

EXCAVATIONS AT THE PREHISTORIC AND ROMANO-BRITISH SITE ON SLONK HILL, SHOREHAM, SUSSEX

by R. Hartridge

A small unenclosed Iron Age settlement, dated 6th to 1st century B.C., provided evidence of domestic occupation, agriculture and metalworking together with two inhumations. A Roman settlement in the same area began in the late 1st/early 2nd century and continued to the end of the 4th century A.D. In an area where lynchets had recently been ploughed out there were traces of ancient ploughing. One of two circular ditches excavated was that of a destroyed barrow which had been surrounded by a square structure in the 4th century A.D.

INTRODUCTION

The site (Fig. 1) (TQ 226065) lies in the parish of Kingston Buci. It is at the crown of a hill which juts out into the coastal plain and overlooks the mouth of the river Adur. The 200ft. contour crosses the middle of the site. The natural rock, Upper Chalk, is at present covered with 10 to 30cm. of soil, and there are occasional small areas which retain traces of Clay-with-Flints.

The hill is known locally as *The Slonk*, perhaps from the dialect word *slonk*¹ 'a depression, a deep hollow, a slough or slack.' If the hill were called *The Slonk* in that sense, the name could only be a transference from the valley north-east of the hill which is *slonk* in shape. The more likely derivation is from the Old English *Slang*², 'a sinuous snake-like projection or strip.' This is a reasonably accurate description of the hill joined as it is by a saddle to the main mass of the downs. No evidence has been found to support the suggestion that a battle on the hill between Romanized Britons and Saxon invaders gave rise to the name *Slonk* derived from *slaught*,³ commemorating slaughter on the hill.

Previous work on the site

An ancient settlement on the hill was first indicated in 1914 when an army division was encamped on the downs north of Shoreham. During the construction of army huts Romano-British inhumation burials with vessels were disturbed⁴ and Roman pottery was found in the sides of trenches dug during army training. These were still open when further trenches were dug during the 1939-45 war. Observations in 1948 during the filling of these trenches, and after ploughing, resulted in excavations⁵ which revealed a midden of the 2nd to 4th century A.D. The excavators also found, on the saddle connecting *Slonk Hill* with the downs, pits of the 6th to 3rd century B.C. and of the 2nd century A.D. Also recorded was a cremation of the Hadrianic period turned up by the plough in the same area.

¹ J. Wright, *English Dialect Dictionary*, s.v. *slonk*, 3B.

² J. McN. Dodgson, *Notes and Queries* (April 1968), p. 124. Mr. Dodgson, who visited the site, commented that he would not think it unusual for Old English *slang* to become Middle English *slong* and therefore *slong* or *slonk* in Modern English dialect. He also drew attention to the citation in the *Oxford English Dictionary*, s.v. *slang* from Holland's edition of Camden's *Britannia* vol. 1, p. 715, 'there runneth forth into the sea a certaine shelve or slang like unto an outthrust tongue.'

³ H. Cheal, *The story of Shoreham* (1921), p. 7.

⁴ E. F. Salmon, *Sussex Archaeological Collections* (hereafter abbreviated to *S.A.C.*) vol. 66 (1925), p. 243. Three pots associated with one of these interments are now in Brighton Museum. A Bronze Age skeleton which Mr. Salmon describes as discovered 'also on *Slonk Hill*' was, according to Brighton Museum records, found 1,000 ft. N.E. of Buckingham barn, which would place it on the lower slopes of *Thundersbarrow Hill*.

⁵ N. E. S. Norris, G. P. Burstow & F. H. Witten, *Sussex Notes and Queries*, vol. 12 (May and August 1949), p. 151.

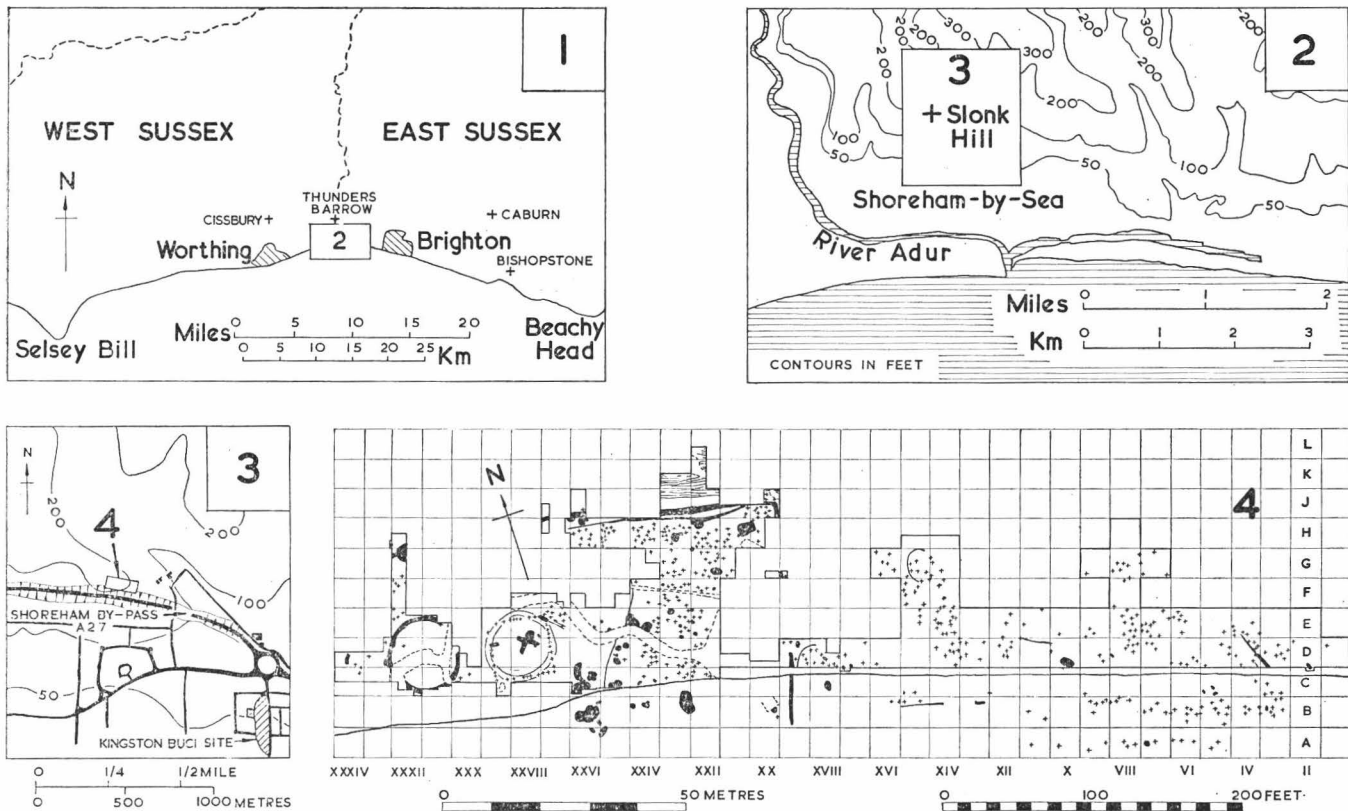


FIG. 1. Location of the site

Between 1948, when the army trenches were filled in, and 1968, when a cutting was made through the hill for a road, the site was ploughed several times and the last traces of a prehistoric and/or Roman field system on the northern slope of the hill¹ were ploughed out. The hills to the north have also been extensively ploughed and there is now no trace on the surface of the minor ridgeways which, in 1933, E. C. Curwen² noted on the southern slopes of Thundersbarrow Hill (Fig. 1, No. 1). One of these ridgeways led in the direction of Slonk Hill and the other towards Kingston Buci (Fig. 1, No. 3). These three neighbouring sites, Thundersbarrow, Slonk Hill and Kingston Buci, were all occupied during the Iron Age and during the Roman period and may well have been linked by the ridgeways.

Method of excavation

In 1968 a new bridge over the river Adur was built and diversion of the A27 road necessitated a cutting through Slonk Hill. Between the clearing of the topsoil and the removal of the underlying chalk, a rescue excavation was mounted on behalf of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society. It was believed that the features destroyed by the road cutting were part of a settlement which extended to the north of the road and excavations were therefore continued in the adjacent field from 1969 to 1974.

During the rescue excavations it was found convenient to make all measurements from marks set out by the road contractors at 100ft. intervals. In order to provide continuity the base-line, in the field to the north of the road, was laid out with reference to the marks already used and a 100ft. grid further divided into 20ft. squares was adhered to throughout the excavations. As it was not considered advisable to change to the metric system part way through the excavation Imperial measurements were used throughout, and conversions have been made for this publication.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FEATURES

The features are reported with reference to a grid, the squares of which have 20ft. (6.1m.) sides. These squares, numbered in Roman numerals from east to west and lettered alphabetically from south to north are set out in Fig. 2. The area below the continuous line running from 1 C to XXXIV A in Fig. 2 was cleared in 1968 with road-making machines and a small but unmeasured amount of chalk was sometimes removed with the topsoil. As measurements were made from the surface left by the machines, the depths recorded must be regarded as a minimum. The base-line for all later excavations runs through the site from east to west along the southern edge of the squares lettered D. Between the two areas is a strip of unexcavated ground occupied by a fence separating the road cutting from the privately owned field to the north of it.

No part of any structure from an ancient period remained above the surface of the natural chalk. Apparent features visible on the modern ground surface bore no relation to what was found by excavation. As the topsoil was so much disturbed all finds from it have been considered unstratified.

¹ G. A. Holleyman, 'The Celtic field system in South Britain,' *Antiquity*, vol. 9 (1935), pp. 443-54.

² E. C. Curwen, 'Excavations on Thundersbarrow hill, Sussex,' *The Antiquaries Journal*, vol. 13 (1933), p. 114 & Plate 16.

BRONZE AGE

Eastern Barrow Ditch (Fig. 3)

On the surface of the hill there is now no trace of the Tumulus recorded by the Ordnance Survey. The circular ditch survives however, and was excavated. It was on average 1m. wide and the depth varied between 23 and 36cm. The area enclosed was approximately 120 square metres. The natural chalk within the circle was up to 20cm. higher than that outside. The primary silting of the ditch, which was compacted chalk silt, yielded two Neolithic sherds (Fig. 16, 141), and a few fragments of Early Bronze Age pottery (Fig. 16, 144) together with two ox molars and one pig humerus. The layers above contained a great deal of 3rd and 4th century Roman material, and mixed with it, but nowhere stratified separately, was earlier pottery including fragments of Bronze Age food vessels and collared urns (Fig. 16; 139, 142-3, 145, 148-9 and 151).

In the area enclosed by the ditch was a regular pattern of square holes cut into the natural chalk, some of them filled with concrete. Similar features occurred elsewhere on the hill and indicated the sites of army huts erected during the 1914-18 war.

A pit, within the area enclosed by the ditch, was excavated in the vain hope that some undisturbed material might remain. The filling consisted of a series of layers containing barbed wire with other modern rubbish and, completely unstratified, fragments of a collared urn (Fig. 16, 147), some Roman and a few 14th century potsherds. There were also bones of horse, pig, ox and the following remains of an adult human; 1 cranial fragment; 1 right ulna, proximal shaft; 1 patella; 2 tarsal bones, talus and cuneiform; 1 metacarpal; 3 rib fragments.

In the area formerly covered by the mound were two scoops cut into the natural chalk. These contained small burnt bone fragments representing cremation burials beneath the mound.

Cremation 1

In an oval hollow with parallel sides and rounded ends cut 33cm. deep into the chalk natural were a few burnt bone fragments with a little charcoal. The rest of the filling was of chalk lumps and fine soot.

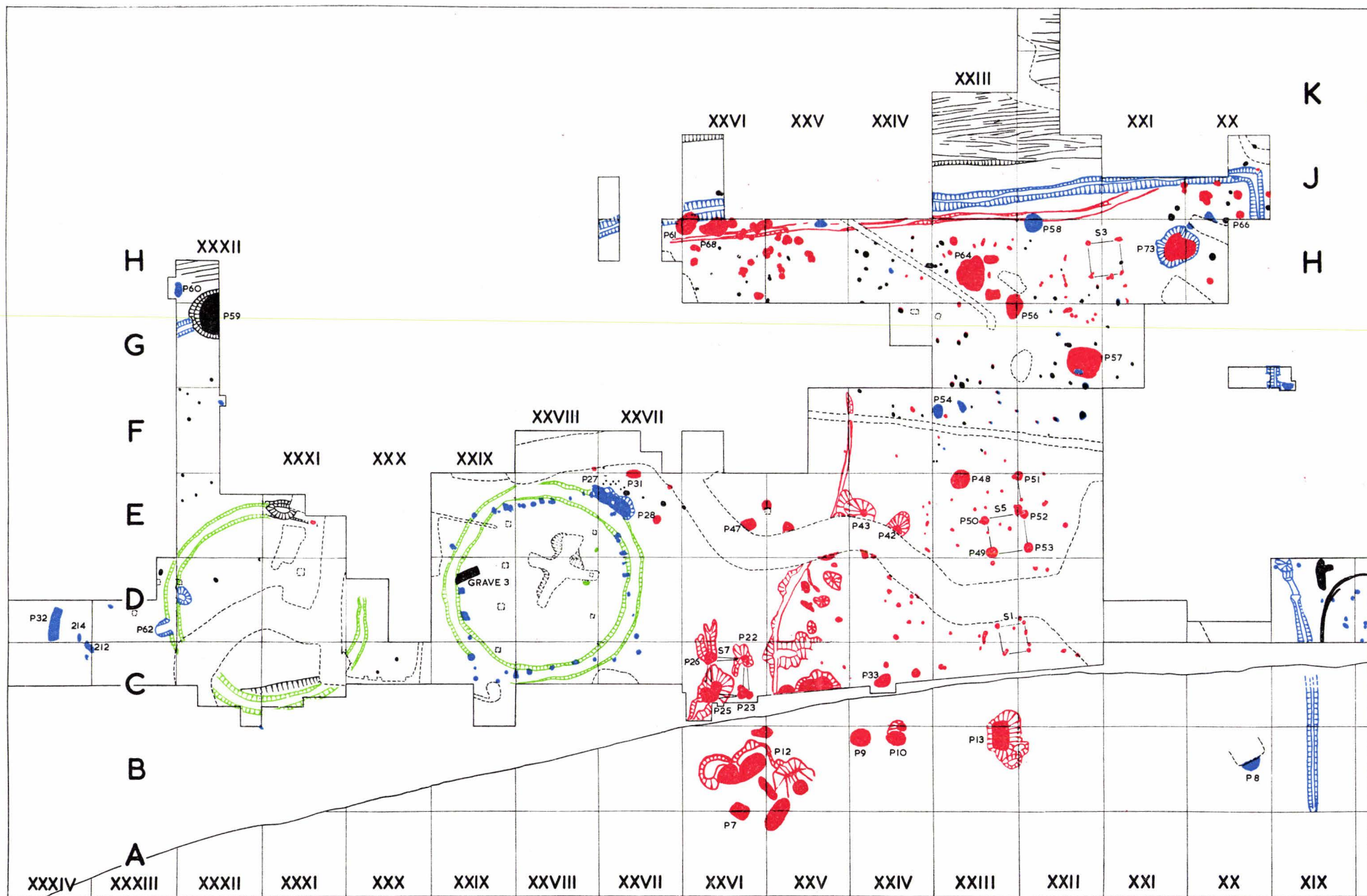
Cremation 2

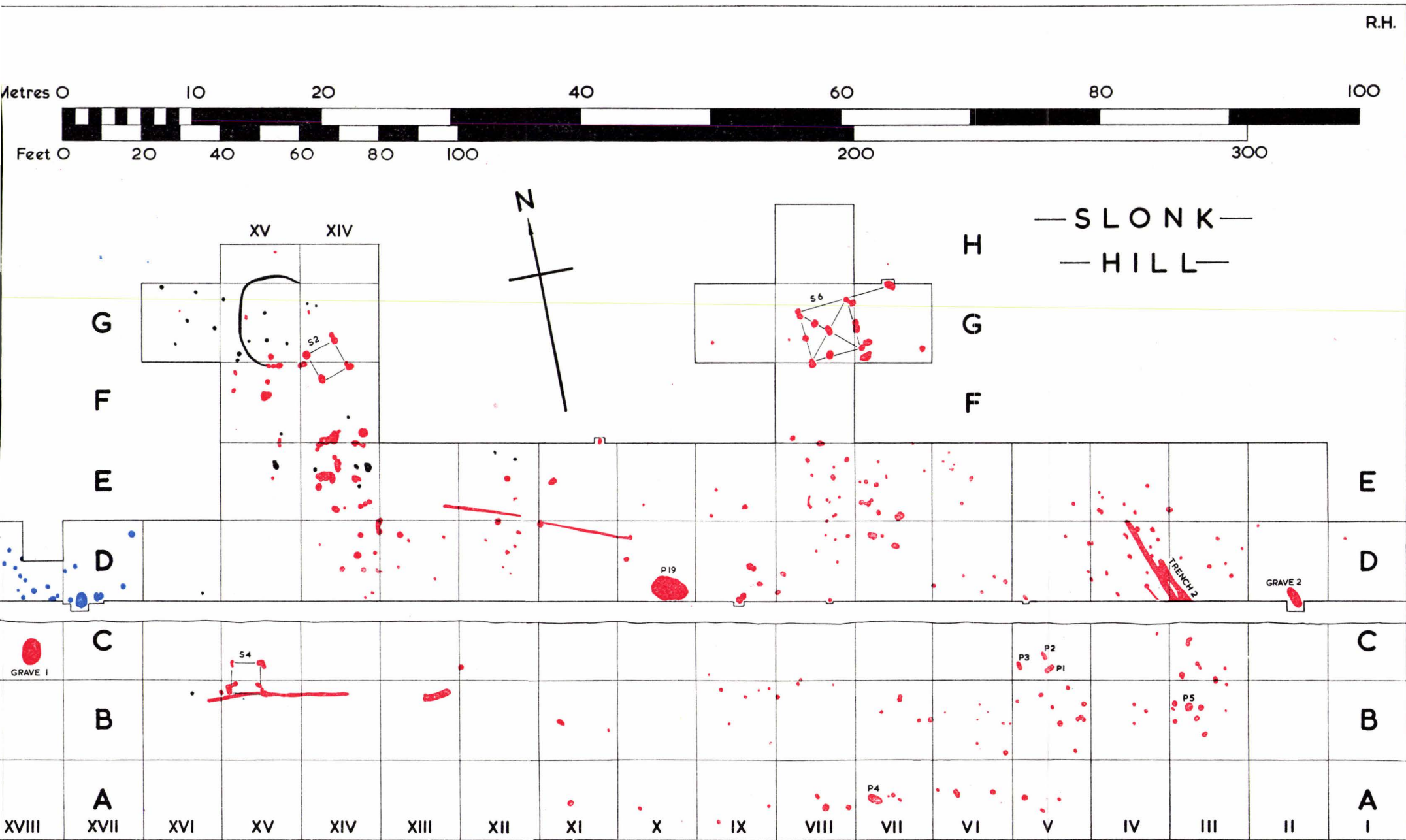
Only part of this cremation was recovered. The other part, probably about half, was destroyed by a modern disturbance. The hollow had a maximum depth of 18cm. and contained burnt bone fragments and sooty soil. One small rib head suggests the burial was that of a child.

Western Barrow Ditch (Fig. 3)

No record has been found of two mounds on the hill, but a second circular ditch was found and excavated. It was 23m. from the first, centre to centre, and enclosed an area of approximately 128 square metres. The compacted chalk silt at the bottom of this second ditch was barren, and apart from a few Iron Age potsherds, the rest of the filling was of the 3rd or 4th century A.D.

Part of the area enclosed by the ditch had been cut through by a modern trench system which, near the centre, was 1.5m. deep and would have destroyed any central feature. Apart from this, all the topsoil in the area had been disturbed by modern ploughing. The chalk surface however, had natural cavities up to 13cm. deep and below plough level. These cavities contained Roman potsherds. There was also a post hole 2.7m. towards the centre from the inner lip of the ditch. This post hole yielded one coarse potsherd, probably pre-Roman.





Bronze Age



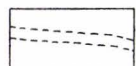
Iron Age



Roman



undated



Modern

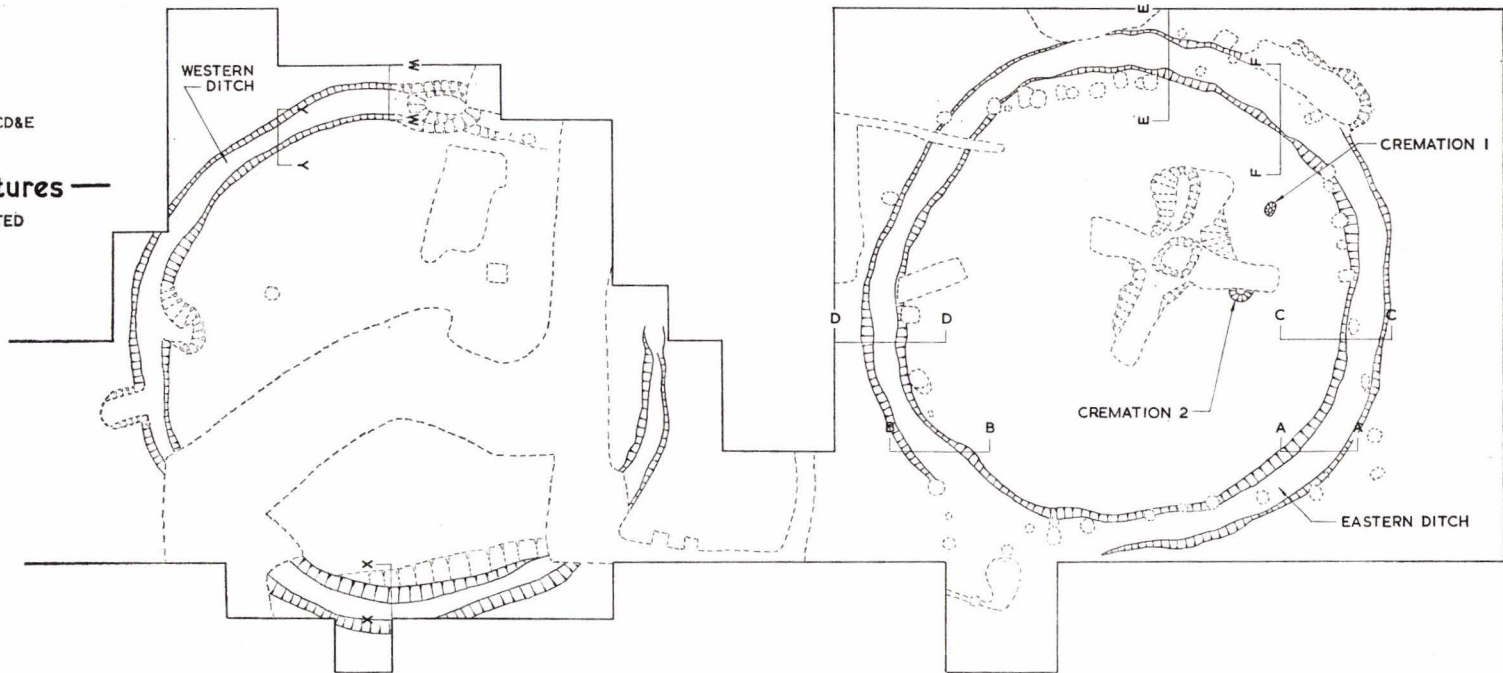
FIG. 2

SLOK HILL

SQUARES XXVII - XXXIII CD&E

— Bronze Age Features —

LATER INTRUSIONS DOTTED



TOPSOIL & TURF

SEA SHELLS & FLINT

FLINTS

SOIL & SMALL CHALK

FINE SOIL & SMALL CHALK

LOOSE CHALK SILT

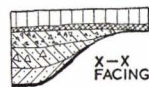
COMPACTED CHALK SILT

POST
BRONZE AGE
LAYERS

BRONZE AGE



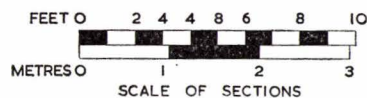
W-W
FACING EAST



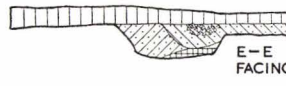
X-X
FACING WEST



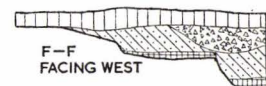
Y-Y
FACING EAST



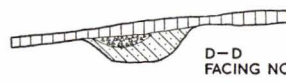
SCALE OF SECTIONS



E-E
FACING WEST



F-F
FACING WEST



D-D
FACING NORTH



C-C
FACING NORTH



B-B
FACING NORTH



A-A
FACING NORTH

R.H.

FIG. 3. Ditches of destroyed barrow and of possible disc barrow. Sections include filling of the 4th century A.D.

IRON AGE

Within the Iron Age settlement three phases are recognised. The first phase extending from the 7th to the 5th century, the second phase from the 5th to the 3rd century and the third, marked by the introduction of distinctive saucepan type pottery, from the 3rd to the 1st century B.C.

The plans in Fig. 4 show only those features dated by finds to one of the phases. Many features contained finds dateable to the Iron Age but not to a phase within it. These do not appear in Fig. 4 but are marked in red on Fig. 2. At the eastern end of the site, in the area covered by squares I to XI A to G, where no trace was found of later occupation, all features, including those lacking finds, are shown in Fig. 2 as belonging to the Iron Age. To the west of this, where features with no finds might belong either to the Iron Age or to the Roman settlement which followed, only those features which contained Iron Age finds are marked in red on Fig. 2.

Post holes and timber structures

Among the post holes, which ranged from 15cm. to 76cm. in diameter and 5cm. to 61cm. in depth, were groups capable of supporting the posts of four-sided structures. The plans of buildings based on some of these groups would be irregular, seldom including more than one right-angle, as for instance four post holes described, with adjacent gullies, on page 79. There were however seven groups, indicated on Fig. 2, where a post hole or small pit occurred at each corner of a true square.

The smallest, S1, centred on square XXIII D, had sides 1.9m. long. The largest post hole was 41cm. and the smallest 28cm. in diameter. One was 18cm. and the other three 28cm. deep. Three of them yielded a total of eight small Iron Age potsherds and one lump of iron slag.

In XIV G the square structure S2 had sides of 2.3m. The post holes were from 51 to 76cm. in diameter and from 25 to 43cm. deep. In the filling of one post hole was a post impression 25cm. in diameter. From the original filling came an early rim sherd (Fig. 17, 196) and from the post impression a saucepan pot sherd (Fig. 17, 105).

Centred on XXI H was S3 with sides of 2.4m. The post holes, 25 to 51 cm. in diameter and 15 to 43cm. in depth each yielded one or more Iron Age potsherds.

S4, centred on XV C, had sides of 2.5m. The post holes were from 33 to 56cm. in diameter and 41 to 52cm. deep. All had been re-cut. There were no finds in three of them, but at the bottom of the fourth, was a pedestal base (Fig. 17, 191) giving a date in the 2nd phase.

Pits 49, 50, 52 and 53 in XXII and XXIII E, were at each corner of S5, a square with sides of 2.7m. A further 2.7m. away and in line with one side of the square was a fifth pit. At three corners of the square the pit was 76cm. in diameter and at the other corner it was 82cm. The fifth pit, Pit 51, was also 76cm. in diameter. The depths ranged from 35 to 51cm. There were potsherds from each pit. These included those illustrated in Fig. 14, 81-7 and 137, all dating to the 1st phase.

Centred on VIII G four post holes marked the corners of S6, a square with sides of 3.8m. This, the largest, had sides just twice the length of the smallest square discovered. Two of the corner post holes were 51cm. and the other two 60cm. in diameter. Their depths were from 23 to 46cm. All four had been re-cut to a larger size. A post hole, 54cm. in diameter at the centre of the square had been made to a depth of 22cm. and re-cut, at the same diameter, to 30cm. There was a post hole at the mid-point of the western side, another, re-cut, at the mid-point of the eastern side, one part-way along the southern side and another part-way along a diagonal.

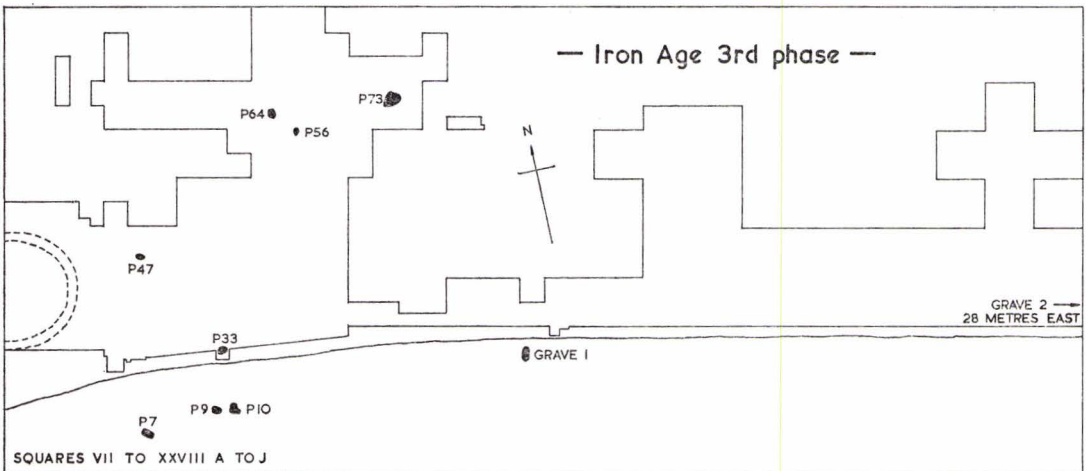
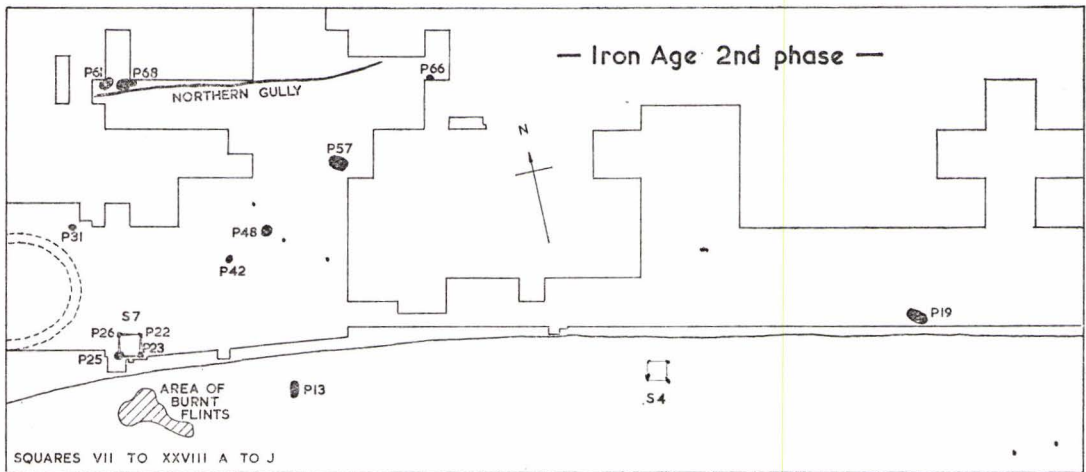
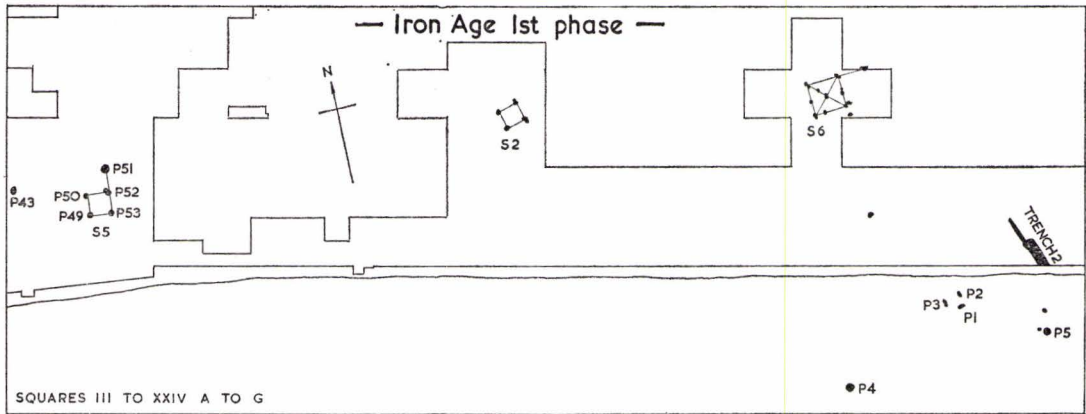


FIG. 4. Features attributable to phases within the Iron Age

A shallow oval feature, 3.8m. to the east, 38cm. long and 24cm. wide was no more than a hollow in the chalk with a maximum depth of 10cm. However, as it was in line with one side of the square and one side-length distant from it, its position matched that of the fifth pit in S5. A second hollow, 66cm. from the south-west corner of the square was no more than 7cm. deep. Each of the post holes held a little Iron Age pottery (Fig. 17, 201-2).

