Acol, Primrose Hill see Primrose Hill, Monkton K.
Ash see Cop Street K, Gilton K and Richmond Castle K.


Ante 1856 A skeleton was found with a tall clubhead and weapons.


1922 An AS burial was discovered 4 m NW of Preston Hall with a jug of Frankish type, 2 blue glass vases, an imperfect jeweled brooch and 2 spearheads. The site is near a Roman road.

1926 Another jug and several spearheads were found.

circa 1954 A bronze buckle, very likely the one found by Faussett at Gilton, was found in the garden of Norbury, Rochester Road, Aylesford.

Barfreston see Silvertown K.


'A barrow was opened in the days of Henry VIII by the care of Mr Thomas Diggs and charge of Christopher Hales, and a large urn was found under it, as is delivered by learned man of that county 'sub incredibili terrae acervo urna cinere ossisque magnorum ferreis rubigine fere consumptis insitast'.

If the record of associated iron objects is correct, this would be an AS cremation burial.

Barham Downs. K 57 NW and SW. These notes could refer to any of the many sites situated on these downs. GMLA, I (from 1759), 87. Coll Ant, II (1852), 219-20. VCH, p. 383. Arch Cant, LVII (1943), 69; LVII (1944), 71-72. Museums: British Museum, British Museum (Natural History), RCS Collection—skull, sacrum and pelvic fragment.

1759 'Mr Jacobs of Faversham gave an account to the Antiquary Society of digging up a body near Barham Downs of an old Briton; a sword and spear found with it, of like manner as ours; moreover a necklace of glass beads was about the neck of the skeleton.'

1852 C. R. Smith records a blackish jag of Frankish type, said to have been found on Barham Down.

1943 Jessup noted that many ploughed-out AS barrows were visible from the air.

1944 A skeleton was found by soldiers digging trenches. There were no associated objects, but the skeletal characteristics appeared to be those of a middle-aged male Saxon (TR 203518).

In the RCS museum, now transferred to the BMNH, was a skull marked 'from the chalk, Barham Downs, Kent A-S male' packed with a sacrum and a pelvic fragment, but with no other record. The state of preservation of all the bones corresponds, and this strengthens the probability that they belong to one find.

See also Breach Downs K.


1773 Faussett excavated 46 skeletons, which were buried under tumuli situated on chalky soil on the crest of a very high part of the Down, on either side of a road to Iden. The barrows were of various sizes, some so large as to be visible from a great distance, and they were in 2 or 3 groups. 2 barrows covered 2 graves each; and another had 2 skeletons in a sitting position, as well as an ordinary burial in a coffin. 9 graves were in an earlier bank. All skeletons had their heads to the W; 25 were supplied with coffins, all but 2 of which had 'passed the fire'. 20 of the graves had goods.

6 only a knife; there seemed to be no relationship between size of barrow and the richness of the interments. Jewellery of the usual Kentish VII kind was found.


1914-19 During the construction of the aerodrome numerous human remains were found c. 3' deep (2' into the chalk subsoil) within an area c. 100' square. The remains included at least one complete skeleton, which lay on its side in a contracted position.

The skull preserved in BMNH is fragmentary and transfixied by an AS spearhead. A ring brooch, 3" wide, with scroll ornament, was also said to have been found. 2 escutcheons and a large openwork disc from a hanging-bowl, of a distinctive type dated by Haseloff to the late V, were presumably found at the same time. They are now in Canterbury Museum.

circa 1936 A brooch and beads were found with a skeleton in the back garden of 'Homestead', Beakeshouse aerodrome. There was also a 'Jutish' bottle, since broken and lost.

1955-58 F. Jenkins rediscovered the site and excavated 38 burials. The graves were in c. 4 rough rows, cut fairly neatly c. 3' into the chalk subsoil, usually NE-SW. One grave, WE, had a ledge like a pillow beneath the head; it contained a male skeleton without grave-goods. In the floor of another, near the feet, was a post hole which had perhaps held a post to indicate the grave; and a third had been covered with a mound of light brown soil. The skeletons were usually laid supine, but one was prostrate, and appeared to have been laid on the side of the grave and unceremoniously rolled in. There were 2 double burials; in one, 2 skeletons lay one above the other with c. 8' of earth between, in the other, a wide grave dug in one operation, 2 skeletons were side by side.

Different ages and sexes were not segregated. All the 8 children were buried by themselves; 4 of them had no grave-goods, one an iron knife, one a pot and bowl, and 2 had other objects. Many of the other graves were furnished and there were several objects showing Frankish influence—bird and radiate brooches, shoe-shaped studs, etc. In one well-furnished grave was a silver-gilt perforated spoon, with a stonika on the junction of the bowl and the handle, which was evidently suspended by a small ring, and a crystal ball in silver slings, found between the knees. Spears, swords, accessibility, vessels, a bronze belt-adjuster and disc brooches were among the other objects found. One skull was full of beechnuts, brought there by burrowing animals. The cemetery lasted from early times until the third quarter of V.

Bellevue see Lynyme K.


1852 Coll Ant records a Jutish type of square-headed brooch found here. The OS index records AS Burials near the 200' contour of the ridge.


1928 An AS grave was found under the lawn at Joyce Hall, with skeleton, spearhead and green glass bowl.

1951 The then occupiers of Joyce Hall said that to their knowledge no further discoveries had been made.


1866 18 or 20 graves were discovered, near the top of a gentle slope with a wide view. All heads were to the W. In one grave were found a sword, spearhead, knife and shield-boss; in another a necklace of beads of amber and glass, 2 circular brooches of bronze gilt with wedge shaped garnets, a large iron key, a ring of iron linked with one of bronze, both 1 7/8 diam., 3 bronze tags, a spiral silver ring still on the finger, a bronze buckle and plate and a small bronze stud. Other finds were a second sword, a spearhead, bronze buckles, 3 iron knives and beads of glass, amber and paste.

1867 Excavations were undertaken by T. G. Faussett, and 91 graves, containing 96 bodies, were dug and are described in Arch Cant, X and XIII. The ground was perfectly
smooth, and there were no signs of tumuli, but it had been ploughed for a long time. The cemetery occupied a part of the hillside slightly more level than the rest, perhaps one acre in extent, which seemed to have been surrounded by a bank and ditch. Most of the graves were orientated NS, slightly NW-SE, but a few EW; and as the last was inconvenient because of the slope of the ground, Faussett thought these burials might have been of Christians. The graves appeared to have been dug c. 3' deep into the chalk subsoil. One huge grave contained 5 skeletons; and one furnished grave was immediately adjacent, a very rich one; otherwise the interments were individual. 63 graves contained grave-goods; 3 had only a knife, but 8 could be considered rich burials. The 2 richest graves were found very close together. Only 2 skeletons were in collins.

Other graves were dug at the same time by the gamekeeper, but no records made although some of the finds were kept in grave groups. These finds now in Maidstone Museum with the rest and include some of the earliest objects, dated by Brown to c. A.D. 500.

The absence of the more ornate disc brooches and triangular buckle plates from this cemetery seem to show that it went out of use before the VII.

Bigorges, Dartford. Doubtfull. K 9 NE. TQ 550781. OS records; Object Name Book (1866); OS 6 maps 1869 and 1910.

ante 1866. This site is said to have been a AS burying place, but there is no definite evidence and OS field officers recently (1958) could find no trace or memory of it.

Birchington see Minnis Bay K.


1771 B. Faussett excavated 9 barrows, containing 10 graves, standing by the side of a Roman road. The graves were dug c. 2' into the chalk and all had their heads to the W. They were almost unornished; 2 knives, a pin and 3 pots were all that was found. Of the 3 coffins found, one was said to have been burnt. A squirrel or other small animal was by the head of one skeleton.

Faussett says that c. 500 yds. to the NW of these tumuli, c. 100 more were visible on Hanging Hill; others had been ploughed down.

ante 1844 Lord Conyngham opened several barrows, but found only a shield-boss.

June 1844 Wright opened 3 barrows in front of Bourne Place. The 3 graves had their heads to the S. One of the large ones, previously disturbed, contained only fragments of a sword; the other, a cetahop, was richly furnished. The third barrow, small, contained a cofined burial with box and bucket.

10 Sept. 1844 2 barrows were opened by the BAA at its first Congress. Both graves had the heads to the W. One was a richly furnished woman's grave, protected by wooden planks at head and feet, the left side of the chest was made of flints. Charcoal had been scattered over the body. The other barrow contained one skeleton, without grave-goods, within a foot of the surface (supposed to be modern) and a man's skeleton 6' deep, furnished with spearhead, knife, buckler and perhaps shield.

17 Sept. 1844 Conyngham opened other barrows; in one there was a skeleton with a metal fragment, perhaps a bronze buckler; the others did not contain graves.

1943 The barrows were almost obliterated by war-time ploughing.

Bishopsbourne see also Burstoad Wood K.


1720 Lord Winchelsea recorded that 2 male skeletons had been found in the parish, one with a sword, the other with a spearhead, shield-boss and iron penannular brooch. The OS mark the site on a slope, near the 300' contour.

1903 An AS inhumation burial was found in a chalk quarry opposite Whitehill, c. 1 m. from Boughton Aluph, to the W of the Pilgrim Road where the road from Wingham to Challock crosses it. A human skeleton was found with a sword c. 30'' long, 'an iron stand with 3 legs and 3 branches, with fragments of wood adhering to the latter' (the stand 8'' in height, the space between the branches 5'), an iron spearhead, a pickhead, a bronze key, a hinge, a pair of bronze tweezers, a bronze buckle, and portions of another, a 'spur, 2 belt fasteners, a small iron knife, sundry pieces of iron, and 10 Roman coins.'


1716 In a hedge by the roadside near the Parsonage Barn a male skeleton was dug up, with an iron sword and a coin of Antoninus Pius.

Bourne Park see Bishopbourne K.


Bradford Platt see Wrotcham K.


1841 Conyngham counted 113 barrows on the Downs, and excavated 59 of them, containing 64 graves. They varied greatly in height. The barrows were cut from 1' to 2' into the solid chalk, the heads W. In one large barrow a layer of flints covered the grave. It is impossible to tell from Conyngham's notes if there was any correspondence between size of tumulus and richness of deposit. 38 graves were furnished, 5 richly, 7 only with knives. There appear to have been no coffins.

cira 1843 Bartlett examined several small tumuli; in one was a skeleton, the remains of a horse with 4 scatters and 'several brass ornaments'; in another the remains of a child with 2 minute buckles; and in the third to the left of the skeleton was a cross-headed pin, near it several iron pins, perhaps from a box, and near the skull 2 amethyst and 3 pottery beads. In other graves were found an amber bead and a lump of amber, each suspended on wire rings, other beads and finger-rings and 'ear-rings' of bronze.

Sept. 10, 1844 8 barrows were excavated for the first Congress of the BAA and details are given of 6 of them. All were furnished, but not richly. Wright mentions a child's grave with beads, necklaces and toys.

Sept. 16, 1844 Conyngham excavated 8 more barrows, all furnished, except one of a child and one of an old man, orientated with head to the S.

1930–40 The OS records that c. 45 barrows were visible on top of the downs; 6 were large and the rest quite small. One was very large and prominent, with a large robber coter.

The occurrence of the scatters, dated by the BM to the first third of the VIII, and the cross-headed pin, show that this cemetery was at least partly Christian.


1910 The cemetery was discovered when a private roadway was being constructed in the grounds of Valetta House, Dumpton Park Drive. It is situated on rising ground c. 330 yds. from the sea. There were no mounds or anything on the surface to indicate the graves, which were dug into the chalk subsoil up to 3' deep. In most of the graves the heads of the skeletons were towards the W or NW, but in 2 instances the skulls were centrally placed and these were probably crouched burials. 2 graves were unusually long—9' and 9'—the smallest only 4'. They varied from 2'–3' wide, 1'–3' deep.

