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RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

POND BAYS AT BADSELL PARK FARM, MATFIELD

In March to April 1993, the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England carried out an earthwork survey of a complex of pond bays at Badsell Park Farm, near Matfield (NGR TQ 648430). This was carried out at the request of John Williams, the County Archaeologist, in advance of the possible re-development of part of the area. Three well-preserved pond-bays and the site of a fourth (levelled in recent years) were examined. The survey revealed traces of leats and adjacent building platforms associated with the three surviving bays, suggestive of a post-medieval industrial site. In the surrounding area, a number of quarry hollows in the clay marl and some evidence for coppicing were recorded.

One of the bays was originally identified as a possible iron-working site¹ but recent fieldwork by the Wealdon Iron Research Group² encountered a total absence of metal-working debris, indicating that the complex is extremely unlikely to have been connected with the iron industry. In the light of this, it is possible that the site was connected with the fulling process of the post-medieval cloth-making industry. Fulling involved similar pond bays and machinery to power wooden hammers, by which fullers earth or clay marl – a more readily available substitute – was beaten into cloth to soften it. Very little research or fieldwork has been devoted to the Kentish broadcloth industry, which grew from the mid-sixteenth century to reach international importance in the first three decades of the seventeenth century, but declined during the first half of the eighteenth century. Although there is no specific documentary evidence to support this conclusion, the site lies some nine miles from Cranbrook, which is well documented as the centre of the industry.

¹ E. Straker, *Wealden Iron*, London (1931), 281

² B.K. Herbert, 'Foray to Matfield, Kent', *Wealden Iron*, 2nd series, 13 (1993), 11–14

The survey and full report is available at the National Monuments Record Centre, Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2GZ (reference: TQ 64 SW 8) and the Kent Sites and Monuments Record.

ALASTAIR OSWALD

DEAL IN 1730

An interesting hitherto unknown account of Deal in 1730 can be found in the journal of John Swinton. This note prints the account as in the original. Swinton (1703-77) was a fellow of Wadham College Oxford, a noted classical scholar and a Fellow of the Royal Society. In 1729, he was appointed chaplain to H.M.S. Falmouth, commanded by the Honourable John Byng, who was later to be shot for his failure to relieve Minorca. The Falmouth left Greenwich for the Mediterranean on 11 September 1729. On 16 September, the ship arrived off Deal and the following day Swinton went ashore. His account of the town can be found in the first volume of his journal which is held in the library of Wadham College Oxford (reference A 11.5) It is unpaginated and unfoliated.

Thursday, 17. This Day Mr. Linyng our Surgeon and I went on shoar to see the Town of Deal. This is a Sea Port Town in the County of Kent about 60 miles from London. 'Tis not a Town of any great note only as it supplies Ships with Masts and Provisions and Naval Stores - it's Inhabitants are a sea-faring People Chiefly Smuglers, who are narrowly observed by the King's Officers - this Town consists of two Ports called old and new Deal, it has two castles upon which are planted some Cannon - Notwithstanding the vigilance of the King's Officers the Smuglers convey clandestinely great Quantities of French Brandy from Calais, so that 'tis to be bought here for 16d the Half Anchor (5 Gallons) - We could easily discover the Coast of France from this Town - it being about 27 miles distant. The Beach here is sometimes very dangerous, but the Townsmen are so expert with their Boats that they will venture to a Wonder, and save the Lives of many Persons - The Smuglers often bury their Half Anchors in the Sea to escape the Inquisition of the King's Officers, so that the water often taints and spoils the Liquor. No Persons of Fashion or Quality reside here only some sea Captains - Wind, WNW, mod. Gales and Fair, at 10 W, at 11 Little Wind, NW, afterwards till the Conclusion of the Day little Wind and fair with much Sunshine.

Friday, 18. Mr. Linyng Mr Shorn our Purser and I took a walk to see Deal Church but could not get in - The Church is built of Flint-Stone, and the Steeple of Brick and Stone, it seems a very antient Edifice and we were assured it was very beautiful within. In the Church-yard we read severall Frigid Epitaphs, one of which I took in Writing. viz.

