

## SHORTER NOTICES

This section of the *Collections* is devoted to short notes on recent archaeological discoveries, reports on small finds, definitive reports on small-scale excavations, etc., and (from this volume) also to similar short notes on aspects of local history. Material for inclusion should be sent to Mr. Henry Cleere, F.S.A., Little Bardown, Stonegate, Wadhurst, Sussex. Those without previous experience in writing up such material for publication should not be deterred from contributing for Mr. Cleere will be happy to assist in the preparation of reports and illustrations.

ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN SUSSEX—Since the last list of additions was published in *Sussex Archaeological Collections* (hereafter *S.A.C.*), vol. 107 (1969), xliii–xliv, the following monuments have been scheduled (the numerals on the left are the county numbers allotted to monuments):

- 363 *Bodiam*, medieval site south of Court Lodge [*erroneously called at one time 'The Gun Garden'*].
- 365 *East Dean* (West Sussex), field system, Lamb Lea.
- 376 *Hartfield*, hillfort on Garden Hill.
- 377 *Sullington*, group of five round barrows in Sullington Warren.
- 378 *Chailey*, moated site S.W. of Wapsbourne Farm.
- 379 *Eastbourne*, Martello Tower No. 66, Langney Point.
- 382 *Wilmington*, flint mines east of the Long Man.
- 384 *Storrington*, settlement site in Chantry Bottom.
- 385 *Heathfield*, iron furnace site west of Beckington Bridge.
- 386 *Penhurst*, Panningridge iron furnace site.
- 388 *Wadhurst*, Riverhall blast furnace.
- 389 *Buxted*, Iron Plat furnace.
- 390 *Shoreham-by-Sea*, Shoreham Old Fort.
- 391 *Bramber* and *Upper Beeding*, medieval salterns north of Bramber car-park.
- 392 *Hartfield*, round barrow 620yds. east of Tile Lodge.
- 393 *Buxted*, King's Standing.
- 396 *East Lavington*, four round barrows north of Lower Barn.

E. W. HOLDEN (*Honorary Correspondent for Sussex, Ancient Monuments Inspectorate, Department of the Environment*)

A HANDAXE FROM SOUTHLAND FARM, WARNINGLID, SLAUGHAM—The implement described in this note was found in 1941 by Mr. W. Newnham, and was recognized as a Palaeolithic artefact at the time by the late Dr. Eliot Curwen. It came to notice again recently and, as such axes are uncommon in Sussex, publication was thought to be desirable. The writer is grateful to Mr. E. W. Holden and Mr. Newnham for information about the implement and for the loan of it for study. Mr. Holden has kindly supplied the drawing (Fig. 1).

The handaxe was found on the surface of a field during ploughing or harrowing, at TQ 2630 2578 (6½ miles more or less due S. of Crawley town centre). The plough soil here overlies Tunbridge Wells Sand of the Wealden Series, and no obvious deposits of Pleistocene age are present in the immediate vicinity. The area lies at about 350–400ft. above sea level: several minor streams have their sources here and run in different directions, most eventually finding their way to the Ouse or Adur. Clearly, there can be no direct evidence to establish the artefact's true age: small bifaces of this general size and shape occur at various different times in the pre-historic period. The writer is personally quite satisfied that this one falls within the typical range of later Lower Palaeolithic and Middle Palaeolithic handaxes as regards size, morphology, and technology, while the ancient-looking condition of its surface is certainly consistent with its being of such an age, contrasting notably with the general appearance of the abundant Mesolithic artefacts, for example, coming from the same area, in Mr. Newnham's collection. However, patination and staining are notoriously deceptive guides to age, and in the last resort we cannot positively prove that this artefact is as old as it is here assumed to be.

The implement is shown in three views in Fig. 1, and a detailed description follows. It is a small, roughly oval or sub-rectangular handaxe, bifacially worked but made from a flake. The dimensions are length 66.5mm., breadth 46.5mm., thickness 19.3mm.; these are maximum readings, taken parallel or at right-angles to the long axis as appropriate, and they do not allow for damage. Intermittent patination, stained a pale buff colour, gives a patchy and mottled appearance to the implement's surface; only near the tip on the flatter face is the patination spread thickly and evenly over the whole surface from edge to edge. Both faces bear occasional orange-brown spots of iron stain, some of which have been inclined to spread along the ridges between flake scars. The flatter face of the handaxe (Fig. 1c) has been affected in three places by substantial recent mechanical damage, probably caused by the plough—at the tip, and near the centre of each side. These have somewhat affected the outline; the implement's original shape may have been more typically ovate, with the sides regularly convex rather than sub-parallel as they now are. On the other face (Fig. 1a), modern damage is relatively

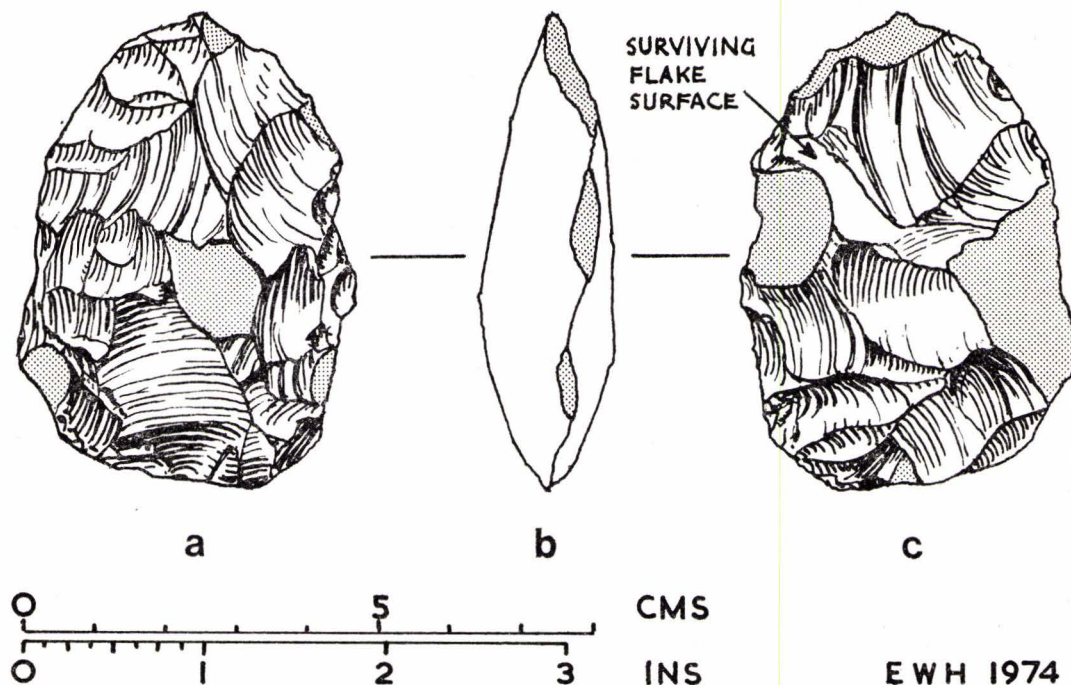


FIG. 1. THE HANDAXE FROM SOUTHLAND FARM, WARNINGLID, SLAUGHAM. (a) Dorsal face; (b) section; (c) bulbar face. The terms 'dorsal' and 'bulbar' refer to the original flake from which the handaxe has been made. Damage shown stippled

slight but includes one curious and rather unlikely flake removal—a flat mechanical scar in the very centre of the implement, the 'striking platform' for which was the step formed where a trimming flake had ended in a hinge fracture. These damage scars reveal that the implement is made of good-quality grey-black flint. There is no sign of water rolling, but the implement's surface is generally shiny, with tiny areas of abrasion or exfoliation here and there, mostly on the flatter face; these are probably a result of weathering.

In section (Fig. 1b), the handaxe is moderately flat and the cutting edges (so far as the recent damage permits an assessment) must have been regular and straight and have run right round the circumference. As already indicated, the implement is inclined to be plano-convex, and this is mainly an effect of its flake origin. The latter is proved by the survival of a narrow area of the original main flake surface, unaffected by trimming scars, just above centre on the flatter side (Fig. 1c), which is the bulbar face of the flake (assuming that the flake was a struck one rather than of thermal origin); such a small area survives that this is not absolutely certain, and the secondary work has completely removed any traces of a bulb of percussion or striking platform. As is frequently found with bifaces made from flakes, the 'dorsal' face bears far more secondary scars than the former bulbar face. The secondary flaking is generally flat and elegant, suggesting skilful workmanship. The tip has been finished by ordinary flaking and not by a 'tranchet' style removal. The well finished convex butt with cutting edge and the neatly rounded corners where the butt and side edges meet (so far as they are intact) seem somewhat reminiscent of the *bout coupé* handaxe type, but the loss by damage to the original outline makes it impossible to say how near this specimen actually falls into that class. This note is written rather more than a year after the writer's note on a handaxe from Hassocks and his contribution to the account of the Ade collection, which have been combined and are published in the present volume (see above, pages 1-8), but if he had known then of the Warninglid handaxe he would certainly have mentioned it in his discussion of the possible affinities of the three Sussex handaxes there described, to which the reader should now refer. It is nearer in size and shape to the Hassocks specimen than to those from Burlow and Alfriston Tye.

It would be wasteful of space to cover the same ground again here in any detail. To summarize: if this Warninglid implement is indeed of Palaeolithic age, it is most likely to be of either later Acheulian or Mousterian of Acheulian tradition manufacture. It is certainly notably similar in size, technology, and morphology to some of the small handaxes from the Mousterian site of Oldbury rock-shelters in Kent<sup>1</sup>, and it is also not unlike some

1. Collins, D. and Collins, A., "Excavations at Oldbury in Kent; cultural evidence for Last Glacial occupation in Britain," *Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology, University of London* (1970), 8-9, 151-76; Roe, D. A., "British Lower and Middle Palaeolithic handaxe groups," *Proc. Prehist. Soc.*, 34 (1968), 1-82.

from Wookey Hole, Somerset<sup>1</sup>, which is probably a site of similar (Last Glacial) age. It is worth noting that at Oldbury the geographical situation was generally similar to that of Warninglid, and indeed that of Hassocks—a sand ridge overlooking the Weald and not far from the chalk. While at Oldbury there was a major concentration of material at the so-called ‘rock-shelters’ site, there was also a scatter of isolated surface finds of similar handaxes from the surrounding area over several miles.

It is obviously not worth taking a discussion of the possible affinities of the Warninglid handaxe into further detail, since anything said must remain provisional. It is interesting that all four of the handaxes described in this volume seem to be of the same type, although they are four separate finds from quite widely separated sites. For the Warninglid find, it is worth making the final point that Palaeolithic material in this part of Sussex is particularly scarce. The Sussex distribution recorded in the writer's *Gazetteer of British Lower and Middle Palaeolithic Sites*<sup>2</sup> and also discussed by Grinsell<sup>3</sup> and by Roe and Holden<sup>4</sup>, falls almost exclusively in the southern parts of the county. There is one good handaxe from Pease Pottage, between Slaugham and Crawley, now in the Barbican House Museum: this is a large implement, quite unlike the Warninglid one, probably Middle Acheulian, and slightly rolled. It is recorded as “found on a road”, and whether it was really of local origin or imported in gravel from elsewhere does not seem clear. Grinsell<sup>5</sup> refers to a “small four-sided implement of uncertain date” from Crawley, which was thought possibly to be Palaeolithic, but this is a very dubious specimen at best. From slightly further afield, there is a good fresh Levalloisian flake from Ashdown (exact find-spot unknown) in Plymouth Museum. It is also notable that Mr. Newnham, who clearly has a fine eye for flints and has been collecting them around Warninglid for some 40 years, states that this is the only local specimen he has seen for which a Palaeolithic age was possible.

The Warninglid handaxe remains in Mr. Newnham's private collection. His Mesolithic material from the Warninglid area has been recorded by Mr. R. M. Jacobi for the Council for British Archaeology's forthcoming *Mesolithic Gazetteer*.

DEREK ROE.

FLINT MINES ON WINDOVER HILL, WILMINGTON (TQ 544 034)—Dr. E. Cecil Curwen recognized a group of knolls and depressions E. of the head of the Long Man of Wilmington as possible flint-mine shafts and heaps of waste material,<sup>6</sup> but they had not been proved as such by excavation. An opportunity arose when there was a request from the British Museum for samples of flint from this group of pits to be used in connection with research on trace-element analysis by Mr. G. Sieveking and others.<sup>7</sup> It is now known that trace-element analyses of flint show statistically valid differences between products of major British and European flint mines. By 1971 the time was ripe for the lesser known mines to be tested.

