

ART. II.—*A prehistoric settlement on Walney Island,*
*Part VII.*¹ By the Hon. MARJORIE CROSS, F.S.A.

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§I. *Pottery* (fig. I).

WALNEY North End has already yielded domestic pottery of Neolithic-Beaker age and Beaker age.² In 1950 Mr Barnes has made the still more interesting find of several sherds of Beaker B (pot 4). They are small and some of them much weathered, but one piece shows the typical cord-impressions absolutely clearly, and the fine smooth paste is unmistakable. Two small pieces of rim bear two horizontal grooves.

B Beakers are extremely rare in our area. The nearest find-spot is a barrow in Mecklin Park, near Santon Bridge, Cumberland, excavated in 1936 by Dr J. E. Spence.³ In that case, one small cord-impressed fragment and one flint flake were the only "grave-goods" found. At roughly the same distance into Lancashire, a similar fragment was found in Dog Holes Caves, Warton,⁴ by Dr Wilfrid Jackson. Newborough Warren, on Anglesey, has also produced fragments of string-marked pottery.⁵ Miss Clare Fell has recently drawn attention⁶ to a small pot from a burial on Sizergh Fell, which has parallel cord-impressions running round it,

¹ For previous reports see CW2 xxxviii, xxxix, xlii, xlvi, xlvii and xlix.

² CW2 xxxix 273 and 274.

³ CW2 xxxvii 104.

⁴ CW2 xi 479; *Trans. Lancs. & Cheshire Ant. Soc.* xxviii.

⁵ *Trans. Anglesey Ant. Soc. & Field Club*, 1927, fig. 3.

⁶ "The Beaker period in Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire North of the Sands", in *The Early Cultures of North-West Europe* (H. M. Chadwick *Memorial Studies*), p. 47, note.

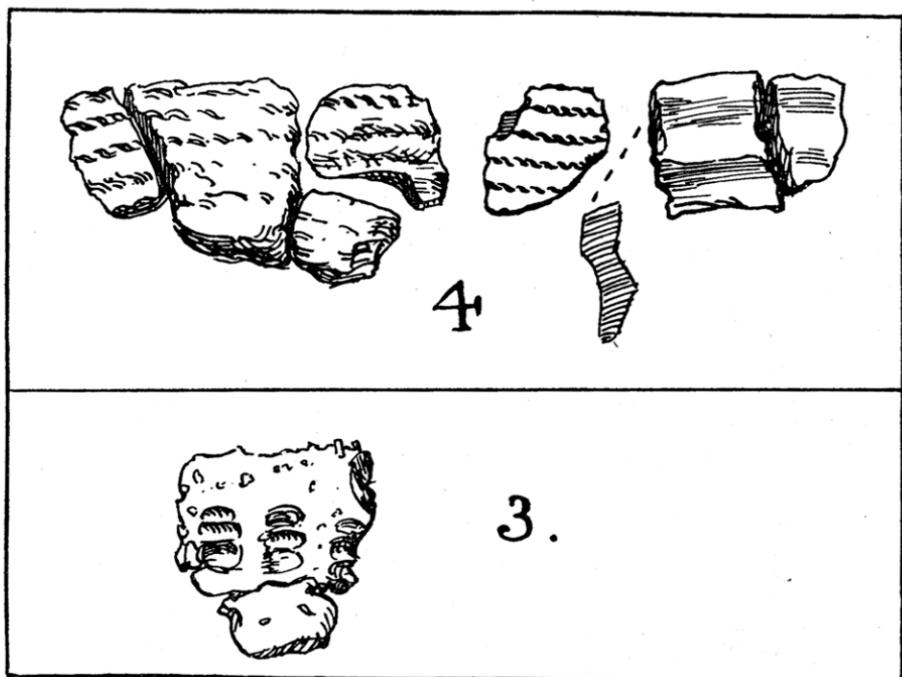


FIG. 1.

though it is not quite the usual B Beaker shape.⁷ A glance at her distribution-map in the same paper shows the marked seaward concentration, in our area, of the string-marked pottery: Anglesey, Warton, Sizergh, Walney, Mecklin Park and Glenluce—contrasting with the north-easterly landward distribution of the C type Beakers in the Eden valley and Shap neighbourhood, all with notched or pricked decoration and probably derived from Yorkshire.

Along with the Beaker sherds were a few decorated with maggot-pattern (pot 3).

⁷ Cf. CW₂ iv 78.

§2. *Flints* (fig. 2).

The flints of the North End are put quite in the shade this year by Mr Barnes' discovery, at the south end of the Island, of the first microlith ever found in our area, described by him elsewhere in this volume.⁸ Nevertheless, the North End has produced forty-two more worked pieces.