In square XXVI C the four pits of S7 were all sealed by a Roman surface layer. Part of each pit was at the corner of a square with 2.7m. sides. A square of the same size, re-aligned at a slight angle to the first, (Fig. 2) also had a corner in each pit. The maximum dimensions of Pit 23 were; length 1.2m., width 85cm. and depth 60cm. One potsherd from this pit joined onto another from Pit 25. Pit 25 consisted of a hollow at the middle of which was an almost level area 1.8m. long and a maximum of 1.2m. wide at a depth of 70cm. 2nd phase potsherds (Fig. 14, 62-5) came from the filling. Pit 26 was 1m. across, roughly triangular in shape and the maximum depth was 75cm. In the filling were small Iron Age potsherds and a lump of iron slag. To the north of the pit were three gullies, never more than 20cm. deep; the greatest length being 2.4m. Pit 22 was 96cm. long and 76cm. wide. Its maximum depth was 68cm. Associated with a few body sherds of Iron Age pottery and at a depth of 15cm. below the surrounding chalk surface was a much corroded involuted iron brooch (Fig. 11, 9). A gully, similar to those at Pit 26, ran into the pit from the south-west.

Iron Age pits

Most of these were cut neatly and almost vertically down into the chalk. A few were cut as hollows, shallow at the edges and progressively deeper towards the middle.

1st phase pits

Pits 1, 2 and 3 in square V C were all of similar shape and the filling of each contained a few potsherds. The dimensions differed from pit to pit by only a few centimetres. Pit 1 was 94cm. long, 48cm. wide and 38cm. deep. The pottery from it included the shoulder sherd in Fig. 12, 1.

Pit 4 in square VII A was oval, 1.1m. long, 76cm. wide and 25cm. deep. The filling contained a large number of potsherds making up parts of several different pots (Fig. 12, 2-9), and a baked clay spindle whorl (Fig. 10, 10).

Pit 5, not a great deal larger than the post holes surrounding it in square III B, was 76cm. in diameter and 30cm. deep. The large quantity of pottery in it included the classic early types shown in Fig. 12, 10-17. Post holes within 2.5m. of this pit yielded more pottery than others at a greater distance.

Pit 43, partly destroyed by a modern trench in square XXIV E, was a pit of the 'hollow' type. The greatest width across the part remaining was 2.2m. and the depth in the middle was 35cm. The pottery from it included that in Fig. 14, 74. Sealing the pit and an area, not more than 1m. wide, of the natural surface to the west of the pit were from 5 to 15cm. of small burnt flints and chalk rubble. In this were a lump of iron slag, a cockle and an oyster shell and small Iron Age potsherds.

2nd Phase pits

Pit 13, a rectangular pit in square XXIII B, was 2m. by 1.2m. and 97cm. deep. The flat bottom was covered with loose chalk rubble which had been thrown in before any silting took place. In the filling above this were a curved piece of bronze wire, perhaps an earring (Fig. 10, 23), two lumps of quern, a piece of daub (Fig. 10, 16) and several lumps of iron slag. The

uppermost layer contained part of a crucible (Fig. 10, 13). Associated with it were further pieces of iron slag and potsherds (Fig. 13, 29-36), one of which joined onto others from the layer below (Fig. 13, 37-46).

Pit 19, in comparative isolation in square X D, was 2.8m. long, 1.7m. wide and 1m. deep. On the bottom, among large broken flints which covered the floor of the pit, were many large potsherds (Fig. 13, 59-61) and an annular chalk weight (Fig. 10, 7). Above these in 40cm. of loose chalk rubble and silty soil were part of a triangular loom weight (Fig. 10, 12), a flint scraper (Fig. 10, 4) and the pottery in Fig. 13, 57-8. The uppermost layer contained many potsherds (Fig. 13, 47-56) and a tiny piece of iron slag.

Pit 31 in square XXVII E was little more than a scoop 1.1m. long and 50cm. wide cut into the chalk surface to a depth of 18cm. From it came the pedestal base and rim sherd in Fig. 14, 66-7.

Pit 42. In the middle of square XXIV E part of a 'hollow' type pit escaped destruction by the modern army trench which ran through the area. Its width was 1.6m. and its surviving length, probably rather more than half, was 1.4m. The pit bottom sloped down to a maximum depth of 76cm. There were no finds in the bottom 20cm. but above this, in a layer 10cm. thick, were a few potsherds (Fig. 14, 71-3) and a small flat iron object (Fig. 11, 3). Over this layer were 15cm. of blackened soil. Stratification above this was destroyed when the modern trench was in use.

Pit 48, at the northern edge of square XXIII E, was a round pit 1.2m. across and 60cm. deep. On the bottom was a conical spindle whorl (Fig. 10, 11). At a depth of 22cm. was a small corroded iron object of unknown purpose (Fig. 11, 1) associated with the pottery in Fig. 14, 75-80, two pieces of iron slag and fragments of oyster and mussel shells.

Pit 57 in square XXII G was 2.5m. long, 2m. wide and 90cm. deep. On the bottom, up against the southern side, was a patch of burnt flints in fine charcoal; the remains of a fire. The firmly packed chalk rubble and soil covering this was up to 50cm. thick round the edges of the pit but shelved away to nothing, leaving a large part of the floor clear. In this primary layer was a lump of calcite crystals. On that part of the floor not covered by the primary layer was the skull of a horse. This was covered by less firmly packed material reaching up to the top of the pit at the edges only. The animal bones from this layer included an ox skull and a 'gouge' made from the tibia of a sheep (Fig. 22, 4); one of only two bone implements found. There was also one oyster, several mussel shells and the pottery in Fig. 14, 91-102. In Roman times a hollow, 40cm. deep, had been cut into the top layer.

Pit 61 in square XXVI H was 2m. long, 1.4m. wide and 80cm. deep. There was no silt on the bottom and the filling was uniform, but at the northern end only 15cm. of it remained beneath the bottom of the early Roman boundary ditch which cut across the end of the pit. In the filling of the pit was a considerable amount of pottery including that in Fig. 15, 106-16. Associated with this was part of a crucible (Fig. 10, 14) and parts of a La Tene I brooch (Fig. 11, 2).

Pit 66, a round pit in square XX J, tapered from 66cm. diameter at the top to 38cm. at the bottom and was 55cm. deep. The pottery from it included that in Fig. 15, 119.

Pit 68 in square XXVI H was sealed at one edge by the northern gully. It was of the 'hollow' type, 2.1m. long, 1.3m. wide, 50cm. deep and contained the pottery in Fig. 15, 120-5.

In squares XXV and XXVI A and B a large quantity of burnt flints was removed with the topsoil by the road contractors. Those flints remaining were found to seal a series of irregular

pits or 'working hollows'¹ cut one into another. The deepest hollow (Pit 12) had a depth of 1.1m. from the surviving chalk surface but allowing for the material lost with the topsoil, which was greater here than elsewhere, the original depth was probably about 1.4m. The lower filling of the hollows contained no dateable finds but 2nd phase potsherds (Fig. 16, 186) were found in a layer which covered the middle of the pit complex. The surface of this layer was burned and formed a depression in which was the sealing layer of burnt flints. From among the flints, which also covered an area of the surrounding chalk surface (Fig. 4) came pottery including that in Fig. 16, 181-5.

3rd phase pits

Pit 7 in square XXVI A was 1.5m. long, 1.1m. wide and 76cm. deep. In a layer of charcoal on the bottom was a large saucepan type potsherd similar to others from the top of the filling (Fig. 12, 18-21). In between, in fine burnt soil, was an iron plough shoe (Fig. 11, 4) an iron socket (Fig. 11, 10) and a piece of bone decorated with straight lines and a dot-and-circle motif (Fig. 22, 3).

Pit 9 in square XXIV B was 1.5m long, 1.3m. wide and 81cm. deep. The filling was uniform throughout. Almost touching the side of the pit, and inverted, was a complete burnished saucepan pot (Fig. 12, 23). Its base was 66cm. from the pit floor. Beside it, at the same level, was an unburnished pot lying on its side (Fig. 12, 22). Both were filled with the soil and chalk of the pit filling. Apart from this there were a few potsherds and bone fragments.

Pit 10, also in square XXIV B, was 1.3m. long, 1m. wide and 61cm. deep. The bottom was covered with a layer of fine sooty soil 41cm. thick. The rest of the pit was filled with soil and chalk rubble. In this were the potsherds in Fig. 12, 26-8, one lump of iron slag, a chalk spindle whorl (Fig. 10, 6) and an iron knife (Fig. 11, 5).

Pit 33 in square XXIV C was 1.2m. by 78cm. and 60cm. deep. From it came one oyster, one limpet, a few mussel shells and the pottery in Fig. 14, 68-70. At a depth of 51cm. was a bronze brooch pin (Fig. 10, 24).

Pit 47 in square XXVI E had one end destroyed by a modern trench. The undisturbed part was 1.2m. long, 80cm. wide and 48cm. deep. On the bottom, with no other finds, were fragments of an involuted iron brooch (Fig. 11, 8). The filling above this contained thirteen complete mussel shells and probably as many again broken into pieces. In the top of the filling, at the level of the surrounding chalk were a few small Iron Age potsherds.

Pit 56, at the junction of squares XXII and XXIII G and H, was a 'hollow' type pit 1.6m. long, 1.2m. wide and a maximum of 30cm. deep. In it were eight mussel shells and the potsherds in Fig. 14, 88-90 and 136.

Pit 64 in square XXIII H was 1.1m. deep. The lower part was rectangular, 1.2m. by 80cm. and had vertical sides. In it were sherds of the saucepan pot in Fig. 15, 117. The sloping sides of the upper 40cm. met the chalk surface as an irregular shape 2.1m. to 2.4m. across. From the upper part came an ox skull, two mussel shells and sherds of the saucepan pot represented in the layer below. A hollow with a maximum depth of 15cm. was cut into the top Iron Age layer, probably in the 3rd or 4th century A.D.

Pit 73 in square XXI H. The part of this pit which escaped Roman disturbance was irregular in shape. Its length was 2.4m. and its maximum width was 1.9m. On the floor of the pit,

¹ 'Working hollows' found at Iron Age settlements, including Little Woodbury, have been considered as the sites of agricultural activities such as

threshing and winnowing. G. Bersu, 'Excavations at Little Woodbury,' *Proc. Prehistoric Soc.*, vol. 6 (1940), pp. 30-111.

which was 1.1m. below the level of the surrounding chalk, was a bone comb (Fig. 22, 2). The undisturbed part of the filling had an average depth of 45cm. but its top had been cut away to varying degrees in different parts of the pit. The animal bones from it included an ox skull. There was also a lump of iron slag, a mussel shell and part of a scallop shell. The range of Iron Age pottery is shown in Fig. 15, 126-35.

Pit 58 at the northern edge of square XXII H. As no part of this pit contained undisturbed Iron Age material it is marked in Fig. 2 as Roman. As, however, the unstratified mixture of Iron Age and Roman material from it is comparable with the filling of Roman disturbances in the upper parts of the two pits described above, it is thought probable that this is a disturbed Iron Age pit.

Gullies

At the northern edge of the settlement, between squares XXI J and XXVII H, a shallow flat bottomed gully was traced for a distance of 36m. The width of this northern gully was, on average, 40cm and its depth was a maximum of 20cm., but in most places only 10cm. An exploratory cutting at the western edge of square XXVII H showed that an area was being approached where the natural surface had been disturbed in modern times. As destruction of so shallow a feature would require little disturbance, excavation was not continued past the apparent end of the gully and its original extent westward is uncertain. At its eastern end the gully disappeared in square XXI J where a deeper Roman ditch crossed its path. Excavations were extended in square XX J where the gully might have been expected to reappear on the northern side of the ditch but it did not do so. An extension of the gully involving a sharp turn to the north into unexcavated areas is possible but unlikely. In the vicinity of a Roman pit in square XXIII H where the gully had been disturbed, there were Roman finds, but where clear of disturbance the filling held Iron Age pottery (Fig. 17, 178-80).

A similar shallow gully curved from north to south from square XXIV F to square XXV C. Ten metres of its length at the southern end were, with other early features, sealed by a Roman surface layer. Here the width of the gully varied from 30 to 46cm. and the depth from 10 to 25cm. The only finds in the filling were a few tiny potsherds, judged by their fabric to belong to the Iron Age. At the northern end, where the gully as found ran out, there were only 10cm. of topsoil. Modern ploughing here had cut away some of the chalk surface and with it, very probably, a further length of gully.

Two straight gullies, 7.2m. and 6m. long and averaging 25cm. wide and 10cm. deep, crossed squares XI D and XII E and were perhaps associated with four post holes, from 43 to 60cm. in diameter and 25 to 43cm. deep, centred on square XII E. As these post holes were not at the corners of a true square they have not been included among the 'square structures' already described. A similar gully, running through squares XIV and XV B, may be associated with the square structure S4.

Three linear features in squares III and IV D

Three parallel features all started in square IV D and ran south-eastward until reaching unexcavated ground. The first was Trench 2, 68cm. wide and 38cm. deep. Its upper filling, which contained the 1st phase pottery in Fig. 16, 166-73, was the same as that in an immediately adjacent gully over 7.4m. long and 18cm. deep. The third feature was a short straight gully 8 to 12cm. deep.

TWO IRON AGE INHUMATIONS (Fig. 5)

Grave 1 square XVIII C

The skeleton of a man was in an oval pit 2m. x 1.5m. The maximum depth, as excavated, was 84cm. but some chalk had been removed when road-making machines took off the topsoil. The skull was to the north, facing east, and the body had lain on its left side. The right hand had been in front of the face, the left elbow raised to shoulder level and the left forearm turned back towards the head. The knees were flexed.

Before the burial a large quantity of shells had been thrown into the bottom of the pit and formed a sloping surface. The skeleton lay on this surface so that the skull was found resting on 23cm. of shells, the pelvis on 8cm. and the bones of the feet were on chalk natural. The shells were mainly of mussels, still in articulated pairs and filled with sand. There were also a few winkles and barnacles. On the bottom of the pit were a few potsherds contemporary with those from the layer above and, among the shells between the skull and the northern end of the pit, was a sea urchin fossilised in flint. When the body had been deposited the pit was filled with the soil, chalk and flints common to most of the other Iron Age pits. In this filling was 3rd phase pottery (Fig. 16, 156-65) and the shaft of a small iron implement (Fig. 11, 6).

Grave 2 square II D

In a pit 1.5m. by 90cm. and 50cm. deep was a female skeleton, facing east with the skull to the north. The legs were flexed with the feet one on top of the other and the hands were together in front of the pelvis. On the left forearm was a shale bracelet (Fig. 10, 5). An involuted iron brooch (Fig. 11, 7), dated broadly 3rd to 2nd century B.C., was found in front of the skeleton at shoulder level. The bones rested on the natural chalk and were covered with a layer of quite loose small chalk fragments containing only one small piece of stone, probably from a quern and the right half of the sacrum of an ox. Above this was a 23cm. layer of hard compacted chalk which looked much like the surrounding chalk and was difficult to remove with a trowel.

ROMANO-BRITISH

A late 1st/early 2nd century Ditch (Fig. 6)

The only feature found of the earliest Roman settlement was a ditch, one arm of which was to the north and the other to the east of the Bronze Age barrow mound. This ditch was consistently about 1m. wide. At its deepest, near the point where it turned through 90 degrees in square XX J, it was 90cm. deep, but it became more shallow to the west and at the westernmost point excavated, in square XXXII G, it was only 20cm. deep. Apart from a short length of the northern arm in square XXIII J, which had up to 10cm. of hard silt in the bottom (Fig. 6, section C-C), the primary filling was of chalk rubble and soil. This contained oyster and a few mussel shells, animal bone fragments, the late 1st/early 2nd century pottery in Fig. 18, 1-10 and coins of Vespasian and Titus. In the upper filling was the pottery in Fig. 18, 11-22 which cannot be dated more closely than 2nd to 4th century. This was associated with cockle and oyster shells; animal bone fragments; two tile fragments; a finger ring (Fig. 10, 28) and a decorated band (Fig. 10, 25) both of bronze; iron nails and a pickaxe (Fig. 11, 14).

The southern extremity of the ditch had been cut away, before excavation, by increasingly deeper road works. As found it terminated at the southern edge of square XIX B but it is not known how much further south it extended originally.

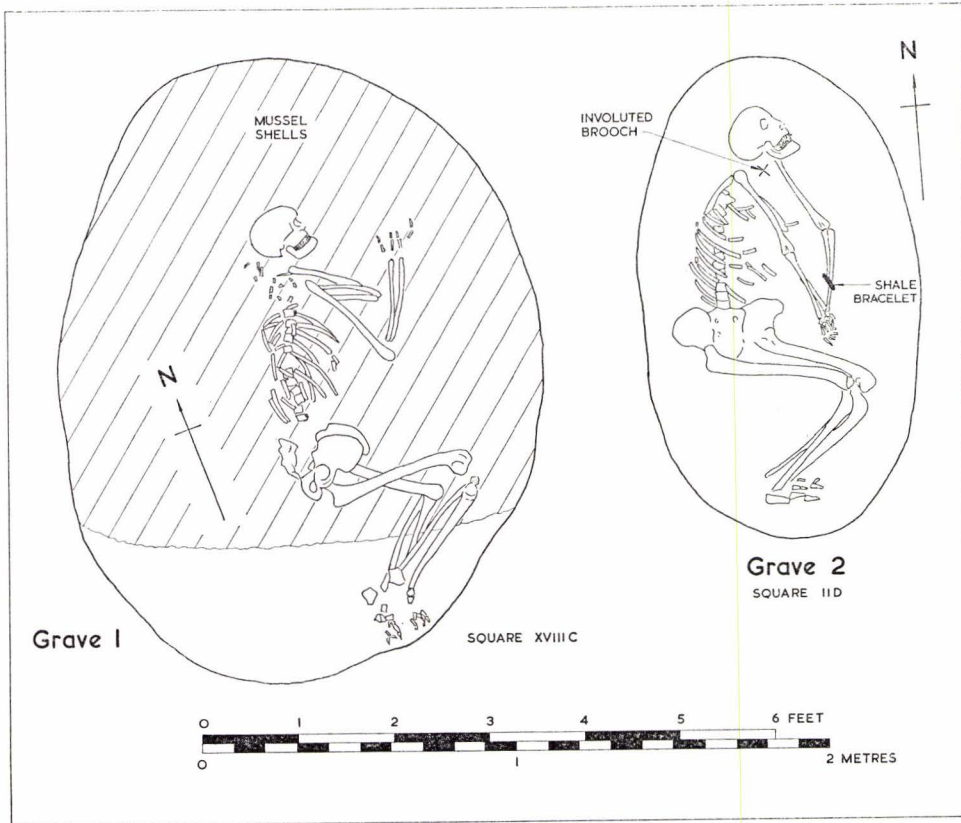


FIG. 5. Two Iron Age inhumations

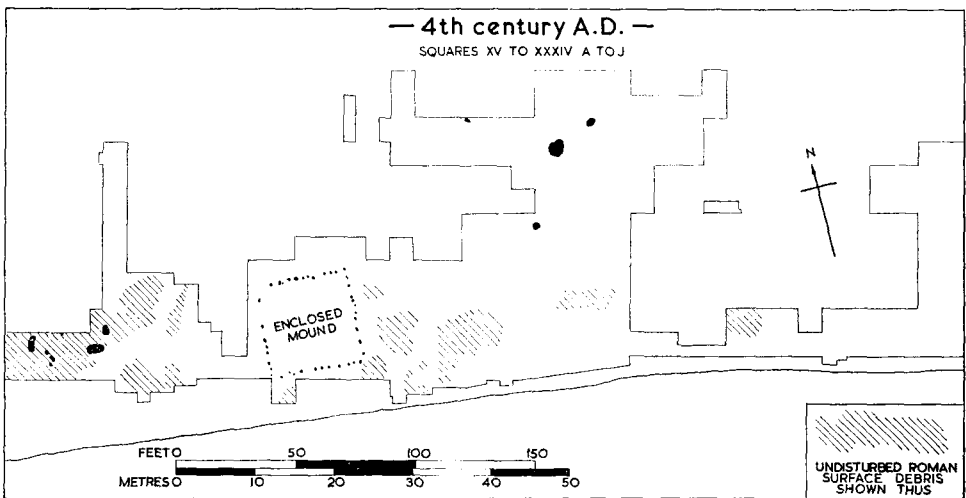
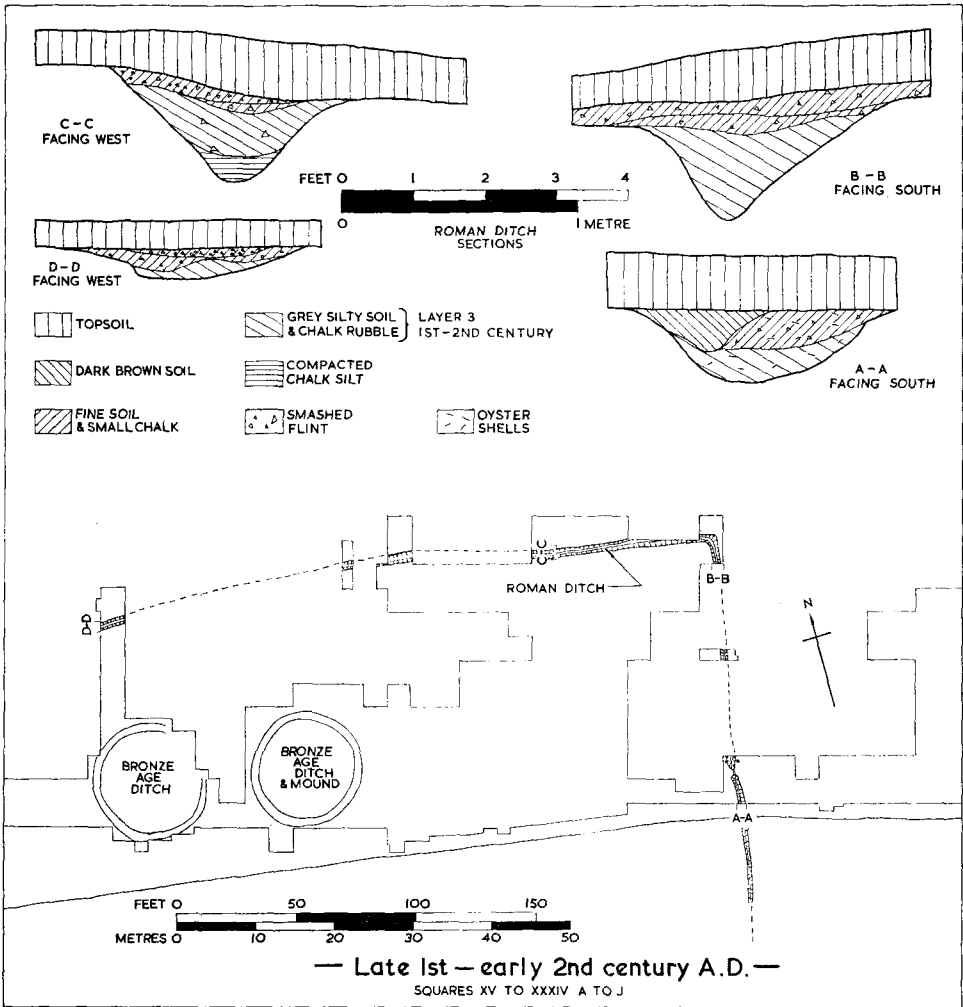


FIG. 6. Upper. Early Roman ditch relative to barrow mound
Lower. Mound enclosed by a square structure

In square XIX D the ditch narrowed towards the north and ran into a small pit, 35cm. deep. To the north of this, for a length of 1.5m., the line of the ditch was followed but cut to a depth of only 8cm.; perhaps the original marking out. Beyond this was an irregular cutting into the chalk with a maximum depth of 30cm. and bounded on each side by a post hole of 25cm. diameter.

Filling of the Eastern Barrow Ditch (Sections Fig. 3)

Above the primary silt, deposited during the Bronze Age and reported on page 72, this ditch was filled with a mixture of small chalk rubble and soil. This was quite loose and contained broken flints, very few in some lengths of ditch but concentrated at random intervals. This layer was dated by 4th century pottery (Fig. 21, 85-88). With the pottery were animal bone fragments, oyster and mussel shells, part of an iron strap (Fig. 11, 12) and four lumps of iron slag. Along most of the ditch, towards the outer edge, there was a hollow in the layer described above which was filled with broken flints and a little soil. Among the flints were many much abraded potsherds from the late 1st to the 4th century, animal bone fragments, oyster shells, two lumps of iron slag, a small lump of melted glass, an iron knife (Fig. 11, 13) and a decorative bronze stud (Fig. 10, 27). The flinty layer sealed some of the post holes of the square structure described below and spread over the top of the adjacent Pit 27 in square XXVII E (Fig. 3, section F-F). The filling of this pit was the same as that of the ditch. The chalk silt in the bottom was barren but above it were five oyster and one mussel shell, a small lump of iron slag, an iron buckle tongue and a human skull fragment 11cm. across which was from a man under 30 years old. Three post holes occurred within the limits of the pit, the central one being sealed by the layer of flints.

The barrow mound enclosed by a square structure (Figs. 3 and 7)

After the barrow ditch had been filled a square structure was erected to contain the mound. It was carefully laid out; a true square of just under 12m. defining its sides. Some of its post holes were cut into the chalk natural either inside or outside the confines of the ditch and, where the square layout required it, holes were cut through the ditch filling and into the chalk below the ditch. The major post holes varied in shape from roughly square to oval and round and were probably were made each to suit the shape of a particular post butt. The greatest dimension across a hole was 50cm. and the average cross-section would be the equivalent of a circle 35cm. diameter. Seven minor posts holes were from 20 to 25cm. in diameter. The depths given in Fig. 7 for those post holes which cut through the ditch filling are measured from the natural chalk level at the nearest side and not from the bottom of the ditch. The shapes of some of the holes suggested that they had been re-cut, although it was not possible to trace this in the filling. They contained loose soil with large flints and occasionally small chalk rubble. Nine iron nails came from eight different post holes and there were a few bone fragments and one small lump of iron slag. Although 28 of the holes yielded at least one small sherd there was very little pottery. The earliest was late 2nd century samian and a grog-tempered sherd could go into the 4th century.

Filling of the Western Barrow Ditch

On the bottom of this ditch was either compacted primary chalk silt (Fig. 3, sections X-X and Y-Y) or loose chalk silt (section W-W), all devoid of finds. In a length of about 6m. where the ditch was deeper than elsewhere (including section X-X) the lower levels contained Iron Age potsherds (Fig. 16, 174-6). Apart from this the filling of the ditch is dated to the 4th century,

EXCAVATIONS AT SLOK HILL, SHOREHAM

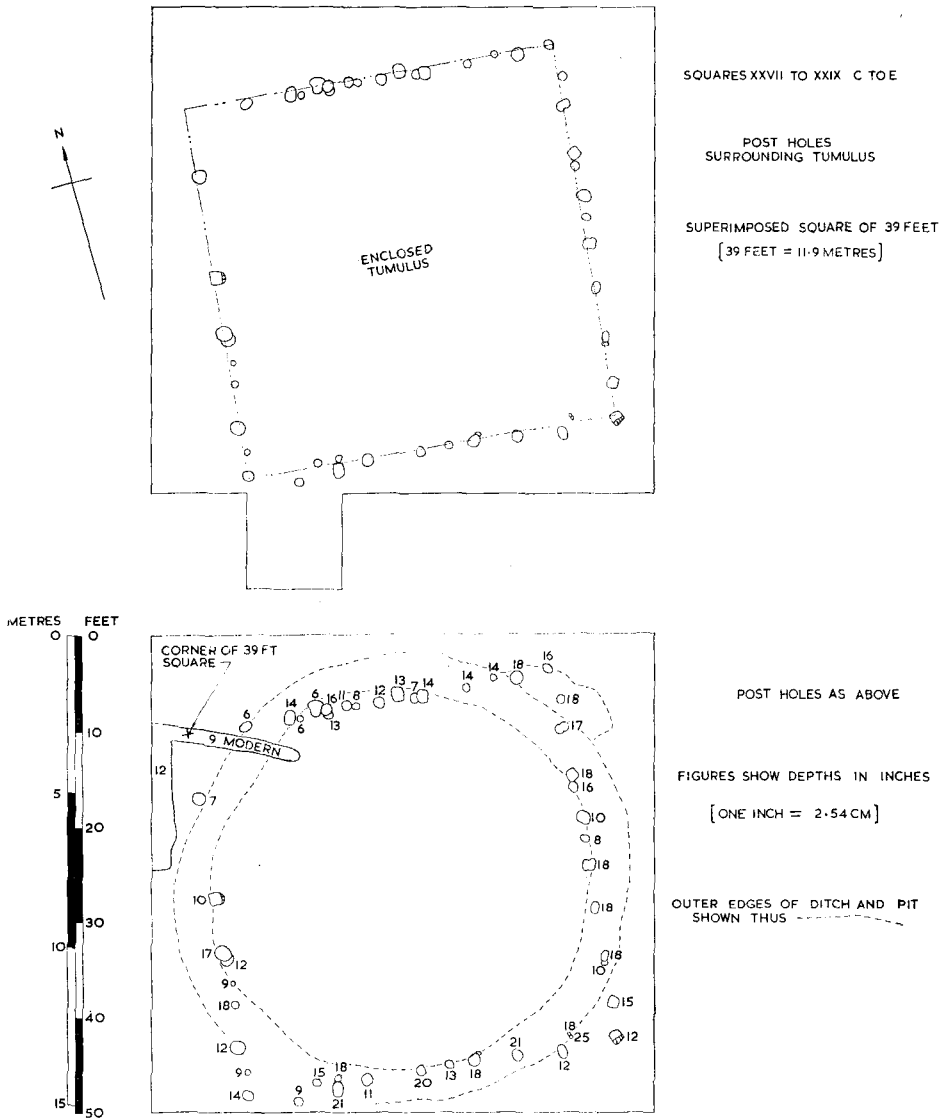


FIG. 7. Upper. Post holes of a square structure 4th century A.D.
 Lower. Post holes as above relative to Bronze Age barrow ditch

probably after c325, by the pottery in Fig. 21, 93-96. This is from the ditch, above the primary silt and below the sealing layer described below.

A layer up to 12cm. thick sealed the ditch and covered areas beyond it (Fig. 6). It was also represented in those few places within the ditch circle which had escaped modern trenching and where hollows in the natural chalk surface kept Roman material below the reach of modern ploughs. This layer contained much worn and abraded material including oyster and cockle shells, fragmented bone, small pieces of corroded iron including nails, pottery ranging from Flavian samian to 4th century Pevensey ware and coins of Constantine II and Constantius II.

In square XXXII D a hollow with a maximum depth of 20cm. was cut into the chalk at the inner edge of the ditch and continued westward into the ditch filling. From this hollow came a deposit of leg bones from at least eleven lambs and fourteen piglets.

Undisturbed Roman surface

Over most of the area excavated, units of modern armies during two wars and modern ploughing had, between them, destroyed all stratification above the level of the natural chalk. In those areas indicated in Fig. 6 however, a few centimetres of ancient material survived below modern plough soil. The pottery recovered here, dated 2nd to 4th century, was worn and much abraded. Associated with it were two coins of the 3rd and eleven of the 4th century, sea shells, animal bone fragments, a few lumps of iron slag and an iron ring (Fig. 11, 17).

Romano-British pits

Pit 8 in square XX B. Part of this pit, probably the greater part, had been destroyed in modern times. What remained was semicircular, with a radius of 76cm. The sides sloped in towards the centre to a maximum depth of 36cm. The finds included 2nd century samian and grog-tempered coarse pottery of 3rd to 4th century date. There were also a few animal teeth and three coins, one of Hadrian and two of Faustina Junior.

Pit 28 in square XXVII E was a maximum of 1.3m. across and 50cm. deep. It yielded seven oyster and two mussel shells with a few bone fragments. The small amount of pottery from it was dated late 2nd to 4th century.

Pit 32 in square XXXIV D was a pit with cleanly cut vertical sides and a flat bottom. It was 50cm. deep and in plan consisted of two rectangles end to end, the angle between them being 15 degrees. The southern rectangle was 1.5m. by 80cm. and the northern one 90cm. by 70cm. In the filling were bone fragments of ox, pig, sheep and a fish, oyster and mussel shells, fragments of a quern and of a tegula roof tile. Glass fragments proved to be parts of two bowls, a bottle and a flagon (Fig. 10, 17-20). A few small bronze fragments were present, but not enough to identify as part of a recognisable object. The iron work that survived, corroded in varying degrees consisted of nails, rivets or studs, a small broken axe, a wedge, a socketed tool and a small hook (Fig. 11, 19-22). The least expected find was the greater part of a horse shoe (Fig. 11, 18). The pottery (Fig. 20, 62-75) included a New Forest sherd giving a date in the 4th century for the filling of this pit.

Pit 54 in square XXIII F was 1.1m. long, 90cm. wide and 33cm. deep. The filling was uniform from top to bottom and contained, at a depth of 18cm., an iron plough shoe (Fig. 11, 15). Other finds were a lump of daub, bone fragments, three mussel shells, fragments of a scallop shell and potsherds, including grog-tempered and sandy sherds dated 3rd to 4th century.

Pit 60 in square XXXII H, at the north-western limit of the excavations, was a small pit with rounded ends. It was 1.1m. long, 60cm. wide and 35cm. deep. On the bottom were an iron nail and potsherds including those from the jar in Fig. 21, 103. In the top 20cm. of filling were several tile fragments, two lumps of the upper stone of a rotary quern (Fig. 10, 1) and a plate brooch, in the shape of a cock, enamelled in red and blue (Fig. 10, 29). The pottery included Antonine samian together with grey sandy and grog-tempered wares. The pit may have been filled at any time during the 3rd or the 4th century.

Pit 62 in square XXXIII D was sealed by the layer which also sealed the western barrow ditch. Most of the pit was cut into the natural chalk but its eastern extremity was cut into the filling of the ditch. In the filling of the pit was the pottery in Fig. 21, 97-99 associated with oyster shells and a few animal bone fragments. It was filled after *c* 325.

