
1896 While trenching for a fence on the summit of a hill overlooking Alfriston village, 7 skeletons were found, lying EW on the chalk, c. 4' apart; an eighth was 21' away. With them were a knife and a small piece of jet with 2 holes half drilled through and a fragment of glass. The ground around was tested, but no more remains found.

1912 During the construction of a house in the SW angle of the road from Alfriston to Alciston, and the ridgeway along the South Downs, c. 20 graves were found containing 'fine bronze fibulae and other articles, some gilt; beads and a glass vase'.

Excavations revealed that there had been c. 120 graves, in a belt 180' wide, 40' from the EW road, and 25' from the NS road. The graves were very shallow and had been disturbed by the plough; the excavators thought that therefore there had once been mounds. 99 graves were excavated and their contents described in Sx AC. At least 73 contained grave-goods, ranging from a single knife to a rich collection; several other probably contained spearheads etc., not noted at the time. Nearly all graves were EW, a few NS, NE-SW, or SE-NW.

There were 5 double burials, one containing the bones of an adult with those of a child. In one grave large pebbles of chalk and flint covered the body. The skeletons mostly lay supine, but in 2 of the double graves one skeleton was propped up into an almost sitting position. In one grave (NS) the skull was separated from the rest of the body and turned up on the crown. In 3 graves, weapons appeared to have been broken or mutilated before burial. Only 2 urns were found which were perfect when buried; one with 3 wing-like lugs and a well-shaped foot, the other a shallow, wide-mouthed urn with incised diagonal lines. Large portions of 2 others were buried, but only in fragments. Sherds were found in 5 graves; in one were 26 sherds from 10 different pots, one RB.

The cemetery was a rich one, and the finds included beads of amber, rock crystal, glass and porcelain, 3 large square-headed brooches, 2 pairs of small square-heads, 6 ring brooches (2 of them highly chased and silvered), 10 button brooches, 15 bronze-gilt saucer brooches (3 pairs with zoomorphic ornament, the rest with running spirals), a heart-shaped brooch, 2 finger rings, Roman coins, tweezers, pins, buckles of iron and bronze, an ivory ring, a silver spoon with 9 perforations, 4 conical glass beads and one bowl, 1 bronze bowl, 1 iron and iron-bound buckets, 1 cowrie shell and the tibia of an eagle (both found in a rich grave, of a woman who seemed afflicted by superstition). There were bosses, studs, etc. from at least 14 shields, and 3 axe-heads, 6 swords, many spearheads and c. 40 knives.

1914 The part of the cemetery lying to the W of the garden was excavated, and at least 32 more graves discovered. It was thought unlikely that many had been missed. The graves and contents were very like those previously found; 29 were furnished, though the range of objects was more limited. Spearheads and swords were found, but no shields. The one other type of object was an ordinary cruciform brooch. 5 graves had fragments of pottery, but not one a complete urn.

Brown dates the cemetery to VI; but the numbers of spiral saucer brooches might indicate that it began to be used in V.


1763 'A gentleman at Alfriston had the curiosity to have one of the circular ones [i.e. barrows] opened a few weeks since, and accordingly began on the S side, and at a few feet in, found the skeleton of a man lying on his side in a contracted form, with his head to the W. The bones were very firm and hard, owing to the nature of the ground on which they lay, which was a bed of chalk. During the course of digging were found 10 knives of different make, iron spikes, charcoal, a thin piece of yellow metal, bones of brute animals etc. The primary cremation burial was found beneath the centre of the mound.'

Balcombe Pit see Glynde Sx.


1800 'The Right Hon. Lord Gaye exhibited to the Society [of Antiquaries] Two ancient Swords and a Knife, fragments of a stone bracelet, and of a buckle, etc. found in the month of February last, with 6 human skeletons, in a field which has been in tillage almost 200 years, in the parish of Beddington... The skeletons lay about a foot beneath the surface of the earth in different directions; 3 males and one female lay from E to W with the heads westward, and the female between 2 males; one from N to S with the head southward, and another with the head northward. A quantity of beads were also collected, which had probably hung about the neck of the female.'


ante 1824 3 bronze disc brooches, with ring and dot ornament, are illustrated by Horsfield as from a tumulus on Beddington Hill, where 'a considerable number of these remains have been found'. The bronze hoop of a buckle, also illustrated, was said to come from the same tumulus.

The BM has 7 disc brooches and 3 buckles altogether from this site.


1874 The remains of an adult male skeleton, found with a knife on Beeding Hill, are in the BMNH.


1922-29 Pull discovered and excavated the flint mines, and some nearby barrows, at Blackpatch, a chalk elevation 500 OD.

In his Barrow 2, a bowl barrow at the NE extremity of the minefield, he found the secondary burial of an adult male, feet to the E, laid supine, but headless, in a long narrow grave which had cut across the primary Beaker burial.

Barrow 10 was a large circular mound 32' diam. and 3' high, composed of soil and clay-with-flints, situated on the S face of the hill-slope. In the centre of the grave was a grave 2' deep, 7' long 2' wide, filled with clay and chalk. In it lay the skeleton of a middle-aged man, supine; this is the male whose skeleton this was had met with a violent death, for the left thigh had been completely severed halfway up the shaft. The dismembered femur lay at an angle to the pelvis. 'Although there were no associated objects, Pull was certain that this was an AS burial, from the position of the skeleton, shape of the skull, etc: but since the angle of the mound N of the grave had been disturbed for some feet below the natural surface, it was impossible to tell if the mound itself was also AS.

Barrow 12 was on the minefield, over a filled-in shaft. 3 AS secondary burials were in the upper part of the mound, 2 to the S, one to the N of the centre. All were supine, with hands on the pelvis, and heads to the W. The skeleton to the N was headless.

Bow Hill see West Stoke Sx.
‘dagger’ (or part of a sword) and a knife. The second grave found was 5’ longer than the skeleton, of large build, within it. It contained a smaller spearhead and an iron shield-boss, the fingers bones still attached to the handle. A rivet from the shield was also recovered.

Brighton Museum has 3 shield-bosses found with a sword in Hamilton Road.

Burpham see Perry Hill Sx.

Clapham see New Barn Down Sx.


1938 A skeleton was found by the Clayton Windmills. It was considered by Dr Curwen to be AS.

Coombs. Inhumation burial ? secondary in barrow. Sx 51 SE. TQ 182084. Sx AC, II (1849), 269; LXV (1934), 236, OS records. ante 1849 The Os. shows an AS iron knife in a tumulus on the Downs. A ‘beautiful Saxon spearhead’ ploughed up about 300 yards away, is, to judge from the illustration, of Viking date.

The barrow is a low spread mound, probably a bowl barrow. It is rather large for an AS mound.


1877 W of the Waterworks, on the ridge, a large number of AS burials were found when the Grange School was being built. The graves were spaced ‘with the utmost regularity’, and knives, spearheads, bosses of shields, glass tumbler, a wooden bucket c. 6” high, bound with silvered bronze, an armlet, stirrups and swords were found. One sword had the upper part of the wooden scabbard bound with a gilt-bronze strip with an incised pattern.

1927 2 burials were found, with the remains of a typical AS knife, during building on the W side of St Anne’s Road, near the site of the 1929 finds.

1929 An AS spearhead, shield-boss and 2 large iron studs were found with human teeth by workmen, on the E side of the road at its highest point.

Eastbourne see also Ocklingy Hill Sx.


1843 Coles Child excavated a cluster of about a dozen depressed tumuli at Feltham, the highest spot in Sussex. The largest was c. 9 diam. Each contained one skeleton, laid in a cist 3’ deep, head to the W. No spears or ornaments were found. Davis publishes one of the skulls, of a man c. 40 years old, c. 6’ 4” tall (the tallest of the group). On the left of this skeleton were ‘traces of rust on the chalk, the last remains of an iron knife’. The skull had suffered a sword cut nearly 5” long; it was the death wound, but Davis thought it likely that the man had lingered a few days before death.

1849 Akerman excavated some barrows on the Downs between Feltham and Littleton. He noted that the prehistoric barrows were usually on the highest part of the Down, usually singly or in small groups; but those of the AS were in clusters on the brow of the hill, usually opposite a settlement with a Saxon name. He opened a number of AS barrows, each of which contained a skeleton laid supine, head W. 3 of the burials are noted in PSA; one contained the skeleton of a boy c. 14, one of a young, the third of a mature man. The last 2 graves contained knives; and the skull and knife of the mature man are illustrated by Davis. He also figures the skull of a younger man of the group, and a flint flake found in another grave.

The 2 skeletons Davis figures were described as from barrows near the highest part of Feltham Beacon, therefore not far from those found in 1843.

Friston Hill. Inhumation burial. Sx 79 SE. TV 545991. Sx N & Q, XIII (1953), 290.

circa 1953 A workman digging post-holes for a fence on Forestry Commission property disturbed a skeleton, afterwards carefully excavated, of an adult male c. 5’ 4” tall, with a diseased knee bone, laid supine in a grave 3’ deep on the chalk. There were no associated objects except 2 small fragments of early IA pottery; but the burial was thought to be AS.


ante 1868 As the excavations of the lime-works proceeded towards the windmill erected on top of ‘Gill’s Grave’ (a barrow containing a BA cremation), many graves were exposed in the face of the chalk cliff. The bodies were buried EW, 18’ deep ‘in the solid rock’. Some had one leg crossed over the other; but most skeletons were too decayed to see the position. The only objects found were iron knives.

1868–71 More graves were exposed by falls of chalk and the clearing of surface soil, as the quarrying proceeded eastwards. A small, plain, globular urn with a slight lip was found.


1879 An AS iron spearhead projecting from a slight cutting at the side of the road from Glyne to Ringmer, on the shoulder of the hill ‘by the windmill’, caused the discovery of 8 inhumation burials. 7 lay nearly parallel, heads to the SW, one almost due N. Associated with them were iron spearheads and knives, a shieldboss, a bronze buckle, some rivets, and a Roman third brass coin. Several graves contained ball of pyrites. Between 2 of the graves were 7 urns ‘of the ordinary very badly burnt black pottery, placed on the surface of the chalk, which had been carefully levelled to receive them; these were quite plain and filled with burnt bones’. From another example of the well-known fact that burial both with and without burning was in vogue at the same time among our Saxon forefathers’. Another ball of pyrites was found on the levelled area of chalk with the urns.

Glynle see also Saxon Down Sx.

Hammond Place, Burgess Hill. Isolated find. Sx 39 NW. TQ 307185. Horsfield (1824), I, 49. VCH, p. 337.

ante 1824 A ‘fine specimen of a shield-boss was discovered at Hammond Place, near St John’s common.


ante 1800 Mr Shrapnall, surgeon . . . lately caused a number of . . . barrows, on the Downs, near Offham Chalk Pit and Mount Harry to be opened. The 1st exhibited the figure of a female nearly entire, lying ESE and WWN; no ornaments or warlike weapons. 2. Part of a female skeleton, lying in a direction contrary to the former. The age of these deposits could not be, in the slightest degree, ascertained. 3. A very large one, distant about half a mile from the 2 former; several skulls and human bones lying promiscuously; evident marks of the ground having been previously searched. The 4th nearer to the beacon, and on the side of Mount Harry; in this was found a skeleton, wrapped in a decayed black substance, resembling tinder. The last examined was considerably in point of size, and encircled by others of smaller dimensions; of these last, one was discovered a little below the surface of the surrounding soil; in it was a skeleton, environed, like all the rest, by a greyish and rather greasy mould . . . All the above skeletons were surrounded by or covered with large flint stoning. Grinsell thinks that the barrows excavated by Col. Shrapnell were a cluster c. 10 bowl barrows in Hamsey parish, 9’–21’ diam., 1’–2’ high. Mount Harry is a possible heathen temple name (see A. Mawer and F. M. Stenton, The Place-Names of Sussex, Pt. II, EPNS, VII (1930), v. 316).


1931 Workmen making a new bunker on the 14th hole of the West Hoe Golf Course W of Hangleton Church smashed up a skeleton which had been lying supine, head ENE, c. 18’ deep. With it were a spearhead, a knife, and a large iron stud, parts of 2 others and a boss from a shield.