Here was intombed all alone
Jane the Wife of Mr. Thomas Stone
Her Age was 33 as I remember
And departed this Life the 13th of September
1665

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

Also 3 Children bereaved of Life
Who came by Mary his 2nd Wife
Ann, Thomas, and Elizabeth,
Who the 13th of August fetch'd her last breath.
1682

About 8 P.M. we went on Board our ship lying near 3 Miles from the Town.

JEREMY BLACK

SOME ARCHITECTURAL FRAGMENTS RECOVERED FROM THE STOUR AT FIELD MILL, EGERTON

Summary

This note reports on the recovery of about a dozen large masonry fragments from the Great Stour where it flows away from Field Mill, Egerton (N.G.R. TQ 91604829).

A Brief Description of the Finds

These fragments included several column capitals and/or bases, column shaft segments, a piece of repaired tracery probably from a window and part of a possible corbel. Several pieces retained central lewis holes. The condition of the fragments was variable, some were damaged and both old and new breaks were visible. Excepting one notable capital (Plate I) few diagnostic features were evident to the non-specialist. A range of stone types and architectural styles were apparent.

Context

The above fragments were recovered from the river bed during dredging work. Their location in the river is in itself a matter of interest which could be investigated further. Other substantial pieces of masonry remain in this part of the Stour. The primary context of the fragments is highly speculative, see below.

Discussion

The column shaft diameters ranged between c. 50–75 cm, a scale more appropriate to a large stone, ? ecclesiastical, building than a parish church. Because both ragstone and greensand were recognised more than one building may be represented. Mr K. Gravett suggested the ornately carved capital, the main diagnostic fragment, was 'early stiff

PLATE I



Architectural fragment.

leaf' a view substantiated by Gardner.¹ Unfortunately, this capital was not representative of the whole group.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On discovery Mr Clarkeson, the landowner, brought these finds to the attention of the KCC Archaeological Section. His interest and cooperation are greatly appreciated. The masonry was examined and photographed fairly rapidly on two occasions with the assistance of Mr D. Kelly and Mr K. Gravett.

Detailed comments on the provenance of the stone, their architectural style(s) and the primary and later contexts of these fragments would be greatly welcomed by the KCC officers.

SALLY HOWARD

WORK BY THE TRUST FOR THANET ARCHAEOLOGY DURING 1992/3: INTERIM REPORTS, PROJECTS, AND REPORTED DISCOVERIES

INTRODUCTION

Between the summers of 1992 and 1993, the Trust for Thanet Archaeology carried out evaluations or watching briefs at ten locations, of which the most important was an evaluation funded by English Heritage on the site of the Monkton II bronze hoard discovery.¹ A full report of this has been prepared. The other work was in each case ahead of civil engineering or construction work, and was with one exception funded by the developers. While no significant archaeology was encountered at three of the sites, results from the remainder are given herein as brief interim reports.

During the period, the Trust with Thanet Archaeological Society embarked on two research projects, which are here introduced. Liaison with the public and the detectorists of the Thanet and Wantsum Relic Association resulted in a steady stream of finds being brought to the Trust. Three of the more important are described in the concluding section.

¹ S. Gardner, *English Gothic Foliage Sculpture*, Cambridge University Press, 1927.

¹ D.R.J. Perkins, 'A Late Bronze Age Hoard from Monkton, Thanet', *Arch. Cant.* cix (1991), 247-64.

EVALUATION EXCAVATIONS

South Dumpton Down, Broadstairs

This evaluation was described in the last volume of *Archaeologia Cantiana*. Since then, the pottery from the complex group of crouched burials has been examined and by Dr A. Gibson. He identifies the beaker as belonging in Clarke's Wessex/Mid-Rhine group,² although the reed impression decoration is without close parallel. From the fill of one grave came a sherd from a rusticated beaker, and a fragmented food vessel was found in association with the lowest burial. Radiocarbon dating of skeletal material from three of the burials has been arranged by Dr Gibson.

The Middle Bronze Age 'Ornament Horizon' hoard discovered during the closing stages of the evaluation has now been examined and analysed by X-ray fluorescence spectrometry. The hoard is being compared stylistically and compositionally with similar palstave hoards from Thanet, by the writer and Dr L.R. Day, of the Department of Archaeological Sciences, University of East London. A paper on this is in preparation.

