

Trial Excavations at Hayes Wood Enclosure, Freshford, Somerset

BY J. F. S. STONE, D. PHIL., AND A. T. WICKS, M.A.

THE Hayes Wood Enclosure is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles s. by e. of Bath and is in the parish of Freshford, Somerset. It lies at an altitude of almost 500 ft. on a plateau which belongs, geologically and geographically, to the Cotswold range, though detached from it by the deeply cut valleys of the Avon system. The earthwork is new to archæology, its discovery being due to field work. It has hitherto escaped inclusion in the list of Somerset earthworks, because three of its sides, lying in Burnt Brake Field, have been obliterated, while the fourth, the eastern side, is concealed in Hayes Wood. It occurs on the following O.S. maps of Somerset:—25-inch, XIV, 14 (1932), and 6-inch, XIV, S.W. (1933), though by an error in copying, the eastern side, which appears in the former, has been omitted from the latter.¹ The Geological Survey map (No. 19) shows that the enclosure lies on 'Forest Marble with Bradford Clay', and the site was evidently originally selected from geological rather than defensive considerations. The enclosure has been carefully sited at the s.w. angle of an outcrop of Forest Marble, which shows through the thin turf at several places within the interior; to the s. and w. the elevation is slightly greater and the soil is a stiff clay. The clay begins about 10 yards w. of the enclosure, and encroaches on the s.e. corner, outside which is a shallow depression where are two swallets, which take the surface drainage of the higher clay ground.

On the same plateau and on the same geological formation, there are the sites of four small earthworks, all now partly or

¹ This error has been rectified since the above was written.

wholly destroyed. The Hayes Wood Enclosure is on the northern edge of the plateau; $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the s.w. on the southern edge is Kingsdown Camp, Mells,² where the shallow ditch of a small enclosure considered to be anterior to the Roman occupation was superseded by a slightly larger pre-Flavian camp of Roman date. From the *Journals* of the Rev. J. Skinner³ we learn that, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Hayes Wood, and at the village of Hinton Charterhouse, there was, a century ago, an earthwork called 'The Bulwarks'. It consisted of a slightly curved rampart and ditch stated to be 150 yards long; the ditch was 12 ft. wide and the depth from the top of the rampart is stated variously as from 12 to 20 ft. Mr. Skinner, probably erroneously, considered it to be part of a southern branch of Wansdyke.⁴ The ditch is still faintly traceable, but the rampart has disappeared, and there is now no local memory of the name or the site. At the s.e. termination of the plateau and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Kingsdown Camp is the small earthwork known as Newbury Camp: the s. and e. sides are on the edge of the plateau, but the defences on the other two sides are of the slightest description. On the w. side the bank is in all stages of demolition, but on the n. side, where there is no disturbance, there is a shallow flat-bottomed ditch, 13 ft. wide, now only $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. below the top of the bank, which is *outside* the ditch.

As the ditches of these earthworks were all hewn out of the solid rock, which makes excellent dry walls, the banks have no doubt been found convenient quarries for stone, and the excavations at Hayes Wood have shown that, as at Kingsdown, the process of demolition had begun as early as, if not earlier than, Romano-British times. The dry stone wall on the n. side of Burnt Brake Field is in fact the boundary between Somerset and Wiltshire, and follows the bounds of the lands of the Saxon monastery at Bradford-on-Avon, as indicated by a charter of King Ethelred.

² *Archaeologia*, lxxx (1930), 59-98.

³ *B.M. Add. MSS.* 33663, f. 91; 33690, ff. 96, 98; &c. (1819-1826).

⁴ Phelps' *History of Somersetshire*, Roman Period, p. 247 (written by Skinner). The site of the Bulwarks can be given as Lat. $51^{\circ} 19' 30''$ N., Long. $2^{\circ} 19' 36''$ W.

The only information about the former state of the earth-work is due to Mr. Skinner, who visited it on various dates between 1819 and 1826, and who named it the Hayes Wood Camp, considering it to be a 'Roman exploratory camp'.⁵ The enclosure was then in the same state as it is to-day, but he states on one of his visits that the farmer was removing loose stones from the bank in the wood. Mr. Skinner remarks that he found orange, red, grey, brown and black Roman pottery within the enclosure, but no Samian. The presence of late Romano-British pottery within the Hayes Wood Enclosure may be explained by its proximity to a Roman site, 350 yards to the north in a field, Little Twinkleys, in the parish of Limpley Stoke, Wilts., which has yielded, since 1922, twenty-three coins of the third and fourth centuries, and large quantities of Romano-British sherds, including Samian.⁶