Permission having been received from the landowner, Mr. N. E. S. Norris and the writer dug a single trench 18ft. long by 2ft. wide roughly N.-S. in the hollow in the S.E. corner of the group near the confluence of the two trackways, the southern end of the trench being about 25ft. from the fence. The section revealed 9in. of topsoil above a single layer of smallish natural flints, the latter appearing to be the normal accumulation of flints that occur in hollows on the chalk. The southern 9ft. of the trench was then excavated to a depth of 3ft. from the surface. The filling was of loose large and small angular chalk blocks with some flints, mainly unstruck, but there were a few flakes, but not much soil in the lower part of the section. Voids between the chalk blocks were so great that at one time a frost vanished from sight. The chalk filling resembled excavated material and not undisturbed weathered or frost-fractured chalk. Both excavators had taken part in flint-mine excavations in the past at Findon or Cissbury and they were agreed that the filling could be that of a flint mine. Confirmation of flint knapping came in a flint hammerstone from 3ft. down. Two large chalk blocks bore holes resembling those formed by antler picks. About 20lb. of flint nodules were recovered, mostly of poor quality, which had probably been discarded by the miners.

At the conclusion of the digging, the trench was refilled. It may be claimed confidently that the Windover Hill group of shafts represent flint mines of Neolithic or Bronze Age date. The specimens of flint and the hammerstone were sent to the British Museum where they will be used to augment knowledge about the Sussex flint mines and to further the research work now proceeding. The site has now been scheduled as an Ancient Monument (Sussex No. 382—see above).

E. W. HOLDEN

NEWHAVEN FORT—In September, 1970, work began on the levelling of the 19th century fort overlooking Newhaven Harbour (TQ 449 002) prior to the construction of a housing estate. In the 1860s, whilst the Fort was being built, quantities of Roman pottery were discovered<sup>8</sup>. The fort area lies on the east-facing slope of Castle Hill, on top of which was an Iron Age hill fort<sup>9</sup>. Some of Lower's discoveries appear to have been made where the 19th century fort ditch cut into the earthworks of that hill fort.

1 Tratman, E. K., Donovan, D. T. and Campbell, J. B., “The Hyaena Den (Wookey Hole), Mendip Hills, Somerset,” *Proc. Univ. Bristol Spelaeol. Soc.* 12 (1971), part 3, 245-79.

2 Roe, D. A., Council for British Archaeology, Research Report No. 8 (1968), 295-305.

3 Grinsell, L. V., “The Lower and Middle Palaeolithic periods in Sussex,” *S.A.C.* 70 (1929), 172-82.

4 Roe, D. A., and Holden, E. W., “Two recently discovered Lower Palaeolithic handaxes from Northease Farm, Rodmell, and a note on Sussex palaeoliths,” *S.A.C.* 106 (1968), 206-12.

5 Grinsell, op. cit., 182.

6 Curwen, E. C., *The Archaeology of Sussex* (Second edition, 1954), 121-2; *Ibid.*, *S.A.C.* 69 (1928) 95-7 and Pl. III.

7 Sieveking, G. de G., et al., “Prehistoric flint mines and their identification as sources of raw material,” *Archaeometry* 14 (1972), 151-176; *Nature*, 228, 5268 (1970), 251-254.

8 Lower, M. A., “On a kitchen midden at Newhaven,” *S.A.C.* 18 (1866), 165; “Antiquities lately discovered at Newhaven and Seaford,” *S.A.C.* 21 (1869), 218.

9 Field, L. and Hawkes, C. F. C., “Castle Hill, Newhaven,” *S.A.C.* 80 (1939), 263.

Both the Newhaven fort site and Castle Hill have been so badly disturbed by military activities and quarrying in the 19th and 20th centuries that there was little hope of stratified deposits remaining. The finds from the fort, discussed here, consist entirely of unstratified artefacts collected from the earthen banks of the 19th century fort as they were being bulldozed. Comparisons with the stratified pottery sequence at Bishopstone<sup>1</sup> and Newhaven<sup>2</sup> enable some relative dating to be offered.

The flint assemblage from this site has been examined by Mrs. R. Rendall, who reports that it is mainly Mesolithic of a non-geometric character and similar to late Maglemosian sites. Forty-two sherds are typical of the local Bronze Age material, and the similarity to sherds from the Tideway School site is noted below. A slightly flattened globular spindle whorl in the same fabric is probably of this date; it is paralleled by those from Plumpton Plain<sup>3</sup>. Eight sherds had a distinctive fine sand and shell temper with black fabric and smooth finish. Of these, one sherd had the high shoulder and slightly flaring rim of Early Iron Age material at Bishopstone<sup>4</sup>. Eleven sherds had a much sandier fabric and raised pedestal bases. One definite sherd of a sauceman pot was found. Narrow-necked, wide-bellied storage jars are represented by 10 sherds; at Bishopstone<sup>5</sup> (Fig. 5e), they are of Late Iron Age date, whereas at Newhaven<sup>6</sup> they continue into the Romano-British period. Of probably Iron Age date is part of a thick quern of lower greensand.

The Iron Age assemblage from this site begins with Cunliffe's Ultimate Deverel-Rimbury tradition of the 8th and 7th centuries B.C.,<sup>7</sup> and includes the Park Brow/Caesar's Camp group of the 5th and 3rd centuries B.C., the Caburn/Cissbury group of the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C., and the Eastern Atrebatian types of 50 B.C.-A.D. 43. Thus a continuum of the type already noted at Bishopstone is represented. The finding of a Late Bronze Age carpenter's hoard<sup>8</sup> near Newhaven Fort, together with the pottery reported here and the material illustrated by Hawkes<sup>9</sup> from Castle Hill, suggests that this hill-fort centre had its origins in the Bronze Age.

The first century A.D. is represented by a sherd of *Terra Nigra* platter with white body and smooth grey-blue surface. The other sherds are probably imitations or late examples of *Terra Nigra*. One is a base sherd with a shallow footing, grey fabric, and a rather glossy surface; the other (a rim sherd) has a fleshy coloured sandy fabric and a black polished exterior. Lang has suggested that there was a centre of distribution in the Chichester area to account for the coastal distribution in Hampshire and Sussex<sup>10</sup>. This trade could have begun pre-conquest, but the finding of *Terra Nigra* on early Roman sites, including Newhaven Ring road (1 sherd) suggests that these examples could be as late as the Flavian period.

Certainly of Roman date is a sherd of imitation Samian form 37, in a hard light-grey ware with vertical incised lines and, above these, semi-circles drawn with a compass. This is paralleled by a sherd from the Newhaven Ring road<sup>11</sup> where a 1st or early 2nd century A.D. date was suggested. Of the same date are two fragments of Samian forms 18/31 and one of Samian form 37. The bulk of the Romano-British pottery (232 sherds) from this site was in a smooth soapy fabric continuing the local traditions of the Late Iron Age. Manufactured pottery is represented by at least 52 sherds, of which 46 are a hard grey ware, probably Wealden in origin, and 6 are finer wares, probably from outside Sussex. One sherd is the rim of a colour-coated flanged mortarium from the Oxford or New Forest kilns.

Post-Roman material is represented by eight sherds; one, a hand-made rim with sharp eversion, was considered by Mr. P. V. Addyman to be of Late Saxon date. The other sherds, one of which is from a sagging based cooking pot, are probably Saxo-Norman.

The unstratified pottery group does suggest a long continued occupation of this site at the mouth of the river Ouse. To what extent material has been derived from the neighbouring Castle Hill cannot be judged, but in view of the quantity of material from the fort in the Romano-British period, at least, a settlement probably existed on this spur E. of the old Iron Age hill fort.

I would like to thank Fort Encantada Ltd. for permission to visit this site, Mr. J. C. Dove who allowed me to examine his finds, and Mrs. R. Rendall and Mr. P. V. Addyman for their specialist comments. The finds are in Brighton Museum.

MARTIN G. BELL

MESOLITHIC FINDS FROM EAST BLATCHINGTON—Whilst gardening at 14 Surrey Close (TQ 475 995), East Blatchington, near Seaford, Mr. N. E. Hubert has found a tranche axe and five flint blades. The axe is 16cm. long and 5cm. wide at its broadest point, which is just below the cutting edge. This edge has been produced by the removal of a single transverse flake. Wear on this edge suggests fairly heavy use. The more pointed end retains some cortex on one surface. The axe displays a slight S twist when viewed from the margins, on which bifacial flaking took place. A general parallel for this artefact is that from Selmeston.<sup>12</sup>

The five blades are parallel-sided with small platforms. The largest is 9cm. long and 3.5cm. wide; it is retouched on the bulbar end of one edge and was probably a knife. Another of the blades, of length 6.5cm., is notched as a scraper. A third blade 4.75cm. long has been retouched as an end scraper. The two remaining flakes, both 4cm. long, show no signs of retouch or utilization.

1 Bell, M. G., "Bishopstone excavations, 1968-71: an interim report" (Falmer, 1972); "Newhaven excavations; an interim report" (Brighton, 1973).

2 Bell, M. G. (1973), op. cit.

3 Holleyman, G. A., and Curwen, E. C., "Late Bronze Age lynchet settlements on Plumpton Plain" *Proc. Prehist. Soc.* 1 (1935).

4 Bell, M. G. (1972), op. cit., Fig. 5a.

5 Bell, M. G. (1972), Fig. 5e.

6 Bell, M. G. (1973), Fig. 3b.

7 Cunliffe, B. W., *Iron Age Communities in Britain* (1974).

8 Curwen (1954), op. cit.

9 Field and Hawkes, op. cit., Figs. 1 and 2.

10 Lang, L. R., "A Flavian group of terra nigra from Clausentum," *Gallo-Roman Pottery from Southampton* (1966), 22-7.

11 Bell, M. G. (1973), Fig. 3h.

12 Curwen, E. C., op. cit. (1954), Fig. 10.1.

These six artefacts represent a purely casual collection by a gardener but the tranchet axe, blade tools, and the waste flakes appear to be of Mesolithic date. The Clay-with-Flints which caps the chalk plateau on which Seaford lies has already produced several finds of Mesolithic material<sup>1</sup>. The present find could represent another such site.

My thanks are due to the finder (Mr. N. E. Hubert) and to Miss P. Norman for bringing the find to my attention.

MARTIN G. BELL

**A PREHISTORIC SITE IN DALLINGTON FOREST**—During the planting of Dallington Forest, in about 1968, terraces were bulldozed along the steep hillsides to make access roads. Several struck flint flakes were found on some of these terraces but on one (at TQ 655 208), near the top of a ridge between two streams, a much greater concentration occurred. These were collected by Mr. R. Thorpe and I am greatly indebted to him and his brother, our member Mr. D. Thorpe, for drawing my attention to the find and showing me the site.

After several visits, the number of flints picked up now exceeds 100, found scattered over about 100yds. of road. Among them are two very fine arrowheads with barbs and tang of equal length, with a number of side and thumb-nail scrapers; the arrowheads identify most of them as belonging to the Beaker period. Also with them was a microlith and a few flakes that may be Mesolithic.

The number of artefacts found from such a relatively small area of disturbed ground seems to indicate a site used for some time rather than an overnight camp, and thus adds to the ever-increasing evidence of prehistoric use of the Weald.

C. F. TEBBUTT

**A CHALK-CUT SHAFT AT BELLE TOUT**—A cliff fall early in 1971 resulted in the discovery of a vertical chalk-cut shaft within the area of the Beaker settlement at Belle Tout, East Dean (TV557 956). The hollow that it had left on the cliff top is incorrectly marked as a 'modern chalk pit' in the writer's site plan (*Proc. Prehist. Soc.* (1960), 36, 312). The lower part of the cliff face had sheared away, undercutting this hollow and exactly sectioning 12m. of the shaft, which had continued below the beach debris, giving it a minimum depth from the surface of 43m. The shaft had a diameter of about 1.7m. and had been cut almost vertical. In the exposed length the shaft tapered slightly about 9m. above the foot of the cliff. There was no trace of any filling except in the top 2m. of the exposure and this area was inaccessible. There were no finds on the beach itself and there may well have been a void in this part of the pit.