One grave contained a claw-beaker, 2 pairs of bronze tweezers, 2 ring buckles, a glass bead
and a fragment of leather. A second had at the foot an urn with stamp ornament round the upper part—Hurd thought it was of Frankish origin. A third grave, c. 5′ long contained the skeleton of a young person, 7 amethyst beads 3′ to 3′′ long, 5 glass beads and 4 of fossil encrinites, a silver wire ‘ear-ring’, a small iron knife, an iron key and a girdle-hanger. A piece of Roman brick, several fragments of Roman tiles, and some small pieces of sandstone were found in uncovering the grave. A fourth grave had 59 beads (some of glass, mostly amber; 46 near the head, 11 round the right arm and 2 very large near the waist), a bronze buckle and an iron knife. A fifth grave of unusual shape contained 2 adults and a child side by side (a recess being made in the chink for the head of the central skeleton), a circular brooch with 8 wedge-shaped garnets and a silver filigree centre (thought to be of Frankish type of the early VI), a bronze wire bracelet, 2 iron rings, a bronze ring brooch and c. 100 beads, mostly glass and amber. Most of these objects were with the child, as also was a little wooden bucket, 4′′′ diam. A sixth grave had a fine spearhead, a bronze buckle and a pair of bronze tweezers. A number of amber beads were found, including one, drum-shaped, 1′′′ diam. and 1′′ thick. Some pearl-shaped glass beads were found, mostly double, and several of cylindrical shape. There were several buckles, most of them imperfect. One of oblong form 1′′′′ long had a figure-of-eight ornament in relief in a sunken pattern around its flat edge, another was violon-tongued, 2 were oval and of bronze, one square with a row of dots, one plain oblong, and one of horse-shoe form with a bar and an iron tongue. There was also a shoe shaped stub. There were 3 pairs of bronze tweezers, one nearly 4′ long ornamented with cross lines below the loop, and another with a ring for suspension. Hurd thought some metal plates ‘lined with silver foil, covered with thin wooden staves secured by bronze rivets’ came from a bucket, but this is unlikely. In nearly all graves the head of the man, spearheads were found, and in some smaller iron objects, perhaps javelin heads. Other iron objects were rings, a girdle-hanger or latch key and knives, found in graves of both sexes.

1911 Miss Bartram’s gardener noticed that grass did not grow well in a large circle on the playing field. Excavations were undertaken, and 2 conentric circular trenches found; one 46′ diam., c. 4′ wide; the other 70′ diam., variable in width. Associated with the inner trench were 9 crouched burials which appeared to be BA but were without grave-goods, and parts of a cinerary urn of typical late BA form. Some AS graves were also discovered; their contents are described by Hurd:—

**Grave E** (Skeleton in the RCS Collection), Male skeleton, head W; bronze buckle, pin missing, near waist; 3 bronze studs, an iron knife, a small iron ring and a stone bead.

**Grave I**, Male skeleton, head NW; bronze buckle with perfect hinge near waist, and an iron knife.

**Grave L** (Skeleton in RCS Collection), Male skeleton, head SW, 8 silver sceattas (3 resembling that on pl. I, f. 5 of the *Catalogue of AS coins* in the British Museum, the 5 others similar to those on pl. III, f. 9–11 of Merovingian type), a bronze buckle, an iron knife, and 2 girdle-hangers or keys.

**Grave O** (Skeleton in RCS Collection), Male skeleton, head W, spearhead on right side with the point towards the shoulder, a long knife on the left side near the arm, a bronze ring by the left fingers, an iron shield-boss 6′′′ diam., resting on the left knee, and shield handle and fittings, and a pair of bronze tweezers with enlarged ends. The man had broken his leg during his lifetime.

**Grave Q**, Female skeleton, head W, bronze buckle near waist, 3 belt studs, 10 amber beads, an iron knife on the left side by the arm, an iron spike near the collar-bone, and iron fragments.

**Grave R**, Male skeleton, head NW, iron sword, iron knife, bronze buckle.

**Grave S** (RCS Collection), Female skeleton, head NW, bronze buckle by waist, iron ring, iron hook, iron knife, and a short piece of iron.

**Grave T**, Skeleton, sex unknown, head NW.

**Grave U**, Skeleton, sex unknown, head NW; iron knife, fragment of iron and 3 pieces of Roman brick.

Parsons noticed about these skeletons that they had characteristically narrow long skulls and a slight build; that the thighs and shin bones showed the flattening common to races leading an athletic life and running a great deal; and the lower end of the shin-bones had a facet showing that they were accustomed to squatting.

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**Brookfield** see Reculver I K.


1749 As some workmen were digging chalk in Burstead Wood they found 2 or 3 human skeletons, and, among other things, the head of a spear or some other weapon. ‘At the same time’ 13 small earthen beads of different colours, and a patera of clear white glass were discovered. The skeletons lay with heads to the S.

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**Buffy Close** see Westbere C.


1792 In diging a cellar in a cottage garden E of the road from East Cross to Buttsore, a cemetery was found by Boteler; brooches, beads, knives, shield-bosses, etc. were with the skeletons, and in one grave was a glass vessel.

Other skeletons are said to have been dug up in gardens nearer the Cross; the graves were close together in parallel rows, in direction from E to W. ‘The tumuli that covered them have long since been levelled by the plough’—but no real proof is given that there ever were barrows.

**circa 1804** In making alterations in and around ‘Southbank’ skeletons were found lying in clay in the bed of chalk.

Shaw lists and illustrates some of the finds, including pots with linear decoration, parts of clawbrockers, brooches (one a small square-headed, one with a small rounded head and a triangular foot, of silver gilt with inlays of red and blue enamel), strings of beads (one of worn amber, one of varying beads and one of ‘pearls and bugs’), and one large bead of blue and white glass. A note by Boteler records that nearly all the beads were found in one grave by the neck of a skeleton. These objects are now in Canterbury Museum.

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**Circa 1860** Other finds included some unusual appliqués in cast bronze of birds and fishes, arrowheads, 3 shield-bosses and 3 swords, smaller and slimmer than the usual AS swords. These were given to the Maidstone Museum with bronze buckles, studs, a key, a chain, rings of different kinds, ornaments from a bucket, a silver ‘ear-ring’, 4 knives and an iron bar. These objects are very peculiar and it has been suggested that they are Saxon in type.


1900 A V AS strap-end was figured with objects of other periods known to come from Martyrs’ Field.

**ante 1958** An AS grave containing a polychrome bead was found a little way to the W of Martyrs’ Field ‘on the Wincheap side of the railway’.

A square-headed brooch of silver gilt, with roundels at the base and sides of an undivided lozenge-shaped foot, a long bow and a small head, acquired by the BM in 1942, and a pot in Canterbury Museum are almost certainly from this site.

One may assume some inhumation burials were disturbed here.


**circa 1844–6** or perhaps 7 coins fitted with loops were found in St. Martin’s churchyard with a Roman intaglio and a circular Frankish gold ornament set with garnets and a green stone. The coins date to c. 580, and are thought to be English although imitating Merovingian and Byzantine coins. They include one with the inscription *Luduadus Eps*, probably struck in honour of the Frankish Bishop Liudhard. (See Bede, *Ecclesiastical History*, I, 25.)

1882 2 AS graves were found c. 150 yds. SW of Watling Street and 120 yds. from Roman burials, on lowish ground. In the first grave were 2 fluted glasses, one on each side of the head, and a bucket near them; in the second grave was a bronze buckle.


ante 1893 ‘Human skeletons, spearheads, etc., probably AS’ were found in ‘Chapman’s Gravel Pit, Norton’. However the site is possibly the old pit, actually in Ospringe parish on the other side of the road, on a slope below the 200’ contour.

Chare Estates see Oxford K.


1936 The remains of at least 3 skeletons, a shield-boss, 3 shield-studs, a spearhead, 2 knives, a group of 3 hooks and a pot were found in a ragstone quarry just outside the walls of Surrenden Park.


1796 and 1773 B. Faussett dug 53 tumuli. Evidence of earlier use of the site as a cemetery was again found in the shape of broken cinerary urns. 29 graves were furnished, 7 with knives only. Most of the barrows were of medium size; and these contained furnished and unfurnished graves in about equal proportions. The smaller tumuli, however, contained twice as many unfurnished graves as furnished. There were 4 collins, and all were said to have passed the fire; 12 were in unfinished urns. No weapons were found except a small javelin head 5½ long, and there were no brooches. The most frequent objects found were knives (in 17 graves), beads and iron buckles. A silver cross-shaped pendant was found in one grave; and this, with the 2 objects with a cross design found earlier and the high proportion of unfurnished graves, would lead one to suppose this a partly Christian cemetery.

ante 1856 All tumuli had been ploughed away.

Chariton Manor see Farningham K.


1756 Some graves were broken into when the military lines were first drawn up, but the finds were dispersed.

1779 When the lines were being repaired ‘in traversing a range of these small tumuli’ soldiers threw up spearheads, shield-bosses and other fragments of arms.

These tumuli were situated on the western slope of the steep hill which faces Rochester, almost surrounded now by military buildings. The soil was chalky, and ploughed over, with gardens on it. A rope-walk was said to be precise on the site of the tumulus. Brown argues that therefore there cannot have been much to show in the way of mounds; but since Douglas talks of these small tumuli and precedes his account with a general description of the appearance of them, one must assume that they were visible to him, as well as their surrounding ditches which he marks in the plan of one grave.

1779-82 Douglas excavated these barrows, and described 7 of them. The heads were generally to the N, but at least 2 to the S. There were some indications of collins. All 7 graves were furnished. Apparently beneath the same barrow were 2 woman’s graves, one with a rathe brooch with a diamond-shaped foot, a small square-headed brooch, shoe-shaped studs, some gold strip, an ivory purse-ring and amber beads; the other with a glass bracelet, 2 bronze bracelets and a bronze finger-ring, all of Roman type, and a thin bronze bracelet with expanded ends of Celtic appearance. In another grave were 2 small radiate brooches, 2 square-headed brooches with linear ornament and divided feet, a perforated silver spoon inset with garnets found between the thighs, a button brooch, 10 silver ‘ear-rings’ and Roman coins perforated for use as pendants, including at least one of Anthus (467-72). This burial probably took place near the end of the V or in the early VI. Douglas figured from other graves in the cemetery knives, a Roman knife-handle with hare-band designs, some Roman pots and 3 arrowheads (2 found in 1756). A coin of Valentinian III (d. 455) was found in one grave.


1880 An AS cemetery was cut through, in flat ground near the marshes and the recryst, during railway excavations. The only remains preserved were a spearhead, bronze belt fittings, the bottom of a bronze dish with raised concentric circles (evidently the base of a Roman skillet) and 2 Roman coins of Nero and Maximian. A large quantity of bones was carried away.


ante 1852 This grave was reported as being 6’ under an ‘artificial surface of a kind of clay’, c. 20 yds. diam., and contained a copper bowl with short legs and handles holding some burnt human bones, including part of a jaw. By the side were 2 swords and an iron spearhead, 1 iron spearhead, 1 spear, 1 glass and amber beads and part of an ornament set with garnets and coloured glass. One sword appeared to have been wrapped in cloth, and a ‘veil of cloth’ was laid on the bowl. A glass cup was also said to have come from the grave.

Brown says one sword hilt is of an advanced type, at least of the late VII, and disallows this grave as a pagan AS cremation, although the evidence seems good; cf. the burials at Brightlingsea.

In Saffron Walden Museum are the remains of a bronze bowl, the sword with the ornamented hilt, but not the other, a peculiar knobly annular brooch, an iron key, part of a brooch (perhaps of Roman type), part of the foot of a small square-headed brooch with a setting of red glass or garnet, 2 fragments of different glass beads, a fragment of cloth and a bronze object. All these are said to come from this burial.


ante 1850 Workmen employed in landdrainage discovered nearly 20 graves in Gosfield, Cop Street, on flat ground near Ash level. The graves were covered with rough flintstones and contained skeletons, weapons, urns, coins, glass and amber beads.

C. R. Smith illustrates from the site 4 buckles (one square with an oval perforation, in chip-carving technique which R. A. Smith dates to
v; one violin tongueed), a tag and a square-headed brooch. A circular ornament set with coloured glass is mentioned.

Court-le-Street, Aldington. Inhumation cemetery. K 74 SW. TR 081352. Smith (1850), pp. 263-64. VCH, p. 364. Brown (1915), IV, 712. 1850. An AS burial place was said to have been disturbed on the brow of the hill at Marwood Farm. Many skeletons were disinterred, but no details are known.


The Crowndale site is chiefly a Roman cremation cemetery; but there are some inhumation graves, and some of these are certainly AS. Others contain Roman pots or other remains, but may still belong to the later period.

The site is on the NW side of a dry steep hill, with a good view, near the Great Stour.

1732. A skull was found by a walker; and afterwards a human skeleton with an urn of Roman form was uncovered. Near by was a child’s skeleton with a little red pot.

1713. A grave, well dug in the chalk, was found containing 3 urns—2 were at the right of the body, one by the skull, one by the shoulder, leaning a little to the E of the head end; the third urn was by the left knee.

1757. Faussett excavated. Details are given here of any graves of doubtful date. (9) A Roman cremation, containing an iron knife. (Therefore other graves with a knife only might be Roman—or an AS burial be in this Roman urn.) (13) Adult skeleton, 3%, head NE. A small urn, white earth, a Samian paten and a knife. (14) Head NE. A small Roman urn of red earth on the right of the skull. Another small urn of blackish earth which fell to pieces, and a Samian paten. Buried coffin and nails. (15) Nearly in a straight line with the last 2, head NE. A small urn of black earth was near the right hip; a Samian paten and signs of a burial coffin of a young person. Head NE, 3% deep. On the left the skull was an urn of lightish red earth. The remains of unburnt coffin. (17) Head NE, 3% deep, no finds. (18) A double burial. Heads NE, 6% deep. The right-hand skeleton had 5 small yellow beads at the neck, and a pin with a flattened head with a hole in it. The other skeleton had a knife and an iron buckle near the left hip. (19) An old person, head NE, 5% deep. Only the remains of a burnt coffin.

