

THE FRIENDS OF
THE CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Please reply to:— 25 Rongh Common Road,
Canterbury CT2 9DL
14/12/99

Dear Maurice,

Richard Cross at the CAT has examined the papers and photograph you sent me (twice) and has come up with the enclosed letter (which I have copied) and some more photocopies of relevant records and extracts. They don't get us much further with the problem of the hexagonal enclosure; its size seems to be the main obstacle to its identification. However, Richard has provided you with plenty of background information about the antiquities in the immediate area.

With best wishes for a happy Christmas and a successful New Year to you and your family.

Yours

Lawrence

CANTERBURY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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10. 12. 99

Dear Lawrence

The air photograph feature is probably a walled Roman cemetery, possibly a temple but the width is probably too great.

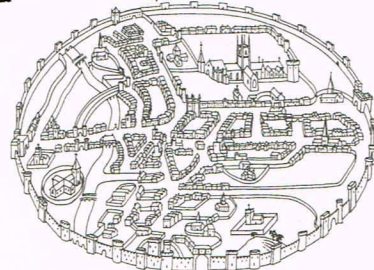
Enclosed is some information on the Anglo-Saxon to the north, mostly turned over by Fawcett in 1777 (NAR ref: TRISSE2). Additional references for this site are: Arch. Jnl 1844-45, 253-56 and Jnl Brit. Arch. Assocn 12, 1856, 103. CAT doesn't have these journals but the library or the Cathedral Archives probably do.

Also enclosed is a copy of the Excavations Index for the whole of TRISSE. This includes the above site and others including Henry Watson's investigations in 1963

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before the Goswami estate was built.

The burial mounds (TRSEIS, 2) are a
Sch. Anc. Mon. (Kent SAM 71) and protected,
and a licence is required for any form
of invasive fieldwork and this includes
removing finds from the surface. Permission
to investigate would mostly likely be refused
by English Heritage

The IA site across the Goswami estate would
probably form an equally interesting area
for field survey. Watching brief conditions
are placed where appropriate on new build-
ings in this area. Unfortunately some recent
planning applications recently acted upon are
old applications or renewals where it has
not proved possible to condition any
new building works. Perhaps Maurice Raverty
might like to keep an eye on the area
generally? If so, please ask him to
contact me.

Richard Cross

Arch. Cant. 56, 1943

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

FIELD NOTES IN EAST KENT.

CHARTHAM.

On several occasions Dr. S. Graham Brade-Birks and I have tried unsuccessfully to find an earthwork which was said to lie in the woods eastward of Julliberrie's Grave, Chilham. It is that which Hasted¹ describes as "a little entrenchment in the road under Denge Wood, a little eastward above Julliberrie's Grave," and which Flinders Petrie² could not locate when he wrote his Notes on Kentish Earthworks in 1880. That it did exist in 1891 we were certain from a detailed description made by George Payne,³ who said that it was a mile east of East Stour Farm, oblong in shape and surrounded by a deep external ditch which enclosed an area of some 9 acres. It was known as Great Court Town, and on the north side was another enclosure called Little Court Town. A wide local enquiry has shown that these names are to-day quite unknown.

There the matter remained until March 1942, when, in flying over Denge or Penny Pot Wood, which had been in part felled, I saw a large rectangular earthwork about half a mile south-west of Mystole House and between 300 and 400 yards inside the north boundary of the wood.⁴

Subsequent exploration on the ground showed that the eastern side of the earthwork was aligned upon a north-south bridle track which has every appearance of antiquity; the track is marked as a road on Andrews Drury and Herbert's map of 1769, but the enclosure is not shown. It is rectangular in shape, of roughly 200 yards by 130 yards, and is divided into two unequal portions by an east-west trackway apparently later than the earthwork. An outer ditch 20 feet wide surrounds the enclosure, and there is an inner rampart of some 20 feet in width. The rampart is rounded, well consolidated, and made of the local clay-with-flints dug from the ditch, except in the north-east corner where chalk is used. Here the change in woodland from uniform chestnut, birch and beech to wayfaring tree and thorn is especially noticeable from the air. Young oaks grow both inside the enclosure and out, and there are fairly mature oak trees on the rampart.

The enclosure is not a tree-nursery, of which there are easily recognizable examples in the wood. It has no characteristics of a prehistoric

¹ Hasted, *History of Kent*, 8vo edition, VII (1798), 301; and *V.C.H. Kent*, I (1908), 403.
² *Arch. Cant.*, XIII (1880), p. 13.
³ George Payne, *Coll. Cant.* (1893), 29; *Arch. Cant.*, XXV (1902), p. lxx.
⁴ One-inch map, Kent Sheet 116, J.13.

earthwork. There are no traces of Roman occupation, and it is far from any known Roman site, and moreover in a very unlikely geographical situation for a Roman camp. One can but guess that, like the somewhat similar enclosure in Well Wood, Aylesford, it was a large mediæval cattle-pen. The more interesting suggestion implied by the name which Payne recorded is not supported by any other evidence known to the writer.

ROMAN ROAD—CANTERBURY TO DOVER.