The faces of the shaft showed a series of footholds, measuring 25cm. x 20 and 18cm. deep. These were flat-bottomed and had been arranged in pairs at vertical intervals of 55cm. They were not exactly or consistently opposed. The wall of the pit also showed tool marks of two types, the impressions of a pointed implement 2cm. thick and at least 23cm. long, and those of a flat blade of uncertain size. There is no evidence that an antler pick had been used and the impressions are more consistent with a metal implement. The best candidate would be a small iron mattock.

There is no direct evidence of the date or function of the shaft, but in the exposed section at the cliff edge the chalk spoil piled about the mouth of the pit clearly seals the smaller and earlier Beaker enclosure. Before this material was deposited, a mature topsoil had formed over the earlier bank and ditch. Shafts with similar footholds are well known in Roman and post-Roman contexts, and this at least could be consistent with the type of tool suggested. On the other hand, almost no pottery from the excavated areas at Belle Tout was later in date than the Iron Age. This leaves two alternative explanations, that this is a 'ritual shaft', perhaps connected with the hill fort, or that it is simply a well, probably of later date. There seems to be no evidence to favour the first view and the functional explanation seems the more likely one. It is no deeper than other wells still in existence in the area and any compromise solution as a 'ritual well' would be more fashionable than instructive.

RICHARD BRADLEY

**A SUSPECTED BARROW AT ROTTINGDEAN**—During the construction of 48 Grand Crescent, Rottingdean (TQ 3757 0238) in May, 1972, the writer observed a ditch sectioned by one of the foundation trenches. The ditch was approximately 1.22m. wide, and the base was 0.91m. below the present ground surface. Four sections appeared in two trenches (see Fig. 2) at right-angles to one another, and these gave the impression that the ditch was circular with 70% of arc lying inside the building area. The complete circle could have been 10m. in diameter, and the probability is that this is the ditch of a ploughed-out barrow, part of which lies under the adjacent 50 Grand Crescent and part under the road.

The ditch section shows a primary silt layer of brown soil and small chalk pebbles, followed by a layer of small chalk rubble, above which was a dark humus-rich horizon, which may represent a buried soil that developed in the partly infilled ditch. This was followed by a brown Clay with Flints layer which was derived from a local capping over the chalk. In the top of the ditch section illustrated was a concentration of pottery sherds; 54 fragments weighing 266g. belonged to the single vessel of which the rim is illustrated. The vessel is poorly fired, black, and contains fragments of calcined flint as tempering; many of these fragments are over 2mm. in diameter. The vessel had a flat and plain rim of diameter about 15.5cm.; the base was flat. Associated with these sherds were two small fragments of calcined bone. This vessel was presumably a secondary interment in a barrow which has been mutilated by ploughing.

<sup>1</sup> *Man* (1930), No. 2; *S.N.Q.*, 13 (1950-53), 193.

## 48 GRAND CRESCENT ROTTINGDEAN

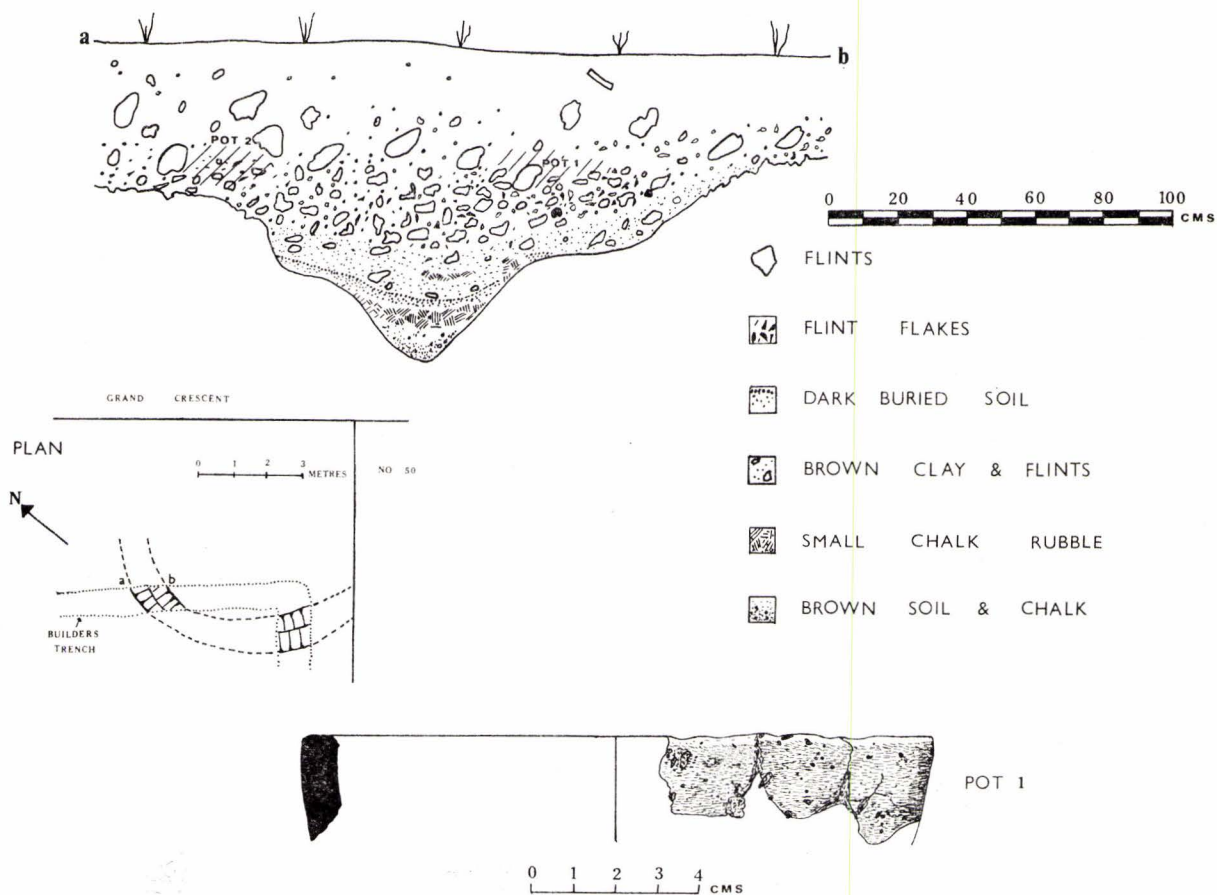


FIG. 2. SUSPECTED BARROW AT ROTTINGDEAN—Section, plan, and pot 1

On the outer edge of the ditch were 14 sherds weighing 28g. of a second vessel, better fired and with much smaller flint grits. None of this vessel's distinctive features remained. In fabric and form both vessels are similar to local material from Bronze Age contexts, and the illustrated pot compares well with the Itford Hill material (*Proc. Prehist. Soc.*, 23 (1957), 167-212: e.g. Fig. 20 D, F, G) and the Bronze Age cinerary urns from Fitzgerald Avenue, Seaford (*S.A.C.* 80 (1939), 295) and Nos. 480, 481, 482 in Musson's catalogue (*S.A.C.*, 92 (1954), 106-124). The uppermost layer of the ditch also yielded 149 flint flakes weighing 1.134kg.; of these one was retouched as a rather crude end scraper, and another flake had been notched. One hammerstone was found in the section, and two others with 16 flakes were found on the builder's dump. The finding of comparatively large numbers of flint flakes in this small exposed section is reminiscent of the quantity from Mr. Holden's Middle Bronze Age cemetery barrow on Itford Hill<sup>1</sup>.

If, as seems most likely, this was the site of a ploughed-out barrow of Bronze Age date, it would appear to have had at least two secondary inurned cremations. Three sherds of medieval pottery found in the top soil suggest that any mound could have been flattened in that period by the plough.

My thanks are due to Mr. Limpas for allowing me to examine the site; he has given the finds to Brighton Museum.

MARTIN G. BELL

<sup>1</sup> *S.A.C.* 110 (1972), 70-167.

RING DITCHES AT STOUGHTON—In spring, 1973, the writer noticed a series of ring ditches visible as crop marks from the crest of Bow Hill, West Sussex. Five, possibly six, such enclosures could be seen just above the bottom of the valley separating Bow Hill and Lambdown Hill and immediately N. of the track from Manor Farm to Stoughton Down. Four of the circles were of the same size, and ring ditches 1, 4, 5 and 6 in the numbering adopted below were roughly equally spaced and in a straight line. Their diameter is estimated at approximately 30m. Three formed perfect circles, while the sixth example is extremely doubtful. There were no signs of any internal features, although it is most likely that these represent a ploughed-out barrow cemetery. In this context it is worth noting that this site is exactly intervisible with the well known linear cemetery on Bow Hill above. Details are as follows:

	<i>N.G.R. of centre</i>	<i>Notes</i>
1	SU 8138 1166	Perfect circle, just possibly broken to W.
2	SU 8135 1170	Irregular circle, diameter roughly 20m.
3	SU 8138 1173	Dubious crop mark, possibly ring ditch
4	SU 8147 1171	Perfect circle crossed by modern track
5	SU 8152 1175	Perfect circle
6	SU 8157 1179	Circle flattened to W.

RICHARD BRADLEY

AN EARLY BRONZE AGE MACEHEAD FOUND NEAR SADDLESCOMBE—The macehead is made of unevenly polished stone with an hour-glass perforation. It was picked up on or beside the footpath leading from the crossroads of the A23 and B2036 to Saddlescombe, at a point near the tumulus just before the path begins to descend to Saddlescombe. Its dimensions are: 114mm. long x 65mm. wide (max.) x 32mm. thick (max.). The narrow end is blunted as if by use, and there are also signs of wear along one side at the broad end.

The macehead, which is the property of Mrs. S. Dillien, of Peacehaven, is on loan to the Brighton Museum. CAROLINE DUDLEY

TIDEWAY SCHOOL, NEWHAVEN—In April, 1973, a new gymnasium was under construction at the Tideway School, Newhaven (TQ 4390 0057). Whilst the hillside was being terraced for the new building the contractor's foreman noticed an urn upside down and surrounded by flints being removed by the bulldozer. The foreman collected some fragments of the vessel, and subsequently the writer recovered a number more from the same area. In all 71 sherds, weighing 567g., were recovered. They had a coarse fabric with filler of calcined flint. Few of the sherds could be joined but the material seems to represent a single vessel; several fragments of a flat base remained but no rim sherds. From the same area came three fragments of burnt bone, five fragments of charcoal, and 18 calcined flints.

The vessel is clearly a Bronze Age cremation, but a careful examination of the builder's trench sections failed to reveal any trace of a barrow ditch. However, one section did show a dark layer that appeared to be a buried soil, and contained some fragments of Bronze Age pottery and calcined flints. If, as seems most likely, these finds represent interments in a barrow, it is probable that either the disturbances associated with the school building removed any trace of a ditch, or that the suspected barrow was without one.

The location of this burial is interesting in that it lies at 175ft. (57m.) on a spur of downland falling eastwards towards Newhaven quarry and the river Ouse. Any barrow would have appeared on the hill crest as viewed from either Castle Hill or Newhaven Fort, Bronze Age settlements across the valley to the S.E. The pottery

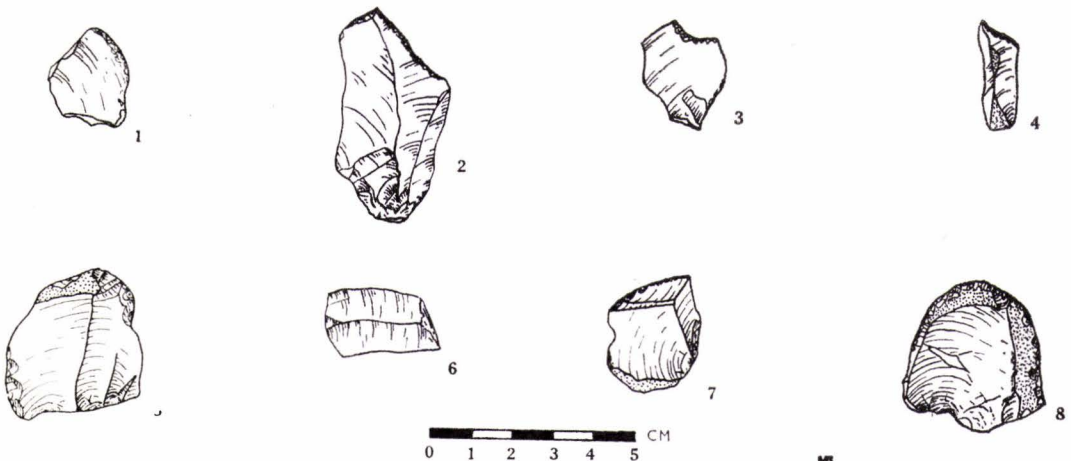


FIG. 3. FLINTS FROM TIDEWAY SCHOOL, NEWHAVEN

from this site is well paralleled by that from the suspected settlement site on Newhaven Fort discussed above.