The excavations were carried out by the writers, with the help of two workmen, from 3 September to 8 September 1934. In the absence in Australia of the owner, Mr. Adrian Hayward, permission to dig was kindly granted by the agent, Mr. H. P. Quartley, of Messrs. Harding & Sons, Frome. The tenant, Mr. A. E. Duck of Upland Farm, Limpley Stoke, gave every facility and took much interest in the work.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ENCLOSURE (Plate XV)

In shape the enclosure is roughly quadrilateral with rounded corners, and possesses a single entrance in its eastern side. Probably through deliberate infilling three of the sides have been almost completely obliterated, one alone remaining to tell of its former condition. This last exists in so well preserved a state in Hayes Wood that it suggests that it has been protected by the wood from very early times. The wood itself consists mainly of oak with an almost impenetrable undergrowth of brambles and hazel, and it was only with extreme difficulty that the course of the ditch and the features of the entrance could be traced and necessary measurements taken. The ditch had been hewn from the rock, the natural beds still

⁵ *B.M. Add. MSS.* 33663, ff. 88, 89; 33668, ff. 25-44; 33682, ff. 212-214.

⁶ *Proc. Bath Branch, Somerset Arch. & N.H. Soc.*, 1922, 1923, pp. 169, 215.

being exposed in places, and its size is remarkable for so small an enclosure; the CD vertical being 6 to 8 ft., the width at the top 22 ft., and at the base 8 to 12 ft. A small trench cut at the base proved that 1 ft. alone of soil had accumulated.

The position of the bank is even more remarkable in that it exists solely on the *outside* of the ditch.

The entrance or causeway is approximately 22 ft. wide and is of the simplest type with no incurving or outworks, a feature which normally exists in enclosures defensive or otherwise of the earliest period of the Early Iron Age. To the south the ditch leaves the wood in a straight line and joins the southern ditch at a very sharp angle outside the wood. To the north, it bends more gradually to meet the north ditch.

The greater part of the destroyed ditch outside the wood has been traceable at all seasons of the year by the change of vegetation following the line of a slight depression (Plate XVII, fig. 1); there was, however, a gap of 30 yards or so at the s.e. corner where no signs of the ditch were ever traceable, and ramming proved of no avail. A number of aerial photographs, very kindly taken for us by Flt.-Lt. R. C. Field, R.A.F., helped to bridge the gap, and Cutting III subsequently confirmed the presence of a ditch; at this, the lowest point of the enclosure, the infilled ditch was sealed by a clay wash not present elsewhere.

Within the inner side of the ditch the area enclosed measures 1.28 acres—a small area which, coupled with the external bank and simple entrance and its upland though not hill-top situation, is more suggestive of an enclosure or cattle kraal than a hill-fort.

THE EXCAVATIONS.

Cutting I (Plate XVI, and Plate XVII, fig. 2). Operations began with the cutting of a trench 20 ft. by 6 ft. across the approximate centre of the northern part of the ditch. It was found that the ditch was cut in solid rock, the sides having been left untrimmed and the bottom rough and uneven. In this respect it differs from the carefully constructed outer ditch at Kingsdown Camp. The difference may be due to the thinness of the shelly Forest Marble capping, since at about 2 ft. from

the surface the rock becomes more finely grained, coarsely bedded and less obviously shelly—a characteristic of the underlying Oolite, which is not bedded in thin slabs; whereas at Kingsdown the ditch was hewn out of finely bedded Forest Marble. The ditch measured 16 ft. across the top and 3 ft. only across the bottom, the total depth from the present surface being 4 ft. 4 in.

Four well defined layers could be distinguished in the filling. Below the topmost layer of unploughed turf and mould (4 in.) there occurred a ploughed or filled-in layer of soil (1 ft. 3 in. thick) containing a small amount of clay and small angular pieces of stone. Scattered throughout were twenty-two fragments of grey, red, and black wheel-turned Romano-British pottery, one piece of modern glazed ware, six flint flakes, two scraps of animal bone and two small sherds which from appearance and texture recall Early Bronze Age or Neolithic B ware.

This was succeeded by an old turf line, 1 ft. thick, which contained large numbers of snail shells mostly of the *Helix aspersa* variety. A quantity of these were submitted to Mr. A. S. Kennard, whose report, here gratefully acknowledged, is appended. The partial remains of a third century cooking-pot, a few featureless sherds and three scraps of La Tène III Belgic bead-rim ware were found. Small pieces of stone were encountered towards the top of this layer, but lower down they became more massive and these had been, from their position, probably deliberately thrown in. Towards the bottom of the ditch these large boulders were firmly cemented together with yellow clay, and in the crevices below the old turf line were a few more sherds which belonged to the above cooking-pot, four sherds of possibly Romano-British date and a large bead-rim which Mr. C. F. C. Hawkes assigns to the first century A.D.

