

## A SEMI-UNDERGROUND HUT IN WALTON ROAD, AYLESBURY.

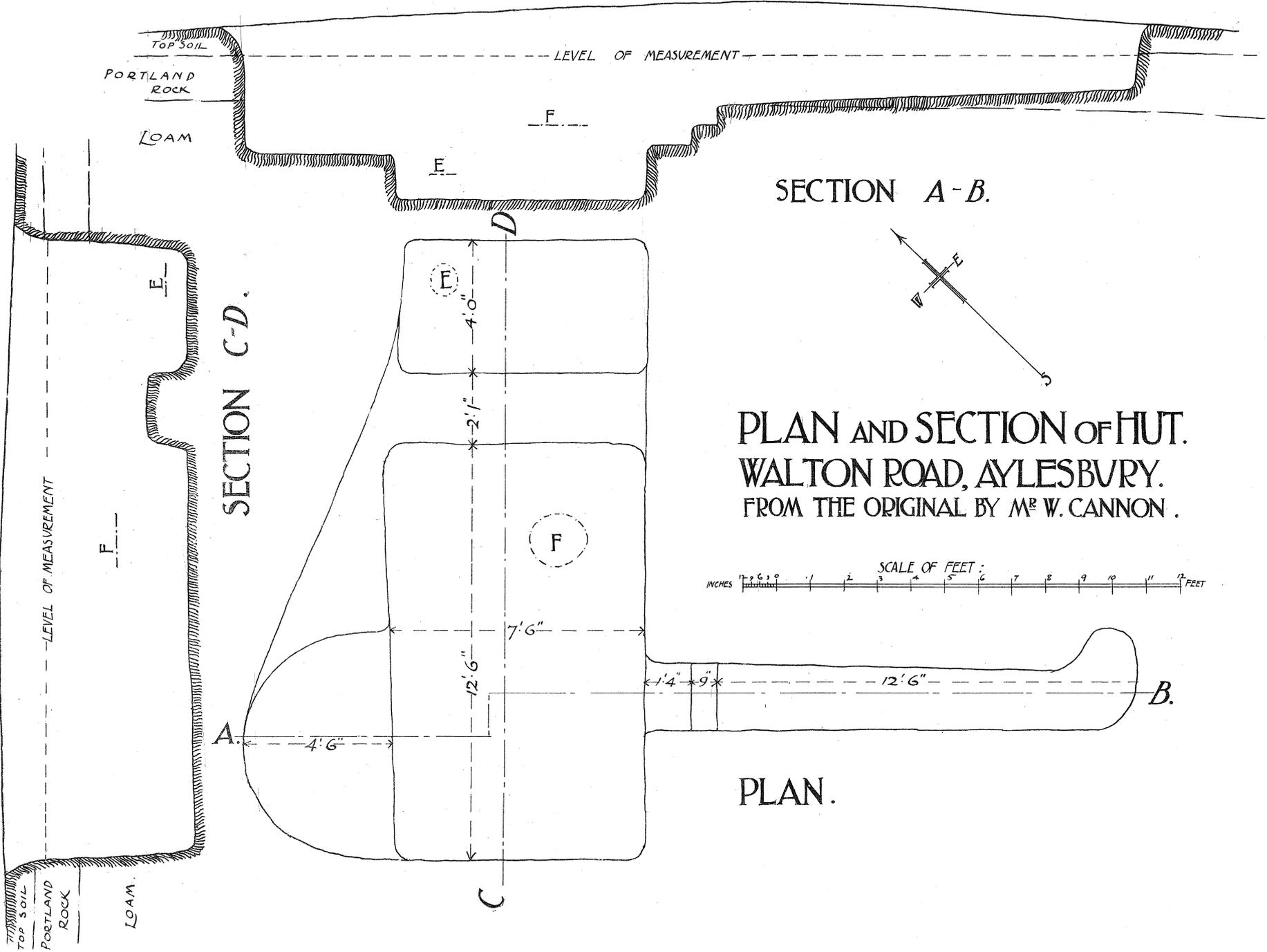
Directly some labourers employed by Mr. William Cannon, builder, of Aylesbury, began to excavate in May, 1905, for the foundations of a house on a site in Walton Road, Aylesbury, belonging to the late Mr. George Tabor, of Kingsbury Square, various scraps of pottery and bones were met with. Mr. Cannon was good enough to suspend operations until Dr. J. C. Baker, M.B., Mr. F. H. Parrott, and I visited the spot on the 22nd of that month, and then most kindly placed labourers at our disposal, to excavate under our direction; for which, and for the plan, we have to return him our best thanks; and especially our thanks were due to the late Mr. Tabor, for allowing us to keep for examination the objects found, for a length of time which may well have seemed out of all reason.