Traces were also found of an earlier Mesolithic occupation on the site: 44 flint flakes, one Mesolithic core, and a hammerstone were associated with 19 flake tools (Fig. 3). These included two end scrapers (Nos. 5 and 8), five flakes retouched presumably as scrapers (e.g. Nos. 1 and 7), three hollow scrapers, a roughly finished point, a blade retouched as a knife (No. 2), a segmented blade (No. 6), a micro-burin (No. 3), and a microlith of Clark's Type A (No. 4).

My thanks are due to the East Sussex County Council, Mr. Simmons, Mr. V. Bourne, the Headmaster of the Tideway School, and Mr. J. Makin. The finds are in the Brighton Museum.  
MARTIN G. BELL

TWO ROMAN BUILDINGS IN WEST SUSSEX—Two chance finds of Roman building material have not been previously noted. Both were in areas currently under cultivation.

*Pendean Farm, Midhurst* (SU 887 196): Roman brick, tile, and possible roofing slabs.  
*Old Fishbourne* (SU 8331 0386): A limited area of Roman bricks and large flint nodules. Similar material is eroding from the sea wall at SU 8369 0419.

RICHARD BRADLEY

STATISTICAL PARAMETERS OF ROMAN TILES FROM ITCHINGFIELD—As recorded in issue 12 of the Society's *Newsletter*, I have deposited at Barbican House a representative selection of the materials found during the excavations at the Roman tileworks at Itchingfield<sup>1</sup>. From what was left, I retained a few examples for my own use and then threw the rest back on to the site—it is, after all, now a rubbish tip!

Before this, however, I measured what parameters I could, and the results are set out in Table I. Measurements of thickness were made by external callipers set so that they just moved freely over the greater part of the tile fragment's surface: this eliminates the atypical readings caused by the inevitable pimples and lumps on the underside of many tiles. Because of the approximateness of readings thus made, I rounded them off to the nearest  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. As may be seen, the measurements for *imbrex* and *tubulum* fragments are split into two groups; the reasons are as follows.

TABLE I

Thickness (in $\frac{1}{16}$ in.)	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
<i>Tegulae</i> .. ..				3	2	3	7	6	8	7			1									
<i>Imbrices</i> brick-red ..		2	1	8	2	2	4	2														
.. —grey-brown			2	14	20	27	8	4														
<i>Tubuli</i> —comb A ..	1	2	16	20	2																	
.. —comb B ..	1	6	10	4	1																	
1 1/2 in. pilae .. ..													2	1		3						
Sub-floor tiles .. ..																		1	6	4	1	1
Flange height (in $\frac{1}{16}$ in.)	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36										
<i>Tegulae</i> .. ..	1	5	2	3	4		1	4		1		1										

#### Flange thickness

As most of the *tegula* flanges taper or have an S-curl on the inside face, flange thickness does not seem a useful parameter

In the case of *imbrex* fragments, I felt that the grey-brown kind (often clearly from 'wasters') tended to be thicker than the 'well-fired' brick-red ones. In the case of the *tubulum* fragments, I already had distinguished the two combs and postulated that they were used by separate individuals.<sup>2</sup> Statistical methods of analysis could be now brought to bear to assess objectively whether:

a. grey-brown fragments were thicker than brick-red ones;

b. fragments marked with comb A differ in thickness from those marked with comb B.

If a were found to be supported, one could argue that tiles which were too thick did not oxidize properly and tended to become wasters. If b were found to be supported, there could be further evidence in favour of the

<sup>1</sup> Green, T. K., *S.A.C.* 108 (1970), 23-38.

<sup>2</sup> *Op. cit.*, 32, 37-8.



theory that combs *A* and *B* belonged to different individuals, each with his own judgement of a flue tile's proper thickness.

In either instance, one makes a hypothesis that the differences (in the two sets of data being compared) are of no real importance and have arisen purely by random uncontrollable variability. The two sets of data are thus treated as but two samples from a larger group whose variability they both attempt to exemplify. One assumes the differences between them have arisen only because two identical samples are never obtained from a group where random variability is present. One then calculates an index, known as Student's *t* in the jargon, which expresses the differences between the two sets as a function of the random variability they exhibit. The greater the index gets, the less is the chance that random variability alone can account for the differences. The only alternative explanation to fall back on is that each set of data comes from a different group. The balance of probabilities shifts from one hypothetical explanation towards the other as the index arises, favouring theories assuming homogeneity when it is low and heterogeneity when it is high. The results were as follows:

		Readings	Mean (in.)	Standard Deviation (in.)
<i>Imbrices</i>	brick-red	21	0.8125	0.1108
	grey-brown	75	0.843	0.0717
<i>Tubuli</i>	comb A	41	0.718	0.0480
	comb B	22	0.682	0.0563

The figures for *imbrices* lead to a value of Student's *t* of 1.51, in association with (21 + 75 - 2) degrees of freedom, which is not sufficiently high to indicate a significant or reliable difference between the two sets of readings. The cause can be traced to the rather wide spread exhibited among the relatively few brick-red tiles; the hypothesis that waster tiles were thicker cannot be substantiated by these measurements.

The figures for *tubuli* lead to a value of *t* of 2.64, in association with (41 + 22 - 2) degrees of freedom, and the chance of getting so high a value by random variation alone is only 2%. The hypothesis that comb *A* tiles are thicker than comb *B* tiles is thus supported by 98% probability. This lends strong support to the belief that the combs were the property of two individuals at the Itchingfield tileworks.

T. K. GREEN

**KILN COMBE, EASTBOURNE**—In the winter of 1973-4, Kiln Combe, 1 mile N.W. of Beachy Head, was ploughed after being under pasture for some years. The farmer, Mr. E. D. Williams, of Bullock Down Farm, has for some time made a careful survey of the archaeological remains on his farm, and a search of the newly ploughed Kiln Combe (TV 573 965) produced a quantity of pottery which was submitted to the writer. This included 15 sherds of Romano-British pottery, of which two small fragments were Samian ware, one of them from a form 27 cup. This Roman pottery probably represents a scatter from the important Romano-British site on Bullock Down (TV 579 963),  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile E.S.E. of Kiln Combe.

The medieval period is represented by 219 sherds, of which 162 are body sherds and have been identified on the basis of fabric alone. Cooking pots with sagging bases are represented by 16 sherds, and five others were decorated by strapping. Twelve rim sherds from wide bowls had flat tops and some were pricked. A further 12 sherds were from large jars with a small flat top to the rim. There were eleven sherds from green glazed jugs, two with a speckled green glaze and three with a brown glaze; one sherd had an olive-green glaze and a white/grey body; one fragment was from the pinched base of a jug, five jug handles were all stabbed or pricked, and two had a green glaze. The pottery has parallels amongst the 13th and 14th century material at Hangleton (S.A.C., 101 (1963), 54-181), but the unstratified Kiln Combe assemblage need not be of a single period.

Kiln Combe is a dry valley running westwards from Bullock Down Farm; the site is on the chalk downland, and the word "Kiln" presumably refers to a lime kiln in the neighbourhood. Without excavation the character of the site cannot be established, but Mr. Williams has reported some flint building rubble, and irregularities of the ground surface suggest the former presence of a structure.

The most probable explanation is that this is a small farm. A site of similar date and exactly comparable in geographical location was excavated by R. Musson in Bramble Bottom (TV 575 978—S.A.C., 93 (1955), 157),  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N. of the site in question. A similar site has been excavated by Messrs. W. Gorton and C. W. Yates, at Patchway Field, Stanmer Park (*Sussex Archaeological Newsletter*, Nos. 2 and 5); this was dated to the 13th and early 14th centuries. Two other small medieval farms are known from the Burpham area at Chantry Bottom and Martin's Croft (S.A.C., 18).

The establishment of these small farms in the downland dry valleys, frequently in the 13th and 14th centuries, may be related to an extension of agricultural land around that period. The chalk upland of Beachy Head would clearly have been a large unit of semi-marginal land in the Saxon period, with no suitable lowland areas for nucleated villages. Pressure on the land may have forced agricultural settlement of its dry valleys, and thus account for the sites of Bramble Bottom and Kiln Combe.

I am grateful to Mr. E. D. Williams for permission to study his finds, and to Mr. K. W. Suckling for arranging for me to do so. Mr. Williams has donated the finds to Brighton Museum.

MARTIN G. BELL

**CHARCOAL BURIALS AT EAST HILL, HASTINGS** (in the region of TQ 833 099—exact spot not known)—There have been several discoveries in recent years during excavations, generally at or close to cathedrals or large churches, of burials, with or without coffins, where the skeleton is laid on a bed of charcoal, usually 2-3in. thick. They have been found at Chichester Cathedral by our member, Mrs. M. Rule, and also at Winchester, Oxford, Cambridge,

Exeter, and York (to name those places which have come to the notice of the writer—there may be others). The practice appears to be pre-Norman, dating perhaps to the 10th and 11th centuries, and a radiocarbon date from Harwell of  $816 \pm 100$  ad has been given for the charcoal from Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford (*Current Arch.*, 35 (1972), 319). Only a few years ago such burials were practically unknown in England, and the use of charcoal in graves was considered to be a Scandinavian practice.

For students of such matters it may be of some interest to draw attention to an early volume of our *Collections* which records charcoal burials at East Hill, Hastings. The word 'charcoal' does not appear in the index and it is therefore only by chance that such a reference is picked up. In *S.A.C.*, 13 (1861), 308, appears a note by Thomas Ross about excavations he made on East Hill, about 1856, in search of a tower (which he failed to find), but he did discover at least 40 skeletons, some of which he describes as "... buried ... upon a thick layer of charcoal." Rather more details were given by Ross in a preliminary note in *S.A.C.*, 9 (1857), 366-7.

E. W. HOLDEN

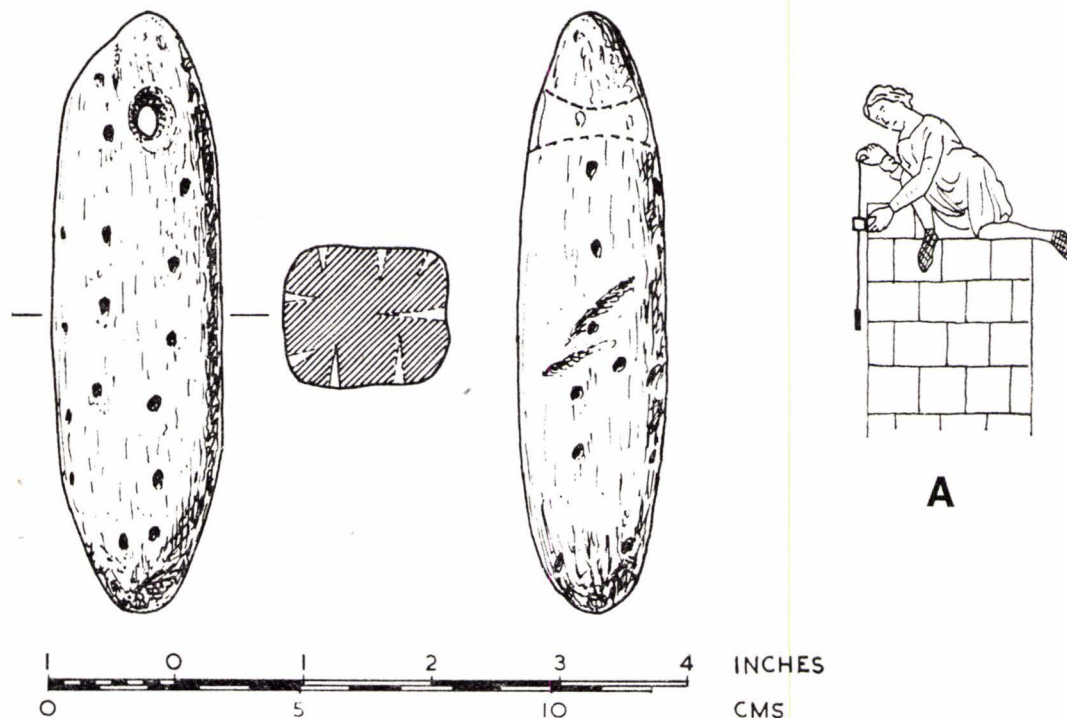


FIG. 4. CLAY PLUMB-BOB FROM ANSTY

**A MEDIEVAL PLUMB-BOB FROM ANSTY (TQ 291 232)**—The clay object illustrated in Fig. 4 was found in the garden soil behind an old timbered farmhouse now called 'The Ancient Farm', but which is shown on the 1911 edition of the 6in. Ordnance Survey map as 'Crouchlands Farm'. Crouchlands is mentioned at least as far back as 1591,<sup>1</sup> though the core of the house could well be much older. The object has been given to the Society's museum through the kindness of one of our longest serving members, Lady Gulielma Demetriadi.