1759. (22) 4% deep. Head NE. On each side of the head a small black pot. A knife. A large adult. (23) Depth 3%. Only a knife. (24) Depth 2%, parallel to 23. A black urn was at the foot, globular in form, with a narrow mouth but no neck. A coin of Faustina. A chalazinae at the foot; and 20-30 ?amber beads. A thick burnt coffin. Beyond the foot of the coffin, with a narrow ridge of chalk between, was a box of unburnt wood and all the other objects were with it. (25) Short, shallow grave; a child c. 5 or 6. A small black urn at the foot. A burnt coffin and iron fragments. (26) 2 skeletons, one above the other. The depth of the 2 was an adult, head NE. Nothing. The top skeleton was 3% deep, an old person. An unburnt coffin. (27) Depth 2%. Head NE. Nothing.

circa 1858. There were said to have been further discoveries including a buckle with a triangular plate, a flat annular brooch, 2 circular gilt brooches with keystone garnets, a button brooch, 20 studs set with garnets, 2 bronze ring brooches, a bronze-gilt buckle, 2 square-headed brooches of bronze gilt, 2 ‘ear-rings’, bronze pins, c. 90 beads of crystal, amber, paste and glass, some plain urns, part of a glass vessel and an iron spearhead.

It is noted, however, that Durden’s notes were confused, and some of the objects may have come from Sarre. The flat annular brooch mentioned is the well-known one with the modelled dove, always thought to come from Sarre, so that one cannot tell the extent of the confusion. The objects were owned by Durden.


1881. A spearhead and shield-boss were found near the Darent and Stone Hospital. The finds are now in Dartford Museum.

1954. A grave was discovered in the grounds of the hospital during the laying of a telephone cable. A number of nondescript fragments of human bones were found, with part of a silver-gilt square-headed brooch of Leeds type B6 (last quarter VI) and fragments of a beaten bronze bowl with a solid foot-wedge and a rivet rim with repoussé bosses.


1937. A bowl-shaped urn was found on the site of the Odeon Cinema, Queen Street. It was unmistakably AS in shape, but the ware was considered to be better than usual—hard-baked and similar to that of the Jutish bottle vases.


circa 1901. Woodruff records AS remains, consisting of beads, a brooch, knife, spearhead and buckles, dug up on the Waterworks Hill, very close to late Celtic and RB interments. The site is on an elevated plateau, from which the ground slopes on all sides.

ante 1908. R. A. Smith records several AS graves on the same hill, seen in section in a chalkpit. A few relics were recovered, including beads and a circular jewelled brooch which were found with a woman’s skeleton lying head NW.

1933. The skeleton of an old man, 6’ tall, was found 3’ 10” deep on the site of the RC church, with a spear and ‘hunting knife’. This is probably an outlier of the Waterworks Hill site.

1939. A burial was found 5’ deep, just in the chalk subsoil, in the garden of 7, Redhill Avenue, Mill Hill. It was a male skeleton, probably under 25, orientated SW-NE. There were no associated finds but it was presumed AS.

Upper Deal see Nethercourt Farm K.


1883. While excavating for house foundations a large circular brooch with filigree work, inset with garnets and lapis lazuli, was found. In the same year a few bracelets, made of twisted strips of bronze, were found in the Priory grounds. They may be late Roman.

1889. While digging foundations, human skeletons were found with swords and spears.

At the head of one grave were many limpet shells and in another 3 Jasper stones.

1936. When digging foundations for a garage on the W of the High Street, a grave was found containing a gold bracteate, bronze ring and pottery head. This probably belongs to the same cemetery as the 1883/1889 site, which is less than 200 yds. away.


1861. Some hanging-bowl escutcheons were found in Old Park. 2 large escutcheons, with hooks, are enamelled in different patterns and belong to different bowls, but there are 3 other discs, without frames or hooks, similar to one of them. There are also the remains of a flat ring, with an outside diam. of 5-2”. Part is in the Dover Museum; part was found by S. Lyons in the early 19th century and given to the BM.

ante 1915. An embossed silver-gilt mount of the late VI was found in Old Park. Its ornamentation consists of ‘an even spread of zoomorphic details’.

circa 1950. An AS cemetery was cut into by excavations for a housing estate.

1951-52. The MOW conducted a rescue dig under Miss V. Evison and G. C. Dunning, and 126 graves were found. The cemetery was in use from late V to mid VII. Many weapons and ornaments were found. The area is now terraced by roads for the housing estate. The site appears to be on the SW and S slopes of a broad southerly spur, below the crest of the hill.


ante 1852. C. R. Smith saw a Frankish type jug in Dover Museum, and was told it came from a barrow near Dover.

1880. A bone comb was found in Cannon Street, and, at a time unknown, a glass cup was discovered 14’ deep beneath Shakespeare Cliff.

1895. A ‘child’s coffin in chalk’, found ‘locally’ is in Dover Museum.

ante 1923. R. A. Smith recorded that a saucer brooch with a central circular stud,
'ear-rings' and amethyst beads from Dover were in the BM.

circa 1950 When excavating a site for a bank several large chalk-covered graves were found in the Market Square. There were no grave-goods. They could be AS but are probably later. They were re-buried, but one can be seen.

In Dover Museum were also parts of 4 brooches found in Durham Hill, tweezers and a key found in Cannon Street, a silver-gilt ring from a mug 'probably Jutish found locally' and a bronze penannular brooch bought at Dover.

Easden see Westbere K.

Eastry see Battoe K.


circa 1860 The railway cutting at Eynsford intersected an AS burial place. C. R. Smith only saw a shield-boss, but had evidence of the finding of ornaments, weapons and an enamelled bowl said to have been like that from Lullingstone. It is very possible, however, that this was simply another report of the Lullingstone finds.

See Lullingstone K.


1828 W. H. Weeks dug up and presented to Canterbury Museum 3 Roman spearheads, part of a Roman knife, umbo of a Roman shield and 2 portions of ditto.

Fair Meadows see Milton-Next-Sittingbourne I K.


1939 Greenfield excavated 4 warrior graves. From them came an urn (which may have been used for a cremation), an iron knife, a spearhead, a 'seramassax and a tall conical shield-boss.


1853 A small frontal bone of a human cranium was found with an AS cup of green glass when a grave was being dug.


circa 1858 Workmen making the railway cut across an AS cemetery, objects obtained from it by Gibbs and described by C. R. Smith included a large gold brooch with empty cells which has affinities with the Sutton Hoo jewellery, other brooches, gold pendants set with garnets, buckles with triangular plates and others with animal and bird ornament, swords, daggers, knives and spears. Of especial interest were the fine ornamental plates, a mask etc., which belonged to horse harness; it is unknown whether the horse itself was buried. Some Roman cinerary urns were found very close to the AS graves.

1860 Further ornaments were illustrated from the cemetery; there were 6 pendants set with garnets, turquoise, and (?) a streaked marble, one amethyst bead and several of pottery and glass.

1866 Gibbs added more to his collection, including a circular pendant 'the shape of a half-crown, decorated with 3 arrangements of pearls representing heads and 3 heads of mermaids sprigging from a circular concave centre which was probably set with a jewell, the field of the gold plate being covered with filigree work of the most delicate description', another pendant, a sword, a bronze bowl with a circular perforated foot and vandyked rim, containing hazel nuts, another bowl with escutcheons, 2 glass vessels, an armlet, beads and a gold Merovingian coin.

1867 An AS urn, then preserved in Queen's College Library, Oxford, might have come from Faversham. In the catalogue it and a small Roman urn are described together as 'sepalurial urns, a large and a small 2'. The Roman urn had a label 'Found at Faversham.

Kent. The exteriors of the 2 urns had much the same discolouration, which makes it seem likely that they came from the same site and were therefore catalogued and placed together. The AS urn is ornamented with 3 bands of stamped cross-orange on the neck between double indented lines, and with diagonal hatchings below. It is far from certain, however, that this urn was used to hold a cremation burial.

1868 C. R. Smith recorded more finds, including saucer brooches, 'ear-rings', finger-rings, 2 large crystal beads cut in facets, a bucket, keys, girdle-hangers, 60 draughtsmen made from horses' teeth, an ornamental gold knife-handle, a flat belt tag, a hairpin with the head set with garnets in the shape of a bird, and a lock. Richard illustrated also 3 swords (one an advanced type of ring-sword), 3 spearheads, a knife, a shield-boss surrounded by a three-pointed knob, 2 buckles (one square, the other oval), bronze belt ornaments (one with a buckle at the end), perhaps from 2 belts, and 2 pairs of 2 circular ornaments on iron bands, found in a grave with a sword, spear and knife. Gold wire was found in a woman's grave perhaps in a small iron head-dress, and a silver-gilt ornament was associated with a large silver ornament. There were several AS URNS, but it does not appear that any contained burnt bones.

circa 1874 Brent reported in PSA the finding of some AS graves very close to a Roman grave. These are the only burials on the site to be recorded individually. One contained 50 beads, a wire ring, an iron bill-hook, spear and 2 broken iron 'tendrille'; the second, orientated NW-SE. 2° 6′ deep, had 230 beads, a piece of red glass and 'a small substance of green-blue with a flower-like design upon it' (part of a pendant), a little gold bracteate and a circular brooch 1½ diam.; the third, NW-SE, contained a sword and a gilt-bronze buckle with a triangular plate. Under the sword, perhaps inlaid in the scabbard, was a bivalve shell (Mallaca Stellatum), a small thin piece of purple glass and a small incised flint, near a small greenish whetstone.

circa 1894 The last finds were made. Kennard acquired 'a fine collection of objects discovered in graves, consisting of gold fibulae, other examples in bronze-gilt and bronze, gold bracteates, and pendants, bronze buckles and pins, 8 vessels of amber, green and blue glass, various beads, 2 gold scetaces, a scetaca of silver, 3 vases of pottery, an iron sword, and 2 spearheads'—these were all probably from the King's Field.

1937 A small silver disc from a grave, originally in the collection of Martin of Bessals Green, was given to Maidstone Museum by G. Ward. It is 1" diam., has a central boss and is decorated with intersecting lines of perforations. It has been described as a miniature shield, and may have been the ornamental fitting for the head of a shield-boss. A similar but smaller disc is also in Maidstone Museum, from Bifrons.

The site is not on high ground, though there is a gentle slope from it to the centre of the town; there is higher land a mile or so. About 500 Yntish disc brooches belong to the late VI or VII. In other ways the cemetery seems 'cosmopolitan'—there are not only saucer brooches but also a girdle-hanger of Anglian type. R. A. Smith also mentions 2 crystal balls, the largest still with its metal slings, an iron buckle plate inlaid with silver, union-pins and some loose escutcheons. The BM later received a small carinated well-formed vessel from the site.


The site, properly in West Street, lies just above the 100′ contour on the chalk ridge, the easterly edge of the North Downs, which extends from Deal NW towards Canterbury. Behind the cemetery the ground rises steadily for 5 m.; in front it slopes gently down to what was in AS times the easterly entrance to the Wantsum channel. The settlement was probably at the head of a small creek leading off a larger, sheltered inlet which gave access by sea to the settlements of the Wantsum channel and the River Stour. The Roman road from Eastry to Dover runs 1 m. W. of the cemetery.

circa 1928 A gravel pit was worked spasmodically over a number of years, and bones noticed (and presumably destroyed) several times.

1928-29 The Kent Archaeological Society, under the direction of W. P. D. Stephenson, excavated over 30 graves of which 28 are fully recorded. They were dug from 9′ to 28′ deep into the chalk, which was overlaid by a few
inches of chalk rubble and c. 7” of topsoil. They varied considerably in size, from 5’ 4’’ to 8’ in length and 1’½ to 2½’ in width. The angles of the graves were slightly rounded, and the head end was often higher than the rest of the grave floor. Coffins were not recorded, but among the objects from the cemetery are 2 sets of angle-iron, from coffins or boxes. The graves were not in any orderly arrangement, but only once had one grave cut into another. The orientation varied, but was predominantly with the head WSW; one, the most northerly found, had the head to the N. The bodies seem mostly to have been laid supine, but a few on the side. 2 graves contained a woman and child, and one a man with weapons, carefully laid out, and another body, presumably a woman’s, apparently flung in unceremoniously on top, without grave-goods; cf. Mitcham Sr. 8 of the recorded graves were without grave-goods, including 2 which appeared unfinished, and one which was probably a child’s; 2 graves had only a knife; 3 of the 4 large graves were richly furnished; they included the well-known grave D3, which contained a glass claw-breaker of the V, a pattern-welded iron weaving rod, 52 beads of glass, amber and terracotta. 3 D-oval bracteates of the VI imported from Ireland, 5 silver gilt brooches (2 bird brooches with inset garnets and devolved style I ornament, of unusual perching bird type, made in Kent c. mid VI); a pair of radiate brooches with straight-sided feet and lantern-shaped knobs made in the Frankish Rhineland early in the VI; a great square-headed brooch of Leedes type A1, with an unusually small head-plate, a long bow with a mask-in-roundel on top, undivided lozenge-shaped foot with rampant animals at the top and ‘helmet style’ human figures along the lower edges, lateral terminal lobes on the footplate and tendril scroll decoration and an egg-and-tongue border, perhaps made in Kent by a craftsman from Jutland and shortly after 500; a silvered buckle with shield-shaped back of mid VI; a pair of tinned bronze shoe-shape rivets, a small bronze ‘needle-case’ and 2 iron rods, perhaps keys, in a conglomerate mass covered by textile remains; 2 fragments of an iron key probably connected with the preceding complex; 3 V-shaped; and possibly angle-iron from a box or coffin. The association of the bracteates and square-headed brooch implies a Danish element in the culture of the Kent, arrived c. 500. This burial was probably made in the mid VI, and is one of the earliest in the cemetery. The latest graves found in 1928 date to the early VII.

