface airfield runways. Once again, academics, members of the concerned public and the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne were called upon to defend the Wall. It was not, however, until 3 June 1944 that Mr Wake formally assigned his lease to the Ministry of Works for the sum of £6,500. Even so, it was not until 1960 that the Minister for Housing and Local Government (renamed in 1951 from Town and Country Planning), Henry Brooke, decreed that 'the extension of the quarry [at Walltown] could not be justified on the grounds of shortage of whinstone' (PRO: HLG 89/855) and Hadrian's Wall, was now, theoretically, safe within 'its setting in the Northumberland National Park'. However, in the course of research for this article, outcry against more recent quarrying close to Hadrian's Wall was noted. In 2009, Tyne Roadstone Ltd. applied to re-open Cocklaw Quarry, near Hexham, which is just 515 metres from the World Heritage Site. This quarry was approved, despite local protest, and highlights the threats that archaeology and heritage still face from industry in the twenty-first century.

NOTE

¹ C. R. Peers also attended the 1930 Pilgrimage (*PSAN*⁴, 4 (1930)). In a report on the Pilgrimage (*CW*², 31, 199–200), the following comments reveal how concern about the Wall had spread, and that this concern had been maintained through the months: '... the Pilgrimage has focussed and heightened the general interest in the Wall which now prevails throughout the country, and underlies the new Ancient Monuments Bill which, we hope, will in the future make it possible for the State to protect such national possessions as this against wanton and mercenary destruction. Speakers on the Pilgrimage refrained from references to the threatened invasion of the Wall's central and most impressive portions by a vast quarrying enterprise; but their audience knew that it was never long absent from their minds, and realised that, if the object of their pilgrimage was to be spared such outrage, it could only be through the activity of a public opinion sufficiently widespread and sufficiently enlightened to enforce upon Governments the view that neither the enrichment of capitalists nor the employment of labour can justify the deliberate destruction of what ought to be regarded as one of the nation's chief treasures.'

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