The object is made of fired clay which includes a fine sand filler and is pink-buff in colour, mottled with slight reduction patches of pale grey; its weight is 5oz. (about 140g.). It appears to be a weight of some kind, the exact purpose of which is unknown, but it may possibly be a plumb-bob. In shape it resembles a sausage of roughly rectangular section with blunt pointed ends and, like its edible namesake, was stabbed on all faces before firing and for the same purpose, viz. to prevent the object from bursting whilst being subjected to heat. There is an hour-glass perforation at one end, made while the clay was still plastic. The object may have been fired in a kiln, but such a simple mass of clay could easily have been treated in a bonfire, thus not needing specialist manufacture.

<sup>1</sup> A. Mawer and F. M. Stenton, *The Place-Names of Sussex*, English Place Name Society, Vol. 7 (1930), 267.

The hole at one end shows that it was intended to be suspended on a string or line; the fabric and stabbing are typically medieval, especially the stab-holes, which may be compared with the indentations in jug handles, oven tiles, and other wares with thick parts, in the 12th to 14th centuries. Salzman notes that certain tools were used alike by masons and carpenters, including levels and plumb-rules.<sup>1</sup> These may include wooden parts as well as a weight, but a plumb-line with a weight at the bottom, not unlike in outline the subject of this note, is shown at A in Fig. 4, which dates to c. 1180.<sup>2</sup> Lead is the common material for plumb-bobs (as the name implies) and '19 plommettes of lead' are mentioned at Shene in 1444.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Martin Biddle informs me that several lead plumb-bobs of the same size and shape as the Ansty clay object were found in the medieval excavations at Winchester, and he agrees that our object probably is a plumb-bob. The Winchester lead bobs would be heavy, whereas the Ansty weight is light, but both heavy and light bobs are required for building purposes and it is of interest to note that the lead bob issued with the Royal Engineers' three-limbed wooden level weighs only 4oz. A baked-clay weight for a plumb-bob is perhaps a makeshift for the more expensive lead, but it is practical and, if broken or lost, could easily be replaced at no cost.

A much earlier possible plumb-bob made of fired clay was found in a Romano-British hut at West Blatchington. This was 3in. long by 2in. wide at one end, tapering somewhat towards the other, where it is perforated for suspension. It was found in company with two carpenters' iron bits and many nails, probably in a workshop.<sup>4</sup> The use of a bob with a wooden plumb-rule possibly came into general use post-1700, and Moxon's plumb-line (1683) is simply the line-reel acting as the bob. The French version of this, in Felibien (1656) and Diderot (1759) is the *plomb à chats*, where the *chat* is a rectangular piece of wood or metal about 3in. by 2in. by ½in. with a hole for the line in the middle. This was held against the quoin or post to be tested, and the workman judged it by eye, whether the line was parallel or not. Working from the inside of a wall, this was easier to do than leaning over with a long plumb-rule, which was more often used with outside scaffolding. Medieval masons often worked from the inside. It would appear from sketch A that the mason is working from inside the wall, and is leaning over to plumb an external quoin using a *plomb à chats* for that purpose.

The date (c. 1180) thus demonstrates the antiquity of the device. Alternatively, there is no reason why a clay weight as our specimen should not have been used with a medieval wooden A-shaped level where the line is attached to the apex of the triangle. A plumb-bob of some kind certainly would be required by the builders of a stone or timber-framed house.<sup>5</sup>

E. W. HOLDEN

**A MOAT AT HORSTED KEYNES**—In 1972, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ford, of Mote Cottage, Horsted Keynes, pointed out to me that their house and garden were enclosed within a moat (TQ 383 286). On reference to the Ordnance Survey maps, I discovered that no moat was recorded there, although local people had recognized it. In his history of the village (*Horsted Keynes, Sussex: The Church and Parish of St. Giles*, Macmillan, 1939) the Rev. F. Stenton Eardley says (p. 39) that the churchyard, school, and schoolhouse are enclosed in a *circular* earthwork. From my own observations on the ground I would submit that this is incorrect, and that the school and schoolhouse (now Mote Cottage) only are inside a *square* moat.

The E. and N. sides of the moat are in good condition, with a wide ditch, now dry. The S. side, in my opinion, ran along the line of the present N. churchyard wall, and did not enclose the church. It is now filled in. There are still indications of the W. side, but most of it has been filled in, partly to make the present road. The area enclosed would have been approximately 70 x 70yd.

In 1973, an excavation was due to be made on the school premises to put in a swimming pool. In advance of this, under my direction, the Headmaster, Mr. R. Sellens, laid out a 12ft. x 3ft. trench on the pool site, to be dug by the children. After much Victoriana and local 18th and 17th century pottery wares, undisturbed subsoil was reached at about 2½ft. From just above the bottom came coarse gritty ware with green-glazed red ware of the 13th-14th century. All the finds remain at the school, and the Ordnance Survey have been asked to survey the moat.

C. F. TEBBUTT

**DESERTED MEDIEVAL VILLAGES IN THE BRIGHTON DISTRICT**—This brief note is intended as a supplement to the lists of medieval deserted villages previously published.<sup>6</sup> The list of additional sites mentioned is not exhaustive, and similar enquiries and more published accounts would help to dispel some of the chronological ambiguity which still obscures the depopulation of the Sussex countryside during the later middle ages.

**Hangleton** (TQ 268 074): Fresh information in the form of the poll-tax assessment for 1377/78 has recently come to light<sup>7</sup> which corroborates Holden's conclusion, drawn from the archaeological and documentary evidence, that this large village underwent progressive decline between about 1325 and 1428.<sup>8</sup> In 1377/78 only 18 persons over the age of 14 paid poll-tax at Hangleton, compared with 25 contributors (presumably mostly

1 Salzman, L. F., *Building in England* (1952).

2 *Ibid.*, Pl. 5.

3 *Ibid.*, 339, Pl. 4.

4 Norris, N. E. S., and Burstow, G. P., "A prehistoric and Romano-British site at West Blatchington, Hove," *S.A.C.* 89 (1950), 1-56 (particularly, 41; 53; Fig. 18A, No. 3).

5 I am indebted to W. L. Goodman, author of *The History of Woodworking Tools* (1964), for much of the information in this paragraph. See this book for references to Moxon, *et al.*

6 E. W. Holden, "Deserted Medieval Villages," *Sussex Notes and Queries*, 15 (1962), 312-315; M. Beresford and J. G. Hurst, *Deserted Medieval Villages* (1971), 204; G. R. Burleigh, "An Introduction to deserted medieval villages in East Sussex," *S.A.C.*, 111 (1973), 45-83.

7 Public Record Office, E.179/189/43. The return is in a bundle incorrectly labelled "Hundred of Strete" and probably for this reason it has escaped previous scrutiny.

8 E. W. Holden, "Excavations at the deserted medieval village of Hangleton," *S.A.C.*, 101 (1963), 72.

householders) to the Subsidy of 1327, and only two householders recorded in 1428.<sup>1</sup> The probability, suggested by Holden, that the Black Death was the turning point in the fortunes of Hangleton is thus rendered more certain by the poll-tax assessment.

*West Blatchington* (TQ 175 072) has a very similar story. As for Hangleton, a direct comparison of the population data is impossible owing to the variations in the basis of taxation and the reliability of the returns, but the trend in decline is beyond dispute. The settlement seems never to have been large, since its tax assessment was combined with either Brighton or Patcham in 1332 and earlier. In 1340 it had lands untilled<sup>2</sup> and it mustered only 16 persons assessed to the poll-tax of 1377/78. In 1428 the parish was devoid of any inhabitants at all. In 1596 the church was reported disused and there was only one dwelling in the parish.<sup>3</sup> Evidently the parish had become co-extensive with a single sheep farm, a common development on the downland between the 15th and 18th centuries. Only two houses are recorded at West Blatchington in the Hearth Tax of 1664.<sup>4</sup>

*Sutton-next-Seaford* (TQ 496 997) and *Chinting* (TQ 504 988) have long been represented in the landscape by single farms, but they formerly constituted a populous parish with its own church. The 1296 Subsidy Roll bears 58 names drawn from both townships, Seaford being assessed separately. The 1327 tax-roll credits Sutton with 18 tax-payers and Chinting with 21. To re-create the medieval past at Sutton, the site of which is now covered by modern building, we have to imagine a scene of peasant cots and little farmhouses with their attendant hedged gardens, tofts, and crofts, set about a small green. In 1340 Sutton was one of the many Sussex parishes reporting substantial acreages of untilled land, said to be due to the poverty of the tenants and the adversity of the weather. Unfortunately, the poll-tax assessment for Sutton does not appear to have survived, but in the 1428 return of parishes with less than ten householders, Sutton, like West Blatchington, is one of the two Sussex parishes with no recorded inhabitants. In the early 15th century the church is reported as being in a very bad state of repair, and in 1509 the parish was united with that of Seaford because "... the church is utterly destroyed and (there are) no parishioners, save for a few neat-herds..."<sup>5</sup> It will be recalled that this decline is closely paralleled by that of the neighbouring parish of Excete.<sup>6</sup>

*Kingston Buci* (TQ 236 053) possesses an 11th century parish church which was greatly extended and elaborated in the 13th century, when the township was one of the thriving ports on the Adur estuary. The old manor house (now a school), the rectory, and a stone-built dovecot are the only vestiges of this once important manor in the present landscape. The north aisle of the church collapsed in the 18th century and it was not repaired until 1843.<sup>7</sup> Of the former habitations of the villagers there is no sign.

This visual evidence of extreme decay is confirmed by documentary testimony. *Kingston Buci* flourished up to the first half of the 14th century, 28 tax-payers contributing to the Subsidy of 1327. The 51 persons assessed to the poll-tax of 1377/78 are evidence of some decline in population, and the abatement of tax in the early 15th century is another symptom of prolonged decay.<sup>8</sup> The cause of this remains speculative, but it was probably due to the continued deflection of the river Adur eastwards and the consequent silting of the old harbour. It is impossible to evaluate the truth of this owing to the dearth of 15th and 16th century records. By the 17th century *Kingston Buci* had dwindled to a small community. Only 17 persons are listed in the Protestation Return of 1641/2,<sup>9</sup> and the Hearth Tax return of 1670 lists only four houses, two of them being large mansions, the old manor house and Bridger's house on the edge of the downs.<sup>10</sup> In 1683 Edward Chowne, the occupier of the manor house, wrote "... the farm is a manor of itself but (there are) no tenements left belonging unto it, the houses being fallen down and washed into the sea..."<sup>11</sup>

The renewal and recovery of *Kingston Buci* awaited the successful stabilization of the mouth of the Adur opposite the manor house and church in 1815 and the coming of the railway in 1840, which led to extensive wharves and a cross-channel ferry service from *Kingston Wharf* to Dieppe. *Kingston Buci*, with *Aldrington*, *Pende*, *Cudlowe*, and several other coastal townships, is thus to be regarded as one which waxed and waned according to the advance and retreat of the sea.