Almost with the moving of the first spadeful of the soil, traces of ancient human occupation began making their appearance. Having an engagement elsewhere, however, I was obliged to leave shortly, but Mr. F. H. Parrott kindly undertook the supervision of the exploration, and the writing of a subsequent report. Most unfortunately, however, he was not long afterwards taken ill, and on recovery had an abnormal press of business, so he has been unable to fulfil his intention, and it has devolved upon me, with very slight personal knowledge of the facts, to put on record an account of this find, as best I can; and it was not until between 11 and 12 months after their discovery that the objects passed into my hands.

About a foot below the present surface of the ground a thin bed of Portland rock occurs, and, by proceeding carefully, Mr. Parrott and the labourers traced an ancient excavation through this stratum, and into a thick bed of loam beneath.

The excavation resolved itself into what seems to have been the site or basement of a house or hut,

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PLAN AND SECTION OF HUT.  
WALTON ROAD, AYLESBURY.  
FROM THE ORIGINAL BY M<sup>R</sup> W. CANNON.

PLAN.

SECTION A-B.

SECTION C-D.

entirely without masonry, the floor of the main portion being about 5ft. 10in. below the present surface, and extending 18ft. 9in. from N.E. to S.W., by about 7ft. 6in. from N.W. to S.E. Besides this main portion which formed an elongated but rectangular oblong, there was an irregular additional portion on the N.W. at a higher level (about 4ft. below the present surface), starting from nothing at the north corner, and gradually increasing in width towards the west until it amounted to about 4ft. 6in.; the extreme west corner was rounded off, and ended in line with the S.W. end of the main portion. This westernmost corner formed a semicircle at, apparently, a slightly higher level than the remainder of the higher level portion.

Connected with this higher level portion there was a bank about 1ft. 2 or 3in. high, and 2ft. 1in. in width, extending completely across the low level floor, and dividing off a portion 4ft. in width, at the N.E. end.

Access to the house was gained by a descending passage, 14ft. 7in. long, by nearly 2ft. in width, running at right angles to the long axis of the floor, and entering the S.E. side of the house just within the southernmost third of its length.

The outer end of the passage was 2ft. below the present surface, and a slight enlargement or turn towards the east may either show the position of the door facing that way, or else that the end was open, and that there was some latitude in that direction as to the precise point where the passage was entered. The passage sloped gradually down from the outer end to a point 2ft. 1in. from the inner end. There were here two steps of 6in. drop each; with a nine inches "tread" between them. At the end of the remaining 1ft. 4in. of its extent the passage gave into the basement at about 1ft. 7in. above the floor level: so one is inclined to suggest that two or three wooden steps were fitted there, as there was no indication of a wooden floor having ever been laid. Very numerous fragments of pottery, some bones, and a few iron and other objects, were scattered thickly over the whole of the interior, and at all depths, some being only just below the turf; but two spots where relics lay specially thickly are shown at E and F on the plan.

There was a considerable quantity of charcoal, and many of the pieces of pottery were blackened and still covered on their outer sides by soot, and were obviously used for cooking purposes. Indeed, under one of the flat vessels to be described lower down, which lay inverted at a depth of about 3ft. 6in., was a bone—I think a piece of an ox's rib, as if this was being cooked at the moment of the catastrophe which "made hay" of the whole interior. Unluckily this bone and saucer got separated after my departure, and I cannot speak positively as to the identity of the bone.

The following objects were recovered:—

A spindle-whorl of bone  $1\frac{5}{8}$ in. diameter,  $\frac{5}{8}$ in. high.

A whetstone of coarse schist; 3.2in. long, roughly square, average  $\frac{7}{8}$ in. square; very slightly curved.

Another whetstone of the same schist, but a rather finer grained piece 4in. long. One half nearly square ( $\frac{7}{16} \times \frac{3}{8}$ in.), the other somewhat flattened ( $\frac{3}{16} \times \frac{1}{16}$ in.).

A horse-shoe measuring  $5\frac{5}{16}$ in. long  $\times$   $4\frac{5}{8}$ in. wide. The iron is up to  $1\frac{1}{16}$ in. in width, and the opening in the centre is  $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. at the widest point. The shoe has a convex and a concave side; the latter was fitted to the horse's foot, and the convex side was in contact with the ground. This is proved by the oblong counter-sinkings for the nails, of which there were four on each side (the remains of several being *in situ*), and by the wear shown at the toe. At the heel end the iron is cut off transversely on each side, so as to produce a gap having nearly parallel sides (slightly widening posteriorly). This is almost obviously the first step in evolution from the annular form of shoe, which the type under consideration resembles in breadth, thickness and convexity. The next step in evolution was a gradual one, consisting in tapering the inner margin on both sides of the heel; at first only very slightly, the extent being increased by slow degrees.

