
1871 A pair of large saucer brooches, set with garnets and with anthropomorphic ornament, were found with a human skeleton in a stone-quarry.

ante 1862 In removing the soil near Clotton Dean farmhouse, situated on a steep slope with wide views, human skeletons were found laid in groups of 2 or 3.


1866 During sand-digging in Cursley Hill (wrongly called Causeway Field), on the E of the road between Stone and Bishopestone, several human skeletons were found c. 40 yds. to the SW of a supposed levellum tumulus in the highest part of the field. The skeletons were lying with their heads to the N, 2′ deep. 3 had a shield-boss and spearhead each; in addition the first had a knife; the second a knife and 2 ′iron fibulae;′ the third a second spearhead and 2 pieces of pottery. An iron spearhead much larger than the others was found by itself. It was presented to Aylesbury Museum.

? 1875 Later, more graves were found, with skeletons disposed as before, except that some were contracted. One had a sword on the left, spearhead and knife on the right, and a shield-boss and a large ornamented glass bead between the thighs. Also found in other graves were another sword, 4 knives, 4 spearheads, 3 necklaces (mostly of amber beads to judge by the photographs) and 4 separate larger beads, 3 saucer brooches (2 a pair), a disc brooch, 3 square-headed small-long brooches, one ′early cruciform,′ 3 pairs of bronze tweezers, 2 pins, an iron buckle, a bronze belt plate with early animal ornament, and a hollow tube and a ′probe on a ring. An urn of black pottery and an axe were destroyed by boys. The pair of saucer brooches are almost identical with another pair from Lyminge K, dated to the first half of the VI.

Bledlow. Inhumation burial. Bu 37 NW. SP 775014. OS records. Museum: Aylesbury. 1925 An iron knife was found with the skeleton of a boy at the Warren.

Bledlow see also *Cop Round Barrow Bu*.


1931 A workman digging a drainage trench near the Cottage Hospital found an AS bead 2′–3′ deep. Unfortunately the trench, which was very small and narrow, was filled in before the find came to the notice of archaeologists. Nothing else was reported, but it cannot be certain that nothing was missed. The bead is 1 3/4′ long by 1/2′ wide at widest, of grey-buff glass ornamented with cross-cross lines of light blue.


circa 1937 J. F. Head excavated a bowl-barrow of chalk rubble and mould, c. 60′ diam. and 7′ high (much disturbed) on a small chalk hill called the Cop, 200′ above the Icknield Way.

2 Saxon secondary inhumation burials were discovered, one in a shallow grave above the primary burial, where the legs only of a girl aged 18 were in situ, extended. On the N of the barrow was a male skeleton, head S in a grave 1′ deep, 5′8′ long and 2′ wide, lying supine but squashed against the right side of the grave and with head raised. Associated were an open-socketed spearhead, an iron knife and a pair of broken bronze tweezers.

There were also 4 pits containing AS cremations, varying from 1′ 3′ to 2′ deep, all with smooth vertical sides cut with a metal tool. 2 contained plain urns in situ, the rest had been disturbed. 3 urns had evidently contained combs in addition to burnt bones. Another cremation burial had been disturbed by the second inhumation; and another pit of exactly similar construction contained nothing but earth.

One of the combs is of a distinctive hinge-backed single type. Also found disturbed in the barrow were a small bronze ring, 3 pairs of tweezers, 2 bronze pins, an iron ring and bronze fragments, and a pottery spindle-whorl and bead—any or all of which may be AS.

Professor Parsons presented the RSC with an adult male ‘Chiltern settler’ skull from a barrow on Bledlow Hill—probably this site.


1769 ‘In sinking a trench for the foundation of a building in the castle style’—Sir John van Hatters’s Summer House, adjoining the road to Thame—at least 12 human skeletons were discovered; one skull was said to have been coated with clay. With them were a green glass cone beaker, 2 spearheads, and several other rusty pieces of iron, probably also spearheads. 1859 Akerman found 2 skeletons to the W of the summer house, lying with heads to the NW, one of a woman or boy, the other an adult man. Next day 3 more skeletons were discovered, one a woman, the others ‘young people’, one of whom had a buckle of bronze or steel. The excited excavator unfortunately delayed. Later, Goodall excavated, but found only 2 more skeletons, one lying with head NNW, but neither with grave-goods.


circa 1847 In a field called Maylands at Duggan Hall 7 skeletons were found, lying EW.

Since 1862 Workmen digging for stones or sand at Gallows Hill, a small circular camp c. 1 m. from Duggan, found several human skeletons.


1908 An excavation 30′ long NS by 8′ wide was made on the golf course at Ellesborough for a bunker. 3 skeletons were found. The first, of an old man of c. 60, lay contracted, head WNW, in a grave c. 18′ deep; with it was an iron knife. The second was of a man c. 25 years old, also lying supine, but with the shoulders very much hunched up. Cocks thought that the body was not leaning against the head of the grave, but against some material since decayed. By the ribs was a double comb; and to the right of the waist a thin piece of iron with turned back ends. Immediately below it was the shell of a Panther Cowry.


1905 ‘At Eynhoe... some iron relics that are easily recognized as part of a warrior’s equipment have recently been unearthed, but no further details are forthcoming.’

*Hinten*, probably an identifier with shield-bosses and spearheads "from Upper Wichendon" in Aylesbury Museum.


1866 The Rev Charles Lowndes exhibited a collection of AS weapons and relics, spearheads and knives of iron, bosses of shields, with other relics brought to light in a field on the property of the late Dr Lee, at Hartwell.


ante 1905 ‘In the BM are a sword and shield boss from a warrior’s grave in Windmill Field, Hitcham.’ The site was located in 1931 by Col. O. Pearce-Serocold.


ante 1842 Sheehan quotes Joseph Staines, History of Newport Pagnell (1842), as saying that ‘Roman antiquities have been frequently discovered near Kikles Farm.’

In the Wisbech Museum is an iron sword of AS type from a gravel pit on this site—so that the objects referred to may also be AS.

1814 An AS urn was found 'near large tree in stream opposite Batree Cottage, Back Lane'.


circa 1843 'Two pieces of armour' were said to have been dug up at Mentmore. One was recovered and proved to be a saucer brooch; the other was said to be 'the ornament on a soldier's belt.'

1852 Some skeletons were discovered in the gravel pit on the green in the centre of the village, but apparently there were no associated objects.

Several burials were also discovered on the brow of the hill, immediately to the S of the church; with one was a spearhead 18" long. In the same field, it is not known under what circumstances, a bronze lozenge-shaped object was found 'pierced lozenge,' and a coin of Constantine or Constantius.

Near by, Ouvry found a skeleton 2 deep, with a short spearhead and knife by the side, and some small bronze fragments.

1853 10 more skeletons were discovered near the Kennels, 100 yds. from the previous burials. One, buried 2 deeper than the rest, had the remains of a shield-boss. Another skeleton with a knife was found near the church. All were apparently lying with heads to the W. The soil is a dry clay.


circa 1832 A vast number of bodies were found near Whiteleaf Cross, buried only a short depth from the surface. Each body had a separate grave and all were laid due EW.

Parsons thought these burials AS, and would identify them with the called byrgerls mentioned on the Icknield Way; but the possibility cannot be ruled out that they are medieval and connected with the monastery.


1900 Finds, including flint arrowheads, a bronze brooch and several skeletons, were made on 'Tickford Park Estate. Near the skeletons were 2 double-edged iron swords and a socketed iron spearhead. With a skeleton, probably female, were a bronze brooch, ornamented bronze bands,' a bronze hair pin, an iron dagger or knife laid across the breast and armlets of variously-coloured beads.

Subsequently a 'goblet' of amber-coloured glass was unearthed. The bodies were apparently placed in circles, the feet all pointing to the centre—it was conjectured that the central interment had been of a prominent person. VCH records that 'pieces of charred wood and bones of the ox, horse or sheep were considered with some reason to have been the remains of the funeral feast.'

Brown says other discoveries were made 1900-15; but his reference (Rec Bu, IX, 420) is faulty, and therefore his source unknown.

ante 1933 Bullard records that 7 or 8 skeletons with 'some short daggers that had been on a shaft' were found at Tickford Farm (887442). Probably these belonged to the same cemetery.

Newport Pagnell see also Kicksle Farm Bu.


1936 Parrot noticed a leg bone protruding from the chalk face in Pitsone Pit 500' O.D. He uncovered the skeleton of a of c. 18 years, lying supine head E on the upper surface of the chalk under the topsoil. Parsons thought it an AS skeleton. It was said to be the second found on the site.


ante 1862 'About half a mile N from the church is a place called Pitch Green, where, local tradition states, a sanguinary conflict took place, perhaps during the civil wars. There are visible the remains of an embankment or entrenchment, c. 300' in length. Human skulls and other bones, and some warlike implements are reported to have been dug up here from time to time.'


(1852), 23-24. 26. Brown (1915), IV, 637. 1842 When the high road below the village was being widened, 7 skeletons of men and horses, with an obliterated coin of Magnentius, were found 4' deep. Some were laid supine, some on their sides. One was in a semi-circular grave with large stones placed over the whole of the body.

1852 Akerman recorded that as AS and Roman remains were found from time to time on the N side of the road near the Windmill. The discoveries included that of a skeleton with spearhead, knife and shield-boss and an urn at the feet. 2 ironary urns were discovered at the same time; but to judge from Akerman's rather confused description they were more probably Roman than AS.


circa 1840 A large bronze saucer brooch with a cruciform design was dug up in the Vicarage Garden; traces of cloth still adhered to the iron pin, and make it seem likely that it had come from a burial. The site adjoins the churchyard.


1882 A large tumulus 15' high, 240' circ., standing within the old churchyard at Taplow, was excavated. The site is on the angle of the hills, overlooking the Thames Valley; and the pond near by—the source of water—was said by a local tradition reported by Burgess to have been where Birinus baptized heathen Saxons.

The barrow was formed of loose gravel, with dark mould in the grave proper. This was dug below ground level, and its dimensions were 12' NW by 8' NS. It was floored with fine gravel. Because of the nature of the soil, the only traces of a skeleton remaining were a thigh bone and fragments of vertebrae.

Within the grave, the objects were arranged as follows—In the NE corner were 2 Shields and perhaps 2 spearheads; to the NW a bucket 1' diam. with wooden staves and figured bronze bands; a footed Coptic bronze bowl 12" high, the rim 12-sided and the foot loaded with lead; a glass vessel and a small drinking horn were close together. A sword lay to the left of the head and partly over the body as conjecturally restored (head to the E); and the remains of a gold-woven edging showed that a 'boscof had been fastened on the right shoulder by an elaborate triangular-plated gold buckle, 4" long, set with garnets. At the waist were ornamental triangular gold belt-clasps; to them adhered decayed wood which seemed to show a wooden plank had been placed above the body. A large vessel, 2' diam., lined with plain bronze, would have been over the thighs (perhaps forced there by the weight of the earth); it contained 2 large drinking horns and 2 claw-beakers. On the right (N) was a second bronze bucket 1' diam., and to the W an iron angon head, point down. Furthest W, beyond the feet, were a number of bone draughtsmen, a crescent-shaped ornament, a small drinking horn, and a fourth glass vessel. There was also a small harp, position unknown but possibly at the W end, towards the S. Signs of stout wooden planks were below as well as above the body.

The Taplow barrow is very probably that of a chief called Taepa, and was the richest known in England until the discovery of Sutton Hoo St. It also is VII.


ante 1853 'In digging the foundation for the erection of schools, several skeletons were found, no doubt Saxon interments; but the site adjoining the churchyard, it was considered that they were merely strays from consecrated ground, and they were reinterred accordingly.'