The course of the Roman road can be traced from the air from the top of Bridge Hill almost continuously to Lydden Hill. There is nothing to add to Mr. O. G. S. Crawford's adequate notes.¹ The following notes were made during two flights in March and September 1942.

The Saxon barrows just inside the Pale of Bourne Park, already mutilated by excavation in 1845, have been almost obliterated by recent ploughing under the war emergency scheme, as has much of the well-known lynchet on Barham Downs with its small three-sided earthwork first recorded by Lambarde. All these earthworks were scheduled for preservation under the Ancient Monuments Acts, and it is indeed unfortunate that the small pieces of ground which they cover could not be spared. There are ploughed-out Saxon barrows visible at many places on Barham Downs, and the wonder is that not more than a few of the hundreds which Faussett overturned can be seen. The Race Course laid out on the north side of the road in the eighteenth century was responsible for much destruction, as were the 1914-18 trenches westward of Barham Mill.

A small regular six-sided enclosure appears immediately to the north-east of the hammer-shaped tree enclosure in Bourne Park. About 400 yards to the south-east and 50 yards from the Roman road is a fairly large barrow circle, possibly Roman.

Three other possible Roman barrow circles, together with an associated rectangular enclosure and two smaller ploughed-out barrow circles could be seen in the fields between Bourne Park and Charlton Park, east of the road to Bishopsbourne village and a short distance south of the Roman road, on which the large barrows seem to be aligned. This complex showed up extremely well at both seasons of the year. There were other crop-markings in the fields, and the whole site will be worth further investigation. It is not impossible that these are the three large barrows six feet high, close to the Canterbury-Dover road, upon one of which Faussett in 1772 "spent much time and pains, no less than five men being employed for eight hours in endeavouring to overturn it."²

¹ "Field Notes in the Canterbury District," *Arch. Cant.*, XLVI (1934), p. 57.
² B. Faussett, *Inventorium Sepulchrale* (1856), p. 84, Nos. 242 and 257.

CLASSIFICATION CEMETERY
FINDS LOCATION BM
BIBLIOGRAPHY DOUGLAS, J./1793/ENIA BRITANNICA/99-110
REMARKS NGR TR 108-542-IN MEANEY, A./1964/EARLY A-S BURIAL SITES/ MORTIMER'S MS WITH SIR W.FAGG, MYSTOLE HOUSE, IN 1773.

LOCATION INFORMATION
quarter sheet: TR 15 SW NAR Ref.: 5.00
grid ref: TR 1333- 5407-
site name: IFFIN WOOD
excavated by: BELL, T.W.
types: BURIAL MOUND, COLLARED URNS
title: ARCHAEOLOGIA/30/1844/58-61

LOCATION INFORMATION
quarter sheet: TR 15 SW NAR Ref.: 6.00
grid ref: TR 1357- 5397-
site name: IFFIN WOOD ENCLOSURES
excavated by: BENNETT, P.
auspices: CAT
types: BUILDING

ARCHIVE DETAIL
location: CAT Notes [] Plans [] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus []
title: ARCH CANT/99/1984/120-4
type: REP

LOCATION INFORMATION
quarter sheet: TR 15 SW NAR Ref.: 10.00
grid ref: TR 1277- 5261-
site name: SWARLING MANOR FARM

EXCAVATION DETAILS
excavated by: WOOLLEY, L./BUSHE-FOX, J.P
types: CEMETERY
museum: BM
title: BUSHE-FOX, J.P/1925/EXCAVATION...AT SWARLING/
*ONE OR TWO POTS FROM SITE OWNER.
NO ARCHIVE IN THE BM.

LOCATION INFORMATION
quarter sheet: TR 15 SW NAR Ref.: 14.00
grid ref: TR 1341- 5340-
site name: SWARLING MANOR FARM ENCLOSURE

EXCAVATION DETAILS
excavated by: PHILP, B.J.
types: DITCH/BOUNDARY WALL
title: ARCH CANT/74/1961/186-90

LOCATION INFORMATION
quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 0.00
grid ref: TR 1955- 5325-
site name: BRIDGE BYPASS SITE 8

EXCAVATION DETAILS
excavated by: MACPHERSON-GRANT, N.
auspices: CAS
types: POTTERY, ENCLOSURES, PITS
museum: CANCM

Recent Excavations Index (all J TR 15 SE)

ARCHIVE DETAIL CANOM Notes [Y] Plans [Y] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus [Y]
BIBLIOGRAPHY title: ARCH CANT/96/1987/151-66 type: REP

LOCATION INFORMATION quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 0.00
grid ref: TR 1990- 5228-
site name: KINGSTON(OR BARHAM)DOWNS:A2 SITE 5 SAM no. : 0
excavated by: HOGARTH,A.C.
auspices: CAS
types: POTTERY,PITS,DITCHES

ARCHIVE DETAIL location: MACPHERSON-GRANT,N Notes [] Plans [Y] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus []
BIBLIOGRAPHY title: ARCH EX 1973//1974/24*
ARCH CANT/96/1987/146-51
REMARKS *GRID REF ALSO GIVEN AS TR 198523.

