
1925. Men working in a small quarry on Barrow Hill found 2 skeletons together in a grave, and a few other human bones. Horne excavated one burial, of a woman c. 35, lying with head to the NW. The neck was so twisted that it must have been broken before burial; the skull was lying on the breast, on its side, facing SW. The grave was 1’ 9” deep, 2’ 3” wide, length unknown. In the grave, but not on the body, were 3 ‘elastic’ silver wire rings, 2 long amethyst beads, 2 round glass beads, and 2 curious saddle-shaped beads of shell.

The site is not necessarily a cemetery; the quarry was worked a little subsequently, but nothing else found.


1926. Men working in a quarry of inferior oolitic limestone on the W side of a lane from the Fosse Way to Camerton threw down considerable quantities of human bones.

1926–32. Horne excavated 109 graves, fairly evenly spaced over an area c. 130’ E/W, 100’ N/S. They were all EW, the average depth 2’ 5”. The shallower burial was just below the topsoil; apparently no grave was dug and the skeleton laid in full clothed. Some graves were carefully dug; one was outlined with stones at the foot, another filled with fine earth brought from a distance. Several were too short for the body, which had to be forced in. One skeleton was in a stone coffin without a lid, and could have been Roman.

The total number of skeletons found was 115, and included 40 children. Most were of people under 40, who appeared undernourished. The skeletons were badly decayed, but 27 males and 14 females were recognized. Most multiple burials appeared accidental, but one large grave contained 2 infants and an adult woman, and an adult male (whose right foot had been amputated during life) buried after and partly above the woman. The bodies appeared to have been buried in the position in which they died, and there were indications of hurried burial. One woman seemed to have revived after burial and tried to raise herself up. Horne supposed some may have been plague victims. In 42 graves grains of charcoal were sprinkled over the body, usually towards the upper part; but not in babies’ graves.

The burials were poorly supplied with grave-goods: 21 contained knives, and only 20 any other object. Miscellaneous objects found were a bone comb, a small pair of shears, 3 spindle-whorls, a whetstone, silver wire rings found with gilt bracelets, 2 horses’ teeth found in separate graves near the head, and 6 Roman coins. Over the knees of a girl c. 12 were 2 (of the 3 found) enameled bronze escutcheons from a hanging-bowl. By the feet of a woman, about 30, with a seven months’ foetus, were a cowry shell, and a boar’s tusk, both pierced for suspension, an iron pin, a small flint scraper, a lump of chalk cut to a heart shape and one of the Roman coins. Beads were found in 8 graves, and included one of Syrian type, 2 made by winding glass around a bronze tube, of Hungarian origin, and at least one bead like those found at Buckland Denham. The cemetery is of the VII.

Camington. Inhumation cemetery. So 50 NW. ST 251404. P. Som. AS., LIII (1907), 71; LXXI (1921), xviiiii.

ante 1907. A hill near Camington Park Camp was described as ‘a vast cemetery, though most of the graves had... been quarried away and little record of them kept. They had, however, shown undoubted signs of being battle burials and of massacre... The dark brown pottery found... appeared to

be of AS fabric. An iron knife and buckle were also discovered belonging to the same period.’


1934. During quarrying a human skeleton was found c. 5’ deep, head to the W. Near the feet were an AS iron knife, a piece of bone and a sherd of buff-coloured pottery of a fine paste ‘and with a rim at an angle to the vertical height’. The bones were disturbed, probably by the plough—2 had been turned up c. 6 months previously. The spot had been long reputed haunted.

Huish Episcopi. Inhumation burials. So 72 NE. ST 430277. Notes and Queries So and Do, XXIII (1940), 141–42.

1939. In excavating for a drive on the N side of the road from Langport to Somerton, a little W of Pick’s Hill, the remains of 3 human skeletons were found close together 2’ deep. 2 were dug out carelessly, but the easternmost, at least, was surrounded by ‘an enclosure consisting of Ias slabs placed on edge.’ One skeleton was of a child 8–9 years old. One of the adults was 5’ 7” tall, the other c. 5’, with a small bronze ring on a finger bone. The ring is not a very typical form, but is probably late Roman or of the pagan AS period (perhaps of the VI or VII).

Long Sutton. Double burial. So 73 NW. ST 454267. OS records, note partly on information from Taunton Museum.

ante 1950. Quarrymen told A. L. Parke of Lincoln College, Oxford, that inhumations with pottery, coins and ‘buckles’ had been found near the old limekilns at Upton. The burials were extended.


1931. 9 skeletons with an AS sword by the side of one of them were found in a quarry on a hill at Queen Camel.


1936. A number of human bones were found in a gravel pit close to Avon Farm. 6 graves, lying EW, were exposed in the face. With one was an iron knife of AS date, similar to some found at Camerton. The site was not available for excavation.
N.B. Bateman, who recorded the excavation of many of the early AS burials in Db and St, unfortunately published very few details of their locality. The National Grid references given are therefore often conjectural only.


**circa 1851** When planting the top of a hill to the E of the Upper House a grave was found, 2' wide and 7' long, cut into the solid sandstone rock of the hillside. It was c. 22' deep at the S (foot) end, 8' at the N (head), where there was a basin-like cavity, in which rested the remains of a bronze bowl, with 3 circular enameled escutcheons, a print in the form of an ornamented bronze ring, and an ornamental strip around the shoulder. Lying across the grave at waist level was an iron knife, and below it on the right side an iron sword 33' long and 2' wide. No remains of a skeleton were to be seen.

This was presumably an isolated grave, since the ground around was disturbed for 5 or 6 acres and no more found. There was no trace of a barrow, but the field had been ploughed 'at some previous time.'

The bowl was spun, with a simple incurred rim somewhat thickened at the lip. The enamels are ill-executed and have insets of millifiori glass. A VII date for the bowl is likely.


**circa 1850** A gravel pit near Barton Station, in a field consisting of a circular knoll of gravel sloping gently down to the old river course, was opened by the Midland Railway Company. A great number of urns containing human bones were said to have been found c. 3' deep. One contained 2 iron knives as well as burnt bones; and iron weapons were found by some others. Molyneux thought from descriptions of the urns (18 years later) that some were British, some Saxon or Roman; but likely enough all were AS.


1849 Carrington opened a barrow near Blore, in a field called Netles. On the SW side, near the edge, were the remains of an unburnt skeleton, previously disturbed, and not far from it the bottom of a wheel-made, kiln baked vessel of blue clay, and a small iron ring 1' diam.

**Borough Fields** see *Wetton* St.

**Borough Fields Farm.** Doubtful. St 47 SE. SK 2216. Transactions of the Barton Natural History and Archaeological Society, IV (1899), 81.

**ante 1899** 'Bones and things' were said to have been found at Borough Fields Farm to the S of Walton.


**circa 1868** In some sand beds 'close under the Leicester branch of the Midland Railway,' between Branstion and Burton, were discovered, c. 7' deep, a leaden weight with the letter S indented, some fragments of brown pottery, and animal bones; and some gravel pits near the same place, close to the Licchfield road, have recently yielded an iron spearhead 9' in length . . . bearing a striking resemblance to those of known Roman construction. As to the date of these later objects some doubt exists . . . but some of the pottery agree in appearance rather with the Saxon than the Roman form of manufacture.'


1849 Carrington excavated a barrow close to the village; in the NW part was the skeleton of an adult 'of slender proportions' lying extended on the back, with the head pillowed on a flat stone, which afterwards proved the cover of a small cist. By the side of the body was a short thick-backed iron knife, which had been inserted into a wooden shaft.


1845 Bateman excavated a barrow 35 yards diam. 4'5' high. He found prehistoric burials and a knife with a horn handle, which indicates that there was at least one secondary AS burial.

1850 When Carrington reopened the barrow he found a secondary burial, laid on its back with head to the W. Several 'instruments of flint' were with it, and a bronze armilla was found beneath the edge of a stone that lay upon the skeleton and in contact with the pelvis . . . It is made of a flat ribbon of bronze, half an inch broad, with overlapping ends . . . ornamented outside with a neatly engraved lozenge pattern, . . . 2½' diam.'

Mrs Fowler compares a bracelet from Saffron Walden Ex, but this is probably RB, since similar bracelets are found on all large Roman sites. There is therefore no reason to suppose that the Eastern barrow is not RB also.


1849 Carrington excavated a mutilated barrow on Cauldon Hills 'in a lower situation than those before examined there', originally c. 18 yards diam., 3' tall.

A grave 9' long by 4' wide by 4' deep into the rock was found disturbed; in it were the remains of a scaffold and fragments of 'a plain globular narrow-necked vessel of firmly-baked sandy ware, with a polished surface, produced mechanically.' Mrs Fowler states that there is a poor sketch in one of the MSS which shows these fragments restored into what looks like a Frankish bottle vase, paralleled from Faussett's VII Kentish cemeteries.


**circa 1879** In levelling a hedge bank at Forsbrook, ½ m. from Brthy Bridge station, a coin pendant was found, made of a gold casting from a coin of Valentinian II (375-92) surrounded by garnet settings. It is probably of VII, and from an inhumation burial.


1848 Carrington opened a barrow on Musden Hill. To the E of the centre was a skeleton with the head to the outside; near it was a lump of flint, and above it and around it were fragments of 2 globular narrow-necked urns, ornamented with a few applied projections on the shoulders, which had contained burnt bones. Similar urns were found at Sleaford Li and Lackford Ca, and a VI date is probable.


1849 Carrington opened the fourth of the group of barrows on Musden Hill. It was flat-topped, 25' across, 3' high, composed of earth. About half-way down, in the centre, were 2 skeletons, one of a young person. By the side of the head was a pebble and an annular brooch with an iron pin. Beneath the head was a pair to the brooch. The iron pin retained the impression of cloth. Under the body was much charcoal.

The annular brooches are round-sectioned and decorated with continuous transverse lines. They probably belong to the VII.


1848 Carrington opened a barrow 19 yards diam., 3' high, on Reardon Hill. At some distance from the skeletons, laid in graves 2-3' deep, was an iron spear 13' long, with part of the shaft of ash wood remaining, and a narrow
iron knife 8" long which had presumably been with a secondary burial.


1852 Carrington opened a barrow of large size near Stanshole, c. 300 yds. from Long- 

low, Wetton. In the earth and stones of the upper part of the barrow, from the top to half- 

way down, were found pieces of human skull and other bones (some calcined), fragments of 

2 or 3 urns, including one of a very hard black 

ware, and another of red pottery; 2 small pieces of 

bronze, warped by heat; an iron awl, 3" long, 

which has been fixed in a wooden handle .. . and a piece of very thick cup or bason of green 

glass, in an iron case, like the Saxon tumblers found at Cow Low.