Four Iron Age pits disturbed during the Roman period

In an area near the northern edge of the settlement were four Iron Age pits, no two of which were more than 9m. apart and all containing some Roman and Iron Age pottery in an unstratified mixture. In one case this mixture was in the top 15cm. only and at the other extreme it filled the pit completely.

Pit 57 in square XXII G had a hollow with a maximum depth of 40cm. cut into its Iron Age filling. From the lower part of the hollow came the pottery illustrated in Fig. 21, 104-5 and from the top 3cm. came that in Fig. 19, 48-49. The small proportion of grog-tempered fabric (see pottery report, page 125) suggests a date for the Roman disturbance of this pit in the late 2nd or the 3rd century.

Pit 73 in square XXI H. Here the lower part of an Iron Age pit survived beneath an irregularly cut hollow with a maximum depth of 84cm. From the filling of this hollow came a mixture of Iron Age and Roman pottery, mussel, oyster and cockle shells, a lump of slag, an iron nail and animal bone fragments. The proportion of grog-tempered fabrics among the Roman sherds was of the same order as that in Pit 57.

Pit 58 in square XXII H, 50cm. deep and 1.5m. across, contained no undisturbed Iron Age material, both Iron Age and Roman pottery occurring at all levels from top to bottom. As the proportion of grog-tempered wares was greater here than in the two pits described above the date of its filling is probably somewhat later; perhaps in the 3rd or 4th century.

Pit 64 in square XXIII H. In the top of this Iron Age pit was a hollow with a maximum depth of 15cm. containing a mixture of Iron Age and Roman sherds. The proportion of grog-tempered sherds suggests a date for the Roman disturbance in the 3rd or 4th century. As was the case with the other three disturbed Iron Age pits, only the largest feature in the area was affected.

Post holes 212 and 214 in square XXXIV D

The filling of these two post holes was strictly contemporary as sherds from the pots in Fig. 20, 76-82 were found in both features. Post hole 214 was oval, 38cm. by 70cm. and 30cm. deep. In the filling of very hard packed chalk rubble and silt, above potsherds and 5cm. below the surrounding chalk natural, was a coin of Valens.

Post hole 212, only 1m. from that described above, was a double feature. The larger part was 38cm. in diameter and 20cm. deep and the smaller part 30cm. in diameter and 15cm. deep. The filling was uniform and was of very hard packed soil and flints. In it was a thin sheet bronze fragment (Fig. 10, 26), an iron stay (Fig. 11, 23), most of one jar and substantial parts of other

pots (Fig. 20, 76-82). Dating evidence was ten 4th century coins, not found as a compact group but at various depths. The latest was of Gratian.

UNDATED FEATURES

Two features in square XIX D are undated. The first, a long narrow pit 25cm. deep joined by a rectangular feature at 90 degrees to it and 20cm. deep, yielded only a few tiny undateable potsherds. In the second feature, a radial gully, there were no finds. The deepest part of the gully, in the south, was 28cm. wide and 18cm. deep. It became gradually more shallow towards the eastern downhill end. If the gully was, at some time, uphill of a circular structure it would have been capable of acting as a drain.

These two features are not post-Roman as parts of them were sealed by the Roman surface layer described on page 85. It is not thought that they are contemporary with the early boundary ditch as they are situated where they would impede a likely entrance. They may be contemporary with the adjacent post holes, but they could belong to the Iron Age.

Another radial gully, centred on square XV G where the ground sloped down to the east at approximately 1 in 10, would have been capable of draining an area 7m. across. It was 22cm. deep in the middle of its length and at its southern end it ran out just short of an Iron Age post hole. The filling contained no finds.

Grave 3 square XXIX D

This grave was rectangular, 2.3m. by 76cm. and only 33cm. deep. It was cut into the natural chalk except at its western end where it was cut into the filling of the barrow ditch. The female skeleton was extended, with the skull to the west and turned to the north. A small iron knife (Fig. 11, 16) was found 10cm. to the left of the spine.

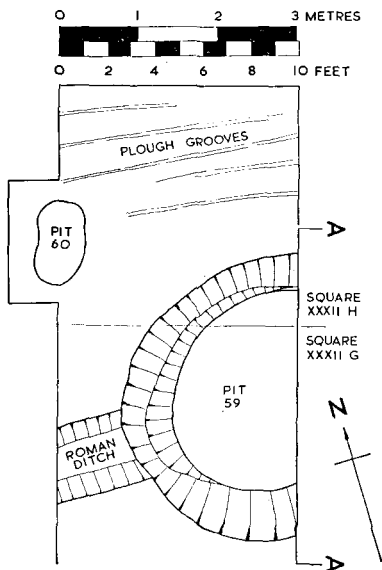
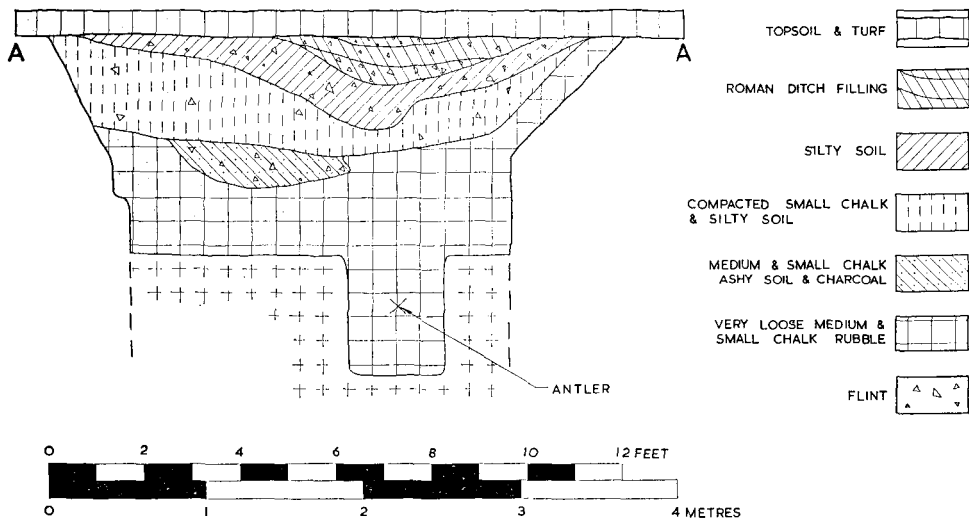
Any material from the vicinity of the barrow ditch taken to fill the grave would be likely to contain Roman rubbish, so the few potsherds, including that in Fig. 21, 89, found in the filling cannot be relied upon as evidence for the date of the burial. The grave cannot be earlier than the 4th century. It is probably late or post Roman.

Pit 59 square XXXII G (Fig. 8)

At the western end of the site the early Roman ditch cut across the top of an earlier feature. Circumstances did not allow work on more than about half of this feature and it was necessary to abandon work at a depth of 2.1m. The lower part was 2.4m. in diameter with vertical sides. It was filled with loose chalk rubble containing a few flint flakes and part of an antler (Fig. 22, 1). In a hollow at the top of this rubble were the remains of a fire and a few bone fragments. The layers in the funnel shaped section above this yielded a flint core and four Iron Age potsherds (Fig. 14, 103-4).

This pit was different from any others found on the site. That part of it excavated resembled the flint mine shafts excavated by Holleyman⁹ on Harrow Hill. The finding of part of an antler in the lower filling and the presence of Neolithic and Bronze Age potsherds in the vicinity support the suggestion that this may be the shaft of a flint mine.

⁹ G. A. Holleyman, 'Harrow Hill Excavations, 1936,' *S.A.C.* vol. 78 (1937), p. 232.



SLOK HILL

SQUARES XXXII G & H
 — Section of pit 59 —
 WITH PLAN INCLUDING
 ADJACENT FEATURES

FIG. 8. Pit 59. Perhaps a flint mine

ANCIENT PLOUGHING (Fig. 9)

Over much of the site the topsoil had in modern times been ploughed right down to the natural chalk, but at the northern edge of the settlement, where excavation was continued beyond the Iron Age gully and Roman ditch shown in Fig. 9, a small negative lynchet enabled soil with small chalk and many smashed flints to remain undisturbed. The undisturbed material formed a wedge. Its thick end was protected by the lynchet, which was 5cm. deep at the eastern edge of the cutting and 23cm. at the western edge. The thin end of the wedge, where modern ploughing again reached natural chalk, was level with the northern extremity of the modern disturbance which ran across the cutting.

This undisturbed layer sealed grooves cut into the natural chalk. These grooves were not of constant depth and, as the chalk crumbled more readily in some places than in others, it was not always possible to determine accurately their original width. The maximum depth was 7cm. and the average width was 5cm. The section shown was taken where the edges were best preserved. In two places grooves ran along the foot of the lynchet. There was no sign of cross-ploughing.

Nothing dateable was found in the filling of the grooves but the layer sealing them contained pottery ranging from early 2nd century samian to New Forest and other 4th century wares. Similar grooves were found in square XXXII H (Fig. 8) where the average depth was only 2.5cm.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE

BRONZE AGE

A barrow mound, recorded by the Ordnance Survey, but destroyed during the 1914-18 war, was represented by the 'eastern ditch' in Fig. 3. Sections (A-A to E-E) show that the natural chalk within the circle was up to 20cm. higher than that outside, indicating protection by a mound of the area within the ditch whilst the surface outside was weathered away. The date of the mound is indicated by a few Early Bronze Age potsherds found with two Neolithic sherds in the undisturbed primary silt of the ditch. In the area enclosed by the ditch where, originally, they would have been under the mound, were three features. Two were cremations, deposited in hollows cut into the natural chalk and the third was a pit which had been thoroughly disturbed. Although unstratified, a few human bones and fragments of a collared urn from this pit could represent an inhumation under the mound.

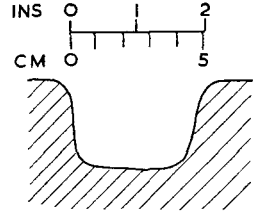
A second barrow ('western ditch' in Fig. 3) was cut through by a modern disturbance which would have destroyed any central feature and, in most of the area within the ditch circle, modern ploughing had reached down to the natural chalk. The chalk surface here however was uneven and the filling of natural cavities was undisturbed. Roman potsherds came from these cavities. This, and the absence of any sign of differential weathering (section Y-Y, Fig. 3), make the existence of a large mound here, even in Roman times, unlikely. It is suggested that the feature here represented may well be a disc barrow. As the ditch was filled in the 4th century A.D. the absence of a mound would explain the lack of any record of a second barrow on the hill.

IRON AGE

Had the settlement been defended at any time by a ditch or palisade, traces would be expected to survive. No such traces were revealed when excavation was continued well beyond the furthest Iron Age feature both to the north and to the west. This does not preclude a barrier

SLONK HILL
SQUARES XXII & XXIII JK & L

— Plough Grooves —



SECTION

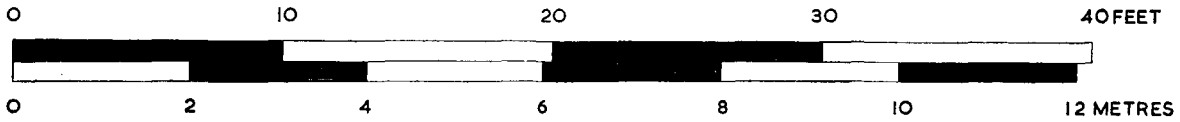
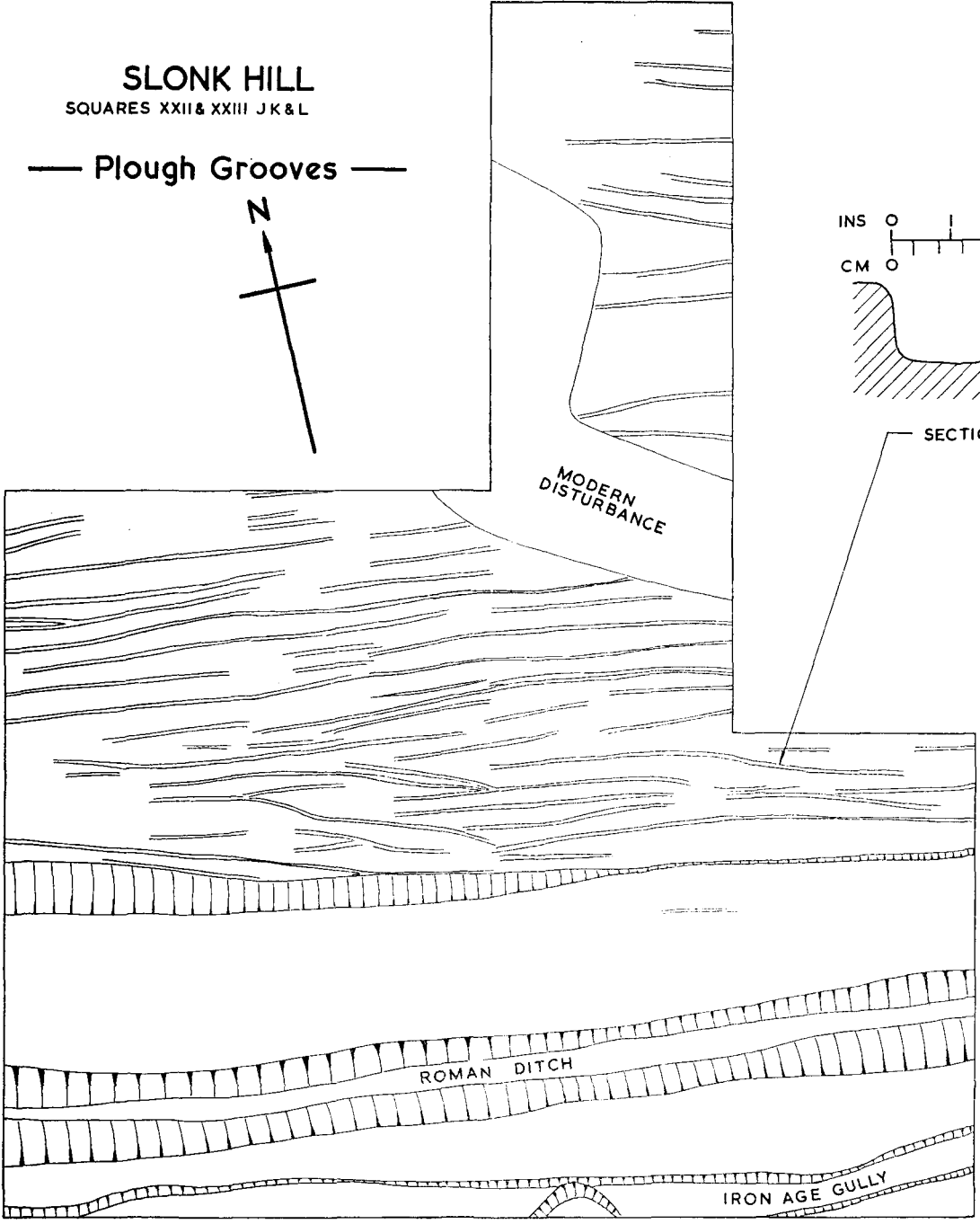


FIG. 9. Evidence of ancient ploughing

such as a hedge set in an earthen bank, traces of which would not have survived, but defence of the settlement does not seem to have been of prime concern to its inhabitants.

Although there was evidence from the pits of domestic occupation the location of dwelling places was not apparent. If there were huts in the area excavated they did not require regularly spaced post holes based upon either the circle or the rectangle.

1st phase

The beginning of Iron Age settlement on the hill was dated by very early pottery from Pit 5. Dating evidence for other features of the 1st phase, which were few but included three timber structures, was usually confined to a few potsherds. Pit 4 however contained pottery types, some of which should date to the earlier and others to the later part of the phase, suggesting continuous domestic activity nearby throughout the 1st phase and perhaps on to an intermediate stage between the 1st and 2nd phases.

Although all based upon the square, three wooden structures differed in size and complexity. The smallest, S2, had a post set at each corner of a square. The more substantial structure S5 was supported by five posts; four forming a square and a fifth doubling the length of one side. There is little doubt that all five posts were used and abandoned as a unit. The pits made to support them were all of similar size and were neatly cut into the chalk, each with almost vertical sides and a flat floor. After the abandonment of the structure the pits were filled in a sequence of layers common to all.

S6, a larger structure than S5, was built with smaller posts and required a greater number of supports. It may be regarded as a six post structure with a seventh post in the centre of the square. Two other posts may represent extra supports found necessary before the re-building suggested by re-cut post holes. An extension to double its length of one side of the structure, as in S5, is a possibility.

2nd phase

The greater quantity and variety of finds attributed to the 2nd phase may reflect greater prosperity or an increase in the size of the community. Spindle whorls and loom weight fragments indicate the sort of domestic activity to be expected, but metalworking in both copper-base alloys and iron was carried out on the site. Although skills of the order demanded by this metal working might not be expected in a small community, Spratling has pointed out that Iron Age smith's deposits have been found at Gussage All Saints¹ and at several other small rural settlements. Parts of two crucibles, one with a drop of tin-bronze adhering to it, show that castings were being made. A lump of what was thought to be bronze was found in a post hole dated by pottery to the Iron Age but not more closely. Analysis of the lump showed it to be the slag or dross of copper, suggesting that either a resident or an itinerant smith was not merely melting down and re-casting scrap bronze but was melting copper and adding tin to it.

Pieces of iron slag, found associated with 2nd phase pottery, were from secondary iron working. Iron ore was smelted and reduced to metallic iron elsewhere, perhaps in the Wealden District, but as furnaces securely dated to the earlier part of the Iron Age have not yet been found in the Weald,² iron blooms may have been brought from further afield. Once obtained, the iron

¹ G. Wainwright & M. Spratling, 'The Iron Age settlement at Gussage All Saints,' *Antiquity*, vol. 47 (1973), p. 125.

² H. Cleere, 'The Roman iron industry of the Weald and its connexions with the Classis Britannica,' *The Archaeological Journal*, vol. 131 (1974), pp. 172-5.

blooms were made into useable articles on site, the slag found being a by-product from the smiths hearth. The location of the forge is not known as no concentration of smith's debris was found. It may be that the ancient smith, like his modern counterpart, found it convenient to have his fire at about waist height on a structure built entirely above ground level. Such structures may be represented by heat-affected rocks found, like the slag, in widely separated features.

A hollow remaining when a series of irregular pits or 'working hollows' had been filled was used for some activity requiring considerable heat. A mass of burnt flints filling the hollow (Fig. 4) would seem unsuitable material for the formation of a hearth, but their heating must have served some domestic or industrial purpose.¹

Two timber structures, one more substantial than the other, lasted long enough to require repair or replacement. Both are thought to belong to the later part of the phase. The pedestal base in Fig. 17, 191 came from S4, the lighter structure. Finds from the more substantial structure, S7, included 2nd phase pottery from Pits 23 and 25 and an involuted brooch from Pit 22. It may be that the structure was in use during the 2nd phase, survived, perhaps derelict, through the transition, and its posts were removed and the pits filled early in the 3rd phase when there was still 2nd phase rubbish lying about. Pit 9, twelve metres away, could have been filled at the same time. This suggestion may be supported by two apparently matching horse bones which could have belonged to the same animal. These were a metatarsal found with the 2nd phase pottery in Pit 25 and a first phalanx found with two saucepan pots in Pit 9.

3rd phase

Features of the 3rd phase were confined to an area coinciding with about one third of the earlier settlement and immediately to the east of the crown of the hill.

A well worn plough shoe from Pit 7, if fitted to a plough (or ard) of the type shown in Plate 1, would have been suitable for breaking up new ground. It is suggested that this type of plough, rather than the more sophisticated bow ard,² would be likely to make grooves in the chalk such as those found immediately to the north of the settlement (Fig. 9). Use of this robust plough would imply conversion to arable of land previously unploughed.

The quality of the bone comb in Fig. 22, 2 and the iron knife in Fig. 11, 5, both presumably working tools, suggest a care for form and decoration even in the making of utilitarian articles.

Two burials, both inhumations, differed in detail. In one case the pit used as a grave already contained a large quantity of mussel shells when the body of a man was put in it, not centrally, but with the feet touching one end of the pit. Clean chalk, which would have been at hand if a grave had just been prepared, was not used to cover the body; the pit was filled with material containing domestic rubbish. These factors, together with the attitude of the skeleton, which did not suggest careful laying out, gave an impression of the almost casual disposal of a body.

The second burial, that of a female, provided some evidence of formality. As the pit used was just large enough to contain the body and showed no sign of having been used for any other purpose it was probably dug as a grave. No part of the body touched the sides of the pit; it had been neatly placed in the middle with the limbs bound, probably at the wrists and the ankles. A shale bracelet on the left forearm was too small to pass over the hand and must have been worn since childhood. An involuted brooch, found between the skull and the upper arm bones,

¹ Perhaps for drying corn spread on skins over pre-heated flints. See B. Cunliffe, *Iron Age communities in Britain* (1974), pp. 167-8.

² F. G. Payne, 'The plough in Ancient Britain,' *The Archaeological Journal*, vol. 104 (1947), pp. 82-111.

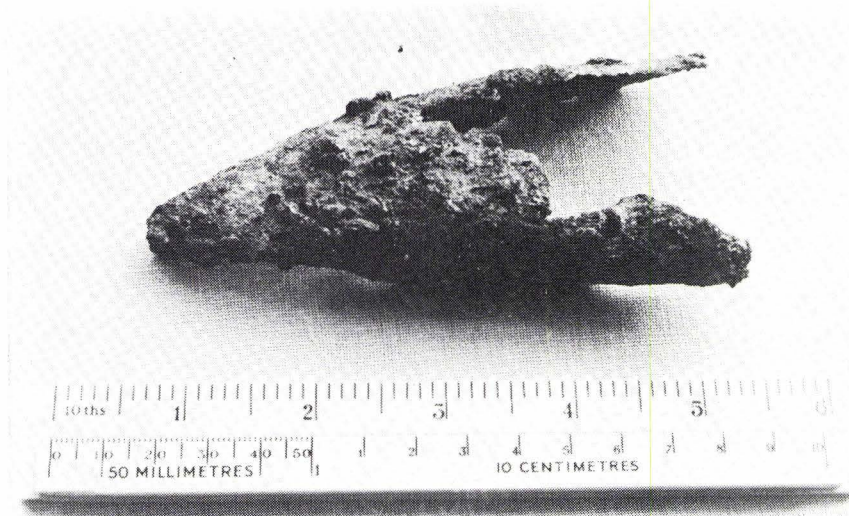


PLATE 1A. Tip of Iron Age plough or ard from Slonk Hill

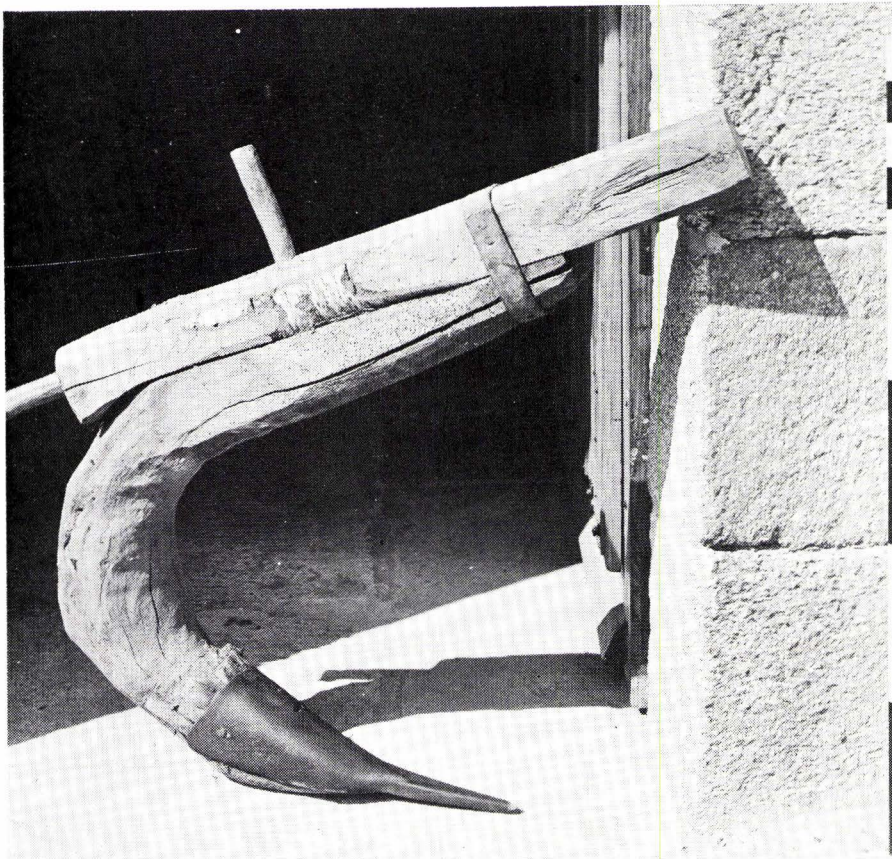


PLATE 1B. Primitive plough from northern Spain, where the type is still in use (with 1 metre scale)

indicated clothing fastened either at the neck or at the shoulder. The body had been covered with clean chalk fragments containing only the right half of the sacrum of an ox and a small fragment of a quern. It is assumed that the grave was deliberately sealed as the upper filling was so compacted as to be almost as hard as the surrounding natural chalk.

Several of the details noted above were common to two Iron Age burials at Bishopstone.¹ There a man was buried in a pit apparently dug for another purpose and a woman was buried, with two broken objects, half a spindle whorl and a long bone, in a specially prepared grave.

Animal bones

The animal bones found in Iron Age features were in a good state of preservation but fragments were more common than complete bones and there were no large closely dated deposits. The proportions, as to species represented, among the bones found between 1968-71, were confirmed by the separately calculated proportions for those found between 1972-74. Sheep, cattle and pigs occurred in that order of frequency throughout the Iron Age. The lack of bones from wild animals suggests that hunting, to supplement the diet, was not extensively practised. The frequent occurrence of shellfish remains shows that the sea was a source of food, as might be expected in a settlement so near the coast. Mussel shells were in the great majority.

The lack of any later Iron Age finds suggests that from about 100 B.C. until the Roman occupation the area was either deserted or farmed from elsewhere.

ROMANO-BRITISH

After an interval of about two centuries settlement on the hill was resumed. In the late 1st/early 2nd century A.D. the Bronze Age barrows were perhaps regarded as monuments worthy of respect² and the area surrounding them defined by a ditch. The only major feature found of the earliest Roman settlement was a ditch which would have served this purpose. It may well have enclosed a rectangular area with the barrows in the centre, but only northern and eastern components of the ditch were found. A possible western component would be beyond the limit of the excavations and the pace of road-works in the area concerned was such that part of the eastern component was destroyed without record and a possible southern component could have gone with it. An interruption of the ditch to the east of the barrows could represent a gateway to such an enclosure.

Between the later part of the 2nd and the end of the 4th century the settlement included the area immediately to the east of the early ditch and the area formerly defined by it. A plough shoe found in Pit 54 shows that during the 3rd or 4th century arable farming was practised.

At some time in the 4th century both barrow ditches were filled in and a square structure requiring wooden posts was built around the mound³ which stood within the eastern ditch circle (Figs. 6 and 7). A conventional roofed building constructed on these posts would contain nothing but a steep mound and a building with a level floor would need to be raised on stilts

¹ M. Bell, 'Excavations at Bishopstone, Sussex,' *S.A.C.* vol. 115 (1977).

² Respect for barrows is reflected in the building of a barrow at Holborough, Kent. R. F. Jessup *Archaeologia Cantiana*, vol. 68 (1954), pp. 1-61, dated 3rd century, as was the supposed barrow at South Ockenden, Essex. M. W. Thompson, *Transactions Essex, Arch. Soc.*, vol. 25 (1958), pp. 271-2.

³ The only parallels for Roman post settings around a barrow are two sites at Overton Down, Wiltshire (G6(a) and G7) which are dated, loosely, to the 2nd century. In both cases the settings were circular, rather than square as at Slonk Hill. I. F. Smith and D. D. A. Simpson, *Wilts. Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, vol. 59 (1964), pp. 68-85.

above the mound, which seems unlikely. A flimsy building with the posts on the inside, leaving an open square in the middle, remains a possibility but there is no evidence for it. It seems likely therefore, that the square of posts formed the basis of a stout wooden fence enclosing and protecting the mound.

Some of the posts were very close to others suggesting that they were replacements and that the structure lasted long enough to require repair, or even re-building. As some post holes passed through the ditch filling the erection of the posts took place at the same time as, or after, the filling of the ditch. A layer sealing some of the post holes contained nothing later than the 4th century. It is most likely therefore that the structure began and ended its life in the 4th century.

If the enclosure of the barrow mound had religious significance, observances connected with it may account for a deposit of leg bones from lambs and piglets found in a hollow cut into the Roman filling of the western barrow ditch. Twelve 4th century coins found at various depths in the nearby 'post hole' 212 may be considered in the same light.

The surviving animal bones from Roman features show the species kept were the same as those kept during the Iron Age. A change in emphasis is suggested by an increase in the proportion of pig bones. The preferred shellfish changed from mussel to oyster. A horse shoe from Pit 32 shows that during the 4th century some horses were shod.

Lumps of iron slag found in Roman features were compared with similar lumps found on the surface after modern ploughing. All seemed unaffected either by the elements or by the activities of man. It is suggested that in Roman times some of this almost indestructible material, although produced during the Iron Age, may still have been lying about the site. The possibility that it then found its way, along with Roman rubbish, into abandoned features, throws doubt on the value of slag in Roman contexts as evidence for iron working at the Roman settlement.

From its beginning in the Iron Age the nucleus of the settlement moved consistently westward. It seems possible that the process continued and that finds of the late 4th century from near the limit of excavation on the western slope of the hill belong to a late Roman settlement not excavated. A coin of the House of Theodosius, found unstratified in the topsoil, suggests that occupation may have continued into the 5th century.

POST-ROMAN

An early barrow robbery may be indicated by a few green-glazed potsherds found, mixed with modern material and a few Bronze Age sherds, in a much disturbed pit near the centre of the eastern barrow. A 14th century strap handle from a modern feature nearby could belong to the same pot.

During the 1914-18 war Slonk Hill was part of the training area for an army division. The foundations of several army huts were found, one of which was within the area enclosed by the eastern barrow ditch. The erection of a hut here would necessitate the levelling of the barrow mound. What looks like a trackway leading through a defensive entrance to the north-west of the excavations at TQ224068 was part of the army road system; the earthworks here appear on recent editions of the O.S. 6 inch maps but not on the 1912 edition.

In 1948 trenches and other features from the 1914-18 and 1939-45 wars were filled in and the land was ploughed. The road cutting which necessitated the rescue excavation has now become the northern limit of the town of Shoreham. Although a housing development on the southern slopes of Slonk Hill has been extended as far as the new road, land to the north of the cutting, with which this report is concerned, has not been developed and is at present used for grazing.

THE FINDS

GEOLOGICAL MATERIAL

Specimens examined by Dr. P. V. Drummond

The variety of rocks used during the Iron Age and in Roman times was very similar. It seems that any relatively hard rock was utilised. Apart from a few beach pebbles, the rocks found occurred as broken lumps weighing from 30gm. to 3.3kg. Apart from quern fragments very few showed signs of deliberate shaping. Many had been subjected to intense heat, probably having been included in hearths used for domestic or possibly for metalworking purposes. Surfaces which had been in direct contact with chalk often had a whitish encrustation. The great majority of rock samples were of local origin but some clearly did not originate in S.E. England. The presence of these exotics in various features on Slonk Hill should not be taken as evidence of contact with distant regions. The rocks foreign to Sussex could move along the coast by longshore drift and be picked up from local beaches or they might come from various beach and gravel deposits, perhaps now concealed, such as that visible today at Black Rock, Brighton.

*Sussex rocks**Sarsen sandstone*

Lower Greensand and Wealden Series. These vary from fine-grained siltstone through to coarse, pebbly, sandstones. A small Bryozoa encrustation on one Wealden sample indicates that it was collected from a beach or beach deposit.

Paludina Limestone ('Sussex Marble'). Two small samples only, one from an Iron Age and one from a Roman context.

Gypsum. Two small samples, one Roman and one Iron Age.

Rocks foreign to Sussex

Micaceous Siltstone and Cleaved Siltstone. Probably derived from Palaeozoic sediments of Devon or Cornwall. Possibly from Wales.

Mica-schist. From crystalline areas of the Lizard, Cornwall; Start Point, Devon or even Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire.

Gabbro. Coarsely crystalline basic igneous rock. Nearest primary sources Cornwall and West Midlands.

Milky Quartz. Nearest source the granite areas of Devon/Cornwall.

Hornblende Granite/Quartz Syenite. From Cornwall or possibly Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire.

QUERNS *Fig. 10, 1*

A number of irregularly shaped pieces of stone, worn as if used as querns, were found. Apart from that illustrated however, there was not a large enough piece to allow the shape of the quern to be drawn.

1. Parts of the upper stone of a rotary quern, 37cm. in diameter, with a rectangular 'eye.' Made from glauconitic sandstone. From Pit 60 in square XXXII H. 3rd or 4th century A.D.

FLINT OBJECTS *Fig. 10, 2-4*

2. Flint core, weight 160gm. Found above four Iron Age potsherds in Pit 59, square XXXII G.
3. A polished hand-axe with re-touched edge, weight 230gm. Found on the surface.
4. Part of a broken scraper from Pit 19 in square X D. Iron Age 2nd phase.

SHALE OBJECT *Fig. 10, 5*

5. A bracelet made from shale. Found in grave 2, square II D, on the left forearm of a female skeleton. Iron Age 3rd phase.