LOCATION INFORMATION quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 0.00
grid ref: TR 198- 524-
site name: KINGSTON(OR BARHAM)DOWNS:A2 SITE 6 SAM no. : 0
excavated by: MILLARD,L.
types: DITCHES,PITS,POTTERY

ARCHIVE DETAIL museum: CANOM* Notes [] Plans [Y] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus []
BIBLIOGRAPHY title: KAR/8/1967/7-8
GRID REF-ESTIMATED CENTRE.SITE CROSSED BY TR 15 SE 21. TOTAL SITE EXTENDS TO TR 25-SM*PLANS-MILLARD,L.& PHILP,B.

EXCAVATION DETAILS excavated by: HOGARTH,A.C.
auspices: CAS
types: DITCHES,PITS,POTTERY

ARCHIVE DETAIL location: MACPHERSON-GRANT,N Notes [] Plans [Y] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus []
BIBLIOGRAPHY title: ARCH EX 1973//1974/85-6
ARCH CANT/96/1987/147
REMARKS GRID REF-ESTIMATED CENTRE.SITE CROSSED BY TR 15 SE 21. TOTAL SITE EXTENDS TO TR 203518

LOCATION INFORMATION quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 2.00
grid ref: TR 1868- 5368-
site name: HANGING HILL,BOURNE PLACE SAM no. : 0
excavated by: CONYNGHAM,LORD A.
types: BURIAL MOUNDS
title: ARCH J/1/1845/253-6
MEANEY,A./1964/EARLY ANGL0-SAXON BURIAL SITES/110

EXCAVATION DETAILS excavated by: CONYNGHAM,LORD A.
types: BURIAL MOUNDS
title: ARCH J/1/1845/253-6
MEANEY,A./1964/EARLY ANGL0-SAXON BURIAL SITES/110
LOCATION INFORMATION quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 3.00
grid ref: TR 192- 532-

site name: BRIDGE BYPASS(A2) SITE 9 SAM no. : 0 parish: BISHOPSBOURNE
 excavated by: MACPHERSON-GRANT, N. PRN: 15127
 auspices: CAS duration: 1974 - 1974
 types: RING DITCHES, CREMATIONS, POTTERY/POTTERY funding: BA/IA
 museum: CANCM location: BA/IA
 Notes [Y] Plans [Y] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus [Y]
 type: REP
 title: ARCH CANT/96/1981/27-57
 GRID REFS. TR 19295324 TO 19265331

quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 6.00 county: KENT
 grid ref: TR 191-- 530-- district: CANTERBURY
 site name: BOURNE PARK parish: BISHOPSBOURNE
 excavated by: FAUSSETT, B. PRN: 15123
 types: CEMETERY duration: 1771 - 1771
 museum: MNEWG location: AS
 title: SMITH, C./1856/INVENTORIUM SEPULCHRALE/95-100 type: REP

excavated by: WRIGHT, T. PRN: 15124
 types: CEMETERY duration: 1844 - 1844
 location: SAL* type: AS
 title: FAUSSETT, B./1856/INVENTORIUM SEPULCHRALE/95-100
 ARCH J/1/1845/253-6 type: REP
 ARCH CANT/56/1943/69 NOT
 *IN C.R.SMITH'S(ED.FAUSSETT, B.1856)COPY OF HIS COLLECTANEA ANTIQUA/1/P.8. REF

excavated by: BAA PRN: 15125
 auspices: CEMETERY duration: 1844 - 1844
 types: CEMETERY type: AS
 location: SAL* Notes [Y] Plans [] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus []
 title: FAUSSETT, B./1856/INVENTORIUM SEPULCHRALE/95-100 type: REP
 ARCH J/1/1845/253-6 NOT
 ARCH CANT/56/1943/69 REF
 *IN C.R.SMITH'S(ED.FAUSSETT, B.1856)COPY OF HIS COLLECTANEA ANTIQUA/1/P.8.

excavated by: CONYNGHAM, LORD A. PRN: 15126
 types: CEMETERY duration: 1844 - 1844
 location: SAL* type: AS
 title: FAUSSETT, B./1856/INVENTORIUM SEPULCHRALE/95-100 type: REP
 ARCH J/1/1845/253-6 NOT
 ARCH CANT/56/1943/69 REF
 *IN C.R.SMITH'S(ED.FAUSSETT, B.1856)COPY OF HIS COLLECTANEA ANTIQUA/1/P.8.