1960 Mrs S. Hawkes excavated 12 further undisturbed graves. ‘The burials included a man with spear, knife and buckle; a woman with pot, bronze work-box, iron shears, bone weaving rod and 2 spindle-whorls, with remains of iron-bound box at feet; and a young girl with 2 pots and a necklace with beads on silver rings, silver wire rings, repoussé silver pendants and 2 coins mounted for suspension; one a scattina and one a Merovingian gold solidus. These 2 later graves date from the end of the VII.’

Folkstone I. The Bayle. Cremation burial. K 75 SW. TR 230358. PSA, 1st ser. II (1855), 175. VCH, pp. 364. Brown (1915), IV, 696, 709. circa 1853 In digging for buildings on the brow of the hill called the Bayle, under the Pavilion Hotel, a large iron spearhead or part of a sword was found with fragments of an urn, broken probably by the workmen. ‘It was filled with calcined bones, a circumstance worthy to be noticed, because urn burial among the Saxons in Kent appears to have been much more universal than the interment of the body entire. An examination of the fragments of the urn will show that it was identical in character with Saxon pottery found in the cemeteries in Northants and East Anglia.’ (T. Wright.) Brown was suspicious of this, since no drawing accompanied the description. But since Wright was an experienced archaeologist and presumably knew what he was talking about: the fragments were exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries, and no protest was registered against their Saxon character; and other assured cremations at Hollingbourne have since been published, there is no reason to reject this as a cremation.

Folkstone, Caesar’s Camp see Folkstone, Cherry Garden Hill.

Folkstone II. Cherry Garden Hill. Inhumation burial, secondary in a barrow. K 45 NW. TR 203830. PSA, 1st ser. II (1851), 175. Coll Ant, II (1852), 219. VCH, p. 364. circa 1848 C. R. Smith found a jug of Frankish type, with a fowl’s spur and some of the foot bones, in a barrow within an earthwork on top of the hill, W of Caesar’s Camp.


1849 A radiate brooch was found on Dover Hill.

1889 9 graves were found ¼ way up Dover Hill during chalk-quarrying. Spearheads, beads and a buckle were found.

1907 36 skeletons were found during road-widening. There was no external indication of the graves, although the down had never been cultivated. Some skeletons were in a crouching position; one extended skeleton appeared to have been killed with a knife. One grave contained 2 bodies. Many arms were found, including a sword, 10 spearheads, 2 shield-bosses, 25 knives, and one long dagger, a garnet-inlaid disc brooch, several buckles, numbers of amber and glass beads and some fossil encrinite, and a small mounted crystal ball.

1910 Parsons excavated 4 graves, one with a bronze ring, bronze pin and stud, 3 unfurnished. The grave on the south side was dug down to the chalk, and then cutting a shallow bed in it. The head was supported on a pillow of chalk and the orientation varied from W to NW, usually WNW. The cemetery is thought to be of the VI.


1945 A human skull and part of a pelvis were found 4’ deep, not far E of 2 BA tumuli explored in 1872. The skull was said to have been found ‘with its knees up’ but it is not known if it was on its right or left side. The skull is of a middle-aged man, and there is tentative reference at the latest of this specimen to the Pagan Saxon period.


1933 Jessup examined bones found 18’ deep while the foundations of the Central Hotel were being dug between Woodlands Lane and Grange Lane. The skeleton was fairly complete and with it was a broken AS pot of a usual kind. The grave may have been isolated, as no others seem to have been found, and there were no records of similar discoveries near by.


The site is on a hill, with a large view from SE to NW; the ground was ploughed and there were no signs of barrows. The AS cemetery had disturbed an earlier one, with urns holding cremation burials.

1759 Faussett heard of antiques found in a sandpit near the high road from Canterbury to Sandwich. The Miller dug for him a grave furnished with a spearhead, and showed him an iron buckle, 7 spearheads, 2 shield-bosses, other pieces of iron and some pottery beads which had been found previously.

1760-63 Faussett excavated 106 graves each containing a single skeleton. The orientation was usually E, but in 49, Feaster northerly and 2 NW, heads S. These 9 exceptional graves were poorly furnished, with knives, iron buckles and a spearhead only, or unfurnished; none contained coffins. About half the rest of the graves had signs of coffins; 88 of them were furnished, 6 with only a knife, 7 richly. A large number of weapons were found, including 10 swords (one a broken sword, the pommel of another carved with runes) and several spears, judged from the distance between head and ferrule to have been c. 4½ long; these may indicate a date slightly earlier than the other cemeteries which Faussett dug, as also may the lack of barrows. These however, brooches, pendants and other ornaments of VII date, as well as a little pottery, many beads, 4 glass vessels and 2 bronze bowls.

1771 Douglas recorded that labourers found a gold and garnet brooch, 2 amethysts, a bronze bowl, an iron arrowhead, 2 coins of a Faustina, the remains of a pair of scales, a
touchstone, a bucket and a glass cup, all he thought from one grave; and a shield-boss and 2 spearheads.

Boys also recorded graves found c. 4’ deep in the sandpit, usually EW and with coffins. In many graves nothing was found, in others wooden swords, spearheads, shield-bosses, brooches, buckle pendants, etc. (many of precious metals, set with garnet and colored glass), and beads of pottery, amber and amber. He mentioned also the finds recorded by Douglas.

1773 Douglas says that children still looked for beads on the site near the miller’s house where Faussett obtained weapons.

1783 Another 2 graves were found, one with beads of glass, pottery and amethyst, a knife, and an accessory vessel at the foot; the other head, SW, a shield-boss, spear, knife and pottery bottle.

1842 C. R. Smith remarked that at various places on Gilton Hill, c. 2’ under the surface, fibulas, rings, glass vessels, fragments of swords, shield-bosses, beads and coins were occasionally discovered.

12301232277 4 bronze bowls (one with 2 patches with a harper imprinted on them) and a patch with fantastic birds and fishes), spearheads, axes, swords, shield-bosses, cruciform (? square-headed) and circular garnet-set brooches, a silver-gilt buckle, beads of glass, pottery and amber, a glass cup and crystal balls, found when the ground near the miller’s house was being levelled for a market garden.

1859 A spearhead, dug out of a grave with portions of a terracotta urn, was exhibited to the BAA.

1923 R. A. Smith illustrated a bracteate with human faces on the 4 arms of a cross, in the BM.

1957 2 complete bottle-glass vessels, greenish gold in colour, and the remains of an iron in a wooden scabbard, were found in a private garden at Gilton. The sword is now in Canterbury Museum. See also Woodnesborough K.

Gnomershams. Non-existent. VCH, p. 385—
a misreading of part of the Bughton Aluph account.

Goldstone see Cop Street K.


1860 3 enamelled bronze escultejeis from a hanging bowl were found with human bones and a bronze ring 1” diam.

3 human skeletons were exhumed within 100 yds. of the same place, and some bronze pins and ‘bronze ring-money’ were found near by.


1714 A park-keeper called Harne dug into the barrows in Greenwich Park, and was said to have found several things of value.

1784 Douglas opened c. 50 of the barrows, which varied in size and were clustered together. He gives details of 8. The graves were dug c. 1½’ into the gravel subsoil. 3 seem to have had coffins; one was furnished with a large iron spearhead and shield-boss another with an iron knife. He considered all remarkable because of hair and cloth which had been preserved. 4 small beads were also found; but whether this was the total of the finds is not known. He remarks only that the graves were generally very poorly furnished.

When the reservoir was being constructed, 12 grave mounds were cleared away, but the rest saved by the Royal Archaeological Institute.


ante 1894 Copeland exhibited a number of antiquities found some years before near Grove Ferry. They included a sword pommel and 2 iron shield-bosses they and a bottle flask are in Canterbury Museum.

In the BM is a kidney-shaped bronze weight, supposed by R. A. Smith to be AS.


ante 1864 A silver-gilt brooch with a cruciform design in garnets was found on the breast of a man in a stone cist or coffin. A shield-boss and sword, presumably from the same burial, are still in the Leeds Museum, but the brooch must have been destroyed during the war.

Hackington see Shelford Farm K.

Lower Halstow. Inhumation burial. K 20 SE. TQ 856666. Payne (1893), p. 60. 1893 Payne records that the channel of an old road from Newington to Lower Halstow could still be seen near the National Schools. He says it is proved early because an AS interment was discovered along its edge, the skeleton being accompanied by a long iron sword, spearhead and other objects.

The OS marks the site on a stream, just S of Lower Halstow, in a steep valley.


ante 1892 A crystal ball, without metal bands, was found in a Saxon grave in Harritsham Churchyard. It was given to Maidstone Museum by Riddell with a tall-necked bottle vase of reddish clay ornamented with roulette stamps and a bronze radiate brooch, also found in the churchyard.


circa 1931 A skeleton was discovered on the S side of Pilgrim’s Way, with glass beads, a silver ring, a bronze armilla, a key and part of a knife.


1933 A skeleton was discovered in a chalk pit at Court Lodge Farm. Cook excavated it, and found with it a bronze strap-end, two-tongued buckle, iron ring and knife.

Hersden see Westbere K.


1905 A few spearheads and fragments of a bronze bowl, with a lip turned in and thickened, were found at the Lower Shorne Urn site. circa 1906 Several AS graves were cut through in railway excavations; the objects saved were 2 small-long brooches, a disc brooch, a penannular brooch, a circular brooch of speculum metal, a saucer brooch of an early scroll-patterned type, 2 bronze buckles (one enamelled), 2 bronze pins, 2 knives, a bronze ring, a bronze loop, 6 iron spearheads, a shield-boss, a sword with a pommel ornamented by vertical incised gashes, a bucket, and 2 Roman coins (one perforated of Constantine, the other of Tetricus).

Holborough, Snodland. Inhumation cemetery. K 30 NE. TQ 696826. Arch Cant, LXV (1952), 192; LXX (1956), 84–141. Museums: Maidstone; British Museum; Cambridge University (Duckworth Laboratory, 18 skeletons, 14 extra skulls).

The site is on Holborough Hill, which stands nearly clear of the main ridge of the N Downs on the W bank of the Medway. The summit, 200’ high, was crowned by a BA barrow; 200 yds. down the slope was the Roman barrow Holborough Knob. The AS cemetery lay between, and probably partly over the slope of the BA barrow.

1943 A small pot and a hone were found 2’ below the surface 200 yds. W of Holborough Knob, and taken to Maidstone Museum.

1944 A spearhead was dug up. An employee of the cement company said that in the same year skeletons were found with 2 spearheads, which were sold to a scrap iron merchant, and a necklace, which may now be in the BM.

1950 Further graves were disturbed in chalk excavations.

1952 More skeletons were found.

1952–53 Miss V. I. Evison excavated the site for the MOW.

The original extent of the cemetery is unknown, since by 1952 a great deal had been destroyed. Judging by the uneven northern outline there was no definite boundary. The excavated graves were in 2 groups, near the barrow with only one furnished grave, the other on the eastern slope, with most of the graves with grave-goods on the SE side of it. The graves between the 2 groups may, however, have been destroyed. No grave was disturbed by another, and they were quite widely spaced, so that there may have been small mounds to mark them. There was no obvious grouping according to age or sex. All graves except one
of a child were orientated with head to the W. There was no attempt at an alignment sideways, but occasionally one from head to foot. The topsoil was c. 9" deep and the graves, roughly rectangular with rounded corners, were cut into the solid chalk. Some of the bodies appear to have been in lidless coffins. The skeletons were usually laid out supine. Of the 39 graves recorded, 3 had been disturbed, and only 9 had grave-goods. The finds include a buckle with an openwork plate, another with the chape in the shape of 2 birds' heads, a purse mount, a pot-bellied sword and other weapons (including a spearhead with a figure inlaid in wire), a small pot and a Kentish bottle vase. The cemetery is one of the late series, in use in the late VII at earliest.