Hassocks. Mixed cemetery. Sx 39 SW. TQ 296155. Brown (1915), IV, 60; Sx AC, LXVI (1925), 61. Museum: Brighton; Lewes. circa 1900 and circa 1904. 10 urns altogether were presented to Brighton Museum. They all contained cremated bones, some of children. They were mostly plain. Brighton Museum has also 3 spearheads and knives, 2 shield-bosses also 3 spearheads and knives, 2 shield-bosses and an axe-head, probably from inhumation burials.
circa 1925 During the excavation of a Roman cemetery at Hassocks, c. 6 BA and some AS cremation burials were discovered. About a dozen plain hand-made urns with large mouths were collected, and several others, badly broken, were noticed but not saved or reported. Other AS urns, made of better clay of vase shape, with a bulge and with stamped decoration were found during the years that the gravel pit was open. 'In a few of these urns which had preserved their contents, the bones, by the thin nature of the pieces of skull, proclaimed remains to be those of children.' Brown remarks on the smallness of several of the Hassocks urns.

Lewes Museum has one large urn and 13 others, varying in size, most plain, one with stamped ornament. Most contained cremated bones.

The meeting place of the Hundred was at Butting Hill, separated only by the road from the burial place.


1923 An iron sword and part of a bronze-mounted iron shield-boss were found with a human skeleton ploughed out on the hill crest at Manor Farm.


1892 During tree-planting in the camp on High Down Hill a number of AS graves were found. Unfortunately no record could be kept, and probably a great many of the finds were dispersed. The only object thought to be of special interest was an angon, 2′ 5″ long.

1893 Further excavations took place, supervised by H. Read and Henty, the landowner. 32 graves were found, all dug EW, 2′ 6″ to 5′ deep. The bodies were laid with heads to the W on the bare chalk, except one where there was a layer of soil. The filling was usually chalk rubble near the bottom, then a layer of grey material 'as if a kind of plaster had been made of the chalk'. The skeletons all lay supine, except one of a tall man, lying on the left side, knees bent, right arm behind. There was no apparent order in the arrangement of graves, but no overlapping, and each burial was distinct. It therefore seemed likely that there had been small mounds or markers of perishable material; but the site had not been subsequently disturbed and there was no sign of anything such at the time of excavation. The men were of large build; none appeared to be really old. One man had had a severe skull wound, but the head had half filled up when he died.

The finds from the cemetery were abundant, and included flat annular brooches, early buckles and small-long brooches, buckles, 3 accessory vessels of pottery and 5 of glass, many beads, knives, spearheads and a sword, but no other weapons. Only 3 graves were without grave-goods; only 2 had a knife only. 2 'holes' were also found, pointing NS; one contained disturbed bones, the other ashes. Read thought they had nothing to do with the cemetery; but the second was almost certainly an AS cremation burial.

1894 Excavations continued. Read described the site of the cemetery as 'within the ramparts of the ancient British camp, about the middle of the southern side, ...[extending] northwards, covering rather more than half the width of the camp.' 54 burials were dug. They presented no new features except one double burial of adults, heads SW, and a few other burials with erratic orientation. Only 33 were furnished; the finds were similar to those of 1893. 4 more glass vessels were found, including a small vase with an inscription in Greek, which had probably contained a cosmetic. There was also a large Celtic penannular brooch.

1894–circa 1900 After the recorded excavations were over, Henty appears to have dug further, and found more than 20 urns containing burnt bones to the S of the plantation. They were all very fragmentary. One contained the burnt remains of a circular brooch, with a globular-headed stud in the centre; and there was another circular brooch, which also showed signs of burning.

1899 Further excavation of the camp was undertaken by the Worthing Archaeological Society and more AS graves discovered (the number is not recorded, c. 5 appear in photographs). One grave contained the skeleton of a man lying supine with a scaramusxa by the side and a bronze pin near the hip. In the other graves there were few remains. Some followed the curvature of the rampart, others cut into an RB hut site. All 5 burials were resting on bases of flints. There were also traces of 4 other cremation burials consisting of patches of burnt bone and pottery mixed.

1943 A dark olive-green glass flask was found in a slit trench by Canadian soldiers. It presumably came from a grave.

1947 When the military were leaving High Down after occupying it during the war, an examination was made of the site by A. E. Wilson. Further AS graves were discovered on the rampart, and to the W of the gatepost lay the grave of an AS child of 6 months, with a glass bead.

No square-head or applied brooches were found at High Down, nor any saucer brooches with zooromorph ornament such as were found at Alfriston. There were, however, a pair of saucer-brooches with 5 spirals, another pair with 6, and others with forms of the florate cross motif. These, taken together with the early glassware, lead Wilson to put the origin of the cemetery into the V. There are also some small-long broaches, a radiate brooch and a pair of bird brooches, which probably belong to the mid VI. There were beads of glass and amber, finger-rings, a few bracelets, toilet implements, part of a bone comb, a bronze bodkin and the metal fittings of 2 buckets. There are good examples of a later form of Buckelorn with rounded bases and several coarse stamped pots of VI date. Weapons were rare in the cemetery; there was only the one sword found in 1893, one shield-boss and a number of spearheads and knives.

Brown remarked on the lofty and commanding position of this cemetery, on 'an isolated projecting point of the S Downs that rises to a height of some 270′ and dominates the alluvial plain.'


1923 An AS cremation burial in an urn was found by Brill during excavations ('for the site of a new school'). The burial was apparently that of a child, in a small urn with faint vertical lines and necklines.

Kemp Town. Inhumation burial, 7 primary in barrow. Sx 66 SW. TQ 3304. BMNH records. Museum: British Museum (Natural History), RCS Collection.

1837 A male skeleton was found in a tumulus at Kemp Town. The head was laid on a large discoidal piece of conglomerate; besides it were a sword, spearhead, boars' tusks, bone pins, the head of a metatarsal of a small horse, etc.'

Kingston see Saxondury St.
The BMNH has human bones from a tumulus near Lewes, probably found with a small glass 'vase' of AS origin.


1830 Labourers making a cutting for the road around Malling Hill found c. 20 skeletons opposite the first mile-post. They were lying very superficially and closely packed together. Most of the accompanying objects were destroyed, but Mantell was able to collect some, including swords, spears, knives, shield-bosses, iron buckles, '2 small earthen vessel' and a bracelet of green glass, which Brown considered to be of early date.

1953 During digging for the foundations of a block of flats at the Martlets, a Roman flint-metalled roadway was found. Lying directly on it was a skeleton, NS, of a male 5' 8" tall. Close to the pelvis was an iron knife and a small iron ring. Several feet to the W and lying in the filling of the ditch was a second skeleton with a gilt-bronze saucer-brooch with a running spiral motive.

1955 2 more skeletons, probably of AS date were unearthed while excavating at the new Malling Secondary School. All these finds were made in or near Church Lane, and probably belong to the cemetery discovered in 1830.


1918 7 skeletons were found in separate graves; with one was a bronze nail-cleaner which the BM identified as AS.

South Moulsecombe see Hodshrove Sx.


1939 2 round barrows 350' S of the BA enclosure on New Barn Down, the SE spur of Harrow Hill, were excavated. The first was a flat-topped barrow, without ditch, 18' in diam., across the top, 35' at the bottom, and less than 2' high. It covered a bath-shaped grave 8' long, c. 3' wide, cut c. 2' deep into the solid chalk. The burial had been disturbed, but the length of the grave made it likely that it was an AS interment.

The second barrow had a ring ditch with a faint outer bank 30' in diam., and was scarcely visible. In the centre was another bath-shaped grave 7½' long, 3½ wide, 1½' deep into the chalk. It contained the skeleton of a man c. 5' 6" tall, aged c. 20, laid supine with head to the W. Between the right arm and the ribs was a scarab, dated by Kendrick to the VII or VIII. A small shapess piece of iron lay in contact with the right of the skull.

6 other barrows have been noted on these downs which resemble these 2, some of them post-date lynchets, and they could also be AS. Harrow Hill is a heathen place-name. (A. M. Mawer and F. M. Stenton, The Place-Names of Sussex, Pt. I, EPNS, VI [1929], 163.)


1822 The road from Willingdon to Eastbourne, passing along the ridge of Ocklynge Hill, was remade as a turnpike. In levelling the crown of the hill a large number of skeletons were found closely packed together. The largest number discovered in one day was 14; 6 were frequently found. This went on for several weeks, and probably more than 100 skeletons were found. Nothing was with them except a large number of knives.

1909 In March last some workmen employed in levelling land, at Ocklynge... found a trench of skeletons 2' below the surface, well preserved by the chalk, lying side by side. This was uncovered for a hundred yards, when it passed under adjoining land. At the head of this row of bodies, and parallel with them, lay a second row of single skeletons, c. 10' apart. It is supposed that those which lay shoulder to shoulder were the rank and file, while those lying separately were the officers. Iron spearheads were found embedded in some of the skulls, while short dagger knives were sticking in some of the ribs. The bodies were lying with feet towards the east. (W. Strickland.)

Exant from these excavations are a large pointed knife 9½" long, and a few small knives. A black pottery vessel was also supposed to have been found.

1921 Further skeletons were discovered during road widening. With them were found only a large knife like that of 1909. 2 skulls examined by Sir Arthur Keith were of dolichocephalic men, c. 30 years old.


1935 A grave was found 3' deep in the chalk at Long Hill. It contained the skeleton of a man c. 50, 5' 6" tall, with an iron spearhead between the lower right arm and the pelvis.


1954 Dr Wilson reported the finding of an interesting, highly decorated Saxon pot in Pagan Churchyard.

Pepper Hill, Buxted. Inhumation cemetery. Secondary in barrow. Sx 50 SE, TQ 044016. Sx AC, LXIII (1922), 11–12. PT Croydon NIS, IV (1892–99), 71, 82–83, 180–81. Museum: Brighton (skiows). 1899 Collyer excavated a roughly elongated barrow 'some hundred yards down the northern slope of the hill' near a pond at Pepperhill. Collyer records 13 (Lovett only 4) skeletons found buried head to foot in shallow trenches with earth and large stones piled over them. They had no grave-goods, but Lovett records one fragment of Samian Ware. The heads were to the S.

A large quantity of human bones were found heaped together in confusion, apparently disturbed by rabble-ters 20 years previously.

Parsons examined the remains of 5 skeletons (now in Brighton Museum) and reported that they were probably AS, and all males. One had had a clean cut, but is now fallen to pieces. There are also some undecipherable scraps of iron from the same site.


1893 One of a group of 4 flat bowl barrows was destroyed in digging the square depressions on Perry Hill, 1 mile E of Buxted. Collyer reported that it contained the skeleton of a young woman. The barrow immediately to the W covered the skeleton of an old man, head W, with an AS iron knife under the skull and a bronze pin on the breast. The westernmost barrow contained the skeleton of a young man, head S, said to be 6' 2" tall, the skull left by a sword cut extending from just above the left superorbital foramen into the left parietal. On the surface between the 2 tumuli were pieces of a human femur and humerus and fragments of BA and RB pottery. The fourth barrow contained the skeleton of an old woman, head W, with a 'shell armlet and an iron head'. It was presumably these excavations which produced the skeleton presented to Brighton Museum by Albany Major, found in a tumulus in 1893.


1898 A few spearheads, a shield-boss and knives were found with skeletons 2½' deep near the junction of Church Road and St. Andrews Road.

1899 'Saxon skulls were unearthed by employees of the Brighton... Gas Company when excavating a trench in Church Street'. It is thought that the trench cut across a line of graves revealing the skulls which pointed towards the W. The skulls are in Brighton Museum.


1931 There is a cluster of 23 small circular mounds on Mill Hill. They vary in height from a few inches to 3'–4', and in diam. from 3'–4½ yds. Among the group are 2 or 3 much larger mounds with hollows in the centres. It seems probable that these barrows are AS, since other similar clusters which have been excavated are always of this period.


There was a group of c. 30 small barrows, some surrounded by ditches, and 2 large ones, one consisting of a bank and ditch, on the N. (NB The Bostle, Balsdean, near Rottingdean. (N.B. The banks of the large barrows were probably caused by a partial removal of the mounds of bowl barrows).