CHALK OBJECTS *Fig. 10, 6-7*

6. Probably a spindle whorl, but roughly shaped. From Pit 10, square XXIV B. Iron Age 3rd phase.
7. An annular chalk weight, 250gm. Although this is much larger than the usual spindle whorls experiment has shown that raw wool can be spun using this object with a spindle 19mm. in diameter. Found on the floor of Pit 19 in square X D. Iron Age 2nd phase.

BAKED CLAY OBJECTS *Fig. 10, 8-12*

8. Spindle whorl in friable black fabric with one convex and one concave end. Traces of black burnishing on the surface. From a post hole in square XXVI H. Iron Age 2nd phase.
9. Perhaps part of a spindle whorl. This fragment, of black fabric with a reddish surface was thought to be the bottom of a conical crucible. Dr. R. F. Tylecote has kindly commented that the reddish coating on the outside is not a glaze but matt in texture and the hole, which seems incongruous in such a position, is much too clean to have been associated with metalworking. From disturbed layer, Pit 73, square XXI H. Iron Age or Roman.
10. Spindle whorl in hard reddish-brown fabric with tiny flint inclusions. A black burnish, in traces at the top and bottom, is complete round the periphery. From Pit 4, square VII A. Iron Age 1st phase.
11. A conical spindle whorl in friable black fabric with traces of black burnish. Found on the bottom of Pit 48 in square XXIII E. Iron Age 2nd phase.
12. Part of a triangular loom weight. The hole, pierced across the corner, is 6mm. in diameter. From Pit 19, square XD. Iron Age 2nd phase.

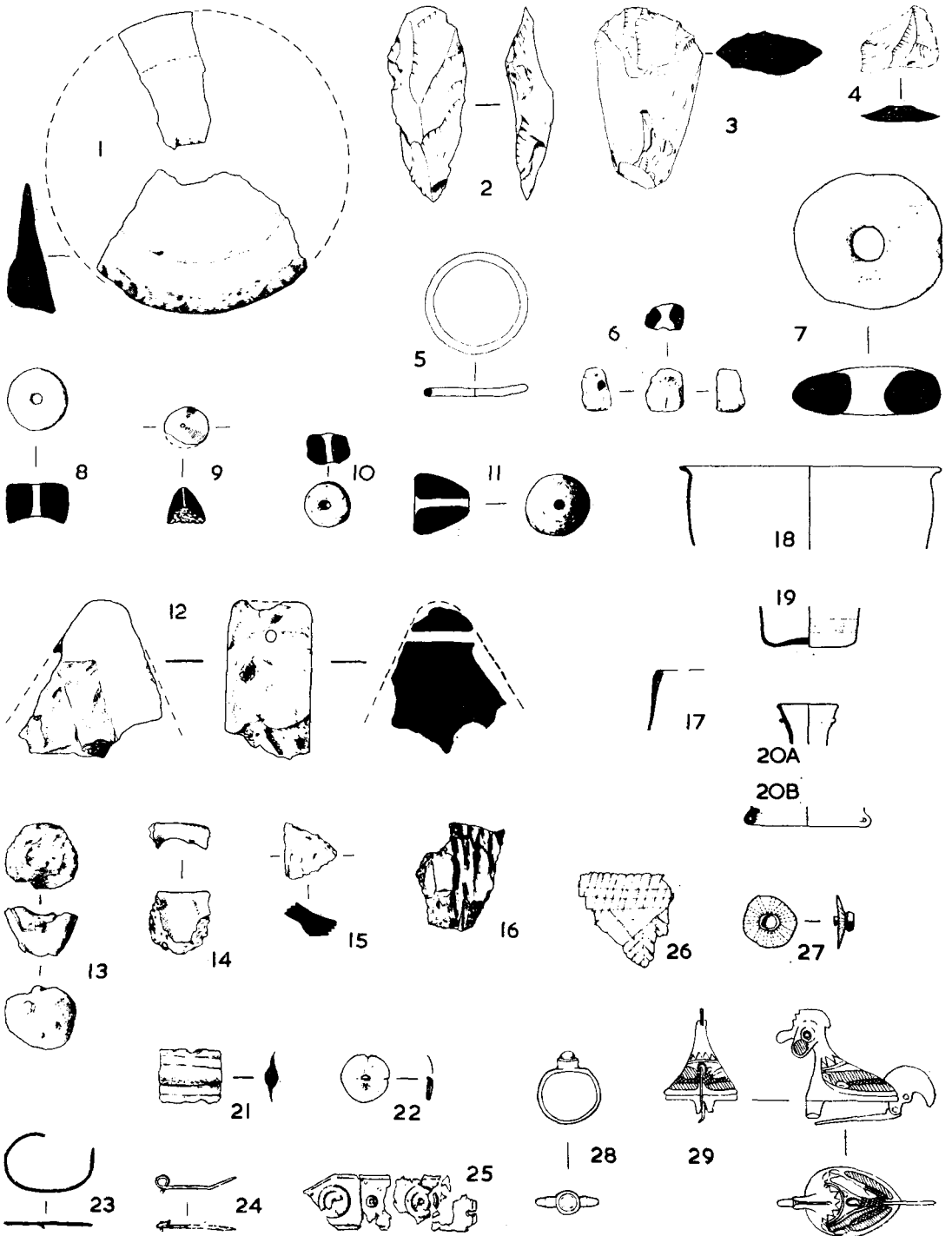


FIG. 10. Small finds: Quern 1 (♂), flint 2-4, shale 5, chalk 6-7, baked clay 8-12, crucible 13-15, daub 16, glass 17-20, bronze 21-29. 2-25 (♂), 26-29 (♂)

CRUCIBLES *Fig. 10, 13-15*

by R. F. Tylecote

13. The bottom of a pointed conical crucible with red cupreous glaze on the outside. The green glaze also present is due to vitrification from fuel ash. (Found in Pit 13, square XXIII B. Iron Age 2nd phase).
14. A part of thick-walled crucible with copper-base alloy prill embedded between the black external glaze and the crucible wall. This is thicker than most EIA triangular crucibles and it may be a sherd from near the spout of a conical or spherical one. The prill was found to be cast tin bronze, slowly cooled. It contained the alpha + delta eutectoid and some slag. The hardness was 110 HV which would suggest a tin content of about 10%. No lead was present. (From Pit 61, square XXVII H. Iron Age 2nd phase).
15. Another bit of ?crucible material with reddish glaze. (From Roman surface layer, square XXV C). Slag or dross. (Not ill.). Copper-base. This proved to be copper with a considerable amount of oxygen. The hardness was 67 HV. If this was connected in any way with the bronze melting process it would suggest that they were melting raw copper and adding tin to make bronze, rather than melting imported or scrap bronze. (From an Iron Age post hole in square XXV H).
These are all associated with the melting of copper or copper-base alloys.

DAUB *Fig. 10, 16*

16. Fragment of daub, baked hard and bearing impressions of one stout and several pliable wattles. From Pit 13, square XXIII B. Iron Age 2nd phase.

GLASS OBJECTS, *Fig. 10, 17-20*

by Dorothy Charlesworth

17. Rim and side fragments of a straight-sided bowl, greenish-colourless glass thickened towards rounded rim. These bowls are generally dated to the 3rd century but it is possible that they were first made earlier than this. Isings type 85b.¹ Probably made in the Cologne area. A complete example was found at Airlie.²
18. Rim and part of side of a bowl in blue-green glass, rim everted and rounded at tip. Poor quality metal with striations. Probably 2nd century.
19. Base of cylindrical bottle in greenish-colourless glass, poor quality metal with striations. Side is decorated with a group of six faintly cut lines. Isings type 100. 3rd century, made in Cologne area.
20. Fragments of rim, handle and base ring of a flagon in colourless glass with a chain handle, rim rounded with a trail below. 3rd century, probably made in the Cologne area.³
All from Pit 32, square XXXIV D.

OBJECTS OF BRONZE OR COPPER-BASE ALLOY

Fig. 10, 21-29

21. Part of a sword blade broken off at both ends probably for re-melting. Found in Roman context in the layer sealing the ditch in square XIX D.
22. Disc with square spigot now bent over and partly torn away. The outer end of the spigot is slightly spread and may have carried another disc. The space between discs would then have been 12mm. From a Roman surface layer in square XXVII E. 2nd to 4th century. Two fragments of a similar disc were found in a layer sealing plough grooves in square XXII J.
23. Wire loop, round in section. One end bent sharply and broken off. Perhaps an ear-ring. From Pit 13, square XXIII B. Iron Age 2nd phase.
24. Brooch pin with one loop of spring. From Pit 33, square XXIV C. Iron Age 3rd phase.
25. Paper-thin band with repousse decoration, the one remaining hole suggests fixture by nails or rivets. From the ditch in square XIX B. 2nd to 4th century A.D.
26. Foil 0.15mm. thick, decorated by scoring with straight lines. From post hole 212, square XXXIV C. Late 4th century A.D.
27. Stud. The front is decorated with pairs of lines approximately radial and consisting of series of scoops as if made with a graver. The central boss is hollow and contains a hard grey substance, perhaps a fixative. The top edge is turned inward as for the setting of a stone. Marks on the back show that the maker produced a flat surface by filing round the protruding spigot. The end of the spigot is spread as if used to rivet the stud onto material less than 1.5mm. thick. From the eastern barrow ditch filling. 4th century A.D.
28. Finger ring with green ?glass inset, inside diameter 15.5mm. From top of ditch filling, square XXII J. 2nd to 4th century A.D.
29. Hollow-cast plate brooch in the form of a cock, decorated with enamel on the wings in red and blue and on the wattle in red. Just above the hinge for the pin is a small hole, probably for a safety chain. The top of the catch is missing and the pin will not remain closed. Mr. Rex Hull, who kindly commented on this brooch, notes that it seems to have lost some enamel, especially yellow from the triangles at the neck. The distribution of the type is widespread and reaches as far north as the Broch of Bow in Scotland. One example, from Wroxeter,⁴ is described as 'not later than mid-second century,' and one in the Yorkshire museum

¹ C. Isings, *Roman glass from dated finds* (1957).

² A complete example found at Airlie is illustrated in W. Thorpe, *English glass*, 2nd edition (1949), Plate 6b.

³ *Ibid.*, a complete example is illustrated in Plate 6d.

⁴ J. P. Bushe-Fox, 'Wroxeter III,' *Soc. of Antiquaries research report* No. 4 (1916), p. 25 & Plate 16.

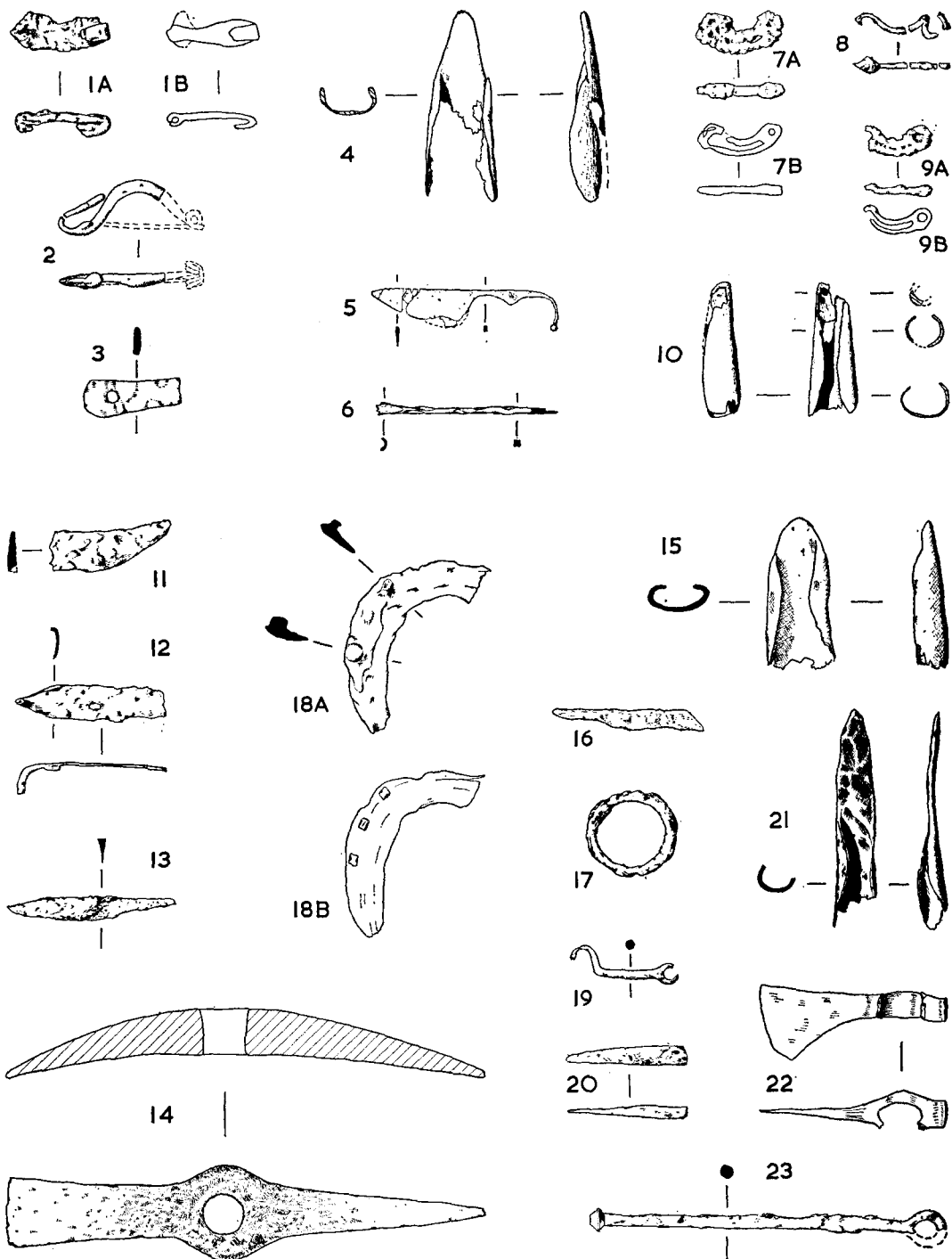


FIG. 11. Iron objects 1 and 3 (1/2), remainder (1/4)

was found with a coin of Trajan dated c100 A.D. The Slonk Hill example could have been old when lost. Pit 60, square XXXII H, in which it was found, was filled in the 3rd or in the 4th century A.D. A brooch of this type was found, in 1830, in a grave near the Roman temple on Lancing Down.¹ This is within sight of Slonk Hill, on the other side of the River Adur. The Lancing brooch was said to be of gold with red and green enamel. Its present location is not known.

IRON OBJECTS *Fig. 11, 1-23*

1. A much corroded object, 3cm. long, of unknown purpose. A radiograph, from which drawing 1B was taken, shows it to be bent over to form a hook at one end and to be pierced through its thickness at the other end. From Pit 48 in square XXIII E. Iron Age 2nd phase.
2. Parts of a La Tene I brooch with disc foot. The spring and pin suggested are similar to those on a brooch found at Park Brow, Sussex.² From Pit 61 in square XXVI H. Iron Age 2nd phase.
3. Small object, rectangular in section and pierced at the wider end with a hole 3mm. in diameter. From the bottom of Pit 42 in square XXIV E. Iron Age 2nd phase.
4. Shoe to protect the wooden tip of a primitive plough or ard, probably worn out before being discarded. From Pit 7, square XXVI A. Iron Age 3rd phase. *Report below.*

AN ARD TIP FROM SLONK HILL

by Peter J. Reynolds

It seems reasonable to interpret this metal object discovered in an impeccable Iron Age context, as an ard tip but by so doing it is unlike any of the more usual so called ard tips. Its flared shape suggests that it protected the forward face of a timber share and argues a slightly different angle of penetration to the normal bow or beam ard. The majority of ard tips would seem to fit only on the point of share as typified by the Donnerupland bow ard.³ However, while rather smaller in scale, it does have distinct similarities to the tip of an ard called 'el cambelo' (plate 1) in present use in the mountainous province of Lugo in Northern Spain. There the ard in general use is the Roman sole ard drawn by a pair of yoked cows. *El cambelo*, on the other hand is drawn by either a pair of bulls or heavy oxen specifically to break up old pasture or new ground. It is the simplest kind of ard consisting of a naturally curved oak bough attached to a beam. For the ploughman it is a two-handed task. The modern parallel is, of course, the chisel plough which is no more than a multiple number of *los cambelos*. The ard marks as excavated at Slonk Hill further support this interpretation in that they are essentially in one orientation and scored fairly deeply. The erratic curvature of several of the ard marks (Fig. 9) is typical of pressure ploughing of this kind.

If this interpretation is valid, the Slonk Hill ard tip is of great significance for understanding of prehistoric agriculture.

5. Knife. Total length 11.4cm. From Pit 10 square XXIV B. Iron Age 3rd phase. A knife similar, but much larger (29.7cm. long), and with a slightly curved blade was found at Barbury Castle.⁴
6. Small iron shaft. One end square, with the tip missing. The other end spread and hollowed but broken off, probably across three rivet holes. The middle of the rod is decorated by a series of hollows which occur in pairs. Their position and shape are such that they may well have been made by nipping the stem, whilst red hot, with a tool such as a pair of pincers or pliers. Found just above the feet of a male skeleton in Grave 1, square XVIII C. Iron Age 3rd phase.
7. Involute brooch from Grave 2 in square II D. What metal is left beneath the corrosion is indicated in drawing 7B, taken from a radiograph. This shows that the pivot is not wide enough to allow for a spring. Involute brooches, with the pin working on a pivot instead of on a spring, were made in Britain, but not on the continent. They are dated broadly 3rd to 2nd century B.C.⁵ Examples are not plentiful but the distribution is quite wide, ranging from Yorkshire to Wessex with a concentration in the Upper Thames Valley.⁶ This example was found in front of a female skeleton, near the skull, where it had settled probably after the decomposition of clothing. From its position in the grave it could have been used as a fastening either at the neck or at the shoulder.
8. Three fragments of an involute brooch found on the bottom of Pit 47, square XXVI E.
9. Involute brooch, similar to No. 7 but smaller. The clasp was not found. Drawing 9B was taken from a radiograph. From Pit 22, square XXVI C.
10. Ferrule or socket, probably to receive a wooden handle. Corroded away in parts and broken off or worn away at the narrow end. From Pit 7, square XXVI A. Iron Age 3rd phase.
11. Perhaps the end of a sickle. From filling of Eastern Barrow Ditch. 4th century A.D.
12. Part of an iron strap with hooked end, probably for attachment to wood by a nail through the rectangular hole. Found as for No. 11.
13. Knife. Found as for No. 11.
14. Pickaxe, in useable condition, weight 1.1kg. Unless very firmly wedged the round hole would allow this pick head to revolve on the shaft. From the ditch in square XIX B. 2nd to 4th century A.D.

¹ Mr. Urban, *Gentleman's Magazine* (July 1830), p. 17 & Plate 35.

² C. Fox and G. R. Wolsey, 'The Early Iron Age site at Findon Park,' *Antiquaries Journal*, vol. 8 (1928), pp. 449-60.

³ P. V. Glob, *Ard og Plov* (1951), p. 31.

⁴ M. MacGregor & D. D. A. Simpson, 'A group of iron objects from Barbury Castle, Wilts.', *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine*, vol. 58 (1963), pp. 394-402.

⁵ M. J. Fowler, 'The Typology of brooches of the Iron Age in Wessex,' *Archaeological Journal*, vol. 110 (1953), pp. 88-101.

⁶ E. M. Jope, 'Iron Age brooches in Ireland,' *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, vol. 24-25 (1961-6), pp. 25-28.

15. Shoe from primitive plough or ard. It seems likely that a short flanged shoe of this type would be fitted onto a bow ard,¹ a plough of the Iron Age tradition used with little change by Romanised Britons. From Pit 54 in square XXIII F. Found associated with pottery dated 3rd or 4th century A.D.
16. Knife. From grave 3 in square XXIX D. Found on the left side, above the pelvis of a female skeleton. Probably suspended from the waist at burial. Not closely dateable but probably after 400 A.D.
17. Iron ring. From Roman surface layer, square XXVI C. 2nd-4th century A.D.
18. More than half a horseshoe. Drawing 18B is taken from a radiograph which shows clearly the remains of three square nails still in place near the outer edge. From Pit 32, square XXXIV D. 4th century A.D. Comparable with horseshoes found at Maiden Castle² and there dated 370 A.D. or later.
19. Small hook with eye, as if for attachment by a staple. Found as for No. 18.
20. Wedge. Found as for No. 18.
21. Socketed tool, the blade bent either in manufacture or in use. Found as for No. 18.
22. Small axe, weight 125gm. The butt slightly burred over and one side of the socket broken out. Found as for No. 18.
23. Iron stay with a ring at one end, the part beyond the collar at the other end broken off and missing. From post hole 212 in square XXXIV D. Late 4th century A.D.

IRON SLAG

Examples examined by H. Cleere

Material described in this report as *iron slag* was found in features scattered all over the site and occurred as lumps ranging from the size of a thumb nail to the size of a fist. It is slaggy material resulting from the remelting in a forging hearth of extended slag and scale, deposited during the heating of iron objects for forging.

THE COINS

by D. R. Rudling

1. Nero. A.D. 54-68. AE.As. Rev. Victory. Type as R.I.C. 318 (unstratified).
2. Vespasian. A.D. 69-79. AE.As. Rev. Eagle standing on globe. Type as R.I.C. 747. (Boundary Ditch. Square XIX B).
3. Vespasian. A.D. 72-73. AE.As. Rev. Eagle standing on globe. R.I.C. 747 (unstratified).
4. Probably Vespasian. AE. Sestertius. Type unidentifiable (unstratified).
5. Titus, as Caesar under Vespasian. A.D. 77-78. AE. Sestertius. Rev. Roma. R.I.C. 772. (Boundary Ditch. Square XIX B).
6. Hadrian. A.D. 117-138. AE.As. Rev. SALVS AVGVSTI S.C. COS. III. R.I.C. 678. (Pit 8. Square XX B).
- 7-8. Faustina Junior. Struck under Antoninus Pius. A.D. 138-161. AE. Dupondius or As. Rev. FELICITAS S.C. R.I.C. Ant. Pius. 1395. (Pit 8. Square XX B).
9. Luccilla. Wife of Lucius Verus. A.D. 161-169. AE. Sestertius. Type unidentifiable (unstratified).
10. Crispina. Wife of Commodus. A.D. 177-192. AE. Dupondius or As. Type unidentifiable. (Boundary Ditch. Layer 1. Square XIX D).
11. Elagabalus. A.D. 220. AE. Sestertius. Rev. P.M.TR.P.III. COS III. P.P.S.C. R.I.C. 300. (Layer 1. Square XXXII C).
12. Julia Soemias. Murdered A.D. 222. AE.As. Obv. and Rev. Similar busts. A possible minting error. (Layer 1. Square XXXII C).
13. Licinius I. A.D. 308-324. AE. 3. Silvered. Rev. IOVI CONSERVATORI AVG. R.I.C. Trier 211. (Layer 1. Square XXXII D).
14. Constantine I. A.D. 307-337. AE. 3/4. Rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS. H.K. 378. (Layer 1. Square XXXIII D).
15. Constantine II, as Caesar. A.D. 317-337. AE. 3. Rev. PROVIDENTIAE CAESS. H.K. 33. (Layer 1. Square XXXIII C).
16. Constantine II, as Caesar. A.D. 317-337. AE.3. Rev. BEAT TRANQLITAS. R.I.C. London 255. (Layer 2. Square XXVIII C).
17. Constantine II, as Caesar. A.D. 317-337. AE.3/4. Rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS. H.K. 63. (Layer 1. Square XXXIII D).
18. Constantius II, as Caesar. A.D. 324-337. AE. 3/4. Rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS. H.K. 83. (Layer 1. Square XXXIII D).
19. Constantius II, as Caesar. A.D. 324-337. AE. 3/4. Rev. GLORIA EXERCITVS. H.K. 69. (Layer 1. Square XXXII D).
20. Commemorative issue. Constantinopolis. A.D. 330-335. AE. 3/4. Rev. Victory on prow. Type as H.K. 52. (Layer 1. Square XXXIII D.).
21. Commemorative Issue. Constantinopolis. A.D. 330-335. AE. 3/4. Rev. Victory on prow. H.K. 71. (Layer 1. Square XXXIII C).
22. Constans. Pre-reform bronze coinage. A.D. 337-346. AE.4. Rev. VICTORIAE DD. AVGG. Q. NN. H.K. 160. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).

¹ W. H. Manning, 'The Plough in Roman Britain,' *The Journal of Roman Studies*, vol. 54 (1964), pp. 54-65.

² R. E. M. Wheeler, *Maiden Castle, Dorset* (1943), p. 290 & Plate 30.

23. Constans. Pre-reform bronze coinage. A.D. 337-346. AE.4. Rev. VICTORIAE DD. AVGG. Q. NN. H.K. 142. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).
 24. Constans. Pre-reform bronze coinage. A.D. 337-346. AE.4. Rev. VICTORIAE DD. AVGG. Q. NN. H.K. 149. (Layer 1. Square XXXII D).
 25. Barbarous imitation. AE. 13mm. Copy of a fallen horseman type. A.D. 350-360. Copy as C.K. 25. (Layer 1. Square XXXIII D).
 26. Valentinian I. A.D. 364-375. AE.3. Rev. GLORIA ROMANORVM. C.K. 1408. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).
 27. Valentinian I. A.D. 364-375. AE.3. Rev. GLORIA ROMANORVM. C.K. 1396. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).
 28. Valentinian I. A.D. 364-375. AE.3. Rev. GLORIA ROMANORVM. C.K. 317. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).
 29. Valens. A.D. 364-378. AE.3. Rev. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE. C.K. 995. (Post hole 214. Square XXXIV C).
 30. Valens. A.D. 364-378. AE.3. Rev. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).
 31. Valens. A.D. 364-378. AE.3. Rev. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE. C.K. 516. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).
 32. Valens. A.D. 364-378. AE.3. Rev. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE. C.K. 528. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).
 33. Valens. A.D. 364-378. AE.3. Rev. GLORIA ROMANORVM. C.K. 1012. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).
 34. Valens. A.D. 364-378. AE.3. Rev. SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE. C.K. 1416. (unstratified).
 35. Gratian. A.D. 367-383. AE.3. Rev. GLORIA NOVI SAECVLI. C.K. 529. (Post hole 212. Square XXXIV C).
 36. House of Theodosius. A.D. 388 onwards. AE.4. Rev. Victory. Like C.K. 562. (unstratified).
- I wish to thank Dr. R. Reece for his help in the preparation of this report and Mr. R. Carson for his comments on Coin No. 12.

References

- R.I.C. Relevant volume of *Roman Imperial Coinage*. (eds. Mattingly, Sydenham, Sutherland and Carson)
 H.K. Hill and Kent. *Late Roman Bronze Coinage, Part 1*.
 C.K. Carson and Kent. *Late Roman Bronze Coinage, Part 2*.

THE EARLIER PREHISTORIC POTTERY

by Richard Bradley
 (Fig. 16, 138-55)

Pottery of at least three periods is represented in the disturbed filling of the barrow ditch. The majority is of the Early Bronze Age and this should represent the date of the mound.

Neolithic

Two sherds in a hard dark grey fabric with a buff interior surface and protruding medium flints. Both are very eroded, but 141 certainly shows worn diagonal cord imprints. Both are from the same vessel and 141 appears to be a characteristic shoulder sherd of Ebbsfleet Ware. A date in the later Neolithic would be appropriate. (From primary silt, Eastern Barrow Ditch).

Earlier Bronze Age

These sherds are in a poorly and unevenly fired buff to grey-buff fabric tempered mainly with grog but occasionally with chalk. The use of fine flint filler is very rare. There seem to be two major groups.

The first group consists of small urns belonging in general terms to the Food Vessel family, although the form of 139 in particular could be Beaker or Beaker derived. These fragments are too eroded for a closer classification to be justified.

Rim sherds:

Flaring rim:

139. Flaring rim with internal and external cord decoration. The body sherd 144 may be part of the same vessel. (From the Eastern Barrow Ditch filling. Associated with finds of the 4th century A.D.).

Flattened rims:

146. Flattened rim with point toothed comb decoration applied diagonally to the exterior surface and also present on the rim top where it appears to cut through ill-defined cord imprints. (From post hole 195 square XXVIII E).

151. Very eroded rim with some near vertical imprints, now indecipherable, on the exterior surface. A ridge runs along the rim top and may suggest that this had also been decorated. (Found as for 139).

More rounded rims:

145. Rounded rim with ?smudged comb decoration on the exterior surface. The rim top is undecorated. It is unusual in containing some fine flint filler. (Found as for 139).

Plain rounded rim (not illustrated).

Body sherds:

144. Worn body sherd with horizontal cord decoration, probably from the same vessel as 139. (From primary silt, Eastern Barrow Ditch).

143. Body sherd with marked horizontal groove made before firing and diagonal point toothed combing. Probably from the same vessel as 146. (Found as for 139).

The second group of sherds all seem to belong to collared urns. At least four separate vessels are represented. These should be contemporary with the Bronze Age sherds just described, but the internal sequence of vessels of this type is now in doubt. An Early Bronze Age date would again be appropriate.

Collar and neck:

138. Very eroded base of collar, decoration no longer clear. (From post hole 137 square XIII D).

142. Collar and neck, one, perhaps two lines of cord decoration. (Found as for 139).

147. Collar and neck with eroded horizontal round toothed combing. (From disturbed pit in centre of Eastern Barrow).

149. Heavier base of collar. Very eroded but possibly with cord decoration. (Found as for 139). (Unillustrated). Very eroded base of collar, no decoration surviving. The internal surface of this sherd has been lost.

Shoulder sherds:

152 and Unillustrated: Two undecorated sherds showing the junction of body and neck. These cannot be matched confidently with individual collar fragments. (Found as for 139).

Body sherd:

(Not illustrated). Worn body sherd with round toothed combing. Its position on the vessel is uncertain.

Base:

148. Simple upright base. (Found as for 139).

Later Bronze Age

Between two and four sherds may belong to common Deverel Rimbury types. A Middle Bronze Age date would be appropriate for these.

150. Coarse body sherd in rough black to buff fabric with large and medium flint filler and one line of upright fingernail impressions. This could be later Bronze Age or Iron Age. (Found as for 139).

153 and 154. Body sherds in hard buff fabric with scattered medium flints. Both have cordons decorated with finger-tip impressions. Hard buff shoulder with fingernail imprints. A Middle Bronze Age date would be appropriate, though with the proviso that some overlap with the earlier Bronze Age forms cannot be excluded. (153 from layer sealing plough grooves. 154 from Pit 60 square XXXII H).

155. Rim and expanded cordon with finger-tip decoration. (Found as for 139). (Not illustrated). Hard red-black to brown body with medium flint filler. A heavy flattened rim sherd, perhaps of the Middle Bronze Age but possibly later.

THE IRON AGE POTTERY

by Susan Morris

Introduction

The Iron Age pottery from Slonk Hill has been divided into the relevant pit groups and illustrated together with some additional pottery, usually unstratified, from various gullies, ditches and post-holes. The pottery has been described under the categories of number of sherds, colour, nature, fabric and decoration.

The majority of the pottery can be classified into four major fabric categories, although the most common appears to be fabric 4. Other variations which consist of the addition of variable amounts of other temper materials such as grog are also mentioned where significant, but these are not sufficiently different or widespread in occurrence to necessitate further division or subdivision of the basic fabric range. The fabrics have been graded according to the size of the particles incorporated in the pottery into simple fine, medium and coarse groups (F, M, C); where the fabric contains a mixed sized aggregate both groups are mentioned in the description (e.g. F/M). The fabrics are as follows:

- 1) Indeterminate grit or quartz sand.
- 2) Flint grit.
- 3) Chalk/shell particles.
- 4) Flint, chalk and quartz sand.

Description of pottery in pit groups

The following pits did not produce any pottery:

6, 8, 15, 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 32, 38, 41, 46, 54, 55, 62, 67, 69, 70 and 74.

Pit 1 (square V C. Fig. 12)

1. Fabric 4 F/M: grey/brown, light burnish, smooth finish; shoulder sherd.

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M; 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 5 sherds, Fabric 1 F: 2 sherds.