The site is near the bottom of a long slope, below the 200 contour.

1819 The modern Maidstone-Ashford road cut through one of 2 tumuli, near the Hollingbourne Union Poor House built 1836.

1842 Beale Poste noted the finds made by men moving sand, and Pretty drew 4 of the pots. The barrows were round barrows with secondary AS interments. All finds seem to have come from the undamaged barrow.

July 26th, Beale Poste found 3 urns and a drinking cup. One of the pots, holding human bones, probably dated to the VI; the second line, dated of early date but perhaps as late as the end of V; the third, better made and bigger, was fluted on the shoulder and similar to one from Sarre K. It also contained human bones. The small cup was of the same clay as the urns and very roughly formed.

1843 Nov 17th, A shield-boss was found on one side of the mound, and a chain on the opposite side. Dec. 8th, A shield-boss, 2 spear-ends. Dec. 15th, An urnery excavation was carried out, Beale Poste, and so it is impossible to tell if it was BA or AS. Dec. 18th, Another spearhead was found near the others. Pryer exhibited glass, clay, and amber beads from Hollingbourne to the BAA.


1886 11 skeletons were cut through when the foundations of some cottages were being dug. All were lying nearly parallel, heads W. 1867 4 or 5 graves were opened close to the railway embankment. They were only cut c. 2" into the hard chalk, and were very short, so that the bodies had to be bent at head and foot. Some had the heads to the S, but 2 were 'lying across the other' with heads to the NE; in these graves were found a gilt-bronze brooch, 3 knives and a whetstone.

R. Coates records 8 graves which he saw opened; 6, including 2 children's graves, were without grave-goods; one, a woman's grave, head S, was fairly well furnished, the other had a knife and perhaps a coin.

Later in the year c. 11 more graves were opened, and in them were found a spearhead, an axehead, several knives, small bronze brooches, 1 large belt buckle, bronze 'ornaments of knives' and sheaths, many beads, a bronze hemispherical drinking cup, a large light-coloured pot (probably the RB urn preserved at Maidstone), 2 smaller urns, a shield-boss and some miscellaneous objects. Photographs were taken of a skeleton as it lay in the grave, with the bronze 'drinking cup' at the left shoulder, a larger urn at the right shoulder and a small black urn at the foot. J. Brent says nearly every skeleton had a small knife near the left hip. 1867-68 Squirrel watched the excavations and recorded that there were c. 60 graves 'on this side of the embankment' of the railway.

The graves were very close together and there was usually a piece of flint or chalk, etc. under the head to raise it. The NE corner of the cemetery appeared to be the richest. In all graves small particles of charcoal were scattered among the remains, in a few a double handful was weeps and charcoal.

In Maidstone Museum are 2 Sawyer brooches with anthropomorphic ornament, a bronze Roman brooch, a circular brooch with a garnet set in the centre, a hone, a bone amulet, a bronze buckle and another of bronze and iron, a coin and 5 beads from this site.

Horton Kirby II see Riseley K.
that there was one group of poorly furnished graves and another small group of children. There were 13 double burials, in some of which a child lay with an adult, in others the bones of earlier burials were found disturbed. In 183 graves there were coffins, and about half were thought by Fausset to have 'passed the fire'.

214 of the graves had grave-goods, 56 only a knife; the cemetery as a whole was not rich, although there were 11 richly furnished graves, 3 exceptionally so. There were few weapons, including a few arrowheads; and only 4 disc brooches with inset garnets and 2 little "safety-pins" were found in addition to the famous Kingston brooch. Among other objects found were 2 bronze bowls, glass and pottery vessels, silver ear-rings, many beads (notably of amethyst), a bronze workbox, 6 pairs of shoes, 2 spindles, a double-toothed comb. 2 Cypraea shells, a crystal ball and a strike-a-light.

The cemetery was in use in the VII, and 2 little equal-armed silver crosses found in a richly furnished woman's grave show that it was at least partly Christian. The cemetery had disturbed an earlier burial ground with cremation burials and a patera of Samian ware was found in one grave.

1850 A barrow which had been missed by Faussat was dug by Wright. It contained a woman's burial with a pair of shoes, a knife, some corroded metal which may have been a chalise and a necklace of 24 beads, 6 of which were amethyst and 17 clay. The largest bead, which was of glass, had been broken and repaired by a silver loop.

None of the visible barrows was left undisturbed. 1859 Miss V. I. Evison put down test trenches at 5 different places along a 400 yd. strip threatened by tree-planting, and 16 flat graves were encountered at the southern end: only 3 of these were undisturbed and were very poorly furnished."


1910 'An AS burial was found with an iron spearhead and a bronze shoe-shaped stud'. (OS records). The photograph of the burial in the Maidstone Museum Gazetteer shows 2 skeletons, lying parallel in separate graves.


1946 3 AS skeletons were found lying together in a grave, with sword, spearhead, shield-bosses and a small knife under a XV house at the Square. The site is close to the centre of the village, on hill a slope above the 400' contour.

Lenham II. Inhumation burial. K 44 SW. TQ 907526. Arch Cant, LXIX (1947), 120.

1946 A burial was discovered while digging a trench for a water main on the S. of the Pilgrim's Way, on a hill slope 2 m. ENE of Lenham I. It was 1' deep in the chalk and orientated approximately NE-SW. The skeleton was considerably displaced, the skull resting on its left side and with a hip bone close to it. Only an iron buckle of doubtful age was found near the skeleton. The excavation took place in a snow-storm; when the site was examined later in fine weather nothing more was found.

Lidsing, Boxley. Inhumation burial. K 32 NW, 31 NE. TQ 7862 (Payne), p. 149. 1887. A Mr. Webb informed Payne that a human skeleton had been found 3' beneath the surface, with pottery vases and a bead necklace, in Little Knock Wood.


1883 7 or 8 graves were disturbed in removing gravel from the edge of the top of the hill overlooking Littleook Farm. Only a few relics and a few small pottery fragments of AS form were found. Some of the graves were placed EW, 3' apart, with the feet nearer than the heads. Some other graves remained unexcavated.


1860 A bronze bowl, with several ornamental appliques, was found by labourers on the line of the railway at Lullingstone. It lay 2' below the surface of the ground. A 'helmet' (probably a shield-boss), some fragments of iron and pottery were dug up at the same time. The workmen said that with and near the objects human skulls and other bones were found.


1885 Jenkins reported objects found during railway excavations, including human bones, swords, spearheads, 3 shield-bosses, 2 brooches, and a garnet-set radiate, the other a bronze cruciform, and a bracteate. The site is in a shallow valley on high land.


The cemetery lies at the highest point (367) of a chalk spur which intrudes north-eastswards into the bowl at the head of the Elham valley. There is higher chalk land c. 1 m. away to E, W and S.

1953 Workmen erecting a mushroom shed stuck bones and metal (including a spearhead of AS date), in foundation holes. A. Warhurst made an emergency excavation of the area to be concreted over, and discovered 8 graves. 1954-55 Further excavations were carried out under Warhurst’s supervision, and a further 55 graves were excavated.

Before excavation, there was no sign of the graves on the surface. One grave had been marked originally by a mound of chalk lumps; 2 of the excavated graves—large but robbed—were surrounded by small gullies of unknown purpose; and gullies also appeared to surround other unexcavated graves. The graves were orientated more or less E-W, with a tendency to swing W-E on the S edge of the excavated area. The graves were arranged roughly in rows, with occasional intrusions—one grave was partly under another, in a third were many large fragments of a second disturbed skeleton. 8 graves of the 63 excavated had been disturbed, perhaps fairly soon after burial. 1 of the undisturbed graves were furnished, 4 richly, 3 with a knife only. Only the richest grave had a coffin; but one other skeleton may have been buried on a plank. The cemetery was quite a rich one and objects from it include glass vessels (including a bottle), button brooches, elaborate square-headed brooches, a buckle with a kidney-shaped plate of gold set with garnets, and another with silver with a violin-shaped tongue, and weapons. The only 2 pots were in the graves of children. The richest grave contained, beside brooches and other ornaments, a crystal ball and silver spoon, and the remains of gold braid. War-
handsome form with 2 handles’ and near it a circular fibula of gilt bronze with garnets. R. A. Smith also ascribes to this site a brooch with T-shaped garnets, a shoe-shaped stud, a bronze wheel ornament with 5 spokes, and a wire bracelet.


1840 ‘On the making a new road from Margate to Minster, a number of graves were discovered in the vicinity of the Chapel, which formed its ancient place of sepulture.’ (C. D. Dixon, New Historical Guide to the Isle of Thanet, quoted by Rowe.) Rowe supposes that these burials were part of the AS cemetery he subsequently discovered near St John’s cemetery, and that Dixon was wrong in siting them near the Dene Chapel, which is 300 yds. away in a valley.

1863 9 graves were discovered when the top of the hill was lowered; with one was an earthenware vessel. So far as one could tell, the bodies were laid supine, but there were possibly 2 contracted burials. The direction of the head varied from WNW to NW. The skeletons were very poorly preserved, and it was therefore very difficult to tell sex and age; one grave was probably a child’s, and there was a woman and a girl, each with an accessory vessel, one a ‘10” black earthenware vase, considerably damaged,’ the other a ‘coarse black earthenware patera or bowl, 5” in diam.’ Only 3 other graves contained goods, these consisted of 3 spears, a key, a knife and a buckle.


1840 ‘The story goes that when the Gas Company was laying pipes in Gas Alley (the Gorse Alleys of 1821 map) many skeletons were found side by side, and spears were discovered with them. There is also the story (no date) that 2 skeletons were discovered in Gosworks Yard, associated with a dagger.’

Margate see also Northdown K.


eica 1910 ‘An AS urn came to light.’


1852 2 buckles and an oblong ornament, gilt set with garnets, were said to have been found at Marsbarsh, and may be taken as evidence for at least one burial.

Mill Hill see Deal K.


In a brickfield in the last field before you enter the paths along the water’s edge, leading into the lower part of Milton, burials were found. There was no sign of mounds, and the fields had not been ploughed within living memory. Because of the ‘adhesive quality of the clay’ the skeletons were very well preserved. Before Vallancey knew of the site several fragments of lead-coloured and red urns were dug up—the larger ones of a coarse black earth mixed with sand and shells, surrounded with ashes and calcined matter. Some were ornamented with leaden rings or more lines, some with a zigzag pattern, some with horizontal circular mouldings about the rim, some plain, others twisted. The leaden rings are very little burnt, and the ornaments are done by hand not the late. (Can these be AS cremations in Buckelewurn-type urns?) Many vessels were carried away and sold during the excavations, including a piece of gold ‘chased at one end, broken at the other, coloured beads of baked clay and glass, amethyst pendants, pieces of bronze wire, a buckle of “copper gilt” a silver bracelet and a pitch-terned urn of slate colour, an iron sword 14” long, with a thin broad plate on the handle, the convex side flanged with a foliated figure, three bosses found in one grave, and in another adorning a bronze spearhead with a piece of deer’s horn (“BA”). Swords and daggers were discovered, the latter always placed on the left arm of the skeleton, and spearheads generally beside the right leg, the point towards the feet. In some graves there were only a few bones, and a number of common snail shells were often found in them.

1826 Labourers began digging on this site. 8 graves are described by Payne, but these are only those opened in Vallancey’s presence. All were furnished, one fairly richly. Several fragments of animal bones were found interspersed among the graves, including the head of an ox head, and the leg of a horse.

The total number of graves opened was c. 50. One piece of metal was found which may have been a coin, but it was very corroded.

1828 Urns containing bronze axes and lumps of copper were found 140 yards from the skeletons, and may indicate that the urns of 1824 were also BA.

1916 3 gold pendants, all with a more or less obvious cruciform design, probably of mid VII, were found with 6 sceattas by a gravel digger in a pit at Milton. The site is now lost.


1869 An AS cemetery was discovered c. 1 mi. NW of the Huggins Fields site, to the N of Watling Street and S of Blind Lane.

1869-71 The Blind Lane side of the site was dug first, and c. 20 skeletons discovered, with an iron funnel-shaped shield-boss, a spearhead, knives, bronze buckles, a bronze armlet, an iron strike-a-light and an iron-gilt girdle ornament.

1870-80 The Watling Street side was excavated, and 6 other skeletons were found. Near the skull of one was a small black urn 4” high, and an iron instrument in the shape of a letter D, perhaps a padlock. The others were dug too carelessly for anything to be preserved. 10 more skeletons were later discovered.

One skeleton had with it 13 beads, the second a chain of links alternately bronze and iron, an ear-ring with 4 beads, and 2 silver needles with eyes. The third was a male skeleton with a shield-boss and 2 amber-coloured glass goblets. In the other graves were found a long iron sword, 4 spearheads, 1 javelin head, 3 knives, 4 bronze buckles and a pitcher of red clay. The eastern and western parts of the Rondeau Estate were built without first removing the brick earth, so probably many skeletons remain undisturbed beneath the houses.