From these finds it may be concluded that this part of the ditch was partly open until at least the third century A.D. Colonies of snails flourished amongst the stones and, since roots of former trees also occurred low down amongst the boulders, it is probable that at some period the ditch had been overgrown with woodland.

Cutting II. This cutting was made to investigate the central

area. The soil turned up by rabbits and moles over the greater part of the enclosure is of light brown colour and no dark soil or other object testifies to its having been much occupied, a conclusion arrived at by the Rev. J. Skinner. From some scraps of pottery and from a few rough flat stones in the western area Mr. Skinner deduced, however, Roman occupation in the shape of buildings. After the long drought of 1933-4 it seemed desirable to test this possibility by aerial photography, and some rather indefinite square markings were certainly visible on the photographs obtained.

The actual direction and position of this cutting, which was 135 ft. long by 2 ft., was chosen to cover these markings. Throughout its length the soil was found to vary in thickness from 0 to 6 in., and this was pure and unmixed with the decomposed stone which lay immediately below. From its extreme thinness it appeared almost certain that it had never been cultivated by the plough, which would have mixed the soil with the decomposed stone; and this was confirmed by the photographs which showed extensive cultivation marks on the clay outside the enclosure only. Although the line of the trench lay across the supposed foundations of buildings, no trace of habitation or habitation refuse was encountered. Undoubtedly the markings were due to the shallowness of the soil, the natural rock actually outcropping in places.

The only objects recovered were twenty-two small scraps of Romano-British pottery of the usual grey hard-baked variety, three sherds similar to those from Cutting III, a flint flake, a few pieces of animal bone, a blue glass and a brass button, a modern glazed sherd, a piece of a clay tobacco pipe stem and two small sandstone rubbers.

Cutting III (Plate XVI, and Plate XVIII, fig. 1). As has been noted already this cutting was made to prove the existence of the ditch which was invisible on the ground and which was barely discernible on an aerial photograph. A cutting 30 ft. long by 4 ft. 6 in. was first made 86 ft. from the corner of the wood, but this was subsequently extended to include and delimit an occupation-layer found on the inner side of the ditch. Here again the ditch was very much smaller than that in the wood, smaller even than in Cutting I, a point in favour of its having

been used as a cattle kraal in view of the fact that it is well overlooked by rising ground immediately to the south. In depth it measured 4 ft. 5 in. below the present surface and the base was only 2 ft. wide.

One constructional detail is well worth noting. The ditch had here been cut through a layer of clay, 1 ft. thick, before reaching rock. This circumstance explained the remarkable way in which the edges had been roughly revetted with quarried stone to prevent the exposed section of clay from weathering back again. Both sides had been so treated, a layer or two of rough angular blocks having been laid on the exposed clay. These had, in the process of time, become firmly cemented to it.

The filling consisted of three primary layers. Below 4 in. of turf there occurred a very compact earthy-clay filling, so hard that it could only be removed with pick-axes, and even with these much valuable time was wasted. The layer extended to within 1 ft. of the bottom and without doubt resulted from the weathering of the outside bank, which here must have been composed almost entirely of clay, and possibly roughly revetted with a little stone if any such remained over after having revetted the sides of the ditch, which, as has already been noted, was very shallow. No second turf line was present as in Cutting I and, therefore, this natural filling of the ditch must have occurred at no great length of time after its construction. Further, no snail shells were found as in Cutting I. Apart from the occupation refuse found running down the northern side of the ditch and described below, the only objects discovered in this clayey layer were found in the top 12 in. and these consisted of two Romano-British sherds, four of Early Iron Age A date, a flint flake, a few fragments of animal bone, and an unidentifiable scrap of iron.

The base of the ditch was filled with boulders cemented together with yellow clay.

Running down the northern side, on top of and in the interstices between the stones of the revetment, were a large number of sherds (142) possessing Hallstatt affinities, a number of animal bones and two flint flakes. This accumulation of refuse was stratified above these stones and did not occur below them, since their undersides rested on pure yellow clay. This refuse

was later therefore than the digging of the ditch. The position of the refuse indicated the presence of a rubbish dump or occupation layer on the north side of the ditch and the cutting was therefore extended in that direction. The sharp line of demarcation between the edge of the revetment and the occupation layer was very pronounced (Plate XVIII, fig. 2), and, since this edge occurred so close to the ditch, it was quite evident that no bank had ever existed on the inside of the ditch—a fact which corroborates the position of the bank in the wood. Had a bank been built on the inside, either (1) it would have overlain this occupation layer or (2) the layer would necessarily have been formed farther away from the ditch. It may be noted that the upper edge of the revetment had been built up 6 in. above the clay which formed the base of the occupation layer.