LOCATION INFORMATION
 quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 8.00
 grid ref: TR 1709- 5201-
 site name: GORSLEY WOOD
 excavated by: VINE, F.T.
 types: BURIAL MOUNDS
 title: ARCH CANT/15/1883/311-17
 county: KENT
 district: CANTERBURY
 parish: BISHOPSBOURNE
 PRN: 15116
 duration: 18-- - 1883
 periods: RO
 type: REP

EXCAVATION DETAILS
 CLASSIFICATION
 BIBLIOGRAPHY

 LOCATION INFORMATION
 quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 9.00
 grid ref: TR 1902- 5456-
 site name: BIFRONS PARK
 excavated by: FAUSSETT, T.G.
 types: CEMETERY
 museum: MNEMG
 title: ARCH CANT/10/1876/298-315
 ARCH CANT/13/1880/552-56
 GRID REF PUBLISHED AS TR 186552(A.MEANNEY/EARLY A-S BURIAL SITES/1964/109)
 county: KENT
 district: CANTERBURY
 parish: PATRIBOURNE
 PRN: 15122
 duration: 1867 - 1867
 periods: AS
 location: REP
 type: NOT

REMARKS

 LOCATION INFORMATION
 quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 17.00
 grid ref: TR 1887- 5388-
 site name: BRIDGE HILL
 excavated by: WATSON, M.B.
 types: PITS
 museum: CANCM
 CANCEM*
 Notes [Y] Plans [Y] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [Y] Manus []
 type: INT
 county: KENT
 district: BRIDGE/PATRIBOURNE
 parish: BRIDGE/PATRIBOURNE
 PRN: 15121
 duration: 1963 - 1963
 periods: IA
 location:

BIBLIOGRAPHY
 REMARKS

 LOCATION INFORMATION
 quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 21.00
 grid ref: TR 197-- 525--
 site name: KINGSTON(OR BARHAM)DOWNS:A2 ROADWORKS
 excavated by: WEBSTER, G.
 types: CEMETERY, BURIAL MOUNDS
 museum: CANCEM*
 location: LDRCS?
 Notes [Y] Plans [Y] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus []
 *NOT LOCATED (1986).CEMETERY EXTENDS TO TR 213508, FINDS OVER KINGSTON DOWNS A2 IA SITE 6.
 county: KENT
 district: CANTERBURY
 parish: BISHOPSBOURNE/KINGSTON
 PRN: 15131
 duration: 1940 - 1940
 periods: AS

EXCAVATION DETAILS
 CLASSIFICATION
 ARCHIVE DETAIL
 REMARKS

 LOCATION INFORMATION
 quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 21.00
 grid ref: TR 197-- 525--
 site name: KINGSTON(OR BARHAM)DOWNS:A2 ROADWORKS
 excavated by: WEBSTER, G.
 types: CEMETERY, BURIAL MOUNDS
 museum: CANCEM*
 location: LDRCS?
 Notes [Y] Plans [Y] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus []
 *NOT LOCATED (1986).CEMETERY EXTENDS TO TR 213508, FINDS OVER KINGSTON DOWNS A2 IA SITE 6.
 county: KENT
 district: CANTERBURY
 parish: BISHOPSBOURNE/KINGSTON
 PRN: 15131
 duration: 1940 - 1940
 periods: AS
 EXCAVATION DETAILS
 CLASSIFICATION
 FINDS LOCATION
 ARCHIVE DETAIL
 BIBLIOGRAPHY
 REMARKS
 excavated by: MILLARD, L.
 types: CEMETERY, BURIAL MOUNDS
 museum: CANCM
 museum: CANCM
 title: KAR/8/1967/7-8
 CEMETERY EXTENDS TO TR 213508, FINDS OVER KINGSTON DOWNS A2 IA SITE 6.
 duration: 1966 - 1967
 periods: AS
 location:
 Notes [] Plans [Y] Photos [] Negs [] Slides [] Corr [] Manus []
 type: NOT

excavated by: HOGARTH, A.C.
 auspices: CAS/DOE
 types: CEMETERY, BURIAL MOUNDS
 museum: CANCM
 location: MACPHERSON-GRANT, N
 GRAINGER, G.?
 title: MED ARCH/18/1974/179
 ARCH EX 1973-4///85-6
 ARCH CANT/96/1981/147
 CEMETERY EXTENDS TO TR 213508, FINDS OVER KINGSTON DOWNS A2 IA SITE 6. BONE REPORT BY AND WITH ELEY, J.

quarter sheet: TR 15 SE NAR Ref.: 26.00
 grid ref: TR 195--- 527---
 site name: WATLING STREET (BARHAM DOWNS)-SITE 9 SAM no.: 0
 excavated by: HOGARTH, A.C.
 auspices: CAS
 types: CEMETERY
 museum: CANCM
 museum:
 museum:
 museum:
 title: ARCH EX 1973//1974/47
 MED ARCH/18/1974/179

county: KENT
 district: CANTERBURY
 parish: BISHOPSBOURNE
 PRN: 15129
 duration: 1973 - 1974
 funding: DOE
 periods: RO
 location: IALON? *
 location: ELEY, J.
 type: NOT
 NOT

county: KENT
 district: CANTERBURY
 parish: HERNE BAY
 PRN: 15142
 duration: 1976 - 1976
 funding: AS?/MD?
 periods: REP
 type: REP
 county: KENT
 district: CANTERBURY
 parish: WHITSTABLE
 PRN: 15138
 duration: 1962 - 1962
 periods: RO
 location: SOUTH STREET RAILWAY CUTTING
 title: JENKINS, F.
 types: BUILDING*
 museum: CANCM
 location: EXCAVATOR
 title: JRS/52/1962/190
 *CELLAR

A HISTORY OF KENT

and other female appurtenances. The only piece of jewellery was a blue glass pendant set in silver.