1939 Dr R. Bird, of the Royal Sussex
County Hospital, and friends excavated some of the graves. They found on the first occasion c. 6 burials; they were not interested in the construction of the barrows, but said they had found disturbed human remains in all of them. One contained also a bronze knife, one was the grave of a child, and in one grave there were 2 heads. A little later, Reburn put a cutting through the northerly of the 2 large barrows. The grave was 6' 8" long, with some human bones lying in a heap in the SE corner. The rest of the grave was empty except for occasional human bones, and a few pot fragments, probably IA. A 'post hole' was found almost under the crest of the bank, 3' deep and c. 3' square. In the top soil in the middle of the barrow the remains of at least one other human being.

All the excavated barrows were towards the western end of the cluster.

1949 The scientific excavation of one of the smaller barrows was attempted. It had been surrounded by a shallow circular ditch. The grave was 7' 3" long, 3' wide, 1' 4" deep into the chalk. It had been disturbed, and in the eastern berm some bones were found at the level, but the leg bones were still in position, and showed that the skeleton had probably lain with head to the W, on the left side with knees slightly bent. The only associated object was a very small bronze pin of uncertain date.

Although there was no real dating evidence, the excavators considered the barrows to be AS in date.


ante 1912 'Some years ago' a skeleton was found with a spearhead near the small chalk pit on Summer Down.

1912 Fragments of an urn were seen projecting from the bottom of the mound c. 1' deep, and with them were small pieces of burnt bones. Further search along the edge of the pit revealed a cremation burial in a broken urn, at the same depth. Both urns were hand-made and slightly globular. One has 3 rows of small pitted marks around the neck. 2 other urns, in fragments, are in Brighton Museum.

Very close to the chalk pit is a group of ancient tumuli.


1891 During the erection of Saxonbury House, close to the Brighton and Lewes railway line, c. 32 AS inhumation burials were found over several months. They were laid in shallow graves, sometimes hollowed out into the chalk, some at least subsequently filled with large stones and earth and rammed hard. Most of the skeletons were supine, one at least crouched. One skull had a mark 'as of a sword cut' and one skeleton was entirely headless; but as some of the graves were of women, it is unlikely to have been a battle-field cemetery. Knives were the most frequent objects found; there were several weapons including 3 swords. Most of the supposed female graves were unfurnished, but one contained 2 bronze brooches, a fragment of a bronze dish, a small cylinder of lead with a hole for suspension, a thin piece of bent bronze, a knife, part of a bone (?) gauze and the 'iron stud of a shield'. The only pottery is a plain undecorated earthenware, c. 6' high, globular in shape. 14 of the graves were barren of relics. Lewes Museum also has 5 saucer brooches, a button brooch, one amber and 2 glass beads, c. 3 buckles and bronze belt ornaments.


1819 Mantell 'excavated several tumuli on the Hill N of Mount Caburn to be opened. Some contained skeletons laid with great care in an excavation in the chalk, c. 4'-5' deep. On the northernmost point of the hill, overlooking Glyndebrune, 6 or 7 skeletons were found lying in separate excavations, near each other. Each had a knife in the left hand and most were surrounded by a circle of large flats placed with great care around the body. One tumulus contained an extended burial without grave-goods in an oval grave surrounded by stones, with a BA cinerary urn on either side of it.

Horsfield illustrates a lancehead, found near a skeleton to the N of Mount Caburn; and a spearhead, found on the right side of a skeleton in a barrow on the hill overlooking Glyndebourne. These probably belong to the same group of burials.

1916 One of the barrows on Saxon Down was reopened, and was found to contain 2 pennies of 1805, presumably placed there by the early XIX excavators.


1897 AS inhumation burials were found during the building of cottages opposite Church Farm.

It is perhaps these which are described in Sx AC, LXVI as discovered c. 1900, 'in the Cuckmere valley, in a private garden, but only one or two graves were excavated, and those accidentally. The objects found justify the wish that a more complete excavation may some day be allowed.

1950 More graves were found during drainage operations. There are in Lewes Museum a green glass cone-beaker with trailed decoration, a (?) Roman urn, a little biconical pot like an eggcup, a squat bowl with deep grooving round the upper part, a gilt-bronze boss c. 4' across, perhaps a shield ornament, part of a bronze saucer brooch with a running swastika motive, a necklace of amber and glass beads, a throwing axe, a spearhead and possibly 3 swords.

Sexton Down see Saxon Down Sx.

Shoreham see Mill Hill Sx, Southwick Down Sx and Thundersbarrow Sx.


ante 1895 Collyer excavated 6 barrows which he presumed to be of AS date. He describes them generally as c. 25' diameter, covering graves cut into the chalk. They had been disturbed, but in 3 of them the leg bones remained, showing that the body had been buried with head to the S.


1871 There is the skull of an adult male from Southwick Down, found April 1, 1871, in the Oxford Collection. It is regarded as AS.


ante 1846 Mantell had a 'beautiful gold earring, from a tumulus near Stanning Park, presented . . . by the Earl of Chichester.'

1956 A skeleton was found in the roots of a beech-tree which had blown down. It lay extended, hands on the pelvis, head SE, in a neatly dug coffin-like grave. There were no associated objects.

West Stoke, Bow Hill. ?Cremation cemetery, primary in barrows. Sx 48 SW. SU 820908. Sx AC, XXII (1870), 59-62. Museum: Lewes. circa 1870 The Rev Henry Smith excavated a cluster of small barrows on the western spur of the hill above West Coppee. The highest was only c. 4', others scarcely visible. The first excavated was c. 36' diam; there was no trace of a burial, but near the centre was a platform of flints of unusually large size and flat, embedded in hardened chalk. The second barrow dug was smaller; 2' from the top, in the centre, was a heap of grey ashes, mixed with fragments of bone and charcoal. It was cut away from the centre, 1' at the edges. Overt had been placed a layer of brown soil, 2' to 3' deep, and then chalk to form the mound. No urns, etc. were found. Several smaller barrows were then opened; 2 contained circular urns, of thin, hard burnt black clay. The first, c. 9' diam, contained the burnt bones of an adult, the second, c. 8' diam, had a few fragments of bone, a fragment of iron, probably a buckler, and a double-edged comb with riveted strengthening-strips ornamented with an engraved pattern, and part of another comb barrow. These combs are illustrated, with incised circles. These barrows are also illustrated, with incised circles. The urns were placed mound, c. 3' below the surface.

Next day more small barrows were excavated and more urns discovered, resembling those of the previous day. All were broken, and no other remains were found. Several circular depressions nearby were also excavated, and in the centre of each were flints which had been subjected to fire. The cemetery appeared to have been bounded by a ditch on the S.


?1869 About a dozen AS graves were
excavated by C. E. Sainsbury, one in, others grouped around a round barrow. 2 of the EW graves contained a short iron knife; the secondary burial also had a knife, between the shoulders. All burials were apparently of males.

2 secondary CA cremation burials in a ‘ring or disc’ barrow were also found. One in an urn had a bead of yellow glass or paste.

**Summer Down** see Saddlescombe Sx.


Amuch mutilated mound, lying between the southern entrance of the Camp on Thundersbarrow Hill and a modern dry pond, is called Thunders Barrow on the OS map. This is probably a heathen place-name.

*circa* 1873 The Object Name Book of the OS records ‘Several ancient British, Roman and Saxon urns were discovered when excavating the pond on Thundersbarrow Hill. Numerous fragments still lie scattered about its edge.’

Since the construction of the pond was responsible for the mutilation of the barrow, the urns may have been from secondary burials; but all the pottery from the camp (*Ant J*, XIII, 134–51) is RB, and the report may have been wrong about some of the urns being AS.

**Wolstonbury Hill.** Inhumation cemetery. Sx 52 NE. TQ 284138. GMLA, I (from 1765), 147.

1765 ‘Lately, a person digging flints near an old camp called Wolstonbury Hill (Hill?), c. 10 miles W of Lewes, found several human skeletons with each a warlike weapon lying by its side, resembling a common hanger.’ (Vine.)


*ante* 1939 Toms excavated an extended burial at Woodingdean, on the crest of a spur. There were no grave-goods, but a capping of flint stones was over the grave.

1957 300–400 yds. away, on the site of a new primary school, 3 or perhaps 4 further burials were discovered. 2 were disturbed by the mechanical excavator, but one of these certainly belonged to the group. The other 2 skeletons were seen to be lying heads to the SE in oval graves cut 3″ deep into the solid chalk. 2′ 6″ wide and long enough for the extended body. One of these had a slightly domed capping of flints directly over the skeleton, covering all but the lower leg. They had been carefully selected and placed, and covered by over 2′ of soil.

A fifth grave was excavated by Brighton Museum. It contained the skeleton, head SE, of a tough old warrior (nearly 60 years) of short broad stature and with enormous muscular attachments. On the right shoulder was a split-socketed spearhead with traces of grass which had presumably lined the grave. It was much honed away and bent about the blade. As there was nothing heavy in the grave this may suggest a ritual ‘killing’. The spear head had had an oaken shaft. A bronze buckle had fastened a leather belt which could be followed above the body; a dagger had been attached to it. The grave was similarly cut in the chalk.

*ante* 1839 In making the garden of Bradley Lodge some AS finds, including a bronze brooch, were made.

**Alveston, Bradley Lodge** Inhumation burial(s). Wa 215554. Warwick Museum records.


1851 During deep ploughing of Mill Field, Packwood, at Aston Cantlow (c. 1/2 m. S of the church), a skeleton was discovered on the brow of the hill, c. 1′ deep. The head faced N, and was raised a little above the feet; the hands were folded on the breast. 3 scutcheon-brooches were found with it (2 a pair and gilt, the other larger and with a cruciform pattern), a triangular ornament with interlaced pattern (a buckle is also mentioned; is this the plate for it?) and a white stone bead on the pit of the stomach. The remains of a paved road 3′ wide was found near by.


1933–34 A mixed cemetery was discovered in Hall Pit. During evenings and weekends the material from it was collected by J. Edwards and others after gravel-digging had been proceeding during the day. There is therefore little reliable archaeological association; in particular the associations between the skeletal material, the jewellery, weapons and those pots which appear to be too small for cremation urns, are unknown.

In Coventry Museum are c. 12 boxes of cremation and inhumation skeletal material; 42 fairly complete cremation urns (2 with lugs), 8 lacking a complete section, and c. 20 represented by sherds only (9 of these urns are decorated, the rest plain); 14 undecorated accessory vessels; 48 brooches (3 square-headed, one from the same mould as another from Bidford Wa; 5 cruciform including one pair, 16 small-long including 3 burnt in antiquity, 4 saucer, 8 disc including pairs, 4 penannular and 6 annular); 2 pairs and 3 fragments of wrist-clasps; 5 girdle-hangers; c. 3 bead necklaces; a crystal bead; various strap-ends, buckles and tweezers; a mended bronze hanging-bowl, spun from one piece of metal, with 4 red-enamelled escutcheons; fragments of 2 or 3 bronze bowls with triangular ‘ears’; a pair of bronze-bound wooden buckets and fragments of possibly 2 more; c. 4 shield-bosses (one mamiform, one with silver discs); c. 35 spearheads; and c. 6 ‘knives or daggers’.

**Bascoote.** Inhumation burials. Wa 34, SW, SE, 40 NW, NE. Area SP 450636. *JBA*, XXII (1876), 46. *VCH*, p. 256.

*ante* 1876 AS spearheads, a javelin or two and a knife were found when quarrying for limestone.

**Bensford Bridge** see Churchover Wa.
WARWICKSHIRE

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an AS urn... is illustrated, ornamented with pendant triangles, necklines and stamps. A large glass bead was found near it, and Bloxam thought it had contained a cremation.


1908. Leed's had a sketch of an unpublished cremation, 1 3/8" wide, 14" overall length, found in a grave on the hills at Burton Dassett.

Cestoverso see Churchill Wa.

Chester ton see Lighthorne Wa.


1823. An iron shield-boss and spearhead were found 'probably with an interment' near Watling Street. They went to Bristol Museum, but were transferred to Warwick in 1958. Another shield-boss and 2 spearheads found at Churchover in 1823 are in the BM.