The occupation layer measured 15 ft. by 10 ft., was 6 in. thick, and was well defined. It occurred directly below the turf and mould which here had a thickness of 4 in., and any form of cultivation would have disturbed the sequence. Owing to the shallowness of this overlying mould it is not surprising that a few intrusive objects were found in the layer. These consisted of fifteen Romano-British sherds (all from the same pot), a modern brass button and a piece of modern glazed ware. The remainder of the layer was homogeneous in culture and contained 416 sherds which, from their coarse, gritty nature and finger-tip markings and the absence of any admixture of Lake-village or Belgic ware, proclaim an Early Iron Age A date. A report on these and the other sherds obtained in the excavations by Mr. C. F. C. Hawkes, F.S.A., who very kindly undertook the examination of a representative series, is reproduced below. Besides a certain amount of powdered charcoal, the layer also yielded a number of animal bones, kindly examined for us by Dr. J. Wilfrid Jackson, twenty-four flint flakes and implements, and a squarish sandstone rubber. It is worthy of note that no pot-boilers were obtained from the whole site, though flint in gravel is found on the surface in the immediate vicinity; a certain amount of crumbly Forest Marble, apparently reddened by fire, was, however, noted.

The discovery of this layer was very fortunate since by its

means it is possible to date roughly the construction of the enclosure.

Cutting IV. This was purely a superficial cutting to test the position of the ditch and to investigate a peculiar marking on an aerial photograph. The trench was not extended below a depth of 2 ft. into the ditch, both edges of which were located ;

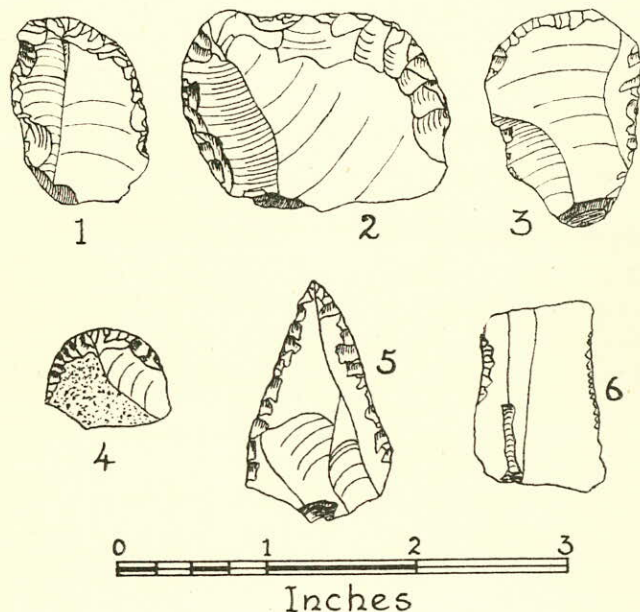


FIG. 1.—Flint Implements found at Hayes Wood Enclosure, Freshford. (Scale $\frac{1}{2}$).

and the undisturbed rock on the outside was traced for 10 ft. below the mould at a depth of 6 in. The only objects recovered were five sherds similar to those from the occupation layer, a flint flake, and another unidentifiable piece of iron. Lying on the undisturbed rock were two sherds of coarse texture with shell filling, again suggestive of Neolithic B ware, a suggestion with which Mr. Stuart Piggott concurs, though naturally one cannot be more definite with so little material.

OBJECTS OF FLINT (Fig. 1)

A small number of flint and chert flakes and tools were discovered; their provenance and number have already been indicated. In spite of the twenty-four collected from the occupation layer of Cutting III, the evidence of some does not appear to favour all being contemporary with the date of the enclosure. The degree of patination and the Early Bronze or earlier character of the secondary pressure flaking on all the *tools* suggests rather that these are of much earlier date. A number of crude unpatinated flakes, and of obviously different facies, may be contemporary, and this is strengthened by the finding, in the undisturbed occupation layer, of a fragment of a so-called prismatic tool deeply patinated over the original trimmed face but unpatinated on the accidentally fractured surfaces.

- No. 1. Deeply patinated scraper trimmed by typical pressure flaking. From the small trench at the bottom of the ditch in Hayes Wood.
- No. 2. A scraper of bluish-white patina, the edge being formed on the bulbar end of a flake, the bulb having been partly trimmed away. Found in the occupation layer of Cutting III.
- No. 3. Small scraper from same layer; deeply patinated white.
- No. 4. Minute thumb-scraper from same layer. Symmetrically cut and delicately trimmed.
- No. 5. A pointed flake carefully trimmed on both edges of one face only. The patina is bluish-white, and the tool is also from the same layer.
- No. 6. Part of a deeply patinated blade, both edges showing signs of use as a knife. From Cutting I, layer 2.