Payne presented 2 skulls to the BMNH; one was found with AS weapons shield, etc. (Payne’s Catalogue 354-62), the other with an AS necklace (378-81). These are probably from the Rondeau Estate site.


1889 ‘In a brickfield to the NE of Milton, below the ground and between Milton Union and the old church a skeleton was found accompanied by a glass vessel (destroyed), a bronze-gilt buckle, an iron spearhead, and a Roman gold finger-ring of the II. Other graves were found near by, and from them were obtained 6 spearheads, the socket of a spear, 2 knives, 2 swords and part of a bronze-gilt sword-hilt, 2 bronze armillae, 3 bronze finger-rings, an elegant green glass cup, a crystal ball in gold bands, and an ornament of cell-work dating to the VI and probably Frankish. A square-headed brooch is similar to one from Serre K.


1938 3 burials, one with a knife and a buckle, were found in Galliway Avenue and St Mildred’s Avenue. Although some distance apart, they were clearly partially of the same cemetery.


1841 A large jewelled brooch, (said by Ackerman to be the next largest to the Kingston brooch), was purchased with a bronze vessel from a labourer who had discovered them a few days before, c. 4 feet down in the chalk. The spot where they were found is described in Lewis’ History of Thanet as an ancient burying ground c. 3 rods E of the town’. Many burrows were near by, hitherto unexplored. In turning up the soil human bones were invariably found for some distance, and a few years before a stone coffin had been dug up. The 2 AS objects were said by the finder to be in the
same grave, not many inches apart, but the brooch was not in the vessel. There was something attached to the ornament having the appearance of a small chain of some material into which gold had been woven, but as soon as it was touched it pulverized.

1904 A group of fragmentary AS beads, now in the BM, were plunged up, perhaps on the site of this cemetery.


The skeleton was found under a coping stone, and the brooch was not in the vessel. There was something attached to the ornament having the appearance of a small chain of some material into which gold had been woven, but as soon as it was touched it pulverized.

1905 A group of fragmentary AS beads, now in the BM, were plunged up, perhaps on the site of this cemetery.

circa 1876 A glass bell-shaped vessel was found placed over the skull of a skeleton in a grave in Minster churchyard, c. 7 deep. The skeleton was said to be 8 long. The site is on low ground near Minster Marshes.


1911 A hand-made saucepan-shaped pot with a slightly everted rim was found between Great Mongeham and Ripple. The site may be as much as several hundred yards from the Mongeham Bottom finds, but it is possibly part of the same cemetery.

1913 In a Kentish-type button brooch, a belt-plate and a bronze pin were found at the stone pits at Mongeham Bottom, and were probably from a single burial or even several burials.

Mursdon. Inhumation burial. K 21 SW. TQ. 924646. Rochester, V, 119, 106–107. 1921 Williams reported a grave 4 deep containing a skeleton and a sword at Mere's Court, on low ground not far from Milton Creek.


1908 Dowker mentions AS graves found in Upper Deal.

1931 A grave was found under the footpath on the western side of the London Road, Upper Deal, opposite a bridle path to North Deal. It was cut in the chalk, orientated W and thought to be AS.

1949 A network of drainage trenches for the housing estate at Netherton Farm cut through 2 graves. One was completely destroyed. The other contained a necklace (from which one bead, with blue and white spiral ornamentation was recovered), a bent iron object (perhaps a knife), and a thin fragment of bronze. There was also a ‘thin wedge-shaped piece of green coated tabular flint’ and 3 red flint pebbles. The teeth and the skeleton were considerably worn.

1953 A grave containing a spear, scram- sax and knife was discovered on the Netherton Farm estate.

Newington. Inhumation cemetery. K 74 NE. TR. 1837. GMLA, I (from 1760), 133. Hasted (1798) X, 199. VCH, 386. A skeleton was found by the roadside on Milkby Down; it was perfect except that the skull appeared to be fractured or much bruised. The body seemed not to have been laid out, but double up and thrust into a hole. Near the neck there were beads of various kinds, some of ‘agate, pot and glass. There was some wire with them. A few days later 2 more skeletons were found near by, one with beads, both in coffins. The site is in a valley, just above the 300 contour.

Northbourne see Deal K and Fingeston F.


1898 2 glass beads were found in a grave at Northdown, just over ½ m. inland from Long Nose Spit.


1848 C. R. Smith recorded that stoned pot fragments, 3 shield-bosses, 3 spears, part of a bucket, a black pot with burnt bones and a very rough urn were found during railway excavations.

1899 More finds were made at Chalk Hill.

E of the Football Ground, including c. 20 skeletons and at least 1 rough AS pot. The skeletons lay EW, 3 deep in the gravel.

1900 Workmen excavating chalk S of the church cut through 3 or 4 graves. Nothing was found with them except an iron spearhead.

1901 More objects were found to the W of the church.

The most important finds from this cemetery are 15 urns and fragments in Maidstone Museum, and several more at Gravesend. Some are the usual plain accessory vessels, others of Anglian type. Some were definitely cinerary and contained human bones. There are also associated objects in the Museums, including a sword, an angon and a francisca, and 2 saucer brooches, one with the scroll pattern dating to about A.D. 500.

These finds all seem to belong to one extensive cemetery.

circa 1948 J. P. T. Burchell investigated a hollow in a chalk pit 200 yds. SW of the church (619738). It contained sherds of Roman and AS pottery: 8 sherds were from a mid V pot with grooved and stamped ornament, with a probably ‘Saxon-Frisian origin somewhere round the Rhine mouths’; other AS fragments were from rusticated pots.

A bone comb from Northfleet is in the BM, and some shield-bosses in the Farnham Museum.

Norton see Chapman’s Pot K.


1845–50 During the cutting of the railway between Ramsgate and Deal, an AS cemetery was disturbed on the downs at a place where there were extensive sea views and fine scenery, and where ‘hillocks’ presumably barrows—were remembered as existing before the ground was ploughed. Several rows of graves were dug into, and the workmen said c. 100 were destroyed before Rolfe was able to investigate. The graves were cut neatly in the chalk and filled first with earth and afterwards with the disturbed chalk. Often a thin slab of laminated sandstone covered the body. At least one grave probably held a coffin, as clenches were found. One grave had a brick near the head; and the workmen said this was the position in other graves of a patera of Samian ware and accessories, some of early types. Another grave contained a sword, spear, 2 knives and a ‘cooper’s basin.’

Rolfe, C. R. Smith and Wright investigated 12 graves. One contained a shield-boss, a spearhead, a scramasax, a knife, and a narrow-necked pot by the left shoulder. Another of unusual width contained 3 skeletons—a man and woman laid close together, he with a spear, she with amber beads and a long pin, and a child, also with amber beads and a knife. In a double grave a woman had a circular gilt brooch, set with garnets. There was one other grave which perhaps held 3 bodies; otherwise the burials were individual, and usually male. Other finds from the cemetery were swords, spearheads, knives, scramasaxes, urns, glass vessels, a set of scales, beads, pendants, a cornelian intaglio, a Keystone garnet brooch, a radiate brooch, 2 small-long brooches (which R. A. Smith would date within the V), a gold coin of Justinian (527–65), 4 silver sceattas, bronze tweezers, buckles, shoe-shaped studs and a bunch of keys.

This cemetery seems to have lasted a very long time, since it contained both V broaches and sceattas.

Ospringe see Chapman’s Pot K.


1954 An AS cremation burial with a stamp decorated pot of the VI was found on the Charle Estate.

Otterham Creek see Upchurch K.


1866 On a different part of the western brow of the downs from the Bifrons cemetery, just above Pattoinham church, graves were found containing skeletons and iron fragments; there is no other information to help dating.

(Natural History), RCS Collection (one skull).

A cranium, described as that of an AS, found embedded in the cliff at Pegwell Bay, is in the BMNH; there is no record of the donor or the date that it was presented. This may be connected with the AS site at Ramsgate, if the use of the name Pegwell Bay reaches so far.

Polhill, (Kemsing). Inhumation cemetery. K.


Two skeletons were found in a field, 750 yards due W of the church, lying close together, one with head to the E, one to the W. A spearhead was later discovered. The skeletons were reinterred in the churchyard. The site is on a false crest of a hill, above the 300’ contour, not far from an RB building.

1956 13 skeletons were discovered during excavations of the chalk banks at the junction of Pilgrim's Way and the A21 for road widening. The graves were orientated E/W except one which was NS. The burials were 1’ deep in the chalk, with a varying depth of topsoil. All the graves had been backfilled so that it was impossible to distinguish their precise outline, but they seem to have been roughly rectangular, just large enough for the body. All the skeletons were laid out, usually with arms by the sides, and there were men, women and children among them. One grave contained a knife and an iron buckle, a second a scrap of the early VII, a third a knife, and a fourth 2 iron keys or latch-lifters, similar to some from Shudy Camps Ca and Burwell Ca. The rest of the graves were unfurnished.

It is likely that this is a late cemetery since the grave-goods are so few and comparable to those from the late Ca cemeteries; but there is too little evidence on which to base definite conclusions.

Port Lympne see Lympne K.

Postling. Inhumation burial. K.

74 NE. Unlocated. Fauquett (1856), pl. II, fig. 3; pl. VIII fig. 14. VCH, p. 386.

1873 A small gilt brooch with keystone garnets and a pair of shoe-shaped studs were evidently found at Postling, and were in Fauquett's collection. C. R. Smith knew nothing of their discovery.

Preston Hall see Aylesford K.

Primrose Hill, Monkton (Acol). Doubtful. K.


1879 A skeleton with a knife and ‘several fragments of ancient pottery, of different patterns’ was found at Primrose Hill, said to be a cart-track joining the main road and the by-road to Minster, on the brow of the hill.

1942 A crouched burial, with knees drawn up, was found at Acol, south of Queen Park, Birchington, in a grave 4’ long, 2’ 4” deep, with 2 post holes dug in clean chalk. There were no associated finds and the bones were destroyed by the police.

Ramsgate I, St Augustine's College (West Cliff). Inhumation cemetery. K.


1847 Roman urns with calcined bones were found near the 3 mills, very close to AS skeletons with swords.

circa 1877 The bones of a man, several very large nails, as if from a coffin, and some horses’ teeth, were found beneath what is now 77, Cambridge Terrace, very near some Roman pottery.

1854 The skeleton of a Saxon chief, with that of a woman, and some pot, chiefly Roman, were found when a new wing was being added to St Augustine’s College.

All these finds were made within a very limited area.

Ramsgate II, Station. Inhumation burial. K.

38 NW. TR 379654. Arch. Cant., XLV (1933), 283–84.

1932 A skeleton was found by workmen digging a trench to lay an electric cable c. 1’ below the surface, in the chalk, at the junction of the Station Approach Road and Park Road. Near the remains was a small iron knife and a piece of glass.

Ramsgate III. Inhumation burials. K.


ante 1893 The material from 4 AS burials from Ramsgate were given to Herne Bay Museum. Associated with the burial of a woman aged c. 35 was a small basket-veiled vessel, the lower part coated with soil, now reconstructed. With a man aged 35–40 were 4 sherds of another. The other 2 skeletons were of infants, aged 6–7 months, probably twins, sex not determined. Also found with the group was a piece of iron 5” long by ¾” wide.

Ramsgate see also Nethercourt Farm K.

Reculver I, Broomfield. Inhumation burial. K.


ante 1852 A green glass claw-beaker is thought to have come from a gravel pit near Broomfield, along with iron weapons and pottery. In Canterbury Museum are a brooch and a variegated blue bead, probably from Broomfield or Hoth.

Reculver II, Foreshore. Inhumation burials. K.


1828 Canterbury Museum was presented with 2 Roman spearheads, 1 head of a battle-ax, 1 Roman earthen vessel, 5 Roman lac- thurnae (Reculver). Some at least of these may be AS.

1850 Reculver was found a fragment of a keystone brooch, found at Reculver.

1894 Copeland exhibited a bronze bowl of AS date, washed up near Reculver.

1953 A sestertius was found on the foreshore, W of Reculver.

There are also a pair of gilt-bronze tweezers in the BM, a porosperous necklace in Maidstone Museum, and an urn, roughly made with shoulder bosses joined by grooving, in Herne Bay Museum.

It would seem likely that there is a cemetery here, partly eroded away.

Richeborough. Inhumation burial, in barrow. K.

37 SW. TR 3260. Smith (1850), p. 88 n. 2. ante 1800 ‘In a manuscript journal in the possession of Mr Britton, Stukeley mentions the discovery at Richeborough, in a barrow, of 2 elegant ibulans, made in gold and glass work, and a string of beads, evidently British. These were clearly Saxon fibulae and beads, as such are frequently found in Kent.’ (C. R. Smith.)

Richborough see also Cop Street K.

Kent.

Richeborough Castle. Inhumation burial. K.


1892 The skeleton of a German warrior perhaps serving the Romans with sword, shield-boss, spearhead and pevter bowl was found in the Claudian ditch, N of Richborough Castle. The skull lay face down. The spearhead dates the burial to IV.