*Stanmer* (TQ 337 097) has a history which illustrates the adjustment to the ebb and flow of rural prosperity which has always characterized the downland. Credited with 25 tax-payers in 1327, the houses in the parish numbered only three in 1664.<sup>12</sup> Owing to the fallibility of the surviving evidence, the critical period of decline remains an interesting source of conjecture. The probability is that *Stanmer* was still a large community when the manor passed from the Canons of South Malling into lay hands at the Reformation. Between 1598 and 1632 John Michelbourne, a notable local 'improver', incorporated most of the tenants' lands into the demesne and converted the estate into a large sheep farm.<sup>13</sup> His activities held to explain the Hearth Tax return. The present village of *Stanmer* is an 'estate' village in a neat and uniform style of flint and brick which owes its 18th and early 19th century origin to the great Whig family of the Pelhams who built the Palladian mansion at *Stanmer* about 1724 and subsequently landscaped the picturesque park. It has little, if any, demonstrable relationship to the mediaeval settlement.

PETER BRANDON

1 Rev. William Hudson (ed.), *The Three Earliest Subsidies for the County of Sussex*, Sussex Record Society, 10 (1910); *Feudal Aids*, 1284-1431, v.

2 *Nonarum Inquisitiones in Curia Saccaria*, ed. G. Vanderzee (Record Commissioners) 1807.

3 S.A.C. 49 (1906), 163.

4 P.R.O. E/179/258/14.

5 Cecil Deeds (ed.) *The Episcopal Register of Robert Rede*, Sussex Record Society, 8 (1908), 81; W. D. Peckham (ed.) *The Acts of the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Chichester*, Sussex Record Society, 52 (1951-52), 46.

6 Rev. W. Budgen, "Excete and its parish church," *S.A.C.* 58 (1916), 138-170.

7 F. W. Steer, Guide to the Church of St. Julian, *Kingston Buci* (1965).

8 P.R.O. E/179/189/88.

9 R. Garraway Rice (ed.) *West Sussex Protestation Returns*, Sussex Record Society, 5 (1906), 107-8.

10 P.R.O. E/179/191/140.

11 East Sussex Record Office, Glynde MS. 1749.

12 P.R.O. E/179/258/16.

13 P.R.O. LR2/227, f.149; British Museum, Lansdowne MS. 784, f.9 and E.S.R.O. S.A.T. A.145, 146.

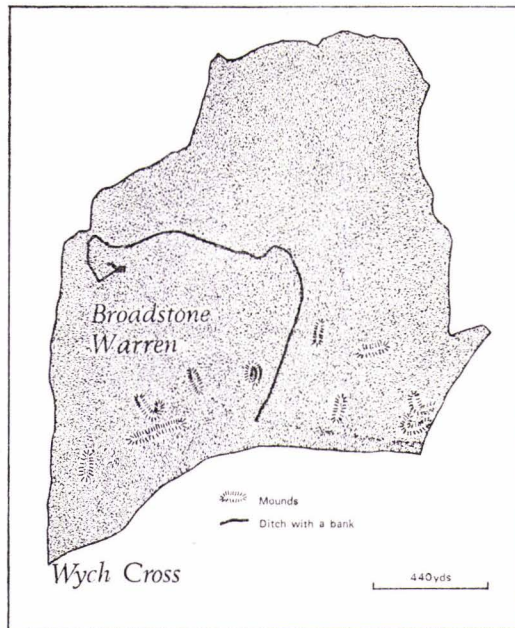


FIG. 5. "PILLOW-HOUNDS" IN ASHDOWN FOREST

WARRENS AND FOSSIL FIELDS ON BROADSTONE WARREN, ASHDOWN FOREST—A prominent earthen bank and outer ditch encloses some 300 acres of Broadstone Warren in Ashdown Forest (Fig. 5). The age and purpose of this ancient feature are uncertain. Neither Richard Hawkins' map of Broadstone Lodge (1739)<sup>1</sup> nor T. Marchant's map of the same estate (1788)<sup>2</sup> show the bank and ditch, although both show fields and other parcels of ground. At present the land enclosed within the bank is mainly mixed woodland, including a number of fine old beech pollards, yews, hollies, and oaks, and it forms part of the property presented to the Scouts Association. Much of the ground is so rough that it is never likely to have been farmed.

On the two 18th century maps, the area within the bank and ditch and that extending beyond this boundary further east is shown as warren. Both within and without the bank are a number of well defined long, narrow mounds, typically 8ft. high, 12ft. broad, and between 200-300yd. long. Similar mounds have been discovered by Mr. C. F. Tebbutt in land adjoining to the south.<sup>3</sup> They were probably raised up to make 'cony berries', earthen mounds facilitating rabbit burrowing. They are unmentioned in this locality in the Commonwealth surveys of the Forest, the Tudor surveys, or in the medieval account rolls. A possible clue to their origin, and that of the bank, is given in the account of the activities of Anthony Staples, who is reported in 1690-1, just before the enclosure of the whole of Broadstone Warren in 1693, as oppressing the Forest "by putting in great flocks of sheep and hath set up many warrens and made large berries for conies within the same."<sup>4</sup>

The 1738 map of Broadstone Lodge also shows a group of eight fields reclaimed from the N.W. part of the Warren, outside the bank to which reference has been made, by John Crawford, subsequent to the Decree of 1693 (Fig. 5). These fields are now under chestnut coppice and other woodland. The 1788 map shows that a partial abandonment had already taken place, and the East Grinstead parish Tithe map (1840) shows that by then all the fields were derelict. It is thus one of the many short-lived attempts to win land from the Forest. The huge deep pits in the neighbourhood were a source of marl dug to ameliorate the poor land.

In the valley of the stream leaving Broadstone Warren by the old Footbridge Gate (Fig. 5) are three small, roughly circular enclosures in the chestnut coppices. They were probably cattle or deer pounds.

PETER BRANDON

RENEWAL OF SINGLETON CHURCH TOWER JOISTS AND FLOOR IN 1973 AND BRIEF OF 1632—The floor is 20ft. up. Under the joists was  $\frac{1}{2}$ in. matchboarding which was put up, perhaps in Victorian times, as an improvement. The removal of this in 1972 revealed much damage to both joists and floor by beetle and damp. It might have been possible to renew bad joists only and then re-floor, had the large and heavy old oak bell-frame holding two bells

1 S.A.S., Lewes, Map. II.

2 East Sussex Record Office, Lewes, reproduction of map in possession of Mr. N. W. Cranfield.

3 C. F. Tebbutt, "Rabbit Warrens on Ashdown Forest," *Sussex Notes and Queries*, 17 (1968), 52-54.

4 S.A.S., Lewes, 2F, p.285.

not rested on a large portion of it. Moreover the joists were of different sizes; the intervals between them were irregular, and they were much cut into in order to fit other timbers for the matchboard nailing. For reasons both of appearance and of safety it was decided to renew both joists and floor.

The three E.-W. horizontals upon which the joists rested seemed to be and were found to be in good condition. The internal measurements of the tower are 17ft. by 17ft. 6in. Some of the joists were full length (17ft.). Many had been used before, for they had old mortice holes; all except two seemed old or very old. They were cut with sap wood, which was, of course, full of beetle holes. The floorboards in the S. half were with the original rounded trunk, cut away on the underside to fit over the joists. In the middle were similar shorter pieces, clearly used before to fit other joists; the N. half, on which the bell-frame rested, was of newer wood, flat on both sides, all making 2in. thick oak floorboards.

The bell-frame has two bells. Two timbers are more recent than the rest, and on one of them is incised A. AYLWYN 1632. The Brief of 1632 found in Cuckfield registers and recorded in *S.A.C.*, Vol. 52, states the tower and spire (*sic*) were "sett on fire and torn down by thunder and lightning," and asked for "500 marks at least". There are no signs of fire but a large strike would cause considerable damage.

I did the work myself with the approval of Mr. Peter Fleming, F.R.I.B.A., and by Faculty. It would be truer to say that Mr. Gordon Long, an experienced timber man from East Dean, and I considered long how best to do the work and at the same time save the old bell frame unharmed. We decided to lift the bell frame with bells by four acrows at its four corners, the bases for the acrows being the main oak horizontals, and to bind the frame tight together by cord tourniquets in case a peg gave way. Mr. Elphick, the Sussex bell expert, kindly came over from Lewes to give his opinion. He entirely approved our method but advised two more acrows in the middle E. and W. The six acrows cost 25p a week each to hire, plus carriage both ways.

With power saw, ropes and pulleys, Mr. Long, with my help, cut and lowered the old floorboards and then the old joists. With Mr. Jim Brown of Charlton, carpenter, we lifted the old bell frame very carefully just  $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; it came up without a murmur. Naturally we had great interest in all the old timber, considered the age of each piece, wondered how the work had originally been done (the floorboards were all pegged to the joists), and observed the inside of the tower as never before. We think that originally the floor held not bells but priests. The Saxon doorway into the supposed upper room over the nave leads off from this floor. The walls are roughly plastered up to about 11ft.; here signs of another higher floor are clearly visible where the joists ends entered the E. and W. walls. Bells are usually higher up than 20ft. The priests ('clerkes' in Domesday Book) would certainly need a roof over their heads, for tower draughts are fierce, and would not want to go higher than necessary.

In 1632 the lightning must have done much damage (500 marks is quite a large sum). It was then decided, we think, to do away with the upper floor completely and to repair the lower floor, using partly good timber from the upper floor and partly new (we think the centre horizontal, two beams in the bell frame, those floorboards which are flat both sides, and two joists date from 1632). Two floors had not been needed for a century at least. This reconstruction of events explains what had completely puzzled us; namely, how they put the new floorboards and two joists, with pegs, under the bell frame, for how could they possibly have lifted it high enough to do the repair work in 1632? In fact, we think that the floor with two new joists and some new floorboards were repaired and laid first, and then the damaged bell frame was lowered from above on to it. There is a curious footnote in *S.A.C.*, Vol. 52, by H. M. Hordern, then Rector of Singleton, to the 1632 Brief: "the outside spiral staircase and room to which it led no longer exist." We think Mr. Hordern in 1909 was quoting not from any document but village tradition, which rightly said there used to be a room in the tower. I add that the upper openings for the bell sound to the N., opposite to where the bells were, support this reconstruction in our opinion, and that all the evidence points to this 'clerkes' under, bells over arrangement being the original Saxon design.

JOHN H. BISHOP (Rector of Singleton)

A FICTITIOUS PURPORTED HISTORICAL MAP—In *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, Vol. 55 (1912), 281 ff. there appeared an article by W. V. Crake on "A Notice of Maresfield Forge in 1608", illustrated in the text by a map captioned as "Copy of a map of the Maresfield Forge in 1724: Made by C. Dawson, F.S.A.". In 1931 the map was reproduced from the same block, along with a brief notice of the article, in Ernest Straker's *Wealden Iron*, 401 (reprinted 1967 and 1969).

There appears no reason to doubt the *bona fides* of the article or the genuineness of its cited sources; but the map is wholly fictitious and of no value as evidence for anything depicted at any period. It may be observed that the article itself makes no reference to it anywhere, being written as thought unillustrated.

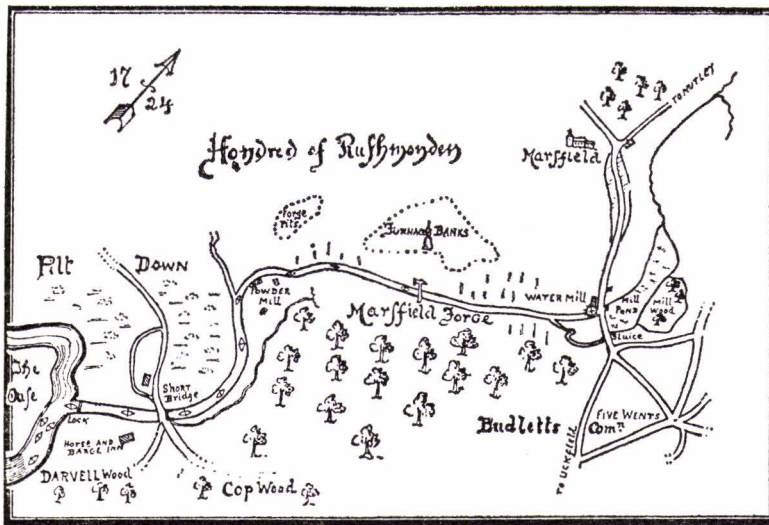
Nevertheless the map (Fig. 6) has been accepted as valid evidence for certain features depicted in at least two studies in industrial archaeology since the first reprint of *Wealden Iron* in 1967.<sup>1</sup>

It is thought therefore that it may be of value and perhaps general interest, to summarize the principal historical errors and discrepancies of the map, for the benefit of future students who may encounter it in their particular studies and be tempted to take it seriously.