1901 A barrow was found under the southern foot of a large barrow (thought to be AS) on Castle Hill, c. 200 yds. of the parish church. With it was a 'beautifully designed gold pendant, ornamented with filigree work,' a necklace of glass beads, and an iron weapon, possibly a sword. The 2 latter objects were left with the skeleton in the grave.
CAMBRIDGESHIRE


1860 In the Ashmolean there is a mount identical with the one found in 1876, labelled Alton Hill, and with this date.

1876 Professor Hughes excavated a barrow c. 2 high, on the chalk escarpment. Beneath it was a grave, dug 5′ deep into the chalk, containing parts of a human skeleton and with the second of the pair of mounts still on the breast. Fox dates the mounts, which are of gilt bronze with 5 garnaets set in meerschaum bosses on a field of zoomorphic ornament, to the VII; and notes that they are almost the only examples of Saxon’s style II in the neighbourhood.


1887 The Cambridge Museum was given a plain pot of cremation size.

Babraham see Wortham Street Ca.

Barnwell see Cambridge IV Ca.


circa 1840 A large skeleton with a two-edged sword was excavated in Edix Hill Field, in the parish of Barrington, near Orwell village, on a fairly flat site below 100′ OD.

Later, bones were occasionally found in various parts of the field.
1858 A bronze cruciform brooch was found on the surface, with a spar (of later date). 1860 Labours digging drainage trenches found several skeletons, a few pot sherds and a spearhead. Later, other finds were obtained for the Cambridge Museum, and Babington reported on them.

The finds were made on a slight slope, covered by a 18′ of soil. Bendysh, the owner, said c. 10 skeletons were found, all regularly interred EW except one which was of much smaller size placed crosswise at the foot of a very large skeleton; there may have been one other similar burial. All burials were by inhumation, and the skeletons were said to be of people of large stature; skulls and teeth were in good condition, ‘and the marks of violence are unmistakable’.

2 bronze small-long brooches and c. 10 amber beads were found with a skeleton lying ‘sideways’ c. 18′ deep. A little piece of iron was by the hips, and pieces of pot on the middle of the body. One tells had a shield-boss over the head, and there were probably animal bones in the grave also. Another shield-boss was found with 4 studs, and the third had been nearly cut in two by an axe. There were 4 spearheads, one bent into a curved form, and 6 knives.

1861 Wilkinson dug c. 30 graves. The skeletons were usually supine, heads SW, and of youthful people. If the burial seemed careless, the grave was usually unfurnished. The bodies were usually laid just within white clay, only found in that part of the field.

An account of 26 graves is given in Coll. Ant. There were no barrows; all graves except 2 were furnished in some way, the men with weapons, the women with beads and cruciform or circular brooches; shears, tweezers and a comb were also found.

A disc from a hanging bowl and numerous other objects in the Ashmolean must be from later excavations. Among the Rolleston Papers is a bill paid by Greenwell for objects from Edix Hill Hole; the AS objects were: Bronze figured fibula (5′, AS small fibula, steel javelin point (10′, AS spearhead), curious earthen pot (10′, AS urn small with pattern and goods), and Fragments of Bronze, Knives ec. (5′, Oddments AS Romans). The bracketed descriptions are Greenwell’s. These probably went to the Ashmolean.

Fox dates the prosperous period of the cemetery to the early and mid VI.


1879-80 Labours digging coprolite found AS graves, destroyed most of the site and dispersed most of the finds; but an electrum pendant, a spiral silver finger-ring, 2 saucer brooches found with a string of glass and amber beads, a large ivory ring, 2 pairs of girdle-lanyards, a number of small-long brooches, the bronze bindings of 2 wooden buckets and a small pot were obtained by Griffiths and given to the Cambridge Museum. They are reported on in Ca AS Comm, XXXV.

1880 Foster excavated 114 graves. They were on a southern slope at the W end of the village of Barrington. There were no tumuli and the graves were irregularly placed, sometimes disturbing each other. 72 graves were EW, 13 NE-SW, 13 NS, the rest badly disturbed. Only one had a coffin. A rectangular fosse on the site appeared to have been filled in before the cemetery began; it enclosed RB rubbish pits. 31 of the graves were unfurnished, including most of the children’s; but there appeared to be no connection between orientation or position of skeleton and richness of furnishing. A fairly detailed account is in Ca AS Comm, V.

The cemetery appears to have been long lasting; from V to early VII according to Fox.

Barton see Hastingfield Ca.


1924 During the excavation of Bran Ditch, c. 55 m. NW of Royston, 2 skeletons were discovered 313 yrs. apart. The first lay supine in a grave carefully dug EW across the Fosse, and was of a man of c. 24 yrs. old, 6′ 3″ tall, of Nordic type with rheumatism in the feet. The second was between the ditch and the vallum, lying EW on the chalk rock with no associated objects. It was of an older, shorter man, the legs fully extended but the spine cramped.

1927 Lethbridge and Palmer excavated near the second skeleton and found other skeletons in shallow graves in the chalk. At least 2 were under the vallum, but afterwards it swung out to avoid them. About 50 more were discovered; many of the men had been decapitated and there were many loose skulls and other bones. Other skeletons showed signs of violent death. Most were of adult men, but there were 2 women and some juveniles over 12. A miscarriage or new-born child at the S end of the row was by a posthole and may have been a foundation sacrifice. Many of the bodies had been buried when very decomposed and they may have fallen to pieces while being carried to burial. It seems to have been a massacre and not an ordinary battle cemetery.

1931 Men rabbiting near Bran Ditch found parts of a human skeleton, and more excavations were made. 6 skeletons were found in 5 graves (No. 6 lying directly above No. 5) in the bottom of a small ditch on the berm of the main work. All the graves lay parallel to the main ditch and along the little one—i.e. with heads SSE. The bodies were not decapitated, but the shoulder bone of one was nearly cleft through and another had 3 facial wounds. These also are thought to have been buried long after death—perhaps as the big ditch was being dug and the little ditch filled in.

A pot, which Fox believes to be of sub-Roman type, or even as late as VI, was found broken and placed around the head of one skeleton.

Burwell. Inhumation cemetery. Ca 35 SE. TL 590665. Ca AS Rep, XLII (1884), cxxviii; XLIII (1887), cxxviii. Ca AS Comm, XXVII (1925), 72-79. Ca AS Comm, XXVIII (1926), 116-25; XXIX (1927), 84-94; XXX (1929), 76-107. VCH, pp. 318-20. Museums: Cambridge University (also Duckworth Laboratory, over 100 skeletons); Cambridge University, Anatomy Department (4 skulls 1884, skull and parts of skeleton 1927). 1884 At least 2 burials, one of a large man laid NS with some iron fragments, including a ‘fibula’ and part of a pendant ‘consisting of a central circle of bone, surrounded by 2 rows of small squares of coloured glass in a bronze setting, the whole backed by a thin sheet of bronze’ were discovered in a clunch pit at
Burwell. 4 skulls were given to the Museum of Anatomy. 1886 3 more skeletons, presumably of a man woman and child, were found side by side, in graves cut EW in the clunch. The man's grave was too short. Iron, probably knife-blades, was found in the left hands of 2 of the skeletons. Numerous other skeletons and objects were turned up during these years, including a beaver tooth set in bronze, an amethyst, some glass beads, a silver wire ring, an embossed silver disc pendant on a bronze base and some little 'toilet implements which were found with a woman and child; and a bronze buckle inlaid with garnets and a chalk trough or box, found with some knives. In one grave there were numbers of hazel nuts; onlookers took away handfuls.

1925-29 The Cambridge Antiquarian Society excavated and found 127 skeletons in 123 shallow graves in the chalk. Most were EW, with a few exceptions, particularly children's graves which were often NS. Nearly all were careful burials, especially 7 in deep graves, without grave-goods but covered with clean chalk. There were no coffins but the presence of pins suggested shrouds had been used. The graves were widely spaced, but none disturbed the skeleton had no grave goods, and 12 only a knife; 4 graves were unusually richly furnished.

This cemetery was unusual in the area. No object was found earlier than the late VI; there were no brooches (except the so-called iron fibula of 1884, no longer extant) and no weapons except a scaramasca. An ancient church is known to have stood near the site, and Lethbridge therefore assumed this was a Christian cemetery.

Cambridge I, St John's College Cricket Field, Mixed cemetery. Ca 47 NW. TL 441588. Ca AS Rep, XLVIII (1888), 365; Ca AS Comm, XVI (1912), 122–32. Brown (1915), 175, 785, 787. Fox (1923), 242–44, VCH, pp. 311–12. Museum: Cambridge University; Oxford, Ashmolean. 1888 Many hundreds of burials were discovered in the vicinity before von Hugel and 50 skeletons, found on the site of raquetsoin 100 objects were obtained for the Cambridge Museum, but no detailed report was published.

Among the finds were 2 early cruciform brooches probably of the mid V, and 2 applied brooches of VII, so that the cemetery was in use for a very long period. 1900 and 1909. Near the Madingley road, c. 200 yds. from the earlier finds, cinerary urns and 'other remains', not preserved, were found. 1911 Very close to where the Roman road crosses Grange Road, again c. 200 yds. from the 1888 finds, 6 skeletons (4 male, 2 female) were found less than 2' deep when Saxe-hatam? was being built. All except one had the head to the NE. All were unusually broad-headed. One strong male skeleton had a jug of Roman red ware touching the left of the skull, a broken bone pin and a small clasp among the ribs, and an iron spearhead and one scale of Roman armour. A girl, 9–11 years old, had a one-sided bone comb by the skull, a necklace of amber and glass beads, and a plain bronze disc brooch with an iron pin. 2 AS urns, one at least containing a cremation burial with a comb, were found under the drive; 2 bronze buckles and a strap fastener were also turned up.

4 iron knives, believed by Walker to be Roman, were found during the digging of foundations, and there was a great deal of fragmentary Roman pot, and 4 Roman coins, 2 post-Constantine.

Fox says that previously a shield-boss, an axe, spears and an urn had been found near by. These 3 sites show that a sepulchral area existed near the roman road, although not necessarily the whole of it was used for burials.


1880 Decorated pottery was found at Trinity Hall. 1890 Decorated and plain pottery was found in Sidney Street. 1895 A pair of small-long brooches was found in Jesus Lane. 1901 Spearheads, knives, 3 shield-bosses, part of a buckle and a fragment of decorated pot were found in Rose Crescent. 1904 There are also a strip of blue glass beads, a comb and a spindle whorl, all from Petty Cury but not necessarily associated, in the Cambridge Museum. Fox thinks these discoveries evidence for an important cemetery in a belt across the gravel spur, serving the southern town of Cambridge.

Objects from various other burials from 'in or near Cambridge' are also in the Cambridge Museum.


1910 A large number of fragments of decorated vessels of cinerary type were dredged up near Strange's boathouse, with much fragmentary coarse Roman ware.

An AS spearhead was also found there or close by at another time.

Fox thinks a cemetery may have been situated on this low ground, and the river subsequently changed course over it. If so, it is a cremation cemetery.


1847 'The boss of an AS shield, c. 8’ diameter, and the head of a spear were found in the new burial ground beyond Parker’s Piece'. 1870 Skeletons were found in Coldham Lane 'with daggers at the waist'. 1904 A double-sided bone comb ornamented with incised lines was found in Newmarket Road.

ante 1923 There are also finds from Barnwell in the Ashmolean Museum.

These finds 'attest the AS occupation of the gravel terrace bordering the river on which every race of which we have remains has in turn settled'.


1900 Cambridge Museum has fragments of at least 2 AS pots labelled '1900 Madingley Road'. 1903 'Finds', which Fox takes as evidence for one or more interments, were made at Gravel Hill Farm.

Chambers Pit see Little Downham Ca.


1757 Several skeletons were dug up in an elevated spot of ground which Peckover calls a 'sort of tumulus' during gravel digging. They were not more than 2' deep and there was no direction observed as to the posture of the bodies, in regard to the point of the compass. One skeleton had a sword, shield, bow, and at the head was a clay-beaker and an urn of unburnt clay containing burnt bones which Stukeley supposed to be those of the warrior's wife.