Mrs Fowler states that this glass fragment does indeed closely resemble the Cow Low 

bowl; but other authorities (Batlett, of Sheffield Museum, quoting D. B. Harden) date it to 

the 17th century.

Some medieval looking pottery was also found in the barrow, and there were signs of considerable disturbance.


Transactions of the Burton Natural History and 


The site of the cemetery is on the crest of a 

ridge of hills 120' above the River Trent, with a wide view, 3 m. SSE of the church. The soil is 

a fine red marl of the new sandstone formation, and the cemetery 150' long by 96' wide.

ante 1881 Human bones, and pottery were found there from time to time.

1881 Workmen digging clay found 2 

earthenware urns, and an iron javelin head 6' long. 

Near by were c. 5 extended skeletons, one with 

an iron spearhead 11" long. The Burton Archaeological Society excavated and found 

31 inhumed skeletons, mostly lying supine, but a few contracted on the left side, the heads 

mostly W but varying as far as SE, and 5 cremation burials. 3 skeletons were buried one 

above the other, presumably in an RB rubbish pit, unfortunately without grave-goods. Other 

traces of an RB settlement were found in 1881.

About ¼ of the graves contained goods, 

which included a small equal-armed brooch and a 

pair of trifoil-headed small-long brooches with 

the head of another, girdle-hangers, buckles, 

knives, and weapons. The plate of an applied 

brooch was found in a cremation urn. There were besides 9 accessory vessels, one a nicely 

made AF urn, with a band of stamps between 

necklines, vertical handles arising long bosses, 

and a foot. Most graves contained flint flakes. 

1953 D. M. Wilson excavated on the site, 

but found only a few fragments of Anglo-Saxon 

pottery.

Brown dates the cemetery to the VI, and 

R. A. Smith notes a resemblance to Kempston 

Bd.


1845 Bateman observed linear traces to excavate Steep 

Lowe, 50 yds. diam., 15' high, constructed of 

loose stones. Villagers had found near the top of 

the mound a secondary burial with an iron 

spearhead and a lancehead (both with split 

sockets) and a knife, all near the head, and 3 

Roman third brass coins. Close by Bateman 

found a small playing piece of amber, with 2 

perforations at the back.

In Sheffield Museum from this site are 2 

spearheads, an arrowhead and a knife.


ante 1869 Numerous urns, containing ashes 

and bones, were discovered 3' deep in gravel 

workings near the Beach. They were said to be 

made of soft reddish clay, the mouth of each 

closed with a small slab of sandstone.

During excavations for the original branch of 

the N Staffordshire Railway through the rising 

ground to the S of the village several cisterns 

of reddish clay, containing bones and ashes, 

were said to have been found and broken by 

the workmen.

At the same time a human skeleton was dis- 

covered near the village, lying at full length 

with feet to the S.

Tamworth. Inhumation cemetery. St 9 SW. SE. SK 2104. J. Aubrey, & Letters (1813), I.

1677 Dugdale, writing to A. Wood, gave an 

account of some antiquities discovered at 

Tamworth. Unfortunately the editor omits the 

account, except for a 'trench wherein the 

bodies of a multitude of men had been buried, 

a spearhead of iron, &c.'

Thorn's Cave see Wetton, Thorn's Cave St.


LXXIV (1954), 145-46. A. Ozanne, 'The Peak 

Dwellers' (forthcoming).

1845 A small mound, covering a human 

skeleton with an iron spearhead and knife, was 

destroyed in Borough Fields.

1852 Carrington, digging in the supposed 

RB village site, found a female skeleton, 

middle-aged, head to S, lying on the right side, 

the knees bent slightly back. The sides of the 

grave were formed of flat stones, the upper 

most very large, reaching almost to the surface. 

A flat stone was set up edgeways at the head, 

and close to it was a broken upper millstone. 

Some large blocks of stone appear to have been 

above the skeleton, which was embedded in 

compact dark-coloured earth, mixed with 

charcoal and burnt bones. With it were 3 small 

beads 2 lilac-coloured, one of blue glass, and a 

bronze annular brooch, 1' diam., with a 

little decorative grooving. An iron awl, several 

nails, pieces of stag's horn and other animal 

bones were found about the skeleton, and 

another iron awl under one of the stones of 

the wall.

The surrounding ground had been cut down 

c. 6' to the rock. Carrington dug around, but 

found only ashes, boar's tusks and other bones, 

a stag's skull, a sharpening stone 2'3" square, 

and 2 small brass coins, one of the Constantine 

family, the other illegible.

In the autumn, it was observed that the 

ground to the side of the 1845 burial was 

slightly raised. Carrington excavated here, and 

found 'stones, bones of animals, broken 

vessels, etc. . . . plentifully intermixed with 

the soil to the extent of c. 12 yards in length 

and 8 in breadth.' A little from the centre the 

ground was disturbed to 2' deep; here were large stones and the remains of a large stag's horns. On the undisturbed level was a slender bronze 

'skewer' 1'2" long. Near the depression was a 

disturbed human skeleton, c. 1' deep beneath 

the turf, with an iron knife 6' long, and a 

smaller implement, perhaps a javelin point, 

near the head.

The size and ornamentation of the annular 

brooch might indicate a VII date for the 

female interment; the other burials may be 

AS or RB.

Wetton, Thorn's Cave Barrow. Doubtful. St 

SK 05 SE. SK 098549. DAJ, LXXIV (1954), 145. Bateman (1861), pp. 171-73. A. Ozanne, 

'The Peak Dwellers' (forthcoming). Museum: 

Sheffield.

1850 Carrington opened a barrow c. 9 

yds. across, near Thorn's Cave. It was made of 

dark red earth, mixed with chert and, near the 

surface, charcoal, bits of burnt and unburnt bone 

and pieces of stag's horn. Near the centre, c. 

1' deep was a globular vessel of carved 

sandstone, c. 4' high, with 4 grooves around 

the outside. About 1' from it was an inverted 

bronze vessel, 4' high, 6' diam., with an iron 

handle, and the body was said to have been 

first cast, and then hammered, and to have traces of 

horizontal lines. Above it were traces of decayed 

wood. The stone vessel was BA; the bronze one 

could be RB or Copice; nothing was found on the site to prove it AS.


Burton-on-Trent.

1899 2 AS urns were discovered in a sand- 

pit near the Midland Railway junction, on the 

E of the railway. One was a small plain vessel. 

No bones or other objects were found with 

these urns, but in the subsoil near by were 2 

iron shield-bosses, an iron knife, one most 

characteristic Bronze Fibulae and a hollow 

conical piece of Iron,' probably a ferrule. The 

urns were found 'in holes or trenches, c. 3'-4' 

deep, and c. 8' apart (probably inhumation 

graves). In the sand-pit was also found a huge 

ditch, several yards long and 8' deep. 

Preserved from this site in Burton Museum. 

Were 6 shield-bosses, spearheads of varying 

types, the tang of a knife, an oval iron buckle, 

the upper part of a trifoil-headed small-long 

brooch, the staves of a small bronze-mounted 

bucket and 4 plain accessory vessels, 3' to 

5'-8' tall.

Wreden Hill see Readon Hill St.
Akenham Hall. Inhumation burial. St 66 SE. 
ante 1911 There was a fine pair of cruciform 
brooches in the Ipswich Museum, evidently 
from a burial at Akenham Hall.

Badley (Needham Market). Inhumation burial. 
St 56 SE. Area TM 079561. Arch, LVI (1898), 
48. Reliquary, VI (1900), 242-50. VCH, p. 333. 
ante 1865 A bronze bowl (with spiral 
decoration in champevé enamel, silver gilt 
around the rim, an enamelled circular bronze 
disc on the bottom, a lid 3½ diam., and 
zoomorphic handles with rings for suspension), 
a shallow bowl (with pairs of rings at each side 
for handles, a beaded rim and a foot with 
pierced ornament) and a broken pot 
containing numerous Roman coins dating from 
Antoninus Pius were found 3½ deep when 
the railway was being made at ‘Gate Ford’ (un-
known) in Badley parish.

Shortly after these vessels were drawn in 
1865 they fell to pieces. (N.B. A reference 
for Roger has been given in Rolleto 
Allen to an exhibition of 
Warling’s drawings, reported in JBAI, XXXVI 
(1880), 107. This reference is faulty, and the 
report so far undiscovered.)

Badwell Ash. Mixed cemetery. St 35 SW, TM 
002693. Ant J, III (1923), 375. P SF IA, 
XVIII (1924), 164; XXV (1951), 206. Museum: 
Ipswich.

1922-23. During the excavation of a gravel 
pit ¾ m. NE of the church at Badwell Ash, 
30-40 skeletons were found 3½ deep, 
mostly in the line of a former trench. With them 
were iron weapons; the Ipswich Museum 
secured 6 shield-bosses, 8 spearheads, 2 javelin 
heads, 3 small knives and a ferrule. 2 of 
the spearheads are bent up at an angle, and one 
is broken. Some cinerary urns were also 
discovered.

Bardwell. Inhumation burials. St 34 NE. ? 
TL 943728. JBAI, II (1847), 345. VCH, p. 336. 
OS records.

1846 Drawings of some AS weapons, 
including a shield-boss, found at Bardwell, 
were exhibited from Warren’s Collection.

The site is possibly at TL 943728 where the 
OS records Roman pottery was found, since the 
Object Name Book of the OS connects Warren’s 
name with it.

Barnham Heath. Inhumation burial, secondary 
in barrow. St 22 NE, TL 887797. PPS, II 

1914 On the W side of a barrow of BA date, 
a few miles from Thetford, were discovered 
the remains of a sword, a knife 6¾ long, a spearhead 
7¾ long, and the boss of a shield 4½ deep, 6½ 
diam., and 2 pieces of the handle. These were 
widely scattered but probably belonged to 
a burial of the pagan AS period.

Barrow Bottom. Mixed burials, secondary 
in barrow. St 43 NE, TL 773661. GM, LIV 
(1784), 85. P SF IA, II (1855), 207. VCH, p. 343.

1771 When the turnpike from Bury to 
Newmarket was being made, part of the 
base of a barrow, standing between the fifth 
and sixth milestones, on the boundary between 
Risby and Barrow, was cut away. About 
a bushel of bones was found. 2 or 3 years later 
the writer (A Barrowist) saw a skull which fell 
out.

1784 Labourers moving earth which had 
fallen onto the road found an urn, which they 
immensely destroyed, but found to contain 
only mould and bits of bone. They said it 
stood mouth upwards 6½ from the centre of 
the barrow, with no cover, and that it was 1½ 
broad at the widest point and 10½” at the 
mouth. Although the base (4½ in diam.) and 
part of the rim remained, the Barrowist 
could not be certain of the measurement. A skull 
of the common kind” was brought away. Later 
a complete skeleton was found, head to the W, 
the legs doubled up beneath the body; the 
thigh bone was 17½ long. Wood ashes and the 
remains of wood—probably a post—were 
found near by.