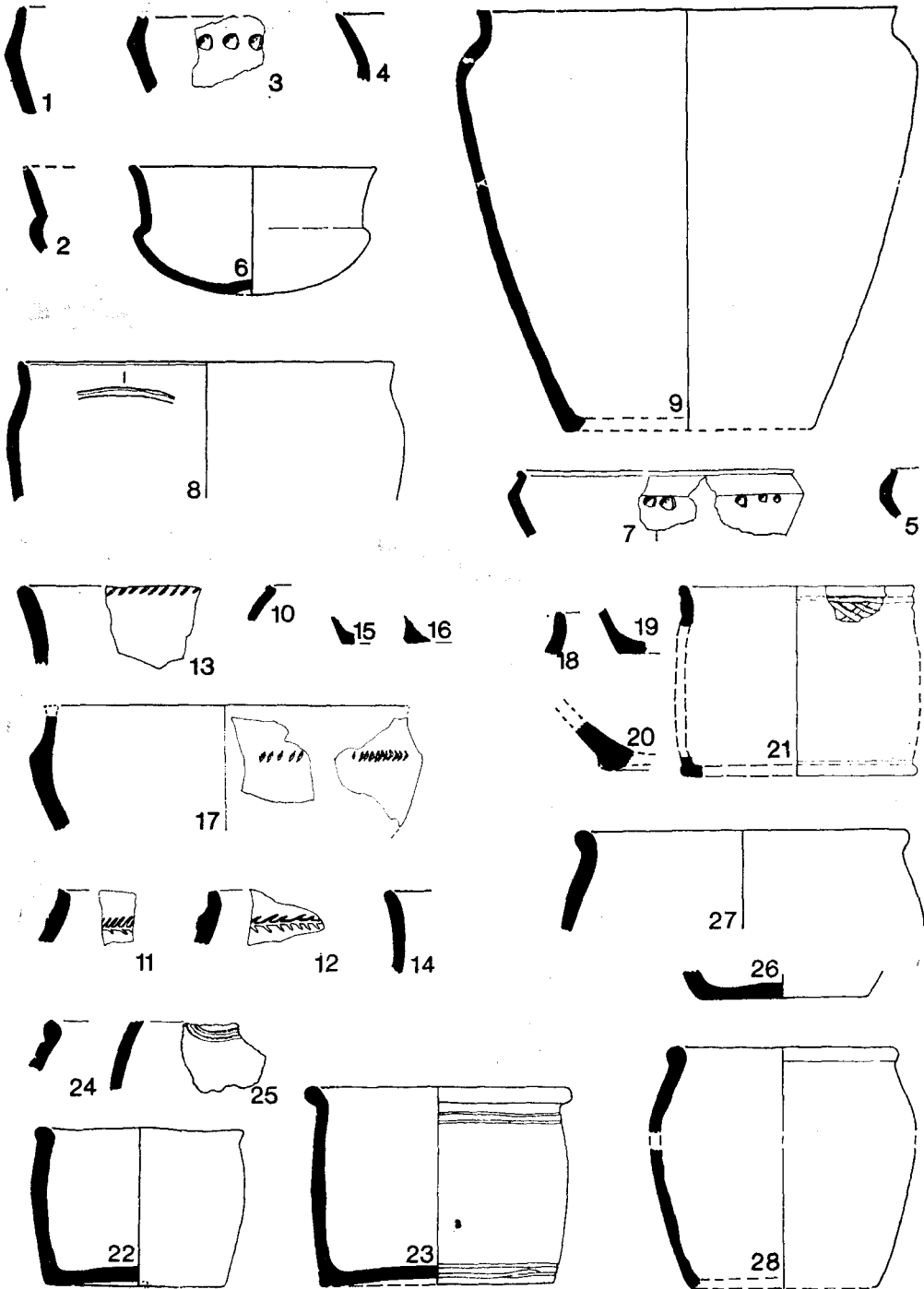


FIG. 12. Iron Age pottery: Pit 1 no. 1; Pit 4 nos. 2-9; Pit 5 nos. 10-17; Pit 7 nos. 18-21; Pit 9 nos. 22-25; Pit 10 nos. 26-28 (‡)

Pit 2 (square V C)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 1 rim; Fabric 4 F: 4 sherds.

Pit 3 (square V C)

Not illustrated: Fabric 3 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 3 M: 1 sherd;

Fabric 4 M: 3 sherds

Pit 4 (square VII A. Fig. 12)

2. Fabric 4 F: incomplete profile, highly burnished; 4 rim sherds.

3. Fabric 4 F/M: dark brown, finger and nail impressions; shoulder sherd.

4. Fabric 4 F: burnished interior and exterior, very fine; rim sherd.

5. Fabric 4 F/M: dark grey, burnished exterior; 2 shoulder sherds.

6. Fabric 4 F/M: dark grey, burnished exterior; complete profile.

7. Fabric 4 F: grey, finger and nail impressions; rim sherd.

8. Fabric 4 M: light red, rough horizontal lines on exterior; rim.

9. Fabric 4 F/M: roughly smoothed; 44 rim and body sherds.

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 21 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 25 sherds; Fabric 4 M: 17 sherds; Fabric 4 F/C: 1 sherd.

No apparent stratigraphy within pit.

Pit 5 (square III B. Fig. 12)

10. Fabric 1 F: dark brown/grey, smooth cordon and raised band; 1 sherd.

11. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown, raised cordon and feather pattern; 1 sherd.

12. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown, slight cordon and feather pattern; 1 sherd.

13. Fabric 4 F/M: grey/brown, finger nail impressions; rim sherd.

14. Fabric 4 F/M: grey/brown; 3 rim sherds.

15. Fabric 4 F/M: grey/brown; base sherd.

16. Fabric 4 F: grey/red; base sherd.

17. Fabric 4 F/M: finger nail impressions and grooves; 11 shoulder/body sherds.

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 8 sherds; Fabric 1 F + grog: 9 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 58 sherds.

Pit 7 (square XXVI A. Fig. 12)

18. Fabric 2 F: black, burnished exterior; rim sherd.

19. Fabric 1 F: black, smooth, slightly burnished; base sherd.

20. Fabric 4 F: red, smooth, possibly haematite, slip; footring base.

21. Fabric 4 F: light brown, 2 horizontal grooves oblique to horizontal line; rim and base.

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 17 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 19 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 14 sherds.

Pit 9 (square XXIV B. Fig. 12)

22. Fabric 1 F: dark brown, smooth surface, no decoration, complete saucepan pot.

23. Fabric 1 F: dark brown, burnished, 2 grooves top and bottom, complete saucepan pot.

24. Fabric 4 F: light brown, 2 horizontal grooves, rounded; rim sherd.

25. Fabric 4 F: smooth, 2 curvilinear grooves, burnished; body sherd.

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 25 sherds; Fabric 2 M: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F: 5 sherds; 1 fragment of daub.

Pit 10 (square XXIV B. Fig. 12)

26. Fabric 2 F/M: dark grey, flat base; 4 base sherds.

27. Fabric 1 F: light brown, rounded everted rim; 2 rimsherds.

28. Fabric 1 F: light brown; 18 sherds, almost complete profile.

Not illustrated: Fabric 2 F/M: 3 sherds; Fabric 1 F and flint; 73 sherds; 1 fragment of daub.

Pit 11 (square XXV B)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 3 sherds.

Pit 12 (square XXVI B)

Not illustrated: Layer 2: Fabric 1 F: 3 sherds, 1 + grog; Fabric 4 F: 1 rim sherd. Layer 3: Fabric 1 F: 11 sherds; Fabric 1 F/M + flint: 29 sherds; Fabric 3 F/M: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 10 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 15 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M + grog: 12 sherds; 3 daub fragments. Layer 4/5: Fabric 2 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F/M: 1 sherd. Layer 6: Fabric 2 F/M: 1 rim sherd; Fabric 4 F/M: 22 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M + grog; 32 sherds; Fabric 1 F: 6 sherds.

Pit 13 (square XXIII B. Fig. 13)

Layer 1:

29. Fabric 4 F: grey, well made; footring base.

30. Fabric 4 F/M: red; fragment of base.

31. Fabric 1 F: dark grey, slight ridge; rim sherd.

32. Fabric 4 F: light grey, fine; 1 rim sherd.

33. Fabric 4 F: light grey/brown; rim sherd.

34. Fabric 4 F: black, burnished exterior; base sherd.

35. Fabric 4 F: grey/brown, smooth, no base; shoulder and part of rim.

36. Fabric 4 F/M: grey, smooth; rim sherd.

Layer 2:

37. Fabric 4 F/M: red, smooth, exterior ridge; rim sherd.

38. Fabric 4 F/M: dark grey, finger moulded ridge, burnished; rim sherd.

39. Fabric 4 F/M: grey, roughly smoothed; base sherd.

40. Fabric 4 M: light brown, smooth; rim sherd.

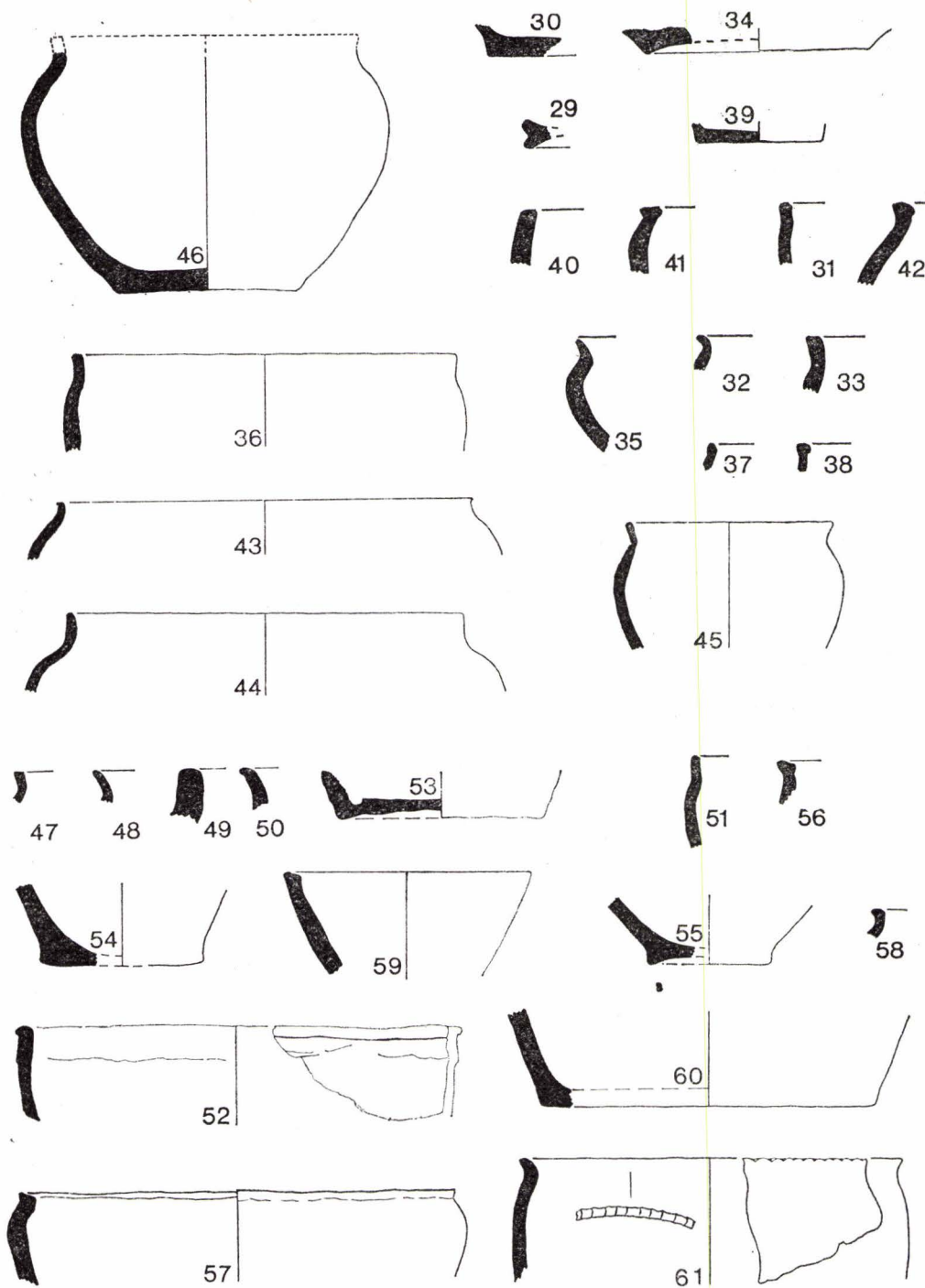


FIG. 13. Iron Age pottery: Pit 13 nos. 29-46; Pit 19 nos. 47-61 (¼)

41. Fabric 3 F + sand: grey, smooth; rim sherd.
 42. Fabric 4 F/M: light red, interior ridge; rim sherd.
 43. Fabric 4 F: black, burnished exterior, fine; rim sherd.
 44. Fabric 4 F/M: brown, roughly smoothed; rim.
 45. Fabric 4 F/M: brown, burnished exterior; body and rim.
 46. Fabric 4 F/M: light red, lightly burnished exterior; flat base.
 Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 1 F: 8 sherds; Fabric 1 F + flint: 14 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 177 sherds.
 Layer 2: Fabric 3 F: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 31 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 23 sherds; Fabric 4 F/C: 9 sherds;
 Fabric 4 C: 24 sherds. Layer 3: Fabric 4 F: 6 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 1 sherd.
 Despite stratigraphy—little apparent difference between layers.
- Pit 14* (square XIII A)
 Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F + grog: 1 sherd; Fabric 3 F/M: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F/M: 2 sherds.
- Pit 16* (square VII D)
 Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 6 sherds including 2 rims.
- Pit 17* (square VII D)
 Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M + shell: 4 sherds.
- Pit 18* (square VIII D)
 Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 3 sherds.
- Pit 19* (square X D. Fig. 13)
 Layer 1:
 47. Fabric 4 F: light brown, smooth fine; rim sherd.
 48. Fabric 1 F: dark brown, smooth exterior; rim sherd.
 49. Fabric 4 F/M: light red/brown, roughly smoothed; rim sherd.
 50. Fabric 1 F: light brown red, lip on exterior; rim sherd.
 51. Fabric 4 F/M: black, small jar form; rim sherd.
 52. Fabric 4 F/M: exterior ridge, lip on interior, finger impressions; rim.
 53. Fabric 4 F/M: light grey, roughly finished; base.
 54. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown; flat base.
 55. Fabric 4 F: black, burnished; footring base.
 56. Fabric 4 F/M: red, roughly smoothed; rim sherd.
- Layer 2:
 57. Fabric 4 F/M: dark grey, rough finish; rim sherd.
 58. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown; rim sherd.
 59. Fabric 4 F/M: black, slight lip on exterior; rim sherd.
 60. Fabric 4 F/C: light red; base sherd.
 61. Fabric 4 F/M: grey/brown; rim sherd.
- Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 3 F: 2 sherds; Fabric 3 F + sand: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 34 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 149 sherds; Fabric 4 F/C: 45 sherds; Fabric 4 C: 9 sherds. Layer 2: Fabric 1 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 1 F + grog: 1 sherd; Fabric 1 F + flint + grog: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F/M: 5 sherds. Layer 3: Fabric 4 F: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 21 sherds; Fabric 4 C: 9 sherds; 2 daub fragments.
- Pit 22* (square XXVI C)
 Not illustrated: Layer 3: Fabric 1 F/M + grog + grit: 13 sherds; Fabric 4 C + grit: 4 sherds. Layer 4: Fabric 1 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F + grog: 2 sherds.
 Layer 4 associated with iron brooch.
- Pit 23* (square XXVI C)
 Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 2 sherds, joined; Fabric 4 F/M: 6 sherds. Joined sherds from Pit 23 and Pit 25, therefore presumably contemporary in date.
- Pit 24* (square XXV C)
 Not illustrated. Fabric 1 F: 8 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 6 sherds; Fabric 4 M: 1 sherd.
- Pit 25* (square XXVI C. Fig. 14)
 Layer 3:
 62. Fabric 1 F: black, burnished; rim sherd.
 63. Fabric 4 F: light red, burnished; rim sherd.
 64. Fabric 4 F: brown, rim and base of jar; 27 sherds.
- Layer 4:
 65. Fabric 4 F: dark brown, smooth; rim and body, 14 sherds.
 Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 26 sherds—2 rim sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 13 sherds; Fabric 4 M/C: 2 sherds.
- Pit 26* (square XXVI C)
 Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 10 sherds; Fabric 2 F/M: 1 rim sherd; Fabric 4 F/M: 10 sherds.
- Pit 30* (square XXVII E)
 Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F/M: 3 sherds.
- Pit 31* (square XXVII E. Fig. 14)
 66. Fabric 4 F: dark brown, fine rim sherd.
 67. Fabric 4 F/M: dark brown, smooth; shallow pedestal base.
 Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 3 sherds.

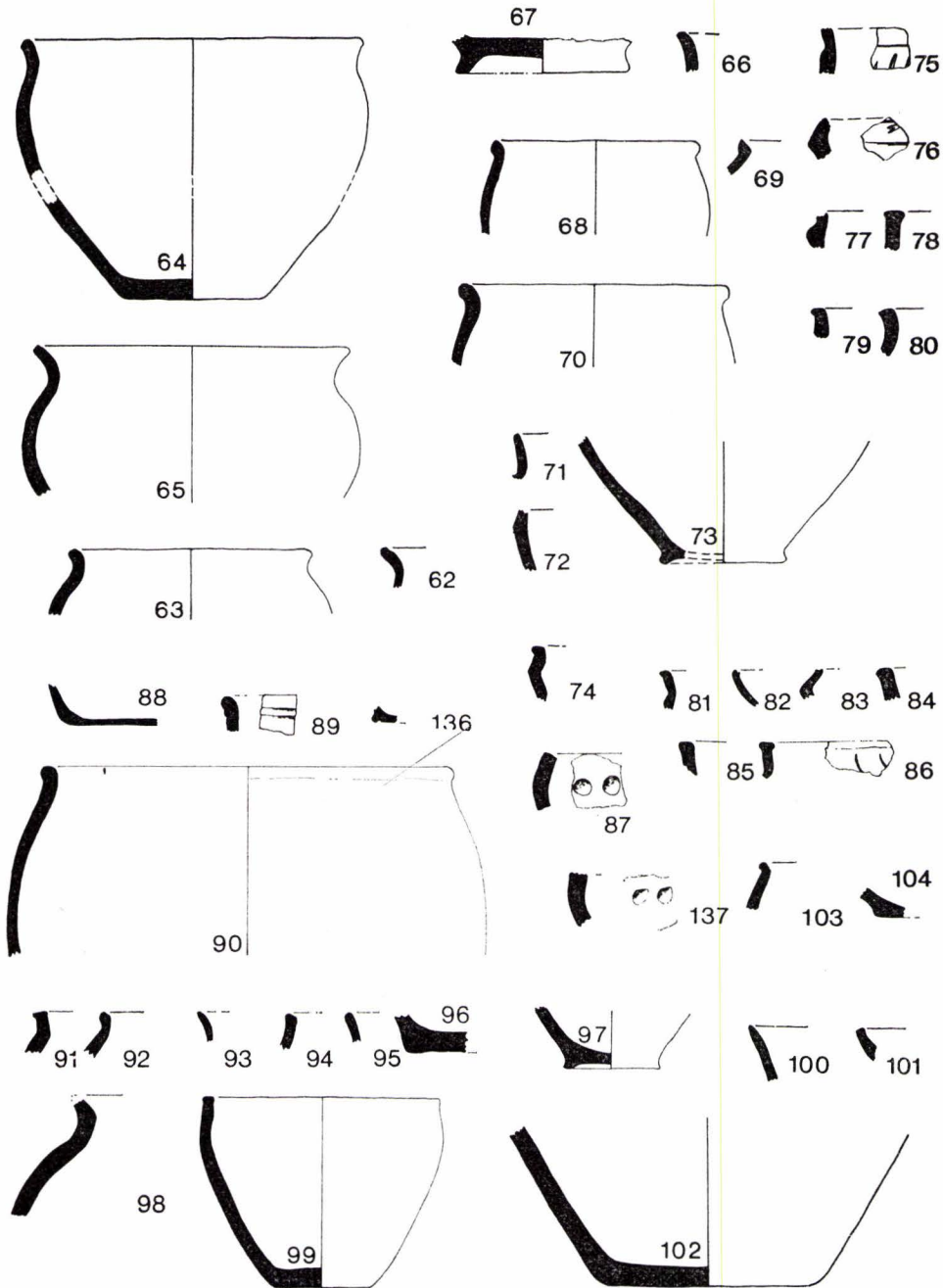


FIG. 14. Iron Age pottery: Pit 25 nos. 62-65; Pit 31 nos. 66-67; Pit 33 nos. 68-70; Pit 42 nos. 71-73; Pit 43 no. 74; Pit 48 nos. 75-80; Pit 51 nos. 81-86; Pit 52 nos. 87 and 137; Pit 56 nos. 88-90 and 136; Pit 57 nos. 91-102; Pit 59 nos. 103-4 (4)

Pit 33 (square XXIV C. Fig. 14)

Layer 1:

68. Fabric 1 F: grey; rim sherd.

69. Fabric 3 + sand: rim sherd, and 1 sherd from Layer 2.

Layer 2:

70. Fabric 4 F/M: dark brown, smooth; rim sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 1 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F: 10 sherds. Layer 2: Fabric 1 F: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 5 sherds. Layer 1/2: Fabric 1 F: 14 sherds and 1 with curvilinear grooves; Fabric 4 F/M: 1 sherd.

Pit 34 (square XXV D)

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 11 sherds.

Pit 35 (square XXV D)

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F/M: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 6 sherds.

Pit 36 (square XXV D)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 1 sherd.

Pit 37 (square XXV D)

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 9 sherds; Fabric 4 M: 1 sherd.

Pit 39 (square XXV D)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 1 rim sherd.

Pit 40 (square XXV D)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M + sand: 5 sherds, joining.

Pit 42 (square XXIV E. Fig. 14)

Layer 4:

71. Fabric 4 F: dark brown, burnished, fine; rim sherd.

72. Fabric 4 F: slightly burnished, finger impressions; 1 shoulder sherd.

73. Fabric 4 F: dark brown, burnished; footing base.

Not illustrated: Layer 3A: Fabric 4 F: 15 sherds; Fabric 4 F + grog: 26 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 28 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M + grit: 1 sherd. Layer 3B: disturbed Iron Age layer: Fabric 1 F: 7 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 20 sherds; Fabric F/M + grit: 3 sherds.

Layer 4: Fabric 1 F: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M + grit: 6 sherds.

Pit 43 (square XXIV E. Fig. 14)

74. Fabric 4 F: brown/grey; rim sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 3 and 4: Fabric 1 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F: 30 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 35 sherds.

Pit 44 (square XXV E)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 2 sherds.

Pit 45 (square XXV E)

Not illustrated: Layer A: Fabric 1 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M + grit + grog: 1 sherd.

Layer B: Fabric 1 F: 1 sherd.

Pit 48 (square XXIII E. Fig. 14)

75. Fabric 4 F/M: smooth, vertical groove; body sherd.

76. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown, tooled design; shoulder sherd.

77. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown, cordon on exterior; body sherd.

78. Fabric 4 F: grey, lip on both sides, burnished exterior; rim.

79. Fabric 4 F/M: dark brown, ridge on exterior; rim sherd.

80. Fabric 4 F: light brown, concave neck, smooth; rim sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 1 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F: 8 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 2 sherds. Layer 2: Fabric 1 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 33 sherds.

Pit 49 (square XXIII E)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 7 sherds.

Pit 51 (square XXII E. Fig. 14)

81. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown; rim sherd.

82. Fabric 4 F: black, fine; body sherd.

83. Fabric 4 F: smooth, fine; shoulder sherd.

84. Fabric 4 F/M: brown, smooth; rim sherd.

85. Fabric 4 F/M: dark brown, smooth; rim sherd.

86. Fabric 4 F/M: black, smooth, lip on both sides; rim.

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 4 F + grit: 9 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 29 sherds.

Pit 52 (square XXII E. Fig. 14)

87. Fabric 4 F/M: brown, finger impressions; shoulder sherd.

137. Fabric 4 F/M: dark brown, finger impressions; shoulder sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 1 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 14 sherds.

Pit 53 (square XXII E)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 2 sherds.

Pit 56 (square XXIII G. Fig. 14)

88. Fabric 3 F: dark brown, smooth; base sherd.

89. Fabric 1 F: grey, groove beneath cordon; rim sherd.

90. Fabric 3 F/M: red, large form; 4 joining rim sherds.

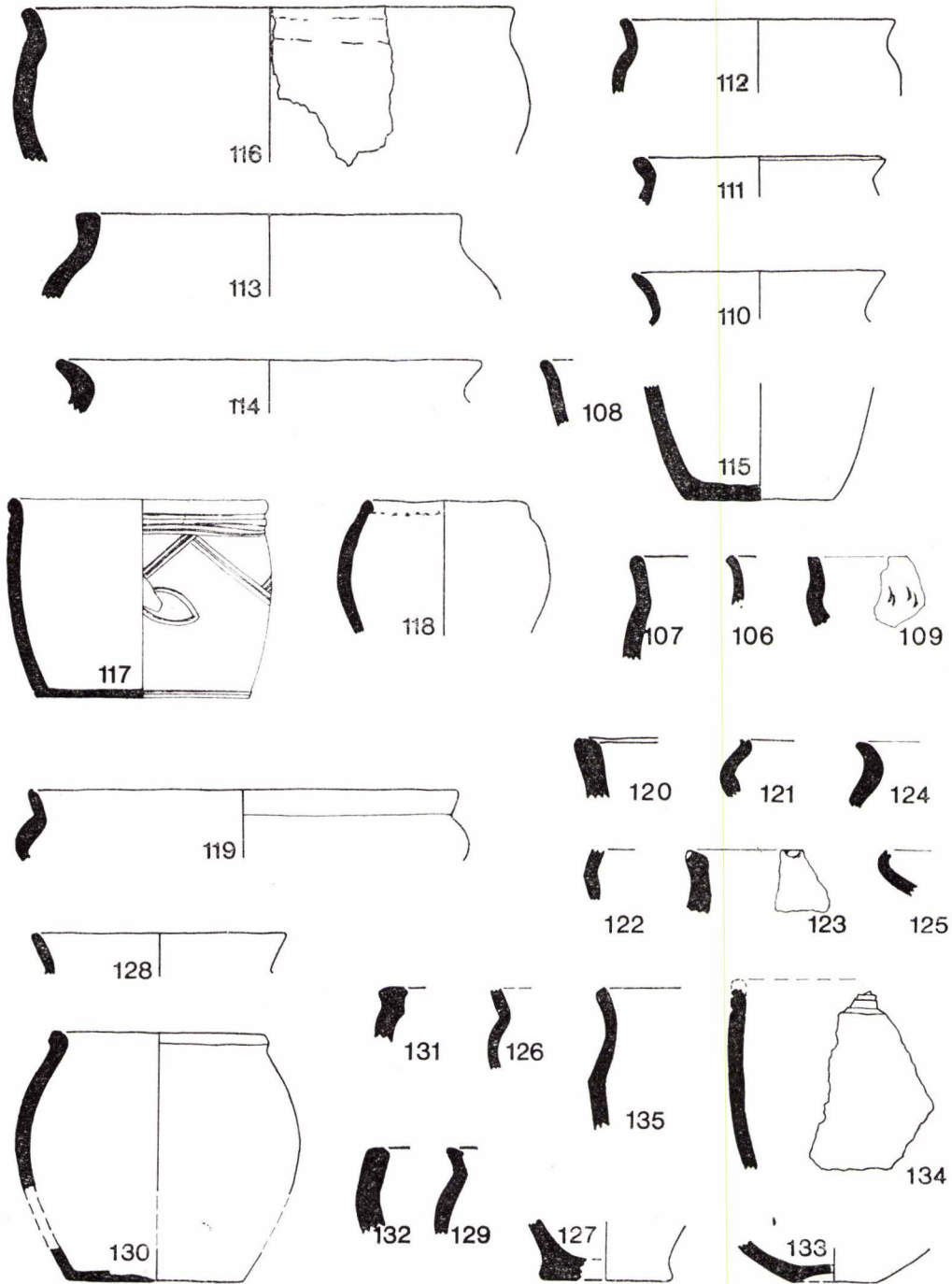


FIG. 15. Iron Age pottery: Pit 61 nos. 106-16; Pit 64 nos. 117-8; Pit 66 no. 119; Pit 68 nos. 120-5; Pit 73 nos. 126-35 (±)

136. Fabric 3 F: brown, groove above and below slight foot; base.

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 47 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 12 sherds.

Pit 57 (square XXII G. Fig. 14)

Layer 5:

91. Fabric 4 F/M: brown, lip, roughly finished; rim sherd.

92. Fabric 4 F: light brown, roughly smoothed; rim sherd.

93. Fabric 4 F: light brown: smooth; rim sherd.

94. Fabric 4 F: dark brown, smooth; rim sherd.

95. Fabric 4 F/M: black, burnished; rim sherd.

96. Fabric 4 F/M: uneven finish; flat base sherd.

97. Fabric 4 F/M: small jar/bowl; footing base.

98. Fabric 4 F/M: black, burnished exterior; body sherd.

99. Fabric 4 F/M: fine finish; flat base.

Layer 6:

100. Fabric 4 F: black, burnished; rim sherd.

101. Fabric 3 F: light brown, smooth finish; rim sherd.

102. Fabric 4 F/M: burnished exterior; flat base.

Not illustrated: Layer 2: Fabric 4 F/M: 59 sherds including 1 flat topped rim. Layer 3: Fabric 1 F: 6 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 50 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 135 sherds. Layer 4: Fabric 4F: 1 sherd + haematite slip; Fabric 4 F/M: 27 sherds. Layer 5: Fabric 1 F: 1 sherd; Fabric 3 F: 27 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 26 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 5 sherds. Layer 5/6: Fabric 4 F: 18 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 10 sherds. Layer 6: Fabric 4 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 5 sherds.

Pit 58 (square XXII H)

Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 1 F: 25 sherds, including 3 rims; Fabric 4 F: 10 sherds. Layer 2: Fabric 1 F: 20 sherds; Fabric 3 F: 1 fragment daub/coarse pottery; Fabric 4 F: 7 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 6 sherds. Some Romano-British admixture, notably grey and red wares.

Pit 59 (square XXXII G. Fig. 14)

103. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown, finger moulded, roughly smoothed; rim.

104. Fabric 1 F: flat smooth finish; small base.

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 2 sherds.

Pit 60 (square XXXII H)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 1 sherd with finger nail impressions on cordon. Association with Romano-British finds.

Pit 61 (square XXVI H. Fig. 15)

106. Fabric 4 F: light brown, roughly smoothed; rim sherd.

107. Fabric 4 F: red, smooth; rim sherd.

108. Fabric 4 F: grey, uneven surfaces; rim sherd.

109. Fabric 4 F: light brown, finger nail impressions; rim sherd.

110. Fabric 3 F: red, possibly haematite slip; rim sherd.

111. Fabric 4 F: light brown, fine, smooth; rim sherd.

112. Fabric 4 F: black, slightly burnished, fine; rim sherd.

113. Fabric 4 F: burnished exterior, fine, smooth; rim sherd.

114. Fabric 4 F: light brown, smooth; rim sherd.

115. Fabric 4 F: red, fine finish; flat base.

116. Fabric 4 F: light red/brown, roughly smoothed; rim.

Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 1 F: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 56 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 20 sherds. Layer 2: Fabric 4 F: 14 sherds. Layer 3: Fabric 1 F: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 24 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M + grit + grog: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 C: 9 sherds.

Pit 63 (square XXIII H)

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 7 sherds.

Pit 64 (square XXIII H. Fig. 15)

117. Fabric 4 F: black, burnished, grooves and chevron decoration; saucepan pot.

118. Fabric 4 F: slight burnish, finger moulded; rim sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 1 F: 14 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 14 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 6 sherds. Layer 2: Fabric 4 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 2 sherds. Layer 3: Fabric 1 F: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 4 F/C: 7 sherds. Layer 4: Fabric 4 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 M/C: 1 sherd.

Pit 65 (square XXIII H)

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 8 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 8 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 1 sherd.

Pit 66 (square XX J. Fig. 15)

119. Fabric 4 F: brown, fine; shoulder and rim sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 4 F: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 7 sherds. Layer 2: Fabric 4 F: 1 sherd.

Pit 68 (square XXVI H. Fig. 15)

120. Fabric 4F: brown, uneven finish; rim sherd.

121. Fabric 4 F: black, fine; rim sherd.

122. Fabric 4 F: light brown; shoulder sherd.

123. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown/grey, finger impressed; rim sherd.

124. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown; rim sherd.