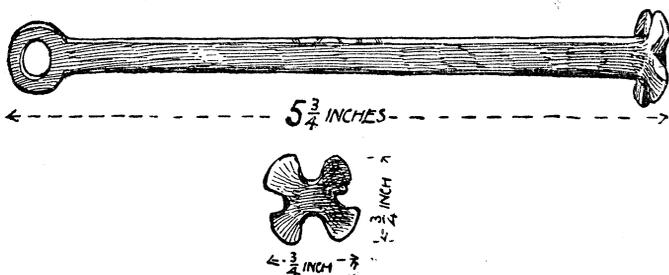
A second horse-shoe is of such intermediate form. It is of rather narrower iron than the last mentioned, but has like it been concave and convex. The toe worn away.

The great difference between the two shoes is in the shape of the central space, which in the first is flask-

shaped with unusually wide neck, and in the second resembles a **U** in which the width increases upwards to the extreme top. This second shoe may perhaps be assigned approximately to the 16th, or early 17th century; and the first one, if not merely a survival of an older pattern, to nearly a couple of centuries earlier.

Three iron buckles, probably belonging to horse harness, two of which would take straps about  $1\frac{5}{8}$  in., and the third a strap about  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. wide. One of the larger buckles has a tolerably square free end, the other two are rather sharply pointed.

An iron padlock-key (?) consisting of a shank  $5\frac{7}{10}$  in. long,  $\frac{3}{10} \times \frac{3}{20}$  in. thick, terminating in a welded eye at the back end. At the other end quatre-foil wards (?) about  $\frac{3}{10}$  in. diameter, much the form of a cross patée with the angles rounded, are attached by the centre, at right angles to the shank.



On one narrow side of the shank are some transverse lines made by a file, of which I fancy I can detect rather more than those shown in the figure. They seem to be identification marks, but not letters. Mr. C. H. Read (Keeper of the British and Mediæval Antiquities, British Museum) thinks it is of about the 17th century.

In "Norske Oldsager," by O. Rygh (Christiania, 1885), under the Later Iron Age, fig. 456, is shown a somewhat similar example, in bronze, found in a barrow, which has wards (?) very much resembling those of the present example, also set on at right angles to the shank; but there is a hole in the centre of the ward plate, and to avoid filling this, the shank is bifurcated, becoming very like a modern tuning-fork. This form of key is said (*op. cit.*, p. 25) to be

found both in bronze and iron. For the drawing of the Walton example here reproduced, and also for re-drawing in suitable form the plan, Plate I., I have to express my best thanks to our member Mr. W. A. Forsyth, F.R.I.B.A.

Another key (?)  $5\frac{3}{10}$  in. long,  $\frac{5}{20} \times \frac{3}{20}$  in. thick, has the upper margin of the ward-plate flush with the shank, which occupies the top notch of the X; but as the plate lies at a little beyond the right angle, and is much rusted, it is possible the shape has been somewhat altered by injury. The back end of the shank has been flattened and bent round to form a loop or eye, but not welded as the other one; this is now solidly filled with rust.

Nail  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in. long, bent and with extreme point turned or clinched. Roughly squared and bevelled head averaging  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in. diameter; shank tapering from  $\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{1}{4}$  in.

Nail  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. long; head  $1\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{3}{8}$  in. very slightly convex.

„  $2\frac{3}{8}$  „ „ ; „  $1\frac{1}{8} \times \frac{5}{8}$  „ convex.

„  $1\frac{1}{8}$  „ „ ; „  $1\frac{5}{16} \times \frac{3}{8}$  „ „ ; shank probably originally 2 in. long.

„ 1 „ „ ; „  $\frac{5}{8} \times .2$  „ .4 in. thick in centre.

Three other nails with large heads;  $2\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $1\frac{5}{8}$ , and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. long.

Horse-shoe nail, about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. long (bent).

Straight bar,  $3\frac{3}{8}$  in. long, bluntly pointed at both ends, and having an enlargement at the centre, probably for a hole, now rusted up; resembling the bar of a modern dog chain.

Curved piece of iron  $3\frac{1}{8}$  in. long in straight line, may be the half of an ox shoe, as one nail hole appears to be recognizable, but what would be the heel end is a good deal enlarged, perhaps by rust forming round a nail, for which, however, the position seems too far back.

