

This section of the *Collections* is devoted to short notes on recent archaeological discoveries, reports on small finds, definitive reports on small scale excavations, etc. Those without previous experience in writing up such material for publication should not be deterred from contributing; the editor and members of the editorial board will be happy to assist in the preparation of reports and illustrations.

Prehistoric Flintwork from the Midhurst area, West Sussex

A collection of over 1,000 humanly-struck flints amassed from over 20 localities by Mr O. H. Knowles in the late 1950s and 1960s was donated to Chichester District Museum in 1986. Knowles is best known for discovering the later Mesolithic site at Fitzhall Common, Iping (SU 84652162); excavations were undertaken here in 1960–61 (Keef *et al.* 1965). Of the other places investigated by Knowles, ten produced 19 or more flints (Table 1). These sites are situated on the Lower Greensand close to the River Rother (Fig. 1).

The majority of the flintwork dates to the Mesolithic period, although the collection also contains one Lower or Middle Palaeolithic flake and some flints of Neolithic or Bronze Age date. These sites probably represent short-stay camps, a number of which are known on the Lower Greensand in the western part of the Weald (Jacobi 1978;

1981). The Neolithic/Bronze Age material, notably the two leaf-shaped arrowheads from Furze Reeds, could result from task-specific activity, for example hunting, as opposed to permanent settlement. This collection adds to the evidence already available for Mesolithic and Bronze Age activity on the Lower Greensand west of Trotton (Drewett 1976; 1985) and east of Midhurst (Holgate *et al.* 1986).

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Mr Max Wholey for his help in provenancing this material.

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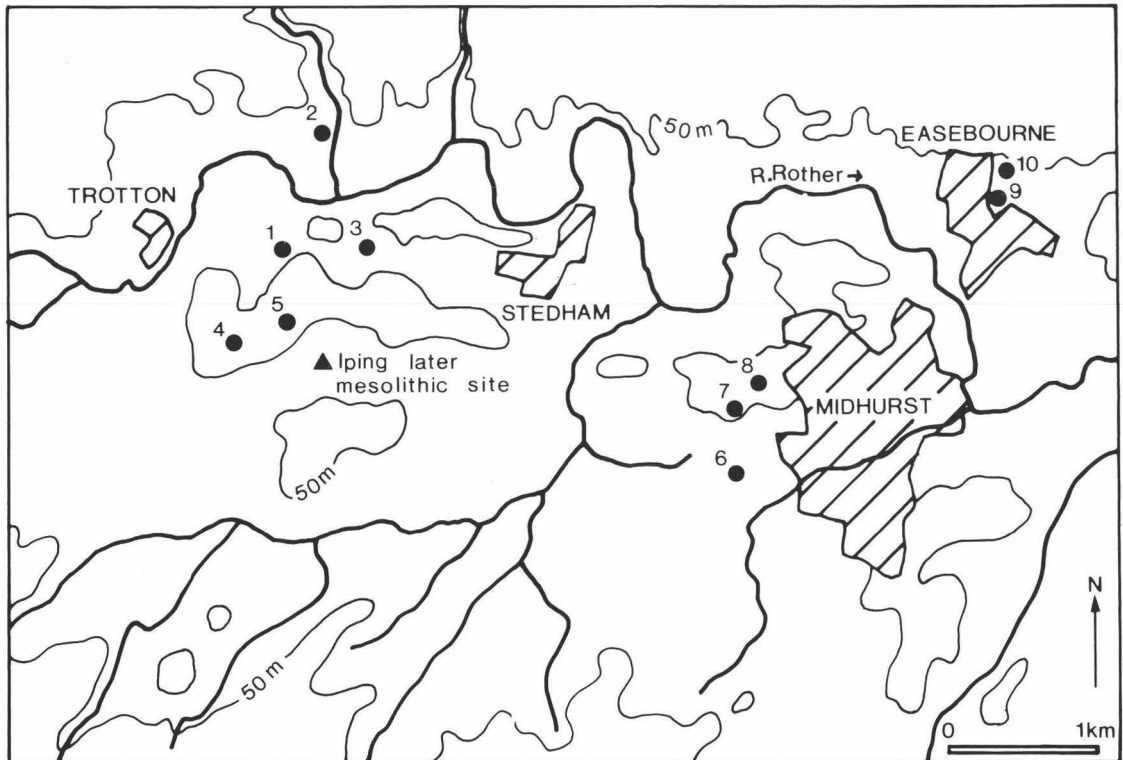


Fig. 1. Location of the prehistoric sites investigated by O. H. Knowles.

TABLE I
Prehistoric flintwork recovered by O. H. Knowles

	Flakes	Blades & bladelets	Crested blades	Core tablet	Cores	Shattered pieces	Axe-sharpening flakes	Misc. retouched flakes	Scrapers	Notched flake	Fabricator	Palaeolithic Levallois flake	Microburin	Leaf-shaped arrowheads	Fire-fractured flint	TOTAL
1. Furze Reeds SU 844224	66	63	4		1	4		3	3	1			1	2	4	152
2. Chithurst: Hammer Stream I SU 847232	151	38		1	6	5			2			1				204
3. Collins Field c. SU 850225	11	6			4				6							27
4. The Warren, Trotton Common c. SU 841218	12	3				4										19
5. Three Barrows, Trotton Common SU 844219	102	8	1			10										121
6. Minsted Sandpit c. SU 874209	32	40			3	7										82
7. Minsted Common c. SU 874213	39	37														76
8. Midhurst Allotment SU 876215	24	22	1			5	1				1					54
9. Cowdray Tree Nursery c. SU 891228	47	6					1	3	2							59
10. Snowhill Nursery c. SU 892229	34	2							1							37
TOTAL	518	225	6	1	14	35	2	6	14	1	1	1	1	2	4	831

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A Fieldwalking project at Pyecombe: Interim Report.

Earlier this century, the Downs north of Brighton were a popular hunting ground for amateur flint collectors. Examples of the many artefacts they collected can be found in the Curwen collection, Barbican House, Lewes. One of the main sites they visited was the area around Newtimber Hill, west of Pyecombe. Although a large number of flints were retrieved, most of these pieces consist of finely-retouched implements such as arrowheads, scrapers and knives. Other flints, for example flakes and cores, undoubtedly littered the ground here, but were passed over for the more attractive objects. At present, then, the material picked up in the past gives a rather biased picture of the surface scatter of flints in this area.

Despite this, the flint implements from the Newtimber Hill area consist of pieces dating to the Neolithic and early Bronze Age, indicating that activity of some description took place here during these periods. But what was the nature of this activity? Only further fieldwork can provide the answer.

As part of a larger project, a 1 km² area of downland covering East and West Hills between Saddlescombe and Pyecombe is being fieldwalked on a systematic basis (Fig. 2). Transects spaced at 20 metre intervals and orientated on grid north are being walked, with material found along each transect being picked up and bagged in 20 metre collection units. A full report on this survey will be submitted for publication in the *Sussex Archaeological Collections* on completion of the fieldwalking.

Although only the upper fields in this area have been finished, the results achieved to date are of considerable interest. There is a general scatter of worked flint across all of the upper fields, along with discrete areas where higher densities of material, including a variety of implements, are found. A number of concentrations of fire-fractured flint can also be discerned. Most of the flintwork comprises hard hammer-struck flakes, but also includes a range of implements, for example scrapers, piercers, knives, notched flakes and a transverse arrowhead. This material probably dates to the later Neolithic period and early Bronze Age. In addition a small concentration of Mesolithic flintwork was found just below the crest of West Hill, including blades,

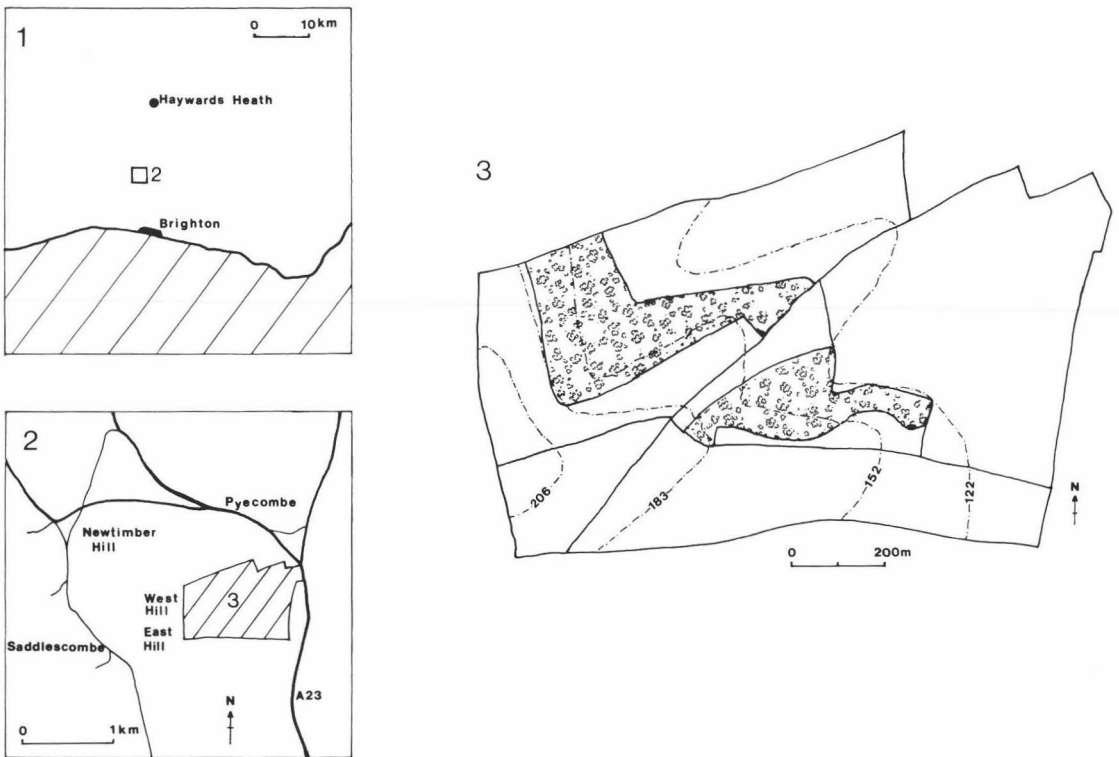


Fig. 2 Pyecombe: East and West Hills: location and sketch plan.

bladelets, blade cores, tranchet axe-sharpening flakes, axe-thinning flakes and scrapers.

Elsewhere in Sussex, Mesolithic material has been found on the Downs, particularly on patches of Clay-with-flints (Jacobi 1978, 15). This is also the case with the concentration of Mesolithic material on West Hill located during the survey. One of the activities carried out on this site was the manufacture of tranchet axes using flint nodules obtained from the upper chalk situated close by. The other debitage and implements recovered from the site suggest that other activities were also performed here. Although similar material has been collected from various sites on the Downs, for example on Bullock Down (Drewett 1982a), this is the first time that a Mesolithic camp has been located and defined on the Sussex Downs by systematic fieldwalking.

The later Neolithic/early Bronze Age flintwork, covering a much larger area and extending further down slope than the Mesolithic camp, probably represents a domestic site where a variety of activities were carried out. The area covered by this site and its location on a hill slope capped with Clay-with-flints is typical of later Neolithic sites on the Sussex Downs, for example Bullock Down (Drewett 1982b; Holgate, in this volume).

The results presented here show that systematic fieldwalking is an extremely useful way of reconstructing the nature and extent of past activities practised on the Downs. Flint collection earlier this century produced material which suggested Neolithic/Bronze Age activity of some description on West and East Hills: systematic fieldwalking not only defined the extent and probable nature of this activity, but also located a previously undiscovered site. Similar survey work elsewhere on the Downs is essential to show whether the evidence for prehistoric settlement encountered in this survey is representative of the South Downs as a whole.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Mr. I. Currie of Pangdean Farm for allowing the survey to take place, and to those who have helped, and continue to help, with the fieldwalking. I would like also to thank Robin Holgate for his encouragement throughout the survey, for commenting on the material and the draft of this report.

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Bronze Age awl from Plumpton, East Sussex

In May 1987 a bronze awl was discovered with the aid of a metal detector by Mr. L. Gaston on the northern scarp slope of the South Downs near Novington Farm (TQ 370130). It was subsequently taken to Barbican House Museum, Lewes and was identified by Miss F. Marsden, the Curator. The awl has now been deposited at the museum.

The bronze awl (Fig. 3) is 5.5 cm in length; one end is rectangular, probably to facilitate hafting. The opposite 'working' end is pointed and worn with use.

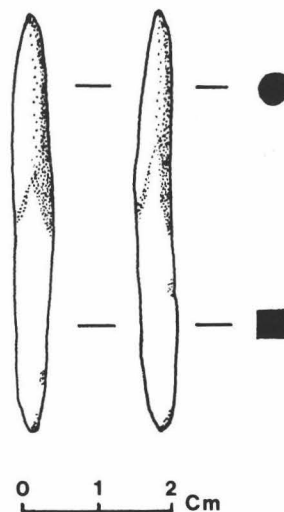


Fig. 3

A similar bronze awl was found at Black Patch during the excavation of a later Bronze Age settlement (Drewett 1982); another, found at Highdown, is on display in Worthing Museum. The dimensions of these three tools are almost identical.

It is almost certain that this find dates to the later Bronze Age (1200-700 B.C.). As such, it might have been associated with the settlement site at Plumpton Plain, situated approximately 1.5 km away.

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An estuarine mollusc from Bishopstone village

The bivalve *Scrobicularia plana* (Da Costa) (= *S. piperata* (Gmelin) or Peppery Furrow Shell) is an aid to reconstructing ancient environments. It lives in the intertidal zone where fresh and salt water meet as in river estuaries, burrowing in soft bottoms of clay or mud rich in organic matter.¹ Bell² recorded *S. plana* from an Early Neolithic site on Rookery Hill, Bishopstone and implied that the shell may have been collected on the mudflats (Salts) near Newhaven where the animal was common in the mid-nineteenth century.³ Shells are certainly common there at certain horizons in the Alluvium (grey clay) below Storm Gravel Beach Deposits.⁴ The land E. of Rookery Hill is low-lying and underlain by an elbow-shaped wedge of Alluvium.⁵ Shell fragments of *S. plana* are frequent in the brown clay exposed in the banks of the drainage ditch⁶ below Bishopstone village, 1.13 km N.N.E. of the present coastline. The fragments are unworn and often come from the same valve indicating a local provenance; valves vary in size. The buried shells at Newhaven are brittle and fragmentation during ditching at Bishopstone is to be expected. The brown clay also yields occasional domestic animal bones⁷ and crushed *Helix aspersa* Müller which might suggest a late Iron Age or later date,⁸ but this is uncertain without proper excavation. Complete valves of *S. plana*, some paired (closed), occur in silty brown clay beneath the ditch⁹ associated with the land snail *Cochlicella acuta* (Müller) which could be of earlier date. The occurrence of *S. plana* below Bishopstone village is consistent with a former tidal inlet and it is anticipated that the species will be found in the ditches opposite the new estate on Rookery Hill.

Author: E. A. Jarzembowski, Booth Museum of Natural History, Dyke Road, Brighton.

Notes

- ¹ N. Tebble, *British bivalve shells*, British Museum (Natural History), London, 1966, 150.
- ² M. Bell, 'Excavations at Bishopstone'. *Suss Arch Coll*, **115** (1977), 285.
- ³ Mrs. Merrifield, *A sketch of the natural history of Brighton and its vicinity*. W. Pearce, Brighton, 1860, 84.
- ⁴ Commercial excavations at East pier, 1987 (NGR TQ 452003).
- ⁵ H. W. Bristow, W. A. E. Ussher, C. Reid, B. Young, & R. D. Lake, Eastbourne Sheet 334 (1:50,000). British Geological Survey, 1979, Keyworth.
- ⁶ TQ 470008.
- ⁷ That they are not introduced is suggested by a distinct, blotchy red patina. Animal samples are deposited in the Booth Museum of Natural History, Brighton.
- ⁸ M. P. Kerney, 'A proposed zonation scheme for late-glacial and postglacial deposits using land Mollusca'. *Journal of Archaeological Science*, **4** (1977), 388.
- ⁹ Between 0.7 and 2.6 m below general ground level in gas main excavation, 1987 (TQ 46840104).