Ringwood. Inhumation burial. K.


circa 1852 2 skeletons were found very near the surface, but in the chalk, at Ringwood, 6 m. from Dover on the road to Deal. With them were 2 iron spearheads, a single-edged ‘coulet’ (&cramax), the iron ferrules of a spear, a belt ornament of gilt metal (set with red imitation gems), and a bronze buckle.

Ringwood see also Freedown K.

Riseley, Horton Kirby II. Mixed cemetery. K.


1937–38 Skeletons were found during building on the Riseley House Estate; with them were several fragments of pottery, an almost complete cone beaker, spearheads and an iron shield-boss. The Dartford Antiquarian Society subsequently excavated 112 inhumation burials and 5 cremations on the slope of a hill c. 200’ OD overlooking the Thames. The graves were irregularly placed and sometimes encroached upon one another. There was no general overall orientation; most graves were roughly E&W, some NS, and one group NE-SW. The graves were sunk through the subsoil into the solid chalk, which was sometimes hollowed out just deep enough to receive the body which was sometimes crammed in; sometimes small dugs 2’ deep, of full length and with roughly squared corners. About a dozen contained large flints (natural in the chalk) arranged to make a wall, once forming an efficient cist, with an arched covering, sometimes heaped over the skeleton. In one grave the 5 stones along each side had
been held in position by a ‘poor mortal of clay and chalk’. About 20 graves’ contained at least a sprinkling of charcoal; in one the filling was mixed chalk and ashes and a large quantity of ashes was around the skull. The skeletons were of people of all ages and both sexes; ‘the wealthier people seem to have been buried on higher ground’. There were 3 double burials, one with a woman lying partly on top of a man. 70 of the graves were furnished, 16 with only a knife. The grave-goods were mostly of an early Saxon type e.g. disc brooches, flat ring brooches with ring and dot ornament (one with an animal’s head terminal like the Allfriston Sax brooch), small-longs brooches with almost exact parallels at Mitcham Sr, and buckles of a type known from Bifrons and High Down Sax. One grave contained a saucer brooch with a central motive like those on the brooches at Broughton Poggs O, and Broadway Wo, and an applied brooch with a ‘floriated cross’ motive—actually with 6 or 7 segments formed by heart-shaped elements. One grave only contained VII ornaments—a bracteate and gold and silver pendant ornaments; unfortunately, since the contents of this grave are all that have been illustrated or widely published, the misapprehension has arisen that it was an altogether ‘Jutish’ cemetery and its real nature—a Saxon cemetery without Frankish elements, beginning in the—obsured. The cremation burials were mostly in plain urns, but one urn was ornamented with several different stamps. Only one shard of all the pots or parts of pots found on the site is dated by Myers to before c. 575.

1949 There was further building on the housing estate; a skeleton found 18° deep was reported in the Evening News, and Dartford Museum was presented with a sword and spearhead found at this time, but the site was not watched by any competent observers, and it is impossible to tell how much or little was found. The friend of a workman employed on the site told V. E. S. Bavin that many more skeletons were found, including those of a woman with a baby in her arms—and the knife that killed her was still in her ribs.


ante 1892 Skeletons were found where Watts Avenue joins St Margaret’s Street; an iron knife was with them. Payne investigated, and discovered that skeletons had also been found on the sites of 2 houses at the W end of Gordon Terrace.

1892 11 skeletons were found in the garden of Saxonbury and along the W wall. They are described separately by Payne. 7 of the graves were furnished, 3 with only a knife. The skeletons all lay with their heads roughly W, in cists cut in the chalk c. 3’ deep, 6’ long and 2’ wide.

ante 1896 More house-building near St Margaret’s churchyard led to the discovery of another 19 skeletons, buried like those found in 1892. Payne describes them separately. 14 were furnished, 3 with only a knife.

circa 1899 4 other graves were found in Roebuck Road, extending the known area of the cemetery much further towards the southern boundary of the Roman wall of Rochester. One, with a fine spearhead and ferrule, lay with its head W., 2 heads to the S, and another, head N., had nothing. All were in cists cut in the chalk.

The site is quite close to the River Medway, and not far from the isolated interment.


1939 J. H. Evans inspected the finds from an AS grave found at the S end of Short Bros. aeroplane works, very close to the river. They consisted of the lower jaw probably of an elderly man, an iron shield- boss, 2 spearheads and a long well-preserved sword.

**Rochester IV, Cathedral.** Christian churchyard.


1960 ‘Under the SW corner of Gundleph’s tower at Rochester cathedral workmen installing a heating-system discovered a number of AS graves which may be related to the original church founded by Justus in 603. Finds include a spearhead, some pottery and a number of clenche-nails from collars.’

**Rondeau Estate** see Milton-next-Sittingbourne II K.

**St Margaret’s-at-Cliff I.** Inhumation burials. K 68 NE. Unlocated. BMNH records. Dover Museum records. Museums: Dover; British Museum (Natural History), (skull).

1191 An aged male skull was found during excavations by Pearsons and Sons, Contractors. It was dated at the time to between the VI and VIII.

ante 1860 An iron knife and 3 shield-bosses from St Margaret’s are in Dover Museum. They were not brought to the Museum until long after the accidental discovery and nothing more is known about them.


ante 1724 Stukeley noted c. 30 burrows, c. m. from the village. Some may have been destroyed by a road. They overlooked the Channel, and occupied c. 1/4 acres.

1775 Tucker opened 6 or 8 burrows and found 20 glass beads in a deep grave, and in another an arrow-head.

1782 Douglas opened c. 14 burrows and found only an iron knife. One grave was of a child, coated with clay; and there were several adults. One large barrow (?) contained the burnt bones of a child.

The group is not now visible, and is therefore unstable.

1943 The skeleton of a woman, 18–22 years old, was found at St Margaret’s. It was thought not to be later than AS, but the skull had more of an RB form.

**St Margaret’s Bay.** Inhumation cemetery, secondary in burial. K 68 NE. TR 364445. OS records. BMNH records. Museum: British Museum (Natural History), (2 skulls).

1920 6 graves were uncovered in making a tennis court in the garden of Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson. The graves were found 2’ below the surface, side by side in 2 parallel rows with 3 graves each, heads W. Near by, 6’–7’ deep was a skeleton in a sitting position. There were no associated objects. The assignment of the extended burials to the AS period is based on skull shape and the known AS predilection for burial in already existing barrows.


1843 A grave was accidentally discovered at Sarre, containing a bronze bowl with van- dyked rim and a gold and garnet brooch with star design.

1860 6” below the surface, in chalk land, workmen found another gold and garnet brooch, another bronze bowl similar to the first, a metal pin, an amethyst bead, a necklace of beads of amber and coloured clay, a pendant of mosaic glass and 4 pendant coins, iron ‘weapons’ (presumably a ‘weaving batten’), the metal chisel of a large purse, a knife and several pieces of iron. These were in a grave with a skeleton lying head NW. In the bowl there were bones—some said to be human. This, however, I am not fully convinced of. Also the bones of sheep and oxen. (Brent.) The coins were of the eastern emperors, Mauricius and Heraclius (A.D. 582–602; 610–41) and Chloesio II of France (613–28). Another grave was found near by, but it contained only a few bones.

1863 133 graves were dug by Brent and described in Arch. Cant. The topsoil was c. 18” thick, the subsoil chalk. The graves were found by means of a probe. Circular holes were also found, perhaps connected with Roman burials, broken pieces of Roman pot, burnt wood and charred bones of sheep, swine.
and other animals, as well as many oyster shells. Of the 144 graves it was possible to analyse, 109 were furnished, 5 richly, 4 with only a knife. One very rich woman's grave, with a perforated silver spoon, crystal ball in slings, 6 gold bracteates, 4 gilt-bronze square-headed brooches, 2 small key-stone-garnet brooches, a string of beads, a glass cup with a pointed base, gold braid, iron knives, keys, shears, a bronze buckle, shoe-shaped studs, a bronze pin, 2 Roman coins and fragments of a comb, is dated by Leeds on typological grounds to the early VI.

1864 A further 89 graves were opened by Brent. Of 68 (the rest disturbed or otherwise unclear) 58 were furnished, 2 richly, 5 with a knife only. The graves were nearly all orientated with heads W, the few exceptions Brent believed to be early graves because of the associated objects. The 2 graves with coins (the second with sceattas with the name PADA in runes, i.e. Penda of Mercia 626-54) show that the cemetery was in use for a very long time. One grave was found containing craftsman’s tools—a small plane of horn, a bronze balance and scale-pan and 19 weights—as well as weapons. There were a large number of weapons found in the Sarre cemetery, including 26 swords, and the community appears to have been prosperous.

Brent declares that the 274 graves recorded can by no means be the total number in this cemetery. A chalk pit adjoined the site, and there were evidences and traditions of similar relics found there in digging chalk. Other remains were found in the opposite direction, down to the Mangate Road and even to another chalk pit beyond it.

The site is on flat ground near the River Wantsum, very close to the site of a church of St Giles and a traditional crossing place to the Isle of Thanet.


ante 1928 A burial, with a pair of bronze-gilt birds with silver plates, a spearhead and a shield-boss, was found on the 100' contour in a field between roads to Broadbook and Shefford Farm from the railway crossing, just above the Great Stour. All the finds except the shield-boss are in the BM.


1772-73 Fausett dug 168 graves (Nos. 1-158, 172-81) in the 'Lower Burial Ground' on the crest of the hill in Sibertswold. They were mostly covered by barrows, and were bounded on the NE by a bank made of clay brought from a distance. The graves lay EW, and with 3 exceptions were not richly furnished—19 had only a knife, 28 nothing at all—although there were quite a number of weapons. There were many children's graves and several of the barrows covered more than one burial. There was little correlation between the size of the barrow and the richness of the deposit. Of the 101 coffins, only 6 had "not passed the fire".

1772 Fausett also dug 13 tumuli (159-171), in the 'Upper Burial Ground'. This was, according to him, c. 40 yards S of the Lower Burial Ground, the high road from Sibertswold to Deal running between. Even in Fausett's day the barrows had been much levelled in order to make 'deniere' (a kind of dressing for the fields). The farmer said they had frequently found there human bones and cinerary urns together with other vessels—i.e. it had also been a Roman burial ground. The tumuli Fausett dug were AS; 8 graves were furnished, 4 with a knife only, and there were 7 coffins.

1772 Barfreston Just within the parish of Barfreston was another part of the same cemetery, which Fausett also excavated, and enumerated separately. There was a deep, wide trench to the SW of the barrows, and steep slopes on the other 3 sides. A central area was left clear, and the barrows ranged around it on the NE, NW and SE sides, only 3 or 4 being on the Sibertswold side of the trench. 5 graves were richly furnished, the rest poorly; 9 with only a knife, 14 with nothing. There were 22 coffins.

The site is typical of the later barrows excavated by Fausett, although the grave-goods were more usual. They included glass vessels, Kentish bottle-vasae, chalices, wooden boxes, thread boxes, spindles-wool, shears, amethyst beads, pendants of gold and glass and amethyst or garnets, and some gold and garnet jewellery.

Sittingbourne see Milton-next-Sittingbourne K.


1857 E. Hughes presented to the Canterbury Literary Institute a 'Collection of Roman antiquities found at Smeath, Kent, comprising a spearhead, parts of a sword, a dirk, a copper culinary utensil, a crystal boss or bulla with portions of a silver chain with which it had been suspended, a ring of twisted silver wire, copper brooch, button or fibula for the attire, 4 ornamental clasps, and a fibula for confining the toga, a coloured earthen bead, and portions of buckles and ornaments belonging to the girdle.'


ante 1893 Raven informed Payne that when Parrington Lane, leading to the Roman barrow, was made, AS swords, spearheads and knives were found, which were then in his possession. These finds were made just W of the cemetery later discovered at Holborough.

ante 1928 A buckle-plate was found on the site of the Gasworks and is now in the BM.


circa 1848 In the Dark Ages Map Index (1855) in the OS, there is a note by R. F. Jessup to say that in one of the many editions of John Dunkin’s Memoranda of Springhead there is an illustration of an AS cremation urn, very like those at Northfleet, found in making the railway.

The only copies of Dunkin’s book which seem to be available now are in Gravesend Library and in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries of London, dated 1848. Unfortunately, these contain the illustration. However, on pl. xi, opposite p. 16, there is illustrated an AS disc brooch, among the many Roman brooches found at Southfleet.

Southfleet see also Beatham K.


ante 1958 ‘Pot found at Staines Hill considered Saxon by Kendrick. Others found.’