Piece of iron  $5\frac{1}{8}$  in.  $\times$   $1\frac{3}{8}$  in., by a full  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. thick. Slightly convex and concave. Much mis-shapen by rust, but the concave side probably fitted on to something.

A knife having a blade  $3\frac{11}{16}$  in. long, and tang  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in. Total original length, fully 5 in. The back of the blade is almost straight, after curving backwards nearly  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. just above the tang; the cutting edge tapers back to

form the point. By itself, it would be taken for a knife of about the fifth century A.D (Anglo-Saxon).

Also there were found: A hasp and a short piece of gas-piping—the latter is necessarily recent, and the former may be equally so, or in any case is not likely to be older than the 18th century. A core about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. diameter, is apparently from an iron casting. A tag 2 in. long has formed an ornamental end to a cord for some purpose.\* A thin plate of copper (?) having one end roughly torn off, but measuring in the reverse direction about  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in. and a small hole bored in the (two) corners; each edge is roughly and crookedly cut. Also a very small fragment of glass, perhaps from the lip of a small vase, and a couple of oyster-shells, complete the list of sundries.

A number of bones of domestic animals occurred, most of them broken; some being gnawed by dogs, and a few hacked through by a knife. Measurements of the more perfect are given, as some indication of the size of the breeds.

HORSE.—2 individuals.† A right metacarpal,  $7\frac{7}{8}$  in. in extreme length, is exactly the same length as, but much less stout than, the corresponding bone of an Iceland pony of 12 hands, in my collection. Portions of two other metacarpals (one of which may belong to the first-mentioned) are of the same size. The proximal portion of another metacarpal has the articulation much wider than that of the Iceland pony. A left metatarsal,  $9\frac{1}{4}$  in. in extreme length, is  $\frac{3}{16}$  in. longer than that of the Iceland pony, but much less stout. The distal end of another left metatarsal has the articulation narrower than in the Iceland pony.

A left tibia measures  $13\frac{1}{2}$  in. or c.  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. longer than that of the same pony, and the distal articulation is slightly wider; the proximal end, and shank of the bone being very similar in the two.

A lower pastern and coffin bone are badly diseased.

Ox.—3 individuals. The left ramus of a lower mandible, wanting coronoid process and symphysis,

\* It may possibly, for instance, have belonged to the shoulder-knot of a livery coat of a coachman or footman. It was no doubt originally lacquered, or perhaps silver-plated.

† The number of individuals of each species means the number recognized, but not necessarily the maximum number.

corresponds very closely in length with the lower jaw of a cross-bred steer (Shorthorn  $\times$  Jersey) about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years old, in my collection, but is less curved upwards. A fragment of a right ramus, probably not the same animal, is about the same size, and another fragment, of a left ramus, is much smaller.

A left scapula, when perfect, was probably under  $11\frac{3}{4}$  in. in length.

Of three imperfect metacarpals, two appear to have been about the same size, and the third, though immature, larger.

Of three right metatarsals, one is again larger than the other two. One of these latter is perfect, and very light in character, measures  $8\frac{5}{16}$  in.

There are a right calcaneum, astragalus, and navicular which evidently belong to each other.

SHEEP.—5 individuals. Metatarsals  $4\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $4\frac{5}{8}$ , and  $4\frac{7}{8}$  in. The last seems rather an extreme length, so far as the remaining, imperfect examples afford any criterion. There are numerous other bones, but all in too fragmentary a condition to measure usefully: but all belonged to quite small animals of about the size indicated by the metatarsals. There are two horn-cores, probably a pair, very straight, flattened distally, and sharply tapering, measuring 5.1 in. in straight line. They may possibly have belonged to a goat.

PIG.—There are various fragments of bones representing (at least) 3 individuals, but measurements would not tend to throw any light on the breed.

DOG.—Recognised by a single right upper canine tooth of a fairly large breed; perhaps a sheep-dog.

BIRD BONES.—Domestic Fowl of probably two breeds, or at least sizes. Humerus,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  in. (immature); Ulna,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ; Femur, 2.7; Tibia,  $3\frac{3}{4}$ ; Tarsometatarsal,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in.

Two phalanges are all that remain of a Goose. But there are some pieces of egg-shell, which both in the contour of the fragments, and their texture, appear to match eggs of domestic goose.

A Barn Owl is represented by the proximal half of a humerus; and the original owner of the distal end of another humerus was probably a Magpie. A coracoid perhaps belonged to an Owl, but not to either a

Barn Owl or Tawny Owl (? a Long-eared Owl, with which I have not had an opportunity of comparing it).

A long radius, with both ends missing, is not unlike a Heron's, though apparently not identical. Possibly a duck of some wild species, or domestic breed.