1813 2 iron spearheads were found in a 
barrow at Barrow Bottom.

Botesdale. Cremation burials. St 24 SE, TM 
0475. OS records, note by R. R. Clarke.

‘AS urns found in Early 18th century at 
the “Backhills” from James West’s MS Notebook 
18. Penes Mrs I. Alston-Roberts-West, Alcot 
Park, Warwickshire. Probably an urn cemetery.’

Braiseworth. Doubtful. St 36 NE. TM 138714. 
OS records, note on 6½ map.

1810 ‘Human remains and urns were 
found. No other details are available.’

Brantomford. Cremation burial. St 74 NW, TM 
circa 1897 There was a cinerary urn from 
Bramptonford, of unusual form with chevron 
pattern filled with stamps, in the Ipswich Museum.

Brightwell-Martlesham. Cremation burials, 
primary in barrow. St 76 SE, TM 241444. 
Journal of the Ipswich and District Field 
Club, VI (1921), 1-14. J. R. Moyer, 
The Antiquity of Man in East Anglia (1927), pp. 
154-55. P SF IA, XXIV (1947), 36-52, 214 n. 4. Museum: 
Ipswich.

1921 3 small mounds were excavated on 
the borders of Brightwell and Martlesham 
parishes; 2 were BA; the other 17¾, 
3¾ high, covered a bronze vessel with 2 triangular 
lugs, 3½ wide at the mouth and 5½ high, 
which contained the cremated remains of 
humans and animals. It was resting on the 
surface of the ground underlying the tumulus, 
and had been in a linen cloth, which was tied 
around the neck with a sort of string. The bones 
were of (a) an adult human skeleton; 
(b) a smaller adult, probably a woman; 
(c) fragments of the skull of a new-born child 
and (d) fragments of a foetal skull—i.e. at least 4 
persons were represented. There were also 
vertebrae from a small ox, and lumbar verte-
brae and the lower end of the femur of a dog, 
all cremated.

Associated finds were a bone comb with iron 
ribs, fragmentary remains of another similar, 
a bone disc with incised ornament, different on 
the 2 sides, the remains of a large ivory ring, 
the remains of 2 glass beads, both showing 
signs of burning, and a clay object which had 
been made in a mould, ornamented with a tree-
like figure (? a playing piece). Also with the 
bowl were some pot fragments, perhaps IA, 
2 small flint scrapers and some small pieces 
of burnt wood, perhaps willow.

1942 A mound on Martlesham Heath was 
excavated. There was no central deposit, and it 
had probably been removed by grave-diggers; 
but a pan of dark-coloured sand in the centre of 
the barrow, 14” by 8” with a definite though 
rough raised edge recalled the clay pans of 
the Sutton Hoo burial and could have been 
used for libations. There were, however, BA sherds 
and worked flints in the make-up of the 
barrow, so that its date is not certain. There were also 
2 deposits of cremated bones, without associ-
ated objects.

Bungay. Inhumation burials. St 8 SE, TM 
347891. Ackerman (1855), p. 51; VCH, p. 333. 
P SF IA, XXIX (1951), 304-306. Museum: 
British Museum (glass vessel).

ante 1855 A perfect cup of pale green glass, 
with a pattern of loops and circles in glass 
threads, was found at Bungay, presumably in 
a barrow.

1938 Workmen employed in digging 
trenches for new houses in the Bungay district 
Housing Estate (now 55 and 57 Joyce Road) 
found an iron spearhead in a rectangular 
depression 1’ 3” deep, its axis almost due EW. 
1’ 6” to the E was a bronze buckle. The soil 
is very acid and no bones were found.

A second grave was discovered 36’ to 
the NE, parallel with the first. It was 6” long, 
2’ 1½ wide and 3’ deep. The filling was 
grey clay, silt, 4” from its eastern end and in the centre 
of the grave was an ‘elastic’ wire ring and a small 
green glass bead.

The houses are at the extreme S of the 
housing estate, and as no more burials were 
discovered the cemetery to which they belong 
may stretch southwards over the brow of the 
hill. The date of the burials would seem to 
be IV or VI.

See also Stow Park St.

Burgh Castle. Cremation cemetery. St 2 NW. 

1756 A space 3½ yds. square was opened in 
the field adjoining the E wall of the Roman fort 
of Garinarum, and c. 2’ below the surface 
a great many fragments of urns were discovered. 
These and oyster shells, bones of cattle and 
burnt coals... One of the Urns, when the 
pieces were united, contained more than a peck 
and a half of corn, and had a large thick stone 
Opeculum on the top of it; within, was a 
considerable number of bones and ashes, 
several fine pieces of Constantine and the head 
of a Roman spear.”
The spearhead is illustrated and appears to have a split socket; 2 urns are crudely drawn but unmistakably AS; both have horizontal and diagonal incised lines, and one is ornamented also with cross-in-circle stamps. A brooch illustrated is Roman.


ante 1843 At least 20 skeletons were found in a field in the Tollgate Lane. They lay c. 1 deep and appeared to have been deposited with great care, as they were lying at full length and in a row. With them was a small urn of coarse ware and rude workmanship, quite empty.

1955 Workmen trenching for a gas main in Northumberland Avenue, Mildenhall Road Estate, found 2 skeletons lying together in a shallow grave. Associated finds were a bronze spoon, a bodkin, a wire bracelet, ear scoop, a blue bead and a silver ring.

ante 1958 3 male skeletons were broken up by an automatic trenching machine; the skull of one was rescued, and is of a male of 30–40 years, who had been lying extended, head W, in a grave cut 3 deep into the chalk. Associated were an iron spearhead with a split socket, one large conical iron shield-boss and 2 bronze buckles, one with fine silver collars under the bronze studs. 4 other skeletons were uncovered: c. 100 yds. away in graves 2 deep into the chalk. They were laid at right angles to one another, nearly touching in 2 cases, and appeared to be hurried burials. There were no associated objects.

The Ashmolean Museum has a VI cruciform brooch and a large square-head, and the Cambridge Museum 3 spearheads from Bury.


ante 1958 3 male skeletons were broken up by building trenches. They were lying at full length in graves c. 2 deep in gravel; the graves had no special orientation and were casually buried interments. With them were a split-socketed spearhead, a shield-boss and an iron knife.

Cavenham see Lackford Sf.

Chillesford. ? SF 68 NE, TM 374528. P Sf IA, XXVII (1955), 42.

1953 ‘A round barrow, probably of Saxon date, additional to and adjoining the one marked on the OS map, was observed.


1958 During the cutting of a water-main on Baylham House Farm a number of pits were found with RB material. In one investigated by N. Smedley an AS wide-mouthed bowl, with incised necklines and loops was found. Fragments of a skull were said to be resting on it.

Little Cornard. ? SF 79 NE, TL 888368. OS records, Object Name Book Suffolk, revision of 1924.

1868 ‘Sword, spear and buckles found. … Other small and supposed ancient ornaments have been found at various times near this spot. 1950 ‘The find spot is now the site of an old disused quarry or gravel pit, which was examined for further finds but without result. No precise information as to the culture or period, etc. of these finds could be ascertained during field investigation.’


ante 1911 A cinerary urn, peculiar in having a moulding below the lip as well as round and oval protruberances on the shoulder, was found.


ante 1901 Ideaway illustrates a small-long brooch found with a ‘line and much larger one’ in a grave at Eriswell. It was then in his possession.

1915 An AS burial was found in Hardpiece Field, Foxhole Heath. The finds were in Eveden Estate Office.

1931 The Cambridge Museum has a glass bead with white spirals, 2 bronze finger-rings, a disc brooch, the foot of a cruciform brooch and another blue glass bead, labelled from Eriswell; but Letheridge believes that these may be from the Holywell Row Sf cemetery, where graves had been disturbed before his excavations.

Eriswell see also Lakenheath Sf.


1894 2 silver finger-rings, found on a skeleton at Exning, are now in the Cambridge Museum.

1900 The OS map marks ‘Human remains, flint implements, iron dagger and beads found.’

ante 1909 A bronze cruciform brooch from Exning was in the Norwich Museum.

ante 1911 Other finds, evidently from a VI burial ground, were also in the Cambridge Museum, and include 2 pairs of horned brooches, a long brooch with rings and 3 knobs, very like one from St John’s Ca, a gilt cruciform brooch with a large expanding foot and another with circular projections from the upper angle of the head.

ante 1923 Fox illustrates 2 spearheads, a bronze ferrule and a cruciform brooch from Exning.

T. C. Letheridge sites this cemetery in the gravel pit on the S side of the road called Windmill Hill, 600 yds. NE of Exning Church.


1818 During gravel digging urns were found in an enclosure belonging to the Marquis Cornwalls, c. 1 m. from the town of Eye and on the S of a stream dividing the parish from Brooke. An observer who wrote of the finds to the GM saw 14 urns dug up, containing burnt bones, a few fragments of iron shears, 2 ivory playing pieces, a pair of bronze tweezers and a fragment of gold c. 2 long.

120 square yards appeared to have been ransacked, and c. 150 urns found in 4 days. The urns were placed very close together, but no note was taken of any special order. They were 4" to 2' below the surface.

The urns vary greatly in size—from 5" to 9" in height—and in shape. They are ornamented with lines, circles, angles and dots, and all were nearly filled with calcined bones and topped up with very fine sand. Some are of very early form.


1951 ‘An extended skeleton on which lay an iron knife was found below the floor of one of the rectangular huts (of an RB village) and was probably of AS age.’


1849 Creed exhibited a cinerary urn which was found with many others all of which were destroyed, ‘corrodes of brass’ and an iron spearhead in cutting the Eastern Union railway.


ante 1888 ‘Vestiges of another ancient burial place were discovered many years ago, in the parish of Fornham St Genevieve in one of the fields bordering the cross-road which leads from the Culford and Bury road to Hengrave Watermill.’ The Duke of Norfolk was said to have taken the objects.

In the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries is a necklace of amber beads, many of them large and globular, c. 1" diam. They were given by Sir T. Gage.

‘In Moyse’s Hall at Bury St Edmunds are AS grave-goods said to have been found 1888–89 with many skeletons at Fornham St Martin.’ All these objects probably came from the same cemetery.

Freckenham, Inhumation burial. SF 31 NE, TL 666717. VCH, p. 344. Museum: Cambridge University.

ante 1911 There is a pair of square manuscripts, of a type usually confined to and frequent in K and the IOV, in the
Ickleham see Mitchell’s Hill Stf.