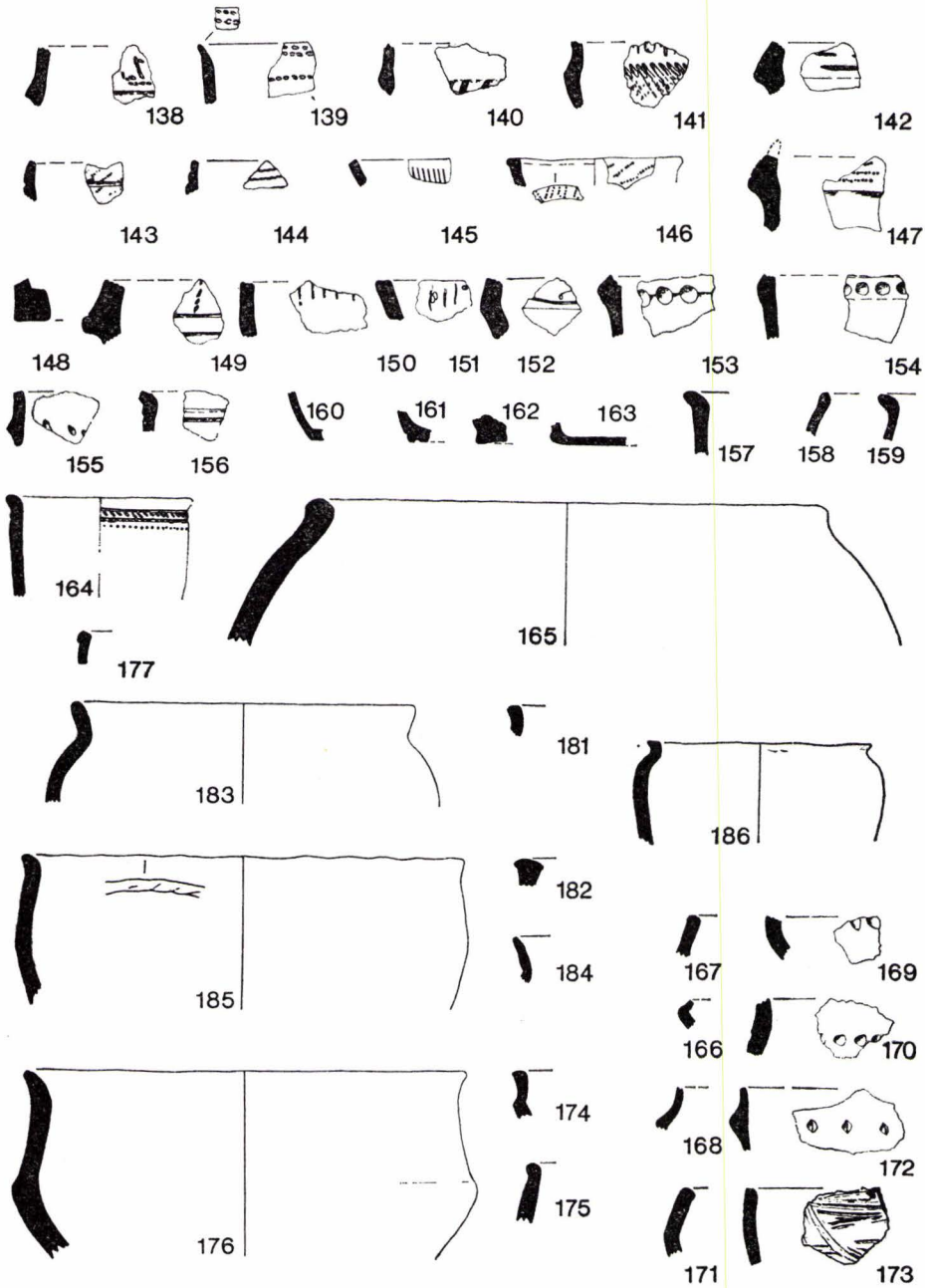


FIG. 16. Early prehistoric and Iron Age pottery: Eastern Barrow Ditch nos. 138-55; Grave 1 nos. 156-65; Trench 2 nos. 166-73; Western Barrow Ditch nos. 174-76; Gully no. 177; Burnt Flint Layer nos. 181-85; Layer 3 no. 186 (‡)

125. Fabric 4 F: black; shoulder sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 1A: Fabric 4 F: 14 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 31 sherds; Fabric 4 C: 23 sherds. Layer 2: Fabric 1 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 9 sherds; Fabric 4 F/C: 8 sherds. Layer 3: Fabric 1 F: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 4 sherds.

Pit 68A (square XXVI H)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M + grog: 5 sherds.

Pit 71 (square XX J)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 C: 2 sherds.

Pit 72 (square XX J)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 2 sherds.

Pit 73 (square XXI H. Fig. 15)

126. Fabric 4 F: black, burnished, fine; shoulder sherd.

127. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown, burnished exterior; footing base.

128. Fabric 4 F: red, thin, haematite coated, fine; rim sherd.

129. Fabric 1 F: light brown, finger moulded lip; rim.

130. Fabric 4 F: black, very fine; rim and shoulder and base.

131. Fabric 4 F/M: dark brown/black, finger moulded; rim sherd.

132. Fabric 4 F/M: red, burnished exterior; rim sherd.

133. Fabric 4 F: black, burnished; omphalos base.

134. Fabric 4 F: dark brown, two grooves; body saucepan pot.

135. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown, definite shoulder; rim sherd.

Not illustrated: unstratified: Fabric 4 F + sand: 9 sherds, possibly same as Fig. 15, 135. Layer 1 A & B: Fabric 1 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 12 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 12 sherds. Layer 2: Fabric 4 F: 7 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 29 sherds; Fabric 4 C: 25 sherds.

Description of pottery from features other than pits

Grave 1 (square XVIII C. Fig. 16)

Context: male inhumation and burnt bone and teeth, small iron rod; pottery below skeleton with mussel shells.

156. Fabric 4 F/M: light grey, external grooves, burnished; rim.

157. Fabric 4 F + grog: black, burnished; rim.

158. Fabric 4 F + grog: brown, fine; rim sherd.

159. Fabric 4 F: light brown, slight burnish, thin; rim sherd.

160. Fabric 4 F: dark grey, burnished; fragment of base.

161. Fabric 1 F + grog: dark brown, burnished, grooves; saucepan pot.

162. Fabric 1 F + grog: dark brown, burnished; flat base.

163. Fabric 1 F + grog: grey, burnished exterior; flat base.

164. Fabric 1 F: black, burnished, grooves; saucepan pot.

165. Fabric 4 F/M: brown/red, thick, coarse ware; rim sherd.

Pottery above skeleton: not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 51 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 11 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 17 sherds.

Below skeleton: Fabric 1 + grog: 8 sherds.

Grave 2 (square II D)

Context: female inhumation. 2 potsherds found, in association with finds of an iron brooch and a shale bracelet.

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 2 sherds.

Trench 2 (squares III and IV D. Fig. 16)

166. Fabric 4 F: black, fine; shoulder sherd.

167. Fabric 4 F: light brown, slightly finger moulded; rim.

168. Fabric 4 F: grey, slightly burnished; shoulder sherd.

169. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown, finger impressed; shoulder sherd.

170. Fabric 4 F/M: grey, finger impressions; shoulder sherd.

171. Fabric 4 F/M: roughly smoothed, finger moulded; rim sherd.

172. Fabric 4 F/M: light brown, finger nail impressed; shoulder sherd.

173. Fabric 4 F/M: red, shallow tooled linear and curvilinear grooves; body sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 1 F: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 10 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 86 sherds. Layer 2:

Fabric 4 F: 12 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 33 sherds.

Western Barrow Ditch (Fig. 16)

174. Fabric 4 F: light brown, roughly smoothed; rim sherd.

175. Fabric 4 F: light red, finger moulded, fine; rim sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 2: Fabric 1 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 3 F + sand: 2 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 140 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M + grog: 1 sherd; Fabric 4 F/C: 7 sherds.

Some Romano-British material also found in ditch.

Western Barrow Ditch—associated with Romano-British finds.

176. Fabric 4 F/M: dark grey, roughly smoothed; rim sherd.

Gully (square XII E. Fig. 16)

177. Fabric 4 F/M: slight groove, smooth finish; rim sherd.

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 6 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 13 sherds.

Gully (square VIII E)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 5 sherds.

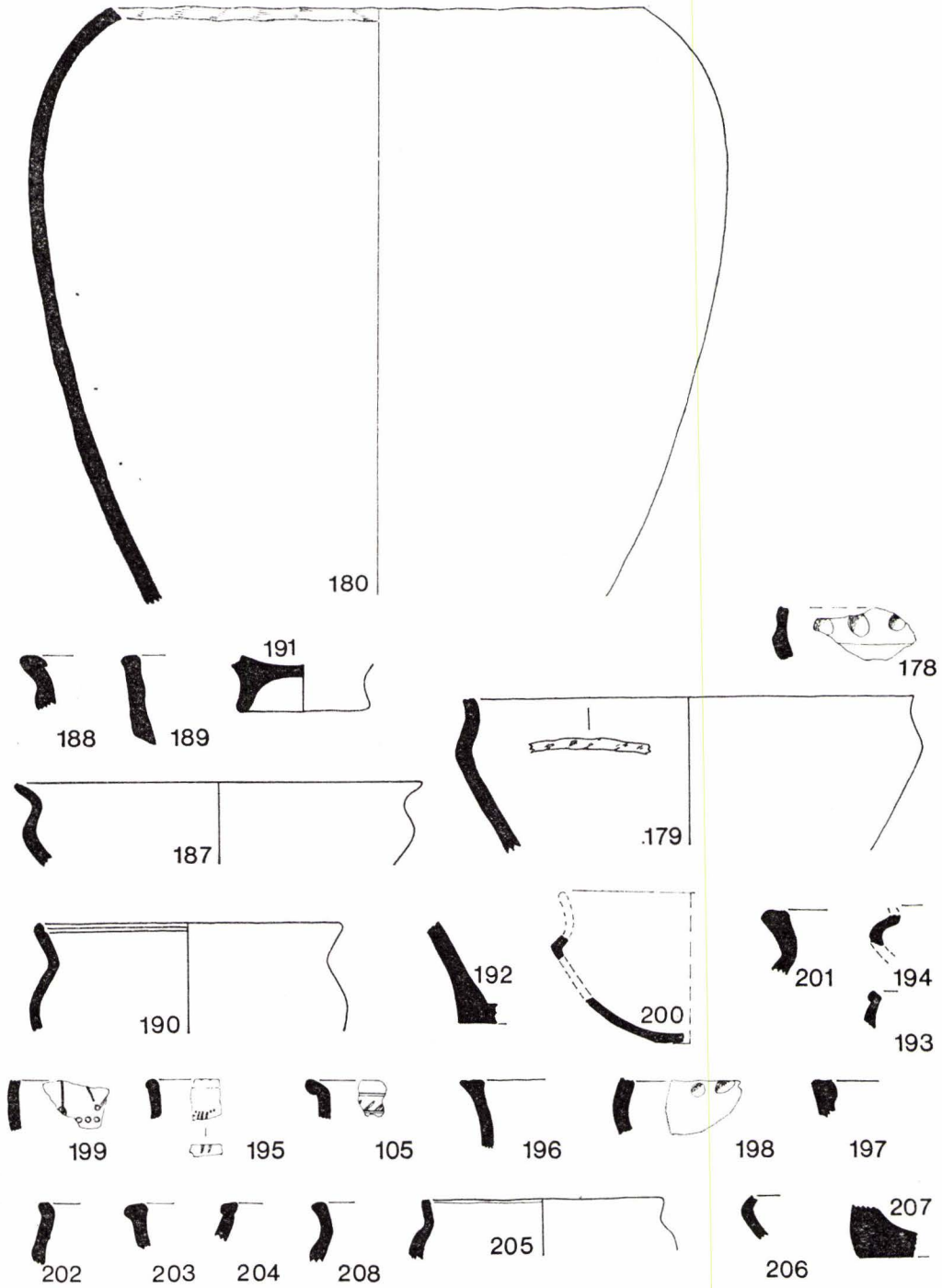


FIG. 17. Iron Age pottery: Northern Gully nos. 178-80; Post holes nos. 187-208 and 105 (105 and 196 from same post hole) (↓)

Gully (from square XXIV F to XXV C)

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 17 sherds.

Northern Gully (between squares XXI J and XXVII H. Fig. 17)

178. Fabric 4 F: light grey, finger impressed; shoulder sherd.

179. Fabric 4 F/M: finger and nail impressions; rim with lip.

180. Fabric 4 F/M: red, roughly smoothed; almost complete profile.

Not illustrated: Fabric 1 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 3 M: 6 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 6 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 23 sherds + 29 sherds similar to Fig. 17, 180.

Depression (square XXV A)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 5 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 1 sherd.

Slot (between two post holes in square XXII H)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M + grog: 2 sherds.

Scoop (square XV G)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 2 sherds.

Depression (square XXVI E)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 2 sherds.

Gully (square XII E)

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F/M: 1 sherd.

Burnt Flint Layer (squares XXV and XXVI B. Fig. 16)

Layer 1:

181. Fabric 4 F: dark brown, fine; rim sherd.

182. Fabric 4 F: red, lip on exterior, very fine, burnished; rim sherd.

183. Fabric 4 F: red, very fine, burnished exterior; rim sherd.

184. Fabric 4 F: red, cordoned exterior, very fine; rim sherd.

185. Fabric 4 F/M: red, finger impressed; rim sherd.

Not illustrated: Layer 1: Fabric 1 F: 3 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 9 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 23 sherds. Layer 2:

Fabric 1 F: 4 sherds; Fabric 4 F: 15 sherds; Fabric 4 F + grog: 6 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 127 sherds. Layer 3:

Fabric 4 F: 21 sherds; Fabric 4 F/M: 33 sherds; Fabric 4 M: 41 sherds.

Layer 3:

186. Fabric 4 F/M: dark brown, roughly smoothed; rim sherd.

Not illustrated: Fabric 4 F: 17 sherds.

Post Holes

The post holes produced little informative pottery and of a total of 556 post holes, 164 contained one or more sherds. The total number of potsherds from the post holes was in the region of 1,335, with 27 being diagnostic sherds which have been illustrated. The post hole material represents a fairly small proportion of the total and is largely composed of coarser ware. The examples of the finer wares, relatively few of which are decorated, occur as illustrated sherds. The range of pottery colour is fairly limited, being usually red to brown with occasional black, grey or buff sherds. The size of individual sherds is similarly limited, the majority being small, which is also the case with the quantity, most post holes producing single, or small groups of (usually less than 10) pot sherds. The rims, bases and decorated sherds are illustrated and detailed descriptions included.

The majority of the unillustrated sherds are of Fabric 4, i.e. flint, chalk and quartz mixtures, and are mostly of a fine to medium grit size, although there are some finer and coarser ware fabrics. Some of the Fabric 4 sherds also have small quantities of grog included in their fabric, while the Fabric 1 wares have occasional additions of chalk particles. The remainder of the unillustrated material includes 71 sherds of Fabric 1 (indeterminate grit or quartz sand) and 1 sherd of Fabric 3 (chalk/shell particles): these are with a fine aggregate size of particles. The proportion of Fabric 4 to the rest of the fabrics appears to be similar for the post holes as for the pits and other features.

The small amount of the material from the post holes and the correspondingly small return of information from it have permitted brief treatment and lack of detail.

Illustrated sherds from Post Holes (all Fig. 17)

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 187. Square VII A. | Fabric 4 F: red; rim sherd. |
| 188. Square III B. | Fabric 4 F/M: red; rim sherd. |
| 189. Square III C. | Fabric 4 F/M: red; rim sherd. |
| 190. Square XII B. | Fabric 1 F: black, burnished; rim sherd. |
| 191. Square XV C. | Fabric 4 F: brown/red, burnished; base sherd. |
| 192. Square XI B. | Fabric 4 M: brown; base sherd. |
| 193. Square XIV D. | Fabric 4 F/M: red/brown; rim sherd. |
| 194. Square XIV E. | Fabric 4 F: black, slight burnish; shoulder sherd. |
| 195. Square XV E. | Fabric 4 F: dark brown; rim sherd. |
| 105. Square XIV F. | Fabric 4 F/M + grog: brown; rim sherd. |
| 196. Square XIV F. | Fabric 4 F/M + grog: light brown; rim sherd. |
| 197. Square XV G. | Fabric 4 F/M: red; rim sherd. |
| 198. Square VIII E. | Fabric 4 F/M: black; rim sherd. |
| 199. Square VIII E. | Fabric 4 F/M: red; shoulder sherd. |
| 200. Square VII E. | Fabric 4 F/M: black; 3 sherds. |
| 201. Square VII G. | Fabric 4 F/M: light brown; rim sherd. |

202. Square VII G. Fabric 4: light red; rim sherd.
 203. Square XXIII E. Fabric 4 F/M: brown/red; rim sherd.
 204. Square XXII E. Fabric 4 F: black, burnished; rim sherd.
 205. Square XXVIII F. Fabric 4 F/M: red; rim sherd.
 206. Square XXIII F. Fabric 4 F: red; shoulder sherd.
 207. Square XXIII G. Fabric 3 C: brown; base sherd.
 208. Square XXV H. Fabric 4 F/M: red; rim sherd.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Introduction

The Iron Age pottery from Slonk Hill consists of a large amount of coarse ware with a smaller and more diagnostic collection of finer wares. The pottery was excavated and recorded in pit groups, not in individual layers within the pits, and there were few recorded relationships between pits. Some of the pits had later Romano-British material in the top of the filling. The four groups of fabrics, which were defined, were not evenly distributed in quantity over the site, but most of the sherds recovered were of a fine to medium nature. The decorative techniques were varied, but restricted in use. Little information on the differential occupation of parts of the site or of chronological changes of occupation could be ascertained from the pottery evidence alone. The earliest pottery from the site was that from the barrow ditches and their interiors ranging from Neolithic to the late Bronze Age in date (p. 101). After the Iron Age there was evidence for occupation dating to the Romano-British period (p. 119). Since Slonk Hill had been continuously occupied for long periods, the pottery assemblages may be expected to incorporate residual material.

Previous schemes

The ceramic development of the Sussex region is well known in broad outline. The pre-wheel-turned pottery can be broadly divided into three phases.

The early phase is distinguished by the sharply angular bipartite and tripartite bowls and jars and sharp shouldered closed bowl forms. This early phase extends mainly from the seventh to the fifth centuries and it has been classified by Cunliffe (1974, Fig. A3) as his Kimmeridge/Caburn group.

The second or middle phase extends from the fourth to the third centuries B.C., and includes shouldered jars with more rounded profiles, some of which are finger-impressed, and footring bowls or jars. The range of forms is more considerable than in the earlier phase, and some subdivision may be possible when further stratified groups become known. The phase corresponds broadly to Burstow's Iron Age A2 (Wilson and Burstow 1948, Plate VI, Figs. 1A & 1B) and to Cunliffe's Park Brow/Caesar's Camp Group (Cunliffe 1974, Fig. A8).

The third or late phase can be defined as the saucepan pot phase. In addition to saucepan pot types, the associated forms include globular bead-rim jars, or larger jars with concave necks, but with similarly rounded profiles. This phase relates in part to the Iron Age AB phase of Burstow and to Cunliffe's Caburn/Cissbury style (Cunliffe 1974, Fig. A14).

Continuous development must have occurred between these three broad categories and within a large assemblage like that from Slonk Hill intermediate phases are likely to be recognisable.

The Slonk Hill pottery

The Slonk Hill assemblage will be discussed in terms of the three basic phases outlined above.

Early phase

The early phase can be related to a wide range of comparable material from several Sussex sites. The decoration, if any, is usually of finger-tip and finger-nail impressions. Pits containing pottery of this phase include: 1, 4, 5, 43, 51 and 52, and also trench 2. The later material from the Western Barrow Ditch may also be considered to be relevant. The total assemblage from these locations is not precisely typical of the very early Iron Age pottery from Sussex, although Pit 5 presents the classic early types. In Pit 4 the vessels, illustrated in Fig. 12 and numbered 2, 4, 6, 9 and possibly 8 are closer to the middle phase, but numbers 7 and 5 ought to be early in date. There are two possible reasons for this apparent admixture: either the early forms occur accidentally as rubbish survival within the later assemblages, or it may be that the pit group represents an intermediate stage between the early and middle phases.

The fabrics of the early pottery were usually of variable sized aggregate (from fine to coarse), the majority being defined as fabric 4 (chalk, flint and quartz sand), while the remainder were of the coarse fabric 1 (indeterminate grit or coarse sand). The Slonk Hill examples appear to be of a fairly fine nature in comparison with other early Sussex Iron Age pottery. Similar pottery has been found from Highdown (Wilson 1940) and Kingston Buci (Curwen 1931).

Middle phase

To the middle phase can be assigned the majority of the Slonk Hill groups. The diagnostic middle phase jar and bowl forms have more rounded, or S-shaped profiles. The assemblage closely resembles those found on a number of Sussex and Hampshire sites, including Torberry and Chalton (Cunliffe 1976), Muntham Court (unpublished) and Findon Park (Fox and Wolseley 1928). Internal divisions within the phase are difficult to define at Slonk Hill, although there are some distinct forms, such as flared-rim bowls, and omphalos-based vessels which should belong to an early stage, while the pedestal-based vessels should be later.

The pits which have produced the middle phase pottery include 13, 19, 25, 31, 42, 48, 57, 61, 66 and 68. Other features such as the burnt flint layer, layer 3, and the Northern Gully, can also be included in this phase.

The fabrics of the middle pottery are mostly fabric 4 (flint, chalk and quartz sand), but some are of fabric 1 (indeterminate grit or quartz sand) and there is a little of fabric 3 (chalk/shell particles) material. The size of the particles again varies considerably, although the fine to medium range is most common.

Late phase

The third or late phase, typified by saucepan pots, has been recognised from Pits 7, 9, 10, 33, 56, 64 and 73, and from Grave 1. The saucepan pot form shows some variety in form and decoration and the associated forms include the bead-rim, rounded-profile jar. The forms are well made, frequently burnished on the exterior and are usually fired to a dark brown or black colour. The variations in form and finish are fairly restricted in the Sussex region. The majority of the saucepan pots from Slonk Hill do, however, conform to the Sussex type in both form and decoration.

The decoration, where it occurs, is usually shallow tooled with a linear and/or curvilinear design arranged usually in bands below the rim and above the base. The fabrics of the saucepans are usually very fine, although some of the associated forms have a slightly coarser tempering.

Some of the fabrics contained grog. All four fabrics are known from the site, but with slightly more of the fabric 1 (quartz sand) and of the fabric 3 (chalk/shell) than previous phases.

The closest parallel to the late group at Slonk Hill is provided by Torberry, although other Sussex sites, such as the Caburn, Park Brow, the Trundle, and Findon Park, from which less material is available, are also comparable. The variations of form and decoration are fairly distinct. The saucepan pot type with a plain form, a simple rounded rim and a slightly dipped base, e.g. Fig. 12, 22, occurs in the Caburn assemblage. The rounded bead-rim form with grooved linear decoration below the rim and above and below the base is well represented, e.g. Fig. 12, 23, Fig. 15, 134 and Fig. 14, 136, with several parallels from Torberry. Saucepan pots with plain linear or banded decoration such as the lattice pattern on Fig. 12, 21 or the stabbed and shallow tooled decoration between grooves as on Fig. 17, 105 and Fig. 16, 164, are also well represented on other sites, for example banded decoration incorporating a wavy line is present at both the Trundle and Torberry. Most of the saucepan pots from Slonk Hill have general similarities to forms from other sites, except for Fig. 15, 117 which, with a combination of oval and linear motifs, is at present unique. Mixed curvilinear and linear decoration is, however, present among the Torberry pottery.

The Sussex saucepan pot assemblage is closely related to the material from various Hampshire sites, such as St. Catherine's Hill (Hawkes et al 1930) and Twyford Down (Stuart and Birkbeck 1936) and also to the Surrey sites like Hawks Hill (Hastings and Cunliffe 1966).

Summary

The pottery assemblage from Slonk Hill forms a cohesive group composed entirely of local forms and fabrics. Some of these, e.g. the saucepan pots, have been shown to have a fairly distinct and confined regional distribution (Cunliffe 1974, Fig. 3:5). The methods of decoration were fairly simple and restricted in use. The fabric range was limited, although some variation in the size of the aggregate occurred throughout the assemblage, the addition of substances such as grog causing further diversification of the tempering process.

The pottery assemblage suggested a break in occupation after the saucepan pot phase prior to the Roman period, as no late pre-Roman Iron Age pottery was found.

The Slonk Hill assemblage provides a useful collection and because of its large stratified groups, in an area where extremely few are known, adds considerably to the body of knowledge. The discussion here has been deliberately restricted, partly because of the lack of well-stratified material from elsewhere in the region, but largely because current excavations are likely to produce many more dependable groups in the near future and will quickly render detailed discussion at this stage obsolete.

When more sites like Slonk Hill have been excavated and the stratified groups of pottery studied, it will be possible to offer a far more detailed and meaningful discussion of Sussex pottery in its regional context.

Acknowledgements

I should like to thank the museum curators and the excavators for allowing me to look at the material in their care, and Professor Cunliffe for suggesting that I should write the report and for his help and criticisms during its preparations.

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THE ROMANO-BRITISH POTTERY

*by M. G. Fulford**Introduction*

With the exception of the pottery from the 'Boundary Ditch,' particularly from the bottom layer, and that from the fill of post holes 212/214, all the sherds show great abrasion and wear. None could be effectively reconstructed. It is probable that much of the pottery had been lying around for sometime before arriving at its final resting place. Perhaps it was dumped with manure and then continually churned by agriculture. This might be deduced from the amount of clearly second century material associated with pottery which can unequivocally be dated from the end of the third century.

Dating

As so few of the groups consist of contemporary pottery, little can be drawn from them except the dates of the latest pottery. This is made difficult by the absence of good evidence from Sussex sites. Apart from Fishbourne, Chichester and Portchester, on the eastern borders of Hampshire, there are no sites with useful, dated closed groups. To use samian is of only a little help since, although providing a *terminus post quem*, its high survival rate may date groups too early, for lack of well-dated alternatives. The problem becomes acute with the question of the date of the appearance of the hand-made 'grog-tempered, soapy' fabric which is found in almost every feature to yield pottery at Slonk Hill. It occurs from AD 280 at Portchester in a slightly different ware, but in Sussex there are no sites to give such sound *termini post quem*. Its absence from the largely late first to Antonine assemblages from Hardham, Alfoldean, Wiggonholt and Angmering may serve as general *termini post quos*. At West Blatchington it occurs regularly in features dated from the late second century through the third century; coins at that site date no later than 310. However at Slonk, this fabric is associated with Antonine samian as well as appearing as an important component in fourth century assemblages, such as that from the post holes 212/214, dated post 378. Thus, at present, it can only be dated from the beginning of the third century to the end of the fourth. Over the site as a whole, where second century material is present as well as the grog-tempered fabric, continuity of activity can be demonstrated from c100 to the end of the fourth century.

Sources

The majority of the pottery at Slonk Hill of all periods is of local origin, although precise sources cannot, in most cases, be demonstrated. Imported wares are limited to a little samian mostly of Antonine date and central Gaulish origin. From within Britain only Dorset black-burnished wares make a major impression; in one group (Pit 32) they amount to more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the assemblage. In the later period New Forest and Oxfordshire wares add up to very little; only in one group did they account for as much as 5% of the assemblage (post holes 212/214).

Although sources for the grey wares are almost impossible to guess at since very similar fabrics are ubiquitous in southern England, the distribution of the Sussex group of hand-made, grog-tempered types excludes Chichester and Pevensey, but incorporates Wiggonholt, Hassocks, West Blatchington, etc., in central Sussex. Similarly the closest parallels for the finer black-coated and roulette decorated wares (Boundary Ditch) are from Wiggonholt and Hardham rather than Fishbourne and Chichester. Pottery which was almost definitely supplied

through Chichester,¹ such as that from the Rowlands Castle kilns is very rare at Slonk. The inference is that the market most extensively used by Slonk Hill was *not* at Chichester, but somewhere between that town and Pevensey, otherwise more of the coarse wares found at those sites would have occurred at Slonk.

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THE BOUNDARY DITCH

With the exception of the vessels from the bottom layer of this ditch, the pottery from the upper fills ranged in date from the late first to the fourth century. A date for the primary fill is provided by a sherd of samian of Trajanic-Hadrianic date (c 100-130), while that for the final filling of the feature must lie in the fourth century or later.

Owing to the number of demonstrably residual sherds in layers 1 and 2, no quantification of the pottery from this feature has been attempted, as it would provide a meaningless picture of the proportions of fabrics represented over the site during at least three centuries.

Layer 3

Samian: Dr. 37; rim, Martres de Veyre, Trajanic-Hadrianic.

Beaker

1. With bulbous body; a grey, fine micaceous fabric with a black surface. The latter is burnished all over outside with two bands of rouletting on the upper half of the body. Fragments of a second, very similar vessel were found. Fig. 18, 1.

Bowls

1. With a collar around the shoulder; fine, grey sandy fabric with an all-over black slip, burnished outside above the carination; decoration of wheel-turned rouletting on the collar; cf 2, 3 and 4; cf *Alfoldean*, 13, AD 70-150; *Hardham*, pl III, 48, AD 75-160; *Wiggonholt 1964*, Fig. 13, 78
Fig. 18, 2.
2. With a collar around the shoulder; fine brown sandy fabric with an all-over black slip; burnished all over outside; decoration of wheel-turned rouletting above and below the shoulder; graffiti below the rim; cf 1, 3 and 4. Fig. 18, 3.
3. As 2 and 4. Fig. 18, 4.
4. Fragment; as 2 and 3. Fig. 18, 5.
5. With carination and flat, out-bent rim; grey, medium sandy fabric with rare larger quartz grits (sub-rounded; 1-2mm.); grey surface with no visible treatment; cf 6; *Fishbourne*, 203, from AD 75. Fig. 18, 6.
6. As 5; brown, medium sandy fabric, burnished outside and on the rim; sherds of this vessel were found in layers 1 and 2. Fig. 18, 7.

¹ I. Hodder, *S.A.C.* vol. 112 (1974), pp. 86-96.

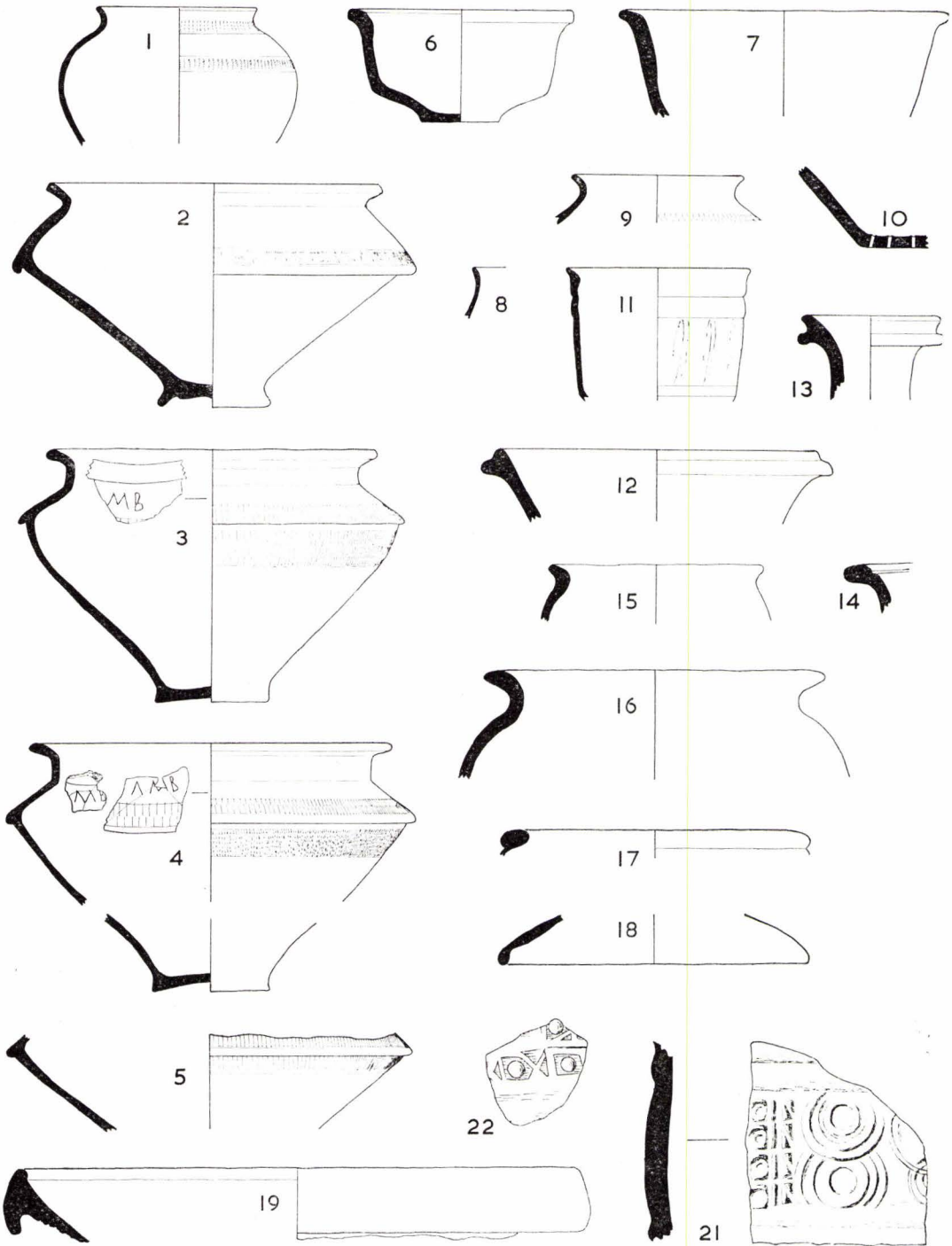


FIG. 18. Romano-British pottery 1-19(1/4), 21-22 (1/1)

Jar/Beaker

1. Fine, grey micaceous fabric with trace of a black slip outside; ?rim of poppy-beaker; at *Fishbourne* (type 267) from AD 75, or type 69, AD 64-85+; *Wiggonholt*, Fig. 13, 76-8, from c 65. Fig. 18, 8.
2. Fabric as 1 with traces of an external black slip and rouletting; cf *Fishbourne*, 68, AD 64-85+. Fig. 18, 9.
3. (not illustrated). With everted rim, probably intrusive here; hand-made, grog-tempered fabric with burnished surface. Vessels in a very similar fabric and form are found at Portchester from c 280-400. The Sussex evidence, though not based on stratified evidence, suggests a range for this fabric from the end of the second or early third through the fourth century (see above, p. 119).

Strainer

1. Base; brown, medium sandy fabric with a grey to brown surface; some evidence of burnishing outside. Fig. 18, 10.

*Layer 2**Fine wares*

Samian: Dr. 30; Lezoux, ?Hadrianic or early Antonine; Cupid pouring a libation

Dr. 37; Antonine, CG (footring).

Dr. 37; decorated frag., Antonine, CG.

Fine wares

1. Beaker (not ill.). *New Forest*, fabric 1a, type 27. 11-14, AD 270-350.
2. Bowl: white, moderately sandy fabric with a black slip over traces of a leaf motif in barbotine; possibly Nene Valley.

Bowls

1. Imitation Dr. 29/37; fine, brown, micaceous fabric with smoothed surfaces; vertical, scored decoration; for the fabric, cf the bowls in layer 3. Cf *Angmering*, Fig. 25, 20, AD 70-160; *Wiggonholt 1964*, Fig. 10, 33, AD 110-65; Fig. 15, 123 from an Antonine pit. Fig. 18, 11.
2. With flanged rim; brown, medium sandy fabric with a black slip all over; burnished inside and on the flange; cf *Portchester*, type 85, AD 280-400. Fig. 18, 12.