There were also about half-a-dozen bones of small birds; and a small quantity of bone ash, and a few calcined fragments.

The large assortment of pottery fragments recovered from the interior of the hut (amounting to fully 2 cubic feet of scraps, representing perhaps two or three hundred articles, which, if they could be pieced together, would probably occupy quite ten times that space), consists of unglazed ware of two types, with a solitary example of a third form, and a few remnants of ordinary glazed mediæval types.

Mr. Reginald A. Smith, F.S.A., of the British Museum, to whom Mr. Parrott and I both submitted specimens, and to whom my very best thanks are due for all the trouble he took in the matter, finally determined that "some of the fragments might be considered prehistoric, but together must be referred to the 14th or 15th century. . . . The forms and patterns are not at all commonplace, however, and it would be interesting to see some of them restored in plaster. It so happens that we have just seen a series of the same kind from Somerset, and I think specimens should be kept in museums for reference purposes, though there is at present little to show their *exact* date." And again:—"Very little is known of these types, and it would be useful to publish them as *mediæval of uncertain date*; possibly they were made from Norman to Tudor times. Wish I could tell you more."

The two types above mentioned as characteristic of the find are both cooking pots, and with one or two exceptions to be pointed out in place, are all blackened on their outer side, more or less completely, by continued contact with the fire, some retaining even the soot. A few show a blackening of the interior, which is perhaps the effect of heat from outside, and can hardly be from the actual contact of fire.

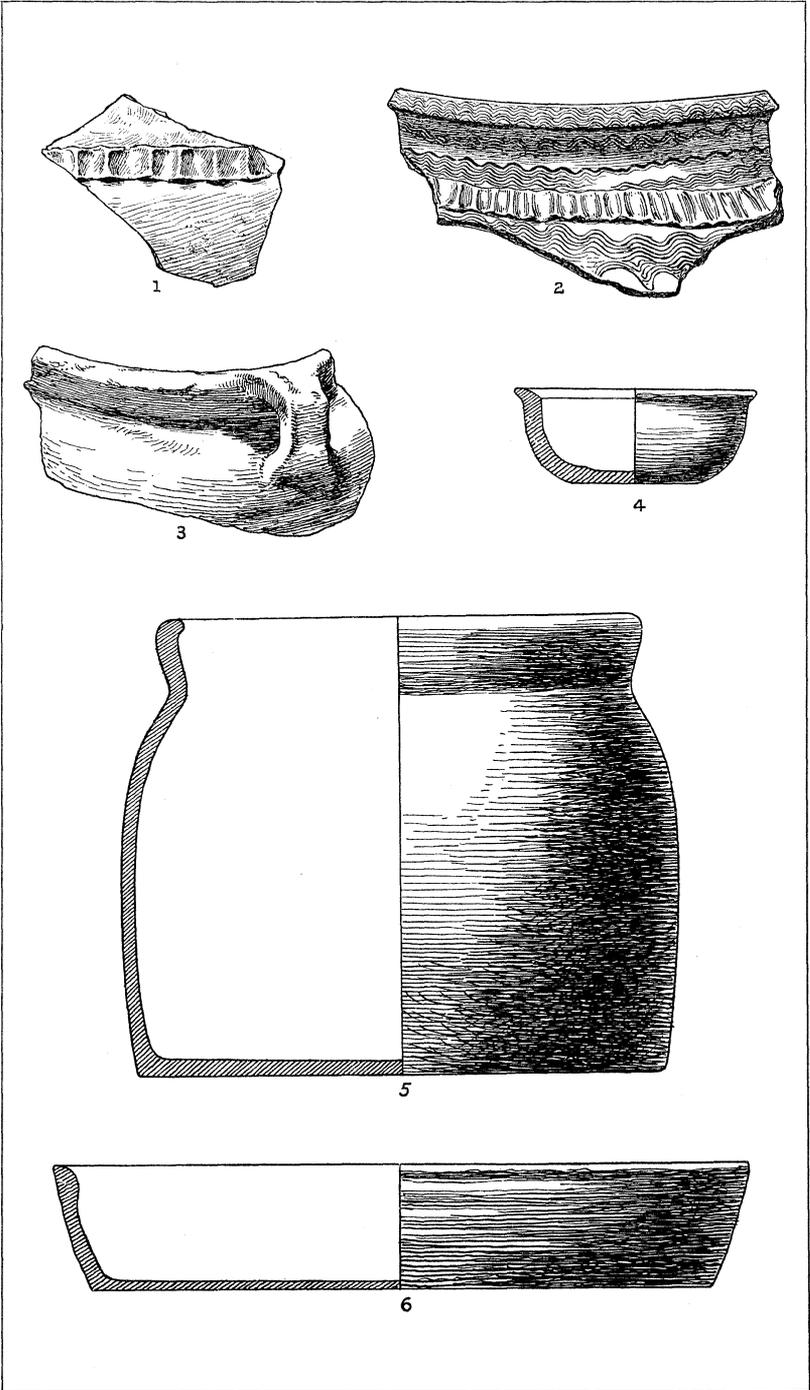
The large majority of the fragments (numbering hundreds) are so small, that it would be very difficult to determine their original form; but of the larger fragments (including such as I have been able to piece, and thereby increase their size), the greater number were large rounded pots or jars, surmounted by a short neck, which varied in height in the 9 principal specimens measured, from  $\frac{7}{8}$  to  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. reckoned from the bend inside, or an average height of 1.4 in. In no case can the height of the jar itself be determined, but the highest fragment measures nearly  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in. from the bottom, which, allowing for the curve beginning immediately, and the neck, would give a height of at least  $9\frac{1}{2}$  in.: this is not one of the largest specimens, which we may safely estimate at (at least) an inch, or an inch and a half, more.\* The examples of both types vary slightly individually both in size, in the detail of the form of rim or lip, and to some extent in the quality of the clay, and exceptionally in some other particular; but if I am justified in suggesting that these two forms have their modern counterparts in saucepans and frying-pans, the individual differences between a series of these two utensils would be far greater than occurs in these pottery vessels.