1905 The slope on one side of Hadleigh Road was being removed to fill up the depression on the other to make building sites. A few skeletons were found, but thought to be modern and reburied.

1906-7 Miss Layard visited the site and saw a partly disturbed skeleton, without grave goods, but in her opinion anciently buried. Later, another was found near by with a grave-egg and afterwards a systematic examination was made of as many graves as possible by Miss Layard, to the number of c. 162. Of these, 12 were cremation burials, sometimes scattered among the inhumations, but on the W. of the field, urns only were found. 14 inhumation graves contained no grave-goods, 14 more only a knife, but as a whole the cemetery was quite rich and contained many objects regarded by the excavators as ‘K彭ish’. The men were usually buried with spear, shield and knife; sometimes with iron spear-heads, light bronze tweezers, and iron rings; one was on a large ornate buckle of Frankish type; but no sword at all. The women had brooches (including 8 square-headed, 2 with keystone garnets, and ring brooches), necklaces, bracelets, rings, silver pendants, iron hooks, keys and a spindle-whorl, combs, etc. 6 accessory vessels were also found.

The bodies were usually laid out with heads to the SW. The cemetery is described in P Sf IA, XIII and Arch, L X.

Also in Ipswich Museum from this site is a small bronze bowl with triangular escutcheons and a print with blue and white millifiori.


1855 Warren exhibited a gold ring, twisted at the ends (1849), and a bronze wire ring twisted into a facet, of late Saxon date, found with Roman coins and a Roman enamelled brooch in the churchyard in 1852, both from Iworth.

1856 Labourers accidentally dug up, in what appeared to be a grave, iron objects associated with wood and conjectured to come from a coffin (the disclosures make it seem more likely that the object was a bed such as Lethbridge found at Burwell Ca), and a gold cross set with garnets, and the upper plate of a gold jewelled brooch ornamented with filigree work and 5 bosses and generally resembling that found at Sutton near Woodbridge.

1859 A fibula of the Saxon period, found in Iworth, the lower end finished to represent the head of a pig was illustrated. The brooch appears to be a very early cruciform.

1868 A pair of cruciform brooches, ornamented with 2 circles of red enamel, were found on the shoulders of a skeleton in a meadow near Cross House.

1871 A bronze plate brooch, divided into quarters and each filled with the interwoven of a fantastic horse-like animal—Anglian work of the VIII or IX—was found in the same meadow. A little later a sword, broken in 3 places, a iron spear-head, a spear-head, a knife and 3 shield-bosses, 2 with handles, were found, also in the same field.

The Ashmolean Museum has a very early cruciform brooch, 2 annular brooches, the lower part of a girdle-hanger, a wrist-clasp, a belt plate and a (?) belt end with a geometric pattern with a late air, and part of the end of a bronze brace with a (?) modelled snake’s head.


1940-45 An AS grave with iron sword, shield-boss, spear and bronze bowl was found while digging for gravel at Iworth Thorpe, c. 1m. N. of Iworth Street.


1852 C. R. Smith illustrates an urn from Kesgrave, then in the Ipswich Museum. The shoulder is decorated by a row of pendant triangles, the neck with upstanding triangles, and above them a row of stamps. The 3 rows are separated by groups of horizontal incised lines.


1874 Bury Museum purchased urns from Lackford.

1914 A shepherd boy dug an urn out of the sandy soil on the open land bordering Lackford and Cavenham. Search was made and 6 more urns were discovered, and many fragments representing perhaps 7 or 8 more. One has an interlacing pattern—according to Fox unique in the district—and others are ornamented with stamps and long bosses; 2 are plain. One urn contained a fragment of bronze sheeting and a (?) piece of wood, another a pair of bronze tweezers.

ante 1914-2 2 Roman iron crowns and a helmet, perhaps worn by pagan priests—were found on the same site as was later established as that of the AS cemetery.

1914-15 More cinerary urns were discovered by Warreners and found their way to various museums.

1945 Breckland opposite Cavenham Mill was cultivated and it was observed that an urn field was being disturbed, but nothing could be done.

1947 When deep ploughing was threatened, Lethbridge excavated c. 500 cremations, probably less than half of the cemetery. (At least 30 had been previously ploughed out.) At several damaged or destroyed by warreners. There was no sign of inhumation on the site.

Many of the burials were covered by a layer or heap of flat pebbles or Roman tiles, perhaps intended as visible memorials—if so, then 1 of blown sand had accumulated on top afterwards. The subsoil is a gravel terrace, and only a few early urns were placed in holes which penetrated into it.

Frequently pots were found put in one above the other or side by side. Lethbridge thought that most of these had been buried together. Once 3 pots were put together—one empty, one
with a few bones and one completely filled; and on one occasion at least the pots seemed to have been buried in a bag. Only in a few cases was it possible to observe from layers of soil between the pots that one postdated another. A large proportion had been deliberately holed before burial.

Even young children were frequently cremated; and the bones of dogs, sheep and red deer were found among those of humans. Brooches, beads and weapons were found burnt; combs, shears and tweezers unburned, and these, with the pottery, showed that the cemetery was in use during the whole of the pagan period, and that cremation was as popular at the end as at the beginning. The pottery showed AF, Saxon and RB types and the grave-goods were equally varied. Early and late burials were quite haphazardly placed on the field.

2 small rectangular RB buildings, perhaps riled burial vaults, were found within the cemetery.

Lakenheath. Inhumation cemetery. SF 12 SW, SE. TL 732809. VCH, p. 344. Brown (1915), III, pp. iv, 7, 79, 795. Fox (1923), pp. 269, 272-274, 284. CBA Group VII Regional Report (1956), Med Arch, II (1958), 189; IV (1960), 187, P. Ca AS, I, 281 (1959), 56-57. A. R. Edwardson, letter (1960), to A. L. Savill. Museums: Cambridge University; Bury St Edmunds; Lowestoft, E. M. Brown. ante 1911 Numerous specimens from Lakenheath in the Cambridge Museum were considered by R. A. Smith as sufficient evidence for AS burials, although precise record is wanting. There were glass and amber beads and some bronze cylinders probably worn as a necklace, a spearhead 12" long of unusual form with an unsplit socket, a vase of Frankish character with rows of stamps around the shoulder, and several brooches, including a large and elaborate cruciform brooch, enamelled, a pair of horned brooches, 2 square-heads, a triangular bronze-plint mount and a small buckle. ante 1915 Brown illustrates an early heart-shaped escutcheon.

1956 A decayed AS skeleton was discovered on Lakenheath aerodrome. It was of an elderly man, lying EW, 3" deep in sand, with an iron knapsack, bronze pin, 2 annular brooches, and a pair of bronze tweezers on a ring, probably buried in the late VI or VII.

1959 Workmen digging trenches for a hospital near the place where the burial was discovered in 1957, found bones at frequent intervals. It was decided that at least part of the site should be explored. The ground to the W was excavated by American volunteers under Captain W. E. Le Baud and G. Bushnell. In a month's work 33 graves were found, all orientated EW, the heads only varying 12 degrees from magnetic W. The skeletons of those buried on chalk were quite well preserved, but those lying on patches of acid sand were either partially or entirely decomposed.

In 15 graves there were ornaments consisting of 5 cruciform, 4 small-long, 1 annular and 2 Kentish-type square-headed brooches, 6 sets of wrist-clasps, 5 girdle-hangers, 2 silver rings, 2 bronze hair-fasteners, 8 strings of beads and a potter's broom. Many of the wrist-clasps and brooches contained textile, 3 gravestones, including a sword, 2 shield-bosses, 3 spears and 4 iron discs c. 3" diam. The remaining 15 unburnished graves were generally larger and more carefully dug than the other graves, and the skeletons appeared to have been more neatly organized.

Langham. Inhumation burials. SF 34 SE. TL 978692. OS records, note by B. Brown. ante 1958 'Inhumations, believed to be AS, from Langham Hall Gardens'.

Martlesham see Brightwell SF.


1833 A buckle plate of triangular form, with a central panel of interlaced bands and a border of garnets arranged in a zigzag pattern, was found.

ante 1864 'Some time since, in digging to construct a vault in Melton Churchyard, a jet amulet was found, evidently of early date.'


1906 Fox records the finding of an isolated burial in a field W of Mildenhall Town, with a brooch of the late VI.

ante 1923 Also from Mildenhall are recorded variously a very early swastika-shaped brooch with ornithomorphic terminals and red enamel, a very primitive cruciform with a rudimentary horse's head terminal, resembling a Schleswig type, square-headed brooches, a set of enamelled mounts from a bowl and some small round-bottomed bowls c. 3" high.

ante 1958 The Ashmolean has a trefoil-headed small-long brooch, a girdle-hanger and other bronze fragments from Mildenhall.

Any or all of these, however, may be from the Holywell site (or Warren Hill?) except the 1906 find.

See also Holywell Row SF and Warren Hill SF.


ante 1888 Prigg records the finding at Mitchell's Hill of a large cruciform brooch, small accessory vessels found with children, and the burial of a horse a little to the N and apart from the cemetery.

1901 Prigg illustrates a BA beaker found in a barrow known as Mitchell's Hill, Icklingham. It is probably therefore that the AS burials were secondary.

ante 1911 VCH records in Sir John Evans collection from Mitchell's Hill a square-headed brooch set with garnets, 2 large and elaborate cruciform brooches, 2 clasps with woolen fabric attached, a buckle perhaps of Frankish manufacture, a Roman spool, girdle-hangers, tweezers, and among other brooches, a pair of local 'horned' brooches and a circular brooch with an embossed plate applied to the front. There is also a wheel-made urn of burnished ware from the site.

The BMNH has a tраппннн павмпн, presented by Sir John Evans.

Needham Market see Bailey SF.


1758 In a barrow on Blood Moor Hill, near Pakefield and Lowestoft, an oxen with an intaglio representing Castor and Pollux, a gold coin of the Emperor Justinian in a rim and with a gold loop, and a necklace of rough garnets were found near the neck of a skeleton. Douglas illustrates a crystal engraved with a cross, found at the same time with coins of the Lower Empire, but he does not make it clear if they were found in the same barrow or another.


1960 '4 burials were found with some sherds of AS pottery during quarrying.'


ante 1853 A small gourd-shaped urn, 4½" high, was in Norwich Museum.

ante 1859 A large AS urn from Redgrave was in Lowestoft Museum. It was of coarse workmanship, and between the usual horizontal lines on the shoulder were 5 large equidistant bosses, between each of which were 3 swastikas in a horizontal row, c. 1½" in diam. and remarkably larger than the other stamps used.