An Iron Age Silver Coin found at Ditchling

During 1987 a silver coin (Fig. 4) of Verica, King of the Atrebatas tribe AD 10–40, was found by Mr. Richardson on Park Barn Farm, Ditchling, East Sussex (TQ 329158).

The obverse of the coin has the legend COMI.F between two crescents above and below. The reverse has the legend VIRI below a boar, which in turn is beneath a star. The coin weighs 1.1 g.



Fig. 4

The obverse legend is a variant of the more common type which reads COM.F (Mack 1975, Type 115). Other COMI.F examples were present in the recently-discovered Wanborough Hoard (Pers. Com. Dr. J. Kent). One other example (which is unfortunately unprovenanced) is recorded in the Index of Celtic Coins, Oxford University. The dies of this coin, while close, are not identical with those of the Ditchling specimen (Pers. Com. Dr. C. King). The basically similar COM.F type coins have a wide distribution including: Alfriston and Selsey, Sussex; Farley Heath and Wanborough, Surrey; Winchester, Hampshire; and Burghfield, Maidenhead, Waltham St. Lawrence, and the Thames gravels, Berkshire (Allen 1960; Haselgrove 1978; Haselgrove 1984).

The Ditchling coin has now been purchased by the Sussex Archaeological Society (acquisition number: 1987.23).

It is interesting to note that another Verica coin (a gold Stater) was found in Ditchling in 1986 (Rudling 1987).

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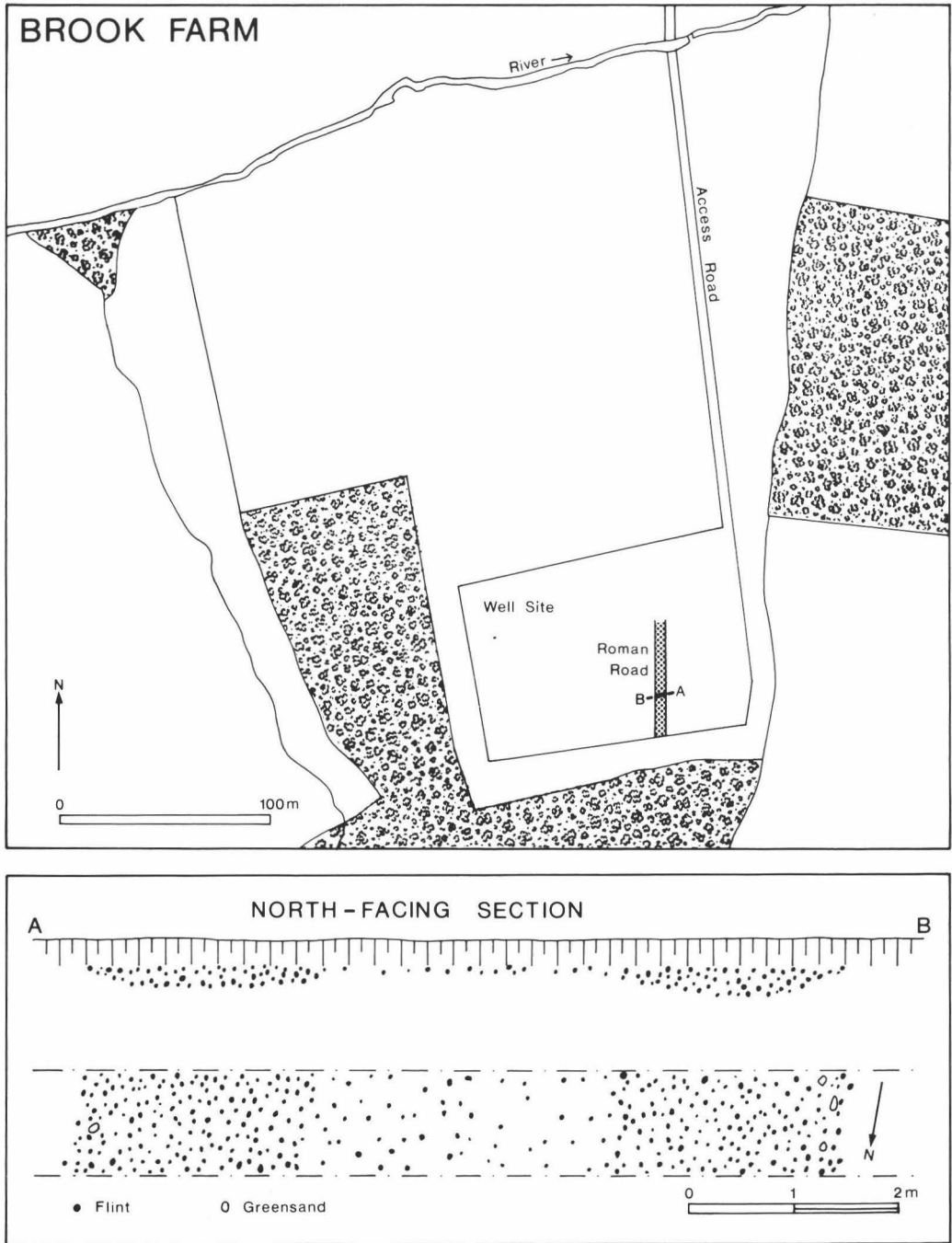


Fig. 5. Location, section and sketch plan of the length of Roman road recorded during construction work at Brook Farm, Iping-with-Stedham.

The Chichester to Silchester Roman Road at Brook Farm, Stedham-with-Iping, West Sussex

Topsoil stripping in advance of exploratory oil drilling by Carless Exploration Ltd. provided an opportunity to check the line of the Chichester to Silchester Roman road at Brook Farm, Stedham-with-Iping, situated immediately west of Midhurst. The road has been observed on the Downs north of Chichester, for example during recent archaeological excavations at Rummages Barn, Binderton (Kenny 1985, 61). The first sightings of the road north of the Downs are at Fitzhall Farm and Iping Common, c. 1–1.5 km to the north of Brook Farm (Margary 1973, 78–9), and then at Iping Marsh near Milland, where a small posting-station abuts the road (*ibid.*, 78).

At the oil drilling site, a c. 7 metres wide layer of small flint nodules and the occasional piece of Greensand running approximately north-south for a distance of just over 50 metres was recorded at SU 84882025 (Fig. 5). Ploughing in recent years could have truncated this layer over the remainder of the site.

No artefacts were recovered in association with the layer of metallurgy. However, 33 pieces of prehistoric flintwork were recovered from the site in general; none were found on the line of the access road. The flints include 19 flakes, five blades, three cores, three miscellaneous retouched flakes, a cutting flake, a notched piece and a possible microlith fragment. The blades and the possible microlith fragment are Mesolithic in date and could represent a small hunting camp. The remaining flintwork could either be associated with this activity or with Neolithic/Bronze Age activity of some description on the site. The flints have been deposited at Chichester District Museum.

Acknowledgements

The Field Unit is grateful to Mr Fred Aldsworth for drawing the Unit's attention to the site, and to Carless Exploration Ltd. for providing the opportunity to record this section of Roman road.

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Two Roman Shoe fragments from Sedlescombe

During December 1985, while field-walking the site of the Iron Age and Romano-British ironworks south-east of Footland Farm, Sedlescombe, members of the Field Group of the Wealden Iron Research Group recovered two fragments of leather from the bank (TQ 77302010) of the stream which runs through the site (Hodgkinson, 1987). The leather was found at a depth of about 450 mm. below the

general ground level. The sub-soil is of the Ashdown Beds and it must be assumed that the normal acidity of Wealden soils, which would have undoubtedly caused the rapid disintegration of leather in another location, was ameliorated by the alkalinity of the iron slag which permeates a wide area of the soil around where the leather was found. In the immediate vicinity were found a few sherds of East Sussex Ware and three pieces of Samian. The date range of the site runs from the Iron Age of the 1st century AD to the 4th century and both the pottery and the leather date from within that period.

The leather fragments were sent to the Ancient Monuments Laboratory of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission where they were freeze-dried by Bridget Ibbs, under the supervision of Jacqui Watson. When conservation was completed, the fragments were submitted to Quita Mould whose report follows.

Catalogue:

1. (see Fig. 6a) Small fragment from left side of one-piece/moccasin shoe with small, simple fastening loop; torn from the rest of the shoe. Wear from the fastening lace is visible on the loop. Similar leather to 2 below, but does not join.

Leather: delaminated cattle hide.

Length 59 mm. (inc.); Width 72 mm. (inc.).

2. (see Fig. 6b) Fragment of shoe upper with four grain/flesh stitches from a short length of butted, oversewn, vertical seam (SL 6 mm.), the remainder of seam torn away. Three edge/flesh stitches (SL 6 mm.) are present running at a right angle to the vertical seam along the lower edge, below this a small crescentic area has been deliberately cut away. The rest of the lower edge is torn with an area of wear visible at the margin of the sole area. The cut top edge drops slightly from the vertical seam before extending into a round ended latchet with a crescentic fastening hole. The latchet is decorated on the grain side by a pair of diverging incised lines each ending in a quatrefoil motif of four crescentic stamps, the lowest stamp being placed at some distance from the other three. The top edge continues for a short distance from the latchet rising again to the stub of the loop which, like the remainder of the top edge, has been torn away. The fragment has been obliquely cut from the rest of the upper.

Leather: delaminated cattle hide.

Length 203 mm. (inc.); Height with latchet 105 mm. max latchet width 30 mm.

Discussion:

The two fragments of shoe upper, despite being of similar cattle hide, may come from different shoes.

The smaller fragment (Fig. 6a) comes from the left side of a one-piece/moccasin shoe, probably a simple carbatina with plain fastening loops (see Bar Hill, Robertson, Scott and Keppie 1975, Fig. 21 no. 28 for illustration of a complete example), of a type frequently found throughout the northern Roman provinces during the 1st and 2nd centuries (Rhodes in Jones 1980, 127–8) and recent work suggests that their use continued well into the third century (Penny MacConnoran pers. comm.).

The larger fragment (Fig. 6b) is interesting as it apparently combines features usually found on shoes of

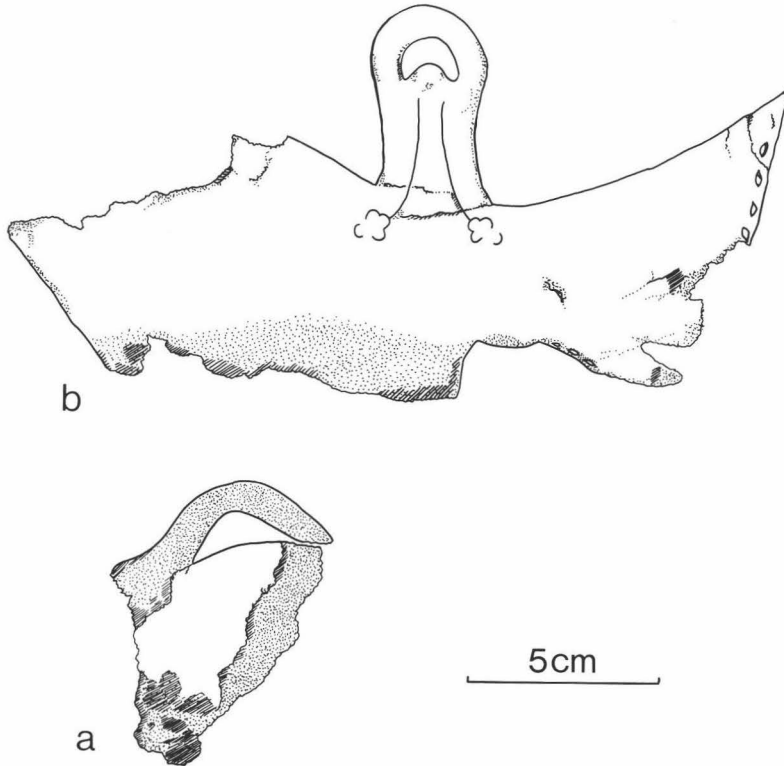


Fig. 6

differing constructions. The fragment appears to come from the left side of a one-piece/moccasin shoe, having part of a butted, oversewn, back seam and three edge/flesh stitches from around the heel remaining. Although the sole has been torn away, distinct wear at the margin of the sole area is visible in places. It is unusual, however, in having a latchet to fasten over the instep, a feature commonly found on uppers of shoes of nailed construction. It is possible that the fragment does, indeed, come from a latchet fastening upper of nailed construction of the type found at Bar Hill (*ibid.* *calcei* Fig. 22, 23 etc.), Hardknott (Charlesworth and Thornton 1973, Fig. 1) and Saalburg (Busch 1965, *tafel* 13 no. 215, *tafel* 14 no. 219), for example. In which case, the vertical seam represents a side seam, as seen on the Saalburg examples, and the three edge/flesh stitches come from some form of repair. As the lower edge is torn, no sign remains of a former lasting margin.

The fragment is intriguing as insufficient of the upper remains to show conclusively from which type of shoe it originally belonged. It may be that it comes from a shoe of one-piece construction which, with its latchet fastening, has copied a typical nailed shoe upper style using a carbatina manufacturing technique. This interchangeability of shoe style and construction is known to occur on footwear of early 3rd-century date. Alternatively, if the fragment is interpreted as a side seamed upper from a shoe of nailed construction, a

mid-2nd century date is suggested (Carol van Driel-Murray *pers. comm.*).

I am grateful to Carol van Driel-Murray for her most helpful correspondence and to Penny MacConnoran of D.U.A. for information regarding the Roman leather in the Museum of London's collection.

Acknowledgements

The Wealden Iron Research Group is grateful to Quita Mould for the above report and to Bridget Ibbs and Jacqui Watson of H.B.M.C. for their conservation work. The Group is also grateful to Sue Hodgkinson for the illustrations, and to Dr. Tony Clark and Mr. Ivan Neve for their help. The fragments will be deposited in Hastings Museum.

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Roman Burials at Portslade

Introduction

During the latter part of the last century, Mr. John Dudney of Portslade presented Brighton Museum with a collection of Roman pottery and cremated remains. These were discovered during brickearth digging at a brickfield centred on TQ 259058, now the Victoria Recreation Ground and Southdown bus depot in Portslade. A brief paper recording the discovery was read to the Society of Antiquaries by E. H. Willett (1877). This note intends to provide a fuller description and reassess the burials, while setting them in their local context.

Site History

The parishes of Portslade and Aldrington have long been associated with Roman remains. Camden, in the 16th century, fostered interest in the area by identifying Aldrington as the site of *Portus Adurni* of the *Notitia Dignatatum* (Camden 1695). This connection gained considerable antiquarian support in the 18th and 19th centuries; and appeared in print in numerous local histories and guides, for example Pelham's *History of Brighthelmstone* (1761), and Taylor's *Brighthelmstone Directory* (1770).

Nevertheless some doubt over the connection remained. Horsley (1732, 488) disagreed with Camden and placed *Portus Adurni* at Porchester. The lack of any substantiating archaeological discoveries was one reason for the continuing doubts. By the early 19th century this was no longer the case, and Horsfield (1835, 1: 160) was able to write

Within the last half century, however, the doubts raised by this non discovery have in a large deal been removed by the bringing to light of numerous relics of Roman origin on the Downs which overlooked the port as also in the adjacent villages. Urns, Skeletons, Fibulae, have frequently been exhumed at Aldrington by the brick makers.

This appears to be the earliest reference to the discovery of Roman burials in the area. Horsfield is vague about the dates of these finds, but might be suggesting that discoveries had been occurring for some years. The Downland sites mentioned would seem to include the villa at West Blatchington, excavated in 1818 and described as the:

. . . Mansio ad Portum Adurni, or residence of the Praefect or chief officer of the port . . . (Turner 1860, 120).