The following are short particulars of the larger and more characteristic pieces; beginning with those of the jar type:—

(1)† A fragment measuring about  $7 \times 4$  in., of a blue-gray colour, or much the colour of the grayer qualities of slate. The thickness, even in this small sample, varies from about 8 to 5 mm. The jar has been ornamented by a wavy band or "slip" about .6 of an inch wide applied subsequently to the fashioning of the vessel, and crimped or pleated by the potter's thumb. From the marks on the inner surface, including what is evidently just the beginning of the curve for the neck, this slip seems to have had a perpendicular direction (the left side of the figure

\* It should be mentioned that Mr. Smith thinks the estimate of height somewhat high, and that I have caused the restored jar (No. 5 on Plate II.) to be drawn consequently too deep. (But *vide* its description lower down.)

† The numbers in brackets correspond to the label affixed to each specimen; the first 6 also correspond to the figures in Plate II., which were selected for illustration by Mr. R. A. Smith.



POTTERY FROM WALTON ROAD, AYLESBURY.  
(Quarter Scale.)

being the upper end). A similar slip occurs on other pieces (see 2 and 8), as well as on some of the obviously mediæval fragments with green glaze.

(2) A fragment *circa*  $8 \times 4\frac{1}{4}$  in., consisting of a neck about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. deep, and then a boldly swelling commencement of the body. Light brick-red outside, inside a dull umber-brown, but a large portion of the interior face has scaled off, leaving a rough, silicified, gray surface. About  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. below the neck, or  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in. from the lip, a slip has been added,  $\frac{7}{8}$  in. wide, crimped as the last, by side of thumb, along its entire extent. The whole of the exterior surface not occupied by the slip, even the actual top surface of the lip, is covered with wavy lines formed by different tools of 2, 3, 4, or more points in juxtaposition; and in two places there is a single, broader, wavy line made by a more bluntly-pointed tool. Wheel-turned. About  $14\frac{1}{4}$  in. diameter outside at mouth, and was probably from  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to 10 in. high. This is one of the very few that shows no signs of fire. Perhaps it was too ornamental for ordinary use, or possibly if we possessed more of the pot, the blackening might appear on the lower portion.

Mr. R. A. Smith says of it:—"The ornamental piece of reddish buff (fig. 2) reminds one of Roman and (some) Saxon ware, but is no doubt of same age as the rest."

(3) A very rough fragment, about  $9 \times 3$  in. wide, consisting of part of a neck  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. deep, at first somewhat widening, and then very slightly incurved; below is a portion of a boldly curving body. Diameter at mouth  $8\frac{1}{8}$  in. A short handle having the upper end on the edge of the lip, is only long enough to admit one finger. Not wheel-turned; outside dull brick-red, and dark gray in places. Grains of flint numerous. The whole of the interior of the fragment gray.

Mr. R. A. Smith notes:—"The coarse fragment with a handle has a primitive appearance, but is no doubt contemporary."