The extremely interesting and important archaeology at South Dumpton was revealed by a 5 per cent sampling in the area of less than 1 ha. In an evaluation report to the County Archaeologist, the writer recommended that the site be scheduled as an ancient monument and English Heritage are giving this their consideration. At the time of writing the future of the site remains uncertain. With full excavation as a possible option, publication of a formal account of the 1992 discoveries prepared by the writer, N. Macpherson-Grant, Dr A. Gibson et al., must remain in abeyance.

Ebbsfleet Farm, Minster

The last volume of *Arch. Cant.* contained an account of evaluation work carried out by the Thanet Trust at Ebbsfleet in 1990. The Trust resumed evaluation and watching brief work at the farm in 1992-93, this time as sub-contractors to Wessex Archaeology, who had been given a contract by Southern Water with respect to the finally determined site of their new water treatment works. To summarise briefly the results: (i) Late Bronze Age settlement remains similar to those discovered north-east of the farm hill in 1990 were encountered

² D.L., Clarke, (1970) *The Beaker Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland*, Cambridge University Press.

300 m. south-east of the hill. Is this all open site? (ii) A Neolithic presence on the Ebbsfleet peninsula was established by the discovery of a polished flint axe buried in the fill of a most unusual ring ditch only 4 m. in diameter, and about 0.25 m. in width and depth.

Abbey Farm and Conyngham Road, Minster

The first of these evaluations was unfunded, and was carried out by the Thanet Trust and Archaeological Society volunteers. A field at Abbey Farm had for some years exhibited a crop-mark interpreted as a large Roman villa, Thanet SMR 316, Kent SMR SW 67. A combination of plough attrition and erosion exposed building remains on the field surface in 1991. They were seen by metal detectorists of the Thanet and Wantsum Relic Association, who reported them to the Trust, along with a concentration of Roman coins from the site.

Evaluation being obviously necessary, the Trust approached the farmer who kindly agreed to a brief investigation in the next interval between crops. When this was carried out trenching revealed wall courses of large flints, an *opus signinum* floor and hypocaust remains. Materials found included Caen stone, brick *tegulae*, *imbrices*, *tesserae*, and painted wall-plaster. The evaluation trenches were contained in an area of 10 × 20 m., roughly central to the site cropmark which is very explicit, revealing individual rooms in a classic winged building plan 45 × 20 m. in extent.

As a result of the evaluation, the farmer proposes very shallow ploughing over the site in future. Even so, as topsoil is eroded, the site will continue to sustain damage. The Thanet Trust has this matter under consideration.

The development site at Conyngham Road is adjacent to the churchyard of St. Mary's, Minster. Trenching revealed an infilled ditch or natural water-course curving through the site on a line roughly north-east-south-west. The waterlogged fill contained well-preserved organic remains, iron slag, and Roman building materials. Interestingly, this feature lines up with the brook and line of medieval fish ponds draining a spring just west of the Abbey Farm building.

Human skeletal material including at least one burial *in situ* was encountered close to the wall of St. Mary's churchyard. At the time of writing these medieval remains were being exhumed under Thanet Trust supervision.

North Foreland Avenue, Broadstairs

This was an evaluation of a single building plot on the chalk downland hill-top at North Foreland, now partly built over. A few archaeological features were encountered during the evaluation; they consisted of four