Despite the enthusiasm with which it was greeted in some quarters the connection between Portslade/Aldrington and *Portus Adurni* was not maintained by later research. Haverfield (1892) demonstrated clearly that the link had been based on the uncritical use of river and place names. Nevertheless the idea remained in circulation until the early 20th century and can be seen to influence research until the 1920s, for example Dunning's *The Roman Road to Portslade* (1925). Indeed it is still a common belief in the Brighton area today that a large Roman settlement and port existed at Portslade.

The continuing discovery of burials may in some measure have been responsible for the maintenance of the connection. In the autumn of 1876 workmen in Portslade exhumed a number of cremations at the Victoria Road site, of which Willett was eventually able to record seventeen complete vessels, together with cremated bone and Fibulae (Willett, 1877). This site seems to have had a reputation for archaeological remains, and discoveries of Prehistoric and Roman remains continued to be made. The last mention of these was in the early years of this century (*Brighton Herald*, 25 February 1905 and *Sussex Daily News*, 6 December 1906) but no detailed account is available. The area has now been developed and landscaped, but no further discoveries were reported during this process, or during the construction of an underpass on the Old Shoreham Road.

It is clear that a cemetery of Roman date existed at the Victoria Road site. However, what is not clear is whether this was also the site referred to by Horsfield. A number of brickfields existed at various times which makes attempts to locate the site or sites, difficult. A further complication arises from the extant finds from the area which have two proveniences. Willett's 1876 group from Portslade is the largest assemblage but a smaller group of pottery, found at Aldrington in 1879, is also extant in Brighton Museum.

Willett produced drawings of the pottery he saw, and these were deposited together with a tracing of the site's location in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries. Unfortunately these could not be found during a visit by the present writer, but the Ordnance Survey Record cards for this site, which refer to Willett's tracing, give a grid reference for the site at TQ 259057. This is now the Victoria Recreation Ground, but was once part of a larger brickfield.

Two other brickfields need to be considered here. Both are shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey 25-in maps of 1873–5. One is in Aldrington at TQ 273052, but another larger and possibly older example once existed on the Portslade/Aldrington parish boundary at TQ 262052. Either of these might be one of the sites recorded by Horsfield and the provenience of the smaller group of pottery referred to above. Of course it is possible that Horsfield's site and the find spot of the pottery provenienced as coming from Aldrington can be located at the Victoria Road site. The growth of Portslade from an inland village to a seaside town now larger than its older coastal neighbour Aldrington may have produced a situation resulting in the confusion of find spots. Later discoveries could have become associated with Portslade, and the earlier with Aldrington. This might of course imply that the cemetery had been quite substantial, with discoveries continuing over a long period. However, there is no certain evidence that this was so, and it is only

possible to locate firmly Willett's site.

The Extant Finds, Portslade

Note numbers in brackets refer to drawings, and Brighton Museum accession numbers are given where applicable.

Fine Wares

1. 250032, Ae 68. Samian ware dish of form 18/31, the stamp of which is indecipherable. This vessel is an East Gaulish product, and is more likely to be early than late, possibly early- to mid-3rd century. Found placed over the top of beaker 6. (250020, Ae 25) (Fig. 7).

2. 250030, Ae 36. Short globular 'hunt' beaker in a fine white fabric with a blue/black colour coat. The design of a dog chasing a stag, is executed in barbotine. The white fabric and sinuous design of the running stag and hound, mark this out as a lower Rhineland product rather than Nene Valley (Anderson 1982, 14-16). The products of the latter kilns commonly have a yellowish fabric and the design is less flowing. The wide curved form places this in a Hadrianic context. Antonine and later 'hunt' beakers from the Rhineland are taller and have a more angular form (Fig. 8 a and b).

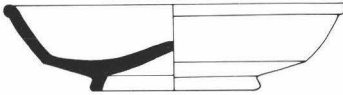


Fig. 7

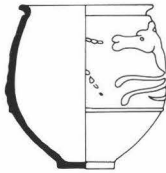


Fig. 8a



Fig. 8b

Coarse Wares

3. 250017, Ae 22. High shouldered jar with a cordoned neck and everted rim. The shoulders are decorated with a low double cordon. Hard grey/buff gritty fabric. For general remarks concerning the form and decoration of this type of

vessel, see number 5 below. Cremation A was contained in this jar (Fig. 9).

4. 250018, Ae 23. Jar in a hard grey gritty fabric with numerous ironstone and other inclusions. This vessel is very similar to some of the early Alice Holt products, notably Lyne and Jefferies type 1.19; with a first- or early-2nd century date. However, the products of this industry do not reach Sussex in any quantity before the 3rd century. It is possible, though unlikely, that this may represent an early example or alternatively a local copy. Cremation B was found in this vessel (Fig. 10).

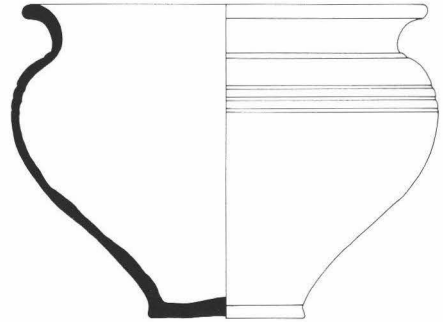


Fig. 9

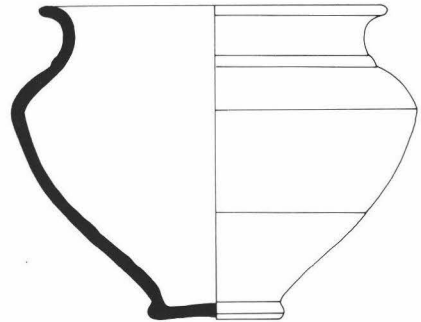


Fig. 10

5. 250019, Ae 24. Jar with cordoned neck and double cordoned girth in a hard gritty light grey fabric. The rim is broken and missing. The decoration of this jar is very similar to some of the later Alice Holt products, especially Lyne and Jefferies (1979) type 1.31. The development of girth cordoning seems to be a late 2nd- or 3rd-century development (Lyne and Jefferies 1979, 35). Form 1.31 is dated AD 180-270, but Alice Holt products are rare in Sussex before the 3rd century. This form is paralleled locally by examples from Preston (Kelly and Dudley 1981, Fig. 7.1) where it is given a 1st-century date although the supporting evidence for this is not certain, and Worthing (Fenton 1886,

Fig. 1). The pottery sequence from Newhaven also has two jars from an Antonine context which show familiar features. Numbers 140 and 207 (Bell 1976, 273, 279) both have girth cordons/grooves, and 140 also has a neck cordon. The form of 140 is reminiscent of number 3 above, and the fabric of both Newhaven vessels is similar to the Portslade examples (Fig. 11).

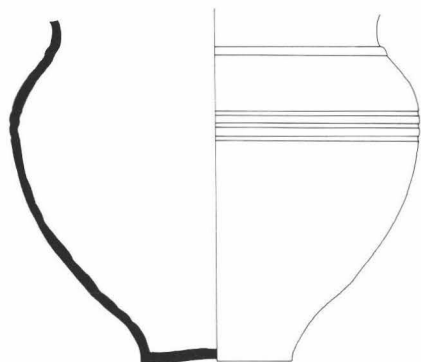


Fig. 11

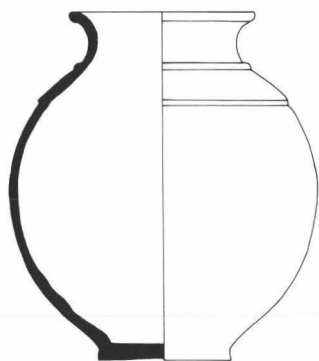


Fig. 12

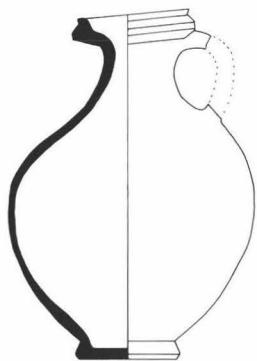


Fig. 13

6. 250020, Ae 25. Large beaker with a cordoned and stepped neck. Hard light grey gritty fabric, somewhat micaceous. Found covered by Samian dish 1, which probably suggests a date for this jar in the late 2nd or 3rd centuries. Cremation D was contained in this vessel (Fig. 12).

7. 250031, Ae 37. Flagon with a pulley wheel rim, in a fine sandy fabric, mottled grey off white in colour. I can find no exact parallels for this flagon, but similar examples are known from Chichester (Fig. 13).

8. 250032, Ae 38. Bottle with a treble cordoned shoulder in a coarse hard grey sandy fabric. The fabric contains a few dark inclusions, probably ironstone, of up to 3 mm. in length (Fig. 14).

9. 250033, Ae 39. Small wide-mouthed beaker of bulbous form in a hard light grey sandy fabric with a flat base and applied handle. A large decorated example of this type is known from Fishbourne (Cunliffe 1971, type 263), where it is dated early- to mid-3rd century (Fig. 15).

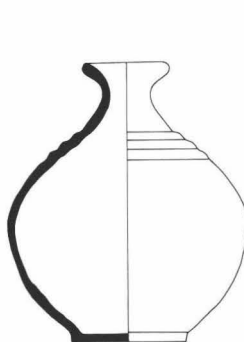


Fig. 14

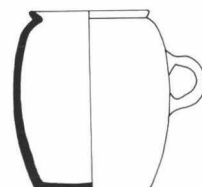


Fig. 15

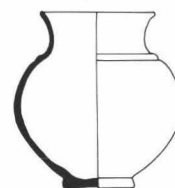


Fig. 16

10. 250034, Ae 40. Small globular poppyhead beaker with a cordoned shoulder, in a fine hard grey fabric. An exact parallel exists from Chichester (Down and Rule 1979, 94, Fig. 23d) which is dated mid- to late-2nd century (Fig. 16).

11. 250035, Ae 41. (A) Circular platter in a coarse buff/brown gritty fabric, with numerous dark inclusions (Fig. 17).

12. 250035, Ae 41. (B) Circular platter rather smaller than A in a grey/brown fabric with inclusions. The interior is slightly ridged (Fig. 18).

Four other sherds of pottery, probably representing vessels broken on excavation are in the Museum's collection, as well as a small quantity of a very friable orange coloured material which may be daub. The single identifiable sherd is the shoulder of a poppyhead beaker in a grey reduced fabric, decorated with a lozenge pattern of barbotine dots. Of the seventeen complete vessels recovered by Willett the above twelve seem to be the only ones which were presented to the Brighton Museum. The whereabouts of the remaining five is unknown, and a series of drawings by Willett which he placed in the library of the Society of Antiquaries (Willett 1877) seem to have been mislaid. Nevertheless it is clear from Willett's (1877) written description, that three of the missing five were of Samian or colour coated ware.



Fig. 17



Fig. 18

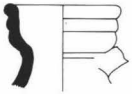


Fig. 20

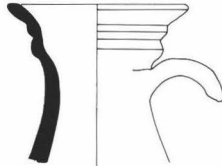


Fig. 21

The Cremations

Four cremations from this site were recovered, and these were kindly examined by Dr Phillip Armitage, formerly of the Booth Natural History Museum who suggested the following brief comments.

- (A) Skull and limb bone fragments from one individual. The bones are heavily burnt and broken, and it is not possible to deduce more from them due to their condition. A single large iron nail was associated with this cremation.
- (B) Very fragmentary skull and limb bone fragments with some dental material from one individual. Associated with this cremation were the remains of four iron nails.
- (C) Heavily burnt and broken skull and limb bone fragments from one individual.
- (D) Human skull and limb bone fragments, well broken.

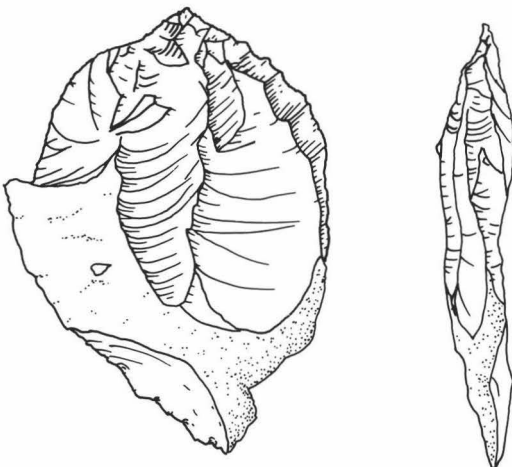


Fig. 19

No dental material was apparent. Associated with the cremation was the unburnt skull of a sub adult/adult hornless sheep, and a single oval retouched flint flake (Fig. 19).

The very fragmentary condition of the cremations may have been due to the rather rudimentary recovery techniques. However, Dr. Armitage suggested that the similar condition of all four burials might support the view that this was a deliberate funerary custom. If this is so it might indicate that the four cremations are representative of a single community.

The association of the iron nails with the burnt bones is fairly certain as several of the nails had fragments of bone adhering to the oxide deposits, and jar number 5 had the remains of a nail attached to the interior wall of the jar. The nails did not appear to have been burnt, and so may be deliberate inclusions at the time of burial. The depositing of nails with the cremated remains is paralleled in Sussex, by burials from the cemetery at Seaford (Price 1882), and in a cremation burial at South Malling (Norris 1956). The presence of these nails, and also possibly of the flint scraper (see below) may be indicative of some form of burial custom, connected to easing the entry of the dead to the after life as has recently been suggested (Black 1986). The sheep skull associated with cremation D, may have been intended as nourishment for the dead person in the afterlife, or possibly, like the nails, intended as a ritual deposit to facilitate entry into the netherworld. One of the recovered cremations also contained:

. . . a little heart shaped fibula of bronze attached to which is a chain of Trichinopoli pattern . . . (Willett 1877).

Again this could either have been a votive deposit or included in the burial for the dead person's use.

The single flint artefact is a roughly oval flint flake, retouched on one edge as a scraper. It is unburnt and so must have been added to cremation D at or after the time of burial. Deposits of flint flakes are also known from the burials at Seaford (Price 1882). However, Prehistoric remains are known to have been found at the Victoria Road site and this example may have been redeposited, at time of burial or excavation.

The Finds from Aldrington

Although provenienced as coming from Aldrington, the date of collection (1879) and the similarity in date of this group to Willett's pottery might suggest that they came originally from the same site as Willett's group. Certainly no other sites of Roman date are recorded as existing in the area at this time.

13. 250161, R. 1572/1. Part of the base of a form 31 Samian platter. The potter's stamp reads MACRINVS, a Lezoux worker. Oswald (1931) gives the products of this particular manufacturer a Hadrianic/Antonine date (not illustrated).

14. 250161, R. 1572/2. This vessel could not be found in Brighton Museum's collections. However, the Museum's index describes it as: 'Half a Samian basin Dragendorf form 44. Possibly of Lezoux fabric'.

15. 250162, R. 1572/3. Rim, neck and part of the handle of a large wide-mouthed flagon. The fabric is pinkish with a grey core, covered with the remains of a white slip (Fig. 20).

16. 250163, R. 1572/4. Part of the neck and rim of a flagon. The fabric is a pinkish buff with a black core (Fig. 21).

17. 250164, R. 1572/5. Neck of a flagon or bottle, in a fine sandy micaceous fabric, buff in colour (not illustrated).
 18. 250165, R. 1572/6. Base of a vessel in a gritty light grey ware with large black inclusions (not illustrated).

Discussion

Although he did not see the actual excavation of the cremation burials, Willett was able to obtain a description of their arrangement from the workmen involved.

The graves were about 3 feet long by 18 inches wide and were formed as usual by layers of flints on which was placed a cinerary urn accompanied by two or three smaller vessels (Willett 1877).

Given the seventeen vessels recovered on this occasion, at least four and possibly six cremation burials of late-2nd or 3rd-century date, perhaps representative of one community were recovered. The fairly close date range of the vessels must pose the problem of whether the Victoria Road site was merely a small local burial ground used for a short period. The various references in local newspapers imply that other burials had been found, and the pottery from Aldrington may have been mis-provenanced. It is also possible that Horsfield's site might be located here, but there is no firm evidence of this. In the absence of any corroborating proof of a large burial ground the burials recovered by Willett are best considered in isolation.