The next site to be noticed lies immediately west of the Roman road between Canterbury and Dover, but still in the same neighbourhood as the preceding. Mr. Thos. Wright described the exploration during 1844 of a number of barrows in Bourne Park (Bishopsbourne).¹ The operations were conducted in the presence of Lord Albert Conyngham, in whose park the barrows were situated; Sir Henry Dryden, Mr. Roach Smith, and the narrator, so that there is every reason to suppose that the greatest care was taken in the excavation. A large barrow proved to have been previously rifled, but unmistakable signs of an Anglo-Saxon interment were noticed, and in the four upper corners of the grave, which measured about 14 feet in length, 6 or 7 feet in breadth, and more than 8 feet in depth, there was a small excavation in the chalk filled with the skulls and bones of mice, mingled with remains of seed. The same deposits appeared in several barrows there and on the Breach Downs.

The second grave-mound was smaller and adjoined the last, scarcely rising above the surface. The body was almost entirely decayed, but seemed to have been placed in a wooden coffin. Near where the right foot must have lain were fragments of small hoops imbedded in wood, evidently the remains of a bucket of the usual type.

The third burial proved similar to the first, the grave being of almost the same dimensions, but the small holes at the corners, which contained bones of mice, being at the sides instead of at the ends.² At the foot in the right-hand corner had stood a hooped bucket measuring 1 foot both in height and in diameter at the base, but tapering upwards. Beside the right leg were found a shield-boss, a horse's bridle-bit, and a buckle, all of iron; while on the right of the head, placed upright against the wall of the grave, was a thin bronze bowl richly gilt, with two drop-handles of iron, of a not unusual type in Kentish burials. The only other articles found in this grave were two discs nearly 1 inch in diameter, convex at the top, one being of bone, the other of the red Gaulish ware improperly called 'Samian.' These were probably counters or draughtsmen used in some game, and may be compared with those found at Sarre (p. 359) and elsewhere. No trace of the body could be discerned, and from the absence of the typical sword and knife, it was surmised that this was merely a cenotaph and that the body had been buried elsewhere.

The barrows opened on this occasion all contained graves cut approximately north and south, the head towards the south, and it was observed that almost all graves at Bourne and on Breach Downs had large flints at the sides and both ends, possibly used to fix a covering over the body before the grave was filled in.³ Two other grave-mounds,

¹ The barrows examined here by Faussett in 1771 (*Inv. Sep.* pp. 95-100) were of much earlier date.

² Plan in *Arch. Journ.* i. 254, fig. 2.

³ *Ibid.* i. 380.

ANGLO-SAXON REMAINS

on the south side of the park, were opened during the Congress of the British Archaeological Association¹ in the same year, and found to contain burials with the head at the west end of the grave, which had been lined with planks. With a woman had been buried a casket, beads, coins called sceattas, a glass cup with applied threads, and a pottery vase 5 in. high at the feet; but the other mound, raised over a warrior, was practically unproductive.

A little southward, on the same side of the Roman road, as many as 308 graves were opened by Bryan Faussett² on Kingston Down between 1767 and 1773. All but forty-five were marked by small mounds of hemispherical form irregularly placed and fairly close to one another on the north-west slope of a hill overlooking the village of Kingston. In 1749 and 1753 a certain number of burials with feet to the north had been found by workmen in digging chalk within a wood and a few relics recovered. Systematic excavation however showed that this orientation was exceptional, as 294 of the total recorded in the *Inventorium* had the head at the west end of the grave. Remains of a wooden coffin were noticed in 183 cases, and of these ninety-seven showed traces of fire, the timber, which was in some cases 3 inches thick, having been burnt to a certain degree (explains the excavator) to make it more durable. In the fourteen irregular burials there was a tendency for the feet to point northwards, while in one case the head was at the east end. In one of these cases the coffin had been burnt, but in eight others no timber could be traced; and in the whole cemetery there were about 100 graves without coffins or any but the slightest furniture. Previous cremated burials had been disturbed in three cases; and the bones, collected in the original urn, were carefully placed outside the coffin at the feet of the interred: in one case the urn was of coarse red earth and seems from the illustration³ to belong to a Kentish type of the Bronze Age, as from Highstead, Chislet (British Museum).

Another unexpected ceramic type occurred in the grave of a male near the head, and the illustration⁴ shows it to be a so-called 'Samian' bowl made in the second century, probably in S. France, and stamped with the name of the potter, Caius (OF. CAII). An Anglo-Saxon vase, usually of small dimensions and of rude black ware, appeared at the feet in seven graves; but these must not be confounded with the earlier cinerary urns, nor with the bottle-shaped vases of buff ware in some of the richer graves elsewhere and at the head of one woman's grave at Kingston. In four graves of women wooden coffers had been placed at the feet, and in two cases at the head; while in the somewhat richly furnished tomb of a warrior, a bronze bowl lay at the feet. Both the form of this vessel and the design of the four circular mounts⁵ (one under the base, the others below the rim to attach chains for suspension) betray Late Celtic influence, and fall into line with enamelled bowls

¹ Canterbury vol. (1844), pp. 96-100: vase figured.