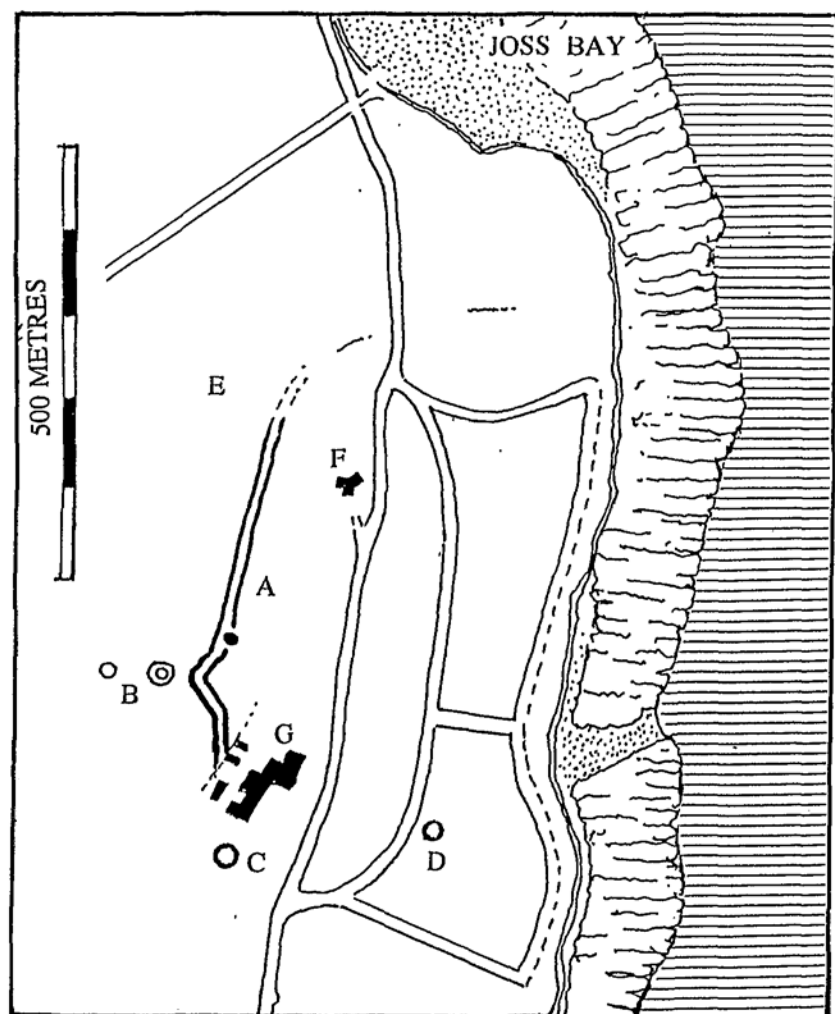


Fig. 1 Sites and crop-marks at North Foreland Hill, Broadstairs. For clarity the only buildings shown are the Lighthouse (F) and St. Stephen's School (G).

post-holes, one of which contained six nodules of calcined flint, and twelve pot-sherds in a thick-walled flint-gritted fabric, probably Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age, c. 800–300 BC. Similar sherds and many calcined flints were found in two pits, while a third held a single ungritted sherd, possibly from a beaker.

Evaluation was thought necessary, since on two sides of the hill, to

west and north, soil and crop-marks can be seen, indicating that the hill-top is enclosed by multivallate defences (Thanet Sites and Monuments Record no. 66, Kent SMR NE 115). The most likely interpretation of these is as belonging to a Bronze or Iron Age hill-fort. The double ditches appear to enclose an area of at least 28 ha. (11.3 acres), see Fig. 1, A.

Crop-marks also show ploughed-off Bronze Age round barrows or small henges, two just west of the enclosure, (TSMR 64, KSMR NE 167), see Fig. 1, B, and another (Fig. 1, C), in the grounds of St. Stephen's School, (TSMR 413, KSMR NE 96). Many finds of flint tools have been recorded, mainly from the fields around the lighthouse (Fig. 1, E), and from the same area Celtic coins (two of gold) and many Roman coins have been found by metal detector in recent years.

The first reference to archaeological discoveries at North Foreland Hill is to be found in the Abstract of Proceedings of Kent Archaeological Society, *Arch. Cant.*, xii (1877-78), xxxiv. A report was read by Mr John Dowker on his excavations at Joss Farm near the lighthouse. He had uncovered the foundations of a 'huge wall, 40' long by 7½' wide, formed of rough flints, laid in hard mortar full of grit.' Nothing further was ever published on this discovery, and its location is not marked on any map. A modern interpretation of a wall of such dimensions and construction would be as likely to belong to a Roman military installation.

In 1978, a Bronze Age round barrow was excavated as a rescue operation on a building site in North Foreland Avenue (Fig. 1, D), about 100 m. from the proposed development. Early Bronze Age crouched burials were found, together with a 'pigmy urn', and intrusive Iron Age graves containing pot sherds of 'Marnian' type.³

While a Late Bronze Age or Iron Age occupation of the hilltop had been assumed, the post-holes and pottery discovered constitutes the first firm evidence of this, since Iron Age pottery found during the 1978 barrow excavation could have come there during funerary rites.