No features are known in the immediate vicinity which might indicate the settlement represented by these burials, and it is unlikely now that any will be found. However, an area of occupation is known about a mile to the north of Eastwick Cottages on Foredown Hill. The area was studied by Winbolt (1926) who attempted to pin down the site of a Roman building believed to exist in the vicinity of Portslade Windmill, where building debris had been found in the 19th century (Haverfield 1888). Winbolt was unsuccessful in this, but managed to record a scatter of pottery to the east of the smithy (TQ 259068) where a number of 4th-century coins had been found in 1900. Winbolt (1935) considered that any building was probably halfway between windmill and smithy, approximately at TQ 359067. Subsequent development of this area has produced no reports of any structures being found, and further investigation is now impossible. Ward (1932) may also have been referring to this site when he recorded finds from the downland above Portslade.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Alan Ward and Nicki King for reading the text and suggesting improvements, Philip Armitage for examining the cremations, and Anthony King for giving his opinion on the Samian. Also I would like to express my gratitude to John Roles and Marion Waller for allowing me access to the collections at Brighton Museum.

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A Roman Grave Group from Fulking Corner, Portslade

In the middle of the last century, Mr. Edward Blaker of East Hill Portslade purchased an area of previously virgin downland some three-quarters of a mile to the south west of the Devils Dyke. Upon ploughing, a great mass of pottery sherds was uncovered in the vicinity of Fulking Corner (TQ 252101). The four complete vessels recorded here were also found in this area although the exact spot is not known. Presumably these were not found during ploughing, but by some digging operation. Two complete beakers and a Samian dish and five sherds, the latter being the only extant finds from the ploughsoil, were presented by Mr. Blaker to Brighton Museum shortly after discovery, and a single jar was given by his son in 1926. Apart from a brief description by Winbolt (1935) this pottery has not previously been published.

The Pottery

Note: Brighton Museum accession numbers are given

where applicable.

1. 250230, R 2838/3. Large jar in a hard, light grey fabric, with numerous dark inclusions. The neck is decorated with a single cordon, and two more encompass the vessel's girth. This jar seems to have contained a cremation, and some fragments of burnt bone still adhere to the interior, but this cremation does not seem to have been presented to the Museum with the jar (Fig. 22).

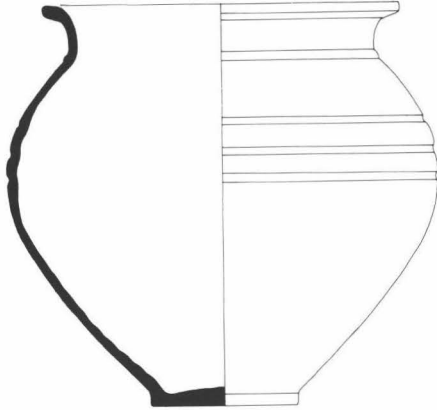


Fig. 22

2. 250231, R 2838/4. Samian dish of form 31. This is probably an East Gaulish product. However, the multiplicity of fabrics from the East Gaulish kilns makes pinpointing the origin of a particular vessel difficult. This dish is unstamped but the poor quality of the glaze may indicate that this is a late product, probably mid-3rd century. The vessel was broken in antiquity and several holes have been bored through the sides to facilitate repair. The amount of wear apparent on this dish probably indicates a fairly long life prior to burial (Fig. 23).

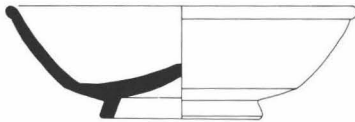


Fig. 23

3. 250232, R 2838/5. Small globular beaker in a fine hard light grey fabric, with a dark purple/black colour coat. Narrow incised bands of decoration run around the vessel's circumference above and below the girth. This vessel is very similar to some of the products of the New Forest kilns, especially Fulford's (1975) type 30, and the fabric fits in well with Fulford's 1a category. The plain globular beaker seems to enter production at the beginning of the 4th century and continue into the 5th (Fulford 1975, 52) (Fig. 24).

4. 250233, R 2838/6. Small bag-shaped beaker in a fairly soft, off white/buff fabric with a red-brown colour coat. A

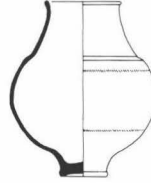


Fig. 24



Fig. 25

single incised line runs around the circumference. This is probably also a New Forest product. The form is very similar to Fulford's (1975) form 44, although this form is generally not as squat as this example. The reduced fabric and colour coat might indicate that this is an example of the 1a fabric category. This form of beaker is dated the late 3rd- to mid 4th-century (Fulford 1975, 56-8) (Fig. 25).

Another five odd potsherds, three of which are of East Sussex ware, also seem to have been presented to the Museum at the same time as the other vessels. The remains of some highly corroded small iron nails are also part of this assemblage. These may have come from a box in which the burial was contained, or possibly represent the remains of a pair of sandals originally included in the grave. Their condition does not make it possible to determine which.

Although these vessels all come from the same general area there is no written evidence pertaining to their discovery, so their association is not proved. Therefore it needs to be considered whether a single or multiple burial is represented. Certainly they form a compatible group: jar, dish, and two beakers, which can be paralleled in other cremation burials, for example at the St. Pancras cemetery at Chichester (Down and Rule 1971, 89-122), and nearer at hand by a late Roman burial at West Blatchington (Gilkes 1987). The beakers 3 and 4 seem to overlap in date and could certainly both have been included in an early 4th-century burial. The Samian dish 2 might be residual, its battered and worn state has already been noted and this may have prompted its inclusion with a burial. The cinerary jar 1 may possibly be an Alice Holt product. The decoration is similar to Alice Holt cordoned jars, notably Lyne and Jefferies (1979) type 1.31, which were introduced from the late 2nd-century onwards. Production continued until the late 4th-century. However it should be noted that this jar has neither the three-quarter profile or downturned rim characteristic of the later Alice Holt products of this type. Another possibility is that this is a local product. Primary vessels for cremations with this triple cordon decoration are found frequently with burials in the Brighton area. An example from the Preston villa is dated without apparent justification to the 1st century AD (Kelly and Dudley 1981 Fig. 7.1), and another example is known from Worthing (Fenton 1886, Fig. 1). Further examples with a late 2nd- or 3rd-century date to judge from associated pottery, are stored in Brighton Museum. It is possible that these cordoned jars might have continued into the 4th century but this cannot at present be proved.

It is possible then that this group of pottery represents a single cremation group of the late 3rd- or early 4th-century, although without definite proof of association this judgement must be tentative. More than one burial may indeed be represented here.

In 1983, Bob Saville and the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society conducted a field walk over the area known as Scabes Castle which lies immediately to the east of Fulking Corner (finds and records in Brighton Museum). The finds were badly abraded compared with the material recovered in the last century, and a long period of ploughing has probably considerably damaged underlying features. The results of the fieldwalk indicate concentrated occupation in the area from the Iron Age to the Later Roman period, and it was noticeable that the concentrations of burnt flint, Iron Age and Romano-British pottery and tile were heaviest in the northwestern part of the area walked, that is close by Fulking Corner (TQ 252101) (Saville 1984). This seems to suggest that ancient occupation was located on the eastern slopes of Fulking Hill close to Fulking Corner, a place well sheltered from the prevailing wind. Such a location would parallel other downland settlements, for example Thundersbarrow Hill.

It has recently been suggested on the basis of fragmentary flue and roof tile found in this area that a villa may have existed near to Fulking Corner (Black 1987, 155, and Winbolt 1935, 54). While this might be possible any such establishment is more likely to have taken the form of a Romanised farmstead like that excavated at Park Brow, or the late establishment at Lambs Lea, near East Dean in West Sussex (Gilkes, forthcoming).

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Nicki King for reading the text and suggesting improvements. In addition I would like to thank John Roles and Marion Waller for allowing me access to the collections at Brighton Museum, and affording me all possible assistance.

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Two 9th-Century Anglo-Saxon Strap-Ends from East Sussex

In September 1984 Mr. Lawrence Gaston was prospecting near an old trackway halfway up the hill on the east side of Westmeston when he located the finest example of an ornamented Anglo-Saxon strap-end to have been found in Sussex (Figs. 26–27). It was 'about 12 ins. deep', he reported, 'laying flat in the ground, 4 ins. of turf then virgin chalk'.¹ Subsequently, in 1986, Mr. S. J. Isted brought likewise to the attention of the Sussex Archaeological Society (Barbican House) Museum another such strap-end (Fig. 28) said by him to have been found in his garden at Eridge Green, Landport, Lewes.² They may be described as follows:

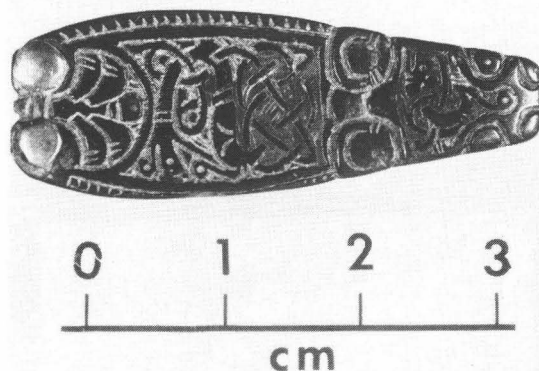
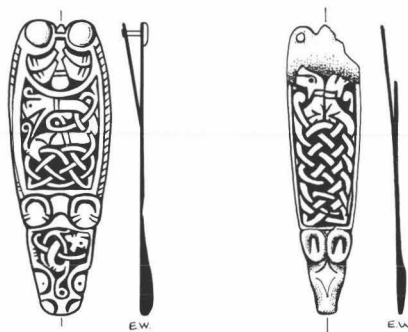


Fig. 26 Anglo-Saxon strap-end of copper alloy with silver rivets, from Westmeston, East Sussex.



Figs. 27–28 Anglo-Saxon strap-ends of copper alloy from Westmeston (left), and of silver from Lewes (right). Scale 1:1. Drawn by Eva Wilson.

Strap-end of copper alloy (Figs. 26–27) in excellent condition, although very worn down one side, with incised decoration containing the remains of niello inlay and with a pair of intact silver rivets at the split-end; the reverse in plain. It terminates in a stylised animal's head seen from above, with prominent oval ears containing lunate incisions, below which (on the forehead) is a field containing a single animal with its head in the top right-hand corner. It has a squared-off snout and drilled eye, with a snake-like body forming an

interlacing loop with two tendril-like extensions, one of which curls downwards between the eyes of the animal-head terminal, with a drilled end, above the nostrils indicated by semi-circular lines. There is a hatched or beaded border along both sides of the main body of the strap-end which contains a sub-rectangular field with a concave upper edge into which extends a fan-shaped field containing a 'potted plant' motif (consisting of a bud, with a double band, between two pairs of leaves with nicked lower edges), extending downwards from between the rivets. The main field contains a single backward-looking animal in profile, enmeshed in interlace. The open-jawed head in the top left-hand corner has a drilled eye and a club-like extension, with a drilled terminal (to be interpreted as the ear). There is a double band forming a collar around the neck. Instead of a front leg the forequarters are indented for a penetrating ribbon which forms the knot of interlace below the animal (into which its featureless hind-leg extends); this has two leaf-like off-shoots, one between the neck and the body and the other in the top right-hand corner. The tail is treated in the same manner as the ear and extends upwards into its open jaws. Length: 385 mm.

Sussex Archaeological Society (Barbican House) Museum. Found in 1984 at Westmeston, East Sussex.

Strap-end of silver (Fig. 28), broken across the split-end so that the upper part of the front is missing, although the back retains one of its original pair of rivet-holes being broken across the other; the reverse is plain. The terminal takes the form of a stylised moulded animal's head, seen from above, with a squared-off snout and prominent oval ears containing lunate incisions, having a convex-sided lozenge incised on its forehead. The main body of the strap-end is occupied by a single field, within a plain border, containing incised decoration consisting of a pair of confronted animals with interlaced bodies; it was presumably nielloed (? scrubbed out). The animals are backward looking, with open jaws, a drilled eye and an ear that extends forward above the eye and snout; a double band forms a collar around the neck. A short fore-leg is turned backwards beneath the body with the foot roughly indicated. The body degenerates into ribbon-interlace returning to terminate in a scroll within its own jaws. The bodies interlace with each other (that of the right-hand animal having an additional loop) and with an oval ring situated towards the bottom of the field. Length: 380 mm.

Sussex Archaeological Society (Barbican House) Museum. Found in 1986 at Lewes, East Sussex.

These two strap-ends are representative examples of a well-known type of late Anglo-Saxon ornamental metalwork, most fashionable in the 9th century, decorated with the so-called 'Trehwiddle style' on their obverse. The terminal in the form of an animal's head seen from above is a standard feature, with the oval ears (rather than comma-shaped) being characteristic of those from southern England.³ The main variation in such strap-ends is provided by the ornament on the body, occupying one or more fields (see, for example, those illustrated and discussed in Wilson 1964, and in Graham-Campbell 1982).

The stylised animals on both the new Sussex strap-ends share a number of details in their treatment, apart from their common characteristic of degeneration into interlace. These

are the squared snouts, open jaws (around their own tails), small circular eyes, forward-projecting ears, and collared necks.

The pair of confronted animals, with interlaced bodies, on the simpler of the strap-ends, from Lewes (Fig. 28), is found on a number of other such strap-ends (e.g. Wilson 1964, no. 144: an unprovenanced example in the British Museum), as well as on other Trehwiddle-style artefacts, such as the splendid gold finger-ring from the River Reno at Bologna (Bruce-Mitford 1956, pl. xxii, b-d). The animals themselves, however, are more closely related to those in somewhat similar postures, but separate fields, on a silver strap-end from Dymchurch, Kent (Wilson 1964, Fig. 1).

The Lewes strap-end, although competently designed and executed, and even if made in silver, is not to be compared for quality with the exceptionally fine example from Westmeston (Figs. 26–27). This is evident in many respects, from the detail of the perfect 'potted-plant' motif in the customary fan-shaped field at the top (missing on the Lewes example), down to the ingeniously contorted creature filling the forehead of its animal-head terminal. The latter is paralleled on such first-class Trehwiddle-style pieces as the Poslingford, Suffolk, finger-ring (Wilson 1964, no. 61, fig. 29). The single animal occupying the main field has strong similarities to animals on a high-quality silver hooked-tag, excavated in Canterbury, Kent (Graham-Campbell 1982, fig. 2.2). There is no doubt that the Trehwiddle-style ornament of this piece will receive fuller discussion in due course, when this important phase of late Anglo-Saxon art receives its much-needed re-appraisal.

It has been the intention here solely to bring forward sufficient evidence to place these strap-ends securely within the corpus of late Anglo-Saxon metalwork and to demonstrate that they are fully at home in southern English art of the 9th century. Their immediate importance lies in the fact that examples of such quality, mainstream Trehwiddle-style ornament have not previously been recorded from Sussex. Indeed, the only late Anglo-Saxon strap-end from the county in Wilson's hand-list (1964, 99–116) was that, now apparently lost, found at Selsey (Salzmann 1912, 60, pl. v); none other has since come to attention.⁴

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Notes

¹ In a letter to the author (December, 1984).

² Information from the Curator, Fiona Marsden, to whom I am grateful for the invitation to publish these strap-ends.

³ As noted by Mrs. Leslie Webster, in a paper read to the British Museum's '9th-Century Symposium' (January 1987).

⁴ Since this Note went to press two further strap-ends have been found in East Sussex, near Bishopstone church (see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* 127, forthcoming).

References

- Bruce-Mitford, R. L. S. 1956 'Late Saxon Disc-Brooches', in *Dark-Age Britain* (ed. D. B. Harden), 171–201.
Graham-Campbell, J. A. 1982 'Some new and neglected finds

- of 9th-century Anglo-Saxon ornamental metalwork', *Med. Arch.* 26, 144–51.
- Salzmann, L. F. 1912 'Excavations at Selsey, 1911', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* 55, 56–62.
- Wilson, D. M. 1964 *Anglo-Saxon Ornamental Metalwork, 700–1100, in the British Museum*. London: Trustees of the British Museum.