The principal documentary evidence cited below exists in genuine historical maps of Sussex, as reproduced by R. A. Skelton.<sup>2</sup> To these however must be added unpublished evidence from the Maresfield parish records

1 M. J. T. Lewis, W. N. Slatcher and P. N. Jarvis, "Flashlocks on English waterways: a survey," *Industrial Archaeology* vi, (1969), 222; and D. F. Gibbs and J. H. Farrant, "The Upper Ouse Navigation 1790-1868," *Sussex Industrial History* 1, (1970), 23, 38.

2 H. Margary (ed.), *Two hundred and fifty years of map-making in the County of Sussex (1575-1825)*. Chichester, 1970. Those most relevant are maps 6 (Budgen one inch 1724, abbreviated below as B.1724), and 21 (O.S. one inch 1813 (abbreviated as OS. 1813); also 17 (Gardner & Gream one inch, 1795).



COPY OF A MAP OF THE MARESFIELD FORGE IN 1724.

Made by C. Dawson, F.S.A.

FIG. 6. C. DAWSON'S MAP OF MARESFIELD FORGE. Originally published in *S.A.C.*, vol. 55 (1912), pp. 281 et seq.

(East Sussex Record Office, Lewes), including a volume of estate plans drawn in 1820 by the surveyor William Figg, the relevant plans being 1 Maresfield Park, and 12 Shortbridge Farm<sup>1</sup>.

The principal errors and other anomalies of the Dawson map are, then, as follows. The list is not complete, one or two items being too trivial, or else uncertain of verification, to waste time on; those listed seem sufficient to demonstrate the total absurdity of the map and its uselessness as evidence for anything historical.

1. No provenance given. No internal title.
2. Distortion of scale: stream below Powder Mill approx.  $\frac{1}{4}$  scale of that above.
3. Confusion of anachronistic scripts and inconsistency in their use. Notice especially that the spelling 'Hondred' is a pseudo-archaism (B.1724 always Hundred), drawn attention to with a perhaps deliberate blot; and that small Roman capitals of 19th-20th century type tend to be used for demonstrable 19th-century anachronisms.
4. Road (A.22) shown N. from Maresfield labelled To NUTLEY. B.1724, O.S.1813 (and all other maps to 1825) show no such road, that to Nutley running W. from village. F.1820 shows line as virgin fields, with later added rough drafts for schemes (two alternative) for new road. Made c. 1830: 'lately' completed, says Horsfield, in *The History of Sussex*, 1834. First shown on the Tithe Map of Maresfield, 1840.
5. Area of modern Maresfield Park shown as open woodland and unnamed. B.1724 depicts Cross House (later Maresfield Park House) dominating village, the seat of John Newnham (d. 1737), principal gentleman of the neighbourhood.
6. Picture-symbol of Maresfield church directly imitated from B.1724, but travestied with false spire on tower (cf. Buxted church B.1724).
7. Position of cutting (much exaggerated) on road S. from village reversed relative church and mill (why, if shown at all?). This probably dates only from turnpiking 1752 in any case.
8. *Mill Pond (sic)* shown in marsh with modern O.S. convention, but drained only after mill burnt down c. 1880. Shape and convention shown precisely as O.S. 6in. c. 1900.
9. The name *Five Wents* though six ways shown meeting (as travesty O.S. 1813). B.1724 names Six Wents; so often parish records 1774-1859. One way closed by c. 1900, only five then and today.
10. *Maresfield Forge*: position equivalent that shown B.1724, but his conventional sledge symbol travestied as carefully-drawn carpenter's hammer. B.1724 position in fact conventional approximation only, his stream courses wildly incorrect in this area; in effect means only "leave road at mill and go down stream till you reach it". (cf. 13 below).
11. Depiction of parallel banks of stream above forge explicitly denies existence of hammer-pond, in contrast with the full (though anachronistic) depiction of mill-pond above. A forge without hammer-pond was impossible.

<sup>1</sup> East Sussex Record Office.

12. The furnace symbol is shown waterless and the position is the highest local hill-top, whereas a ponded stream was necessary, as for a forge. O.S. 1813 shows remnant pond in the true position below, still in water then. Enclosure called *Furnace Banks* (false: only one bank ever attested elsewhere) given precise shape as Furnacebank Wood on maps c. 1900 and today; contrast the much larger shown on O.S. 1813, and with that again that wholly different on Gardner and Gream, 1795.

13. *Powder Mill* (*sic*) first attested 1852 (parish rating accounts), and abandoned within a decade. This is the true position of the forge: O.S. 1813 shows hammer-pond still in water (dry most of 19th century, restored as today, 1931); field names in 'Forge' cluster here (parish records 1790, 1841).

14. Ouse and Maresfield stream shown being navigated by boats right up to (false) forge position. B.1724 marks limit of navigation at Isfield (well off map area to S.): Ouse Navigation above this opened only 1790, Maresfield stream then only to wharf below Shortbridge (shown F.1820). *Horse and Barge Inn* (*sic*) presumably not so nameable earlier. *Lock* not then where shown but in main river (O.S. 1813, F.1820) where tight group of three 'boats' seems to suggest its 'ghost'. Possible present traces of 19th century footbridge at point where *lock* shown. What does map in fact seem to depict? No known evidence stream ever navigable above Shortbridge, or to it, before 1790.

15. Pilt Down common shown with modern O.S. 'heath and furze' convention extended to Ouse bend over modern farmlands. B.1724 shows (stippled) no greater extension here than today (or O.S. 6in. c. 1900).

The late P. B. S. ANDREWS

HASTINGS TOWN AND PARKS: NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS—In addition to the excellent work of the recently formed Hastings Archaeological Research Group and of the Old Town Preservation Society, a number of new finds may be recorded ranging from Neolithic to medieval times. These finds are the product of a study of soil sections rather than of tangible structures, and the outcome of excavation has been principally potsherds, often very small at some sites. Nevertheless, some indication of the respective occupation has been gleaned.

Some 70 years have passed since the farmlands eastwards of Hastings (now Hastings Country Park) yielded archaeological finds and it may be said that this area will always be difficult to study because of the problems presented by soil erosion and slipping ground along the cliffs. The soils also possess qualities inimical to the preservation of metal and bone, a fact lamented in more than a few Wealden archaeological reports.

Recently, at Cliff End, Pett Level, and on private ground, Miss Palmer excavated a cave in the cliffs, basing her studies on flint blades from the cave and mentioning some from the adjacent coastal peatbed.<sup>1</sup> Another report is promised on Mesolithic finds near Fairlight. It may be said, however, that for the region westwards towards Hastings the situation is somewhat anomalous in that the bulk of the flints are reflections of sorties from a Neolithic B settlement of short duration—presumably from the Willow Pit Wood site now under study at Warren Glen.

Because of the fact that Neolithic and Early Bronze Age flint-knappers commonly produced a variety of blade tools from fluted cores<sup>2</sup>, in burial mounds reflecting sickles built up from serrated blades, and in settlements for a variety of blade scrapers and awls, I find myself demanding from the westerly areas of the Park either a Mesolithic flint industry in bulk, or the presence of the micro-burin. So far this aspect of early hunting activities by Mesolithic folk may be said to be absent in those areas I have examined.

It is, of course, no longer useful to discuss the supposed occurrence of a shell-mound culture on either West Hill or East Hill. The former resolved itself into a mixture of Mesolithic flints and medieval sherds, while the latter completely lacks modern definition.<sup>3</sup> It is possible that a true midden culture was present in Park Avenue, above Alexandra Park. Here, as a result of careful enquiry, not only a mass of shells but also a number of Beaker sherds may be attested. This site was destroyed in the course of road-building works.

In view of the comparative dearth of archaeological records from the Hastings region until quite recently, the following list of new sites should prove of interest, demonstrating as they do the necessity of increased vigilance and the painstaking enquiries practised elsewhere.

*West Hill* (TQ 821 095)—A line of postholes exists on the E. side of the Norman ditch separating the Castle from the Ladies Parlour. From one of these postholes I retrieved a Saxon pot (or more properly an early English pot) made in the Saxon manner from a hard, black paste. This vessel (Fig. 7, No. 1) is somewhat baggy with a sagging base. The bead rim is irregular, suggesting that the pot was not entirely wheel-turned.

The vessel has affinities with material found at Pevensy and Balsdean<sup>4</sup> where, at Pevensy, the find is closely dated to the late 11th century, and at Balsdean Chapel where a date around A.D. 1150 is suggested. However, the Balsdean pot is made from a light grey paste and its surface is brown with light-red tones. This early Norman fabric appears to mark the passing of the black Saxon wares in this area. The Hastings pot may therefore be dated close to A.D. 1150.

Sherd No. 2, Fig. 7, is from a black baggy vessel like the above. The rim shape suggests that the potter copied a mid-12th century Norman style. Similar rim sherds in Norman ware also occur at the Ladies Parlour. Another sherd, recently retrieved from the scree at the base of the cliff, reproduces the features of the Hastings pot, but this time the Saxon paste has received a pink slip, the vessel concerned being a clear imitation of a Norman

1 Palmer, S., "Excavations at a Mesolithic cave site at Cliff End, Pett, Sussex," *S.A.C.* 110 (1972), 3-9.

2 Moore, J. W., "Excavations at Beacon Hill, Flamborough Head," *Yorks. Archaeol. Journ.*, 41 (1964), 191-202; Mortimer, J. R., *Forty Years' Researches* (1905).

3 Abbott, W. J. L., *Proc. Geol. Ass.* (1904), 18; *Ibid.* (1907), 20.

4 Norris, N. E. S., and Hockings, E. F., "Excavations at Balsdean Chapel, Rottingdean, Sussex," *S.A.C.* 91 (1953), 53-62.



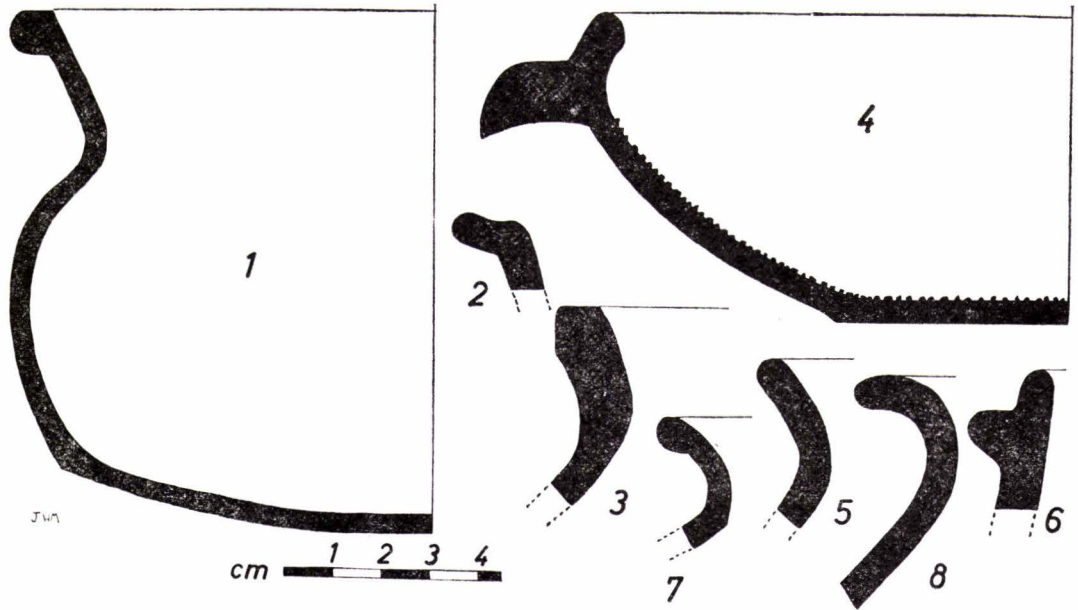


FIG. 7. POTTERY FROM SITES IN THE HASTINGS AREA

style. It is unfortunate that little remains of the scree at the foot of the cliff, since it would have provided a history of the place from Mesolithic times onwards, but there is perhaps sufficient left for a useful study still to be made.