1927 The Ashmolean Museum has an urn with small car-ridge lugs from Honeyport Hill near Redgrave.

Rendlesham. Cremation cemetery. SF 68 NW. TM 331535. Ps SF IA, XXV (1948), 247-51. 1837 'In a piece of glebe land of the parish, known by the name of How or How Hill piece, containing c. 2 acres, there have for several years past been dug up numerous pieces of Roman urns, but all so brittle that none were ever taken up whole, or even nearly so, till the present year when one with nothing left broke off, but the rim of the mouth, was procured with great care, which I saw at the parsonage house in possession of the rector, Lord Thomas Hay; it is of coarse brown earth, of good shape and more than half filled with fragments of bones and ashes; the height of it, with the rim broken off, is near 8" and the breadth in the middle c. 6".'

This record by Davy is published and illustrated by Bruce-Mitford. The sketch shows a globular AS urn, with a pattern of diagonal lines and stamps, dated to VI or VII.
1948 Trial holes failed to produce any signs of pottery, and perhaps surface workings have swept away all trace.

Rickinghall Inferior. Inhumation burials. Sf 24 SW. TM 0275. OS records, note by B. Brown. 1934 "Inhumations—one certainly Saxon—found between Walnut Tree Farm and Calke Wood."


ante 1869. Greenwell partly excavated the 2 barrows on Risby Heath; in the west one he found an urn, presumably containing a secondary cremation of AS date. It is now in Bury St Edmunds Museum and is ornamented with 8 stamps, arranged both horizontally and vertically.

1959. Edwardson excavated the untouched part of both barrows. The only corroborative evidence found relating to the AS secondary burial was a blue glass bead of V date, contemporary with the urn.


5 large barrows stood close together near Snape, on either side of the road to Aldborough. ante 1840. All were opened ‘by some persons supposed to have come from London’, according to report, and ‘a wagon-load of vases and other things was removed’. This may have taken place when the road was made.

1862-63. Excavations were made into the mounds on the N side of the road by Septimus Davidson, the owner of the land, Francis Francis and N. F. Hele. The various accounts of the excavations are carefully collated and reviewed by Bruce-Mitford in P Sf IA, XXXV.

They began by digging a large square cavity into the central mound, 60-70’ diam., to a depth of 10’, reaching undisturbed natural subsoil without finding any AS remains. Afterwards, they began to trench outwards, and also dug into the easternmost barrow, the smallest of the group. Here they found traces of large fires just below the surface, i.e. ‘layers of charred matter, soft and unctuous to the touch, whilst in some places the soil was black and caked, as if by the effect of some substance which had produced this caking...’ These hard, core-like places, burned almost to the consistence of brick, occasionally indicated the neighbourhood of an urn.

Next, presumably in flat ground but near the westernmost mound, an urn was found 4’ deep, embedded in a ball of black greasy earth and filled with burnt bones (perhaps the one recorded as being ornamented with incised lines, forming rectangular and triangular components, and stamps). Afterwards, another urn ‘more highly ornamented with a series of lines and crosses’ was found, near by was a large BA urn, upside down and containing burnt bones, presumably undisturbed.

Large quantities of flint flakes were found, and, near the BA urn, 2 iron spearsheads. As they proceeded to dig deeper into the westernmost mound, the remains of a boat, c. 48’ long, 10’ wide and 4’ deep was found. Within the breadth of the boat, but near one end, were found some reddish hairy remains, apparently part of a cloak made with tufts, such as was found at Sutton Hoo and Brodnemouth Ex; a large finger-ring of gold with filigree work, set with a Roman intaglio, and dated by Bruce-Mitford after 625, fragments of an amber-coloured clawbreaker, perhaps dating to the later part of VI, and, now lost, a small fragment of thick blue glass perhaps representing a squat bowl of the Brodnemouth type, and some fragments described as Jasper.

Afterwards, they dug over the ground and discovered c. 40 urns, only a little below the surface, in the flat ground between the 2 larger tumuli. One of these pots, ornamented with horizontal and vertical lines, is illustrated by Hele. With the urns there were 2 small pieces of bone armed with a serrated margin [almost certainly parts of a comb], portions of a convex plate of copper, apparently part of a helmet, over the parietal surface, an oblong copper ring, the remains of a buckle, and a small bone blade. Bruce-Mitford considers that the boat-mound was made in an already existing flat urn.

1953. Bruce-Mitford states that one mound S of the road was intact, the other just visible 50 yards to the W. There were no recognisable remains of the barrows to the N which were excavated 1862-63.

Stanton. Inhumation burial. Sf 23 SE. TL 955742. OS records, note by B. Brown. ante 1958. ‘Saxon burial found at the Stanton Chair villa.’


1849. During stone digging at Stow Heath, skeletons and numerous urns—hand-made and of dark earth—were found with spearheads, shield-bosses and other objects, some of which were illustrated in Coll Ant from the collections of Gault and Banks. They included 3 bronze girdle-hangers, an ornamented fragment of bronze, 4 perforated Roman coins, beads of glass, clay and amber, with a few of polished white pebbles and one of jet, 5 cruciform bronze brooches of varying size, a small bronze ring, 4 flat ring brooches, all slightly ornamented, 3 other long brooches (not illustrated), 2 pairs of bronze clasps, a bucket ornament, a sub-Roman brooch, a clay cup 3’ tall and 4’ diam. (7AS) and squat type.

1852. Benyon, the owner of the heath, presented further finds to the SF Institute. The site is now recorded as being on heath land with gravel or sand subsoil, c. 2 acres having being turned over. About 100 skeletons were found by the workmen lying just within the grave, with head to the SW, except in one spot, c. 13 EW, c. 19 NS where skeletons were found lying in all directions, and only a knife with them. Elsewhere grave-goods were frequent.

There are 5 urns, but only one, found in a round hole at the head of an inhumation grave and said to resemble Roman urns, was known to have contained burnt bones. 2, one ornamented with projecting bosses and the other with ‘angular indentations’ (that of 1849) being drinking cups. There were 3 shield-bosses, a sword, spearheads, an arrowhead, knives (some very small), 2 buckles, a pair of tweezers and a hairpin, fragments of girdle-hangers including one chainelet of the later type, a large number of beads, 8 single and 3 pairs of long brooches, 2 long and 2 pairs of circular brooches, 2 iron and 3 bronze buckles, clasps and rings.

One burial of a young person was in a stone coffin without a lid, accompanied by half a small bronze clasp and a few pieces of iron. On the left side of the coffin a shield-boss and spearhead were found, but these probably belonged to a contiguous burial.


circa 1835. A circular gold bangle ornamented with filigree work and cells for the setting of stones—some of the distinctive Sutton Hoo mushroom shape—was ploughed up at Sutton near Woodbridge. When first found, it was thought to have been studded with coloured stones, the centre red, 4 large bosses blue and the smaller cells between ‘green and various colours’; but the finder regarded the gold case only as valuable and removed the ornaments before selling.


There is a close-set group of 11 barrows called the Sutton Mounts overlooking the head of the Deben Estuary, and on the western edge of the heath stretching between Woodbridge and the sea. No. 11 was 50’ diam., 3’ high; 4, 6, 8 and 9 were c. 65’ diam., 3’-4’ high; 3, 5, 7 and 10 c. 85’ diam., 5’-7’ high (most of these had been removed); No. 2 was 100’ diam., 5’ high; No. 11 c. 75’ diam. and 10’ high, circular as left, but with most of the western end ploughed away so that it must have been originally c. 100’ long. Nos. 7 and 10 appeared...
to have been trenched, and 2 and 4 had been disturbed. Elizabethans had dug into No. 1, leaving behind a jug, but had not touched the main burial. (N.B. The depressions in the mounds might be due to decay of planking laid over buried boats, as at Valsgärde, Sweden.)

1939 Mrs. Pretty, the owner, opened 3 of the barrows. No. 2 contained a boat 18" long with a squared stern bound with iron. It contained traces of a cremation burial but had been disturbed. No. 3 had the remains of a large wooden tray 6' long placed on the old ground surface, and on it were 2 cremated skeletons, the fused remains of a blue glass bowl, part of a burnt stone plaque with a winged figure of a late Roman type in low relief, a gilt bronze disc with a zoomorphic design, and a gilt-bronze button. By the side of the tray lay an axe. These barrows are dated by Phillips to VI or VII. No. 4 barrow contained nothing; it had been rifled.

1939 Mrs. Pretty and Brown began to excavate the eastern end of the large barrow No. 1 and found elench nails of a ship protruding from the old ground level. The Office of Works took over the excavation under the supervision of C. W. Phillips, and a ship 85' long was discovered, lying almost due EW. It was placed in a large trench dug deep in the subsoil, so that only the upper ends of the timbers rose above the old ground surface. There was no ramp, and only two inches of space at either end, so that the ship must have been lowered carefully into position. All wood had decayed, but a fine line of discolouration showed that there had been a timber burial chamber with a sloping roof amidships.

The mound was composed of turf stripped from the surface of the heath, decayed to dark humified sand. Directly over the burial chamber was a curious rough oval pan of clay, of a horizontal laminated structure which was certainly natural, although it was artificially hollowed out. It contained one songbird, and was unburnt, but may have had something to do with the burial ritual. (cf. Brightwell-Martlesham SF.)

Within the burial chamber, beginning at the W. end, was an iron standard surmounted by a bronze figure of a stag, the remains of a wooden bucket, and a Coptic bowl with 3 iron anogen beads thrust through one of the handles, holding a fine hanging-bowl with enamelled escutcheons. Inside were the remains of a small harp. Nearly parallel to the standard was a ceremonial whetstone 2' long with 4 faces carved on the ends and bronze mounts. Further E was a shield, with an elaborately ornamented iron boss and several bronze-gilt ornaments, notably a dragon and a bird. On it were the remains of a sub-rectangular tray-like object, at least 2' by 1', elaborately decorated around the edge with gold leaf work on gesso, and perhaps a woodburning box. The wood of the tray was little thicker than card, and it must have been a very fragile object. E of the bronze bowls was a group of 10 silver bowls in cruciform ornamentation, covering 2 spoons of Byzantine type, inscribed Saulus and Paulus. E again, there were, S of the keel-line, a badly rusted blade the size of a scaramasax, but differently shaped, and a sword with garnet-inlaid hilt and ornamented scabbard; N of the keel-line was a helmet, and between the 2 a rich collection of gold and garnet jewellery, once attached to some sort of strap-work, including a silvered gold buckle, a pair of large gold clasps ornamented with cloisonne work and filigree, the jewelled frame of a large purse containing 40 Merovingian coins, and 39 of smaller objects. Above the keel-line were the remains of several drinking horns with silver mounts; and high up on the S side were the scattered iron hoops of a smallish iron-bound wooden bucket, with a number of bronze escutcheons, some enamelled.