A Saxon Coin-Brooch from Alfriston

I have been loaned for identification and recording purposes a Saxon coin-brooch found near Alfriston (approximately TQ 503038).

The coin (Fig. 29) is a silver penny of King Edward the Confessor, and is of the Expanding Cross Type (B.M.C. V), c. 1050–1053. The reverse legend reads: L[*E*]OFENOD ON

GLEPL (i.e. the moneyer Leofnoth of the Gloucester mint).

At some stage (presumably after the death of King Edward) the coin was used to make a gilt brooch. Originally, four small copper alloy studs passed through the coin from the reverse side and then continued into a pair of copper alloy clasps located on the obverse of the coin (only one of these clasps and two of the studs still remain). The reverse of the coin was then gilded. The brooch was cracked prior to its recent discovery.

Acknowledgements

I should like to thank the finder, Mr. B. E. Forrest, for loaning me the brooch, and Ms. Ruth A. Parkin, who produced the illustration.

Author: David Rudling, Institute of Archaeology, University of London.

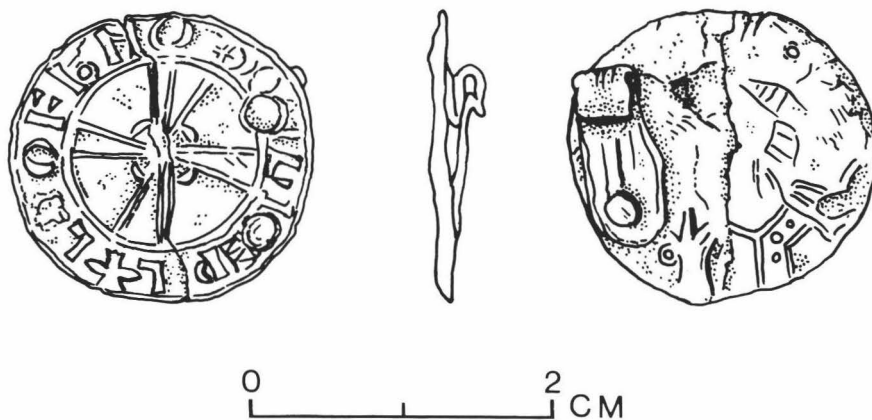


Fig. 29

The Medieval Farm on Bullock Down

Since the publication of the main Bullock Down multiperiod landscape project (Drewett 1982), various new discoveries of medieval material have been made on Bullock Down Farm. In addition, another recent discovery is that of a silver penny of King Eadgar, and this is the first artifact found on Bullock Down which can definitely be attributed to the Saxon period.

The Medieval Farm in Kiln Combe

Since the excavation of the medieval farmstead in Kiln Combe (Drewett 1982, 143–90) the farmer, Mr E. Williams, has found various metal objects and coins in the ploughed field some 40 metres east of the excavated area (Drewett 1982, Fig. 85). These items are catalogued below.

Metalwork (by Peter Drewett)

a, Silver

1. Finger-ring in the form of a buckled belt. Inscribed

M TO PR. No marks inside the ring. (Fig. 30).

b, Copper Alloy

- 2.–3. Fragments of gilt copper alloy harness pendants. (Fig. 30).

- 4.–5. Harness pendant fragment (these two fragments are parts of the same pendant). (Fig. 30).

6. Small annular brooch or buckle. (Fig. 30).

7. D-shaped buckle frame. (Fig. 30).

- 8.–9. Strap-ends.

10. Strap attachment (cf. Drewett 1982, Fig. 100, no. 3).

11. Key from box or small chest. (Fig. 30).

12. Rivetted fitting, perhaps from a wooden box.

Close dating of these objects is difficult, but clearly they are associated with the adjacent farmstead which has a likely period of occupation from c. 1250–1550 A.D.

Coins

1. HENRY II (1154–1189). Cross and crosslets (Tealby) Type Coinage, 1158–1180. Cut Farthing of uncertain Class, Mint or Moneyer (the coin is too worn for such

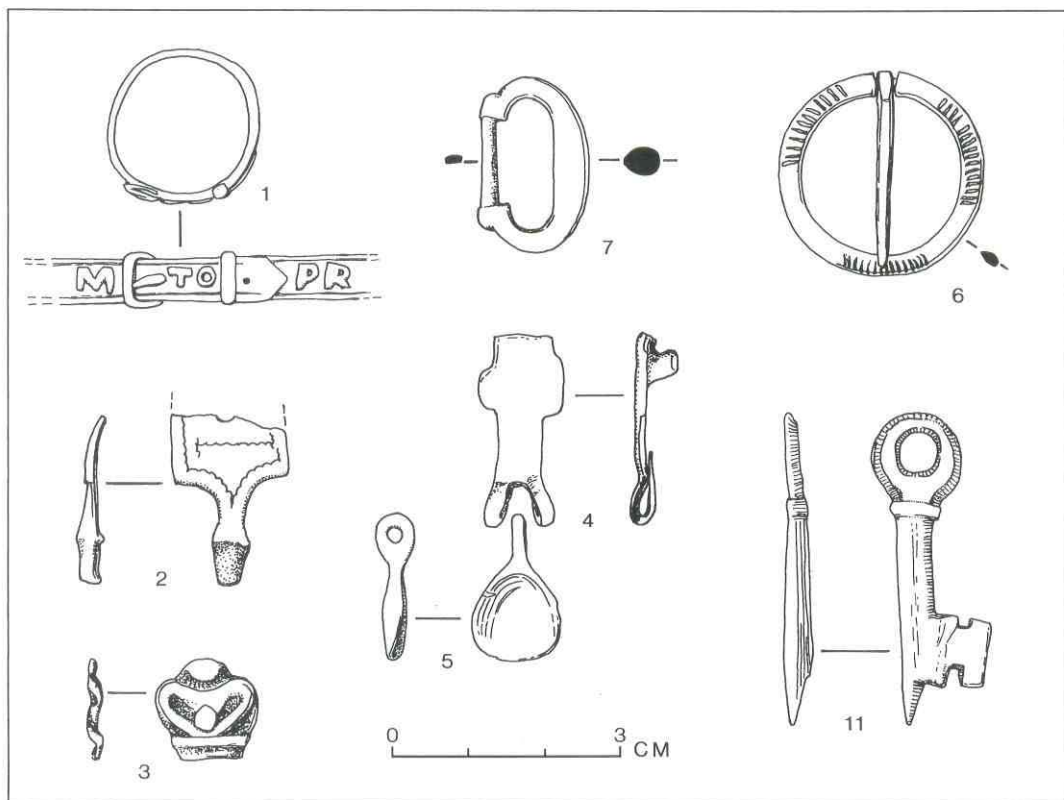


Fig. 30. Bullock Down, Kiln Combe. Medieval metalwork.

identification). From late Saxon times until the reign of Edward I small change was provided by the cutting of silver pennies into halves (halfpennies) and quarters (farthings).

2. HENRY II. Short Cross Coinage, 1180–1189. Silver Penny, Class 1c. Reference: *North* 964. Reverse legend: RAUL ON LVNDE (ie the moneyer Raul of the London mint). No signs of clipping, but signs of wear on the raised surfaces.

3. EDWARD I (1272–1307). New Coinage (from 1279). Silver Farthing, Class I (1279). Reverse: LONDONIENSIS (ie London mint). Ref.: *North* 1051. Signs of wear on the raised surfaces, quite worn in places.

4. EDWARD I. Farthing, Class IIIc (1280–1). London mint. Ref.: *North* 1053. Not very worn.

5. EDWARD I. Farthing, Class IV (1282–3). London mint. Ref.: *North* 1054. Some signs of wear on the raised surfaces.

The only other medieval coin found at the farmstead in Kiln Combe was a dinero of Ferdinand III of Castile and Leon (1230–52). Other medieval coins from Bullock Down Farm include a dinheiro of Alfonso III of Portugal (1248–79) and two silver pennies of Edward I of England (Rudling *in* Drewett 1982, 162–3).

Chimney pot

An additional surface find from the site of the

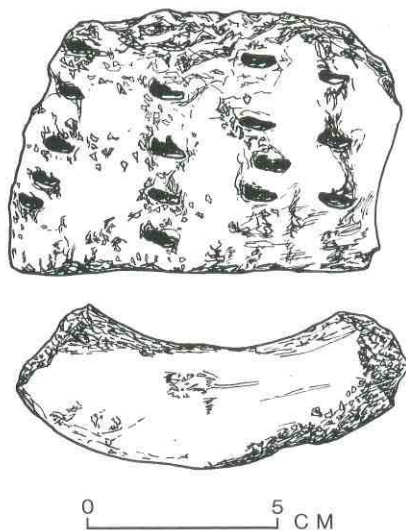


Fig. 31. Bullock Down, Kiln Combe. Medieval chimney pot sherd.

excavations in Kiln Combe is a piece of chimney pot (Fig. 31). This sherd is grey-buff in colour, and has a medium-coarse flint temper. The external surface is stabbed. This is the first fragment of chimney pot to have been found at the Kiln Combe farmstead.

Field 0016

During 1987 Mr Williams discovered a Saxon penny (Fig. 32) to the north of the pond in Field 0016 (Drewett 1982, Fig. 44). This findspot is just to the south of the site of one of the Romano-British settlements (Site 16) on Bullock Down.

EADGAR (959-975). Pre-Reform Coinage (959-973). Silver Penny. Cross Type (B.M.C.iii). Obverse: the legend EADGAR REX ANGLORVM, around a small cross pattée. Reverse: the legend LEOFPOLD MONETA PILTVN (ie the moneyer Leofwold of the Wilton mint, Wiltshire), around a small cross pattée. Reference: *North* 749.



Fig. 32. Bullock Down. Penny of King Eadgar.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Mr E. Williams who kindly loaned me his recent discoveries; Dr P. L. Drewett for his report on the metalwork finds; and Mrs L. Drewett who produced the illustrations of the metalwork and the chimney pot sherd.

Author: David Rudling, Institute of Archaeology, University of London.

References

- Drewett, P. 1982 *The Archaeology of Bullock Down, Eastbourne, East Sussex: The Development of a Landscape*. Sussex Archaeological Society Monograph 1.
 North, J. J. 1975 *English Hammered Coinage, 2, Edward I to Charles II, 1272-1662*. Second Edition. London.
 North, J. J. 1980 *English Hammered Coinage, 1, Early Anglo-Saxon to Henry III, c. 600-1272*. Second Edition. London.

Finds of Pottery and Glass at Thakeham

The timber-framed house known as 'Old Cottage', Greenhurst Lane, Thakeham (TQ 098158), which appears to be of 17th-century date, had the brick floor of the living room lowered by c. 0.3 metre in 1986. There was no archaeological supervision, but care was taken to watch for anything unusual. It is understood that there were no signs of an earlier hearth, and structural features were not apparent. Amongst the soil removed close to the angle of the NW corner of the room (one wall being external) were some large pieces of coarse pottery.¹ Just beyond the outside north wall, close to the corner of the room and within 0.5 metre of the potsherds, was found a lump of dark-coloured glass. The latter was first shown to Mrs. H. G. Holden, who recognised it immediately as part of a linen-smoother.

Pottery (Fig. 33, A)

There were three large sherds with abraded edges, lightly covered on faces and edges with patches of thin clay: further breaks occurred during soil removal by the workmen. The sherds formed part of the wall of a large vessel, probably a storage jar, the maximum diameter being c. 430-35 mm. The fabric has a grey core and internal face of the same colour, while externally it is a mottled red-brown with a roughish surface. Tempering is of sand and flint grit, some of the fragments being up to 2 mm. long. This fabric resembles some Sussex 10th- to 13th-century coarse wares. There are no signs of wheel-turning, whereas there are slight indications of hand manufacture, possibly in sections, as postulated by M. W. Barley at Torksey, Lincs.² There are remains of two vertical bands of decoration which fade out at one end, suggesting that, following other known examples, the sherds are from the lower half of the vessel. Equally spaced there would be about ten vertical applied strips around the circumference of the storage jar.

Such strips occur on large pots from Saxo-Norman times throughout most of the medieval period. K. J. Barton has noted that the method of making and the application of decorative strips varies through the centuries. The Thakeham

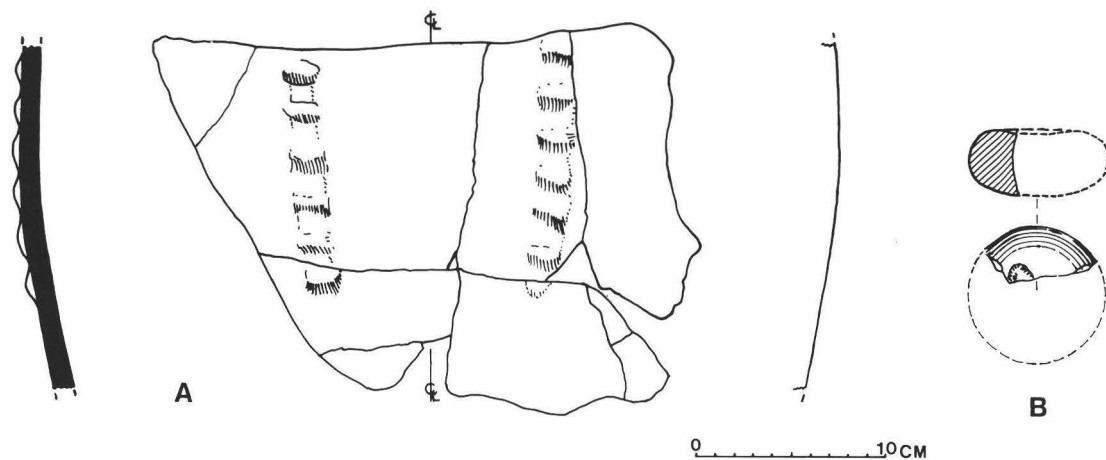


Fig. 33 'Old Cottage', Thakeham. A. Pottery sherds from a large storage jar. B. Glass linen-smoother.

strips conform to his 'strips rolled thin and cut into lengths then applied with vertical wipes giving a "wave" pattern'. This method, he suggests, 'occurred at some time unspecified, but probably during the 12th century'.³ Storage jars with applied strip decoration were first described in any detail in 1939 by the late G. C. Dunning, who put most of them into the latter half of the 13th century,⁴ but it must be remembered that in 1939 the study of medieval pottery was in its infancy, and in many instances since then dates have been placed somewhat earlier.

Similar jars are known in Sussex,⁵ one huge vessel being found below the floor of Arlington church.⁶ It was noted by Dunning that three such pots were found in the soil below floors, one floor being that of a church (Boxley, Kent), like Arlington; another was found, whole, beneath a farmhouse floor at Fawkham, Kent.⁷ The Thakeham house has every appearance of once being a farmhouse, and it may be no coincidence that pieces of a large storage jar were found beneath the floor. It is possible that more sherds remain to be discovered on the other side of the internal wall. Such jars, when found whole were usually standing upright with the neck about level with the old ground surface. Such was the Arlington jar, while another earlier example with Saxo-Norman characteristics in itself (incised decoration, not applied strips) and in its surroundings, came from Upwaltham, West Sussex, and was standing on what appears to have been the floor of a sunken hut.⁸ The use to which these large vessels were put is unknown. Dunning suggesting that they were used for keeping dry foodstuffs, such as grain or flour. Even when they occur under church floors, he proposes that they could have been used by the masons for such purposes.