(5) A fragment consisting of three pieces which join, and three more which probably belong to the same jar but have no common point of union. The three pieces together measure in their greatest length transversely (corner to corner) 13 in.: 11 in. in a direct line; height

$7\frac{1}{4}$ in. When whole it must have been at least 8in. high, and by analogy (from other fragmentary jars) was very likely as much as  $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, as figured on Plate II. Diameter of lip (outside)  $9\frac{1}{8}$ in.; maximum diameter (rather above the centre)  $11\frac{1}{8}$ in.; at bottom of fragment,  $11\frac{3}{8}$ in. The height of the neck varies from  $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. at one end of the fragment, to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. at the other, in a length of about 7in. (in straight line). The maximum girth should be slightly more than shown in the fig. ( $=\frac{1}{4}$ in. more linear), and the bottom (apparently of all this make of jar) is slightly rounded or convex downwards, instead of absolutely flat as drawn. The clay is imperfectly mixed and burnt, resulting in various shades of colour masses, umber-brown and gray, but becoming soot-begrimed downwards. Inside a uniform bluish-gray. Wheel-turned.

(7) Fragment about  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ in. at the widest part. Dark gray, almost black, with the umber tinge, however, still showing inside and out. Fairly fine and well baked. Neck  $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. high. The lip has a slight rim both on outer and inner edge; outside diameter,  $10\frac{3}{4}$ in. Wheel-turned.

(8) Portion of the central part, neck and base entirely absent. Outer side black (probably from fire), with thumb-crimped slips much like No. 1, one placed horizontally, and another perpendicularly. The inner surface dark slate-colour, and has scaled considerably, apparently caused by the presence of numerous grains of flint, very few of which are visible externally.

(11) Nearly half the upper quarter (or thereabouts) of another similar jar, much resembling Roman ware; dark umber-brown, and black in places; outer diameter at lip,  $7\frac{1}{16}$ in., inner ditto.  $6\frac{1}{8}$ in. The inner side is a rather light umber-brown, almost matching the "Dark stone" in Messrs. Carson's paint List. Some if not all the black on the outside is due to exposure to fire as a cooking pot; the fragment consists of a portion of neck about  $\frac{7}{8}$ in. deep, terminating above in a slightly out-turned rim, and below in the commencement of a boldly swelling body.

(13) Another part of an upper portion, very similar to the last. Outside diameter of mouth,  $10\frac{3}{4}$ in. Black out and in, probably from the fire.

(14) A similar fragment; outside diameter of mouth  $10\frac{5}{8}$  in.; the rim turns inwards. The inside is of a reddish tinge of umber brown, and contains numerous grains of silex; the outside is darkened by fire, but had not yet become black.

(18) Five fragments seem to belong to one jar, but only three join, the other two coming apparently from different parts of the opposite side. The three that join are divided by almost perfectly horizontal fractures, and consist of a small piece of the bottom, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. by rather less, and larger portions of the side above. Together they give an extreme height of  $7\frac{3}{8}$  in. with no sign of the turn for the neck at the highest point. The basal diameter cannot be ascertained very accurately, but is about  $11\frac{1}{4}$  in. Exteriorly the bottom, and some 3 in. up the sides, are fire blackened, but gradually this gives place to a rather rich red umber; inside the colour is a dark, gray slate; the interior surface largely pitted with small pits, whence flint fragments have apparently dropped.

(15) Part of bottom and side. Diameter at base 11 in. Black from fire outside; inside nearly black—something between dark slate and (in a strong light) umber brown; full of minute pits, whence grains of silex have fallen out.

(16) Almost an exact ditto to the last (so far as concerns the extant portion), except that it is slightly larger, the base diameter being  $12\frac{1}{2}$  in.; and that the highest point remaining ( $4\frac{5}{8}$  in.) shows what may be just the commencement of the turn outwards for the neck. If so, as this is the widest point of the fragment, it must have been bowl or basin shaped, of a different type, somewhat ogee in section, and conjecturally about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  in. high; if not, the pot was considerably out of the round.

(17) Three fragments, with mouth diameter 7 in., are nearly black externally, but still showing a little of the umber tinge, while the lower part of the inside is also blackened as if by fire, and umber brown above.

Mr. R. A. Smith says of this specimen:—It “might alone be taken for late Keltic, but in association cannot be classed as such, being very much like the rest of the find, and probably wheel-made.”

(19) A small fragment, similar ware to No. 17, but is black inside and out. Lip diameter  $5\frac{9}{16}$  in., and correspondingly thinner; in both the lip is hardly thickened and has practically no rim.

The second form of vessel recognized among the assortment is a very shallow saucer or pan, closely resembling a modern flower-pot saucer, but of greater diameter in proportion to the depth.\*

(6) Outside diameter at top,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  in.; at bottom,  $12\frac{3}{4}$  in. Height,  $2\frac{9}{16}$  in. Wheel-turned; slight indentations made by finger-tip (before baking) along the top edge. Inner side a light chocolate brown; outer side blackened by fire.