1824. Between Bransford Bridge (called Bensford by Bloxam) and Gibbet Hill (where the road from Rugby to Letterworth crosses the Watling Street), c. 1 m. from Cestoverso, and on the borders of Le and Wa, laboured repairing the Watling Street 5 disturbed a number of human skeletons, which lay buried in the centre and on the sides of the road at the space only of 18" or 2" below the surface. A variety of articles, such as umbos or bosses of shields, spearheads, knives, rings, hooked instruments, and buckles of iron, were dug up with these remains; as also were several un baked or half-baked drinking cups, each containing c. half a pound of ash. They were so friable that they crumbled to pieces, or were so broken by the pickaxe and spade. Many of the interments were apparently those of females and children, and with these were found fibulae—both of the long or bow shaped [small long and cruciform, side knobs missing] and circular kind [bronze, flat, annular, solid penannular], clasps, rings, tweezers, and other ornaments and articles pertaining to females, chiefly of brass, though some few were of silver, with these all were beads of amber, glass and vitrified earth, variously coloured and shaped. One funeral urn only was discovered: this was well baked, had evidently been turned in a lathe, and was rudely ornamented [it is illustrated, has a narrow neck and small base, widening sharply in the middle; the upper part is ornamented with 2 panels, each of a triangular panel]; it contained ashes concreted together in a lump at the bottom; close to the urn lay an iron sword, the only one discovered; and on the mouth of the urn was a spearhead of iron, distinguished from the rest by having a narrow rim of brass round the socket. The sword was 35" in length and 2' in breadth; at the extremity of the hilt was a small cross bar, but it had no guard; it was double-edged and pointed, and indications of a case or scabbard appeared, in which it had been kept. The umbos were somewhat of a conical form... The spearheads were of different sizes varying from 6 to 15" in length... No particular notice was at the time taken of the manner in which these various articles were found, with reference to the bodies; however, the umbos, however, appeared as if placed on the breast of the body, the spearheads near the head or shoulder, and knives by the side. This curious depository of the dead extended along the road for the length of half a mile on high ground, to the SE of the bridge.

Dryden says a large brass of Vespanian, not perforated, was also found here.

The finds from this site now in Warwick Museum include 2 very early cruciform brooches with horse-head feet.

It is possible that there was a mound over at least some of these burials since Dugdale says under Churchill 'there is to be seen a great tumulus which is of the magnitude that it puts passengers beside the usual road.'

1958. During alterations to the Watling Street N of Gibbet Hill parts of 3 skeletons were found immediately below the metalling of the modern road. It was thought to be AS. Later a fourth skeleton was found W of the road, where a lay-by was being constructed; it was accompanied by an iron sword, a bronze ring and an AS bronze annular brooch.
Part of an iron sword and 4 small beads were found at Styte Gate Hill (not located) by one of the workmen on the same job; presumably therefore they too come from this site.

It seems probable that these modern discoveries form part of the same series of burials found in the early XIX, strung out for a considerable distance along Watling Street. Miss J. M. Morris suggests, in view of the early cruciform brooches, that the earliest burials date from the invasion period, and that they were made in the Street because it was an easily identifiable place. Because of the poor recording of the discoveries it is impossible to say how long the AS continued to bury here.


1836 ‘An urn of black clay, 6" high and broad, and evidently made by hand alone’, was dug up c. 200 yds. E of the King’s Stone, Little Rotton. It contained bits of burned bone and the ‘blade of an old razor’—probably an AS knife. A ribbed bronze annular brooch, found by the jaw of a skeleton, a ring the same size as the brooch, and 7 glass beads were found at the same time and place; and labourers said that round flatish pieces of brass, slightly hollowed (saucer-brooches?) had also been found.

1854 About 12 skeletons were found; the head of one of which was particularly noticed was pointing to the W. Skeletons were also found on the other side of the road, towards the Five Knights.

1854 A skeleton was found E of the Five Knights, not far from the road. It lay with its head to the W, and by its side was a large stone, 10' wide, lying on its edge.


1851 A large square-headed brooch, a large faceted silver bead, and a spiral fingering ornamented with small heart-shaped punched impressions were found associated with human remains in a gravel pit at Emscote (wrongly described as at Myton).

1852 5 or 6 further AS graves were found in the same gravel-pit, on the right bank of the River Avon, 1 m. above Warwick. With them were 4 iron spearheads, from 8½" to 14" long, shield-bosses, an iron buckle, and 2 small, roughly made pots; of jewellery there were a pair of bronze disc brooches with ring and dot ornament, 2 small-long brooches (not a pair), and a pair of gilt-bronze saucer brooches with a geometric design, found with a necklet of silver wire, hammered out and ornamented with punched detailing in front. The gravel pit was a large one, but practically exhausted long before 1923, so that it is difficult to know how far apart the 2 finds were, if of many other graves are likely to have been destroyed. The finds, but not the graves, are well published and illustrated.


1891 Part of an iron spearhead and 2 AS beads (one melon, one amber) were found 2' 6" below the surface during sand digging at Oak Hill.

Gilbert Hall (Hall) see Church of Ewa.


1790 Some labourers working close to the furnace at Halford Bridge found 3 skeletons lying NS, ‘with a bed of clay above and below, c. 2½" below the surface; 2 of them very imperfect, seemingly laid as chance directed, the other c. 6" 2", apparently deposited with great care; by his side lay 3 weapons. These consisted of a javelin head 6½" long, a spearhead 2½" long, and a "small weapon with an iron handle"—perhaps part of the handle of a shield. Several other pieces of broken armour are mentioned, and perhaps also belonged to the shield.

Several other skeletons were said to have found near the same spot.

1858 In opening a stone pit at Arnsclit Field, near Halford Bridge, fragments of pottery and horns of red deer were found close together. The pottery was described as ‘course, imperfectly burnt ware, without ornament, probably not worked on a lathe, but with more of the characteristics of AS manufacture’.

Long Itchington—Lighthorne see p. 217.


1875 2 workmen digging for gravel in Longbridge Park, c. 1 m. W of Warwick, found several skeletons and AS weapons. Burgess watched the progress of the excavations, and noted that the graves were c. 2½ feet from the surface, and that some skeletons had indistinguishably on others. One grave particularly noticed was that of a young man over 6' tall; another was of a man in a small grave, furnished richly with a gold bracteate 2" diam. (with horse and rider pattern, of Scandinavian origin), part of a silvery bracteate, a large cruciform brooch with silver plates (like another from Ragley Wa, late and florid), a few rough amber beads and a silver bracelet 2½" diam. in the form of a double spiral. The grave next to this one contained a bucket and a pair of gilt saucer brooches with central garnets. The other finds were a glass drinking vessel and an urn of black pottery (both shattered), 2 more buckets, a sword 3' long with the remains of a scabbard ornamented with bronze, one spearhead 2½" long and several others 7 to 15½" long, javelin heads, knives, at least 6 shield-bosses (one found above the head of one of the bodies, the point of a sword within), 7 other saucer-brooches (some gilt), 2 flat rings, brooches, and 2 small-long brooches (one trefoil-headed and one square-headed), a strip of gilt bronze with a zigzag edge, a "key and a bolt buckle. These finds, but not the graves, are described in the three articles.

The excavations covered an area of only 50' by 60', and other graves may have been left undisturbed.


1874 J. T. Bloom heard that several 'several sepulchral urns' had been found (2 months earlier) 'in a cutting through an artificial hill or tumulus, on which stood a windmill, for the foundation of the Rugby and Leamington railway.'

Now in Warwick Museum from Bloom's collection are 3 undecorated urns. One is filled with bones (mixed with a good deal of gravel), some showing signs of burning, but including an upper and a lower jaw, and part of a larger upper jaw, the teeth of which are stained with charcoal. It therefore seems likely that there were inhumation burials as well as cremations.

Also in the Museum are the remains of an iron sword, part of a shield-boss, 3 annular bronze brooches, one larger bronze pin perhaps from another annular brooch, and a saucer-brooch with plain triangles. One of the zoomorphic ornament, which Bloom said 'has never been identified, lies on top of some bones in one of the urns.' This may account for the green staining on the jaw-bone. Bloom also had 2 spearheads from Marlon, but although there are several in his collection in the Museum, none is definitely assignable to this site.


1957 An AS inhumation with shield-boss, spearhead and ferrule was found.

Myton see Emscote Wa.


1927 During quarrying operations at the W end of Napton Hill, a stone in the walls of an interior was found with a sword 2½", then 2½", and a tall coalition shield-boss 6½" high.

Chatwin says that a 'few saxon skeletons' were found, and that there may have been 2 shield-bosses.

1843. Labours of filling an old gravel-pit at Newton found 8 or 10 skeletons just below the surface. With them was the bronze handle of a Roman skull, an amethyst bead, 2 gold pendants (one with a 'convex-faced black opaque stone, like touch' set in it, the other with a garnet), a barrel-shaped bead of gold wire and 2 others of silver, 2 small gold ornaments with loops, ½ diam. and 3 small earthenware beads.


*ante 1876* Graves were found during gravel-digging on top of the hill, at the side of the road to Long Itchington. Labours declared that one spearhead was found driven vertically through a body. There were also found a shallow shield-boss, a smaller spear, a knife, a large square-headed brooch, 2 'cross-shaped fibulae of ordinary patterns' found with a bear's tusk, a swastika brooch, a saucer-brooch with a central stud, a small square silver buckle and a tag of silver. Some late Roman coins, a few amber and some corroded-coloured and blue clay beads were also found.

R. A. Smith remarks that all these could have come from one or two graves, but Burgess is fairly definite that it was a cemetery. None of the finds appears to be now extant.

**Oldbury.** Inhumation burial, secondary in barrow. Wa 10 NE. SP 317944. Bloxam (1840-50), p. 22. Coll Ant, I (1848), 33. VCH, p. 267. 1835 (or 1824) Bloxam and Hawkes opened a barrow 'on the brink of some high ground on the Hartshill range of hills'. 2' from the surface on the E side they found some bones, a spearhead of iron, and an iron shield-boss. None of these appears to be now extant.


*ante 1848* A bronze cruciform brooch, an iron spearhead with a split socket, an iron 'chisel' with a socket, and a nail, were found with a fragment of pottery (light brown with a white scroll) 'on the site of a Roman station' by the Fosse Way.

1843 (probably at the same time as the preceding). A square-headed brooch '5½ diam.' was found near the same place as the 1848 brooch.

Burgess says that AS urns were also found at Princetheorpe.

In Warwick Museum, labelled as from Princetheorpe, are a fine horse-headed cruciform brooch, an iron 'punch', a bronze bull's head, a bronze Roman pendant, a Roman coin, and a small bronze hammer, which, however, is listed in VCH, p. 248, as Roman and from Rugby. Others also of these objects may therefore be wrongly labelled.

The exact site of the AS discoveries is unknown, but recently (1962) a Roman settlement has been discovered at 401703, and this may be Bloxam's 'Roman station.'


circa 1833 A female skeleton, with a large gilt square-headed brooch, 2 small radiate brooches, a small iron knife, part of a buckle and several beads of amber and jet 'together with some other articles' was found in the boundary fence of Ragley Park. R. A. Smith dated this burial to the VII because of the ornamentation on the square-headed brooch.

Lord Hertford has in his possession the brooches, the bronze buckle and the knife, and a bronze needle sheath, one paste and 2 amber beads and part of the lower jaw of the skeleton.


1934. Human remains were found in a gravel pit at Alveston, S of the Avon. At the time when Wellesstood made his notes 64 skeletons had been discovered in an area roughly 136' by 152'. Most of the graves were c. 3' 6" deep and had been dug sufficiently long to accommodate the skeleton fully extended, but occasionally it was laid on the side with the legs drawn up. The graves were fairly evenly distributed over the ground; only 4 or 5 were disturbed by subsequent burials. Usually the heads were between S and W; one burial was in the opposite direction, but there were no grave-goods and the burial was 35' from the cemetery proper, so that it may not have been an AS burial. Fragments of charcoal were nearly always on the bodies; one grave was tightly strewn all over with it. 29 of the skeletons were of men, 28 of women, and 7 of children.