1949 8 or more AS secondary burials in a BA mound were excavated; the grave-goods are in the Cambridge Museum. These include an iron spearhead, knives, an iron buckle, the iron mountings from a wooden bed, a silver wire ring on which 4 glass beads were threaded, bronze belt plates, a large hag-backed bone comb with ring and dot ornament, part of another comb, a small high-necked pot and a crystal ball with bronze mountings (the strips with ring and dot ornament), a little ring and 3 small pendant bracelets of bronze.


ante 1903 Minor AS finds at Swan’s Gravel Pit were taken by Fox as evidence for one or more interments.


1903 A little pot with incised lines from Fordham was in the Cambridge Museum. 1935 C. S. Leaf identified the site of the cemetery which was always supposed to exist near Fordham, close to the road between Frenckenham and Chippingham and on the edge of the parish. A disc barrow and at least 2 other tumuli are in the immediate neighbourhood. Skeletons with weapons, silver rings, etc., are said to have been found here from time to time; and some small square-headed brooches of Kentish type in the Cambridge Museum probably came from here.

1822 2 axes, a spur, stirrup and lancehead, all of iron, were found by a workman levelling part of Devil's Dyke on Newmarket Heath.  The spur and stirrup are not now extant, and may have been later in date; the other objects are pagan AS.  There is no evidence about the nature of the deposit; it may have been a burial.


1928 The bones of several partly disturbed skeletons were found c. 1’ below the surface in Chambers Pit, Little Downham.  A bronze pin found with them and most probably AS.  was thought to be in direct association with the bones, but not so the pottery found on the site, which was RB.

1933 H. D. Colling identified the site of the cemetery.

Many burials are said to have been found in a pit near the church.  A small-long brooch from here is in the Cambridge Museum.

There are bones of 2 men and one woman in the BMNH, one man had been buried extended on his face, Sir Arthur Keith thought the bones more probably RB than AS.

Edith Hill Hole see Barrington A Ca.


1947 The driver of a bulldozer working on the construction of the aerodrome at Ely Fields Farm crashed into a mass of skeletons which he investigated.  He found a sword (of early date with a pattern-welded central band), a skull bronze objects and quantities of amber beads; but when he restarted the bulldozer two objects, 'hoping to placate the dead he had chanced visited the site, and found the skeletons lying in a confused heap, with no orientation, and only c. 12’ deep.  The beads and bits of bronze were widely scattered where the driver had thrown them, and some were with the splintered bones; there were small bronze bangles, evidently worn by children, 2 saucer brooches with debarred provincial Roman ornament (V or later), a few small glass beads and a large one.  Later Mrs Pritchard revised the site and found a wheel-shaped brooch and a bronze buckle, and saw the skull with the dagger in it.  G. Foster saw skeletons in graves c. 3’ deep, with no particular orientation; they were being rapidly destroyed.  The graves on the southern or uphill side of the cemetery appeared to have no grave goods; objects rescued from the northern part, from c. 30 graves altogether, were fragments of a large square-headed brooch with debarred ornament, perhaps of the VII, a small annular brooch, a glass ‘melon’ bead, 2 fragmentary spearheads, 3 iron and one bronze buckle, an iron knife, and a bronze girdle-hanger.  The site is c. 200 yds. from a Roman road; and has been identified as the cemetery for the pre-Ely village of Cranetsme.

1951 A jewelled Saxon pendant of crystal with resemblances to St Cuthbert’s Cross was purchased for the Cambridge Museum.  It was found some years earlier in Ely, perhaps near this site.


1959 A machine cutting foundation trenches for houses, on the High Barns housing estate NE. of Ely, brought up some fragments of human bones and other objects from AS. burials.  When Dr. Bushnell and Miss Graeber visited the site nothing was left except the fragmentary leg bone of one person.  They rescued 2 damaged iron shield-bosses, a sword 33’ long, a spearhead, a bronze square-headed, small-long brooch, and a bronze great square-headed brooch, whose foot is of Leeds’ A3 type and whose head is like the B1 type.


1861 2 shield-bosses and a spearhead in the Cambridge Museum are labelled ‘found at Fleam Dyke between Balsham and Mutlow Hill 1861’; they are of typical pagan form, one shield-boss with boss and rivet heads silvered.  Fox records that Balsham men often spoke of skeletons having been found in the ramp in the same place.

This is probably a battlefield cemetery (cf. Bran Ditch).  Letherbridge, in spite of much digging, could not find the site.


1921 2 inhumation burials, heads to the W., were found 18” deep during gravel digging in a field.  The first was contracted and with it was a split-socketed spearhead.  The second was extended; near by were 2 La Tène pots.

1922 Fox excavated and found 2 skeletons 16’ deep, fully extended, heads to the S., obviously buried together in one grave.  A third was accompanied by a bronze buckle with a rectangular plate ornamented with a bronze appliqué of a fish, 2 iron knives, and a sandstone hone near the left leg.  The fourth had a knife.  The 2 last were children.

1935 A skeleton with a knife of AS. form was found in the gravel pit 300 yds. SE. of the railway station.  It may be another from the same cemetery.

The site is c. 50’ OD, in flat country.


1871 Workmen employed in building Girtin College said they had found many AS. urns.  1875 A correspondence involving Madame Bodenham, Mistress of Girtin, George J. Busk and Rolleston mentions as found in this year, during the building, 2 adult skulls, an urn with ‘indent’d irregular stars’ (taken away by the workmen), and another urn apparently containing a burnt bronze brooch, the bones of a small adult and a child c. the age of 2.  Busk thought them probably mother and child.
small-long brooches and 10 beads; (D) a bangle of Kimmeridge Shale. Von Hugel records another cross-shaped bronze brooch, a girdle-hanger, 2 pairs of clasps, a large bone comb, several knives and 2 rough plain urns, the contents of which were not thought worthy of preservation.

ante 1925 There were also in the Museum 5 pairs of bronze tweezers and 2 shield-bosses, broken and undated.

1926 A single cremation grave was found.

The objects from the cremation graves seem to date from the late V until about A.D. 600. One window urn shows that cremation was used on the site from early times, but it was still practised as freely at the end. The grave-goods in general show that the people were poor and isolated; and there is little Vl development, unlike the Little Wilbraham and St John's Cricket Field cemeteries.

The Girton cemetery appears to be the furthest NW of the Cam Valley group of sites.

Granchester. Inhumation burials. Ca 47 SW. TL 431556. Fox (1923), p. 249. VCH, p. 313. Museum: Cambridge University. 1883 A few knives and spears were said to have been found in a small gravel pit on the road to Coton, close to the three-way junction in the village.

Also in the Cambridge Museum is a small decorated vessel from Granchester, of the type frequently associated with inhumation burials, which doubtless came from the same site.


1872 Some objects labelled 'Haslingfield 1872' are in the Ashmolean, including a tin pot with a handle from 'College Farm', 1874-75. A cemetery was recorded by the track from Cambridge to Haslingfield in the field known as 'Stoney Hill'. A long correspondence is preserved among the Rollaston papers, consisting of letters from one Frederick Pond, a fossil collector of Haslingfield, who supplied Rollaston with skulls and urns filled with burnt bones; this appears to give the only contemporary account of the discoveries.

Feb. 24, 1874 'I have sent you the Antiquities mentioned in my letter to you from Harston Station they were found at Haslingfield in the field known as Stoney Hill there is a great number of skulls beene found there was some found with those Broach but they Buried them......I have bought this little thing like a watch face......'

March 26 'I have got 3 Pots found in the Same Place......one the largest is figured outside very nice......It had a lot of Bones been preserved in it i t had a Bone Combe in it with the earth......The other 2 had not anything in them only earth 2 of them are small'. Rollaston recorded that the bones were human, of a girl aged about 14 and with them 2 glenoid ends of scapula of 'a Scef'.

May 20 '3 urns, the smallest very nice......They were found in Stoney Hill with the skulls and other things. I shall want 10 shillings for the urns. I have got 4 heads 2 are Pretty good and 2 are Broken and some Leg Bones I have got a Bullock face with the horns on it Perfect'.

June 11 2 skulls and 2 leg bones and a little broken pot were received by Rollaston.

July 13 A little urn was found, very deep. Aug. 3 A skull and some bones were taken to Pond, and sent to Rollaston. Work stopped until after harvest.

Sept. 30 2 more urns were received. Oct. 16 More relics were found in the previous week, but I have not got any of them yet there is some Gentleman at Cambridge they give a long Price for them but I shall get all I can and send them to Mr Greenwell'.

Oct. 28 'I have sent you 3 this morning....the Bones in the large one was in it when it was found....Will you please to let me know if you have sent those things to Canon Greenwell which I sent in your last box....since I have got some more things for him which I have Bough since found with the skulls one ring ws on the finger bone when found those urns ws found with the skeletons they broak the Heads in getting them out'.

Nov. 30 One skull and a pot containing bones was sent.

Dec. 28 Another urn, with contents, 3 of the skulls in, in the Ashmolean Museum, still contain burnt bones; and there is a quantity of material from inhumation graves—brooches of every variety, especially small-long, wrist clasps, beads, bracelets, bucket escutcheons, etc. Several of the objects are very early in date, e.g. a window urn, an equal armed small-long brooch, a bronze-gilt belt plate with egg-and-tongue ornament; as also are several disc brooches in the Cambridge Museum. There are others, however, some late objects, including a debased square-headed brooch.

N.B. 1. Harlton A group of objects listed by Fox, now in the Cambridge Museum, are recorded by Hughes as from Harlton. Fox assigns the whole group with the greatest probability to Haslingfield, and with them a small annular brooch in the Ashmolean Museum, labelled 'Harlton' and acquired in 1872.

2. 2 Bullets, lost, from the brooch and of a spindle whorl, obtained by Evans in 1874, are supposed to be from Barton; but since no other objects of the pagan period are known from this parish, and as this was a prolific year for Haslingfield finds, it is more probable that these objects came from there. All these finds are described fully by Fox.

3. The three cemeteries—Barrington A and B and Haslingfield—differ from the other local cemeteries in the Lark group. They have many applied brooches, and some of the small-long brooches have affinities with those from the Upper Thames Valley.

Hauxton. Inhumation burials. Ca 47 SW. TL 452258. Ca AS Comm, VII (1889), 24-28. Fox (1923), p. 259. VCH, p. 315. Museums: Oxford Ashmolean Museum; Cambridge University. 1879 Coprolite diggings on the right bank of the Cam near Hauxton Mill turned up many antiquities. A few AS objects labelled Hauxton are in the Cambridge and Ashmolean Museums— including small-long brooches (of VI type) and an applied brooch—all of which Fox regards as coming from inhumation burials. There is also a large knobbed pot which may be cinerary.

1899 A two-horned iron axe, knives, and a key and an iron washer were with a skeleton in a pit, c. 2‘ deep. The axe is said by Lethbridge to be of ‘Christian’ type.


17916 There are 3 urns in Safron Walden Museum from Hildersham; one large one with zigzag incised lines, a small bag-shaped urn, and a medium wide-mouthed bowl. Nothing is known of their discovery.

AS skeletons were ‘long reputed’ to have been found on the Furrey Hills at Hildersham, but Lethbridge’s attempts to find the cemetery were unsuccessful.

1944 Brit-Compton was examining the geology in a gravel pit on the most northerly of the hills, used as a bombing range, when he found the remains of a bronze bowl, the hoops of a metal-bound bucket, part of an iron shield-boss and a spearhead, blown out of the lip of the pit by a hand grenade.

1946 Hildersham and Bushnell found the rest of the burial, the socket of the spearhead still remaining.

The bowl is probably early, to judge from the shape of the escutcheons—but one of the discs has ornamentation apparently related to some in the Book of Durrow. There are 3 small enamelled appliqués, in the shape of naturalistic dogs, which also belong to the bowl.

Hooper’s Field see Barrington B.Ca.


1935 An inhumation burial with a spear was found near the old doke-cote.

1935 2 cremation burials were found when a pipeline was being laid at the back of the village, near the old road over Rivey Hill.

1936 During the enlargement of the Prince of Wales Inn 2 more skeletons were found when digging a cellar. Half of one of these was carefully excavated and had 2 silver rings of spiral form on the finger bones.