Next came a large silver dish with control stamps of the Emperor Anastasius, the cup of a lidded pinched onto its foot ring by the impact of the fallen roof. A smaller silver Byzantine dish was to one side. Under the great dish was a mass of rotted cloth with bundles of leather and a good deal of scattered flock-like matter, perhaps the stuffing of a small pillow. The smaller dish with a female profile head and fluted sides contained at least 6 small gourds with gilt-bronze rings, and 2 combs. There were also the remains of a leather bag with 2 silver drop handles, another with a small silver mount, and 2 pairs of shoes near a wooden scroop-like object. 2 hanging-bowls were upside down, one with a small horn cup. All these objects were large and worn wooden trough or platter. To the S of it lay an iron axe, and to the SW the remains of a coat of mail.

A little to the SE of the great dish was a wheel-made pottery bottle, stained dark inside; and nearby were some pieces of manganese oxide, possibly used as a basis for making paint. Further E was a hemispherical iron cup on a short stem with 3 or 4 feet; inside it was divided into segments and filled with a whitish substance—of, Broomefield. Lastly, there was a line of objects at the base of the eastern wall of the burial chamber; from N to S, a large iron-bound wooden tub, a large bronze cauldron, a mass of ornamental chainwork, and 2 smaller bronze cauldrons. There were also 3 wooden pegs, e. 18" long. Along the bottom of the ship were traces of vegetable matter, perhaps straw breaken.

There were no signs of the remains of a body, and chemical tests proved conclusively that it was a cenotaph. The coins date this burial to c. mid VII, and there can be little doubt that it is royal. The ship burial itself, and the shield, sword-hilt and helmet show close correspondences to the Vendel culture of Uppland.

Thordorn. Inhumation cemetery. SF 36 SE. TM 136701. P SJ IA, V (1886), 262. OS records, information from W. A. Dutt.

ante 1874 'A cemetery with weapons, brooches, etc. was found at White Horse Farm.' The remains were apparently kept for a while at the rectory.


1891 The Cambridge Museum has an iron buckle, a knife and bronze tweezers, found on the site of the Roman settlement at Great Thurlow in 1891.


circa 1883 A gilt buckle with a setting of 2 garnets of silver was found by a labourer in making a ditch on some land called 'The Leye.'


ante 1901 The site of the AS cemetery at Tuddenham is a gravel pit close to the Cavenham road, 3 m from Tuddenham church. The only burial recorded is that of a warrior published by Ridgeway, associated with a long brooch, another of nearly the same size, an iron shield-boss, sword and knife. From the site in the Cambridge Museum were a large square-headed brooch of the VI, annular and other brooches of 'ordinary types', wrist clasps, spearheads, knives, a pot-hock, a ferrule, a small axehead of Frankish form and a small hollow pyramid of bronze set with garnets. There were also urns, including a small one with S-shaped stamps, and 12 bone playing-pieces with 2 holes in the flat side, burnt and evidently from a cinerary urn.

Ufford. Isolated find. SF 68 NW, SW. TM 294520. JRAA, XVIII (1862), 225. VCH, p. 329.

1819 A cruciform brooch 5" long, dated to the late VI was discovered at Ufford; there are no details of the find.


1894 T. Waddell exhibited an iron sword blade and spearhead from Undley Farm. (ante 1958 The Cambridge Museum has 2 iron 'keys', a knife, a buckle, a plain silver brooch, part of a bronze annular brooch, the upper part of a square-headed armlet, a small long brooch, beads of glass, amber and crystal, with one of chalk and a peculiar spotted one, and the rim of a potter's red pottery, all labelled 'Group of objects, probably not an associated find, almost certainly from Undley.'


ante 1864. An AS urn was found in Waldringfield churchyard and is now in the BM. The OS note on the site says '5 cinerary urns.'


ante 1911 Some glass and amber beads and a cast bronze gilded 'hinged handle' are considered by R. A. Smith to be perhaps sufficient evidence of a pagan unburnt burial at Wangford.

There is a large cruciform brooch with side knobs missing and a good horse's head foot in Birmingham Museum.
Gazetteer of Early Anglo-Saxon Burial Sites


There were 3 round barrows on top of Warren Hill, 2 miles from Mildenham to the N of the high road to Bury. They were already partly disturbed in the early XVIII.

1820 H. Bunbury cut a trench 5’ wide through each of the barrows, down to the level of the natural soil. Pottery and other objects were found, but there seems to be no record of other discoveries.

1866 Labourers digging gravel began to disturb the N side of the central barrow, and found a primary BA burial. Afterwards several graves of the AS period were found; some objects were thrown aside by the workmen, and Prigg received only a bunch of bronze toilet implements, consisting of an earpick, tweezers, and a nail cleaner suspended from a ring, and a bronze volute handle, probably Roman.

Fenton procured 4 shield-bosses, 2 iron studs and 4 spearheads.

1875–77 Fenton recorded 5 AS graves and one of a horse, found in the pits on Warren Hill, and described them in P SJ IA, VI. All contained grave-goods. There were signs of cone-shaped holes, 1 deep, containing burnt matter, and also 2 small plain urns of black ware, which he considered British, but which Prigg thought were probably associated with AS children’s graves.

1881 In extending a cart road to a new stone pit on the E side of Warren Hill, a slight ridge of sand was cut through and 2 graves intersected. Prigg excavated these, which were of warriors, and found 3 more, one of a woman, who had been buried with a broken brooch under a covering of wheat straw and wooden boards; and 2 with small pots, evidently children’s graves although the bones had disappeared.

A tinned bronze fish, perhaps a shield ornament, from this site was in Fenton’s possession. The Ashmolean Museum has a necklace of amber beads and a human lower jaw stained green by contact with bronze.


1918 A Coptic bronze bowl was found c. 6’ deep by a labourer digging for gravel in a garden on the E side of the Main Street. Owing to general displacement, and the absence of any skilled observer, the exact relationship of the bowl to its surroundings is not quite clear; but it contained fragments of a double-toothed bone comb of ornamental design, and in close proximity was a fragment of much oxidized iron c. 6’ long, probably an AS knife. In all likelihood these finds are from a grave.


1873 The remains of a man with a spear, believed to be AS, were discovered on the site of Junior House, near Haugh Lane. There were traces of a mound.

Wortham. Doubtful. SF 24 NE. TM 079784. OS records.

1843 The OS map records the site of a Roman tomb and urns found in 1843. The OS Object Name Book records—found by Mr Berkley of the Grove in 1843, a Roman tomb with 6 urns. He tried to reconstruct it in another place, but they all crumbled to bits. This may be connected with the finds at Redgrave.


1828 ‘There are in the Common, above the Vill of Addington, great numbers of small Tuamuli about thince the Bigness of a large Ant-hill. An apothecary at Croydon showed me some pieces of Urns or Crocks which he said were found under one of these Tuamuli.’ (Salmon.) Lysons adds that there were c. 25 tumuli: one was nearly 40’ in diameter, 2 about half that size, and the remainder very small. Most of them appeared to have been opened.

Grinsell was not able to locate these small barrows; but Martin says that some (? 4 round barrows) were exposed when trees were cut down during the 1914–19 war. When the landscape was common, it was known as Thunderhill or Thunderfield Common, and may therefore have been sacred to Thunor in heathen times.


1910 ‘Saxon interments were found SE of Ashstead Park, just S of Stane Street. In 1910 A. W. G. Lowther presented a Saxon knife and a piece of pottery from Ashstead to the Guildford Museum.


1925 A male skeleton 5’ 5” tall was found 15’ deep S of Banstead Station, and a little to the E of the Kingston and Chelsea Schools. It was lying EW, and with it on either side of the head were 2 food vessels, hand formed of red ware. ‘The body of one pot is corrugated. The neck plain.’ It belongs to the late VI.

In October another skeleton was found in digging a trench to a house in the same road, but unfortunately buried before it could be examined. With it was a pot similar in character to the first, but not standing so high and without fluting.’


1918 An AS inhumation burial and iron knife were found on Banstead Downs Golf Course.


Both Brown and Whimster assume that there are 2 sites; but although discrepancies exist in the various accounts, it is obvious that there is only one; see VCH.

1871 About 500 yds. SW of the Roman villa at Beddington, workmen discovered a mixed AS cemetery. There were 3 skeletons, 1 with iron spearhead and other iron fragments, probably a shield-boss and a knife; another with a knife only. The third was in a grave 18” deep.

A ‘large sepulchral urn of dark ware marked with patterns of considerable elegance’ was found near by. It was c. 9” daim, and contained fragments of bones and earth. 3 others (2 of them, at least, ornamented and containing burnt bones) were also found. ‘One of elegantly proportioned’ stood upright c. 18” deep, very close to a skeleton with a knife.

One other iron spearhead must have been found at the same time, since 2 were exhibited by Brock to the BAA in 1871. The Ashmolean Museum has a small gilt saucer-brooch with a running spiral and a central stud (a pair to it is in the Cambridge Museum), and 2 iron knives, also found in 1871, and the base of an applied...
brooch, 1½ diam., with raised central boss and traces of applique.

Addy says, 'the site upon which these remains have been found does not appear the appearance of a barrow, although the space of about an acre in extent is clearly elevated above the meadow surroundings', but Brock says the finds were made in levelling 2 slight eminences which had evidently been AS tumuli.

1871-74 (a) Addy found 'a blue glass bead, a bronze bracelet devoid of ornament, and some pieces of bronze, probably broken fibulae'.

(b) Smees found one cinerary urn, very much damaged, and 2 human skeletons, heads to the W.

(c) Flower found—during a week in which he had several men at work—2 crushed skulls, 4 urns (one ornamented, all filled with burnt bones), the iron boss of a shield and 4 well-formed spearheads and 3 daggers of iron, found in 4 several graves.

1874 Brock reported the finding of another AS interment which he thought must have been beneath one of the levied tumuli, head SW, towards its centre. It was of a very tall man whose head had rested on a shield with an iron boss. Another shield-boss was by the left arm; and a spearhead 10½ long was on the right. The socket of a sword and a small portion of the blade was met with quite decayed; and 3 or 4 portions of other spearheads, [which] may have belonged to other interments, as also may the fragments of a coarse black urn, and of a white drinking cup, glazed with bright clean glazing. Some fragments of charred wood were found, showing that the tumulus had been used for interments by cremation also.

1875 3 more skeletons were discovered 'at oblique angles to each other, at 6 to 7 yds. apart'. With each was a shield-boss, spear, knife, 'dagger' and 'arrowhead'. By the skull of one was 'the rim of a helmet of some sort', perhaps a bronze bowl, and a sword 40½ long.