² *Inv. Sep.* p. 66.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 74.

³ *Inv. Sep.* pp. 35-94.

⁵ *Ibid.* pl. xvi. figs. 5, 5a.

AN ACCOUNT OF SOME ANTIQUITIES DUG UP IN THE PARISH OF
BISHOP'S-BOURNE, IN THE COUNTY OF KENT,
IN THE YEAR 1771.

ON the right hand side of the military Roman road which leads from the top of Bridge Hill, in a straight line from north-west to south-east over Barham Down towards Dover, and between the said military Roman road and the hedge which parts Mr. Beckingham's paddock from the Down land (the distance between the said military road and hedge not exceeding thirty feet), and just at the corner of another road, which, crossing the said military Roman road at right angles, leads down to the adjacent village and church of Bishop's-Bourne, stand nine very fair, though small, tumuli sepulchrales of the ancients, in a line parallel to the said military road.¹ I had often cast a wishful look at them, and from time to time had promised

¹ [The site of these researches of Mr. Faussett is Bourne Park, now the seat of Mr. Bell, and formerly that of Lord Albert Conyngham. It is well known to the numerous attendants at the first congress of the British Archæological Association at Canterbury, on which occasion, and previously, Lord Albert Conyngham directed several of the barrows to be excavated. The following report, by Mr. Wright, taken from the first volume of the *Archæological Journal*, pp. 253-6, is here introduced, as affording some interesting additional information.

"The hills running to the south of Bourne Park are covered with low barrows, which from their shape and contents, and a comparison with those found in other parts of Kent, appear to be the graves of the earlier Saxon settlers in this district. The barrows within the park, on the top of the hill in front of the house, were opened on Wednesday the 24th of June, in presence of Lord Albert Conyngham, Sir Henry Dryden, Mr. Roach Smith, and myself. Several of them had been previously opened by his lordship, but the only article found in them was one boss of a shield; it would appear as though the nature of the soil (chalk) had here entirely destroyed the deposit.

"We first opened a large barrow, which appeared to have been rifled at some former period. Here,

as in all Saxon barrows, the deposit is not in the mound itself, but in a rectangular grave dug into the chalk. At the top of the grave were found two portions of bones of the leg, and at the bottom a fragment of a skull (in the place where the head must originally have been placed), some teeth (which were at the foot of the grave), some other fragments of bones, a small piece of the blade of a sword, and an iron hook exactly resembling those on the lower rim of the bracket described below. At each of the four upper corners of the grave, was a small excavation in the chalk, which was filled with the skulls and bones of mice, with the remains of seed, etc., which had served them for food, mixed with a quantity of fine mould, apparently the remains of some decomposed substance. From the condition of the bones and seed, they would appear to be much more modern than the original deposit; but it is a remarkable circumstance that the same articles are found in so many of the barrows here and on the Breach Downs. The grave itself was of large dimensions, being about fourteen feet long, between six and seven broad, and somewhat more than three in depth, independent of the superincumbent mound.

"The next barrow opened was a smaller one, adjacent to the former, of which the elevation was so small as to be scarcely distinguishable from the

myself the future pleasure of examining their contents. But, on account of the smallness of their size and number, and their proximity to so public a road (by

surrounding ground. The grave was filled, like No. 1, with the chalk which had been dug out of the original excavation. The body, which was perhaps that of a female, and the various articles which it had once contained, were entirely decomposed. A small mass of dark-coloured earth a little above the shoulder, apparently decomposed wood, seemed to be the remains of a small box. The bones were distinctly traced by the colour of the earth, a small fragment of the skull being all that remained entire; and from the quantity of black mould which occupied the place of the body, resembling that which in other places was found to have resulted from the decomposition of wood, we may be led to suppose that the body was placed in a wooden chest. Another large quantity of similar black mould lay together in an elongated form on the left side of the body towards the foot of the grave. In the corner to the right of the feet were found some fragments of small hoops imbedded in wood.

“This small barrow lay on the east side of the one first opened. The last barrow opened was a large one to the west of the first barrow. In this last barrow we again found the small holes at the corners of the grave, but they were turned towards the sides instead of being turned towards the ends; and they also contained bones of mice. This grave was nearly as long as the first, about a foot deeper, and rather broader in proportion to its length. The floor was very smoothly cut in the chalk, and was surrounded by a narrow gutter, which was not observed in the others. It was not filled with the chalky soil of the spot, but with fine mould brought from a distance, and this was probably the cause of the better preservation of the articles contained in it. The second figure, which is a plan of this grave, will show the position in which these articles were found. At the foot of the grave, in the right-hand corner, had stood a bucket, of which the hoops (in perfect preservation) occupied their position one above another, as if the wood had been there to support them. This bucket appeared to have been about a foot high; the lower hoop was a foot in diameter, and the upper hoop exactly ten inches. A somewhat similar bucket is represented in one of the plates of Douglas's *Nenia*. The hooked feet appear to have been intended to support the wood,