1853 Neville excavated a mound on Linton Heath near Bartlow, identified by Lethbridge as part of the N. of the Linton-Horseheath road, c. 1 m. from Linton village. It had been quite high, but within the memory of the tenant was ploughed down until it was scarcely visible. The shape appeared to be oblong, and the measurements from NE to SW 160′, from E to W at widest 85′. Neville found 104 graves, described individually in Arch J, all secondary AS burials cut through the tumulus into the humus beneath,—i.e. c. 3′ deep. The direction of 12 of only was noted: 7 had the heads to the SW, 4 to the NE, only one to the W. 29 of the graves were unburned, including 12 of the 16 children’s graves. The objects found included large numbers of bronze brooches, mostly cruciform, swords, spars, urns, 10 Roman coins, buckets, a cone beaker and urns, some of which were of cinerary type. Other graves may have been destroyed by ploughing.

Fox notices as a feature of this cemetery several large gilt square-headed brooches with red or yellow enamelled plates. The cemetery may have originated in the 1st C., as there are cruciform brooches with detached side knobs. Some objects appear to be late VI, but there are none certainly VII.

Malton see Barnington A Ca.


1838 A necklace of amber beads found at Mainey and acquired by the Cambridge Museum was said in the Cambridge Chronicle to consist of 46 amber and 3 blue glass beads (the Museum received 39 amber).

Barnington, on the authority of the Cambridge Chronicle (May 2nd 1840) says that the beads were found in a company with a skeleton, a bronze spearhead and various other ‘Roman’ implements. It is difficult to accept the association; therefore one does not know what to make of this find.

Melburn. Inhumation cemetery. Ca 58 NE. TL 382438. P Ca AS, XLIX (1956), 29–41. Museum: Cambridge University (also Duxford Laboratory 20 skeletons, 7 extra skulls, 1951). Building by the Melburn Whitting Company disclosed a cemetery at the edge of the chalk escarpment, above the 100′ contour and close to the Streetway. About 3 graves were opened by the villagers.

1952 28 graves were excavated by the Cambridge Archaeological Field Club under the direction of D. M. Wilson and R. Erskine. The deepest were c. 4′ below ground surface, the shallowest c. 1′ 6″; the more richly furnished graves were the shallowest. One burial was crouched, the rest extended. There were 2 double burials, one grave contained a woman’s skeleton pushed aside to make room for a man soon after the burial; the other held 2 men, one above the other. The first contained the jawbone of a sheep laid behind the man’s head. There were 19 male and 5 female adults, and some children. 24 of the graves found contained goods (6 knives only). This is an unusually high proportion for a cemetery of so late a date; but it is not thought to be exhausted, and perhaps only the richer part has so far been explored. Only one grave, a child’s, contained pottery—a very coarse grey pot of VII–IX. The other objects found were also of a late date—silver rings of twisted wire, bronze pins on rings, beads including 2 of amethyst, silver pendants including one pear-shaped with a coloured glass setting, 2 of sub-lozenge shape with central bosses and one in the shape of a hand, a silver shield-ornament and several buckles. The only weapons found were a spearhead and a conical shield-boss formed from a flat sheet of metal, resembling that from Portsdown Hill Ha.


1859 A large plain jug-shape pot, typically AS, was found with BA urns in a ‘tumulus’ in Mepal Fen. This probably represents a secondary cremation burial.


Circa 1887 A pit with spangles, 2 large cruciform brooches (perhaps late), annular brooches with a U-shaped section, some small beads, a small-long square-headed brooch, a ring and a pair of wrist-clasps were found in the garden of Croft Lodge, Newnham. It is not known how many graves are represented, but perhaps the square-headed and annular brooches, pin and wrist-clasps make a grave-group of early date.

1893 Spearheads labelled ‘Barton Road’, with this date, are in the Cambridge Museum.

1910 In the garden of Croft Lodge 2 interments were found, one containing wrist-clasps and a cruciform brooch; the other 2 fine cruciform brooches. Fox dates these burials after the mid VI.

ante 1938 ‘Recently several inhumations have been found with associations of spearheads, pots and wrist-clasps.’ In one grave a spearhead is reported to have been found vertically by the head, stuck in the ground with the point down.


1926 3 burials with spears, knives, and a shield-boss were ploughed out of a field SW of Oakington Church, beside a stream, when it was deep ploughed for the first time. ‘Certainly there is a cemetery here also.’

Orwell see Barnington A Ca.


ante 1816 Several ‘lanceheads and jetts’ were discovered on the site of the 1816 finds.

1816 As some labourers were levelling the top of Huckeider Hill (100′ OD) near Sawston, they found a skeleton 3′ deep. At the feet were 2 bronze vessels, one with bosses around the rim, dating to V or VI, the other with triangular lugs. On the left of the skeleton were fragments of coarse black pottery, an iron sword, a shield-boss, a bronze saucer brooch and a small iron stud.


ante 1933 Burials of the pagan period were discovered in a sandpit opposite the mill, on the E side of the road from Little Shelford to Whittlesford. An associated late group of saucer brooches, buckle of Kentish type and beads is in the Cambridge Museum.

1934 Excavations on a small scale failed to find more burials, and it is impossible to tell how many there were.


1887 A new ditch, dug due NS, cut at right angles across 10 graves lying from 3′–30′ apart, 1′–2′ deep. There were indications of other graves, whose skeletons had perhaps completely decayed. The only associated objects were a bead and a small stone amulet.

1933 Lethbridge excavated. He found 148 graves, in 2 groups with their heads respectively to the NW and SW; the division was clearly marked but there was no observable difference in the character of the graves. The 77 graves with grave-goods are described in Ca ASQ Pub, V; these included 11 of the 33 children’s graves. 21 of the graves contained knives only. The cemetery as a whole resembled Burwell, and was presumed Christian by Lethbridge.


Nothing is definitely known of this site except that it is in the late Saxon, and from it came a fine cruciform brooch, perhaps from c. 550. The finds made in 1856–67 may however have been here and not in the cemetery site as Fox thinks.


1856–67 Fox says that finds made during these years are recorded from this site, which is on the Soham–Fordham road, partly in the modern cemetery SE of the town, partly under the neighbouring houses on both sides of the road.

1873 6 brooches ‘of the ordinary type’, several glass beads and a girdle-hanger were found in the modern cemetery, and are now in the BM.

1873–1931 Several inhumation burials with pots and weapons (probably spearheads) were found from time to time.


1931 A trench for an electric cable to the Soham and Fordham water-tower disturbed a
skeleton with a perforated first brass of Trajan at the neck.

Lethbridge, Tebbutt and Leaf excavated and found 23 inhumations and 2 cremations of the pagan AS period, all very close together. When plotted, it was found that the outer burials all lay on the circumference of a circle, and, as the parish boundary passes closely, it is suggested that the burials were made in a low barrow, since putted away. The burials are a little strange for the area—only one man had arms, and these were a spear, and an axe or spout; he had a barbarous copy of a Roman coin in his hand. Another man had tools—a small rivetter’s hammer and a whetstone; and an old woman, buried beneath limestone slabs and flints, had a layer of charcoal stretching from her left shoulder to her hips. The 2 cremations were each placed in a shattered pot by the side of an inhumation, suggesting some relationship between the two, and the skull of one was buried muddled down in a pit.

All heads were to the WSW. 9 graves were unfurnished, including 7 of the 9 children’s graves. Lethbridge dates one grave to VII, another to the mid VI.


circa 138 A man with a spear and 60 n.


ante 1854 2 pairs of clasps and half of another, an instrument of doubtful use, 4 fibulae probably Saxon and one that may be of Roman, parts of Rings, Armlets and Torques, of a Dagger of iron near the Vicar’s Brook in Trumpington parish, not far from the first skeleton to Cambridge. They are now in the Cambridge Museum. One of the brooches is cruciform, of Hanoverian type and one of the earliest in the country; another is dated c. A.D. 500. A crystal ball in bronze slings, also now in the collection as coming from Darl Hill, Trumpington.


1838 In Peterborough Museum there is a little pot, containing a note saying that it was found by some labourers whilst digging in a pit of Lattersey Field near Whittlesey Town about February 1838. 7 skeletons were discovered lying EW; at the head of each was an urn or vase, all of the same material, but varying in size and shape. The untimely was very small, 3 high, with 4 horizontal necklines and shoulder bosses separated by 2 vertical lines, of manifest AS type. It was found with the skeleton of a child.

Lattersey Field is about 2 miles W of Whittlesey, and Mr Wyman Abbott supposed that the cemetery was discovered when the gravel was being excavated for the roads leading from Whittlesey to Coates and Whittlesey to March.


circa 1847 Several remarkable fibulae, armillae, amulets, coins and beads were found, and successive operations have brought to light many other relics and numbers of human remains on Streetway Hill, where there were many tumuli of various ages.

1850 When the summit of Streetway Hill was lowered, a grave 6’4” long, 2’8” wide was found, containing a skeleton e. 6” tall, laid face down, head W. A bronze-bound bucket was found by the head, an iron spearhead under the breast, a small knife on the right and a shield-boss between the legs; all are now in the BM. Deck supposed there had been a tumulus, but at the time there was no sign of it.

April 1851 Labourers digging chalk a few feet away found many human remains, numbers of iron spearheads and several iron bosses, all of which went into Deck’s possession. In 1854 ‘a part of a Torques, an Arrowhead, a flat ornament of a ring shape’, 3 girdle-hangers

‘supposed to have been found with the situla’, all of bronze, passed from Deck’s collection into that of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society.

Aug.-Nov. 1851 Neville excavated on Streetway Hill Chalk Pit. It was accompanied by 2 small-brooches, a bronze bucket set with carbuncles and silver foil (thought by Lethbridge to have been Frankish work of the VI) and a bead.

Excavations were therefore undertaken by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society to rescue any more interments in danger of destruction from the chalk pit, and they are described in P Ca AS, XXIX and Ca ASQ Pub. III, Trenches were dug parallel to the Streetway beside the hedge; they showed that Neville’s excavations had stopped c. 2 yrs. from it in an irregular line. 8 graves containing 11 skeletons and 14 cremations were found in the narrow strip. The site of a large fire was found between graves 6 and 7. Urns had been placed in a straight line parallel to the Streetway; sometimes little pits were dug in the chalk for them, but at least 2 were put in beside their holes. The burials, except for one triple inhumation, were unremarkable.


ante 1742 The Earl of Oxford, digging canals at Wimpole, where he had that seat, found many bodies and rusty pieces of iron, the remains of some battle.


1858 2 T-headed brooches were found in the foundations of Wisbech Corn Exchange. They were presented in 1871 to the Wisbech Museum by Curtis Edwards, along with other objects now untraceable. No details are known of the discovery, but since there were 2 brooches it is practically certain they came from a burial.


circa 1820 A skeleton with an iron sword was found on the SW side of the street, at its highest part on the Gog Magog Hills. Many other skeletons are also said to have been found by the side of the street.
DERBYSHIRE

N.B. Bateman, who excavated many of the early AS burials in Db and St, unfortunately published very few details of their locality. The National Grid references given are therefore often conjectural only.


1845 Bateman opened a small barrow called the Lowe on a rocky ridge overlooking the valley of Alsop-in-the-Dale. Towards the S side of the tumulus a skeleton was found head W; the iron boss of a shield was by the left pelvis, a little higher up a broad-headed iron rivet plated with bronze, and near the neck a thin flat piece of iron. In the left hand was a common round quartz pebble, to judge from the position of the finger bones placed in the hand at the time of burial. The shield-boss is of VII type.


ante 1851 During the construction of the Midland Railway village near the barrow the workmen cut through the centre of a piece of ground which had evidently been a tumulus or barrow. The site was rather elevated, a few hundred yards from the river Derwent, but the surface of the ground bore no indication of anything remarkable. About 2' [deep]... the soil around a blackish tinge, and a quantity of bones, evidently burnt, were found. They were black, but tolerably sound. As the labourers proceeded... there were in the tumulus... appeared probably in number e. 80, 9 of them were very large and lay due E of W. One... [was]... in a rude kind of vault, of which stones had been pilled. These, however, were irregular in shape, and bore no traces of having been worked... Underneath one skeleton was a singularly shaped stone, having a hole bored through the centre, which appeared to be a weapon of warfare. Through one skull a hole was broken, and in the interior was the head of an arrow made of flint. At a lower level was discovered a small box, containing some amulets, a blue bead, and an ornament resembling a brooch but rude and massively made. This was in size about an inch square... apparently brass. In another part of the ground, was discovered a small vase, composed of whitish clay, without ornament and very rude in design. This was contained in a burnt bone (apparently a pigeon) and a Roman coin... of Constantine. The burnt bones of the ox and sheep, and the tusks of the boar, were found in great abundance... The horns of the ox appeared to have been purposely broken into fragments varying from 3' to 6' in length.