(9) Diameter at base,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  in.; height  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. Dull umber-brown, fire-blackened on exterior of the side, but not at the bottom, as if it had been used once only.

(10) Diameter at mouth, 14 in.; height  $2\frac{3}{16}$  in.; rounded lip. Fire-blackened exteriorly, light brick-red inside.

(20) Diameter slightly larger than No. 9; height  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in. Reddish umber, the outer side darkened by fire; studded with grains of silex.

(21) Diameter about the same as No. 6; height  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. Impressions of finger tips on lip, which turns inwards. Fire-darkened outside, inside a warm umber.

(22) Very like Nos. 6 and 10. Finger impressions along lip. Chocolate-umber inside.

(23) Height  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. Mouth diameter  $15\frac{1}{2}$  in. Base diameter  $13\frac{1}{4}$  in. Wheel-turned. Quite black outside, from fire; inside a dull umber, patchy.

(12) A scrap measuring about  $3 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  in. of a dark gray, turning a dull brick-red in places, is a portion of the rim or mouth of peculiar form, of a vessel whose further shape is uncertain; but the fracture along the lower edge being roughly a straight line and parallel to the upper edge; the hardness of the ware; and the mouth diameter, all point to its inclusion among the shallow saucer type. There is, however, no reason why

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\* There are some much smaller examples of this type in the Museum, among the objects of various dates collected and given by Mr. S. G. Payne, from the railway-cutting at Haydon Hill.

it should not have been of the jar type, or of some distinct form.

The exterior diameter at mouth was  $12\frac{7}{8}$  in. The rim projected horizontally inwards,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in., the surface being as nearly as possible flat, about  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. thick where it starts from the mouth of the vessel, and after a slight taper, rounded off at the inner free margin. The diameter at this interior edge was  $10\frac{3}{8}$  in.

The section of this fragment is very little less than a right angle outside, the two surfaces are very slightly concave, and the inner surfaces form practically a right angle.

The object of the horizontal widening of the rim was doubtless to check the spilling of the liquid contents.

(4) A small bowl, unlike any other of the fragments. Mouth diameter outside,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  in.; *circa*  $2\frac{3}{4}$  in. diameter at base; 2 in. high. Thick; wheel-turned, but the outside subsequently pared and smoothed with a knife; light umber brown out and in, no blackening from fire.

Mr. R. A. Smith says:—"The little bowl (fig. 4), also drawn, is peculiar, being thicker than the rest, and finished off outside roughly with a knife (?) or bone."

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I have looked up all the literature of underground chambers that I can find, the majority of the references having been supplied to me by the kindness of Mr. R. A. Smith. Most of them, however, have no affinity to the present case; but some specimens very similar to the jar-shaped type were found (*inter alia*) by General Pitt-Rivers, at Cæsar's Camp, Folkestone, and are figured in *Archæologia*, XLVII., pl. xx., figs. 42, 43, 44; the chief differences being apparently that the Folkestone ware have their diameter largest at mouth instead of about half-way down, and are relatively somewhat shallower than the Walton fragments. Figs. 49 and 50 on the same plate also have some similarity to these: and the Walton pointed buckles and knife are very like those figured (*tom. cit.*) pl. xviii., figs. 9 and 7, also from Cæsar's Camp. Pitt-Rivers says of the pottery:—"This corresponds to the rim of the pot found with the clench-bolts at Le Câtillon, in Normandy, and figured in Mr. Charma's

paper \* above referred to; it is of frequent occurrence in early Norman pottery." The find associated with the clench-bolts was in the vicinity of mediæval ruins, near to a Roman camp, but not in it (*tom. cit.*, p. 437). Coins of Stephen were found during the excavations at Cæsar's Camp, but the association is uncertain.

Writing in July last, Mr. Smith says:—"Mr. H. E. Malden, of St. Catherine's, Guildford, has been finding ware of the same kind in some pit or underground chamber near Guildford. . . . Before long I feel sure that it will be possible to fix the date of the large cooking pots. There are some fair specimens in Warwick Museum, I remember, that I saw some years ago; large specimens that might be easily restored." On the 25th of the same month, Mr. Smith wrote:—"Since you wrote, similar specimens have been found at Bexley Heath, near Dartford, but no complete specimens, or indication of date."

Since the above has been in type, we have purchased the above *miscellanea* from Mrs. Tabor, out of the balance of the fund for the Burne Hill investigation, for the County Museum.

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\* Mémoires de la Société des Antiquaires de Normandie, xix., 485.