Glass Linen-Smoother (Fig. 33, B)

This object was broken in antiquity, originally being bun-shaped. Where the core is visible it is of a grey-black colour, the outer faces including the fractured surfaces being iridescent. Originally it would have had a diameter of c. 74 mm. and a maximum thickness of c. 35.5 mm. The

convex face of a smoother was used for rubbing linen, especially the seams, before smoothing irons came into use.⁹ Probably they had a number of other industrial and household uses. This type was common from Viking times and throughout the medieval period; they are thought to have been imported. Three found in Sussex have already been published: Hangleton (two smoothers of 13th or 14th century date,¹⁰ and from Old Erringham (12th century).¹¹ There are, in addition, three undated specimens in Barbican House, Lewes, from Pulborough, Pevensey and Selmeiston. All six are between 70 and 80 mm. in diameter, and 29–38 mm. in thickness.¹² Glass smoothers were utilised in post-medieval times, but these usually have a glass stem for holding in the hand. Dark glass continued to be used, but becomes clearer by the 18th century, and smoothers probably were made in England.¹³ Pieces of polished marble or stone were also used for smoothing purposes.¹⁴

Conclusions

Neither the pottery nor the linen-smoother can be dated within narrow limits, especially the smoother, which was available for at least 500 years without changing its form. The pottery suggests that it is not later than the 12th century. There can be no guarantee that the pottery or linen-smoother were associated, but their time-spans overlap and both could have been in use simultaneously. Their presence suggests that an earlier structure stood on or near the site of the present house.

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Notes

- ¹ Thanks are due to Ms. G. Reay for showing us the finds.
- ² M. W. Barley, 'The Medieval Borough of Torksey: excavations 1963–8', *Antiq. Jnl.* **61** (1981), 278.
- ³ K. J. Barton, *Medieval Sussex Pottery* (Chichester, 1979), 78–9.
- ⁴ H. C. Andrews & G. C. Dunning, 'A 13th-century stirrup

and storage-jar from Rabley Heath, Herts.', *Antiq. Jnl.* **19** (1939), 303–12.

⁵ Barton, 35–49, 75–9.

⁶ Barton, 49; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* **110** (1972), 125.

⁷ Andrews & Dunning, 305–6, Fig. 3; 309, Fig. 6; the Dorking jar is referred to briefly on p. 310, as from Guildford and is not illustrated, but it has been seen by E. W. H. in Guildford Museum.

⁸ M. Bell, 'Saxon Settlements and Buildings in Sussex', in *The South Saxons*, (ed. P. Brandon, 1978) 49, and Barton, 1979, 44.

⁹ A Cowdray House Inventory of 1682 states: 'IN THE LANDRY (*sic*) Three Tables to Smooth linnen upon . . . eight smoothing irons', F. W. Steer, 'A Cowdray inventory of 1682', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* **105** (1967), 96.

¹⁰ E. W. Holden, 'Excavations at the Deserted Medieval Village of Hangleton Pt I', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* **101** (1963), 163–5, Fig. 35, nos. 10–11.

¹¹ E. W. Holden, 'Excavations at Old Erringham, Shoreham, West Sussex, Pt II, the "Chapel" and Ringwork', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* **118** (1980), 292–3, Fig. 16, no. 8.

¹² Specialists' reports, including discussions on dating glass by means of weathering layers, are in the above papers (notes 10, 11).

¹³ A. M. Terlinden & D. W. Crossley, 'Post-medieval glass-making in Brabant: the excavation of a seventeenth-century furnace at Savenel, Nethen', *Post-Med. Arch.* **15** (1981), 194.

¹⁴ Eliot Curwen, 'Two stone implements from Deans, Piddinghoe' *Suss. Arch. Coll.* **71** (1930), 253–4; G. H. Kenyon, 'Petworth town and trades 1610–1760, Pt II', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* **98** (1960), 74.

Trial Excavations in Horsham, West Sussex, 1987

During October 1987 the Field Archaeology Unit undertook small-scale trial excavations on two sites: Burton's Yard Car Park and the Central Market, which are located to the south of Cophall Way, Horsham. These sites form part of a major scheme of redevelopment, and the aim of the trial excavations was to try to evaluate the archaeological implications of the proposed building work. The land in question is within the area of the medieval town of Horsham (Aldsworth and Freke 1976, 33–5) and lies to the rear of parts of East Street and North Street.

In the north west corner of Burton's Yard Car Park a single trench, 10 metres long and 1 metre wide, was machine excavated to a depth of 1.2 metres. The natural yellow clay was encountered at depths varying from 0.8 to 1.2 metres. No archaeological features were discovered, and the only finds were pieces of modern (19th/20th century) pottery and oyster shells.

On the Central Market site three trenches were machine excavated in the area to the north east of the market stalls. The first trench (2 × 1 metre) revealed, below the modern tarmac, a surface made of bricks. Beneath the bricks was a thin (15 cm.) layer of grey clay, which rested on the natural yellow clay. No finds were recovered from the grey clay. The second trench (maximum dimensions of 8 × 4.5 metres)

revealed no brick surface below the tarmac. The grey clay layer was present however, and this yielded two sherds of late-medieval fine-medium sand tempered pottery. A very shallow (2–5 cm. deep) linear feature, probably the remains of a ditch or gully, was found cutting into the natural yellow clay. No artifacts were found in this feature. The final trench (2 × 1 metre) revealed the same sequence as for the previous trench, but failed to produce any features or finds.

The trial excavations were disappointing in that they yielded only two sherds of late-medieval pottery and no features which can definitely be dated to the medieval period. It should be noted, however, that the sampled areas were very small, and located some distance from the rear boundaries of the tenements which line North Street and East Street. It is hoped that further archaeological work will be possible in this area of Horsham, especially so in locations nearer to the medieval street frontages.

Acknowledgements

The Field Archaeology Unit would like to thank Newland Development Limited and Horsham District Council for permission to undertake the excavations. In addition, the developers kindly arranged for their contractors, James Longley, to provide a machine to excavate the trenches, and the District Council provided a grant towards the staff costs involved by the Field Archaeology Unit. Mr. C. Place assisted the writer during the excavations. The finds and a copy of the Site Archive have been deposited at Horsham Museum.

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Reference

Aldsworth, F. and Freke, D. 1976 *Historic Towns in Sussex, an archaeological survey*. Institute of Archaeology, London.

Two Post-Medieval sword-belt fittings from Pyecombe, West Sussex

During 1987 two copper-alloy belt fittings were submitted for identification to the Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities, the British Museum, by Ms Fiona Marsden, Curator of the Sussex Archaeological Society Museum, Lewes. Both artefacts were recovered by means of a metal detector from Pyecombe, Sussex (TQ 291126).

Description of the objects

Figure 34.1

A cusped horizontal bar, slightly curved along its length in order to fit the belt when riveted. There are three rivet holes, one in the centre and one at each end. Three rings project from the lower edge, from which hang two surviving pendant-mount hooks. The decoration is cast in low relief, with scrolling vine foliage of devolved Renaissance-type. Length of bar: 70 mm.

Figure 34.2

A pendant-mount cast with a similar curve along the length

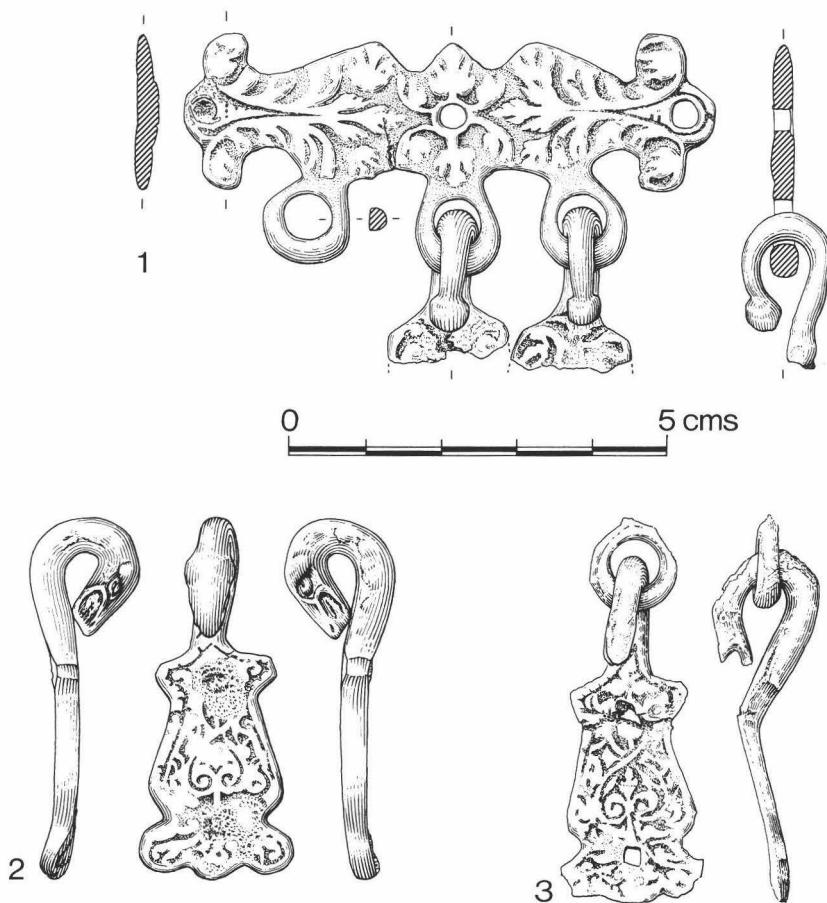


Fig. 34

of the back-plate. Two rivet holes pierce the mount. The forward-curling attachment-hook terminates in a zoomorphic head. The back-plate is decorated with incised geometric scrolling.

Length of mount: 47 mm.

Discussion

Based on comparison with similar types from Moulsham Street in Chelmsford, Essex,¹ these objects from Pyecombe have been identified as part of a set of sword-belt fittings: the horizontal bar for attachment to the sword-belt and the pendant-mounts to the slings. It is highly likely that they were originally gilded. An undecorated bar-fitting from London is housed in the collections of the British Museum.²

The Renaissance-type relief and incised ornament is very similar to that on the Chelmsford types and to the decoration on a wide range of belt fittings from Amsterdam.³ On stylistic grounds, therefore, the Pyecombe examples were probably manufactured between the second half of the 16th and early 17th centuries. The zoomorphic head terminal appears on

fittings of the same date range in Amsterdam.⁴

A pendant-mount of virtually identical form and decoration has recently been recovered as a casual find from Cowthorpe, near Wetherby, N. Yorkshire,⁵ and is illustrated in Fig. 34.3. The extensive distribution of these finds suggest a non-local manufacture for the Pyecombe fittings.

Acknowledgements

The author is most grateful to Fiona Marsden of the Sussex Archaeological Society Museum, Lewes, for submitting the Pyecombe objects for identification and for providing such a reliable provenance. Special thanks are also due to Thom Richardson and Dr. Sarah Bevan of the Royal Armouries, HM Tower of London, for bringing the Chelmsford material to my attention; and to Mrs. Elizabeth Hartley of the Yorkshire Museum, for notifying me of the Cowthorpe find and for allowing it to be illustrated here. I am indebted to Karen Hughes, Graphics Officer at the British Museum, for preparing the illustrations.

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Chelmsford Archaeological Trust Report 5 (CBA, Res. Rep. 54) 1985, 40–43.

² B.M. M.L.A. 56, 7–1, 2869 (C.R.S.) from Fleet St., 1845.

³ J. Baart *et al.*, *Opravingen in Amsterdam: 20 jaar stadskernonderzoek*, Amsterdam, 1977, nos. 186–92.

⁴ Baart *et al.*, no. 196.

⁵ Yorkshire Museum, York, 1987, 32.

Notes

¹ B. Ellis, 'Part of a set of fittings from a sword-belt'. in *Post-medieval sites and their pottery: Moulsham Street, Chelmsford*, ed. C. M. Cunningham and P. J. Drury,

This section of the *Collections* is devoted to short notes on aspects of local history. Those without previous experience in writing up such material for publication should not be deterred from contributing; the editor and members of the editorial board will be happy to assist in the preparation of reports and illustrations.

The Evolution of Warlege

In the Domesday Book (DB), *Warlege* is described as a manor in the Hundred of Grinstead but outside the Count of Mortain's Rape of Pevensey.¹ As no farm or village now exists bearing a derivative of the original name, its location has remained unexplained.²

Although an unreliable guide, the list position of *Warlege* in the DB suggests a location on the west side of East Grinstead and Gullege Farm, a faintly similar name, (NGR. TQ 366384) attracts attention as lying in an area of land sandwiched between Imberhorne Manor,³ on the east, and South Malling Lindfield Manor, which was linked with the DB manor of *Berchellie*,⁴ on the West. The development of *W-* > *G-*, as in *Warlege* > Gullege, is philologically unsound⁵ but the places are not unconnected. A possible direct connection between *Warlege* and Gullege is found in the Hearth Tax assessment in 1662 where Gullege and Tilkhurst (the next farm to the south) are listed under the Borough of *Wardley*, in the Hundred of Danehill Horsted.⁶ This connection is strengthened by Post Mortem Inquisitions on three members of the Alfrey family, dated 1574, 1611 and 1643, whose lands, in each case, included Gullege, Tilkhurst and *Wardleigh*.⁷ The link with the Alfrey family can be traced to 1531 and Edmund Alfrey, who devised Gullege and the entail of Tilkhurst.⁸

The Hundred of Danehill Horsted, which, it has been shown above, extended into part of East Grinstead parish in the 17th century, was descended from the medieval Hundred of Denne, which combined with the Hundred of Riston and became the Hundred of Rushmonden. In the Lay Subsidy of 1296, in the Hundred of Rushmonden (Denne), William de *Wardlegh* and Robert Alfrey are among those subject to taxation. The appearance of William de Kouelyngleghe (Cuttinglye, in the north-east corner of Worth parish) in the same Hundred may imply the northerly extent of the Hundred, although the entry may refer to land in Denne Hundred but owned by someone from outside. Tilkhurst, in the surname forms Telgherst and Telghurst, is listed in the Hundred of East Grinstead, villat' of Hymberhorn (Imberhorne) in the 1296 Subsidy but is transferred to the Hundred of Rushmonden, villat' of Horsted Keynes by 1332.⁹ Elsewhere in the Lay Subsidy there are references to the surname Wardley or Wardeley but they all relate to Iping and can be identified with the property of the same name in that parish.¹⁰

It is suggested that the forms, Wardleigh and Wardley, refer to the same place and that Wardlegh is the direct precursor of the other two. The evolution of *Warlege* > *Wardlegh* > *Wardleigh* > *Wardley* is philologically sound and would seem to represent the probable development of the Domesday manor as an outlying borough on the western edge of East Grinstead.

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Notes

- ¹ John Morris (ed.) *Domesday Book* (1976) 2, Sussex. 22c, 10, 100.
- ² P. Brandon, 'The South Saxon Andredsweald' in *The South Saxons* (1978) ed. P. Brandon, 144, 155. Here it is implied that the identity of *Warlege* is known; supporting evidence is wanting.
- ³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* 38 (1932), 72f.
- ⁴ M. S. Holgate, 'The Canons' Manor of South Malling'. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* 52 (1929), 183-95.
- ⁵ Dr. Richard Coates, pers. comm.
- ⁶ M. J. Burchall (ed.) *Sussex Hearth Tax Assessments 1662* (1980) 2. Pevensey Rape, 40.
- ⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* 14 (1912), 4-5.
- ⁸ J. Comber, *Sussex Genealogies* (1932) Ardingly Centre, 4.
- ⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* 10 (1910); 32, 34, 306-7.
- ¹⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* 10, 100, 117 & 240; also A. Mawer & F. M. Stenton, *The Place Names of Sussex* (1929), 23.

Building Practices in the Eastern Weald around 1700

In 1969 David & Charles of Newton Abbot published a facsimile of *The City and Country Purchaser, and Builder's Dictionary: or, the Compleat Builders Guide . . .* by Richard Neve, Philomath, the second edition, with additions (London: D. Browne, J. & B. Sprint, G. Conyers and C. Rivington, 1726).¹ In so doing they made readily accessible an important source of information on building techniques and costs in eastern Sussex and adjoining parts of Kent. *Builder's Dictionary* is the part of the title which most clearly indicates the book's character: it comprises definitions and descriptions under headings arranged alphabetically, e.g., to take the sequence of headings on pages 13 to 22, Architrave, Aræostyle, Ash [timber], Ashlar, Ashlering, Astragal, Attick. The first edition, published in London by J. Sprint, G. Conyers and T. Ballard in 1703, has been described as 'the first major encyclopaedic approach to the genre published in England'.²

The material relevant to the Weald was unchanged from the first edition, as a study of the latter shows. A dedication, omitted in the second edition, names the author as T. N. who appears on the titlepage as T. N. Philomath. This dedication and a 'proæm', also omitted in the second edition, give some insight into the author's method and intention. 'I have made use of the best authors extant, to the number of about 50, great and small' and 'what lay scattered up and down in diverse volumes, I have comprised under their proper heads

... I have intermixt a great many new things, which were observations of my own making, and some were communicated to me by my friends, many of which were experienced trades, or handicrafts men, whose employments wholly depended on building; and some notions I had from some observing gentlemen, and others that were sometimes master of such buildings'. The author's business has frequently been amongst workmen of diverse professions and different places; his book is intended for the young and ignorant handicrafts man.