Bowers Low see Bowers Low Db.


The earth near these objects was like half-baked clay, and no bones are recorded. From the surface from the house to the E, was a heap of burnt human bones beneath a slanting stone, unaccompanied except by a few unburnt animal bones including the lower jaw of a dog.

The primary burial was found on the natural surface.


1847 Bateman opened a barrow near Bromhead, Matlock B"ath. It was 3' high above the grave cut 2' into the natural rock. About 2' deep was a deposit of calcined animal bones, including the perfect tooth of a young horse, and a great quantity of charred wood. About the same level was a small piece of pottery and a point of stag's horn. Upon the floor of the grave was a supine human skeleton, hands beside, badly decayed. To the left of the hands beside, badly decayed. To the left of the fingers lay a narrow-necked biconical vessel of red clay with a trefoil lip, on its side with the mouth towards the head. By it lay a curved iron knife 6' long, with a wooden haft much decayed. Close to the tibia there was a circular stone, which was placed an article principally composed of iron and wood, the use of which is by no means obvious, upon the use of which is by no means obvious, superimposed by a ring composed of burnt bone.

DERBYSHIRE

with 3 scores: the pots they broke. The pots were small, and covered with a common flat griststone c. 17' square. Amongst the bones was found a piece of copper, near 2' long, 3' broad... flat and rather curved. On the eastern side of the low was a large trench 3' wide, filled with human bones. The urn illustrated is possibly AS—but so small it is impossible to say definitely.


ante 1851 During the construction of the Midland Railway near the village of Bowerwash the workmen cut through the centre of a piece of ground which had evidently been a tumulus or barrow. The site was rather elevated, a few hundred yards from the river Derwent, but the surface of the ground bore no indication of anything remarkable. About 2' [deep]... the soil around a blackish tinge, and a quantity of bones, evidently burnt, were found. They were black, but tolerably sound. As the labourers proceeded... there were in the tumulus... appeared probably in number e. 80, 9 of them were very large and lay due E of W. One... [was]... in a rude kind of vault, of which stones had been pilled. These, however, were irregular in shape, and bore no traces of having been worked... Underneath one skeleton was a singularly shaped stone, having a hole bored through the centre, which appeared to be a weapon of warfare. Through one skull a hole was broken, and in the interior was the head of an arrow made of flint. At a lower level was discovered a small box, containing some amulets, a blue bead, and an ornament resembling a brooch but rude and massively made. This was in size about an inch square... apparently brass. In another part of the ground, was discovered a small vase, composed of whitish clay, without ornament and very rude in design. This was contained in a burnt bone (apparently a pigeon) and a Roman coin... of Constantine. The burnt bones of the ox and sheep, and the tusks of the boar, were found in great abundance... The horns of the ox appeared to have been purposely broken into fragments varying from 3' to 6' in length.


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The jug is extant, broken, and is perhaps RB, perhaps of a Frankish type not elsewhere found in England. Bateman thought it had had a handle, broken off and smoothed down previous to its interment.


circa 1825 A farmer at Brushfield accidentally opened a tumulus, and found an iron sword 32" long and 2" wide, an iron shield-boss and an iron knife and buckle.

1850 Bateman excavated a 'finely shaped barrow' on Lapwing Hill, on the same farm as the 1825 barrow. It was 17 yds. diam., 4' high, composed of earth with a few stones in the centre above a shallow grave dug into the ground. In it was a decayed human skeleton, head W. Beneath were 'many traces of light-coloured hair, as if from a hide, resting on a considerable quantity of decayed wood.' There were also clenched bolts and etc. from a coffin found around the skeleton. To the left was a long and broad iron sword, in a leather-covered coffin sheath, and under it a small iron knife. Above the right shoulder were 2 small javelin heads.

Bateman dug another barrow nearby, but it was completely disturbed. He also excavated Gospel Hillock, a mutilated barrow near Buxton, but it contained only a few calcined bones and a fragment of pottery. These finds are like those of Bowers Low, where another sword and tall shield-boss were found.

**Callidge Low see Galley Lowe Db.**


1860 5 skeletons were found during quarrying at Calver Low, buried in graves c. 2 deep, sunk down to the rock, side by side a few feet apart. The bodies were all laid supine, heads of usual AS shape. There were indications of a tumulus a few yards off.

Bateman describes the skeletons briefly but individually.

**Carder Low, Hartington Town Quarter.** Inhumation burial, secondary in barrow. Db 27 SE. SK 128626. Bateman (1848), p. 64.

1845 Bateman opened Carder Lowe, and on the S side found a skeleton. 'Along with this lengthy individual [6' 8" tall] an iron knife and 3 bones of sandstone were deposited, also a few pieces of calcined bone.'


1849 Bateman opened a small low barrow near Nether Low. Under it was an irregularly shaped grave 3 deep, lined with stone slabs. It was chiefly filled with stones, but had a layer of earth above and below; the latter was 'exceedingly tensive clay.' In it was an embedded skeleton of a tall man of middle age, supine, head to the W, raised, hands with fingers extended placed on the thighs. An iron knife lay obliquely across the left pelvis, over it were the wristbones. The right femur had been fractured but had reunited. Parallel with the right side of the body, for its whole length, was a ridge of dense dark-coloured earth, apparently decayed wood and animal's skin.


1851 Carrington excavated an earthen barrow, and found a primary deposit of burnt human bones, placed in a small hole in the old ground surface, accompanied by iron fragments, parts of 2 bone combs, and 28 bone playing-figures or counters of a kind found in cremation burials in the V, and in inhumation burials as late as the VII. They are lathe-turned and possibly imported.


1846 Bateman excavated Cow Low near Buxton, then c. 4' high. In the centre of the barrow, half-way down, was a secondary burial, only the teeth and part of the skull remaining. Near the head were 2 gold union pins, the heads containing garnet settings. Close by was a blue glass bead. The earth around about seemed to have been puddled at the time of the burial and was very solid. About 18" distant from the pins were the remains of a wooden box of ash planks ¾ thick, with 2 bronze hinges, a hasp, and an iron padlock, wrapped in a woollen cloth. It contained a small vessel of thick green glass, an ivory comb, much decayed, some iron instruments, a piece of perforated bone, encircled by a bronze hoop—perhaps the head of a needle—and 11 pendant ornaments for a necklace (one of blue glass with white spirals, 2 of spiral spiral wire, 8 small thin circular silver pendants with flat back and convex fronts, and a dog's or fox's tooth). A little above the body, in the same tempered earth, was part of the horn of a red deer.

Most of the jewellery is extant, and is dated to the VII.

**Cross Flatts see Rusden Low Db.**


ante 1887 In the NW angle of the keep of Duffield Castle were found a few human bones, pronounced by doctors to be those of a young woman. Nearby a large amber bead and the foot of a large cruciform brooch were found.


1843 Bateman examined the middle part of Galley (or Callidge) Lowe, a large barrow on Brassington Moor. About 2' from the surface were a few disturbed human bones mixed with rat bones and horse teeth. Amongst these were several pieces of iron (some rivets, perhaps from a coffin), 2 arrow-heads, a whetstone of coarse sandstone, a bone-pin, fragments of a large urn of well-baked earthware, glazed in the interior for c. an inch above the bottom (now lost), 2 beads (one of green glass, the other of white enameled with a blue coil), 13 pendants of gold, 11 with garnet settings, and a barrel-shaped bead of gold wire. These are dated by Leeds and Brown to the VII.

Later in the year, primary burials were found in the barrow.

**Derbyshire**


1788 A farmer, digging for lime into a barrow on Garratt's Piece, ¼ m. SE. of the Arblesow, found in the centre, on the natural surface, the remains of a skeleton lying EW. With it were the remains of a bronze bowl with 2 enamelled escutcheons, one circular, found near the right shoulder, and another shaped like half a shield-grip. It probably dates from the third quarter of the VII.


1849 Bateman excavated a barrow in land called Grind Low. In the earth near the summit were some remains of a secondary burial, with a 'glazed' enamelled fragment, of which only the silver-plated frame remained... engrafted on the front and engraved with a lozenge pattern round the edge' and a bronze bowl, c. 7 diam., which had had escutcheons. The lozenge pattern on the silver strip is similar to that on the Eastern bracelet.

'This is not the barrow marked Grindlow on the map, but the one 1300' to the NW, at the meeting place of 3 field walls.'


1887 Labourers collecting stone on Haddon Fields, c. 1 m. from Upper Haddon, broke into the cist of one of the barrows in the field immediately above the bridge. It was constructed mainly of gritstone slabs, some of which were worked, and including one piece of a quern, unfortunately of unknown type. Dr Greenough found an iron hook nearly (not necessarily connected with the burial) and most of the skeleton in situ. It was of a dolichocephalic male, laid on its right side, head W, the knees bent so that the feet were in line with the body. The skeleton lay slightly below the natural surface on a bed of chert fragments, with a few pieces of limestone and sandstone which showed the action of fire. It was, however, made ground, since animal bones were found under the skeleton.
2 other barrows were excavated nearby; one had fragments of bones, some worked gritstone and a fragment of pot of light brick red colour, possibly from a wheel-made pot c. 8′ diam., perhaps similar to the Brundell vessel. The third barrow gave no results.


1849 Bateman opened ‘the first of a line of 3 small tumuli, occupying the summits of hills between the Buxton and Ashbourne Road, and the village of Church Sterndale’. The mound was c. 12 yds. diam., 1′ high, the earth tempered above the grave, which was 2′ deep into the rock. The skeleton was supine, head W. At the left hip was an iron knife, 4′ long, and by the right shoulder a bronze work-box still containing thread. Close by were 2 bronze pins or needles and the remains of a chainelet of iron and silver-plated bronze. Many pieces of hazel stick were found in contact. The iron showed impressions of woven fabrics, and the box was ornamented by lozenges. These finds would also date to the VII.

A few days later, Bateman opened ‘2 more barrows of the same construction on the hills nearer Buxton’. The first was 9 yds. diam., 1′ high, the earth also tempered above the grave, ‘which was sunk a little beneath the natural level’. No bones remained, but there was an iron knife and a mass of decayed wood in the centre of the grave.

The second barrow was 11 yds. diam., c. 1′8′ high, also of tempered earth. In the grave, head W, lay the skeleton of a young man, supine, without grave goods.


1821 W. Bateman opened a barrow c. 30′ diam. on the most elevated part of Kenslow Farm. About 6′ towards the centre human bones were discovered, and a piece of bone, one ‘equidistant from the points’ (?) a playing turned back ends, a large quartz pebble and a fragment of red pottery were thought to have been found on the breast of an undisturbed skeleton in the primary grave. Behind the head lay a ‘dog tooth’, and a molar from the lower jaw of a horse.

1848 T. Bateman reopened this barrow; and found considerable charcoal; it appeared the barrow was of BA date, but had been disturbed subsequently. An iron knife and fragments of a red vessel, described as kiln baked and wheel-made, with a narrow neck and resembling the Brundell vessel, were found on this occasion, and were assigned, with the pennannular brooch, to the secondary burial, which is, however, more probably RB than AS.