Evaluation work ahead of improvements to the A253 between the Monkton and Minster roundabouts

This was commissioned by Kent County Council. It followed a geophysical survey by Dr A.J. Clark, which clearly identified a number of chalk-cut features in the path of the proposed dual carriageway. Three sites of major interest were thus detected, also several ring-ditches, probably ploughed-off round barrows.

³ Dr Ian Longworth, British Museum, *pers. comm.*

The first task of the trust was to look for Dark Age graves, since the Monkton Anglo-Saxon cemetery runs parallel to the proposed road works for about 400 m., and is only the width of the A253 to the south.⁴ It was felt that shallow chalk-cut graves might not register as magnetic anomalies, so that a series of trenches were cut to explore the situation. No burials were found however. The Trust team then evaluated three sites by trenching, these were:

(i) A round barrow or small henge. This had double concentric ditches with a total diameter of 40 m. Both ditches were sectioned and their stratigraphy, together with 'horrendous' sub-soiler cuts, indicated a dramatic loss of topsoil (and even of chalk bed-rock) through plough attrition and erosion. This denudation of the overburden by up to 1 m. appears to have taken place in the last fifty years.⁵ The destruction of downland archaeology in the south-east could not be more graphically demonstrated, so that it was fortunate that the site was visited and examined by the Advisory Committee of English Heritage.

(ii) An area of pits and ditches associated with a large complex of rectilinear crop-marks to the north. Sampling revealed the site as Romano-British. This raises the possibility that the crop-marks represent a major Roman building, or buildings. Adjoining this site was:

(iii) A group of chalk-cut features, pits, ditches, and sunken-floored huts. Some of these features were Romano-British.

A much earlier presence became evident with the excavation of a deep well-cut grave, at first thought to be Saxon. Within though was a crouched burial with a broken beaker, and at its feet a disturbed burial. Skeletal material from both burials is to be subject to radiocarbon dating. The beaker has been reconstructed by Dr A. Gibson, who places it approximately in Clarke's Southern British Group (S1), while having affinities with the stylistically earlier W/MR group.

D.R.J. PERKINS

THANET BEAKERS

The Beaker from the Monkton/Minster site described above brings the total number of find-spots of complete or near complete vessels in Thanet to seven. However, if sherds representing single vessels from

⁴ D.R.J. Perkins, and S.C. Hawkes, 'The Thanet Gas Pipeline', *Arch. Cant.* ci (1984), 83, 114.

⁵ Confirmed by parallel research carried out at Wye College, *pers. comm.* Dr Burnham.

Lord of the Manor, Ramsgate, Sites 1 and 2D, East Northdown, Margate, Minnis Bay and Ebbsfleet site 9b are added, the total for beakers in Thanet known at present is increased to nineteen raising the county total to around the sixty mark.

In common with the rest of the county most of Thanet's beakers are stylistically early, though recent radiocarbon dating of two local beakers from Manston and Cottingham^{6, 7} has cast doubt on whether a stylistically early pot is necessarily chronologically early.⁸

The results of further radiocarbon determinations on two more Thanet beakers, from Monkton/Minster and Dumpton Park Down are eagerly awaited for what additional light they may shed on these anomalies.

There is a general consensus that these pots were in Colin Burgess's words 'special prestige vessels'⁹, which travelled over the exchange networks both within the British Isles and externally throughout Europe, linking British elite groups with their Continental counterparts. Early Beakers seems absent from Late Neolithic ritual monuments, but after about 2150 B.C. (1800 BC) they appear in circumstances that suggest their owners had become involved in refurbishing and enlarging ritual monuments,¹⁰ like Stonehenge, Silbury Hill and many others, including those in Thanet.

The large number of Beakers in Thanet, recovered to date, is significant with all known sites, except one, being found on areas of brickearth in the western, Channel coast and Wantsum Estuary side of the island. It can of course be argued that this is a false impression brought out by the considerable land loss on the northern coast of the island, but this surely must be offset by the fact that there have been no finds of beakers on similar areas of brickearth and at the same elevations in the eastern and northern parts of the island.

A further interesting feature of Thanet beaker distribution is that they appear, again with one exception, to cluster in two groups in the East Northdown and Lord of the Manor areas which are both locations where there is abundant evidence, such as ring ditches enclosing patterns of post-holes and other hengiform monuments, of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age ceremonial or ritual activity.