Star Hill see Rochester K.


circa 1847 A labourer, removing a barrow made of sand on the brow of the hill near Stodmarsh Court—the OS marks it on the 50' contour, overlooking the Stour and opposite Westbere—found a grave. There were no human remains, but the relics disintegrated seem to show that there had been 2 people, a man and a woman. These relics are said to have consisted of spearheads, a shield-boss and bronze bowls, later lost, besides fragments of 2 square-headed brooches (one gilt and set with garnets, one of early type), a small brooch set with garnets, a triangular gilt-bronze buckle, a gilt spoon with 5 holes in the bowl and a slab of garnet at the base of the handle; a small gold stud set with a greenish stone; 2 volute-tongued buckles and 2 shoe-shaped studs, illustrated in Arch, XXXVI.

1854 Akerman visited the site and opened a tumulus 40' diam. and 4' high, clearly artificial, but found no signs of a grave. He was told that an ancient elder tree had stood on the site, and supposed that it might have been one of those relics of the superstitions of our pagan Saxons forefathers. The roots of the tree had penetrated deep. A third barrow was also excavated and produced nothing.

1907 A sword with a wooden scabbard and an iron shield-boss were found.

Stone see Littlebrook K.


ante 1844 ‘Many years since’ 2 skeletons with iron weapons were excavated in the field where later finds were made. Near by in Ten Acre Field ‘some hundreds of large brass Acel Field’ some hundreds of large brass.
Roman coins were ploughed up in 1780. On the hills are barrows, some of which seem to have been partially excavated.

1844 More than 30 skeletons were found when a new road was being made leading up the hill from the village to the common. With them were swords, spearheads, knives, shield-bosses and other fragmentary pieces of iron (perhaps some from collars), beads of glass and clay, one of amber and one of amethyst, silver-gilt keystone-garnet brooches, bronze buckles, belt plates and shoe-shaped studs, a light red Kentish bottle-vase, a plain bowl of thin bronze found resting on the breast of a skeleton, the iron handle and part of the rim of a bucket, bronze coins of Antoninus Pius, Plautilla and Valens, and a gold-covered bronze coin in imitation of a Merovingian type, found with many small beads of yellow clay and green glass and a wire ring in a woman’s grave.

The graves were 2–4’ deep, excavated in the chalk subsoil and filled with mould. Some of them, although containing only one skeleton, were said to be big enough for 6.

1866 J. Brent excavated 25 graves, containing 34 skeletons, and described them in Arch. He found the graves roughly formed in contrast to those at Sarre, but thought this was probably due to the shattered chalk. The orientation was usually EW or NW–SE, but Brent considered those lying NS as generally the most interesting. One grave contained 6 skeletons, all female. 29 of the graves were furnished, only one richly, and one with only a knife.

1868 C. Brent excavated a skeleton with a spearhead.

1881 C. Brent had trenches dug in an undisturbed part of the field, where earth had washed down to give a considerable depth of topsoil. He found 8 more graves, described in JBAI, 6 were furnished. There may have been other graves, but the labour needed to excavate them was too great and the effort abandoned.

Brown would date this cemetery to the early VI.

The village and site are ‘in a nook of the chalk hills’ c. 400’ up, and with a fairly wide view.


1846 A skeleton, lying on its back with hands folded on chest, was found between Strood and Temple Farm. With it were a spearhead and 2 knives. The grave was partly filled with fragments of Roman flue and ordinary tiles. Another skeleton was found near by with legs bent at right angles at the knee joints, lying on the right side.

1852 Excavators of brick-earth at Strood dug up a burial in land close to the Romish cemetery. The grave contained a skeleton with sword, spearhead, knife, shield-boss, bronze buckle with violin-shaped tongue and a (?) work-box or lip of drinking horn, ornamented with a repeated group of 3 figures, the central one nimbled. These 2 burials would seem to have been very close together and probably belong to the same site.


1859 Workmen making the railway between Strood and Cuxton discovered a grave 3’ deep, cut in the slopes of the chalk down, 1 m. W of Temple Farm. The skeleton had with it a shield-boss, spear, knife, angant and Kentish bottle-vase.


ante 1898 When Jersey Road and Castle View Road were being made, an AS grave was found at their junction on the top of Strood Hill. It was c. 4’ deep, and contained a skeleton, head W, laid out with the legs crossed just below the knees, right leg over left. On the right side of the skull was an iron spearhead, and near the waist a shield-boss.

1918 During excavations for a drain, another grave was found in Woodstock Road near the Roman Way on Strood Hill. It was c. 4’ deep, and contained a skeleton, head W, laid out with the legs crossed just below the knees, right leg over left. On the right side of the skull was an iron spearhead, and near the waist a shield-boss.

These sites were checked by the OS and are considered as one.

Strood. K 19 NW. OS records. On the 6’ record sheet K 19 NW, in the Archaeology Section of the OS, there are pencil notes referring to an isolated interment by the water’s edge, separate from that found in 1859.

But since the siting of 1859 finds is taken from OS records, that of the (?) other interment from the K. A. S. 6’ map at Maidstone, this may well be a duplication of the one site.

Sturry see Westbere K.

Supporten Farm see Wickhambeaux K.

Temple Ellow. Inhumation cemetery, primary in barrow. K 68 NW. TR 291443. Hasted (1800), IX, 438. Arch Cant, XIII (1880), 9, 16. ante 1800 Several tumuli were excavated on the hill ‘on the left side of the London road’, and in each of them was said to be a skeleton, a sword c. 3’ long and 2’ wide, and the head of a spear.

1880 3 tumuli on a hill were reported to be tuned together with some defensive earthworks. The OS describes these 3 as (A) a large spread bowl-barrow; (B) a smaller mound, mutilated in the centre; (C) a large mound with a crater-like mutilation at the top, thought to be AS because of its proximity to the above.

The site is fairly high—400’—and on a slight spur.

Temple Farm see Strood I and II K.


1888 Workmen excavating for brick-earth found a sword and some beads; shortly afterwards an urn, a knife and more beads. Payne was unable to identify the site.

1890 3 ‘remarkable’ AS brooches—apparently so beautiful that they were quite intact—incredible—were shown to the Society of Antiquaries as coming from Teynham, and with them a few amber and opaque glass beads, a bronze armilla of twisted wire, a small bronze buckle, another bronze buckle with part of an iron key-like instrument, and fragments of amber glass vase with a rounded base.

Payne was shown by workmen employed in Richardson’s brickfield fragments of an iron spear, the boss and stud of a shield and a sword, found in a grave during the previous winter. He supposed that all these objects might come from the same site; although suspicious that some might be from King’s Field, Faversham.

1894 A grave was found containing a gold and garnet disc brooch with a star design, a gold and garnet pendant, an openwork pendant of braided gold wire, and 2 circular pendant beads of porphyritic thread, threaded with silver wire.

In Canterbury Museum there is a Coptic bowl from Teynham.

Teynham is on low ground and the station, near which were the brickfields which apparently produced these finds, were 3 m. SW of Teynham Village.


1913 An AS cemetery was discovered while levelling the ground to make a bowling green in the grounds of Thurnham Friars. Although it is certain that a number of burials were disturbed and a quantity of grave-goods discovered, 2 iron open-socketed spearheads, 4 amethyst beads, one blue Roman melon bead and 2 small blue glass beads were all that were preserved.

The site is near the Pilgrim’s Way, on the slope of a hill above the 300’ contour.


ante 1847 2 Saxon glass vessels were found near Otterham Creek in Upchurch.

1852 Gravel diggers found a skeleton with a silver-gilt and garnet ‘star’ brooch, amethyst beads, a bottle shaped vessel of darkish red ware, a Samian patera and a glass cup.

ante 1868 A gold copy of a late Roman or Byzantine coin, partly perforated, was found near the upper part of the creek.

ante 1893 Prentis was in possession of a ‘remarkably fine circular amber bead, found in an AS grave near the head of Otterham Creek’. It is now in Rochester Museum.

1930 AS spearheads, pottery and beads were found by P. Gray. When he was asked in 1951, he could not remember precisely the circumstances of the discovery. He thought the objects probably accompanied a burial, although he could remember no bones.

Vauletta House see Broadstairs K.

Walmer see Deal K.

Waterworks Hill see Deal K.

1931 An AS cemetery was found during gravel workings on the N bank of the River Stour, on the 100' contour, on a gravelly hill above the marshes. The gravel was acid, and agricultural operations had damaged the finds to such an extent that no skeletons were recovered. In an area 160' by 130' 60-70 burials were counted, placed with some precision in fairly regular lines, sometimes in threes, but with no constant spacing. There was no sign of mounds. The average depth of the cremation burials was 1-6', of the inhumations 3-6'. The graves were c. 7' long where ascertainable. No information was available about orientation or method of burial, but the skeletons and grave-goods were not protected in any way. There were no reliable figures of the proportion of cremations to inhumations; the cremations were carelessly buried, but it is said that they were always placed with due regard to the other burials. Dr Ince, the local antiquary who recorded the site, considered that both rites were in use at the same time, and does not note any instance of a burial by one rite disturbing one of the other.

It was impossible to associate all the objects found in grave groups, since the pit was worked in strips 3'-wide. The finds are described by Jessup in Arch J and consist of 3 brooches (an early one in the shape of a fish from Frisa, a small round brooch of silver with a steep garnet and the headplate of a cruciform brooch, both by J), a scrap of a silver-gilt brooch with running scroll design, a gilded-bronze buckle with a rectangular plate, 3 strings of beads, another necklace with 5 amethyst beads, 2 gold pendants and 3 bracelet (all from the same grave), 2 bronze rings now lost, a bucket and a bronze bowl also lost, and 3 conical glass beads, a clavaberk, 3 glass bowls, a carinatedumband and a spherical Roman bottle, and 8 pots of various shapes still intact. Several other fragments and complete urns were noted by Dr Ince, including 3 window urns, plainglobular pots and biconoid pots with incipient bosses. One window urn at least had been used for a cremation burial. There were also 2 spearheads, 2 axe heads and a sword blade.

The cemetery seems to have had 3 phases: an early VI settlement of a band of northerners perhaps from Frisia or the mouth of the Ems; a later VI phase showing extension of Frankish influence, and a VII phase with gold pendants, etc.

Cantebury Museum later recovered a small accessory vessel, a little bowl and a few small beads from the workmen.

Westbere see also Stanes Hill K.


1858 2 amber glass cups were found in a bronze bowl in a grave at Westwell. This sits 1 m. N. of Rothfild Station on the slope of a hill rising to Westwell Downs.

Whiteheath see Holmgivinge K.


1886 Dowker was given some iron fragments found in a gravel pit in Wickhambeaux, just N. of Supperton Farm. He recognized some as AS swords and spears and 2 shield-bosses. There were also fragments of pottery 1" thick, of dark grey ware filled with small angular fragments of white flint. In one large grave was a bronze bowl with a vandyked rim, a sword and scabboard with a gold stud, a bronze buckle with a garnet hinge and a triangular gold plate, and a clawbeaker at the very bottom of the grave.

1910 A small grey carinated urn of hardware, found at Wickhambeaux, was displayed for many years as Roman, but is very like an AS urn from Faversham. The site of its discovery is unknown, but that of 1886 finds is on low ground E of Stodmarsh, overlooking the marshy ground of the Great Stour.

Wickhambeaux see also Grove Ferry K.


ante 1843 'Some time since' in digging for chalk on the side of the hill, 4 graves were found containing a few earthenware and amethyst beads, a bracelet, a ring, a few pieces of iron and a spear.

1843 Lord Albert Conyngham (later Lord Londesborough) had the land at the top of the hill, which had been under the plough, trenched, and found 4 graves in the chalk. The first contained a skeleton with the links of a large chain between the legs and a knife by the side; the second a disintegrated skeleton with a bracelet; the third had a shield and spear and the remains of a second skeleton at the feet of the first. The fourth grave was in the shape of a T, with one skeleton at the foot of another. One of these had at its feet an urn, an Indian cowrie shell, 2 or 3 amethyst and earthenware beads, 2 gold bracelets, several small silver rings, a silver bracelet, a pin with a gold and garnet head, and a brooch with a star design in garnet.

1854 Akerman dug at Wingham and found several robbed graves and 2 containing skeletons. One was of a woman, buried with several beads, a bone spindle-whorl with an iron spindle and a single amethyst bead; the second was of an adult with a waist tag, ring, clasps and buckle, all of iron.

The BM has, among other finds, a cruciform, probably Christian. The site is on low ground, just above the 50' contour and near the Wingham river.


It is difficult to keep the references to Woodnesborough apart from those to Gilton, Ash, ante 1793 About 30 glass vessels were said to have been found on a farm at Woodnesborough, and were kept for use at harvest homes by farm labourers. The only left—of elongated shape with a pointed base—was engraved by Douglas and Akerman.

Payne places the discovery in a large tumulus behind the church. Boys found a ‘fibula’ from Woodnesborough.

ante 1852 'Many years since' a Frankish type jug of bluish clay was found at Woodnesborough in the sand pit at the back of the Oak Public House with a 'beautiful circular fibula, richly enamelled' ('From the Gilton site').

Woodnesborough is on a slight spur of Hasted's 'long sandy hill.'