1866 When the railway between Derby and Ashby was under construction an AS cremation cemetery was found on the crest of a hill SE of King’s Newton, overlooking the River Trent. The urns were placed mouth upwards, on thin flat stones about 2′ deep, some in rows, some covered with other thin flat sandstones. They were of dark clay, sometimes with a red crust, and were from a few inches to 1′ tall. The burial ground was perhaps 50 square yds., and was close to an earlier enclosure, one urn being found at the bottom of the southern fosse. Many urns were destroyed by the workmen before the discovery was made public; Briggs records c. 30.

1849 Bateman excavated on his own account and found urns in groups of 3 and 5, placed on a stratum of sandstone. No relics were found in them besides a small piece of shaped flint, charcoal and a fragment of a metallic ring. Jewitt illustrates the accounts with drawings of 12 urns; they are ornamented with stamps, vertical and horizontal incised lines and pendent triangles.

Lapping Hill see Brashfield Dg.


1825 A barrow was opened near Kenslow Knoll; it contained a few fragments of the skull and other bones of a human skeleton, 2 iron knives with the remains of a wooden haft, and 2 other iron fragments. The ist appeared to be a natural depression in the rock and contained much charcoal.


1787 A barrow was accidentally opened on the moor; in the centre was a perfect skeleton extended on the ground, with an iron spearhead at the right hand. The owner of the land ‘subsequently discovered several other spears of the same shape, knives, and a quern, or handstone, upon other parts of his property’.

Monsal Dale, Longstone. Doubtful. Dg 23 NW, SK 178723. Bateman (1861), p. 74. 1851 Bateman excavated throughout the mound 15′ yds. diam., 1′ high on the left of the road from Ashford to Wardlow. ‘On removing the turf, many fragments of human bones, detached from several skeletons, appeared; and near the centre was a skeleton not so much disturbed, lying on some large rough limestone, and having near the head a small shattered vase, still preserving an upright position in decay—it is slightly moulded and ornamented with oblique punctures’.


1849 Bateman opened the Low, in a field near Newkirk House. It had been very much disturbed. It was made of tempered earth, and resembled the Bentley Grange barrow in construction. There were only a few minute fragments of calcined bone, human or animal. Many small pieces of thin iron bands, more or less overlaid with bronze, resembling the framework of the Bentley Grange helmet, were found, and a boss of thin bronze, 3′ diam., pierced with 3 holes and divided by raised concentric circles, between which the metal is ornamented with a dotted chevron pattern, in the angles of which are small roses punched with a die. There were also a vessel of thick cast bronze, 1′ high, 2′ diam., weighing 34 ozs., with vertical ribs and 2 perforated lugs, an iron ferrule or hoop, 1′3′ diam., and some fused glass (possibly beads). There were many pieces of charred wood throughout the mound.

Bateman mentions 2 small vessels of bronze like this one, from Lincoln and Lewes Sx, the former found with Samian sherds. Both were ornamented with a dot and circle pattern arranged in the shape of an equal-armed cross. Miss Fowler notes also that thin bronze bowls have been found on Roman sites, but that there are no close parallels to this one.


1887 During the extension of the lawn on the SE of Overtown Hall, workmen found several human skeletons 15′ deep. 4 lay with heads to the W, one by itself, 2 one above the other, their heads over the feet of another with its head SW. Close by the head of the last were the feet of the fifth, buried in a great too small for it, the head lying forward on the breast, the right lower arm across the pelvis, and the hands together beneath the left hip. Kerry thought it might therefore have been laid on its left side. Beneath this skeleton were fragments of sparkling grey and white lead ore, and Kerry concluded from this that these were Roman burials.


1847 Bateman opened a stony barrow near Pilsbury; a smaller barrow standing on it contained a skeleton laid at full length, with an iron knife on the left.

Rose Low see Bowers Low Dg.


1827 Labourers digging holes for a plantation discovered a barrow; when investigated it was found to contain the skeleton of a young person, head E, deposited at full length in a natural cist in the rock, c. 2′ deep. With it were an iron knife 5′ long, with part of a wooden handle, and a piece of roughly chipped flint. A similar knife and part of a stone celt were found later within a few yards; probably thrown out by the diggers.

1848 Bateman opened a barrow here. He found a skeleton lying on the left with the knees drawn up, in a slight depression of the rock. The lower extremities were in situ, but the upper part disturbed perhaps by the planters. Near the skeleton but not in direct association were a flint spearhead, a piece of stag’s horn, and a flint arrow. Outside the depression was
part of a very neatly made bone comb with iron rivets, a small brass of Constantius Chlorus and an iron knife. Teeth of animals and RB pottery were found throughout the filling.


1848 Bateman opened a low flat barrow no more than 18' high, called Sharp Low, on the summit of a hill to the left of the road to Dovedale. A cutting was made from the W side to the centre, and thence to the S; in each cutting was found a skeleton. That on the S was contracted on the right; that on the W was contracted on the left and had an iron knife.

In the middle of the barrow was a stone, beneath which lay the horn of a bull, with another bone.


1845 Bateman opened Stand Low, ‘on an elevation opposite to Moot Lowe, on the other side of the Dovedale Road.’ In a position corresponding to the left side of the body was found an iron knife and a bronze work-box, and by them another small knife, 2 bronze rings and iron fragments seemingly from a chalazine, all evidently wrapped in cloth, and a small piece of a ribbed vessel of tin that yellow glass. Soon after, 11 glass beads (3 variegated) and a bead of twisted silver wire and a silver needle were found, and with them 26 human teeth, which were all that remained of the skeleton. The barrel-shaped spacer bead is of the same type as the Galley Lowe beads, and therefore of the same date.


1955 One of the 4 barrows called the Swarkestone Lowes, on the gravel terrace to the N of the River Trent, was partially excavated. In the material redistributed from the truncated top of the barrow [by ploughing] were several pieces of AS cinerary ceramics including one small piece bearing an impressed bone decoration, numerous fragments of cremated comminuted bone and a green glass bead. In parts of a large animal burrow towards the centre of the mound were found a shield, a shield-handle and several rivets, which probably derived from inhumation burials.

A layer containing large quantities of charcoal (mostly of small branches of box wood) was found towards the top of the silting of the ditch at several places. . . . [It postdates the Iron Age pottery found in the lower part of the silting. Cutting obliquely across the outer edge of the ditch and through the ditch filling in the NE cutting [of the 1955 excavations] and across the bank in the W cutting were pagan AS graves. The gravel from the excavation of these graves had been thrown on top of the ditch silting. . . . Whether the burning could be related to AS cremations cannot be proved.’ Only 2 inhumation graves were excavated in the cuttings, but others must have existed. Both of these were 6' 6" long, 2' 6" wide at one end, 1' 6" at the other. The western grave was 2' 6" deep, orientated NS; the north-eastern 2' deep, with a dark silting towards the bottom, orientated EW. Both were lined with a small amount of compacted clay; the western grave contained only a small iron object; the eastern had a bronze cruciform brooch, 2 iron ring brooches, a bronze buckle, an iron buckle or clasp, 2 knives and 5 beads by the head, and some pot sherds by the feet. It had probably been disturbed.

The cruciform brooch is dated by Abbot to c. A.D. 500 and compared to one from Lakenheath Ca.


1845 ‘A person engaged in getting stone near Taddington’ accidentally opened a cast of a small barrow in which lay a human skeleton at length. At both head and feet were the upper stones of graves, of conical shape.

**? Tissington.** Inhumation burial, primary in barrow. Db 38 NW. ?SK 153267 (Cromwell’s Low). Bateman (1861), p. 27.

1848 A barrow was excavated c. 1 m. from Sharp Low; it was 4' high. The bones of 2 skeletons were found disturbed upon ground level, around them were many fragments of iron broken by the previous excavators; they appear to have been principally nails or rivets, and buckles; one piece of a larger size is evidently part of a flat ring or disc, which has evidently riveted upon wood. Bateman thought the objects shield fittings.

**Vincent Knoll, Hartington Middle Quarter.** Inhumation burial, secondary in barrow. Db 27 NE. SK 137635. Bateman (1861), pp. 49-50. Vinall excavated Vincent Knoll, and found a large oval grave with 3 primary burials, and the upper part of a fourth c. 2' away, with an iron spear. ‘The bones were in good condition, but lay huddled together as if the body had been hastily buried.’

**Waggon Low, Hartington Middle Quarter.** Doubtful. Db 27 NE. SK 115648. Bateman (1861), pp. 84-85.

1852 Bateman excavated a mound on a hill near High Needham called Waggon Low. On the side, 18' deep, lay a skeleton on its left side, knees drawn up, head SW. In front of it were 2 iron knives, 51" and 81" long, several tips of stags’ horn, some other animal bones and part of a quern, which had been used as a sharpening stone. The skeleton was that of an aged person, one of whose leg bones had been fractured and reunited. The other burials found all probably belong to an earlier period.


1765 A barrow of earth called White Lowe, on the common c. 1 m. W of the village of Winster, was accidentally opened. In the centre and on the natural level—if with a skeleton is unknown—were found 2 large globular urns, 17" tall; on either side of them were 2 thin yellow glass vessels, 9" tall, with wide circular mouths and a slight bulge in the middle.

Lying nearby were ‘a silver collar or bracelet, c. an inch broad, joining at the ends in dove-tail fashion, and studded with human heads and other small ornaments [? including figures of animals] secured by rivets, . . . several square and round beads, of various colours, of glass and earth, and some small remains of brass, like clasps and hinges, and pieces of wood, as of a little box.’ There was also a circular brooch or mount of gold, with garnet settings and filigree work, and a silver-plated back. The burial probably took place after the mid VII.

*Circa* 1765 In a field not far from White Lowe, a woman picked up a small gold cross pendant, ornamented with filigree work and with an empty setting for a stone in the centre. It is assumed that this came from the same deposit, since it resembles the brooch so much in workmanship. Because of the ‘loose and monotonous’ filigree work Brown would date this find to the VII.


1869 In the British Museum are objects found presumably with 2 individuals, by J. Lucas in Wigber Low. They consist of a spearhead, and women’s jewellery, comprising 2 silver pins with cruciform heads set with garnets, 2 beads threaded on contracting rings of silver wire, a boat’s tusk mounted in gold, a gold disc pendant with a quatrefoil design of beaded gold wire, a round sectioned silver penannular brooch decorated with transverse lines (the terminals broken), and part of a toggle head of very dark purple glass. These all date to the VII.


1856 An interior surface of some quarried black stone. There were traces of a large fire in the earth on which the skeleton lay, and among the ashes was some calcined bone and charcoal. Many of the stones, including the quern, had also been in the fire. The earth above the grave was 7' high and contained no stones. The lower jaw of an ox was found during the work, but not necessarily with the burial. 9' further on another burial was found, exhibiting the same peculiarities. Bateman deduced that when the burial took place a
wood fire was made on the surface of the ground, in which stones and some weapons were burnt. When it was exhausted, the body was laid on the place, head to NE, with knees drawn up. At the head a plain coarse earthenware vessel was placed, and at the back of the skeleton an iron spearhead 2' long, with the point towards the foot, a small curved iron instrument and a ring of calcined bone or antler. Afterwards, first the burnt stones and then earth were heaped over the body. Among these stones was the upper half of the same quern found with the first skeleton, shattered by the heat. In the grave were also found a few bits of calcined bone and an unburnt sheep's tooth; and above it 3 dog bones and a few shapeless bits of iron.

From the pottery, quern stones and bill-hook Dr Ozanne would date these burials to the IA, perhaps I. However, they strongly resemble AS "half-burnt" burials.


1853. Carrington opened a barrow at Wyastone, 13 yds. diam., 4' high, of earth overlaid with a few pebbles. In a grave 2' deep were the remains of human teeth, 27 beads, a twisted wire finger-ring, 'ear-rings' and a ribbed bronze annular object. 5 of the beads were of amber, globular shaped, the rest small, of paste or glass, variegated. The 2 silver knot rings are paralleled from Long Wittenham, and are presumably VII.


ante 1812. 'In my return to Woodyates Inn, I followed the western side of Bokerley Ditch, and in my way observed several barrows. 2 of these... were opened by us... The largest contained 2 skeletons and several instruments of iron, viz. a lance head, 2 knives and an article of bone.' (Hoare).