A comparison of the number of Thanet beaker find-spots with the

⁶ D.R.J. Perkins, and A.M. Gibson, *Arch. Cant.* cviii (1990), 11-27.

⁷ D.R.J. Perkins, *Arch. Cant.* cx (1992), 269-311.

⁸ Kinnes, Gibson, Ambers, Bowman and Boast, 'Radio Carbon Dating and British Beakers: The British Museum Programme' *Scottish Archaeological Review*, 8 (1991), 35-68.

⁹ C. Burgess, *The Age of Stonehenge*, 1980a.

¹⁰ R. Bradley, *The Social Foundations of Prehistoric Britain*, 1984, 81.

county total shows Thanet finds account for about one-third of all Kent beakers. While taking full account of all the strictures that are made on the reliability of distribution maps to present a truly accurate view of past human activity, it still remains that the Thanet proportion of the whole is very significant, particularly when considered with the large concentrations of round barrows, bronze hoards and Early? Mid Iron Age rusticated pottery that are found on the island. All this material evidence can surely only be interpreted as the remains of past communities and powerful individuals who were deeply involved in the cross-Channel traffic linking Wessex via the Thames valley and estuary with the wider exchange networks on the Continent.

Wessex has been referred to as being conveniently placed to enjoy the fruits of these early exchange networks, having access to the Low Countries via the Thames valley.¹¹ The route would have been down or up the Thames, in and out of the estuary, to and from the Continent and one of the principal staging-posts through which the gold, jet, amber and Niedermendig lava found their way into rich Wessex graves was the Isle of Thanet.

The large numbers of Thanet round barrows and beakers suggest the presence of elite groups and such a hierarchial society would have derived political advantage by controlling access to resources obtained through external trade. Thanet was a 'Gateway Community' situated on the natural corridor of communication that was the Thames. By facilitating the supply and exchange of agricultural and craft productivity and scarce resources.¹² Thanet became an indispensable link in the exchange network that linked the Mediterranean to the rich barbarian communities, like Wessex, dispersed throughout north-west Europe.

The case for a Thanet focus has already been put.¹³ This concentration of activity continued throughout the following millenia leaving behind rich and varied evidence. A parallel focus existed on the northern Thames bank at Shoeburyness where similar concentrations are found with what are the only links of that region with Wessex.¹⁴ Kentish links with the rich burials of Wessex are similarly slender and 'confined to the chalk lands of east Kent'.¹⁵ Supporting evidence for this statement comes

¹¹ B. Cunliffe, *Wessex to AD 1000: Regional History of England Series*, 1993.

¹² K.G. Hirth, 'Interregional trade and the formation of Prehistoric Gateway Communities'. *American Antiquity*, 43, 1978, 35-45.

¹³ D.R.J. Perkins, and L.A. Jay, 'Thanet - A Prehistoric Focus'. Trust for Thanet Archaeology publication 1991.

¹⁴ C.R. Couchman, 'The Bronze Age in Essex', in *Archaeology in Essex to AD 1500*, CBA Report No. 34, 1980.

¹⁵ T. Champion, 'The Bronze Age in Kent', in *Archaeology in Kent to AD 1500*, CBA Report No. 48, 1982.

from the distribution of beakers of Clarke's Wessex/Mid Rhine type where the county total of three are all from East Kent, one from Canterbury and the other two from Thanet, which perhaps is not surprising when it is realised that the overwhelming proportion of Kent beaker find-spots are in Thanet and the east of the county.

Additional links with Wessex rich burials are provided by the four accessory or 'incense' cups; these are small vessels some 4 to 7 cm tall with narrow perforations cut through the wall of the pot. One such cup was found at the Lord of the Manor site, Ramsgate, in the late 1970s. Twelve of these vessels are known nationally, ten are confined to southern and eastern England, of which four have been found on the following east Kent and Thanet sites: (1) Lord of the Manor, Ramsgate, (2) Luddington, near Canterbury, (3) Tilmanston and (4) Ringwould.