The richest grave was of an elderly woman (very few of the people were represented over 40) with a large square-headed brooch, 2 saucer-brooches, a small penannular brooch, a string of 40 paste and amber beads, with one large one of rock crystal, a finger-ring of base metal and an iron girdle-buckle. The square-headed brooch is 7' long, of bronze gilt, tinned or silvered at the back; it had 13 inset garnets (7 now lost) and an oval garnet from a Roman seal-ring in the foot. 2 women's graves contained pottery accessory vessels; one man's a small bronze-bound bucket, and another a large bucket with iron hands and a bronze rim. A large fragment of the rim of a bronze bowl fused by fire was found in the grave of a child. In men's graves there were iron spearheads, a few with ferrules; knives from 2½" to 9' long, nearly all with signs of a leather sheath and a handle; shields; iron buckles, one with bronze attachment plate; and one fine circular iron buckle overlaid with silver. In women's graves toilet implements were found, including a bronze tooth-pick, and an ear scoop on a wire ring; also bronze disc-shaped pendants, beads of amber, glass, paste and rock crystal, and wrist-clasps. 5 women had purses of leather with bronze or iron fittings; 5 of them held Roman coins.

There were several brooches, nearly all of cast bronze with iron pins except for 3 or 4 penannular brooches of iron. They were generally worn in pairs on the breast with festoons of beads hanging between. The earliest brooches found were a pair of small unornamented square-headed brooches said to date from soon after A.D. 500. There were some gilt saucer-brooches, decorated with a circular pattern of debased zoomorphic design. One has a raised central knob, 2 have button brooches riveted to the centre. There are 4 disc brooches with ring and dot design; and another with similar ornamentation applied. An oblong brooch formed of 3 square panels (the centre one gilt with a Tudor Rose design, the outer ones plain), another which may belong to the bird-brooch class but 'more resembles a rabbit with a trumpet-like mouth' and a third brooch with pairs of confronted birds on each side of a tapering panel of interlaced strap-work are more unusual varieties.

32 cremation urns were found scattered about irregularly between the graves, and fragments of many others, probably disturbed when inhumation graves were dug. Only a few of the urns were ornamented; and some very small vessels had been used to hold cremations.

At intervals in the cemetery were 21 hearths, each consisting of a quantity of large pebbles, charred and split by the action of fire; but there was no indication of their relationship, if any, to the inhumation or cremation burials. Nearly all the graves were of 'good animals'.

The cemetery appears to have been long-lasting.

**Street Ashton.** Isolated find. Wa SP 4582. Warwick Museum records. Museum: Warwick.

circa 1900 An iron spearhead was found here.

Warwick see Longbridge Park Wa.
WILTSHIRE

1935 An AS iron spearhead found in a rabbit scrape implies a probably secondary AS burial in Cincettot Barrow, Barrow Clump.

1925 Clay opened a round barrow with a surrounding ditch, on Middle Down, a few yards S of the ridge way, and to the W of the amphitheatre. A grave 7' long, 3' wide, 2' deep, contained the skeleton of a man c. 25 years old, lying supine head S, feet under the centre of the barrow. Over the skeleton were 4 or 5 large blocks of flint. The lower jaw appeared to have been pierced by a sharp instrument before death.
A shield-boss was just above the left elbow (arm bent), an antler on the left end of the skull. On the left end of the skull was a spearhead with the ferrule beside it. An iron knife lay point upwards by the left hand, but the tine was several inches nearer the head. Below the right elbow was a fragment of a bracelet of Kimeridgian shale.

1740 Stukeley excavated the twin barrows N of Stonehenge. In the western 'at 14' deep, the mould being mixed with chalk, we came to the entire skeleton of a man. The skull and all the bones exceedingly rotten and perish'd thro' length of time. . . . The body lay N and S, the head to the N.'

Amesbury see also Boscombe Down Wi.

1812 The mound, No. 3 [of the Ashdown Valley group] does not exceed 18' in elevation. On making the first section in it, Mr. Cunnington was struck with the singularity of finding 2 pieces of fine Roman pottery at a considerable depth in the soil; and in prosecuting his researches, instead of a sepulchral urn, as he expected, he perceived that the earth and chalk had been excavated to the depth of 11' in order to form a room, and the soil being chalk, the sides were nearly as hard as a stone wall and the angles quite sharp. Towards the centre lay a human skeleton, nearly N and S, extended at full length, and on its back, contrary to the general custom. In opening this place, when within 2' of the bottom, the men frequently found pieces of charred wood and iron nails of various sizes from half an inch to 5' long, and generally with flat heads. (evidently from a coffin.)

1812 'This circular barrow [No. 7 of the Ashton Valley group] is placed on the declivity of a hill, and contained a skeleton interred from SW to NE at the depth of 3' 9' under the surface. . . . The head was reclined on the breast, one of the arms thrown backwards, and some of the fingers were scattered about, yet there were no indications to lead us to suppose it had ever been disturbed.' An AS iron spearhead, bound with bronze, was found by the side. 'By the right side of the skeleton lay a considerable quantity of corroded iron, which probably was once the sword or spear of the warrior, and with it some small bits of cloth, so well preserved, that we can distinguish clearly the size of the spinning, and that it is what we now term a kersey cloth. The circumstance attending the finding of this skeleton induces us to think that this interment was subsequent to the original construction of the barrow; especially as we afterwards, near the bottom of it, discovered a cist of little depth containing the burned bones of the primary deposit.'

Barbury Castle, Ogbourne St Andrew. Inhumation burials. Wi 22 SE. SU 150763. Wi AM, XLVI (1934), 174. VCH, p. 94. OS records.
Museum: Marlborough College.
1934 An iron sword of the VI or VII and fragments of others, smaller single-edged knives and an iron spearhead were found in Barbury Castle.
1939-45 Human skeletons buried in the rampart were found by American troops during the 2d World War.

1926 Workmen laying a pipe line from the reservoir 100 yards from the top of Barrow Hill found an extended skeleton 1' 6' deep, head to the N. On the left shoulder was the boss and 3 circular iron ornaments from a shield, and on the right an iron spearhead.

1822 'When Mr Story began elevating the hill at Bassett Down . . . they found a few feet below the summit a number of human skeletons. Shortly afterwards, when they came to the point of land they discovered the skeletons of 2 young warriors . . . interred side by side. Each had a portion of a shield, a spear, a knife, fibulae, and a pair of clasps, besides strings of beads . . . A coin was also found, but too imperfect to give the date, and a portion of a spoon.'
1830 'Digging . . . further to the W more skeletons like the first were found.'

Preserved in Devizes Museum are the lower jaws of the 2 skeletons found in 1822, with 2 shield-bosses, 2 spearheads, 3 iron knives, an RB bow shod brooch of bronze gilt, 2 bronze pins with flattened heads, on rings, and fragments of 2 others, a bronze ear-pick, the bowl and part of the handle of an RB tinned metal spoon, a bone ?spind-whorl, 25 amber beads of irregular shapes, 4 disc-shaped beads, a globular bead of rock-crystal, 15 glass beads (some bugs and some "pears"), 2 pairs of large saucer brooches (one with a star design, the other rather resembling those from Horton Kirby I, K), and a plain iron ring. Mrs Cunningham doubted the ascription of all these objects to 2 male graves; but brooches are well evidenced in warrior's graves in other West Saxton cemeteries, e.g. Long Wittenham Bk.
Brown considers this cemetery early because of the RB objects, the beads, and the bronze pins.

1924 A considerable number of human skeletons were found from time to time in the chalk pit close to the NW entrance of Battlesbridge Camp. At least some of the burials were contracted, and laid c. 1' 5' deep. A child and an adult were found together, and sometimes as many as 5 skulls found close together. Nothing was heard of associated objects found with them.
3 AS iron seaxes were found somewhere near the camp, and it has therefore been conjectured that the burials were AS; but this is by no means certain, and elsewhere the skeletons are taken to be Belgic.

Great Bedwyn. Inhumation burials. Wi 37 NW. SU 266123. Wi AM, XXVI (1892), 412; XXXVIII (1914), 188; XLII (1922), 312. VCH, p. 73.
1892 Brooke noted that human skeletons were frequently found in the chalk pit, N of the pumping station at Crofton, and that graves were visible as dark patches in the face of the chalk. He dug out one skeleton; but assigned no date to them. 'The field over them is paved with flint weapons.'
1920 B. H. Cunningham opened a series of 5 or 7 graves, which radiated from a common centre 'like spokes from a wheel'.

Boreham see King Barrow Wi.

Bower Chalk. Inhumation burial, primary in barrow. Wi 75 NW (or Do 10 NW) Unlocated (SU 0321?), Arch, XXX (1844), 547, Coll Anth, 1 (1848), 96. VCH, pp. 160–61, 243.

1842 W. Chaffers opened some barrows near Woodway. The smoothness and verdant hue of the grass on one of smaller dimensions; indicated its having been undisturbed. This barrow was not more than 2’ above the surface. It was formed of gravel. On removing this, at the depth of 1’, we found a clay cist placed in the chalk, and in it a skeleton lying E and W, the face towards the E. Close by its right side was an iron dagger much corroded, and a green substance, which had probably formed part of the handle. There were also decayed portions of another iron weapon, perhaps a spear.


1801 Near the great trackway was a long barrow called Bowl’s Barrow (boddelshurgie 968 (15th), Britnell’s Barrow, J. E. B. Gover, A Mawer and F. M. Stenton, The Place-Names of Wilts, EPNs, XVI (1939), 168). It was 150’ long at the base, 94’ wide, 10’ high, the broad end at the E. Cunningham opened it, and discovered at the E end ‘a human skeleton lying SW and NE, and with it a brass buckle, and 2 thin pieces of the same metal. Towards the centre of the barrow were 2 other skeletons interred with their heads towards the S, and one of them lying on its side....’

‘At a subsequent period Mr Cunningham made a second attempt on this tumulus... but owing to the great height of the barrow, and the large stones continually rolling down upon the labourers, he was obliged to desist.’

1864 Thurman reopened the barrow and found a burial near the summit, probably another AS secondary.

1885–86 W. and H. Cunningham excavated it again, but found only primary burials.


1870 W. Cunnington excavated the long barrow in Bratton Camp; he discovered the remains of 3 skeletons near the top of the large end.


Circa 1824 Village tradition said that there were spearheads in the loft above the old Rectory at Broadchaldon; these could have been AS weapons, discovered when a chalk pit cut into the cemetery.

1923-25 During chalking by the side of Church Bottom Lane, at the foot of Knighton Hill, 80’ above the River Ebble, 6 skeletons were discovered. One was 1’ 3” deep; 5 others (one of a young person c. 16) were lying roughly N-S, and had no associated objects.

19 Further skeletons were excavated by Clay on the end of a long strip lynchet. The graves, roughly cut in the top layers of chalk, were usually too short for the skeleton, and there were no surface indications of them. The depth varied from 1’ 3” to 4’ 2”, according to the thickness of the topsoil. There was no alignment or uniformity, and an apparent lack of reverence, since burials disturbed by subsequent interments were thrown back carelessly. The skeletons lay in all attitudes, but most were supine, heads bent forward, legs touching or crossing at the ankles. Every grave contained several burnt or unburnt flints and pieces of iron pyrites lying alongside or close above the skeletons. Only 7 graves had associated objects, 3 had knives only; in the other 4 were 3 spearheads, a shield-boss, an iron buckle, and 2 further knives. The graves were of men and women; only 2 were of children, one of whom had an iron knife.


1834 or 36 While removing the top of a barrow on the edge of a hill above Thornhill Lane, skeletons were found; with them were an iron arrowhead with barbs, 2 large heads (one of amber, one green glass), and a piece of the rim of a bottle of white glass.


1862 3 skeletons were found at Broughton Gifford in digging gravel for railway ballast. The skulls are more brachycephalic than is usual with AS, and Muchdown believed from their state of preservation that they were much more modern.


1896 An AS splitsocketed spearhead was found on Bulford Down.

1906 A small AS spearhead with a split socket was found at Bulford when the camp was being built.


1927 To the S of the cross-roads on top of Callas Hill, and on the edge of the road, men found a male skeleton (under 30 years) with a spearhead 14” long and a broken knife in a grave 4’ deep into the chalk, covered by another 4’ of rainwash from the hill-side.


1934 A black glass bead, well made and with a deep zig-zag of white, was found on the left of the road to Cheverell above Knowtham Pond. Some years earlier, bones and a sword were found near the same place.

West Chisbury, Enford. Inhumation cemetery. Wi 47 NE, SU 136531. Wi AM, XLV (1932), 84; XLVI (1934), 154. Cunningham (1934), 248. VCH, p. 70. Museums: Devizes; British Museum (Natural History), RCS Collection.