1960. 'Secondary AS burials were found in excavating a barrow.'


1916. A boy rabbitting found a spearhead in one of a group of low barrows on top of Hardown Hill, which is capped with gravel.

Dr Wigram excavated, and discovered a second spearhead, c. 1' deep, with loose chert fragments and flint stones. Below there was loose blackened soil, and in it an iron axe like a Roman wood cutter's axe, 8 more spearheads, all with split sockets, a knife, a shield-boar, a square-headed small-long brooch, broken, and a flint pebble with a natural perforation. These certainly accompanied an inhumation burial, but no bones were found and they had probably disintegrated.

Near the barrows 'worn paths and uneven ground suggest ancient settlement.' The exact barrow cannot now be ascertained; there are 2 or 3 others nearby, probably still untouched.


ante 1843. Near the eastern end of the Neolithic Long Mound in Maiden Castle a human skeleton, head to the W, was found just below the surface. The bones were of a strongly built male adult, c. 5' 9" tall; across the left thigh lay an iron scrimansax and a small knife which had apparently been enclosed in the same sheath. Fragments of a remains of iron belt fittings could also be detected about the waist. The burial is probably of the VII, since the scrimansax is of the early 'Frankish' type.


ante 1815. A note on a Sherborne Town Map mentions 'a timber yard where human bones are found.'

1955. At least 15 burials including children and old people were found in the construction of a house at the junction of Newland and St Swithin's Road. They were buried very shallow, without coffins. The remains of 2 were excavated, but no datable objects found; one had the right arm beneath the body. XI and XIV pot sherds were found on the site, but levels were disturbed and these need not have come from the burials.

Other burials were said to have been found when St Swithin's Road and North Road were constructed; and old people said (1955) that more were found on land to the S of Newland. It is suggested that these may be Saxon roadside burials.


ante 1812. Hoare records the excavation of a barrow partly cut away by the Blandford Road, in the angle with the Roman road from Woodyates Inn. 2' deep was a female skeleton, lying supine NE-SW. Round the neck were a great many very small glass beads, 2 long pulley beads of glass and 12 of rough amber.
There were also 2 rings, one of tin, one bronze. Near the left ear was a gold button brooch. On the left side were some broken pieces of thin iron ring, a small iron ring 1 1/2" diam., and some other iron fragments.


1950 Inhumation burials were discovered when a mechanical excavator was stripping topsoil for a chalk-pit on Whitesheet Hill, 400' above sea level, 4 m. W of Maiden Newton. 2 skeletons were reported to Dorchester Museum, and the site examined; the skeletons were lying with their heads to the W, 'in the clay' above the natural chalk. Further burials were also found; 'dozens' according to some, but more probably 4-5, varying in depth from 1-5', all supine.

There were no grave goods. Flat cemeteries of this type in Dorset are usually RB.


ante 1812. Hoare records the excavation of a barrow on the W side of Bokerley Ditch, nearer Woodsates Inn than the Cranborne Chase barrow. They 'found the tumulus surrounded with large sarsen stones, and perceived several articles of iron intermixed with the chalk, [illustrated are a little hook, a clenched bolt and a buckle], ... and a circular armilla ... of ivory.' Beneath them was a skeleton, apparently female, extended at full length ... and near the head were 2 beads of blue glass, one of jet, and a beautiful ornament set in gold, enamelled and chequered like a chess board. Through one of the glass beads was a wire hoop of gold, and through the other an elegant gold chain. 2 more clenched bolts of iron were found near the head of the skeleton.

See also Cranborne Chase Do.

Wor Barrow. Isolated find. Do 9 SE. SU 012172 Pitt-Rivers (1898) IV, 89, fig. 15. Museum: Farnham, Pitt-Rivers.

ante 1898. Part of an AS ornament for horse trapping, the body of which is gilt. Found at a depth of 1-7' in the surface mould of the ditch of Wor Barrow.


1800–1840 Among the bronze objects of this period is a curious brooch or buckle preserved in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and found probably about the beginning of the XIX (the date has not been recorded), associated with a burial in a rock tomb at East Boldon, near Sunderland, which was presented to the Society by the Rev. G. C. Abbe of Cladon. It is ornamented with 3 small circular bosses of gold to enclose polished garnets, one of which is wanting.


1937 8 skeletons and a piece of grey vase were found in a gravel pit. Some of them were in collars made of stone slabs. They were lying NS.


1775 A blue glass claw beaker was found at Castle Eden 'by some workmen employed in uprooting a hedge c. 100 yards from the bridge which spans the burn dividing the church from the castle. ... The contemporary description of the site states that “The mouth of the vase was applied to a human skull, so near the surface as to leave the bottom of the vase exposed in the gutter of the hedge; the body had been deposited horizontally with the head towards the E, and had been covered with a heap of common field stones. The labourer represented the skull and bones as appearing entire; but he was prevented by the clergyman of Castle Eden from making any further research. The ground was, however, again opened soon after by Mr Burdon's directions; and a cavity was discovered beneath the cairn, or heap of stones, large enough to contain a body of ordinary dimensions, with a quantity of deep coloured soil. ... The vase was full of earth and when emptied, appeared to retain a subtle, aromatic smell”.'


1877 Greenwell excavated thoroughly a prominent barrow on Copt Hill; as well as Neolithic and BA deposits, it contained, near the summit and 10' SSW of the centre, an unburnt burial. The grave was 3 deep in the mound and was formed of stones set on edge, the cist measuring 6' long, 2' 3' wide. It contained an extended skeleton, hands to the sides, head W, supposed AS.


1822 8 or 9 skeletons were found here in cists. 2 were accompanied by iron lance heads, 1' in diam. and 7' and 8' long. Bones of a horse and probably a dog were found in one of the graves. The graves were regularly spaced but the orientation was not EW.


1876 During excavations for a sewer between Dodd Street and Selbourne Terrace on the Greenbank Estate to the N of the Parish Church, some AS burials were found. J. T. Abbot kept watch on the site. About a dozen skeletons were found, of men, women and children, heads to the W, and at the head of each was a small pebble of burnt clay. With them were also a number of bronze brooches of various sizes, some showing traces of gilding, including 2 circular brooches, 2 large cruciform brooches, one of which is dated by Brown to
about 550 and some broken brooches and pins. There were also a pair of bronze tweezers, a necklace of amber, glass and stone beads, a chalk object, perhaps a spindleshank, which may have been hung around the neck of one of the bodies, and some weapons—swords, at least 3 spearheads with split sockets, and 2 or more shield-bosses.

Hartlepool. Inhumation cemetery, Christian Du 37 SE. NZ 53035. GM, CIII (1833), 218–20. JBA, I (1846), 185–96. Arch, XXVI (1866), 479–82. VCH, pp. 212–13. Ant J, II (1922), 141–43. Arch Ael, 4th ser. XXXIV (1956), 196–212. Museums: British Museum; Durham Cathedral; Newcastle, Black Gate. 1833 In digging foundations for a house in Cross Close, 135 yards SE of the present chuchyard, workmen discovered several skeletons, lying NS, 3½ deep, immediately on the limestone. Some of the skulls appeared to be detached from the bodies, which were all of small size and probably mostly female. A large number of the skulls were resting on small flat stones, 4" to 5" square; above these were stones of a larger size, bearing inscriptions in Latin and runes characters, mostly of names of women except for Edilum and Uermund (associated with a woman Torhtsuid). A long bronze pin and some bone pins were the only other objects found.

1838 Further excavations were made, and more skeletons and memorial stones were found.

1843 2 more interments were discovered, and 'several bones were also found, with some pieces of coloured glass', a bone needle, a stone marked with a cross and inscribed 'HALE-GLEV'. Later another stone was found, over a third skeleton, and near it a fourth, head W. The skulls of both were resting on flat pillow-stones c. 5" square. The teeth of all these skeletons were worn down as much as those of pagan AS.

The burials are thought to belong to the monastery at Hartlepool, at one time presided over by Hild. Unfortunately most of the finds were dispersed, and only 7 of the tombstones are now extant.

1921 4 more skeletons were found, all extended on their backs, NS, one with a bone pin. A fifth, lying on the left side and facing E, had a stone as a pillow; the others did not.

1932 A further skeleton, without a pillow-stone, was found.

Scott dates the stones on philological grounds to the VII and VIII. The cemetery is included here for comparative purposes.

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ESSEX


T. Walford described excavations on Honick’s Farm, by the side of the Roman road. 1787 ‘I employed a labourer to dig in hopes of finding some remains of antiquity; at the first place were 3 human skeletons, laid by the side of each other, all at an equal depth, c. 2½ feet below the surface, with their heads to the NW, and their legs separated from each other c. 1½, occasioned I presume by the settling of the soil after interment. . . . Finding no urns or coins, I desired the labourer to dig c. 3 yds. from the former spot, we there found 4 more skeletons which lay exactly in the same manner, but without anything.’

1792 On widening the road near the gate 2 more skeletons were discovered.

1798 ‘5 near the former. . . . We found neither urns nor coins with these skeletons.’


1888 Workmen digging gravel in a pit behind Clobb’s Row came upon the remains of a sword, spear and knife 6–7" below the surface. The sword’s wooden sheath appeared to have been bound with tape-like material for c. 3½” from the mouth down. With the sword was a gold pyramidal and buckle plate, both set with garnets.

1894 C. H. Read excavated and found the grave on the S side of the pit, the northern part having been cut away parallel to its ESE-WNW direction. The grave was curiously formed, dome-shaped and (perhaps because of gravel subsidence) with curious extensions at the corners, and was c. 8’ long. The walls were covered with a thin layer of soot or charcoal. At the ends of the grave were rows of large flat nodules, and there were numbers of flints, partly calcined, and fragments of Roman tiles throughout the filling.

On the eastern side of the centre of the grave were a circular bronze pan 13” diam, with 2 swing handles, lying on a mass of folded wooden fabric of 2 qualities and some coarse material, apparently flax (including perhaps reddish tufts from a hairy cloak, of which there are quantities in the BM) and supported by logs of birchwood lying EW, close together. The pan contained the tips of 2 cows’ horns, 2 blue glass bowls and 2 wooden cups, lathe turned and with thin rims of gilt bronze. Near this group, but towards the S, were 2 wooden buckets 10’ deep by 12” diam, with iron mounop suck into the earth so that the upper edges were level with the floor of the grave. The earth inside them was examined, but with no results. In the middle of the S side of the grave was a hemispherical iron cup, supported on a tall stem with 4 feet. When found, the bowl was filled with sand in a hard compact mass. In the SW corner was an iron cauldron capable of holding 2 gallons. At the N end of the grave, near where the sword had been found, was a broken shield-boss of common form, and fragments of a vase of dense grey ware, well baked and made on the wheel, ornamented with an impressed lozenge stamp.

Between the bronze pan and the W end of the grave was a “good deal of very dark matter”—charcoal, fragments of wood, and parts of flat iron bars and angle irons with rivets. There were no signs of a body, and Read thought that it had been placed in a stout coffin in the grave and burnt as it lay—but the objects showed no signs of damage by fire. However, it may have been a southerly example of a ‘half-burnt’ burial.

This grave shows many likenesses to Taplow Bu in richness and arrangement.


1819 Brown illustrates a cruciform brooch of late VI form from Chesterford, then in Liverpool Museum, now no longer extant.

ante 1923 Fox records that one decorated vessel of cinerary urn type and several plain pipkins, one of which was associated with
charcoal, a bone spindle whorl and a bronze fragment, were then in the Cambridge Museum.

There was also at that time a plain bowl of AS type, 4 high, in the Audley End Museum, which was said to have been found 'to the west of Borough Field'.

1952 M. Potts found an AS urn and spearhead at 501434.

1953-57 Miss Evison excavated a mixed cemetery with 160 inhumation burials and 33 cremations. The earliest material found was V. Only the W and S limits of the cemetery were found.