and prevent its slipping in the bucket. From the similar hook found in the grave No. 1, and the fragments of hoops in the smaller grave, I am inclined to think that similar buckets were originally placed in both. A little higher up in the grave, in the position generally occupied by the right leg of the person buried, was found a considerable heap of fragments of iron, among which were a boss of a shield of the usual Saxon form, a horse's bit (which appears to be an article of very unusual occurrence), a buckle, and other things which appear to have belonged to the shield, a number of nails with large ornamental heads, with smaller nails, the latter mostly of brass. From the position of the boss, it appeared that the shield had been placed with the convex (or outer) surface downwards. Not far from these articles, at the side of the grave, was found a fragment of iron, consisting of a larger ring, with two smaller ones attached to it, which was either part of the horse's bridle, or of a belt. On the left-hand side of the grave was found a small piece of iron which resembled the point of some weapon. At the head of the grave, on the right-hand side, we found an elegantly shaped bowl, about a foot in diameter, and two inches and half deep, of very thin copper, which had been thickly gilt, and with handles of iron. It had been placed on its edge, leaning against the wall of the grave, and was much broken by the weight of the superincumbent earth. The only other articles found in this grave were two small round discs resembling counters, about seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, flat on one side, and convex on the other, the use of which it is impossible to conjecture, unless they were employed in some game. One was made of bone, the other had been cut out of a piece of Samian ware. The most singular circumstance connected with this grave was, that there were not the slightest traces of any body having been deposited in it; in fact, the appearances were decisive to the contrary; the only ways in which we could explain this were, either that the body had been burnt, and the ashes deposited in an urn concealed somewhere in the circuit of the grave (which is not probable), or that the person to whom the grave was dedicated had been a chief killed in battle in some distant expedition, and that his friends had not been able to obtain his body. This view

means of which last circumstance I knew myself liable to be pestered with a numerous set of troublesome spectators), I did not set about opening them till the 16th of July, 1771; on the morning of which day, arriving at this spot in my way to Kingston Down (see p. 52) rather earlier than usual, and being provided with plenty of labourers for that day's intended work, I thought that a good opportunity to put my intentions with regard to these so publicly situated tumuli into execution. So setting ourselves immediately to the business, we finished our work in little more than two hours; during which time, it being so early in the day, we had very little or no interruption, either from the curiosity or impertinence of passengers, or other idle spectators, the teasingness and plague of whose ill-timed attendance in business of this sort, is not to be conceived but by those who, like myself, have had the disagreeable experience of it.

Though I cannot boast either of the number or value of the pieces of antiquity here discovered; yet, as the few we did find plainly appeared to be the remains of the same age and people with those heretofore mentioned and described in my *Inventorium Sepulchrale*, as I (perhaps vainly) call it, I shall make no scruple of giving, after my usual manner in these cases, a true account of the contents of each tumulus, in the order in which I opened them.

1. Middle-sized tumulus. It contained, at the depth of about two feet under

of the case seems to be supported by the fact, that although so many valuable articles were found in the grave, there were no traces of the long sword and the knife generally found with the bodies of male adults in the Saxon barrows.

“The three graves lay very nearly north and south, the heads towards the south, as was the case with many of those opened in the last century by Douglas, and described in his *Nenia*, the variations being only such as might be expected from the rude means possessed by the early Saxon invaders for ascertaining the exact points of the compass. It may be added, that among the earth with which the smaller grave was filled, two small fragments of broken Roman pottery were found, which had probably been thrown in with the rubbish. It may be observed, that the different articles found in this, as in other early Saxon barrows, are of good workmanship, and by no means evince a low state of civilisation.”

Two more of these barrows were excavated during the Congress at Canterbury. In one of them were found an earthenware urn, in shape like those found on Kingston Down, in graves Nos. 137 and 205,

but with a different style of ornament, and a glass cup of the type figs. 1 and 2, pl. 19. They are figured in the *Archaeological Album*, p. 8, and are now in the collection of Lord Londesborough.

This cemetery, like that at Gilton, is close to Roman burial places. About twenty years since, in digging the high-road above Bourne Park (called, from the neighbouring village, Bridge Hill), a quantity of Romano-British sepulchral urns were found, some of which are now in the collection of Mr. Rolfe. More recently, while excavations were being made in the low ground for a sheet of water, Mr. Bell discovered several Roman interments, among which were urns of earthenware, red pateræ, and glass vessels. They appear to have accompanied the remains of bodies which had been burnt, although from the unfavourable nature of the soil most of the urns were broken to pieces. One large urn, Mr. Bell reports, contained ashes, and was surrounded by several smaller vessels. Contiguous to these interments were found several skeletons which, from large and long iron nails lying about them, had been doubtless buried in thick wooden coffins. See *Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. iii, p. 19.—Ed.]

the natural surface, the skeleton of an elderly person (as appeared by the much-worn teeth), lying with the feet due east. Near its right shoulder was a small urn, of very coarse and black earth, which was broken in pieces by a stroke from one of the workmen's tools. The remains of a thick and burnt coffin were very visible. The bones were very much decayed.