192x In digging a pit in the garden of the new houses on War Department land at West Chisbury, a shallow grave c. 5’ long, E-W, was found cut in the chalk. It contained a skeleton, apparently extended with head to the E. Somewhere near the head was a socketed iron spearhead, 11¼” long.

Several other burials are said to have been cut through in digging the narrow foundation trenches for the group of cottages, ¼ m. N of the cross roads.

Durrington. Inhumation burial, secondary in barrow. Wi 54 SW, SU 116441. Wi AM, XLVI (1932–34), 156, 163. VCH, pp. 66, 225. Circa 1865 An AS burial was found in a so-called Pond Barrow on Durrington Down near Stonehenge. The skull is small, almost certainly female.

Durrington see also Fargo Wi.


ante 1894 An iron knife with well-preserved wooden handle and a bone comb were found with remains of a wooden coffin and iron nails [with remains of skeleton in a grave] on the S side of the clump of trees on this hill. The comb is double-sided, and could be AS or Roman. There is an RB settlement on the hill.


ante 1869 Thurman found a centre and near the summit of an Iron Age Long Barrow 1’-2’ below the turf, a large male skeleton stretched at length. There was a large cleft in the skull, apparently from a sword blow.


1842 Rev. E. Walton exhibited a ‘Saxon Knife found with skeletons at Elston.’


1854 Thurman opened the most eastern of the Evelry group of barrows, a bell barrow 13’ high. The skeleton of a tall man was 6’1”. The head of the barrow had been removed and the inner part was entered by the AES period.

Fargo, Durrington. Inhumation cemetery. Wi 54 SW, SU 11447. Wi AM, XXXI (1901), 331. VCH, p. 66.
1864 ‘There were... in an arable field approaching our Winterbourne boundary remains of c. 30 graves of common people; but only 2 of them even then nearly perfect. These were where the body had been laid to S., looking northward, upon the chalk rock which there was about a foot below the surface. Flint had been set as a sort as a wall around the body and apparently above it. The teeth of one skeleton were in full number, but the muscles had worn off the bones; the teeth was level in the skull was a triangular flint; but if it belonged to a weapon, and had caused death, it was one of the ruddiest ever fashioned.’

These sound very like AS burials.


1941 Workmen digging trenches on the W side of Ermine Street, found 6 or 8 graves c. 3’ deep, 3 yds. apart, on the northern edge of a depression in the ground. With one skeleton was a pottery accessory vessel ornamented with shallow shoulder bosses, stamps and incised lines (horizontal, vertical and diagonal); some ornamental cast bronze probably from a belt, an iron knife blade, a carved shield-boss and a lump of irons pyrites. In other graves were found an iron sword parts of 2 more shield-bosses, a spearhead and a knife.

A square-headed brooch with downward biting animal design, and 2 latish saucer brooches with animal ornament and 3-forked centres were in the A.D. Passmore Collection.


1910 Crawford and Peake opened a disc barrow close to the boundary of Shalbourne on the edge of Great Betley Copse. A skeleton was found with another iron spearhead and bronze buckle of VI or VII; parts of another skeleton were below it, and also the primary cremated burial.

A bowl-shaped barrow nearby was opened at the same time; there was a secondary burial, without grave-goods.


circa 1843 A carpenter digging a hole for a gate post on the S side of Low Field at the foot of Harnham Hill turned up a human skull and a spearhead.

1853 The ‘Drowner’ in charge of the watermeadows noticed a spearhead protruding from the ground near the gate; and a skeleton with a shield-boss, an iron knife and a buckle was dug out.

1853-54 Akerman excavated 64 graves containing 73 skeletons, in a space c. 140’ by 20’ wide. If there were barrows, as the name Low Field would suggest, they must have been very small and more like the hillocks of a modern gravel pit, a similar space would hold 80 graves. The graves were dug down to the chalk, and the bodies laid on it. There was no trace of coffins, but most of the bodies were protected by large flint stones, placed to form a coffin-like cist. Among the earth near the skeletons were found fragments of pottery. Most of the skeletons lay supine, heads W; 2 were crouched, one with head S. It was noticeable that no young child was buried by itself, and no adults were buried together. There were 6 multiple burials; one contained an adolescent and an infant, 3 an adult (sex unspecified or female) and a child (one with the child between the legs of the woman), and 2 an adult between 2 children.

The cemetery was poorly furnished; 33 of the skeletons were without grave-goods of any kind. The children were no more properly provided then the adults. Among the objects found were ordinary weapons but no sword, a modern chisel (found where a similar as well as in strings), buckle, chape, scabbard, button and applied brooches, square-headed and other small-long brooches, a small semicircular-headed brooch of Frankish type, a Roman bow brooch, pins, toilet instruments on a ring, tweezers, finger-rings (including one plain one of gold and one silver spiral) and an elaborately chased gilt, belt ornament. The most unusual objects were a two-pronged fork found with a knife, and a shallow bronze-covered wooden bowl 7’ diameter, 2’ deep.

1916 A girdle-end was found in the garden of East Harnham Vicarage. It is of late VI or VII date, ornamented with a Celtic floral motive and 2 anthropomorphic helmeted figures.

1931 When tennis courts were being made for the Club just N of the Vicarage, a female skeleton was found with 2 applied brooches, front plates missing.

1937 While cutting a new by-pass opposite the Old Parsonage Farm, West Harnham, 2 skeletons were found lying supine, heads resting on blocks of yellow sandstone, without grave-goods.

1939 5 yds. S of the Netherhampton Road, a single skeleton, without grave-goods, was found 4’ deep, head WNW, in blackened earth, probably the remains of a decomposed wooden coffin.

The Harnham Hill cemetery resembles that at Petersfinger Wi in poorness of grave-furnishing etc.; and also in the fact that the early objects have Frankish affinities; and the later... perhaps the 1916 belt-end—show connections with the West Saxo area. The cemetery probably had a long and continuous life.


1852 An iron buckle was found on a headless skeleton buried near several skills in New town Plantation on the site of Lord Heytesbury’s New House.


circa 1890 Greenwell excavated a barrow, ‘the only one. Hinton Down’, 68’, diameter 9’ 3’ W of the centre, and 2’ beneath the surface of the barrow, the body of an adult male Saxon was discovered, laid on the back at full length, with the head to the S, the arms being placed alongside the body. On the left side and close to the head was an iron spear-head, with the point upwards.


1643 ‘Mr Aubry speaks of a barrow opened in Kennet parish... two stones 11 feet long, laid side by side, and a corps between, with a sword and knife. Another like stone laid over all.’


ante 1958 2 secondary extended burials, probably AS, were found in this barrow.


1800 W. Cunningham excavated the King Barrow (206’ long, OS 56’ wide, 15’ high). 200 yards N of Boreham, and of S of Battlesbury Camp. 18’ deep in the top of the barrow 3 human skeletons were found, lying from SW to NE. ‘On the thigh of one of them was an iron sword, which originally had a handle of oak wood; the blade is 18’ long, 2’ wide and single edged. Near these skeletons was found the fragment of an urn, very rude yet prettily ornamented, which probably contained an interment of burned bones, that was disturbed by the deposit of the above bodies.’


1907 The Cunninghams opened a barrow 1’ high in the centre, 34’ diam., on King’s Play Down, 25 yards SW of the bowl barrow on the summit of the hill. In a large grave beneath the centre of the mound was a male skeleton, supine, head to the W. There were no relics in the grave, except 36 iron nails with wood adhering, a fragment of an iron girdle, and in the jaws of the coffin. The chalk filling in the grave was clean and in lumps as first dug out, so that this must have been a primary burial, most probably AS. The shape of the skull was considered by Beddoes to be typically Saxon.


1801 W. Cunningham excavated Knook.
Long Barrow, and 'digging near the centre, c. 18' below the surface, discovered 4 headless skeletons lying from S to N, which appeared to have been deposited with very little ceremony, as 2 of them had their legs laid across each other.'


1807 'On a fine piece of down attached to West Knoyle Farm, are 2 very low tumuli, which I opened.... In the smallest of the 2 we discovered the skeleton of a robust man, extended on his back at full length in a large cist. Between his knees was the tall, conical iron umbo of a shield,.... on his left side was a spearhead of the same metal, c. 7' long;.... also an iron knife. In the adjoining mound we found a very imperfect interment of burned bones, so intermixed with the soil, that I doubt if it was the primary one.' (Hoare.)

West Knoyle II, or East Knoyle. Inhumation burial, secondary in barrow. Wi 63 NE. ST 8834 or 866337. Hoare (1812), pp. 48-49. Wi AM, XXXVIII (1914), 275; XLVI (1934), 164. VCH, pp. 67, 173 or 195.

1802 'At the distance of c. 1 m. S of Kelsey Lodge is a circular barrow on the brow of the hill, 39' in diameter, and 5' high. This was also opened... and produced, a few inches under the turf, the skeleton of a large man, and under it an oval cut in the chalk 5' long and 3' wide, containing a few large beads of jet and some of amber.' (Hoare.)


1763 Collins, bookseller at Sarum, gave Stukeley 'a drawing of the spearhead found in the upper part of a barrow in Lake Field, by Stonehenge, with an iron head-piece of the most ancient form; there was no sword, but a dagger... The size of the helmet and the verge around it is 8½ by 6½. This had near 4' perpendicular depth [with]... a boss at the top. This body was buried near the surface of the tumulus.'


1731-32 excavating from the MS of a Mr Lethemullier. Hoare describes the opening of 2 barrows. One contained a skeleton and spearhead; but since the spearhead is not described it is not known whether this was an early BA or AS burial.

Marlborough (Mildenhall, Savenake). Inhumation burial. Wi 29 SW. SU 207686. Wi AM, XLIV (1927-29), 244; XLVI (1934), 168.

1927 'Men digging at the top of the hill on the London Road, near the hospital [Savenake] found a skeleton with an iron spearhead of Saxon type, with the socket broken away.' (A. D. Passmore.) This could have been in Marlborough, Mildenhall, or Savenake Parishes.


Museums: Devizes; Oxford, Ashmolean.

1827 A skeleton was found with a pair of bronze-gilt saucer brooches with a uniform design, a bronze pin 5 long with an eye 3½ from the end, 2 iron knives, 21 beads (5 irregularly shaped amber, the rest vitreous paste) and a bronze finger ring (a bone with green staining is preserved, but the ring, although recorded, is lost).

1914 A saucer brooch, nearly 3½ diam., was found on ploughed ground to the N of the village, and a round-headed pin was probably found at the same time.

Mildenhall see also Marlborough WI.


1957 From alluvial soil above a chalk pit came a bone needle with an eye, a small pot of dark grey ware 1' 9½ high, and part of a bone comb.


Museum: Devizes.

1913 'In excavating the cellars for the officers' mess at the Aviation School, a skeleton was found in a grave 2' deep, lying supine, head to the W. Associated were a bronze pin, found close to the right of the skull, an iron socketed spearhead, and some narrow strips of iron and rivets, thought to be part of a shield. Another skeleton was found a few yards away, but there was nothing with it.'

1938 In digging trenches on the RAF aerodrome, the skeleton of a young person, head W, was found in a grave 4' deep, 6½ long, 21 iron nails were found, doubtless from a coffin. The depth of soil above the grave was rather greater than usual, and there could have been a low mound, mostly ploughed away.


1812 W. Cunningham excavated a long barrow at Normanton; at the broad end was a skeleton 18' deep.


1885 H. Cunningham opened a large round barrow c. 85' diam. in the NE corner of the churchyard, in a valley only a few feet above a stream. Towards the E side, 2 deep, were 2 skeletons; 3' deep, 6 more; and nearly 20 in all were subsequently discovered, scattered throughout the mound at about the same level. They were of both sexes, but not strictly. The forms of both skulls varied very much, and Cunningham thought the burials of medieval date.

5' deep, near the centre, was the skeleton of a man, head WSW, buried in a fir-wood coffin with iron clamps, which was surrounded by a considerable quantity of ashes of oakwood, 3' to 4' deep, especially towards the head. Cunningham considered this burial AS. 2' below it was the primary BA cremation burial.