1847 Smith exhibited an AS glass drinking cup, found on a farm (then in the tenure of D. Howard) near the sea-coast at Great Clacton. The vessel was discovered with broken tiles during the demolition of a mound within an enclosure. In shape it is like a mammiform cup. Unfortunately, no more is known of the circumstances of the discovery.


ante 1852 A very small francisca was found in an AS burial place at Colchester.

1854 In a cemetery discovered 'some years since' in Colchester there were a large number of skeletons and with most of them, if not all, were 4 or 6 nails like those from Bourne Park. They were regarded by WATSON, who supplied the details of the cemetery as being from coffins. Most of them had wood adhering, and when discovered were embedded in black earth, evidently decomposed wood. With several skeletons there were other re-sets of iron which showed that some of the iron was in two parts. There were also iron handles. Others there were bronze brooches and glass vessels, bracelets, bone pins, and various other ornaments 'as are usually found in Roman burial grounds'; contained calcined bones.

ante 1903 A pale green glass cup of peculiar form, then in the BM, was found in an AS

burial in a Roman cemetery at Colchester. Most AS burials, however, were near St. Botolph's Gate where most of the shield-bosses—presumably including one of conical form noted by Brown—in the Joslin collection in Colchester Museum were found.


ante 1903 The Ashmolean Museum has a VI radiate brooch from Dovercourt.


1899 'A great many antiquarian articles' were found some years before, notably in a disused gravel pit (No. 9 in the Inworth Parish map), but were mostly destroyed or lost.

1899 Beaumont exhibited an adult human skull, a 'cinerary urn, 4 beads of red earth ornamented with green and yellow, a large amber bead, a cross-shaped bronze brooch, an iron buckle and an iron knife or spearhead in the S corner of a field in Feering, near the river bridge at Kelvedon. The ground had been levelled and there was no sign of mounds, but the field was called Barford Field in 1758, the lane running along its SW side was known as 'World's End Lane' and the fields adjoining (in the neighbouring parish of Kelvedon) were known as 'Barrow Hills'.

Beaumont could recall no calcined bones and thought that the principal rite was inhumation.

Hills continued the exploration of the site, and disinterred many skeletons and 'a fine collection of urns, fibulae, beads, a bronze ring, knives, a sword, etc.'

R.A. Smith remarked that none of the urns preserved appear to be cinerary; one is barely 3 high, another originally twice as big was found with 2 skulls. He also noted one burial of special interest, where an AS had been buried unburnt directly above a stone coffin, but unfortunately with no characteristic grave goods.

Brown judges the beads from the site to be of early type, but of the 6 applied brooches from here, 2 have kept their plates, and the ornament is of late zoomorphic type. There was also a buckle with garnet inlay, and so these finds may be dated to the early VII.


ante 1903 'Saxon or Danish relics are said to have been discovered some years since at Goldhanger when several small grave-mounds were opened on the marshes.'


ante 1903 An urn from Heybridge, 6 high, is preserved in Colchester Museum, and closely resembles the Anglian type; but no record can be found at the Museum or elsewhere that it ever contained the products of cremation.'


1912 Plumberow Mount was a conical barrow on the summit of a well defined hill, 184' OD, near the manor house. When excavated it was '9' high, 80 yds. circ., and had probably been somewhat reduced in size. Fragments of AS pots—one capable of restoration—were found at the top of the clay core of the mound on the SW side, and were thought to represent a secondary burial.

Kelvedon see Feering Ex.


1934 ‘Many skeletons at Mr Lapwood’s Nursery.’


1887 An iron spearhead, now in the BM, was found in the railway cutting.

1931 First a lead coffin and later an iron spearhead were found by workmen digging a sewer trench for a new road between Cuckoo Corner and Sutton Road, to the W of Priory Park, on the line of a supposed prehistoric trackway from Wickford to Shoebury and elsewhere. The ground slopes down here to the Prittle Brook, which flows first from the NE, and then, turning a corner, parallel to the Thames and c. 1 m. away from it. The slope faces NW, overlooking a wide expanse of flat country. The soil was dark and loamy, 2–3'6" deep above the gravel. There were no traces of burial mounds. The site was used as a Roman cemetery from I to IV a.d.

AS inhumation burials were found, lying on top of the gravel. The orientation was irregular with heads from N in an easterly direction to S. The skeletons were mostly supine, fully extended, arms by sides; in the more orderly interments the grave appeared to have been made with a slight elevation for the head to rest on. Some skeletons had the limbs flexed; one was laid on the side in a crouching position, another was in a sitting position, a third face down. Distinct traces of clay were visible in some graves, either underlying or overlying the skeleton, and this was the only clay on the site. Large stones were also found, on or just over the body, and were generally near the head. They showed no signs of having been used for building.

The objects found were 3 swords, knives, shield-bosses, spearheads, 2 buckles (one of iron inlaid with silver), a comb, a girdle-hanger, a pair of lugs and a blue glass bowl, not later than VI. In many cases the associations were not known. These finds are described in Southend Antiquarian Society Transactions, I.

Further trenches were cut between the road and railway, but only the deep deposit consisted of a sword, spearhead and shield-boss, together in a discoloured patch of ground which was presumably a grave. 1930 4 graves, a sword, shield-boss and spear were found on the same site. The first grave contained a gold pendant, with a cruciform design in garnets and S-shaped gold wire ornamentation, very similar to some from Milton Regis K and dating to the first half of the VII, and 2 grooved vessels, very similar to one from Broad Down K found in 1844. The second grave contained a brooch with a 6 pointed star design and a globular pot with a narrow neck and a crude design of double chevrons. The third contained 2 saucer brooches made in imitation of Kentish 'keystone' garnet brooches with stylized human faces between the settings, and a festoon of 26 beads, including one large faceted crystal, 5
shaped garnets and smaller beads, both decorated and plain. The fourth grave contained only fragments of the lower part of a hand-made pot.

The cemetery was now shown to be approximately 200 yds. long NS and 90 yds. EW. The richer graves were on the N, E, and S; on the W, the graves were found only by weapons or useful implements, except for a bone comb and some metal fittings found in one grave. The jewel graves were at the very edge of the cemetery on the E and S.

Rainham. Inhumation cemetery. Ex 87 NE. TQ 554840. T Ex AS, XXV (1955), 62. Arch, XCVI (1955), 159–95. Museums: British Museum, Dagenham, Valence House. 1937. AS objects were found during commercial digging for sand and gravel in a large pit about half-way between Rainham and Upminster on the opposite side of the road to Gerpins Farm. A stream flows southwards by the site, and the landscape is very flat; but the finds were apparently made in a slightly flattened mound. The topsoil was 2–3' deep with sand and gravel below. The glass horns and some other objects were said to have been found in 'pockets' which may have been graves. Besides the AS finds there were objects from the palaeolithic period up to the Roman.

The AS finds included a gold coin pendant dated c. 590; a square-headed brooch belonging to Leeds Group A3 and therefore dating to the early half of VI; 2 square-headed small-long brooches of different patterns, one being an imitation of gilt and garnet-set Kentish brooches of early VI; a gable-hanger, similar to those found at Little Witterham, Ca and Sleaford Li and probably dating to the second half VI; a finger ring with a circular hollowed bezel, now broken; a worn perforated coin; a disc brooch; the lid of a Roman seal box; 4 bronze rings; 2 bronze-bound wooden buckets; remains of at least 2 pattern-welded swords; fragments of a Frankish wheel turned conical globular pot with comb marks; a bowl with a carinated shoulder; 2 large spindle-whorls; and 2 glass drinking horns, of the mid VII, the only examples found in the country.

The site is no doubt that of an AS inhumation cemetery. None of the finds show traces of fire except the pots which had probably been used for cooking. The remains would have been buried with people of both sexes.

The unbroken Roman jug shows that the site was probably used as a cemetery by the RB in II; but whether it was used continuously it is impossible to tell; none of the AS remains date before the mid VI. The finds and site are described and illustrated in detail in Arch.


1830 Labours employed in making a sunk fence and planting trees within an enclosure called Paille Ditches found 50 or 60 interments at the SW, in 2 rows, heads W, 20' below the surface. In one place near the S end of the trench the remains of a man and child were embedded in the chalk, were discovered. There were also skeletons of women and children. A wound caused by some heavy weapon was visible upon one of the skulls. Among the finds was a small Samian pot, about 4' high. 1876–77 About 150 graves were excavated.

They appeared to have been cut c. 1' deep into the subsoil. The bodies had mostly been laid upon their backs, face up, head to the W, but there were notable exceptions. Under the heads the chalk projected to form a pillow. Except for a few disturbed or huddled interments c. 40' to the NE, the interments were confined to the lower part of the field, within an area 100' NS, 80' EW, but the area was used irregularly and had no definite boundary, and apparently there can have been 'but slight indication' above ground of the previous interments. To the NE there was the intention of interment in line, but the lines, NE, SW, were neither straight nor of equal length.

To the S, the skeletons were mostly in isolated spots, with or without a grave. At the extreme southern corner there were pits, the smaller ones containing one or more skeletons carelessly buried, and a large rectangular one containing several bodies. No remains of a coffin were found throughout the excavation, and the graves were generally poorly furnished.

The average height of the men was c. 5' 8' and skull shapes varied greatly. Between the graves there was a number of pits, and near them sometimes small hollows, showing slight traces of fire. H. E. Smith thought that they were the remains of an Ancient British village. Great care was taken to find the burials in one part of the field, where some bodies lay on others in all directions, appeared to be earlier than the rest.

One woman's grave contained 2 bronze pendants with interlacing pattern, another of bronze with 4 perforations, silver, cornelian, rock crystal and glass beads, and an iron knife, and was dated by Fox to late X or XI. There were 22 bronze wire rings of the size of bracelets, faceted and ornamented, found on the lower part of a single skeleton, and probably of Roman manufacture. 3 finger-rings and an earpick of bronze, a strap tag also of Viking type, a buckle with a forked shank similar to some found in Kent, and other miscellaneous bronze objects may be assigned to the AS period. Horse shoes and bit, an iron chain, a box 2½' high of cylindrical form, a bell, 'pinners and compass, knives varying from 5' to 2½' long, nails, lanceheads and arrowheads, all of iron, and a flat perforated disc and a hemispherical spindler whorl in lead were also found. There were also parts of quern-stones, quernstones and another spindle-whorl of fine limestone.

The pottery was very difficult to classify, because although it retained Roman forms the ware was very soft and perishable, some like Castor ware but none of the usual AS forms. A fragment of a glass drinking cup, pale green in colour, was also found.

The cemetery was probably in use from VII to XI.


ante 1903 Some graves at Shoeburyness were thought to be Saxon, although nothing of importance was found with them. In two cases the bodies were arranged in a ring, feet towards the centre.


1929 8 scettas of 'standard type' were found with a burial at Thorpe Hall Brickfield.


1924 Fragments of at least 3 urns were found in Martins Pit during gravel digging. As they had been previously disturbed there is no proof that this is a burial site.


1847 Workmen digging into the N side of Mutlow Hill found a rude flange-shaped hand-made pot 3' 4' deep, laid on the gravel. In close contact with it were 3 or 4 iron spears heads 5' long and nearly a conical shield-boss. Workmen reporting having found many other pieces of old iron, also some small article. There was no sign of fire or burnt bones. Later in the year more objects were found, including a triangular shaped spearhead, 3' long, of an unusual form. Many fragments of another flag-shape-spear of similar ware were found, all showing signs of burning (perhaps from cooking) but again with no burnt bones.

Fox suggests a Kenneth connection because although it retained Roman forms the ware was very soft and perishable, some like Castor ware but none of the usual AS forms. A fragment of a glass drinking cup, pale green in colour, was also found.

The cemetery was probably in use from VII to XI.


ante 1844 J. Adey Repton communicated a notice of the discovery of 3 skeletons and weapons or instruments of iron much corroded, on the site of an ancient camp at Witham called the Temple Field.

Brown said that in the museum at Chelmsford were some very curious spears with long iron shanks, which might be AS (not angs). Nothing is known of these objects at Chelmsford Museum now.