REPORT ON THE POTTERY (Fig. 2)

BY C. F. C. HAWKES, F.S.A.

Cutting III (Occupation layer, nos. 1-8, 10, 12-15, 17-19). These sherds are in fabric all what one would call 'Iron Age A', *i.e.* for Somerset, pre-Lake-village in type. The finger-printing on several pieces (nos. 1-7) looks early, and one might compare them with the earliest sherds from Ham Hill (Taunton Castle Museum), or those from Keinton Quarry near Somerton (Glastonbury Museum)—not to go outside the county in question. The finish of at least two pieces (nos. 18, 19), which are dark and smooth, however, suggests a more advanced type of potting, such as one usually equates with 'La Tène II', and even without these it would be rash to force back the date to 'Hallstatt' on the strength of finger-printing and coarse, gritty fabric alone. For such coarse fabric, though pre-Lake-

village in type, does not fail to occur in both the Lake Villages. Still, no Lake-village decorated ware is represented, and one cannot insist upon an exclusively late, any more than an exclusively early date. We are, therefore, left with the formula 'Early Iron Age

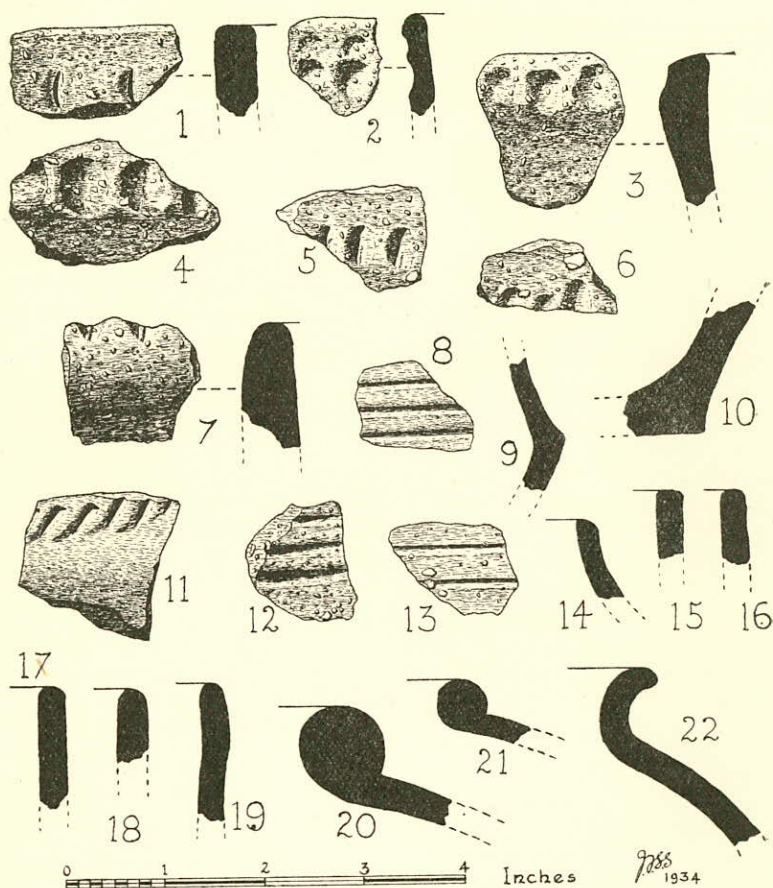


FIG. 2.—Pottery found at Hayes Wood Enclosure.

pottery, datable most probably within the period fourth to first centuries B.C.’.

Cutting III (Overflow from occupation layer, nos. 9, 11). The same can of course be said about this. The red and brown gritty pieces are just the coarse Iron Age stuff; the better-class black

sherds, of sandy texture with no grit, have sharp shoulder-angles in the 'Hallstatt' manner, one (no. 9) being I suppose a bowl recalling All Cannings, and the other (no. 11) a large pot, having stab-markings as well: but their superior fabric might well suggest a later date, and I do not feel justified in being more precise than 'within fourth to first centuries B.C.' again.

Cutting IV (no. 16). To the three small fragments the same vague observation is all that can apply (the plain rim, rounded off and not flattened or beaded, should be neither particularly early nor late).