The Ringwould barrow was explored in 1872 by a Mr C.H. Woodruff.¹⁶ The accessory cup was an item in a grave group which included segmented and faience beads and biconical urns 'which would conventionally be assigned to the Wessex culture' while the Lord of the Manor cup may be compared with one of similar form found in a Wessex grave, Wilsford G8. Wilts.¹⁷

Over one-half of Kent's beakers are composed of types with a predominately east England distribution (Clarke's East Anglian and Barbed Wire types)¹⁸ and the Thanet and east Kent distribution of beakers referred to above would strongly suggest contacts between East Anglia and the east coast of Kent. This carries the implication that the contacts were of a maritime nature across and around the Thames estuary, which opened out onto the Low Countries, the Rhine, north west France and further afield.

Continental affinities with some Thanet beakers have been commented on and while guarding against over vigorous parallel searching there is the possibility that the rim sherd of a rusticated beaker from the Dumpton Park Down site may be connected to the Netherland 'potbeker' tradition.¹⁹

Given the apparent closeness of the communities on either side of the Channel and the fact that these pots were prestigious, it seems more than likely that either the pots themselves or decorative/stylistic traits should travel. Probably an inevitable consequence of the cross-Channel traffic of people and things over the millennia rather than as an 'intrusive' movement as Clarke used the term.

¹⁶ C.H. Woodruff, *Arch. Cant.* ix, 1874.

¹⁷ Dr Ian Longworth, British Museum, *pers. comm.*

¹⁸ T. Champion, *op. cit.*

¹⁹ A. Gibson, *pers. comm.* D.R.J. Perkins.

THANET BARROW PROJECT

Aided by a grant from Kent County Council, The Thanet Archaeological Society are undertaking a programme of research into the island's 300+ barrows by fieldwalking and limited excavation. Knowledge of these monuments has been accruing over the last 17 years, being derived from aerial photos of the old Potato Marketing Board, our own annual aerial surveys and the recent aerial reconnaissance of the R.C.H.M.E.

All these crop-marks have been plotted onto a master O.S. map. From information supplied by Mr D. Steed it has been possible to determine on whose farmland given crop-marks are. The next step, already begun, is to provide each Thanet farmer with his own individual map, not only of his farm boundaries but of all the crop-marks that occur within them.

In order to translate all this information into activity on the ground it is necessary that we talk to farmers in the hope that we can enlist their interest and support for the project. The Society has a sense of urgency in getting this project under way before the constantly accruing damage from plough attrition and natural erosion destroys the greater part of the evidence of these prehistoric monuments.

The main aims of the investigation are: First, it is generally assumed that the barrows are of Beaker/Early Bronze Age date but this need not necessarily be so, because as Ann Ellison has pointed out²⁰ during the Middle Bronze Age interment within round mounds, as either primary or secondary deposits, was by far the most common practice. Therefore, many of the barrows could be of that date (1400–1000 BC). We do have definite knowledge of this class of barrow, as one was discovered by local archaeologist Mr Hurd during building development at King Edward's Avenue in 1909. Only a sustained programme of fieldwork including, selective excavation, can provide more conclusive information.

Our second line of enquiry would be to establish how many of these erstwhile mounds do not possess any internal features such as burials, structures, etc. The fact that internal features do not show up in aerial photographs does not mean they are not present. It could mean that they were not showing at the time the photograph was taken for some reason or another. Of the 16 barrows, that have been excavated in Thanet since 1743, five are known not to have possessed any internal

²⁰ A. Ellison, 'Deverel Rimbury Urn cemeteries: The evidence for Social Organisation' in (eds.) J.C. Barrett, and R.J. Bradley, *Settlement and Society in the British Later Bronze Age*, (B.A.R. 83) Oxford, 115.

PLATE I



The Monkton round barrow: Reconstruction.