The sources of the author's information, as he reveals them, can be placed in four groups: first, writers on architectural theory and style, classical, Italian, French and (one) English; secondly, English writers on building practice; thirdly, informants among building craftsmen; and fourthly, the author's own practical experience. It is the last two groups which are of most interest. In every instance where the author states the locality from which his informants came or for his own observation, it is Sussex, Kent or London, in that order of frequency. For instance, 'some workmen in Sussex tell me that, for framing the carcase of a house and sawing the timber, they have but 8s. per square' (p.138). 'Carpenters about us in Sussex and Kent have about 1s or 1s 2d per load for felling of timber, and about 3s. per load for hewing' (pp.263-4). 'A smith at Rye asked me 9d. per foot for ordinary casements, which I think is dear; for in other parts of Sussex, they proffered me to make them for 6d. per foot, if ordinary' (p.100). 'Mr. Miller, stone-cutter in Coldharbour in London, tells me, that they usually sell firestone hearths at 1s. per foot' (p.131). 'I have bought of these [fire] stones in London for 20s. per pair' (p.115). 'I am informed that at London they but seldom measure the gutters [i.e., valleys], but only as they are as part of the roof, so they are included in the flat and half measure. And I know some workmen at Tunbridge Wells never demand any other . . . In laying of gutters with concave titles, the workmen in some parts of Sussex and Kent had gotten a custom to be allowed so many feet more than the plain measure, as there are gutter tiles' (p.158). The most specific references to localities mention corroded timber found by a bricklayer in pulling work down at 'Eridge place (which is one of my Lord of Abergaveny's country seats)' (p.53), and the cost, reported by a carpenter, of palisades at the bowling green at Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells, and at the High house behind the green (p.214).

It is clear from references such as these that the author's involvement with the building trades was primarily as a measurer, the precursor of today's quantity surveyor, and perhaps as a surveyor in a rather wider sense. From at least the second half of the 17th and during the 18th century, the prospective owner of a building which he or an 'architect' had designed also directly employed the various tradesmen needed to erect it. Each tradesman was to be paid for the actual quantity of his trade's work which went into the finished building. So the amount of such work had to be 'measured' and 'valued' at piecework rates agreed either before or after. For any job, two measurers were appointed, one acting for the owner and the other for the tradesman, and they had to agree the amount of work done. Each trade developed conventions, though these clearly varied from district to district, as to how the work was to be measured and

reduced to units to which a piecework rate could be applied.³

The author does not however use the term measurer, and indeed the specialisation and division of function which had become established in London and on major public works was still not appropriate in country areas. But there is no clear evidence that the author did himself design buildings. Rather he shows much experience in buying materials, particularly fixtures and fittings as distinct from the bulk, raw materials which the individual tradesmen would part-process, e.g., by burning clay for bricks or sawing timber. Perhaps he had gained his experience acting on behalf of the owner who employed an architect to design, or himself, designed his building, in commissioning and supervising the construction; or similarly in specifying and supervising alterations. Clerk of works might be a more apt term than surveyor.

The titlepage of the second edition clearly states Richard Neve to be the author. *The Eighteenth Century Short Title Catalogue*⁴ lists three other books by Richard Neve. *Baroscopologia, or, A Discourse of the Baroscope, or Quicksilver Weather-glass* (London: W. Keble, 1708) is about having a barometer made, set up and maintained, with adages about forecasting the weather. *The Merry Companion: or, Delights for the Ingenious* (London: Eben. Tracy [1716]), 2nd edition (London: H. Tracy, 1721) was designed 'for the Recreation of Youth . . . and to find them innocent Diversion at Home, without giving them the Trouble to seek it Abroad, among ill Company, first at the Ale-House, and then at the Bawdy House'. There follow many number games and the like. *Mathematicks made Plain in the Solution of a Variety of Useful Propositions . . . All perform'd by . . . Gunter's Line . . . Approv'd by the Royal Society* (London: G. Conyers, J. Sprint, T. Ballard, 1708) is the most substantial of the three. Gunter's Line of Numbers or logarithmic rule was the first step towards the slide-rule.⁵ Among the applications (pp. 116-133) was the mensuration of artificers' work. Furthermore, *Arts Improvement: or, Choice Experiments and Observations in Building, Husbandry, Gardening . . .* By the author of the builders dictionary, 2nd edition (London: D. Browne, 1723—before the second edition of the latter appeared in 1726), is identified as a reissue with a cancel titlepage of T. Snow, *Apopiroscopy: or, A Compleat and Faithful History of Experiments and Observations: not only Chymical and Curious, but Mechanical* (London: D. Brown, 1702) which had already been reissued in 1715 as by T. S. Therefore, T. N. (and T. N. Philomath) who is named in the first edition of *Builder's Dictionary*, and T. Snow (and T. S.) are identified in the *Short Title Catalogue* as Richard Neve.

However, the 'Advertisement concerning this new edition of the *Builder's Dictionary*' of 1726 sets out to make clear that someone other than the author of the first edition was the editor of the second: '. . . the Booksellers were of opinion, that a new edition . . . would, at this Time, be not at all Unseasonable . . . The small speculative knowledge of the builder's art, which I think I have gained . . . enabled me to distinguish, in the general, what was right from what was wrong in this Dictionary . . . I was surpriz'd and sorry to find that the author in almost all his quotations . . . out of [Sir Henry Wotton's] Elements of Architecture, has made him write such bad English, and lay down such absurd maxims of

building, as I am certain never appear's in print before'. Then follow many examples of alleged mistranscription, and later: 'No printed book or ballad ever contain'd such multitudes of typographical errors as the former edition of this Dictionary'. All of this may have been deliberate subterfuge to obscure responsibility for the defects of the first edition and to create the impression that another mind had greatly improved on the efforts of the original author—when in fact both editions came from the same hand.

Furthermore, *Apopiroscopy* has 94 pages on building materials and techniques. Seventy of those are devoted to decorating woodwork—which received little attention in, but would have been appropriate to *Builder's Dictionary*, and the remaining 24 which cover similar ground do not read as if they were written by the same person—though curiously the references to specific localities which are not attributed to other authors name Kent and Sussex. Yet it refers to a very hard cement used in some parts of Sussex for maltster's cisterns, but the longer work does not; the accounts of flooring tiles in Sussex are similar in substance but different in detail; and the method of polishing marble which in *Builder's Dictionary* was observed at Lewes is entirely different.⁶

T. N.'s dedication in the first edition confirms his Sussex origins. It is to John Baker, Esq., of Mayfield Place, Sussex, Mr. Robert Knight, Treasurer of the Honorable Irish Society in London, and Mr. Robert Baker of Birchden Place, Sussex. 'I have been brought up, educated, and have acquired that little knowledge which I have of this and other Arts, under the favour and roof, (as it were) of the first of you . . . From the second of you, I have received no small number of favours, tho' I was wholly a stranger to him, until these last years. And by the kindness and liberality of the third, I have been very much encouraged and assisted in my mathematical, and other studies'. John Baker (1643–1724) had a sister Dorothy (born 1646) who married twice. Her first husband was a third cousin, John Baker of Stoneland in Withyham (1629/30–88), and their eldest surviving son was Robert Baker of Birchden Place in Rotherfield (c. 1670–1721). She married, secondly, in 1701, Robert Knight, citizen and grocer of London. The three to whom the book was dedicated were therefore closely related through Dorothy.⁷ It is unlikely that T. N. would have used other than his own initials for a dedication to people known to him personally.

Richard Neve's dedication of *Mathematicks made Plain* (1708) is to another Sussex gentleman living within ten miles of Mayfield, John Fuller of Brightling, to whom Neve was bound in gratitude, as he was a general encourager of all ingenious studies; as 'you have expressed a particular respect to me by your many civilities; notwithstanding I was an absolute stranger to your worship til within these few months'; and as on sight of the book he had shown it to the Royal Society and brought their approbation of it. Fuller's connection with the Royal Society is simply explained: his wife was the stepdaughter of Dr Hans Sloane, the Society's Secretary from 1693 to 1712. Indeed Fuller was elected a Fellow in 1704, the year after his marriage and Sloane's surviving correspondence shows Fuller informing him of curious phenomena down in Sussex. For example in April 1711 'I send you herewith a Couple of Monstrous Piggs, one of them was farrowed alive the other dead, the sow had six Piggs beside, all of them as they should be. The Plates for the

Chimneys are all cast, and shall be sent, as soon as the Ways are Good'.⁸ A manuscript on the use of logarithms would have been a less noisome present from the country than two dead deformed piglets dispatched when the roads were too bad to send the new firebacks!

The deferential tone of these two dedications suggest that T. N. and Richard Neve were of modest social origins. T. N. moved amongst craftsmen and Richard Neve learnt one card trick from the maids 'I being once at a gentleman's house'. Maybe they were the sons of Thomas Neve, a joiner who between 1663 and 1669 became occupier of a dwelling near The Star inn in Mayfield and can be traced there until 1679.⁹ The first reference to the Neve family in the parish register is to the baptism of Thomas, son of Thomas and Ann Neve, in 1666. Other children follow in 1669 (John, buried 1684), 1671 (Henry, presumably died in infancy), 1672 (Henry again), 1676 (William), 1678 (Anne) and 1681 (Elizabeth). The register and bishop's transcripts are each manifestly incomplete, so it is likely that further children were baptised in Mayfield.¹⁰ In 1690 Thomas Neve the father was granted the administration of the estate of his late brother, Richard of Ewhurst,¹¹ and two years later died himself, being buried at Mayfield in October 1692.¹² A Richard Neve of Mayfield, joiner, was granted a marriage licence in 1705.¹³

We can therefore surmise that Thomas Neve, joiner (died 1692), had sons named Thomas (born 1666) and Richard (perhaps his second son, named after his brother). The first at least was taken up by John Baker who had him educated with his own children, born between 1664 and 1684. Thus launched into a career related to building, Thomas junior supervised and measured work in and around Tunbridge Wells and drew on this experience to write *The City and Country Purchaser, and Builder's Dictionary*. Maybe he was dead by the 1720s and in 1723 his brother, who was of a more academic turn of mind, was appropriating the authorship in anticipation of his second edition.

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Notes

¹ The original is unpaginated but the facsimile adds page numbers which are cited here. Spelling and punctuation have been modernised in quotations.

² *The Builder's Dictionary: or Gentleman's and Architect's Companion*, 2 vols. (1734; repr. Washington: Assoc. for Preservation Technology, 1981), preface.

³ F. M. L. Thompson, *Chartered Surveyors, the Growth of a Profession* (1968), 66–72.

⁴ London: British Library, 1983; 1986 on-line update.

⁵ E. G. R. Taylor, *The mathematical practitioners of Tudor & Stuart England* (Cambridge 1954), 196.

⁶ T. Snow, *Apopiroscopy* (1702), 6, 12, 15.

⁷ East Sussex Record Office (hereafter ESRO), KIR 28/85, pedigree of the Baker family, 1840.

⁸ R. V. Saville, 'Gentry Wealth on the Weald in the Eighteenth Century: the Fullers of Brightling Park'. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* 121 (1983), 131. Information on Fuller's F.R.S. from Dr. M. W. C. Hunter, Birkbeck College, London. British Library, Sloane MS. 4042, f. 278.

- ⁹ ESRO, A 1244, Mayfield manor court book.
¹⁰ ESRO, PAR 422/1/1/2, and copy of bishop's transcripts.
¹¹ ESRO, W/B 11, f.97.
¹² ESRO, Mayfield bishops' transcripts.
¹³ *Calendar of Sussex Marriage Licences*, ed. E. H. W. Dunkin, Suss. Rec. Soc. 6 (1907), 316.

Catholicism at Patching, Sussex 1713–14¹

Patching is a South-Downs parish, situated five miles north-west of Worthing. At the beginning of the 18th century, it was a tiny rural community, containing, at most, 25 houses and cottages² and overshadowed by two aristocratic homes in particular—Arundel Castle and Michelgrove House. Both these places were Catholic strongholds: the former was owned by the Duke of Norfolk, England's premier Catholic nobleman, and the latter belonged to the Shelleys, a Catholic gentry family who held the manor of Patching. John Bossy and other historians have stressed in recent years that post-Reformation English Catholicism was preponderantly seigniorial in character, with ordinary Papists (who were usually tenants) coalescing around the protection of a Popish gentleman's or nobleman's house and enjoying the services of his priest.³ Given its location, therefore, one might have expected Patching to have formed a small Catholic community of this kind in late Stuart times. It is usual to maintain, however, that this was not the case—for recusancy in the parish, although well documented up to 1640, is commonly thought to have died out in Charles II's reign.⁴ Nevertheless, such a picture is misleading for there is evidence of Catholicism in Patching dating from 1713–14.

In the early 18th century, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge acted as an official spearhead in the drive against Catholicism in Britain, and had a watching brief on 'the practices of priests to pervert Her Majesty's subjects' to Popery. It consequently sought to monitor the proselytizing activities of Popish priests and gentry in the provinces, and encouraged parsons who were sympathetic to these aims to provide it with detailed information about the strength and structure of Catholicism in their respective localities.⁵ The Society's fine archive contains much information of this kind—including reports of correspondence from the Rev. Thomas Blennerhayset, the Rector of Patching, written at the end of Queen Anne's reign. This was, of course, a worrying time for England's Protestants. In the event of the Queen's death, what assurance was there that the Protestant Elector of Hanover would smoothly take the crown as George I? Might not a Jacobite coup or rising restore the Catholic Stuarts and place the Old Pretender on the throne? If this occurred, how safe would the Church of England be under his rule? It was against this background that Blennerhayset wrote to the S.P.C.K. in December 1713, complaining about Sir John Shelley's overt Catholicism and the local magistrates' tolerance of it.⁶ The following April he sent the Society a more lengthy account of Popery in Patching and the surrounding district, and I print the body's report of this in full below, retaining the original spelling and punctuation.

Mr. Thomas Bennerhayset Rector of Patching near Arundel in the County of Sussex gives an Account Reced. 7. April 1714.

That there are several Popish Families in that Neighbourhood, of note for Estate and Interest, that have a very considerable influence upon the Common People.

The D: of Norfolk has a Seat at Arundel Castle, where there is a Romish Priest of great Subtlety, openly known to be so.

Sr. Wm. Goring of Burton about 8. miles from Patching is reported to keep a Popish Priest at his Seat there.

---- Caryl Esqr.⁷ in or near West Greensted, about 8. miles also from Patching, is a Papist of great bigotry, where there is a Romish Priest, and a Popish Schoolmistress that brings up many Scholars.⁸

The Lady of Sr. Cecil Bishop of Parham, about 3. miles from Patching, turn'd Papist since she was married, and keeps a Popish Priest in her house. (Sr. Cecil himself seldom coming to church)

Sr. John Shelley of Mitchel Grove-house in Clapham is Lord of the Mannor of Patching (his Seat being a little mile distant from it) He is lately come from travelling, and has been resident at his Seat about half a Year; at which time there were two Romish Priests in his house. He is violent in his way, as is also his Mother lately married to Geo. Mathews Esqr. an Irish Papist.

This family has the greatest Influence upon Patching: The Farmers being all their Tenants, and managed by them. One of the Farmers about 20. Years ago turn'd Papist, and still continues so.