Cutting I (nos. 20-22). This is a different story altogether. (1) layer 3 (old turf line) gives:—(a) three scraps of 'bead-rim' that should be La Tène III Belgic (no. 21). They remind me of the Winkelbury bead-rims, for instance, though lighter in colour, and one at any rate has the typically Belgic high shoulder (on this see *Arch. Camb.*, lxxxviii, 291). In fabric they are typical of a great many of these Wessex Belgic bead-rim pots (usually wheel-made), and for the incursion of the type into Somerset it need only be noted that it reached Glastonbury Lake Village (*Arch. Journ.*, lxxxvii, 285, fig. 26, no. 6, and p. 286—the present example being just like that illustrated there). It is possible that these scraps are post-Roman Conquest, of course, but I think A.D. 1 to 50/70 should cover them safely, and that they are pre-Conquest in date. There are also (b) a few featureless sherds, not obviously wheel-made, which might be of the same date; and (c) a number of fragments of an everted-rim wheel-made pot (no. 22). These last are certainly not of the same date: as the largest piece shows in all features, the date is Romano-British, third century A.D. (ordinary black cooking pot).

(2) layer 4 (below old turf line) yields (a) black sherds, Belgic or Romano-British; (b) pale grey gritty sherds, thick, one a large bead-rim with high bulging shoulder (no. 20): these are certainly first century A.D., but whether pre- or post-Conquest it is hard to say. The coarse paste suggests the former, the good, hard baking the latter.

To summarize: *Cutting III* gives one a pre-Belgic occupation of 'Iron Age A' type, datable within the period fourth to first centuries B.C., but not amenable either to closer dating or to closer estimation of cultural relationships. *Cutting IV* confirms this. *Cutting I* gives an apparent evidence for a Belgic occupation in the earliest part of the first century A.D., very possibly lasting into early Romano-British times, below and in the old turf line. The turf line also gives a third century Romano-British cooking-pot, seemingly quite isolated from the rest of the material, none of which need be later than 50/70 A.D.

I should add that *Cuttings III* and *IV* material and the Belgic pieces from *Cutting I* could well form a series continuous in time:

i.e. no gap in occupation at the arrival of the Belgae, which one may date schematically at A.D. 1, or some time in the ensuing decades (the latter perhaps more likely). The end of the series about 50/70 A.D. is, however, followed by a gap isolating the third century pot completely.

REPORT ON THE NON-MARINE MOLLUSCA

BY A. S. KENNARD, A.L.S., F.G.S.

A series of shells and material from the old turf line of Cutting I was sent by Dr. Stone, and twelve species were represented, viz :—

<i>Pomatias elegans</i> (Müll.)	Common
<i>Acme lineata</i> (Drap.)	Very rare
<i>Carychium minimum</i> Müll.	Very rare
<i>Arion</i> sp.	Common
<i>Helicella cellaria</i> (Müll.)	Rare
<i>Goniodiscus rotundatus</i> (Müll.)	Abundant
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i> (Linn.)	Very rare
<i>Trochulus striolatus</i> (Pfr.)	Very rare
<i>Vortex lapicida</i> (Linn.)	Rare
<i>Cepæa nemoralis</i> (Linn.)	Common
<i>Cepæa hortensis</i> (Müll.)	Common
<i>Helix aspersa</i> Müll.	Abundant

Band formulae of *Cepæa nemoralis* :—

00000	6 examples	(12345)	4 examples
00300	3 examples	12345	1 example

Band formulae of *Cepæa hortensis* :—

1(2345)	1 example	00000	4 examples
1(23)(45)	4 examples	(12345)	4 examples
12345	2 examples	123(45)	1 example

The last three species are edible and it was noted that they occurred in masses. There can be no doubt that they are food débris, and judging from the differences in condition it is probable that many of them have been cooked. In several examples of *Cepæa nemoralis* and *Cepæa hortensis* the interior has been broken to facilitate extraction. It has often been suggested that these two species were eaten during Romano-British times, but this is the first instance where it is certain that this was the case. The other species indicate damp conditions such as exist in the vicinity to-day. All the shells are well developed especially *Helix aspersa*, the examples of which are very large. It has been suggested that more genial conditions prevailed in the Romano-British period, and it must be admitted that this series is in favour of this view.

REPORT ON THE ANIMAL BONES

BY J. WILFRID JACKSON, D.SC., F.G.S.