2. Tumulus and grave, much as the last. The remains of an unburnt coffin were very discernible: the bones almost gone; but the few remaining teeth shewed they had belonged to an old person. Near or under the skull was found a very slender piece of brass wire, about two inches long, which, from the place where it lay, I imagine was used as an *acus crinalis*, or pin for the hair; indeed, it had neither head nor point; but they might probably have both of them been broken off in getting it out of the ground, as the whole of it afterwards very easily fell in pieces with common handling. I imagine this to have been a woman's grave.

3. Tumulus and grave, much as the last. No appearance of any coffin. These bones, also, though almost gone, seem to have been those of an old person. At the feet were found some sherds of a larger, and near the right hip, others of a smaller, urn; both of them of very coarse black earth; whether these vessels suffered from the negligence of my workmen, or were broken before, I cannot pretend to say. The sherds were so rotten when taken out that they would scarce bear handling.

4. This tumulus was rather less than the three before mentioned, and the grave was not more than a foot deeper than the natural surface; it contained the skeleton of a very young person, whose teeth were not all of them cut. Nothing was found with it; neither was there any appearance of a coffin.

5. This tumulus was of about the middle size. Many loose bones appeared in different directions as soon as we had taken the turf from its crest; and continued to be found in much the same manner all the way down to the last interred skeleton, which was found undisturbed at the depth of about two feet and a half below the natural surface, laying, like those found under the four already mentioned tumuli, with its feet pointing to the east; with the skeleton was found nothing but the iron blade of a small knife, exactly like many already described. If one may judge from the number of skulls (or rather parts of them) found here, this tumulus must have contained the remains of at least six different persons, all of them, it is likely, of the same family; among them were found several small pieces of broken rusty iron, and many oyster shells. The entire skeleton appeared very plainly to have been deposited in a very thick unburnt coffin.

6. Middle-sized tumulus, and very shallow grave. Bones of a young person pretty sound. Nothing was found with them; nor was there any appearance of a coffin. The skull, which was pretty perfect, had a very plain frontal suture.

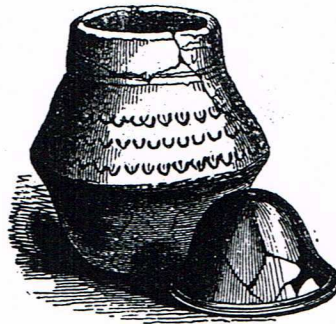
7. Middle-sized tumulus ; the grave was about two feet and a half deeper than the natural surface. In it we found the remains of two old persons, lying the one on the other. Nothing was found with them except the blade of a knife, as before ; no appearance of any coffin.

8. This tumulus was the largest of them ; it was about twenty feet diameter at the base, though not above four feet in perpendicular height above the natural surface ; the grave was about three feet deep. The bones of the skeleton, which lay at the bottom of it, were very much decayed ; yet those of a squirrel, or other small animal (which were found near the right side of the neck or head), were surprisingly strong and firm ; and the shell of a remarkably large common brown snail, which lay near the little bones, seemed to be as well preserved as if it had not lain there a month. There were no visible remains of a coffin.

9. This tumulus was of the middle size, and plainly appeared to have been already dug into ; and, on inquiry, I was informed that about the year 1765 some labourers employed in widening the road leading down to Bishopsbourne, before mentioned (on the south-east corner of which it stands), dug away a great part of it, and found some human bones and some pieces of rusty old iron.

Besides the tumuli just mentioned, there are also a great many others to be seen at the distance of about five hundred yards to the north-west of this spot, viz. ; in the front of the house of Stephen Beckingham, Esq., called Bourne-Place, in the parish ; where, to the number of at least one hundred, they occupy the Hanging hill, in that part of the paddock which lies between the rivulet which runs in the bottom, and the before mentioned hedge, which parts the paddock from the Down land ; and by, and parallel to which hedge, the military Roman road, before described, runs on towards Dover. Many of them, especially near the road, have large trees growing on them ; but the greatest part of them have been so levelled when this spot was turned into pleasure ground, or on some other occasion, that they are not very visible but to a discerning eye. However, so great is their number, that on digging anywhere on this hill to the depth of two or three feet, human bones have been continually cast up ; so that, when I mention "one hundred", I am certain I am much under the mark. The best way to discover the otherwise almost invisible ones is by placing one's head close to the ground and looking against the sun, when it is near the horizon ; but, wherever any graves are suspected to be, which either on account of their tumulus having been absolutely taken off, or which, perhaps, never had any (which I have cause to believe is sometimes the case, particularly with regard to children's graves) ; under such circumstances, and in a chalky soil like this, recourse must be had to the probe, described at page 87 of this volume, an instrument of my own invention, and to which I am obliged for its sure and never failing guidance to

many graves which were absolutely invisible. In short, too much cannot be said in favour of its usefulness on such occasions, if managed by a person who understands the use and management of it ; indeed, in any other but a chalky soil, I confess it to be of very little if of any service.



Urn and glass cup from a barrow on Breach Down. See note, p. 79.