1906 During the widening of Carshalton Road, traces of several graves were found 2′ 6″ deep. G. Clinch saw from this site a number of fragments of human bones, including at least 2 skulls, and an iron spearhead 1′ 2″ long, the socket broken. The site occupies the 'nearly level top of the hill'.


1941 An open-socketed iron spearhead was found 3′ deep in clay in the garden at 3 Shrubland Grove, N Cheam. No associated finds were noted; it was thought that a burial could have been ploughed out. The spearhead, however, was probably of mid-Saxon rather than early date.

Cobham. Inhumation burial. Sr 18 SW. TQ 114602. Sr AC, XXXVII (1926), 93.

1926 An AS spear with a split shaft was found in a horizontal position, 5′ deep in a gravel pit at Leigh Hill. It was very near a spot where a BA vessel and RB pottery were discovered. No human remains were found; the gravel had been disturbed in this place.


1873 Martin records that during the building of the Cane Hill Asylum, and subsequently, parts of human skeletons were found. With them were knives, said to be of VIII work.

1881-82 'A spearhead and some beads' were found at the Asylum.

1911 An entry on the OS 6″ sheet at 2912-5798, records 'Human remains found 1910'. These may be part of the same cemetery. Measurements of 2 skeletons are given in Biometrika.

1912 Several skeletons facing E, and a knife with each, were found in 'a field near my residence', on the opposite side of the valley from Farthingdown. (J. M. Moodie.)

Parts of 5 skeletons went to the RCS Collection. The records state that the graves were in rows and contained 'swords and spears of early Saxon date'. It seems probable that this is an extensive cemetery, found scrappily at various times.

Coulson, Farthingdown see Farthingdown Sr.
the skull and an iron shield-boss were central at the W end, and a socketed iron spearhead stood upright in the SW corner. The second, rectangular, 5’ 9” by 3’, had a circular pit 2’ wide, 1’ deep attached to the NW corner. A spearhead stood central and upright at the western end; a shield-boss central at the eastern. Both were broken because of disintegration. The third grave, 6’ long by 2’ wide had rounded corners and was archaeologically sterile. 4 SW of the second grave lay another spearhead and between the other 2 graves were 2 more circular pits, 3’ and 2’ wide, 1’ deep.


**ante 1718** Quantities of human bones were dug up in the gardens of Ewell House.

1897 ‘Skull and bones with rusty iron bar’ were found at the junction of Meadow Hill and High Street. 1926-28.

1912 ‘Human remains’ were found 100 yds. to the SW at 21856273, according to a note printed on the OS 6’ map.

1920 When an electric cable was being laid in the Grove, High Street, 3 skeletons were discovered, lying not more than 18” to 20” from the original ground surface. The only associated object was an iron spearhead. One, skeleton, of a man 35-40 years old, was lying on its side, head to the W. The others were said to be of a woman and child. Later, 2 other spearheads, one with a welded shaft, were found.

1932 During building on the NW side of Epson Road, 3 burials were found 6’ deep in the sand c. 150’ S of those in the Grove. Others were said to have been found nearby. No record was kept of position, or of the association of the 2 spearheads or shield-boss found, but the latter end of one thigh bone was stained with rust.

The bottom part of a plain urn containing a cremation burial, and a complete urn, probably also cinerary, were found nearby.

Later in the year 2 further burials were discovered, one near the corner of Epson Road and the Grove. This was of a woman c. 5’ 2” tall, aged c. 30, and lay only 6” deep, head to the SW, in light sandy soil. A gilt-bronze sauce-brooch with debased interlace ornament was on the right shoulder, and the lower ends of the arm bones were embedded in a some object not preserved. The other burial was c. 200’ to the W, and was also of a woman, head to the SW, lying 2’ deep. A pair of tinned bronze disc brooches, with a very poor compass-drawn design were on the breast.

1934 Excavations were undertaken. One burial was found lying W, about 2’ deep, with an AS iron knife beneath the hips. It had been partially destroyed.

**Ewell Downs.** Doubtful. Sr 19 NW. Unlocated. Manning (1890), II, 581, map p. 758. **Sr Ac, LVI** (1959), 147. **circa 1807** ‘On the inclosure of Ewell Downs and open fields in 1801 the land on which some of these remaining Barrows were placed was allotted to Thomas Cutler Esq. His tenant intended to level them, and he began to remove one of them; in so doing he found some human bones and weapons, and having more of pious reverence for the former and less of curiosity as to the latter than is usual in Antiquary, he desired and left the remainder in the state he found it’. The old map on p. 758 shows Ewell Downs between the roads to Ewell and Leatherhead, forking at Beech Cross from Croydon.


According to Grinsell’s survey, there were 14 low bowl barrows still visible in 1931, varying from 12’ to 40’ in diam., in 3 groups scattered along the top of Farthingdown from N S.

**circa 1760** ‘A person came from London, opened one of them and found a complete skeleton, which he took away.’

1871 Flower excavated 16 barrows, in 2 groups c. ½ m. apart. The graves were all 3’ to 3½’ deep, covered by ‘slight hillocks’ c. 1½’ high. All the skeletons were supine, head to the W, arms close by the sides. There was no trace of cremation. 3 of the graves Flowers excavated were in the northern group, the rest in the southern and higher group. He describes a double grave of a man and woman, and a grave containing objects of interest; these included a sword and a tall ribbed shield-boss, found with a bucket and a bronze buckle in the grave of a tall man; another bucket, a wooden drinking cup with a bronze rim and fitting with interlaced ornament, but without a handle, 2 small silver pins, a small circular gold pendant, 2 iron knives, a spearhead, a small iron buckle and 6 beads.

1939 Workmen digging a trench for an electric cable found a human skeleton to the W of the southern group of barrows. There was no mound visible above it. The skeleton lay 18” deep, prostrate, head (probably) NE. Close to its right side were a knife and spearhead.

1948 B. Hope-Taylor excavated, and found 5 more flat graves, SN, lying in line ahead. 3 were of children, one with a small spearhead, and another with a small roulettet pot near the skull, containing an unworked amber pebble. At Hight Strettle 2 graves were 2 deep rectangular slots, and at the head a bucket, which had held vertical timber boards, marking the grave on the surface. The other graves were of a man and a woman, with iron knives, the man suppled also with the wing of a goose.

1950 Excavations continued. A grave was found 7’ long, 5’ wide, 2’ deep, orientated SE, containing 3 skeletons; the southernmost a young man 6’ 4” tall with a large iron spear, a scramasax, and a double hook-iron; the northern a boy of c. 12 years with an iron buckle of Frankish appearance; the middle one a middle-aged woman lying prone in a sprawled attitude, apparently thrown into the grave after the 2 males were laid in position. A mid VII is the most probable for these graves.

4 of the barrows dig in 1871 were re-examined. One of the 2 SN graves, in line ahead (Flather said all graves were EW). In another, the excavators had missed a semi-circular child’s burial, with a small iron knife. The largest mound on the downs was sectioned, and an undisturbed eastern part of the grave 8’ 9” long by 6’ wide altogether—was found. At the W end was a child’s skull in situ, with the remains of a fur object, probably a cap. The E end was cut several inches deeper than the rest, and it contained the remains of a bag, wood-framed on 3 sides and c. 1’ wide, with iron and bronze fittings. Inside it were a pair of iron shears, a double-sided bone comb with carved decorated and iron rivets, and a cowrie shell.


1929 Mr Mizer of Watersmeet found an iron sword and 3 spearheads, all AS, in excavating for a greenhouse.

1930 Further digging near by produced a scramasax, sword, 2 spearsheads, a knife, parts of 2 shield-bosses and a bronze cocked-hat sword pommel. A circular ornament, with a star pattern inlaid with red enamel, was found near the boss, and may have come from it. It is now in the BM. The site is close by the River Mole, and the soil gravel. A quantity of chalk, which must have been brought from a considerable distance was also dug up. Later part of a small bronze bucket, with legs and a great deal of ornamentation, was discovered 3’ deep in the gravel.

1932 A sword with the remains of a bronze mounted scabbard and a large green glass bead was found 14 yrs. to the NW. There seem to have been no skeletal material except the bones of a horse, found 12” deep a deep from the river. The objects may be from a settlement, a cemetery, or merely dropped by people using the ford.

**Fetcham see also Hawk’s Hill Sr.**


1930 Various graves (? 10 altogether) apparently of AS date, have occasionally been found when building houses lower down Guildown Hill, on the other side of the old road. The best object discovered there is an unusual fluted pot, found with a small bone with a hole for attachment. They are now in Guildford Museum. This urn, a small bone, is illustrated labelled ‘Mount Street, Guildford’. In Whimster’s gazetteer, p. 209, 2 horses are mentioned. The site is c. 400 yds. from the Guildown site.

1929 A gardener at work in Old Road (the course of the Ridgeway) found c. 50 AS skeletons. The Surrey Archaeological Society excavated many more, making 223 in all. Most appeared to be of the Guildford massacre of 1036, but these had been buried on the site of a VI mixed cemetery.

The site of the cemetery is at the E end of the summit of Hog’s Back Ridge, overlooking Guildford. 36 inhumation burials were assignable to the VI, mostly by associated objects, and there were besides a large urn ‘found with the base fragment of 2 others of similar size, and small pieces of coloured [?calcined] bone’, which showed there had also been cremation burials, although these were probably few in number and shallow, since no undisturbed cremations were found.

The VI inhumation burials were strung out some distance apart along the ridge towards the W, but most thickly grouped and richly furnished in the northern part of the area available for excavation. They were over 2’ deep, but there was also some scattered grave furniture lying on the surface of the chalk, which showed that there had probably been some shallow graves, disturbed by the later burials; one shallow grave still in situ was found further to the W.

Most of the graves had a thin film of charcoal covering the body, apparently decomposed remains of material; 2 had large flints arranged around the body. The skeletons were mostly laid supine, heads to the W (one to the S) and turned to right or left, but 3 were in slightly flexed positions. A large proportion of the burials were of women and children; 2 of the children had the legs crossed, apparently intentionally. Among the grave-goods found were 2 conical glass beakers, many beads including 2 of faceted rock crystal and c. 12 of amber, 4 spearheads, 6 knives, saber, applied, disc, square-headed, and small long trefid-headed and square-headed brooches, 3 finger-rings, one of silver with animal’s head terminal, 18 ornamental silvered bronze rings found in pairs down the front of one skeleton from shoulder to hips, a bronze pin and some smaller bronze objects, a bucket with gilt bronze hoops, iron and bronze buckles, a bone, and 7 accessory vessels of pottery. All the brooches, and therefore probably the cemetery, belong to the VI.