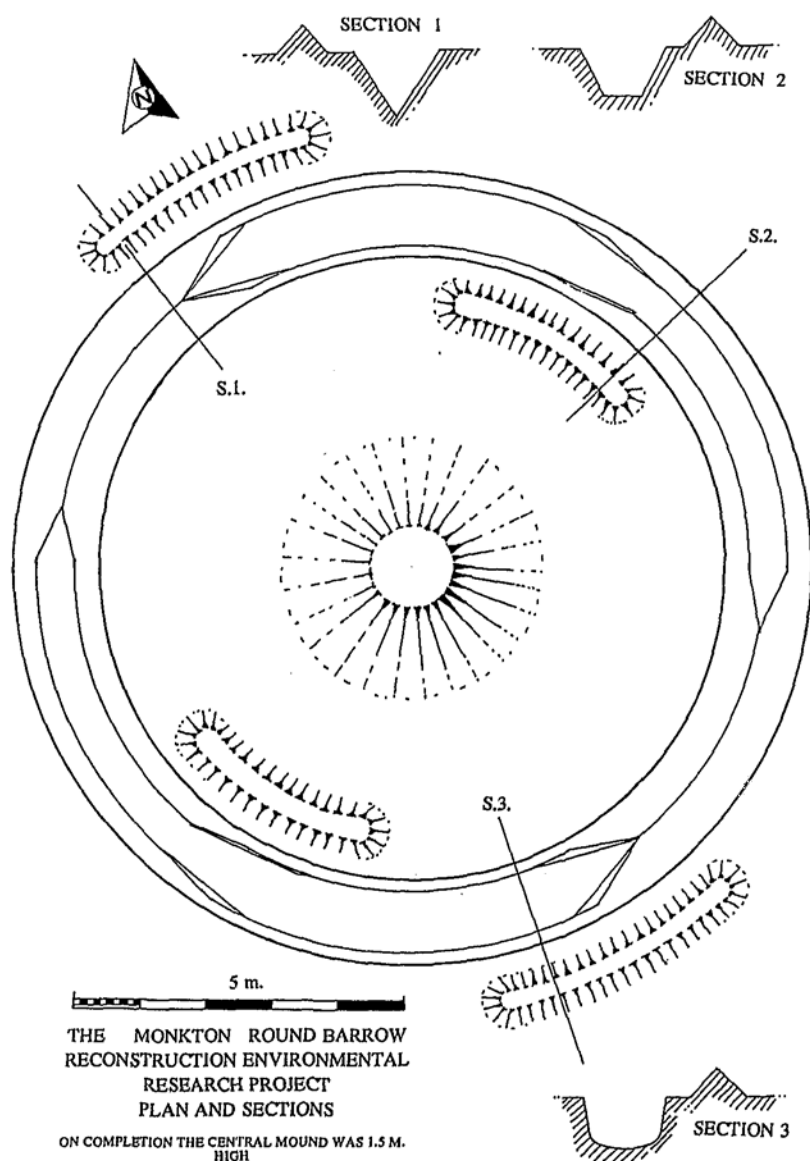


Fig. 1

features and should perhaps be designated as a ceremonial mound rather than a funerary barrow.²¹

Our third objective concerns Beakers. As reported above, Thanet possesses a significant number of beakers and it may well be the case that the research project will reveal more Beaker burials.

Subsidiary to the main aims of the project will be to record internal diameters and ditch profiles, shape and depth. Also to note any preferences for soil types and height above sea level or hill slopes facing in certain directions.

BARROW RECONSTRUCTION

A joint endeavour by The Thanet Archaeological Society and the Monkton Nature Reserve to reconstruct a barrow was undertaken in order to observe the erosional and environmental effects of such a man made structure (see Plate I). This was an interest common to both organisations; the naturalists are interested in the behaviour of insects and small animals whose environments had been disrupted by the intrusion of the mound. Apart from disruption the mound presented opportunities to be exploited by various species of plants and animals and the biologists recorded which species of fauna and flora, over time, exploited the new environmental opportunities presented by the mound. There is an overlap of interest here in the developing colonisation by species of land molluscs, well known as archaeological environmental indicators, but here there is the opportunity to study living populations rather than their death assemblages.

The experimental barrow will last well into the next century and during that time will provide valuable evidence of weathering and erosion. To this end the 22 m. diameter ditch was cut into the chalk with a variety of profiles, while lengths of the ditch have inner or outer banks, or both, (see Fig. 2). These embankments have been arranged so that weathering effects of both the prevailing South Westerlies and the freezing mid-winter easterlies can be observed.

L.A. JAY

²¹ P. Drewett, D. Rudling and H. Gardner, *The South East to AD 1000 – A Regional History of England Series*, 83–6.

Corrigenda

Volume cxi (1993): Pierce House, Charing

For Figs. 2a,	2b in text, read Figs.	2 and	3
3a,	3b	4 and	5
Fig.	4	Fig.	6
	5		7
	6		8