The following animals are represented among the bones submitted from Cutting III (occupation layer) :—

- Ox.* Fragments of limb-bones and four teeth.
Sheep. Numerous teeth and bone fragments.
Pig. Few bone fragments and teeth.
Dog. Fragment of lower jaw.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The situation of the enclosure appears to have been chosen with a certain degree of care in that it lies on the eastern slope of a slight rise through which the Forest Marble outcrops. On its eastern, western and southern sides, and right up to the ditch, the rock is capped by a thick layer of clay over which water is known to run in torrents in damp seasons, the enclosure remaining as it were on a peninsula. The swallets, a few yards from the s.e. corner, drain the rising ground to the south and south-west, and it was undoubtedly at this corner that the makers of the enclosure made the mistake of encroaching on the clay subsoil and too near the swallets. This they probably discovered too late, and, although they took the precaution of revetting the sides of the ditch, there can be little doubt that a comparatively rapid silting up of the s.e. angle finally put an end to its usefulness. This could not happen on the western side because here the ditch is at its highest point, nor on the northern or eastern sides since these receive the drainage of the clay-free enclosure itself. That this silting-up happened only a short time after the formation of the occupation layer in Cutting III is evident from the absence of an old turf line and from the purity of the culture found running down the side nearly to the bottom of the ditch, with no later admixture of objects. In Cutting I, which had remained open, later objects found a resting-place for many centuries afterwards. From the representative series of sherds submitted, Mr. Hawkes suggests that they could well form a series continuous in time. But, in view of the paucity of occupation material over the greater part of the area, and in view of the

silting up by clay wash of the s.e. angle, it is considered that the few sherds, other than those of Early Iron Age A date of Cutting III, represent casual strays in the half derelict enclosure, and no substantial evidence can be adduced for continuous occupation over so great a length of time.

Further, the remarkable geological character of the site appears to have been recognised earlier: witness the four possible Early Metal Age or Neolithic sherds and the flint implements discovered.

The subject of external banks is a puzzling one; their occurrence is both sporadic and comparatively rare.⁷ It seems possible that they are but special cases of the normal type designed to meet local conditions not necessarily the same everywhere.

One other point which calls for remark is the resemblance of Hayes Wood Enclosure, in form and size, to the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age enclosures or cattle kraals of Dorset, Sussex and Wiltshire. The three Late Bronze Age enclosures excavated by Pitt-Rivers, in particular South Lodge Camp,⁸ and the Beltout examples in Sussex studied by Mr. H. S. Toms,⁹ appear to be the prototypes from which numerous variants have sprung. Datable examples of Early Iron Age A culture may be noted inside Thundersbarrow Camp,¹⁰ and in Wiltshire, Wudu-burh.¹¹ It may be recalled that such small enclosures

⁷ Besides Newbury, already mentioned, and leaving aside the large earth-works of Avebury, Marden, and Durrington Walls, Mrs. Cunnington has noted (*The Archaeology of Wilts.*, 1933, 141ff) the following small enclosures in Wilts. possessing this feature:—Church End Ring, Little Langford; Cow Down, Longbridge Deverill; some of the enclosures inside Casterley Camp, Upavon; and a small enclosure inside Bilbury Rings, Wylve. Rybury Camp, which lies just above All Cannings Cross, also possesses a single inside ditch and Dr. E. C. Curwen has suggested that it may be contemporary with this well-known Early Iron Age village (*Antiquity*, iv (1930), 38). In Sussex, Wolstonbury Camp near Brighton has been proved by Dr. E. C. Curwen to be of Early Iron Age A date (*Sussex Arch. Coll.*, lxxi, 237); and the larger of the two small rectangular Beltout enclosures has been excavated by Mr. Toms and is said to date to the Bronze Age (*ibid.*, lv, 45). Others in different parts of the country no doubt exist.

⁸ *Excavations in Cranborne Chase*, vol. iv.

⁹ *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, lv, 45.

¹⁰ *Antiquaries Journal*, xiii (1933), 109.

¹¹ *Wessex from the Air*, 1928, 131.

in the three counties named have been the subject of a number of papers by Mr. Toms in the *Sussex Archaeological Collections*; under the general term 'Valley Entrenchments', as opposed to hill-top camps, he has distinguished Valley-head, -side, and -proper enclosures, and their date may extend from the Bronze Age to medieval times. Form and size alone, therefore, cannot be a criterion of age.