1934 An isolated burial, SN, was found some distance away. It contained no grave-goods, and was presumably XI.

Hawkridge see Beddington Sr.


1758 ‘On making the turnpike road from Leatherhead to Guildford bones of near 20 human bodies, a small pike of about a foot long, and some blades of knives were found.

1803 ‘Other bones were found in the common field on digging post holes for an inclosure on the top of Hawkess Hill c. 18’ below the surface, lying on the bed of chalk.’

1886 About 26 skeletons were found in a garden of Hawks Hill House, irregularly placed in a line parallel to the road, their heads to the SW. Among them were remains of women and children. All the bones were reinterred except the skull of a giant 7’ tall ‘who had come to a violent end. The skull had a piece cut clean out of the back, the neck was driven into the shoulders, the thigh pierced with an iron spearhead, the legs doubled up as they stiffened.’ 2 iron knives, an inlaid glass bead, a debased denarius of Constantine the Great, a Roman anchor, and an openwork bronze ‘wheel’ were with them.

1906 About the same spot as the 1758 finds some bones of a human foot were found during trenching for a water-pipe; no accurate record was kept. Pottery fragments were also noticed in black earth in a cross-trench.

1907 6 skeletons were discovered along the front of the fence of Hawkess Hill, during the laying of water-pipes along the road. One skeleton seen by R. A. Smith and C. H. Todd was of a woman c. 5’ 8” tall, lying 18” deep. The other 5 graves were of a slightly shallower, and lay practically in the same line, head to the SW, parallel with the fence. They were probably all male burials and similarly placed, but at various intervals from 2’ to 35’. In one of the graves was an iron knife.

R. A. Smith supposes that there were 2 isolated groups of inhumation burials, the finds of 1758 being lower down the slope of the hill. The total of grave-goods recorded from this site is 3 swords, 3 shield- bosses, 7 spearheads, a scramasax, 3 knives, 2 glass beads, one or 2 coins of Constantine, a few pots, a Frankish girdle-hanger from the same mould as one from Maidstone K, bucket plaques with a human face in punched outline, and a decorated bronze disc. None of these suggests a date earlier than the late VI or early VII.


Circa 1535 ‘The skeleton of a Saxon youth . . . was found at East Horsley during building works. An iron knife . . . was with it and was examined by me.’ (Lowther.


1780 When Juniper Hall was built, 2 skeletons and a spearhead were found, probably AS interments.


The recorded burials of this cemetery lie on sandy gravel in 3 main groups within a narrow oblong c. 500 yds. by 120 yds. parallel to the northern bank of the River Wandle and c. 250 yds. from it. Many of the discoveries were made haphazardly, as accurate an account of as many of them as possible, together with a description of the grave-goods extant, was published by J. Morris in Sr AC, LVI.

1848-circa 1854 Liquorice was grown in fields near Morden Lane, and when men were trenching the roots, 2’-4’ deep, human bones were found, sometimes in cists formed of c. 4 slabs of stone, ‘with nothing top or bottom. . . . a very large sword in one.’ The bones were sold to a store dealer or reburied. There were also found spearheads, more swords, ‘dagger’, 3 or 4 whole and some broken drinking cups, c. 4” high ‘shaped like a beer glass with a foot to it, the lip was curved very much, it looked to be made of black mud with a greyish look about it.’ Coins were also said to have been found, of silver and bronze c. as large as a 2 shilling piece, but thin as a wafer,’ ‘if these were really coins they must have been post XIII, and others before but than a sixpence, none of them was round’—perhaps Roman. The men took some of the objects home: others were bought by someone who came from London ‘every Wednesday night; . . . they used to put them in a bag and take them home.’

1855 ‘When the Mitcham Railway and Station were being built’ 3 complete skeletons were said to have been found ‘with 2 bronze tin-plated brooches, a bronze pin and an iron knife.’ The brooches may eventually have gone to the Cambridge Museum.

1890 Excavations in the coal-wharf adjoining the railway, c. 50 yds. N of the finds in Morden Lane in 1882, disturbed some human remains and ‘a corroded iron vessel’—perhaps a shield-boss.

1882 Near by, objects described as buckles, possibly AS, were found on the surface in a gravel pit belonging to the railway company.

Human remains were also found in a field adjoining Morden Lane, on a bed of yellow sand, covered by 3’ of black earth. The body lay NS (direction of head not stated); there were no associated finds.

ante 1888 A gravel-pit was dug in Cow Pasture (Deadman’s Close), and the bailiff found many human bones but did not report them.

1888 G. Bidder Jr. found bones there, and work was suspended. A few more bones were found and some prehistoric flints.

1891-1908 G. P. Bidder undertook deliberate excavation, and by the end of 1898 had dug 88 graves, all in the central and most congested of the 3 main groups.

A grave was accidentally discovered on the edge of the second site, on the N side of Morden Road.

1914 H. F. Bidder excavated 13 graves towards the northern end of the site.

1914-19 Gravel-digging was intensified on the northern site, and many more graves were disturbed. Mr. Wilks and G. F. Lawrence rescued many grave-goods; and H. F. Bidder excavated obtained records of discoveries and excavated some more.
one grave. Although gravel-digging continued until 1922, nothing further is recorded after 1919, and the grave on the cemetery on the E and W of the northern area seem to have been reached. However, the northern edge is not yet established.

1919-20 Digging was resumed S of Morden Road and was closely watched. The making of 2 approach roads disclosed further graves, and planned excavation yet more.

1922 A few further graves were discovered when Morden Road was widened; when post-holes were being dug on the eastern edge of the site; and in a sandpit near the site.

Nothing seems to have been discovered during any of the subsequent building activities on the site, and it is not likely that many graves remain undisturbed. There may be some in undisturbed ground to the N, and if so, the pagan cemetery adjoins the later Christian Churchyard. If the flints found in 1880 indicate that there was once a prehistoric barrow here, the earliest burials may be of Grimbaldian type.

There is no indication of cremation on the site and, where recorded, the urns were found in inhumation graves. The prevailing orientation was E-W; most of those graves which deviated were on the eastern edge of the cemetery, where many bodies were found with the head bent forward, as though on a pillow, in short graves, so that a variation in burial custom may be evidenced here. The regular orientation suggests that the grave-fill left some slight visible mound above the grave, but not one which was likely to remain more than a few years, since several graves overlaid one another. In some cases the head or part of the body was missing, or an additional skull or other extra bones were found in the grave. (cf. Guildford). This may indicate deliberate mutilation, or the belief that the possession of an enemy's head gave strength to the possessor, but it may also be due to accidental disturbance.

In most of the graves the bodies were laid supine, the hands by the side, the face upward or to one side. In several burials the knees were bent, but only once was the body hunched up or crouched. In 4 cases the grave was face down; 3 were evidently of women; in one of these the body was laid over another, also a woman, in the same grave; in another the body was said to be 'carelessly thrown in' (cf. Farthingdown S.). There was no indication of the sex of the four of these burials.

More than half the recorded graves contained grave-goods; and one-fifth of all graves contained weapons, including 12 swords, an unusually high proportion which perhaps indicates the strategic importance of the Mitcham settlement, since it was the first habitation S of London (cf. Surre K). Another fifth of the graves contained brooches, but the ornaments are on the whole fewer and poorer than in most large cemeteries. The burials appear to have been made over c. 150 years, from mid-V to late VI, to judge from the grave-goods. Dateable grave-goods increase steadily in number, and it is therefore probable that the settlement the cemetery served was very small at the beginning, and had perhaps as many as 100 inhabitants at the end of the VI.

The V jewellery at Mitcham resembles that of Sx, Wessey, the Middle Thames and Hr; there are no cruciform brooches such as are found in East Anglia, Li and Y. The early VI brooches are probably locally made, and the Wandle is probably the central point of their distribution. After the middle of the century the jewellery resembles that of all parts of England. There are no XII grave-goods.


1927 During the cutting of Mitchley Avenue 2 skeletons were found near the corner of Riddlesdown Road. No report was made, but photographs showed them lying supine c. 2' 6" deep.

Later, c. 6 more skeletons were found in Riddlesdown Road; they were lying supine, side by side, heads to the W, c. 2' 6" deep. The 4 skeletons examined by Miss M. L. Tidsey were all thought to be AS. They were of a very rheumaticky and old human, a girl c. 18, of whose bones showed signs of burning after they were dry and jaw broken, and a boy c. 16, most of whose bones were discoloured by burning before they were dry. These skeletons went to the Croydon NH Museum, but cannot now be identified with certainty.

No associated objects were recorded in the original report, but it is possible that a knife was found with them (see Sr AC, LVI, 144).

The site is close to an earthwork, and the line of burials parallel to Riddlesdown Road, which is supposed to be an ancient track.

Russell Hill, Purley. Inhumation cemetery. Sr 14 SW. TQ 312624. PT, Croydon Ns, X (1921), 66. Sr AC, LVI (1959), 144:
1865 18 or more gigantic skeletons were found at 31186225, 18" deep in chalk parallel to the road, which might be the Roman road. There is nothing to indicate their date; BA pots and implements from the site are in the British and Guildford Museums.

1920 'A burial of the early VI was cut through on Russell Hill in making the new motor road.'


1884 While an estate was being laid out E of the Croydon road and c. 300 yds. S of the railway station, 6 or 7 skeletons were found in a space c. 40' square. The remains were scattered, but in the following week Garraway Rice observed 5 more on the slope of the hill, cut 18'-2' deep in the solid chalk (itself 9' from the surface). The bodies lay supine hands by the side, heads W. The graves were irregularly placed; some were beneath the centre of a 50' roadway, and so probably the limits of the cemetery were not reached. Only 3 objects were found: a small plain pot at the head of one grave, and 2 small iron knives in 2 others.

Sandown Park see Eschur Sr.

Surrey


1869 During the erection of houses just to the N of Holy Trinity Church several graves were discovered cut 3' deep, neatly into the chalk. The bodies were all to the W; one skeleton was over 6' tall, and had a 'bronze spearhead'; nothing else was noticed. In various places near by c. 6 further burials were discovered.

1896 Some glass beads were found with a skeleton laid with the head W, fairly close to the earlier burials found. The grave was almost obliterated and the contents scattered before any notice was taken.


1928 An AS hand-made, bowl-shaped urn was found at 'Anzac Mount' Walton-on-Thames. It is ornamented with a scratched chevron design.

Walton see also Shepperton Mx.


1877 After describing BA barrows opened by him near Guildford, Pitt Rivers described 6 tumuli... of the same locality. Burnt bones, an iron dirk, and other remains were found. On Whitmoor Common, S of Poor Jack's Wood, and E of the railway line, are some vague mounds. Grinstead thought might be the remains of these barrows.