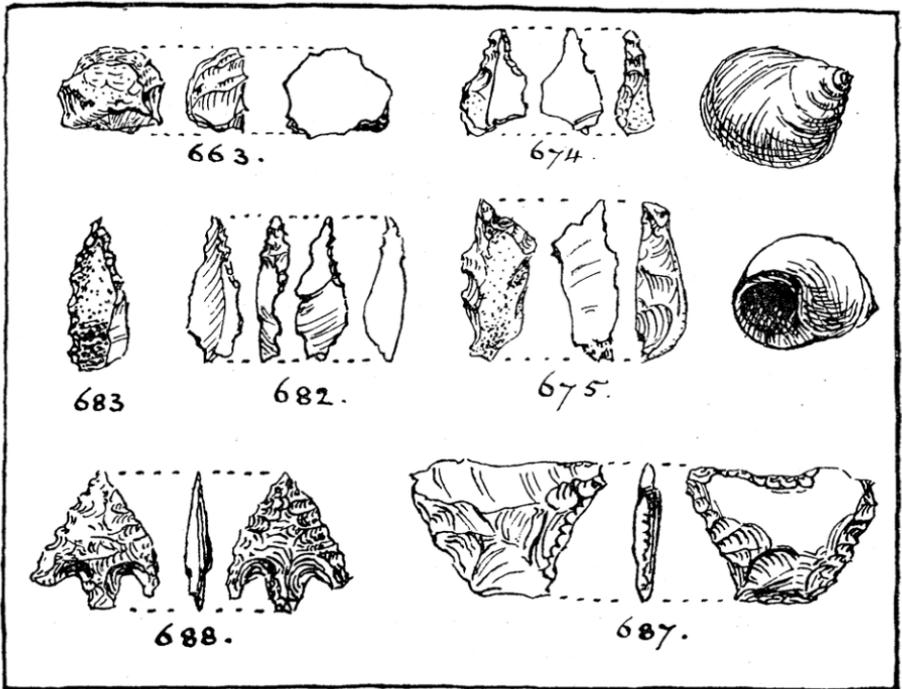


FIG. 2

Of these, no. 687 is a new type of arrowhead for this site. It is a roughly triangular flake of blue flint (or chert) with a transverse flake struck across the widest margin. On the same face it is trimmed all over the remainder of the surface and on one short edge, and on

⁸ Pp. 20-29 below.

the reverse the edges are trimmed almost the whole way round, 11/16 by 15/16 by 1/8 in. Miss Fell has kindly identified it as one of Dr Grahame Clark's *petit tranchet* derivatives, Class D:⁹ "The butt and tips of the blade edge have been broken, and the butt has been retrimmed. Class D arrowheads do not occur before the Peterborough-Beaker overlap, and have been found at Grooved Ware sites and in Early Bronze Age (post Beaker) contexts. This fits in well with the Late Neolithic-Beaker character of much of the North End material."

The other arrowhead shown, no. 688, is one of the loveliest little tanged and barbed specimens we have yet seen. It is of honey-coloured flint, pressure-flaked all over both faces, the barbs rather shorter than the tang, 3/4 by 11/16 by 1/8 in.

A novel discovery was a collection of six flint winkle-pins, found in a midden along with their empty winkle-shells. I have drawn four of them, nos. 674, 675, 682 and 683. We have often found these little implements before, but took them for unorthodox gravers and borers, never thinking of connecting them with winkles.

No. 663 is an exceptionally minute button-scraper, pressure-flaked, 9/16 by 7/16 by 3/8 in.

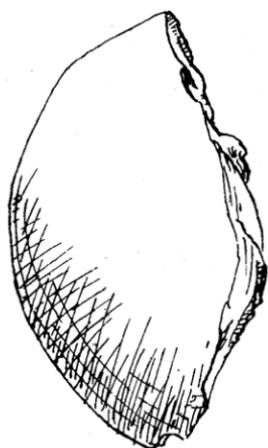
§3. *Stone objects* (fig. 3).

S 45 is a leaf-shaped object of dark grey stone. Miss Fell considers that it "may conceivably show grinding as well as rolling: purpose doubtful". The other two implements are shown for the interest attaching to their material, which to the naked eye appears to be Great Langdale rock (late Stake Pass).¹⁰

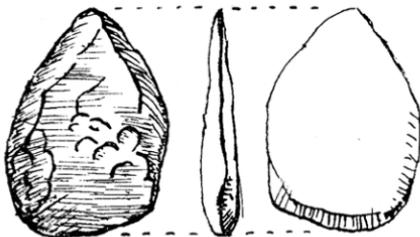
S 46 is the cutting edge of a polished axe, 2 5/16 in. wide by 3/4 in. thick; it has been broken by heat, and a number of cracked fragments were found near it. S 47 appears to be the broken butt of a polished axe, roughly thinned at the broken end and battered down one edge; it may have been used for rough flaking.

⁹ *Arch. Journ.* xci, 1934, 32-58.

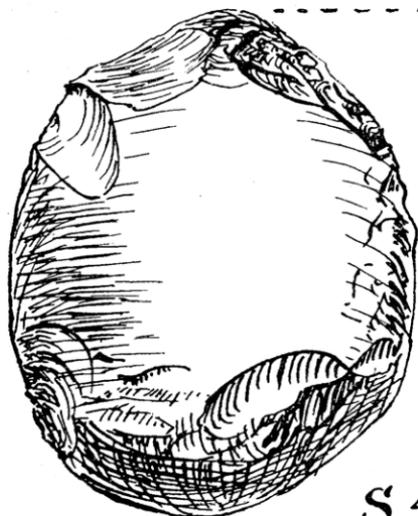
¹⁰ Cf. Art. I above, and *Proc. Prehist. Soc.* n.s. xv, 1949, 1-20.



S 46.



S 45.



S 47.

FIG. 3.