Dish

1. BB1: body sherd of uncertain form (not ill.).

Flagon

1. With a pulley-wheel rim; very fine, light brown fabric with a thick grey core; light brown surface with traces of a thin, red-brown wash; cf *Wiggonholt 1964*, Fig. 10, 28-9, AD 110-165. Fig. 18, 13.

Jars

1. With an everted rim; grey sandy fabric, no surface treatment visible; a groove inside the rim. A second very similar. Fig. 18, 14.
2. With everted rim; grog-tempered fabric; traces of smooth burnishing on the rim and outer surface. 8 others similar; cf *Portchester*, type 123, AD 280-400. Fig. 18, 15.
3. With everted rim; brown, medium sandy fabric with a grey core; no surface treatment apparent. Fig. 18, 16.
4. With bead rim; brown to grey sandy fabric; no surface treatment visible. Fig. 18, 17.

Lid

1. Grey, medium sandy fabric; untreated surface. Fig. 18, 18.

Mortaria

1. With hammer flange; fine pink to cream fabric with cream surfaces; very finely crushed quartz trituration grits. Cf *Clausentum*, Fig. 25, 12, from AD 150-60; *Fishbourne* 291, C2-C3. Fig. 18, 19.

Platter

1. Gallo-Belgic derivative; grey, medium sandy fabric with rare, large rounded grits. as Fig. 19, 27.

Misc.

- 1-2. Body sherds in fine light brown fabric with impressed decoration; otherwise plain surface. Cf *Wiggonholt 1964*, Fig. 15, 143. Fig. 18, 21-2.

Layer 1 and unstratified

Samian: Dr. 37; Flavian/Trajanic, SG.

Dr. 18/31; Flavian/Trajanic, SG(1); CG(1).

Dr. 31; Antonine, CG.

Dr. 45; Antonine, CG.

Dr. 79; Antonine, CG.

Beaker

1. With globular body; fine grey sandy fabric with traces of a black slip and bands of rouletting on the body; cf *Fishbourne*, Fig. 89, from AD 64. Fig. 19, 23.

Bowl

1. With carination; fine, brown sandy and micaceous fabric with a thick grey core. No trace of surface treatment except rouletting below the carination; cf generally the illustrations of early imitation samian, c75-160 at Hardham, pl. 2. Fig. 19, 24.

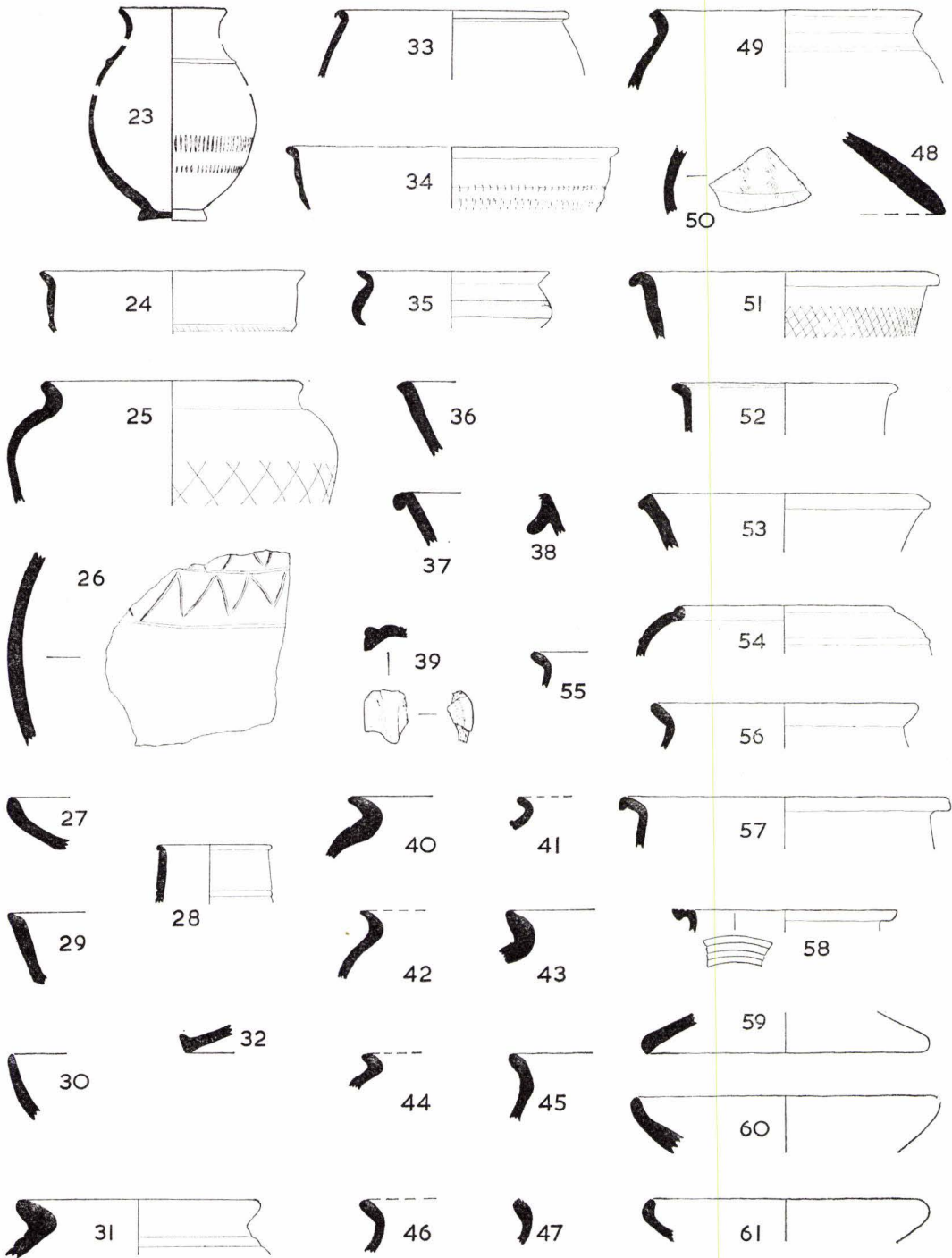


FIG. 19. Romano-British pottery 23-61 (↓)

Dish

1. BB1; *Gillam*, 308, AD 130-180.

Jars

1. With everted rim; grey sandy fabric; unslipped surface with traces of a batch mark. Rowlands Castle, cf *Fishbourne*, 313, third century.
2. With everted rim; grog-tempered; burnished on the rim and the body; traces of lattice decoration below the shoulder; cf *Portchester*, type 123, AD 280-400. Fig. 19, 25.
3. Body sherd of a large vessel; grey medium sandy fabric with a partially burnished outer surface; over the latter is a pattern of incised decoration. Fig. 19, 26.

Platter

1. Gallo-Belgic derivative; grey medium sandy fabric with a light brown untreated surface; a second similar. Fig. 19, 27.

Features Associated with the Boundary Ditch

Like the boundary ditch, the final filling took place in the fourth century.

Samian: Dr. 30; chip only, Antonine, CG.

Dr. 31; Antonine, CG.

Beaker

1. *New Forest*, fabric 1a, type 44, c300-50. Fig. 19, 28.

Dish

1. Brown, medium sandy fabric with a plain surface Fig. 19, 29.
2. Grog-tempered; burnished surface all over. Fig. 19, 30.

Jar

1. Grog-tempered fabric; all outer surfaces burnished; cf *Portchester*, type 123, AD 280-400; cf *West Blatchington*, pl. XI, 27, third century. Fig. 19, 31.

Lid

1. Dark grey sandy fabric; untreated surface. Fig. 19, 32.

LAYERS SEALING PLOUGH GROOVES

These layers contain pottery ranging in date from the end of the first/beginning of the second to the fourth century. Representative rim sherds appear below.

Samian:

- frag: Trajanic, Martre de Veyre.
 Dr. 18/31 early C2, SG.
 Curle 15: Antonine, CG.
 Dr. 18/31R: Antonine, CG (re-used as a counter).
 Dr. 31: early Antonine, CG.
 Dr. 31: Antonine, CG; stamped SOLI NVS.
 Dr. 30/37: Antonine, CG.
 Dr. 45: Antonine, CG.
 Dr. 79: Antonine, CG.
 frag: mid C2-C3, EG.

*Colour-coated wares**Beakers*

1. Roughcast sherd with a brown fabric and slip, Colchester, C2.
2. Base and body sherds with black, glossy slip, Rhineland and/or Lezoux, late C2 to mid C3.
3. Nene Valley, with traces of barbotine decoration, mid C2-C3. Fig. 19, 33.
4. Body sherd of *New Forest*, fabric 1a, type 27, AD 270-400.

Amphora

1. Body sherd of Spanish globular amphora (Dressel 20).

Bowls

1. Light grey, very fine, micaceous sandy fabric with traces of a black slip and rouletting; cf rim of *Angmering*, Fig. 25, 20, AD 75-160. Fig. 19, 34.
2. Very fine, grey micaceous fabric with traces of a burnished brown slip all over with rouletted decoration; cf *Hardham*, pl II, cAD 75-160. Fig. 19, 35.
3. With flanged rim; grey sandy fabric with traces of a burnished black slip outside; as *Portchester*, type 85, AD 280-400 (2).

Dishes

1. Grog-tempered fabric with slight traces of burnishing all over. Fig. 19, 36.
2. With rolled rim; grey, medium sandy fabric without surface treatment; cf *Fishbourne*, 217, c100-30. Fig. 19, 37.
3. Grog-tempered. as Fig. 19, 30.
4. Plain; dark grey medium sandy fabric and black slip; as *Portchester*, type 107. 11-14, AD 280-400.

Jar

1. With everted rim; grog-tempered. as Fig. 19, 25.

Flagon

1. With flanged rim; hard, yellow sandy fabric with a yellow wash; cf *Fishbourne*, 298, common AD 100-50. Fig. 19, 38.

Misc.

Fragments of a pipeclay figurine, probably a cock and from Central Gaul, second century.
Fig. 19, 39.

PIT 8 (square XX B)

As this was a closed group the pottery was weighed according the main fabric groups:

Samian	460 g	(28%)
Grog-tempered	550 g	(33.4%)
Grey, medium sandy wares	625 g	(38%)
Grey, fine sandy wares	10 g	(0.6%)
Total	1645 g	

From the samian (below) this group has a *terminus post quem* of c140-60 at the earliest. However the earliest other occurrence of grog-tempered fabrics with a secure *terminus post quem* is from c280 at Portchester; admittedly there the fabric was slightly different (see p. 119). With the high survival rate of Antonine samian it is difficult to choose between these two dates for a date for this pit group; the typology of the sherds is of little help.

Samian; Dr. 18/31R: Antonine or early Antonine; CG; 2 sherds.
Curle 15; Antonine or early Antonine; CG.

Jars

- 1-5. With everted rim; grog-tempered with burnished outer surfaces; as *Portchester* type 123, AD 280-400;
West Blatchington, third century. Fig. 19, 40-44.
6-8. With everted rim; grey, medium sandy fabric with untreated surfaces. Fig. 19, 45-47.

FOUR IRON AGE PITS DISTURBED DURING THE ROMAN PERIOD

The pottery was weighed according to its main fabric in each pit.

*Pit 57**Layer 2*

Samian	10 g	(2.6%)
Grog-tempered fabric	50 g	(13.2%)
Grey, medium sandy wares	320 g	(84.2%)

Samian: frags., Antonine, CG.

Lid

1. Dark grey medium sandy fabric; no surface treatment. Fig. 19, 48.

Jar

1. With everted rim; grog-tempered fabric. Fig. 19, 49.

Layer 3

Grog-tempered fabric	40 g	(10.7%)
Grey to buff, medium sandy wares	310 g	(82.7%)
Grey, fine sandy wares with slips	25 g	(6.7%)

Dish

1. With beaded rim; yellow medium sandy fabric with no surface treatment. Fig. 21, 104.

Jar

1. With everted rim; brown medium sandy fabric with no surface treatment. Fig. 21, 105.

Pit 58

Grog-tempered fabric	170 g	(68%)
Grey, medium sandy wares	80 g	(32%)

Dish

1. Grey, medium sandy fabric with a partial white slip; as *Portchester* type 107. 11-14, AD 280-400.

Pit 64

Grog-tempered fabric	190 g	(76%)
Grey, medium sandy wares	60 g	(24%)

Pit 73

Grog-tempered fabric	400 g	(24.1%)
Grey, medium sandy wares	1220 g	(73.5%)
Brown to grey fine sandy wares (unslipped)	40 g	(2.4%)

Bowl

1. Body sherd only ?imitating Dr. 37; fine, micaceous, brown fabric with a grey core; rouletting and impressed diamond decoration. Fig. 19, 50.

Dish

1. With rolled rim; grey, medium sandy fabric with a buff surface; form as *Gillam* 307, AD 120-60. Fig. 19, 51.
2. With outbent and reeded rim; grey, medium sandy fabric; traces of a black slip outside. Fig. 19, 52.
3. With thickened rim; red-brown sandy fabric with an untreated surface. Fig. 19, 53.

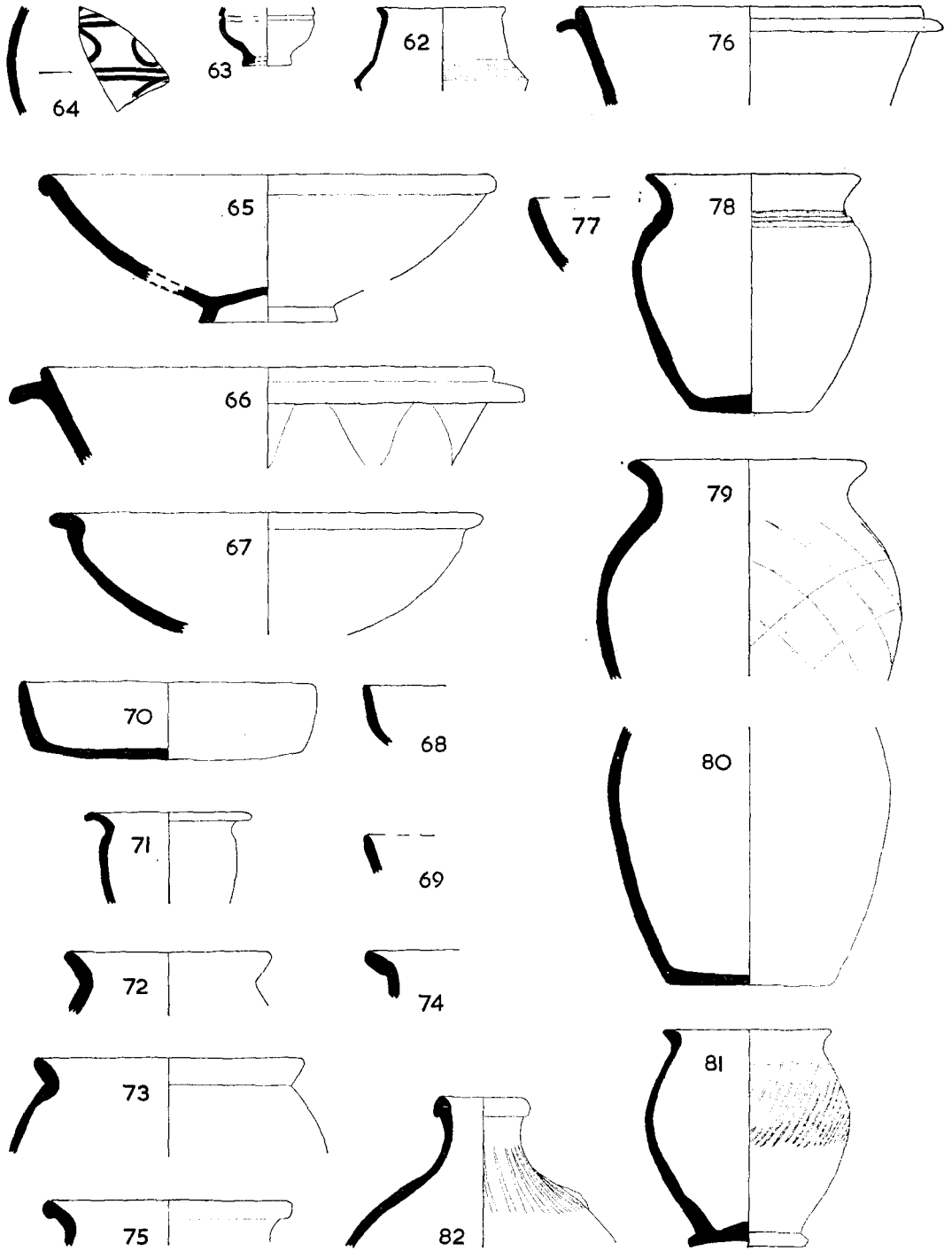


FIG. 20. Romano-British pottery 62-82 (2)

Jars

1. With bead rim; grey, medium sandy fabric; no surface treatment. Fig. 19, 54.
2. With everted rim; grey, medium sandy fabric with traces of a grey slip. Fig. 19, 55.
3. With outbent rim; brown, medium sandy fabric with no surface treatment. Fig. 19, 56.
4. With flattened rim; grey, medium sandy fabric; no surface treatment. Fig. 19, 57.
5. With reeded rim; grey, medium sandy fabric; no surface treatment. Fig. 19, 58.

Lid

1. Grey, medium sandy fabric with black to brown untreated surfaces. Fig. 19, 59.

Platter

1. Gallo-Belgic derivative; black, medium sandy fabric; untreated surface. Fig. 19, 60.
2. As no. 1; black surface burnished inside. Fig. 19, 61.

Date

With the exception of Pit 58 which has a late Roman type, the dating rests on the presence of the grog-tempered fabric whose dating has been discussed above (p. 119). It is noticeable that the proportion of this fabric to the others in Pits 58 and 64 is much higher than in the other two. Equally striking in Pit 73 is the predominance of grey ware types of 'second' century date. It may be that in Pits 57 and 73 we have essentially later second to third century assemblages, where grog-tempered pottery is beginning to appear while in Pits 58 and 64, where there is at least one late sherd, and proportionately more-grog-tempered pottery, we have somewhat later groups, perhaps third to fourth century in date and comparable with post holes 212 and 214 (below, p. 129).

PIT 32 (square XXXIV D)

The pottery was divided into fabric groups and weighed.

Samian	100 g	3.4%
New Forest	20 g	0.7%
Other colour-coated fabrics	430 g	14.6%
Black-burnished (1)	750 g	25.4%
Grog-tempered fabric	480 g	16.3%
Grey, medium sandy fabric	1170 g	39.6%
Total	2950 g	

Samian: Dr. 30; style of Doeccus, Lezoux, c160-90.
Dr. 31R; Antonine ?EG.
Dr. 45; Antonine, CG.

*Colour-Coated Ware**Beakers*

1. With globular body; fine yellow fabric with a reddish-yellow slip; rouletting on the body. Fig. 20, 62.
2. Base; *New Forest*, fabric 1a (very hard), type 30. 6-12, AD 300-400. Fig. 20, 63.
3. Base of globular beaker; reddish-yellow fabric with a matt black slip; Oxfordshire.

Bowls, etc.

1. Bowl or jar; sherd in a fine grey sandy fabric with a brown to red untreated surface partially covered with a white-painted pattern. Fig. 20, 64.
2. Imitating Dr. 31; a sandy brown fabric with traces of a burnished red slip. Fig. 20, 65.

*Other types**Bowls*

1. BB1; as *Portchester* type 85, AD 280-400. Fig. 20, 66.
2. Black, medium sandy fabric with no surface treatment; cf *Fishbourne* 343, from c270; *West Blatchington*, pl 6, 26, late third to fourth century. Fig. 20, 67.

Dishes

- 1-2. Grog-tempered fabric, with burnished surfaces. Fig. 20, 68-9.
3. BB1; as *Portchester* type 107. 7-10, AD 280-400. Fig. 20, 70.

Jars

1. BB1; as *Portchester* type 126 var., AD 280-400. Fig. 20, 71.
2. Grog-tempered; cf *Portchester* type 123, AD 280-400. Fig. 20, 72.
3. Light grey medium sandy fabric with untreated surface; possibly a Rowlands Castle type; cf *Portchester* types 140-142, AD 280-400; or *Fishbourne* 313, third century. Fig. 20, 73.
4. With traces of concentric grooves running around the inside of the rim; grey, medium sandy fabric with untreated surfaces. Fig. 20, 74.
5. With everted rim; grey, medium sandy fabric, with untreated surfaces; cf *Portchester* type 137. 1-3, fourth century. Fig. 20, 75.

Date

The New Forest sherd gives a *terminus post quem* of at least c300 for the filling of this pit.

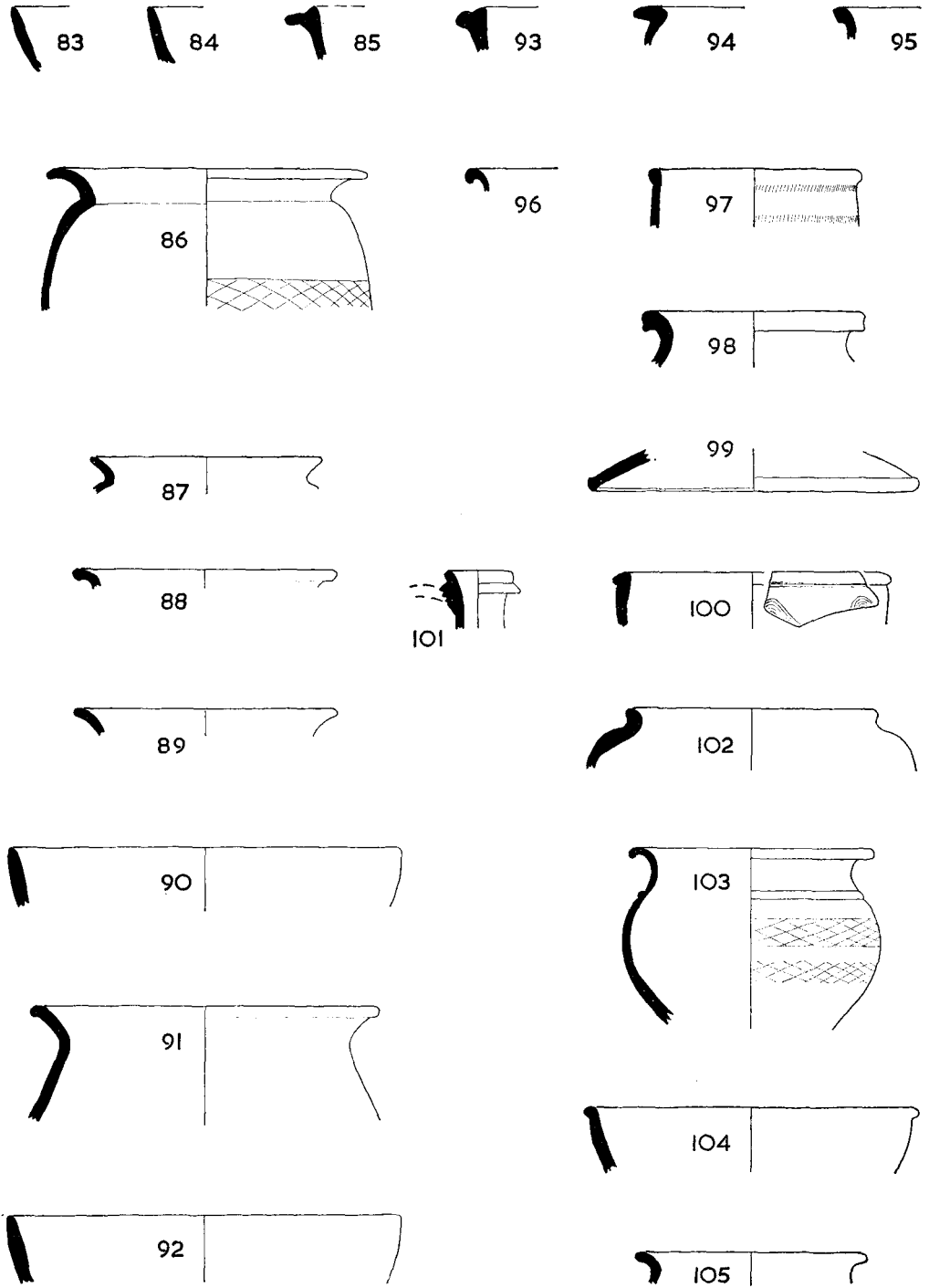


FIG. 21. Romano-British pottery 83-105 (↓)

POST HOLES 212 and 214 (square XXXIV D)

Date

From the coins the pottery has a *terminus post quem* of AD 378 for deposition. The pottery was divided by fabric and weighed accordingly:

New Forest	10 g	(0.5%)
Oxfordshire	100 g	(4.6%)
Black-burnished (1)	60 g	(2.8%)
Grog-tempered	1215 g	(56.3%)
Grey, medium sandy fabric	775 g	(35.9%)

Total	2160 g	
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Colour-Coated wares

1. *New Forest*: red slip sherd, post c270.
2. *Oxfordshire*: Base of a red slip bowl with traces of rouletting; as *Portchester* type 36, post c325.

Other types

Bowls

1. BB1; as *Portchester* type 85, AD 280-400. Fig. 20, 76.

Dishes

1. Grog-tempered fabric; as *Portchester* type 107. 1-6, AD 280-400. Fig. 20, 77.

Jars

1. Grog-tempered fabric; smooth-burnished outside. Fig. 20, 78.
2. Grog-tempered fabric; with traces of a lattice-burnished pattern on the body. Fig. 20, 79.
3. Grog-tempered fabric; burnishing on the body. Fig. 20, 80.
4. Grey, medium sandy fabric with diagonal burnished decoration on the body. Fig. 20, 81.

Flagon

Grey, moderately fine sandy fabric with a black slip outside and over the rim; there are traces of vertical stroke-burnishing on the neck and shoulder with a band of smooth burnishing below. Form as *Fishbourne* 378, post AD 270; *Portchester* 159, perhaps c300-50. Fig. 20, 82.

EASTERN BARROW DITCH

Post Holes

There was very little pottery from the post holes, but a secure *terminus post quem* for their filling is provided by late second century samian (below). The possibility that the post holes were not filled by the third or fourth century is raised by the presence of BB1 dish sherds and a grog-tempered sherd. The former occurs on Hadrian's Wall from AD 190 to the fourth century (it is common at *Portchester*), while the latter could date from anywhere between the late second and late third centuries until the fourth century. The earliest possible date is c190.

Samian: Dr. 18/31; Hadrianic, CG (2 sherds).
 Dr. 30 or 37; Hadrianic, CG.
 Dr. 30 or 37; Antonine, CG.
 Dr. 31; Antonine, CG.
 Dr. 45; Antonine, CG.
 Dr. 79 or Ludovici TX; Antonine, CG.
 frag, mid C2-C3, EG.

Other types

Dishes

- 1-2. BB1; as *Gillam* 329, AD 190-340. Fig. 21, 83-4.

EASTERN BARROW DITCH

Layer 2

Samian: ?Dr. 18; late Flavian, SG.
 Dr. 18/31; Hadrianic, CG.
 Dr. 37; Antonine, CG (cf *Central Gaulish Potters*, pl. 158, 15).

There was a large number of very abraded sherds which ranged in date from the later first to the fourth century. Since the date of filling of this ditch is provided by the pottery from layer 3, nothing is served by publishing details of the sherds from this layer.

Layer 3

The fabrics were weighed from this group as its date of deposition could be limited to the fourth century.

Black-burnished (1)	90 g	(17.0%)
Grog-tempered	180 g	(34.0%)
Grey, medium sandy wares	260 g	(49.0%)

Total	530 g	
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Bowls

1. With flanged rim; grey, medium sandy fabric with an apparently untreated surface; as *Portchester* type 85, AD 280-400. Fig. 21, 85.

Jars

1. BB1; as *Portchester* type 126, AD 280-400. Fig. 21, 86.
2. With everted rim; grey, medium sandy fabric with an untreated surface; form as *Portchester* type 129, AD 280-400. Fig. 21, 87.
3. With everted rim; dark grey, medium sandy fabric with an untreated exterior; cf *Portchester* type 136, Fourth century. Fig. 21, 88.

*Features associated with or adjacent to Eastern Barrow Ditch**Grave 3*

This feature contained grog-tempered sherds and the rim of a jar in a grey, medium sandy fabric with no surface treatment; cf *Portchester* type 131, AD 280-400. Fig. 21, 89.
It was filled in the third to fourth century, or later.

Disturbed Pit under Eastern Barrow

This feature contained Roman sherds of second to fourth century date, including a sherd of an Oxford mortarium, post c270, as well as sherds of a medieval green-glazed pitcher of C14 date.

Pit 27 (square XXVII E)

This feature contained grog-tempered sherds and the rim of a BB1 dish, similar to a type found from c190 to the fourth century on Hadrian's Wall (*Gillam*, 329). Fig. 21, 90.

Adjacent to Pit 27

Jar: with everted rim; dark grey to black, medium sandy fabric with sparse larger sub-rounded quartz inclusions up to 3mm size. Fig. 21, 91.

Pit 28 (square XXVII E)

This feature contained grog-tempered sherds and the rim of a BB1 dish, as in Pit 27 of late C2 to fourth century date. Fig. 21, 92.

WESTERN BARROW DITCH

Layer 2

The pottery from this layer was divided by fabric and weighed.

Samian	30 g	(4.0%)
Oxfordshire	10 g	(1.3%)
Other colour-coated wares incl. Nene Valley	10 g	(1.3%)
Black-burnished (1)	50 g	(6.7%)
Grog-tempered wares	220 g	(29.3%)
Grey, medium sandy wares	430 g	(57.3%)
Total	750 g	

Samian: Dr. 30 or 37; late Antonine, CG.
frag; mid C2-C3, EG.

*Oxfordshire**Bowl*

1. Rim fragment with traces of rouletting; as *Portchester* type 35.1, from c325.
2. Imitation Dr. 31; c260-400.

*Other types**Bowls*

1. With flanged rim; grey, very coarse sandy fabric, with a yellow-brown, untreated surface; cf *Portchester* type 87. 1-2, from c325. Fig. 21, 93.
2. With inturned rim; grey, medium sandy fabric with black slip all over; cf *Portchester* type 89. 1-2, AD 280-400. Fig. 21, 94.
3. With flanged rim; grog-tempered (not ill.).
4. With flanged rim; grey, medium sandy fabric; as *Portchester* type 85, 280-400.

Jars

1. With everted rim; *Portchester*, fabric D, type 137, 4-6, from c325. Fig. 21, 95.
2. Light grey, medium sandy fabric with a plain surface. Fig. 21, 96.
3. Grog-tempered (not ill.).

Date

From the pottery, this ditch was filled in the fourth century, probably after c325 on the basis of the Oxfordshire type. The pottery from the layer which sealed the ditch cannot refine this date.

Layer 1

The details of the coarse wares have not been recorded, but the samian is listed for its possible intrinsic interest.

Dr. 31 or 18/31R; late Flavian/early Trajanic; SG.

Dr. 29; Flavian, SG.

Dr. 37; running scroll decoration with leaf tip in the field, bird facing right; Sacer group; Lezoux; Hadrianic.

Dr. 37; style of Cinnamus; Lezoux, 150-80 (2 frags).

Dr. 31; Antonine, CG.

Dr. 31R; Antonine, EG, ?Rheinzabern.

Dr. 33; Antonine, CG.

Dr. 45; probably Antonine, CG.

Other fine wares

1. Oxfordshire; imitation Dr. 31, 260-400.
2. Pevensey ware; base of red slip bowl; fourth century.

PIT 62 (square XXXIII D)

The pottery from the feature was divided according to fabric and weighed.

Oxfordshire	50 g	(9.3%)
Other colour-coated wares	5 g	(0.9%)
Black-burnished (1)	10 g	(1.9%)
Grog-tempered wares	200 g	(37.0%)
Grey, medium sandy wares, etc.	200 g	(37.0%)
Fabric D	75 g	(13.9%)

Total 540 g

Oxfordshire

Bowl: with red slip and rouletted decoration; cf *Portchester* type 35.4, from c325.
Fig. 21, 97.

Other types

1. Jar: *Portchester*, fabric D, type 137. 4-6, from c325. Fig. 21, 98.
 2. Lid: Grey, medium sandy fabric with no surface treatment. Fig. 21, 99.
- Other types present include one flanged bowl in the grog-tempered fabric, and another in a grey sandy fabric (as *Portchester* type 85).

Date

This pit was filled after c325. Fig. 21, 97.

OTHER FEATURES

Only four sherds were considered worth drawing from these features.

1. Bowl: reddish-yellow, fine sandy fabric with an all-over black slip on wavy, comb decoration. The fabric is unfamiliar, although the form is reminiscent of the late Roman red slip types. (From Roman surface layer square XXV C) Fig. 21, 100.
2. Flagon: with flanged rim; medium grey sandy fabric with sparse rounded quartz (2-3mm.); no slip; as *Portchester* 162. 1-2, fourth century (from a post hole in square XXXIII D). Fig. 21, 101.
3. Jar: with bead rim; grog-tempered fabric with burnished surfaces (from Roman surface layer square XXXIV C) Fig. 21, 102.
4. Jar: with everted rim and cordon on the shoulder; grey, fine sandy fabric with two bands of lattice-burnished decoration bordered by smooth-burnishing (From Pit 60 layer 3 square XXXII H). Fig. 21, 103.

SEEDS

A systematic search for seeds through the contents of all features was not a practical proposition. Samples from two features at the northern edge of the settlement however yielded seeds which were examined by Mr. J. R. B. Arthur, to whom our thanks are due.