1939 Messrs. Chivers workmen found the skeleton of a man 40-45 years old, buried with spear and shield with mammiform boss.


ante 1914 A pot with 3 lugs was found, probably from a disturbed grave of this cemetery. 1948 In the course of chalk digging by mechanical excavators AS graves and associated objects were found.

1948-51 Excavations were undertaken on behalf of Salisbury Museum. The cemetery occupied a slight natural terrace on the steep western escarpment of Ashley Hill, 230' OD. 70 inhumation burials were discovered. In the first 30 graves excavated, the richer lay EW, the poorer NS; in the rest, which were generally later, vice versa. In 4 graves natural flint blocks were packed around the skeleton, or used as a covering, but in general there was no protection. Of the 15 children buried, only 2 had any associated objects, one an annular brooch, the other a bead. 10 of the adults had no grave goods, 2 only a knife, and only c. 5 were at all richly furnished. Among the objects found were the remains of an ivory ring, a small assortment of beads (many of amber, some small and plain, of red, green and yellow paste similar to those found in early Frankish graves, some varicoloured, 2 sword-knot heads, and 1 large faceted bead of quartz), a bronze belt-slide, a little silver semi-spherical headed brooch of Kentish type of the early VI and a button brooches from the same grave, a pair of saucer brooches, 4 applied and 2 disc brooches, 2 buckets (one iron bound, one bronze bound), a varied assortment of buckles (some of Frankish origin and some of VII date), a silver chain and a needle case, bronze clips from a hair ornament, a small pendant made from the terminal phalange of a carnivore (probably one of the larger cats), 2 pouches or purses, a gift of the larger cats, 2 pouches or purses, a gift of the larger cats, 2 pouches or purses, a gift of the larger cats, 2 pouches or purses, a gift of the larger cats, 2 pouches or purses, a gift of the larger cats.
23' deep in the filling of a Roman well a human skeleton was found shoddered, with an iron knife blade with tang (2 pieces found far apart), 2 iron buckles, 3 beads (2 of yellowish-green vitreous paste, one irregularly shaped amber), and a bronze needle 3.5 long, similar to that from the other Mendenhall site 1 m. away. All these objects are VI AS, and the skeleton was that of a woman who had met a violent end—none of the pieces of skull still showed bloodstains on the outside—and was thrown or dropped into the well. A sarsen stone had been thrown in on top.


In the absolute centre of the first barrow a hole 22' deep, 16' diameter, with rounded base, had been carefully cut. This was completely filled with earthy chalk dust, and the top sealed by 6 large flints. 12' below them was one small unornamented fragment of pot, possibly R.A. Smith similar to one sherd found in the ditch. A little lower down were 2 pieces of charcoal, pea-size. Surrounding the hole was a roughly cut circular ditch c. 9' deep, 15' wide, 12'6' inner diam., well within the limits of the barrow itself. It contained nothing except the tooth of an ox.

The second barrow was an exact duplicate of the first on the surface, and separated from it by only 9'. In the centre was a large well-cut out grave, 8'6' long, 5'6' wide, cut 2' deep into the chalk. The sides had been lined with turf c. 8' thick. A line projected from its longest axis cut through the small hole in the first barrow. The skeleton of a man c. 22 years old, c. 6' tall, lay supine but slightly inclined to the right, in the centre of the barrow. Head NW. A single-edged AS iron knife lay under the right wrist, with some remains of the leather sheath. A few inches from the left hip were 2 pieces of a small iron object. To the left of the body lay the associated legs-bones of a small sheep, similar to the pre-Roman or Roman breed. Directly over the body was a thin layer of turf, and above it white chalk rubble and a large number of flints.

A third barrow excavated to the NE was found.

**Roche Court Down II. Inhumation burial, primary in barrow.** Wi 61 SE. SU 253357. WI AM, XLVII (1932), 568-99; esp. 568, 570, 572-76, 587-99; pl. II, IV, VCH, pp. 127, 203, 243. Museum: Devizes; British Museum (Natural History), RCS Collection.

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A third barrow excavated to the NE was found.

**Wiltshire**


In the absolute centre of the first barrow a hole 22' deep, 16' diameter, with rounded base, had been carefully cut. This was completely filled with earthy chalk dust, and the top sealed by 6 large flints. 12' below them was one small unornamented fragment of pot, possibly R.A. Smith similar to one sherd found in the ditch. A little lower down were 2 pieces of charcoal, pea-size. Surrounding the hole was a roughly cut circular ditch c. 9' deep, 15' wide, 12'6' inner diam., well within the limits of the barrow itself. It contained nothing except the tooth of an ox.
1805 Hoare and Cunningham opened 2 barrows on Roundway Down. The first was a small circular tumulus on the right hand, as you reach the summit from Devizes. At the depth of 4 ft it produced a skeleton lying from N to S, but without any accompanying, either of arms or of trinkets.

The second barrow lies further to the E, and near the stone quarries. It is circular in its form, and c. 2 ft in elevation. At the depth of 4 ft we found a skeleton lying from E to W and with it an ivory ring and 30 bits of ivory, in form and size like children’s marbles cut in two; these articles were intermixed with a large quantity of decayed wood.

1855 The 2 barrows were reopened, by J. W. Cunningham, junior. In the first the cist was found to be oval, 6 ft 8 in long, EW (not NS), with flat pans cut in through a circular dung cup were found in it. The skull was broken, but only the bones showed that the person buried was a young man, fairly tall. The tumulus was 15 ft in diameter, 28 ft high.

The second barrow was re-dug, and the bones examined by Thurman; but nothing discovered except a deer’s antler.


large oblong pit had been made in the native soil to the depth of 3½ ft; and on the floor, which was very even, we found intermixed with the chalk, the following articles, viz. an iron sword 29 in long in the blade and 2½ wide; the handle set in wood; without a guard, double-edged, and terminating in an obtuse point; and from the quantity of decomposed wood adhering to the blade, it is probably it had been protected by a scabbard. 3 spearsheads of iron, and of different lengths, all retaining a part of the shaft in the socket, which appears to have been of ash wood. The largest of these is 3½ ft long, and nearly 5½ ft wide [sic] and very neatly shaped. Near the above were found the blades of 2 knives, the umbo of a shield, and some circular bosses belonging to the same; also a very neat brass buckle, with some leather adhering to it, and several other small pieces of iron. Close to the umbo lay 4 or 5 rings of silver wire, one of gold, and 2 elegant ornaments of brass, of a pyramidal form, 1½ in the base: these are ornamented with garnets, set in white enamel, upon a gold chased foil . . . there were slight bars on the inside. . . . Close to these articles was deposited a vessel of thin brass, which bore the marks of gluing upon it; it is 6 in diameter, as measured from the edges, and 1½ deep. This brass vessel is identical to a bowl made of oak wood, which proves that it could not have been used as a culinary vessel: . . . it had also a handle of brass [a long straight handle, not a loop].

1877–19 When Mr H. W. Wymondham was levelling a portion of the rampart to form a lawn on the E side of the house, various antiquities were found, including 20 and 30 human skeletons, also iron helmets, pikes, spearheads and plates of metal riveted together. The rampart is said to have been scarp-edged in 1315. The whereabouts of the objects is unknown; but there is an AS shield-boss in Salisbury Museum.

1878 In making a road across E. Kelsey’s Milford Hill Building Estate, the workmen dug up, on the E side of the road, an AS skeleton head to the NW, with which was an iron spearhead, a small knife and an iron chisel.

Crawford regarded this as an outlier from the St Edmund’s cemetery.


1889 A. Tucker excavated the remains of a barrow 600 yards S of Old Sarum—(actually E). 14 skeletons were found, all extended except one, all crouched in the mound, but irregularly placed—were across the centre of the mound, 3 on the N, 4 on the S, 2 on the E; 6 had their heads to the N, 2 to the S, 3. E. One skeleton was in a crouched position, head SE. 2 of the skeletons in the centre had small bronze buckles over the left hip of Roman RB workmanship. One was incised circular, 1⅞ diam., with an iron tongue; the other was girt, formed of 2 links 1⅞ long, also with an iron tongue. All the skeletons had their hands crossed behind the back over the sacrum, as though they had been tied. They were mostly men between the ages of 40 and 50, but 2 were c. 24. The skulls were brachycraniac; the left coal was through the head, and on the S side there was a large patch of burnt earth, mingled with charcoal and ashes. Near the centre on the east side was a shallow cist, containing detached ox teeth and 2 or 3 bone fragments.

The 3 skulls of adult males in the BMNH are in the AS collection. (cf. the Dunstable Bd site.)

Savernake see Marlborough Wi.

1804 Cunnington opened Sherrington Long Barrow, 108' long, 80' wide at the broadest (WNW) end, 14' high. The barrow was opened by a large section at the broad end, and on the highest part, and at the depth of c. 6', were found 4 skeletons, lying from S to N. . . . Not finding the primary interment, we made 2 other large sections, and in the first, which was near the centre of the barrow, we discovered at the depth of 18' a skeleton lying from W to E; and on its right side was a spearhead of iron . . . The next section was made still further towards the low end of the barrow, and produced, at the same depth in the soil, the skeleton of a stout man, lying in the same direction as the former. On its right side, close to the thighs, was a two-edged sword, the blade 2' long, with rather an obtuse point, and no guarded hilt; it had been enclosed in a scabbard of wood, a considerable quantity of which still adhered to it. On the right side of the head lay a spearhead, of iron, the left end of the hilt being a shield of the same metal, with which was found an iron buckle, a piece of leather, a stirrup of brass perforated in several places, a thin bit of silver, and an iron knife, with several pieces of corroded iron. To the E of this skeleton, and in the same direction, we discovered 2 others, one of an adult, the other of a child 4 or 5 years old, and with them a small knife and a piece of corroded lead. 

1856 The mound was reopened by Thurnham without further result.


ante 1812 During the erection of Shrewton Windmill "the internment of a skeleton was discovered; it lay on its back. 2 wheel-shaped ornaments of bronze, ornamented with punch marks, with holes for suspension, and a thick bronze wire armlet 'were deposited by its left side, and the blade of an iron knife on its right; and between its legs was a drinking cup; but there was no appearance of a barrow'.


1895 An AS vessel 94' high of grey to brown, rather soft and sandy ware, with finer clay coating, was found on Temple Down, but no details of its discovery are known.


ante 1812 Hoare and Cunnington opened Tilshead Lodge Long Barrow, 175' long, 60' wide at the widest (E) end, c. 5' high. It lay on Tilshead Lodge, N of the Tilshead-Chitterne Road. Towards the E end a skeleton was discovered just under the turf, lying from E to W, unaccompanied by any arms or sepulchral urn.

circa 1860 Thurnham reopened the barrow and found a skeleton stretched at length, with head to the W. On the neck and upper part of the chest were the remains of a shield with boss, handle and 4 studs, all of iron. Close to the head were the decayed remains of 'a small bucket of wood bound with thin hoops of brass'.


1937 During the construction of the new camp c. 1 m. from Warmorton, on the road to Imber, 4 skeletons were found. 2 were some distance to the E of the road, one in a crouched position 2' deep, buried with an iron knife blade pointing downwards near the left shoulder; the other was supine and may have been a woman, and also had an iron knife.

The other 2 skeletons were c. 100 yards to the W of the road, on the site of the married officer's quarters. Among the loose earth caked around some bones of one of them were 57 iron hohnails, presumably from boots. Similar hohnails have been found previously, always in an RB context. Also found with this skeleton, and in Devizes Museum, were one ordinary nail and an iron hook. A few sherds of pot found with the skeletons were also RB.


circa 1800 During camp works, between the Abbas and Kingston Square, a bowl 10' diameter, 4' high, of bright yellow clay, was discovered. Attached to the sides are hooks with animal's heads, holding rings for suspension.


1880-88 Pitt-Rivers excavated the barrows on Winkleshill Hill, beginning with the most easterly, a large central barrow with a causeway. An oblong grave, EW 6' long, 6' 10' wide, 3' 6' deep into the chalk, was found in the centre, and within the grave at each of the 4 corners were found stake holes, 2' square and 10' deep. At the undisturbed E end of the grave were iron nails which Pitt-Rivers took to be clamps from a coffin. "That it was a British barrow originally, is shown by the quality of the pottery found in it, by its form, and by a bronze awl found in the side of the barrow in the siting."