The Steward manageth the rest at his Pleasure, by giving them Drink at his Master's Cellar and other Methods pleasing to their Lusts. He is of a bloody disposition, and the great Opposer of any thing that is good.

The underservants are always insinuating, into the poorer Sort, such things as may work upon them, particularly by disparaging our Religion & Ministry, and magnifying theirs.

They have gain'd one Maid:Servant to Popery this last Year, and as is fear'd, another that is gone with the Family to London.

This Year My Lady Shelly was brought to Bed, and the child baptized by a Popish Priest so openly as to be known to all the Neighbourhood.

The Parish of Patching consists but of 4. Farms, and about 16. Cottages besides the Popish Farmer before mention'd, and the Wife of one of the Cottagers, there are two Families wholly Popish, both which came into the Parish since Michmas last.

Others not professed Papists speak often in favour of Popery and Popish Doctrines: His Clerk's Wife owning that she believes Purgatory &c.

Sr. John Shelly acquainted Mr. Blennerhayset's Wife, that Mr. James Lloyd Rector of Clapham aforemention'd (in which Mitchel Grove-house stands) did own to My Lady Shelly that he had been a Romish Priest (thinking, as is supposed, to ingratiate himself thereby) This was before suspected, and agrees with his

Character in other things: He is an Irish man that came over in the latter end of King James's Reign, and is notorious for all sorts of Debaucherys, beyond what can be expres't or is seemly to relate.

In the Absence of the Family a Popish Priest from Arundel Castle performs his Office at Mitchel Grove-House, where the Proselytes of each Parish publicly resort, without any disturbance, the first Sunday in every Month.

Mr. Story Vicar of Burfham about 3. Miles from Patching in discourse with Mr. Blennerhayset within these 3. months past. Spake to this Effect. 'That there was very little Difference between the Romish Religion and ours of the Church of England—That the Oath of Abjuration was a devilish Oath, not fit to be imposed on any one: That tho he took it to save his living, it was with a great deal of Reluctancy, and he wished he had never done it. That the taking the Abjuration Oath would be the means of bringing in the Pretender, and making him more outrageous & violent against us: Whereas if he came in peaceably, he might have enjoyed his own Religion, and the Church of England Hers' This was not spoken to him alone, but in a mixt Company.⁹

Author: Colin Haydon, King Alfred's College, Winchester.

Notes

¹ I am most grateful to the Archivist and Librarian of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the Rev. Dr. G. Huelin, for granting me permission to publish the document printed above.

² *V[ictoria] C[ounty] H[istory of] Sussex VI i* (Oxford, 1980), 186.

³ J. Bossy, *The English Catholic Community, 1570–1850* (1975), 174–81.

⁴ *V.C.H. Sussex VI i*, 191.

⁵ C. Haydon, 'The Anti-Catholic Activity of the S.P.C.K., c.1698–c.1740', *Recusant History XVIII* (1987), 418–21.

⁶ A[rchives of the] S[ociety for] P[romoting] C[hristian] K[nowledge], CR I 5 (Abstract Letter Book, 1713–15), Letter 3817: T. Blennerhayset to S.P.C.K., 10 Dec., 1713.

⁷ John Caryl: E. E. Estcourt and J. O. Payne (eds.), *The English Catholic Non-jurors of 1715* (1886, repr. Westmead, 1969), 264. On the Carylls at West Grinstead, see T. J. McCann, 'West Grinstead: A Centre of Catholicism in Sussex, 1671–1814', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* **124** (1986), 193–212.

⁸ Cf. West Sussex Record Office, Ep. I/37/3: Returns of Papists, West Grinstead, 1727.

⁹ A.S.P.C.K., CP I (Papers and Memorials, 1715–29), 137–9.

Old Erringham 'Chapel'—a correction

Suss. Arch. Coll. **118** (1980), 262, describes a scratch-dial on the SE. corner of the 'Chapel.' To avoid having to publish a drawing at the time, the rays cut into the stone were said to be at 95, 113 and 128 degrees E. of N. respectively, as if the knon-hole was the centre of a compass. Recently it has

been noted that these figures are wrong (owing to the writer having misread the protractor) and they should be corrected to 185, 203 and 218 degrees. If likened to the hour hand of a clock, the rays are between 6 and 8 o'clock.

Author: E. W. Holden, 93 Penlands Vale, Steyning

The Old Workhouse, Mouse Lane, Steyning

In the preface of their book the late H. M. and U. E. Lacey state that Steyning possesses no example of a dragon beam.¹ Whilst this may now be so, a drawing of the Workhouse, Mouse Lane, by J. Cordwell² shows that part of the western elevation of the Lacey's Bay A was jettied, as is the south side facing the street. When such an arrangement occurs a dragon beam is required and is indicated somewhat sketchily in the Cordwell drawing. The present west wall of the main range is now of brick, including a chimney breast, stack and two buttresses. When they were built it was necessary to remove the western timber-framed jettied portion from first-floor level up to the eaves. This had the effect of reducing the width of the south face of Bay A, which is confirmed by Bay A now having eight panels of framing, whereas Bay C (SE. jettied part) has nine and is c. 2½ feet (0.75 metre) wider than Bay A. The ceiling above the ground floor of Bay A is plastered, so any traces or remains of a dragon beam cannot be verified.

The building ceased to be the parish workhouse in 1836 and was sold to the Goring family of Wiston. From the high quality of the brickwork in the west wall and the presence of moulded masonry blocks in the buttresses it is probable that the Gorings were responsible for the alteration. This could have happened soon after the change of use in order to render the building more suitable for private occupation after having housed paupers for more than 100 years.

The drawing is undated, but probably is before 1836. Joseph Cordwell was a Brighton artist and drawing master, references having been noted on pictures and in directories from at least 1821 to 1866.³ Later directories have not been checked.

Author: E. W. Holden, 93 Penlands Vale, Steyning.

Notes

¹ H. M. and U. E. Lacey, *The Timber-Framed Buildings of Steyning* (1974), 32, 43. A dragon beam is a diagonal member at the corner of a timber-framed building where jetties occur on both elevations.

² I am indebted to Mrs. P. Nightingale for calling my attention to the drawing by Cordwell.

³ Mrs. J. Crow, our Hon. Librarian, kindly gave me details of Cordwell drawings at Barbican House, Lewes. A copy of the Workhouse drawing is now in the Society's Library.

Willingdon Village Pump, Willingdon, near Eastbourne, East Sussex

The animal bone panels of the old village pump at Willingdon have generated interest for many years. Recently, the writer has taken a closer look at the building (Fig. 1).

The pump is situated at TQ 58850210 on the 30 m. contour, at the junction of the Lower Chalk to the west and the Upper Greensand to the east. Here, a small stream rises and runs eastwards to Hampden Park, some 1.3 km. distant and it is over this spring that a well was constructed. Its history has been traced (Vine 1978) from it firstly being just a dipping hole, then a well, later covered by a well house which gave way to a pump and house. The well was constructed with animal bones, probably in the early 18th century. The pump-house was erected in 1880 by Col. William Brodrick Thomas, Esq. (1811–1898)—brother of Freeman Thomas—who presented it to the village. William Thomas was a successful landscape gardener (Macnaghten 1983) with a London address and held property called 'The Townlands' in Willingdon. In the gable of the pumphouse, inserted into the

rendering were the initials 'WBT' and the date, constructed of animal knuckle bones. Many more bones were employed to decorate the walls each side of the entrance and were arranged in rows, forming unusual decorated panels.

The bones have long since been referred to as sheep bones and romantically linked with the downland sheep so common in the area. One writer (Woodward 1961) even referred to the unique pumphouse as a peculiar kind of memorial to the downland flocks.

The editor of the Sussex County Magazine (Beckett 1933) quotes a story related by Lady Willingdon at a parish meeting in 1896, when she spoke of an old woman living near The Dell at Willingdon and her habit of collecting knuckle bones which were used to build the well and later the well-house. It is said butchers from all around supplied her (Woodall 1963) and she saved the knuckle bones until she had enough to build a well. Later still, Mr. Vine recalls that his grandfather supplied from the slaughter-house, sheep knuckle bones for the panels in the pump-house.

The building is rectangular, with its longest axis running parallel to the road, with its entrance faced with greensand



Fig. 1 Willingdon Pumphouse 1986.

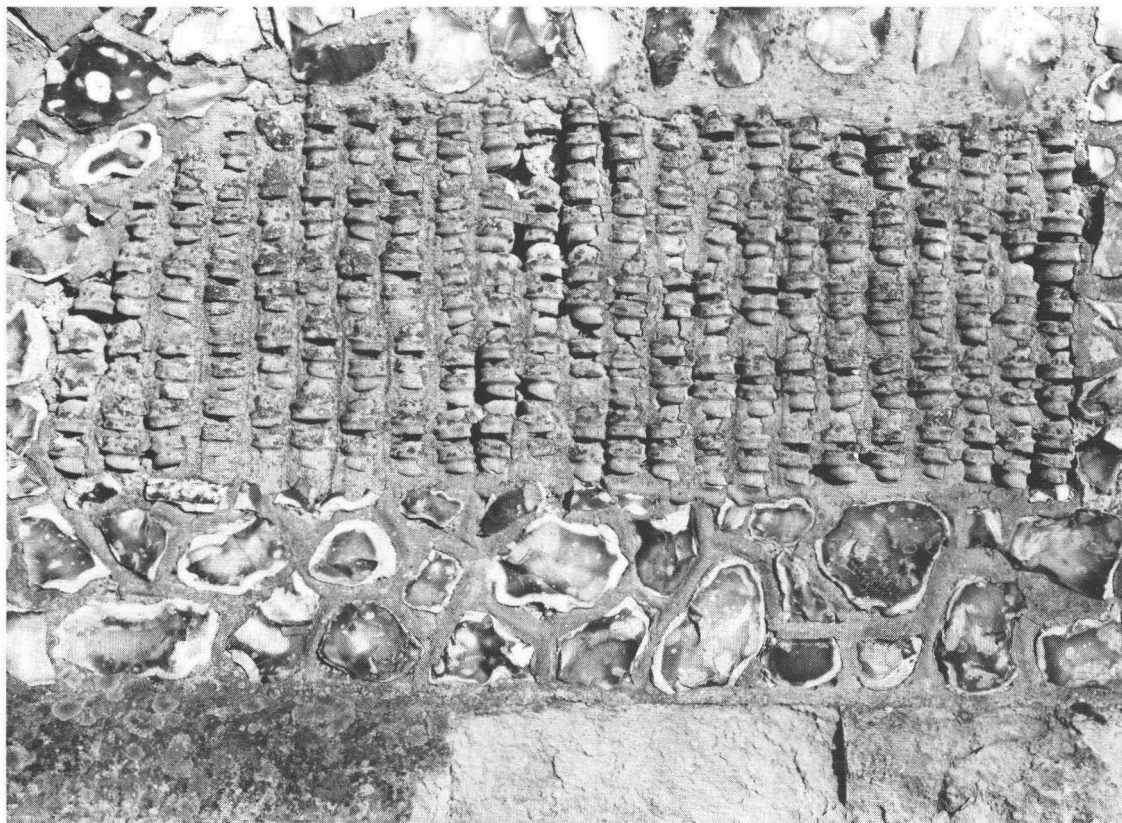


Fig. 2 North panel of bone decoration 1986.

quoins, fronting the road. The field flint walls extend only three-quarters of the height of the building, the roof being supported on oak pillars—leaving it open to the elements. The roof, covered with clay tiles, consists of a gable running north-south, with a smaller gable extending to the west, and it is this gable which had the initials of William Brodrick Thomas and the date set in the rendering.

The inside is lined with Minton, blue and yellow glazed bricks (Beckett 1935) and the pump is housed towards the north-east corner of the building, with a D-shaped trough at its base, which would presumably have collected overflow from the pump and stopped it running into the road.

The pumphouse as it stands today probably bears little resemblance to the original building. The side panels with their bone decoration have become very eroded over time and have become somewhat smaller and their shape has even changed from pictures taken in the early 1960s. What now remain are two small panels of bones, set in rows—six rows in the south panel, with 118 bones remaining and 110 bones set in five rows in the north panel (Fig. 2). It was hoped to be able to measure most if not all of the bones, but they were so eroded that only a small number in each panel could be measured—12 in the south panel and 11 in the north panel. These measurements show that there were both metacarpals

and metatarsals present, which are found in the feet just above the finger and toe bones respectively; metacarpals in the fore- and metatarsals in the hind-limb. Among those measured, in the south panel there were two metacarpals and ten metatarsals and in the north panel, four metacarpals and seven metatarsals.

It is a common belief that the bones used to build the well and decorate the pump-house were sheep. However, having examined the pump-house decoration, it is quite obvious that the bones are from ox (or cattle), which having been measured show that there are both metacarpals and metatarsals present. The few measured (Fig. 3) form two groups and from these it can be seen that it is likely that both male and female bones were used.

Unfortunately, the well is not accessible, and the gable which had the initials 'WBT' and the date set in its rendering has been refaced, so that this evidence has been obliterated. It would seem that the people of Willingdon probably ate heartily of cow heel brawn and stew (Hartley 1979) in order to decorate their pump house! Bone is known to have been used for decorating walls of buildings, an example of such decoration is on a house at Cley, North Norfolk, where bones from cattle, horse and sheep are used. At the present time the writer knows of no other example of a pump house decorated

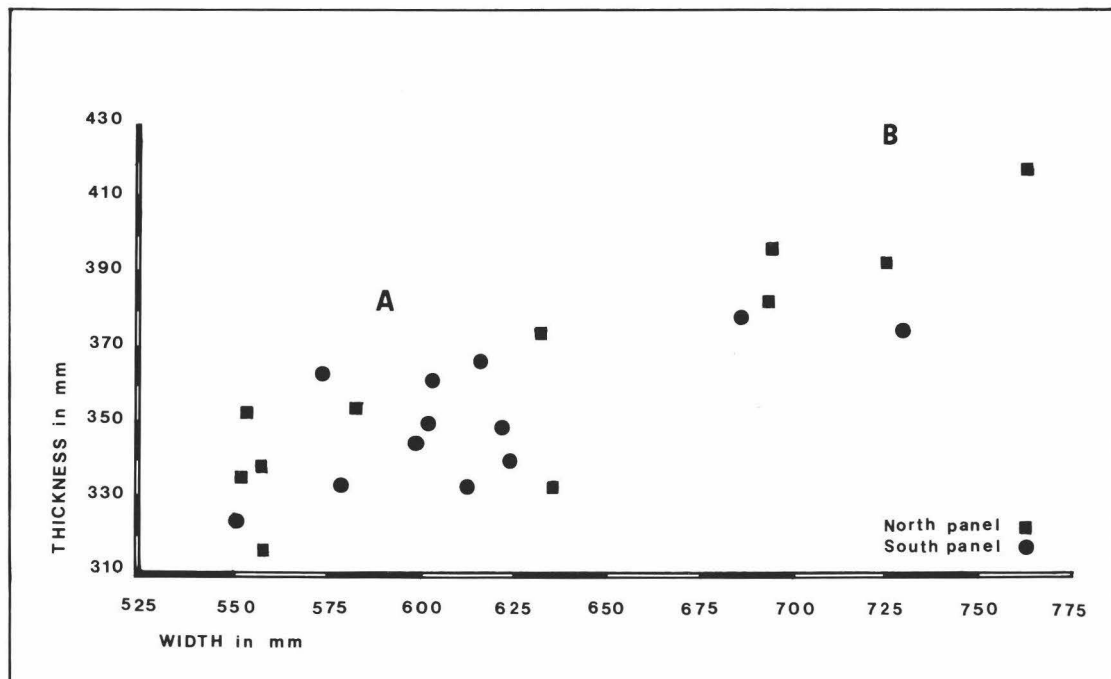


Fig. 3 Metrical analysis of distal measurements taken from the bone panels of Willingdon Pumphouse, showing two distinct groups: A—Metatarsals (mean width 591 mm.) and B—Metacarpals (mean width 715 mm.).

with animal bones and it may be that the Willingdon pumphouse is unique in this respect.

Author: Patricia M. Stevens, 10 Calverley Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4SR.

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