Associated with a La Tene I brooch in Pit 61, square XXVI H: One grain Naked Barley *Hordeum vulgare* L.

From a post hole in square XXIII H. Iron Age, but not more closely dateable: Three grains of Spelt Wheat *Triticum spelta* L.; one glume fragment of the same species; one seed of Corn Gromwell *Lithospermum arvense* L. (Before the introduction of chemicals Corn Gromwell was a common weed in corn crops).

ANTLER Fig. 22, 1

1. Antler of red deer with all the points broken or cut off. Marks left by a cutting tool at the proximal end suggest that this was a deliberate adaptation. From Pit 59 (Fig. 8). Perhaps pre-Iron Age.

BONE OBJECTS Fig. 22, 2-4

2. Comb with five teeth remaining of the original nine. Decorated with deeply-incised straight lines across the wider end of the shaft. The other decoration, consisting of circles and dots, is much shallower. Parts of the surface have been polished with use and some of the decoration on the disc end is worn away. There are three roughly made indentations just above the teeth. Fine indentations at the centres of the circular decorations imply the use of dividers or some similar tool. The bone utilised was from an animal as large as a horse or an ox. Found on the bottom of Pit 73 in square XXI H. Iron Age 3rd phase.
3. Decorated burnt fragment, possibly part of a comb, but made from a bone smaller than those usually selected for this purpose. From Pit 7, square XXVI A. Iron Age 3rd phase.
4. Bone 'gouge' made from the distal end of the tibia of a sheep. What remains of the butt end shows that a hole had been bored through it at right angles to the 'blade.' Use during weaving, in conjunction with a bone comb, has been suggested.¹ From Pit 57, square XXII G. Iron Age 2nd phase.

¹ C. M. Crowfoot, 'The bone "Gouges" of Maiden Castle and other sites,' *Antiquity*, vol. 19 (1945), p. 157.

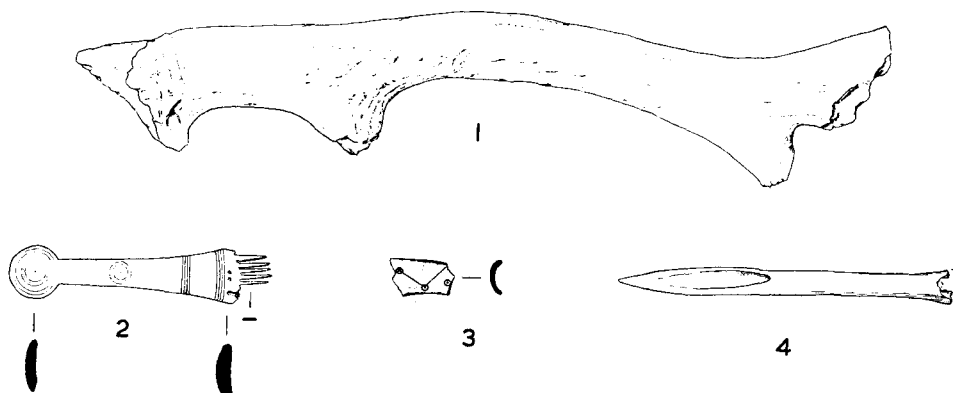


FIG. 22. Small finds: Antler 1, bone objects 2-4 ($\frac{1}{4}$)

ANIMAL REMAINS

*by Pauline Sheppard**Summary*

The animal bones recovered during the excavations at Slonk Hill were examined in two separate groups. The first group being those from the excavations of 1968-71, the second group from the excavations of 1972-74. Three main periods of occupation were recognised although there were sub-divisions within these periods. Bones from the first excavation were mainly from the Iron Age period, those from the second excavation were predominantly Roman. Proportionate comparison of the species found gave similar results for both the areas excavated. In other words, the main domestic species of animals were present in similar proportions to each other, throughout the excavated areas. (Table 2).

Material and methods

A total of 2,188 bone fragments was examined, of which two thirds and four more or less complete skulls were identified as to species. Bones not identified consisted of fragments of long-bones, ribs, vertebrae and skull too fragmentary for positive identification. Table 1 shows the number of bones and species represented in each period; the skulls being tabulated separately.

The minimum number of individuals represented (Chaplin, 1971) and age at death were calculated for each unit within a period. A unit was taken to be the finds from one pit or feature, or layer where a clear distinction was apparent between two consecutive layers. Where cross-matches were found between layers they were treated as one unit. The size and state of fusion of the epiphyses of long-bones as well as the stage of tooth eruption in mandibles were used to calculate the number of neonate, weanling and juvenile individuals. Mature and immature individuals were calculated by using the state of eruption of the lower third molar and state of fusion of the late-fusing bones.

All measurements are shown in millimetres. Lengths of long-bones are the maximum obtainable at right-angles to the long axis of the shafts. Mid-shaft widths are minimum. Epiphyseal widths are maximum widths taken at right-angles to the posterior surface of the bone at the furthest extremity of the articular surfaces. Molar row lengths are taken from the anterior alveolar margin of the initial premolar to the most posterior point of the alveolar margin of the third molar.

Using Silver's data (Silver I.A. 1969), the bones were classified into five groups:

- Group 1 Foetal or neonate.
- Group 2 Weanling.
- Group 3 Juvenile.
- Group 4 Immature.
- Group 5 Mature.

There is some degree of overlap between these broad categories particularly between the older weanlings and young juveniles, and between the immature and fully mature adults, due to the scattered and fragmented nature of the material as close correlations between the mandibles and long bones could seldom be established.

Figure 23 gives the proportion of bone types identified for each of the three principle domestic species found in the Iron Age and Roman deposits respectively. Fragments of mandibles and loose teeth were the most numerous bones present, and from the mandibles and loose lower third molars an absolute minimum number of individuals represented was calculated. (Table 3).

The number of fused and unfused specimens in each of the fusion groups is shown in Table 4.

The majority of the bones were in a good state of preservation on excavation, and it would appear that the fragmentation, loss of epiphyses and longitudinal splitting took place prior to final deposition. There was abundant evidence of gnawing. The bones from the pits had a clean white chalky appearance, those from the ditch were fissured, weathered and root-marked.

The material from the Iron Age deposits of the first excavation was less disturbed than that from any of the Roman deposits. Except for pits containing less than five bones, every feature produced sheep bones, cattle were represented by at least one bone in every deposit except four of the Iron Age, phase three. Pig were present in most of the early Iron Age and the Roman features, but sparsely represented in the Iron Age, phase three, mainly by loose teeth. Occasional primary bone deposits were recognised, for example, Pit 9 contained the fragmented skulls of two lambs. Pit 59 contained the remains of three pig skulls, and one Roman pit in the Western Barrow Ditch contained the remains of eleven lambs and five young pigs.

Disarticulated human bones were found in both Iron Age and Roman contexts.

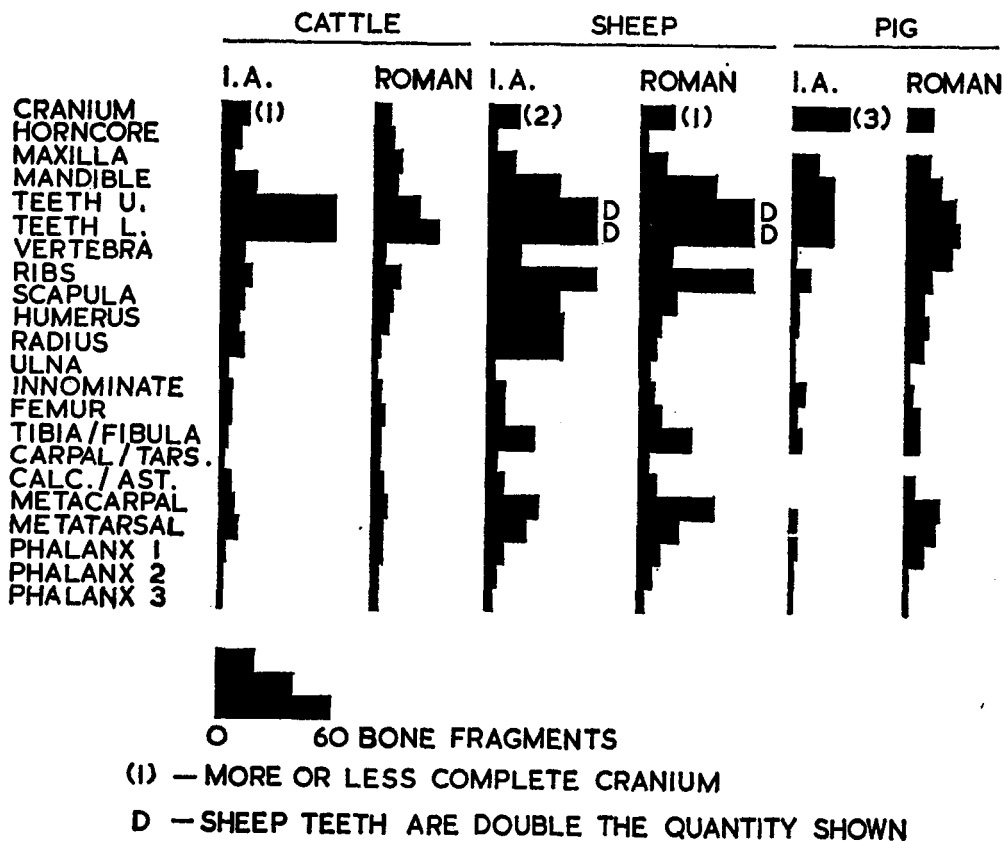


FIG. 23. Skeletal elements identified. Cattle, sheep and pig

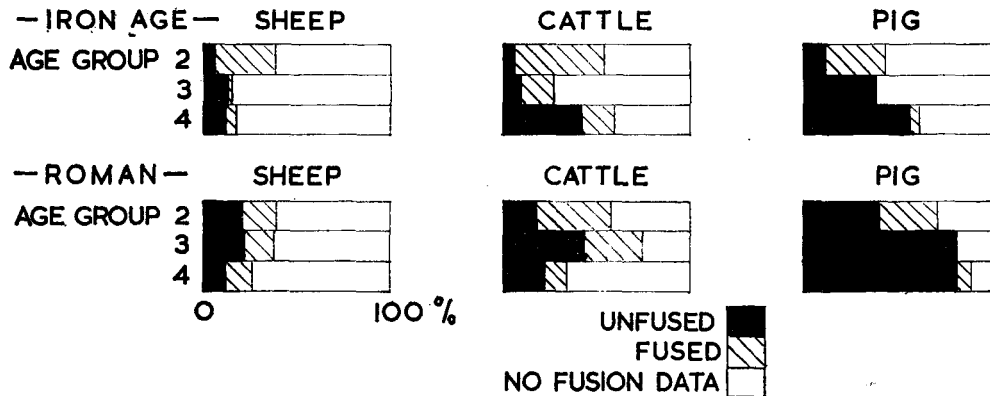


FIG. 24. Epiphyseal fusion groups as % of total in each group

TABLE 1 TOTAL NUMBER OF BONES IDENTIFIED AND MINIMUM INDIVIDUAL NUMBER DETERMINED

TOTAL IDENTIFIED SPECIES	<i>Iron Age or Earlier</i>		<i>Iron Age 1st/2nd Phase</i>		<i>Iron Age 3rd Phase</i>		Roman	
	Ti	MIND	Ti	MIND	Ti	MIND	Ti	MIND
	123		727		344		994	
	91		465 (3)		245		738 (1)	
Horse	8	1	24 (1)	7	17	9	14	4
Cattle	17	1	144 (2)	34	54	11	162 (1)	18
Sheep	59	3	208	30	146	28	296	48
Pig	1	1	74	13	20	5	243	39
Red Deer					3	1	8	5
Dog			5	5	4	2	6	1
Bird			1	1			5	3
Fish							1	1
Hare							2	2
Human	6	1	7	3			3	3

IDENTIFIED —number of bone fragments identified as to species.
Ti —total identified number of fragments.
MIND. —minimum individual number determined, cumulative total from each deposit.
(1) —number in brackets denotes a more or less complete skull.

TABLE 2 PERCENTAGE OF SPECIES FOUND IN COMPARABLE PERIODS FOR BOTH 1968-71 AND 1972-74

TOTAL NO. BONES IDENTIFIED SPECIES	<i>Iron Age Phase 1/2</i>		<i>Iron Age Phase 3</i>		Roman	
	1968-71	1972-74	1968-71	1972-74	1968-71	1972-74
	250		109		245	
	194		50		494	
Cattle	29.2%	32%	22.6%	20%	20%	22.6%
Sheep	51.2%	50%	58.2%	66%	37.5%	41.2%
Pig	14.8%	14.6%	8.8%	6%	36.7%	30.9%
Horse	3.2%	2.7%	6.7%	8%	2.4%	1.6%
Dog	1.6%		2%		0.4%	1%
Red Deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>)			1.5%		0.8%	1%
Hare (<i>Lepus sp.</i>)					0.8%	
Bird					0.4%	
Fish					0.4%	0.7%

TABLE 3 MINIMAL INDIVIDUAL NUMBER DETERMINED FROM MANDIBLES AND LOWER THIRD MOLARS

Age Group	Sheep		Cattle		Pig	
	I.A.	Roman	I.A.	Roman	I.A.	Roman
1 Newborn	4	3	—	—	—	—
2 Weanling	9	2	—	1	4	1
3 Juvenile	6 (1 pair)	1	1	—	2	3
4 Immature	1	2	—	3	1	3
4/5	11	8	5	1	2	3
5 Mature	10	7 (1 pair)	6	2	6	2
Total	41	23	12	7	15	12
Total fragments	56	34	25	19	22	19
Loose teeth						
upper	62	58	32	26	19	20
lower	90	35	42	35	35	30

TABLE 4

EPIPHYSEAL FUSION GROUPS

Iron Age Age Group	Sheep			Cattle			Pig		
	15 U/F	F	T.N.	— U/F	F	T.N.	2 U/F	F	T.N.
1 All unfused*									
2 Distal Scapula									
Distal Humerus	2	11	33	1	16	31	1	4	9
Proximal Radius									
3 Distal Tibia									
Distal M.C.	9	2	64	2	4	23	2	—	5
Distal M.T.									
4 Proximal Humerus									
Distal Radius									
Proximal Ulna	7	4	62	9	4	21	12	1	20
Femur									
Proximal Tibia									

Roman

Age Group

1.	41			2			37		
2.	5	5	25	3	8	18	12	9	28
3.	4	3	18	8	6	18	12	—	14
4.	4	6	13	3	2	14	29	3	34

KEY: U/F unfused; F fused; T.N. total number of specimens in each group.

*except epiphyses that fuse at birth.

SHEEP

Remains of sheep were the most numerous in both periods. None of the bones examined could positively be identified as goat, and in particular the cranial fragments were definitely assigned to sheep. Therefore, although goat may have been present, these bones are referred to as sheep.

With the exception of one deposit of the Roman period from the Western Barrow Ditch, most of the bones came from 'adult' animals and were largely represented by broken shafts and loose teeth. No complete horn-cores were found, but the few cranial fragments showed that both horned and hornless sheep were present.

Butchery

Owing to the fragmented nature of the material, only a few signs could be associated with butchery or cooking practices. Cut marks were found on an Iron Age scapula, and on innominate bones from both periods; one having cuts around the acetabular margin. Many of the shafts were split lengthways, and there were teeth marks on either the ends of shafts or the remains of epiphyses.

Pathology and anomalies

Two tibiae had been fractured; one adult from Pit 64 (Iron Age) had a partially healed mid-shaft fracture. One Roman tibia had fully healed despite complete lateral displacement of the proximal shaft. One Iron Age mandible displayed periostitis of the alveolar margin on the buccal side of PM 4, M1, both these teeth having been lost, probably post-mortem. One Roman mandible had a shortened molar row, due to the absence of the fourth premolar.

TABLE 5

MEASUREMENTS OF SHEEP BONES

Mandible	Iron Age					Roman						
	Length of molar row	70	66	65	65		76	66	73	56 [no PM4]		
Length of 3rd molar	21	20	21	20	19	20	19	21	21	19	20	21(4)
Humerus												
Distal width	24(2)					25	34					
Radius												
Proximal width						28	29					

Figures in brackets denote number of specimens. ()

CATTLE

About half as many cattle as sheep bones were present, the greatest number being from adults. The varying diameters of the long bone shafts indicated the presence of both sexes; but may also have been related to age. The three skulls and one complete humerus gave measurements that fell within the range of small cattle with small horns, typical of the Iron Age period. The skulls present the same horn-core profile, the long axis lying in the horizontal plane and pointing laterally with a slight downward curve, those from Pits 57 and 73 being more robust than the one from Pit 64. All were oval on cross section and were possibly bulls (Armitage and Clutton-Brock). The frontal profiles of the skulls were of the low double-arched variety.

Butchery

Among the Iron Age material two skull frontal bones had short cut-marks round the horn-core bases. Two humeri had been chopped transversely above the distal epiphyses.

From the Roman period one calcaneum and astragalus had been chopped transversely. One axis had lateral cuts on the ventral side of the odontoid process.

Cut-marks were found on the following bones of both periods. Scapula, transverse cuts on the neck. Humerus, above the medial condyle. Ribs, transversely. Innominate, on the ischial tuberosity and rim of the acetabulum. Again many of the long bones had teeth marks on either or both ends.

One mandible from the Iron Age period had been chopped across the postero-medial edge of the ascending ramus just above the foramen. The crowns of all the molars were broken off in the horizontal plane to give a very rough surface.

Pathology and anomalies

From the Iron Age period one innominate bone showed malformation of the acetabulum, unfortunately it was too fragmentary for any conclusions to be drawn. One skull (Pit 64) showed signs of slight periostitis round the alveolar margins; one horn core was smaller than the other and indented or 'thumb' marked on the antero-superior surface (thought by some workers to be connected with nutritional deficiencies). Two mandibles from the Iron Age period had third molars with only two cusps instead of three. One mandibular condyle had a fossa on the medial side of the articular surface.

TABLE 6

MEASUREMENTS OF CATTLE BONES

<i>Skull</i>	<i>Iron Age</i>			Pit 73	Pit 64
		Pit 57			
Width of crest between horn-cores	130		160	128
Post. orbital margin to base of h.c.	103			106
Minimum frontal width	164		158(est)	164
Circumference of base of h.c.	157		135	120
Post. height, crest to base of for. mag.	140		—	138 (est)
Length of maxillary tooth row.	—		—	109
Length of horn-core. Post. dorsal curve.	—		80 (est)	93
<i>Mandible</i>		<i>Iron Age</i>		<i>Roman</i>	
Length of molar row.	127	128		
Length of M3, surface of alveolus.	33	27(2 cusped)	37	38 38
<i>Humerus</i>					
Maximum length, head to medial condyle	222			
Minimum mid-shaft dia.	29			
Distal width	64	65 73		
<i>Metatarsal</i>					
Proximal width	48	50 49	36	
Mid-shaft dia.	28	32 31	25	
Distal width		53		
<i>Astragalus</i>					
Proximal width	40		39	38
Maximum length	64		60	
Distal width	36		39	
<i>First Phalanx</i>					
Maximum length	50.5	55		
Proximal width	30	30		
Mid-shaft dia.	25	26		
Distal width	27.5	—		

PIG

The majority of pig bones were from immature and younger animals. There was a significant increase in the number of bones found from the Roman period. Both males and females were present, and although the skull fragments were insufficient to show the state of domestication, no adult third molars were larger than 35mm., but one male tusk (canine) from the Roman period was at least 11cm. in length.

The Roman deposit in the Western Barrow Ditch has already been mentioned in connection with the sheep bones. The pig bones present included 10 metacarpals and 15 metatarsals all with distal epiphyses unfused; as well as the main fore and hind limb bones of 3 juvenile and 2 immature individuals. Altogether at least 14 individuals were represented as follows:— 2 neonates, 3 weanlings, 4 juveniles, 3 juvenile or immature, 2 immatures.

Butchery

There was clear evidence of butchery in the Roman period. One scapula was cut transversely across the neck on the internal surface. Two humeri were chopped horizontally just below mid-shaft level. Two femora were chopped at both ends; the proximal epiphysis chopped diagonally from the head to the base of the greater trochanter, and the distal epiphysis chopped from above the lateral condyle to the base of the medial condyle. Again some of the bones had been chewed.

TABLE 7
MEASUREMENTS OF PIG BONES
(The only measurable bones were from Roman deposits)

<i>Humerus</i>				
Minimum mid-shaft width	40			
Distal width	31			
<i>Radius</i>				
Proximal width	27			
Minimum mid-shaft width	17			
<i>Astragalus</i>				
Maximum length	44	44	36	42

HORSE

The remains of horses were sparse compared to the number of individuals represented by the bones; only one cross-match was found between two areas. All the bones were from adults. Some of the bones had marks of chewing, particularly at the epiphyses, and two innominate bones showed signs of butchery, one being chopped into three pieces, the other having clear marks of cutting on both the ischium and acetabulum.

Only three complete long bones were found. One radius and one metatarsal gave a withers height of just under 12½ hands. The other metatarsal, which was also pathological, gave a withers height of just under 13½ hands. The two metatarsals were found in Iron Age 3rd phase contexts and the radius was from the Roman ditch. A complete cranium associated with a right innominate bone were found in a pit of the Iron Age 2nd phase, unfortunately neither mandibles nor incisor teeth were present.

The pathological metatarsal. The proximal end of the third metatarsal was partly fused to the proximal end of the second metatarsal as well as the lateral and mid cuneiform bones. In the general area of union of these bones, the surface shows additional rough sub-periosteal new bone. This was restricted in extent. The proximal surface of the lateral cuneiform displayed gross pitting with deep bone destruction. This pathology seems best interpreted as a moderate degree of bone spavin, which must have caused some degree of lameness to the animal during life.

TABLE 8
MEASUREMENTS OF HORSE BONES

Skull from Pit 57. (Iron Age 2nd phase)

Max. length	540
Max. zygomatic width	200
Max. occipital height	94
Min. inter-orbital width (fronto-lachrymal suture)	152
Breadth of cranium (max. parietal width)	103
Max. width occipital condyles	80
Length of maxillary tooth row	172

Post-cranial measurements

Bone		Max. L.	Prox. W.	M.S.D.	Dist. W.
Radius	Roman	289	61	32	59
M/T	Iron Age				(matches P1)
	3rd phase	230	43	27	44 from Pit 25)
M/T	Iron Age				
	3rd phase (pathological)				
1st Phalanx	Iron Age				(matches M/T)
	3rd phase	76	47	33	40 from Pit 9)
1st Phalanx	Roman	83	53	34	43
Talus	Iron Age				
	1st phase	57			45
Scapula		Min. W. neck.	Glenoid cavity L.		W. L.+coracoid
	Iron Age				
	1st phase	59		49	42 83
	Iron Age				
	3rd phase	58			40
Innominate		Max. dia. rim of acetabulum.		Max. L. obturator foramen	
	Iron Age				
	1st phase	59			70
	Iron Age				
	or Roman	60			75
	Iron Age				
	3rd phase	55	53		58 58

RED DEER (*Cervus elaphus* L.)

This animal was represented mainly by antler fragments; one from Pit 59 (Fig. 8) and some from the Roman filling of the Western Barrow Ditch. The first antler was from an animal of at least 7 years of age, it had 6 points, all of which had been broken or chopped off. The burr had also been broken so that it is impossible to tell whether or not it was shed. The antler fragments from the ditch filling consisted of 4 points, all of which had been chopped off, presumably debris from trimming one or more antlers. In Pit 22 (Iron Age 3rd phase) were found a metacarpal and mandible of a young animal.

DOG

Very few remains of dog were found and these were scattered and fragmentary. From the Iron Age 1st phase came two mandibles, a fragment of maxilla and part of a humerus. From the Iron Age 2nd phase a lower first molar and from the Iron Age 3rd phase a molar. From the Roman filling of a barrow ditch came one proximal femur (adult) and two vertebrae.

TABLE 9

	MEASUREMENTS OF DOG BONES	
	<i>L. of molar row</i>	<i>L. of first molar</i>
Mandible left	72	20.5
Mandible right	70.5	20
		21 (Iron Age 2nd phase)

BIRD

Only 7 bird bones were recovered. Domestic fowl (*Gallus gallus*) was identified in both Iron Age and Roman levels. A small Passeriforme, probably Starling (*Sternus vulgaris*) was identified by a left humerus in a Roman context. (The bird bones were kindly identified by Jenny Coy, Faunal Remains Project, University of Southampton).

FISH

One fish vertebra and two other bone fragments were found in Pit 32 (Roman).

HARE (*Lepus* sp.)

A mandible and the cut shaft of a femur were found in two pits of the Roman period.

DISCUSSION

On a site such as this, where the majority of the deposits present a random mixture of species and bone types, chance and survival have clearly played a considerable role in the formation of each group of bones. Analysis of the faunal remains took place completely independently of the pottery analysis, but the results proved to be strikingly similar; pits containing matching or articulating bones also contained more complete pots and very mixed bone deposits were associated with very mixed pottery deposits.

Although a minimum number of individuals represented was calculated at the same time as the identification of each group of bones, an overall analysis indicates that this method of quantification is probably heavily biased towards the more readily identifiable sheep bones (being less fragmented), as opposed to the highly fragmented cattle bones which were frequently recorded as cattle/horse long bone fragments. In the result however, an absolute minimum number of individuals represented by the mandibles gave sheep a clear lead over cattle and pig in both periods.

Remains of sheep were thus the most numerous, occurred most frequently, and gave the widest age range. Butchery marks indicate that cattle, sheep, pig and horse all contributed to the diet. Although the average meat yield from cattle would have been greater than that from sheep if based on the ratio of species present, sheep would have occurred more frequently on the menu. An increase in the proportion of pig bones found in the Roman period, although not reflected in the mandibles, evinces its popularity at this time.

Although the ratio of adult to sub-juvenile stock must be regarded as extremely tentative, based on such small numbers, the evidence shows that some of the stock were kept to full maturity. Heavy wear on all three cusps of a number of the third molars of cattle and sheep indicating beasts of at least five years of age at death (Payne 1973). Thus it would appear that over-wintering was not a problem, and full economic use could be made of the animals in the form of traction, wool and dairy products before slaughter.

Chicken and fish obviously played a part in the diet, but poor survival of the bones excludes them from a percentage count. Mussel, oyster and other shells were present but not kept for analysis, mussel being predominant during the Iron Age and oyster during the Roman period.

The few measurable bones merely suffice to show that the species fall within the range of measurements published for these periods, and that no real change takes place between the periods on this site. No statistical analysis has been attempted because so few bones gave metrical or fusion data, but it is hoped that the presentation of this data will enable comparisons to be made with other similar sites in southern England.

Acknowledgements

To Mr. Don Brothwell, Jenny Coy and Mrs. Gina Adams for their assistance in identification and confirmation of pathological specimens.

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THE HUMAN REMAINS

by Pauline Sheppard

Three inhumations

Grave 1

The skeleton was that of a young adult male, about 24 years old at death. His maximum estimated height was between 172 and 173.5cm. or about 5ft. 8in.¹ (Equation used 1.26(femur + tibia lengths) + 67.09 (± 3.74).)

The skull. The cranium was long, high and narrow with a cephalic index of 68, i.e. Dolichocephalic. All the principal sutures of the vault were still apparent. The nuchal crest of the occipital bone was scarcely defined in comparison to the strongly moulded and everted angles of the jaw, and prominent cleft chin.

Dentition. All the permanent teeth were fully erupted except for the lower right lateral incisor, which was congenitally absent. The front teeth were widely spaced and the occlusal edges worn with slight overjet of the upper incisors. The upper left canine had been broken or filed to a point. The upper right third molar was single rooted, half the length and two-thirds the width of the lower third molar. There was a small caries cavity in the upper left first molar but otherwise no periodontal disease.

Post-cranial bones. The right and left limbs were unevenly developed. The combined lengths of the humerus and radius made the right arm 6mm. shorter than the left; but the combined lengths of the humerus and ulna reduced this shortening to 1mm. However the right arm was more strongly developed than the left. The right leg was 10mm. shorter than the left but the right thigh was more bowed than the left. Both femora were platymeric, (index 63.7), that is antero-posterior flattening of the shaft occurred. The tibiae were platycnemic (index 59) or flattened transversely; and both exhibited the co-called 'squatting' facets on the lateral sides of the anterior edges of the distal ends.

Strongly marked muscle insertions and ossified tendon attachments on some of the bones might perhaps be related to a very active mode of living. The uneven development of the limb bones, both in length and degree of curvature and rotation, though not uncommon, may have been influenced by repeated stresses during growth.

Grave 2

Contained the skeleton of a mature female, whose estimated stature was 149cm. or just under 5ft.

The Skull. The cranium was mesocephalic with an index of 70. The coronal, saggital and lambdoid sutures were obliterated. There was a semicircular iron stain about 40mm. in diameter on the right hand side of the right parietal bone just above the temporal line; and a faint copper stain on the left hand side of the occipital bone on and just below the lambdoid suture.

Dentition. As shown below most of the teeth were missing.

Table of dentition.²

— 6 5 x / / 1	x x / 4 5 x x /
x x x 5 / 3 / x	x / 3 / 5 x 7 8
	c

Key — area missing. c caries
 x tooth lost ante-mortem.
 / tooth missing but socket present.

The one remaining incisor lay at an angle of almost 45° to the vertical plane of the face, the socket lying in the same plane as the tooth, so that the upper front teeth must have been markedly protruding. There was considerable alveolar recession and heavy deposits of dental calculus on both labial and lingual sides of the teeth, particularly the molars. All the occlusal surfaces had been worn flat or slightly hollow to expose the dentine. The neck of the lower left second molar displayed caries on the lateral and anterior surfaces. There may have been an abscess at the root of the upper right first premolar. The mandible had a pea sized protuberance on the internal surface of the inferior border below the left second molar, possibly a restricted torus mandibularis.

¹ M. Trotter & G. C. Gleser, 'Expected maximum stature from long bone lengths (maximum) of American White Females,' *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, vol. 10 (1952), pp. 463-514. Males calculated by their revised formula by Miss R. Cullen, *ibid.*, vol. 16 (1958), pp. 79-123.

² D. R. Brothwell, *Digging up bones* (1963).

The post-cranial bones. The limb bones were slender but with strong muscle attachments. The proximal end of the right radius was abnormal in that there was a deep groove posterior to the biceps tubercle, the neck above being flattened antero-posteriorly and slightly turned in an anti-clockwise direction.

The sacrum was asymmetrical, displaying a slight wedging to the left at the level of the second and third segments.

The lumbar vertebrae showed signs of degenerative joint disease with lipping of the bodies and articular facets of L 3, 4, 5; narrowing of the body of L5, and an injury to the same vertebra in which the spinous process had been avulsed and subsequently re-attached to the inferior surface of the left articular facet of L4.

Although the estimated age at death was between 35 and 45 years according to the tooth wear pattern, there were no degenerative changes in the main limb joints in comparison to the joints of the spine, so that in fact the age at death may have been nearer 35 than 45.

Grave 3. Late or post Roman.

This skeleton was that of a female, of at least 40 to 45 years of age at death. Her stature was approximately 161cm. or about 5ft. 3in.

The Skull. The cranium was mesocephalic (index 78.5). All the sutures of the vault, except the lambdoid, were closed and obliterated.

Dentition. The occlusal surfaces of all the teeth were worn to the dentine; the upper right first molar showing complete loss of enamel on the lingular surface.

Table of dentition

x x 6 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 x x
8 / x 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 x / x x x
c a c	

Key c caries cavity / Tooth missing but socket present
 a dental abscess x tooth lost ante-mortem

The lower right second molar and upper left second molar had been lost not long before death, the tooth sockets being still apparent. The sockets of the upper right second and third molars, the upper left third molar, and the lower left first premolar, molars and lower right first molar were all completely obliterated. There was a minimum amount of calculus on all the remaining teeth.

The post-cranial bones. The upper limb bones were in a poor state of preservation and only the left humerus and right ulna could be measured. Minimal changes of osteo-arthrosis were present on the articular facets of the ribs. No vertebrae were recovered. The finger and toe bones were very eroded but the terminal phalanx of one thumb may have been lost ante-mortem.

The left scapula and humerus showed arthritic changes of the joint surfaces; the lower medial surface of the glenoid fossa being roughened and pitted with corresponding pitting, but to a lesser extent, on the head of the humerus.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The rescue excavation took place with the permission of West Sussex County Council and of the road contractors Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons Ltd. The late Mr. A. Green gave permission for work to be carried out on his land and the support of Mr. M. C. Granshaw, the farmer of the land, was much appreciated. The writer is indebted to the specialists whose names appear in the text and to Professor B. W. Cunliffe and Mr. E. Holden for general guidance, advice and encouragement. Generous assistance was given by Mr. T. Ambrose who read through the draft report and made helpful comments, Mr. A. Heath of Brighton Polytechnic, Mr. P. Drewett, Mr. W. J. Rodwell, Mr. A. V. Sheppard and many others who gave of their time and knowledge. Special thanks are due to Mr. F. H. Witten for his unfailing help and advice both during excavation and during the writing of this report. Of the many volunteer diggers whose assistance is gratefully acknowledged the following must be especially mentioned: Mrs. B. W. Hartridge, who also prepared the typescript, Mrs. D. Witten, Miss S. Hartridge, Messrs. M. Brooks, B. Holmes, A. Penketh, S. Walsh, A. Sayers and L. Suggars. The finds and records have been deposited in Brighton Museum.

The Society is greatly indebted to the Department of the Environment, Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments, for a generous grant towards the publication of this Report.