Barrow II was to the N; there was scarcely any perceptible height, but it was also surrounded by a ditch, very slight but with a causeway. In the centre was an oblong grave 5' 6' long by 2' 3' wide, 2' 8' deep, with upright sides, paved with tabular slabs on the bottom, sloping slightly from E to W. In it were 2 interments, the primary one found scattered through the soil, and the secondary, a male 5' 7' in height, lying supine head W. Above it was an AS knife. The fragments of pottery in the barrow were 'British'.


1880-88 After the discovery of the AS secondary burials in the barrows, Pitt-Rivers investigated a number of oblong depressions, E of the barrows, and discovered 30 flat AS graves. They varied in depth from 1' 8' to 2' 11', in length from 6' 10' to 3' 15' (15 were over 6' long), and in width from 2' 3' to 1' 3'. All were upright at the sides and sloped into the solid chalk. All graves were more or less EW; the heads were all to the W, except those of 2 children, which were to the E. 3 graves had no signs of bones; 2 were probably of children, completely decayed. All skeletons lay supine.
hands variously placed, except 3 lying on their sides slightly flexed, and one other tightly contracted, with a more southerly orientation than the rest. In one grave the bones of an earlier burial were laid in a heap by the head of a complete skeleton. 5 graves contained iron knives, and in separate graves were an iron pin, a bronze pin, an iron buckle, 3 beads (found together), and a lump of iron pyrites. In one grave were 2 bronze discs, coated on one side with a plate of silver, having a cruciform ornament, with perforated interpaces. They were found on the waist...and were attached to some circular and apparently wooden substance. To it was affixed...portions of iron links. No pottery was found except 16 minute fragments of 'British' pot.


1960. During the digging of a pipe trench SE of Winterbourne Gunner church and not far from the River Bourne, 3 AS graves were disturbed. These and 7 others subsequently located were excavated by J. Musiy. The graves, orientated EW, were cut into the chalk; some were flint-lined. 5 graves were of men between the ages of c. 16 and 50; one was headless and one unfurnished. 2 were of adult women, one of a child c. 8 years probably female, one of an aged person, sex unknown, without grave-goods, and a small bronze square-backed brooch, and some beads, was probably of a baby, whose skeleton had disintegrated.

The graves of one of the men (containing a francisca, an iron buckle with metal inlay, a pair of bronze tags or strips, one with 'engraved beast' decoration, and 2 joining sherdos of AS pottery) and of the girl (containing a tinned bronze square-backed brooch, 3 glass and 2 amber beads, and a tinned bronze perforated spoon) appear to belong to the late V. The graves of the 2 women (containing applied brooches of the Kempten Cross type, amber, glass and paste beads, chatelaine rings, an iron buckle and an iron pin) belong to the middle VI at earliest. The other grave-goods, in the male graves, consisted of spears, shield-bosses, a purse mount, bronze tweezers, iron knives, and an iron buckle and a plate with a bronze stud. The base of a beaker from a Beaker grave was found disturbed in the girl's grave.


1809. W. Cunnington opened a large disc barrow, one of the West 'Conygar' group, 1 m. N of the village, the outer enclosure of a pentagonal barrow, in which it appeared that the primary interment had been moved to make room for the subsequent deposit of a skeleton, which also had been disturbed at some point later. In examining the cist which contained the skeleton, we observed that the feet had not been displaced; near them was an iron knife; and in our further researches we found at the bottom of the cist several fragments of burned bones belonging to the remains of the original interment.' (Hoare.)


1899. W. Cunnington excavated a small flint barrow of the West 'Conygar' group, just outside the enclosure ditch on the E. In this small tumulus, which appears to have been partially opened before, we found an oblong cist, which was arched over with the chalk that had been thrown out of it; and in the further part of it, a few fragments of burned bones and a large glass bead...[which has 2 circular lines of opaque sky blue and white. This bead is very similar to one found by Pitt-Rivers at Winkelbury Hill Wi and is therefore supposed to be AS.]


ante 1812 'In making the section of this barrow the workmen found the remains of 5 or more skeletons, at a short depth beneath the surface of the seculphal mound.'


1870. 'Beyond Winterlow fifth Hut on the London Road from Salisbury' a circular bronze brooch and bronze fragments from a sword scabbard were found, apparently with a burial of a young man.


1814. A. B. Hawkins opened 'the large Colossal Barrow adjoining the Hut inclosures' (Idnston 23). 2 from the top was a large skeleton with the boss and handle of a shield, an iron spearhead and a bucket with bronze binding.

Hutchins also excavated a bell barrow just within Winterlow Parish (3). With a cremation burial with a bronze spearhead he associates 4 iron arrowheads. These are no longer extant, but perhaps came from an AS secondary inhumation burial not noticed.


1874. When digging out a ferret on the Lychents below the earthworks a keeper found a skeleton. It was lying NS and some large flat stones were laid over it. By the side was a long two-edged sword, with a chased pommel and traces of a leather scabbard. By the head was a spearhead, and the ferrule lower down. A shield-boss was on the chest of the skeleton; its point was of bronze. There were also 4 silvered iron studs from the shield. 'About 20 yards from this interment is a tumulus which the keeper says contains other human remains, but no relics associated with them.' (Blackmore.)

Yatesbury I. Inhumation burial(s), secondary in barrow. Wi 27 NE, SU 0671. W. Stukeley, Abury (1743), p. 45. VCH, p. 56. ante 1743 'Mr Bray of Monkton opened a barrow among many others, at Yatesbury. There was a large stone laid at top, just under the surface. When taken up, they found a body laid in a stone coffin, form'd by several stones. He says, in another, they found a body, with a flat gold ring, which was sold for 30d, and a piece of brass, about the bulk of a pint mug, with spearheads of iron.

Yatesbury II, Cherhill. Inhumation burials, secondary in barrow. Wi 27 NE, SU 070079. P:\A (Salisbury, 1849), p. 96. WM AM, XVIII (1879), 332; XLVI (1934), 167. VCH, pp. 55, 165, 243. circa 1833. H. Shergold was employed to lower 2 barrows c. 20' high in Barrow Field. He cut down that nearer Avebury 'to a matter of 9'; throwing the earth on the sides. There was a little box of metal 3' long; it had a lid at one end, and a chain fixed in the middle, and it had been fastened to the end where it opened; it was round. About a yard deep, there were 3 beads [I erra cotta, one was seen by Mr. A. G. Merewether] as big as his finger round; a knife blade and 2 skeletons lying at full length. The metal box was doubtless an AS workbox.'
WORCESTERSHIRE


1954. '5 skeletons, together with the remains of a shield, spear and knife-blade, were unearthed in a grave pit at Beckford by a mechanical excavator. They are believed to be Saxon.'


1958-59. Miss P. M. Hill and Miss V. I. Evison excavated a mixed cemetery in a large gravel-pit. 10-20 graves on the W side were destroyed before excavation began.

At the N end of the cemetery, 1' deep, were 4 cremations in undecorated pots, crushed and without associated objects.

107 inhumation burials, orientated roughly SN and c. 2' below the topsoil, were excavated. On the whole the graves were meagrely furnished; 18 had no grave-goods at all. Among the types of brooches found were disc, saucer, applied, penannular, small-long and square-headed. The cemetery was probably in use in the VI.


1924-25. While the site of a Brick and Tile works at Blockley was being excavated sherd s of red and black pottery were found freely distributed over the whole area, c. 100 yds. square. These were thought to be the remains of cerneary urns, and one reconstructed had shoulder-bosses and incised lines. 5 skeletons were subsequently discovered, interred in the gravel overlying the clay. The orientation is not known, but was apparently not consistent. 2 of the skeletons were supine, one crouched on the left. With them were a shieldboss, a spearhead, a lancehead, the foot of a small-longsword, a few bronze instruments from a chelatine, and 65 beads (34 amber, 24 paste, 2 blue glass).


1838. Workmen making the Birmingham Gloucester Railway at Norton Pitch, near Bredon Hill, found several shield-bosses, spearheads, fragments of a sword with part of a scabbard with bronze chape and moultings, a blue (?malachite) bead and an amber bead. These doubtless came from burials.


ante 1877. During gravel-digging at Bricklehampton workmen found a necklace. The 3 objects from it still preserved in 1910 were an amber bead, a perforated canine tooth, probably from a wolf, and a turquoisedoiled glass bead of Roman type. They probably came from an AS burial.


1946. An AS sherd of strong black ware decorated with round stamp marks, jabs and incised lines, was found on the BA and RB site at Broadway. Myres believed it to be from a cinerary urn of the late VI.

1954. Human bones were thrown up by the mechanical digger in the Baillie Brind Quarry on the crest of Broadway Hill, a ridge running due N and S, up to 1,000' high. One of the oldest rideways in England runs near by.

1955. Other objects were found on the site, including a sword. Miss J. M. Cook excavated 5 partially destroyed and 3 undisturbed graves for the MOW. Several others must have been totally destroyed, but it is unlikely that the cemetery was a large one. There were no reports of pottery being found, and none excavated, and it is unlikely that there was any cremation. The graves were dug up to 1' deep in the natural rock, the body laid in supine, head W, without a coffin. 2 graves, one with an iron buckle, a rivet and a knife, the other with a spearhead, a shield-boss, a knife and a bronze ring, were of men. 2 were of women, one with a small zoomorphic bronze buckle of the V, a pair of saucer-brooches with swastika design and egg-and-tongue motif, a bronze V, fragments of bronze and silver wire, an iron knife, 19 glass and paste beads. The other was of the mid VI, and contained a bronze-gilt square-headed brooch of Leeds' Kentish Group B (3 or 6), applied brooches with zoomorphic ornament, a bronze buckle and attachment plates, twisted bronze and silver finger-rings, an iron knife and beads.

Another grave contained a bronze strap-end and 3 small amber beads, but there was no satisfactory evidence of age or sex. The 3 other graves were badly disturbed, and there were no grave-goods remaining.

Unassociated objects found on the site before excavations began were 53 paste and glass beads, a bronze ring from a wooden vessel, probably a bucket, a bronze pin, a gilt saucer-brooch with running spiral, a shield-boss and a spearhead, said to come from the same grave, a knife, a sword, a bronze strap-end, a hollow silver bead, and a piece of silver wire.


1953. Test holes were excavated on the Fairfield Housing Estate, 4 m. E of Abbey Bridge, on the W of a low ridge c. 100' above sea-level. The remains of a human skeleton were discovered 2' 6' deep, head W, in a thin layer of gravel overlying the grey clay.

From the spoil-heaps of a manhole were picked out a pair of flat annular brooches, decorated with small hatched triangular punch marks, a pair of disc brooches, a saucer-brooch of the late VI or early VIII, a small bronze ring, 20 fragments of glass and paste beads, a gold ring, (9 part of an iron buckle, a bronze belt bar, a heavy cylindrical piece of iron, 2 iron pins, a small irregular-shaped iron fragment, half an iron ring, and several animal tusks and teeth.


1862. Human bones were found 18' to 2' deep on the right bank of the Avon between Littlehampton and the railway where it runs into Evesham. With them were 2 AS weapons (unspecified), a scramasax and a gold union pin set, with a chain and a central roundel of wheel pattern.


1866. During gravel-digging 2 crystal spindle- whorls were found, and later 'some odd pieces of iron and other little things of no use' which proved to be spearheads and a necklace of c. 130 amber beads, which was supposed to have been found with brooches, lying together a short distance from a trench c. 30' long, 4' deep, 3'-4' wide, 'in which many things were found'.

5 brooches were found on the site altogether—3 cruciform, one larger than the others and gilt, and a pair of saucer-brooches ornamented with concentric circles. It is not clear how many of these were with the beads.

Pounting later obtained at least 4 more spearheads, c. 20 further amber beads, an amber object with 3 holes, and an iron and a large bead of opaque glass, striped with red, yellow and black, apparently found together.


ante 1888. While removing the soil at the W end of the church for the purpose of lengthening the nave, at a spot c. 2 yds. from the W wall, and c. 4' below the present floor-line of the church, 2 skeletons were discovered. They had been placed in a sitting posture, to face the NE.

They were the remains of men of large stature... The one skeleton had been placed to sit behind the other, and a little more westward. Opposite the front step, at a distance of c. 18' were 2 shield-bosses, one of conical form.'