Fig. 1. Cutting III; view of the Ditch

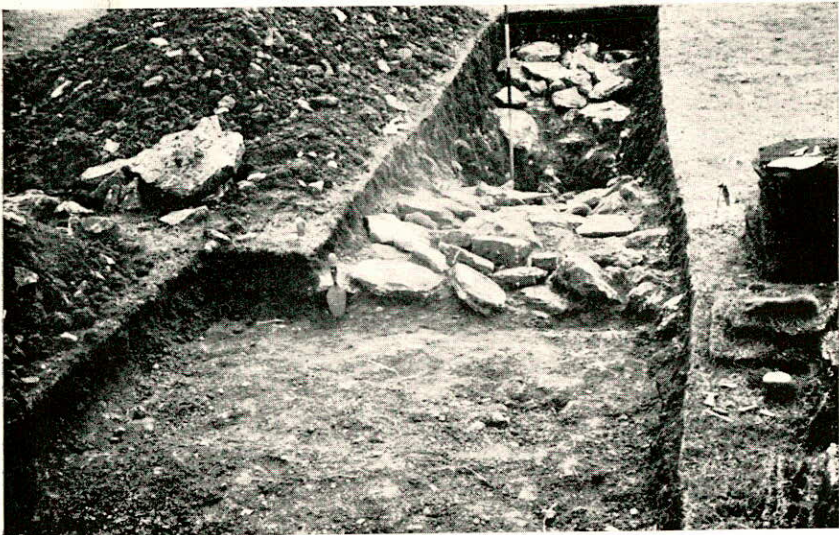


Fig. 2. Cutting III, showing clay floor of occupation layer in foreground, with revetted ditch beyond

HAYES WOOD ENCLOSURE. FRESHFORD, SOMERSET



Fig. 1. View of north Ditch looking east, with Cutting I in the middle distance

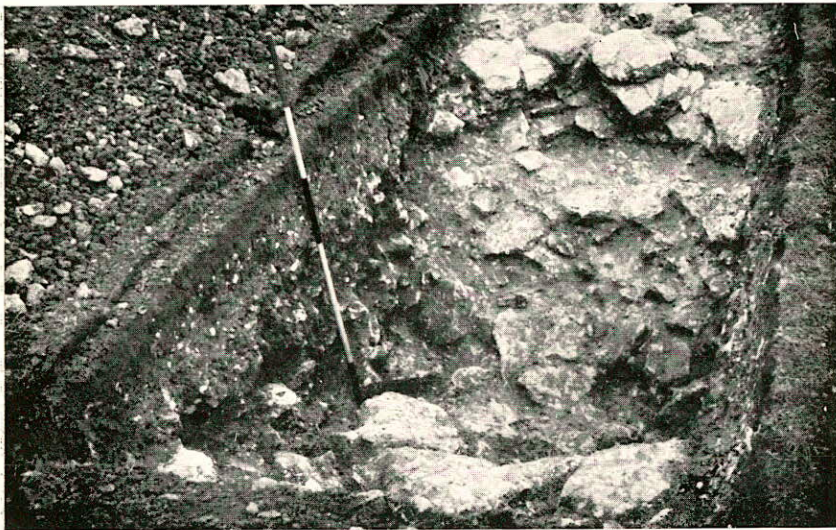
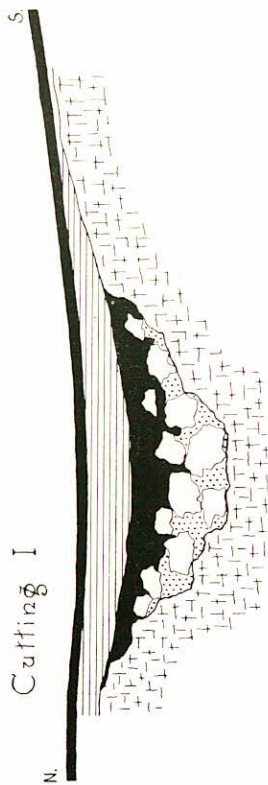








Fig. 2. Cutting I; view of the Ditch

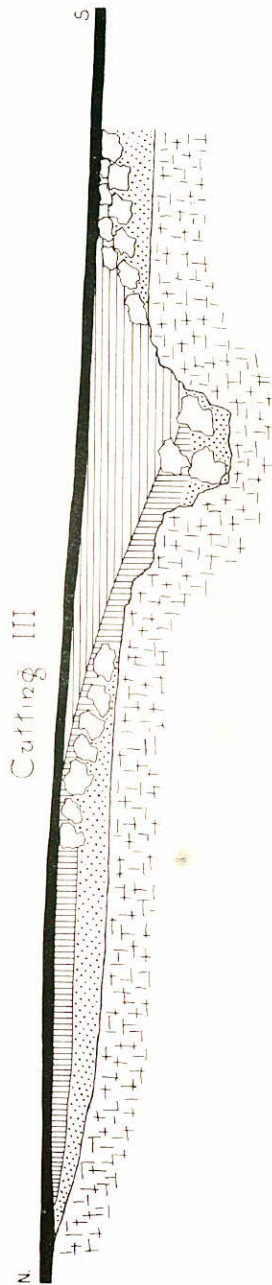
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SECTIONS



-  Turf and mould
-  Earthy-clay mixture
-  Occupation layer and material
-  Yellow clay
-  Blocks of forest marble
-  Undisturbed forest marble

Cutting III



Scale of feet

MS 1934