Another sherd, not figured, repeats the features of sherd No. 2, but is deformed by a large pebble and is clearly a waste piece, indicating that such pottery was made on the site. It is interesting therefore to be able to record a similar sherd, with mortar on it. This was left at the Hastings Museum some years ago, but has since been mislaid. It would seem to have indicated certain constructional works around A.D. 1150.

Sherd No. 3, Fig. 7, comes from another posthole. The hard, black surface, and the dark-grey, somewhat 'oatmeal' paste, together with the rim shape, suggest late Caburn I features. Its presence in the posthole is possibly fortuitous since traces of bone are present in the unexcavated cavity, of which it may be said that bone does not appear to have survived the acid soils of this region earlier than the Saxon period.

At the moment of writing I have no information of the results of an excavation carried out at the Ladies Parlour by the Department of Extra Mural Studies, Birmingham University.

*Fairlight Glen* (TQ 850 107)—In the wood at the head of the Glen, close to 'Smuggler's Steps', an industrial site concerned with stone-quarrying may tentatively be assigned to Tudor times. A rectangular alignment of partly dressed stones may here be seen.

*East Hill*—The northerly side of the rectangular enclosure on East Hill reveals modern rubbish to base. Nevertheless there is some substance in feeling that the southerly bank is of some antiquity. Some years ago I observed scraps of Roman-British pottery in the cliff face nearby.

*Covehurst Wood* (TQ 848 104)—Covehurst Wood is, in fact, an undercliff thicket resting beneath the sheer rock face of the general cliff line. On this clifftop, close to the path leading to Fairlight Glen, I noticed some traces of red pottery in the section revealed by an old landslip. I cut back this section for a yard or so in order to retrieve what was evidently the contents of a hearth, of which a fragment remained. The site (Fig. 8) yielded Romano-British coarse ware sherds, fragments of two similar mortaria, and vague indications of a hut floor in the vicinity of the hearth. The plan drawing is without a section since there was little to record apart from plough soil 1ft. deep at the W. edge and 1ft. 6in. deep at the E., whence sliding ground due to water seepage meets the head of Fairlight Glen. The site contains ample waste ground suitable for further exploration.

Only the fragmentary hearth and the entrance pavement *B* can be said to have escaped the plough. The large stone *A* would have been inserted, it seems, in order to support a post. The floor and paucity of finds suggest that the site was a temporary structure of brief occupation. The potsherds from this site fall into four groups:

1. A dark brown paste, fairly hard, with fine grit and crushed shell, and with a soapy, light-brown slip which burnishes well. These sherds recall in paste and features the early coarse wares of Springhead<sup>1</sup>, where a dating of A.D. 50-75 is accorded them. There were 8 sherds of this type (Fig. 7, Nos. 5, 7, 8).

<sup>1</sup> Penn, W. S., "Excavations at Springhead, Southfleet, Kent," *Arch. Cant.* 73 (1959), 1-61.

2. Soapy, earthy paste, light-brown to dark-brown, sometimes with reddish or purple tints throughout. Contains sparse crushed shell and pink, earthy particles. Of 14 sherds three are flanges (Fig. 7, No. 6), and there are two sherds of a flat-based vessel. This fabric reflects Patch Grove features.<sup>1</sup> In this respect the excavations of the Lullingstone villa inform us that "Native ware, often of Patch Grove type, tends clearly to persist towards the end of the second century."<sup>2</sup>

3. Black, earthy paste, quite soft like Group B, and with a thick pink or red slip. No visible grits. No identifiable rims or bases. There were 10 sherds in all.

4. Sherds of two similar mortaria (Fig. 7, No. 4). Dark-grey to black earthy paste free of visible grits. Internally and on the exterior there is a thick red slip. The tip of the beaked flange is missing on some sherds and this gives the impression of an annular groove where the clay was pinched out. The inner surface of these sherds is studded with white- and ruby-coloured grits which Mr. D. Binns, Hastings, identifies as chert. The sherds are considerably eroded by fire.

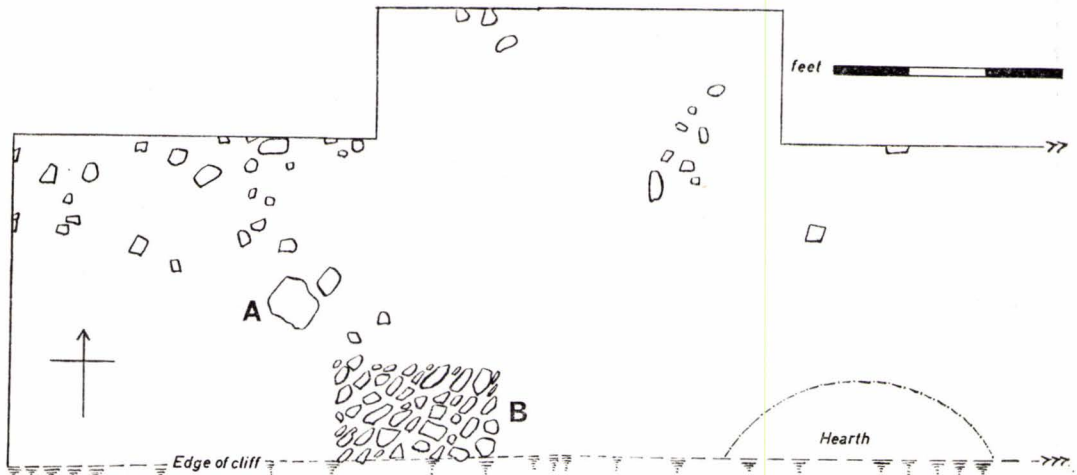


FIG. 8. PLAN OF ROMANO-BRITISH HEARTH AND HUT FLOOR ABOVE COVEHURST WOOD, HASTINGS

It appears that at this site native pastes have been used to copy Roman wares, particularly the mortaria. The drooping flange and inclined beading of these mortaria find their best counterparts at Colchester<sup>3</sup> and also at Richborough<sup>4</sup> where this feature is accorded an early dating: at Colchester to A.D. 54, and at Richborough A.D. 90-130. The Colchester text contains the following: "Rims alone are not sufficient for dating purposes since there was a fluctuation in typological development." Nevertheless, although this type of rim is early, and despite the fact that a cycle of development brings it back into use again during the 4th century, it is noticeable that the later beading is erect, not inclined, and also one does not quite get the drooping effect of the rims at Colchester, Richborough, and Covehurst Wood. A 2nd century dating is suggested for the Covehurst Wood site.

Regarding these mortaria from Covehurst Wood it is perhaps of some interest to learn that Miss Lucie Annie Rushbrooke, professional potter of the Old Town, Hastings, and also of Rye, informed me that she has had requests from visiting orientals to make just such a mortar. Apparently the interior of the vessel is rubbed with herbs in preference to admixing them, in order to obtain a more subtle flavour.

*Willow Pit Wood, Warren Glen* (TQ 856 108)—Above the wood, in a cliff section near Lovers Seat, a wide but sparse scatter of Neolithic B sherds of heavily flint-gritted red clay is being retrieved together with flint debris. An 8ft. section has been cut into by Iron Age groups farming locally through a period marked by soil movement attaining to 42in. depth, but at the moment excavation is restricted to determining whether the section is stratigraphically viable or not. A similar section of Iron Age sunken works is available for study in the quarry nearest the Coastguard Station, but what they signify is not yet clarified. Ironworking is not indicated and slag is absent from the region.

The long Willow Pit Wood section also contains a solifluxion gravel beneath the Neolithic horizon. It appears to be archaeologically sterile and marks a time when the erosion of Warren Glen was occurring at about 150ft. above the present coastal exit.

1 Ward-Perkins, J. B., "Excavations on Oldbury Hill, Ightham, Kent," *Arch. Cant.*, 56 (1943), 56; Philp, B. J., "The Romano-British farmstead at Eastwood, Farnham," *Arch. Cant.*, 78 (1963), 55-73.

2 Meates, G. W., Greenfield, E. and Birchenough, E.,

"Lullingstone Roman Villa," *Arch. Cant.* 65 (1952), 26-78.

3 Hawkes, C. F. C., and Hull, M. R., "Camulodunum,"

Soc. Ant. London Res. Rep. No. 14 (1947), 255, Fig. 53, No. 22.

4 Bushe-Fox, J. P., "Excavations at Richborough: IV,"

Soc. Ant. London, Res. Rep. No. 16 (1949), No. 503.

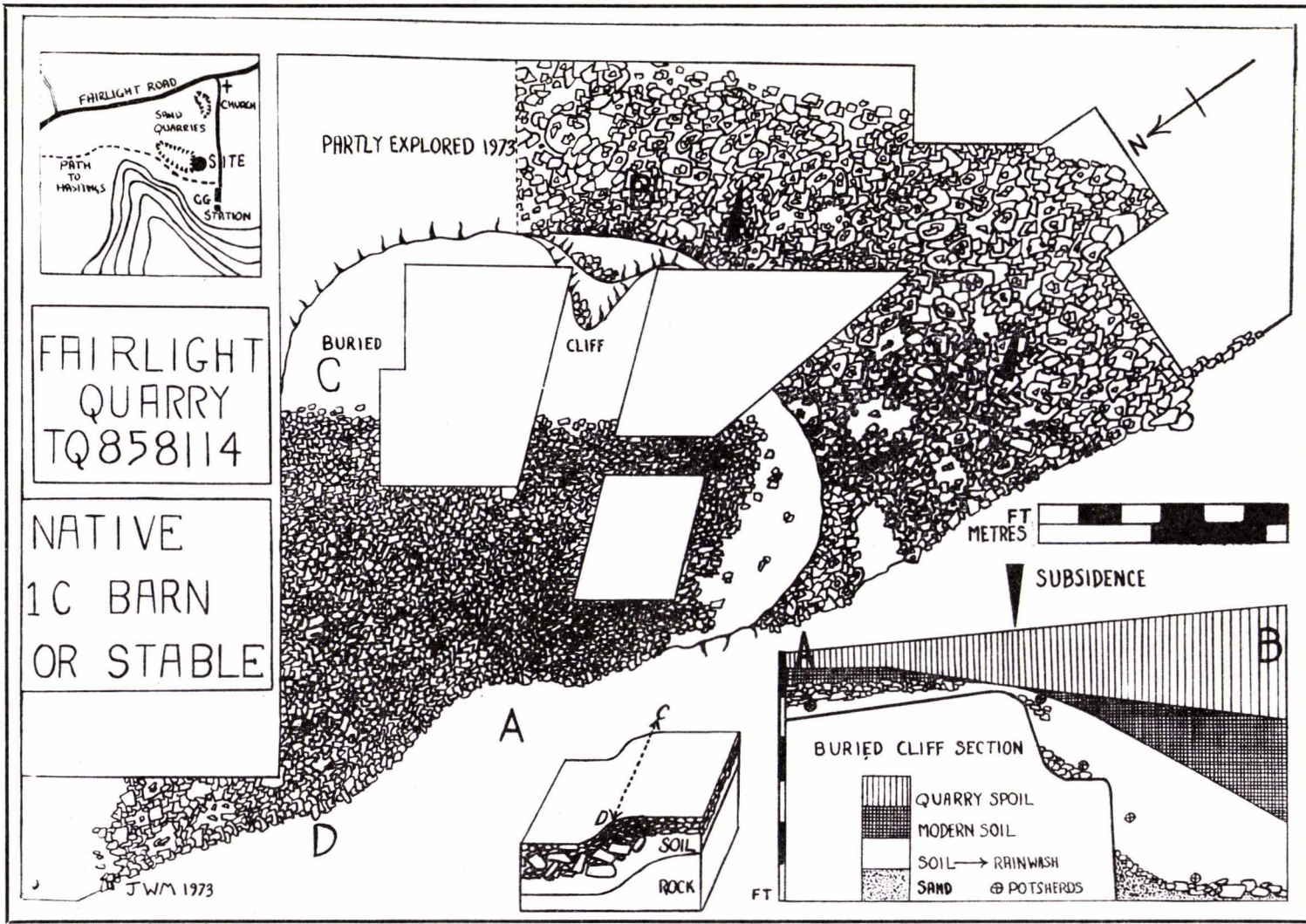


FIG. 9. PLAN OF BUILDING AT FAIRLIGHT QUARRY