

THE COUNTIES OF NAIRNSHIRE, MORAY AND BANFFSHIRE IN THE BRONZE AGE – PART I¹

by IAIN C. WALKER, F.S.A.SCOT.

INTRODUCTION

THE basis of this study formed part of an M.A. thesis for the Department of Archaeology, University of Edinburgh in 1961² and was expanded to take account of material published between its completion and 1962. The writer's departure for Canada in that year has made further revision and proof correction difficult, but an attempt has been made to keep abreast of recent developments. Almost all the material in the corpus was studied at first hand during the latter half of 1960.

In this article the geographical background is sketched and the second millennium B.C. has been treated from the evidence of the ceramic material, which forms the corpus appended, together with related cultural material.³ It is hoped to deal with the evidence of the metal-working industry, including a similar corpus, and to integrate the geographical background to the occupation in a subsequent article.

THE AREA

Geographically, the area covered by the modern counties of Nairnshire, Moray and Banffshire can be divided into several convenient regions.

The coastal area can be divided into two approximately along the Moray-Banffshire border: the western part, about six miles at the widest and running in a narrowing belt to Inverness, may be called by extension the Laich of Moray; the eastern part is lowland Banffshire with its rocky and often precipitous coastline.

¹ Chalmers-Jervise Prize Essay 1965.

² *Univ. Edin. Dept. of Arch. 13th Ann. Rep.* (1960-1), 6-9.

³ In the catalogue the heading 'Find Spot' lists the place, parish and county below each other in that order, when known. Place-names are spelt following the latest (7th series) 1-inch O.S. maps.

The following abbreviations, other than those in common use, have been adopted:

<i>A</i>	Abercromby	<i>N.S.A.</i>	<i>New Statistical Account</i>
<i>CM</i>	Crichton Mitchell	<i>O.M.</i>	<i>Oudheidkundige Mededeelingen</i>
		<i>P.S.A.L.</i>	<i>Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London</i>
<i>BM</i>	British Museum	<i>Rel. and I.A.</i>	<i>Reliquary and Illustrated Archaeologist</i>
<i>NMAS</i>	National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland	<i>S.G.M.</i>	<i>Scottish Geographical Magazine</i>
		<i>T.B.F.C.</i>	<i>Transactions of the Banff Field Club</i>
<i>A.N.L.</i>	<i>Archaeological News Letter</i>	<i>T.G.A.S.</i>	<i>Transactions of the Glasgow Archaeological Society</i>
<i>Ant.</i>	<i>Antiquity</i>	<i>T.I.S.S.F.C.</i>	<i>Transactions of the Inverness Scientific Society and Field Club</i>
<i>Ant. and Surv.</i>	<i>Antiquity and Surviva</i>	<i>T.P.B.S.E.</i>	<i>Transactions and Proceedings of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh</i>
<i>Arch.</i>	<i>Archaeologia</i>		
<i>Arch. Scot.</i>	<i>Archaeologica Scotica</i>		
<i>B.I.A.</i>	<i>Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology, University of London</i>		
<i>D. and E.</i>	<i>Discovery and Excavation, Scotland</i>	<i>U.J.A.</i>	<i>Ulster Journal of Archaeology</i>
<i>Geog. J.</i>	<i>Geographical Journal</i>	<i>U.L.I.A. Ann. Rep.</i>	<i>University of London, Institute of Archaeology Annual Report</i>
<i>Invent. Arch.</i>	<i>Inventaria Archaeologica</i>		

South of a line drawn roughly from Clava on the W. to Fochabers on the E. come the moors of the hinterland. The eastern part is desolate, high – several peaks top 2000 ft. – and even today difficult to cross: the Findhorn reaches the coastal plain through a series of gorges all above 850 ft. O.D. The western part, known as the Brae of Moray, descends on its farther side to the valley of the Spey. The only major route across this area is that taken by the Forres-Grantown road and the Edinburgh-Inverness railway, following the lower Findhorn, the Divie and the Dor-back from the coast across Dava Moor. A minor route is up the Lossie from the coast and over Dallas Moor to Knockando. The Glen of Rothes, an overflow channel of the Rothes Late Glacial Lake, is an important shortcut from the Spey pointing directly at Elgin, cutting out the need to continue down the Spey until the coastal plain is reached some three miles downstream.

Strath Spey, as the middle section of the river valley is called, varies between one and four miles in breadth, and remains under 500 ft. O.D. as far as Advie, some 28 miles from the river mouth. It is covered with deep fluvio-glacial deposits forming marshes and lochans in places, but is cultivated as far upstream as Aviemore, about 55 miles from the sea. It forms the only route to and through the hinterland, for Strath Tay can be reached over Drumochter summit, just under 1500 ft. O.D., following the Inverness-Edinburgh road and railway south, and the southern end of the Great Glen can be reached without ever going as high as 1000 ft. by Loch Laggan and the Spean valley.

Geologically, much of the Laich of Moray consists of Upper and Lower Old Red Sandstone deposits while the hinterland largely comprises older schists and gneisses: the junction of the two is particularly visible at Sluie on the Findhorn, where the abrupt fault causes the Falls of Sluie which is the highest navigable point for small boats.

That the coastline of Nairnshire and Moray must have differed considerably in prehistoric times from its present form can hardly be doubted – the changes over the past thousand years are considerable enough. The chief cause is the combination of rivers rising in areas of considerable precipitation bringing down large amounts of material and the drifting of this westwards by a strong current. Records of the town of Nairn show that between 1720 and 1820 the river at various times and on several occasions flowed in courses to both the E. and W. of the town, as well as through it.

In the area of Nairn the sea current is eroding the coastline but farther W. it is building up the land: last century the high-water mark at Whiteness Head on the Nairnshire-Inverness-shire border retreated 300 yds. in about 50 years and in 15 years there was a gain of over 100 acres along the shore.

The mouth of the Findhorn at the end of the seventeenth century was about three miles to the W., the river taking a sharp turn when almost at the sea and flowing parallel to the coast, a bar being formed by river-borne material which was carried in suspension and then deposited when the river and sea currents neutralised each other. The spit of land cut by the present Nairnshire-Moray boundary known as The Bar (and earlier, significantly, 'Old Barr') is in all probability a remnant of

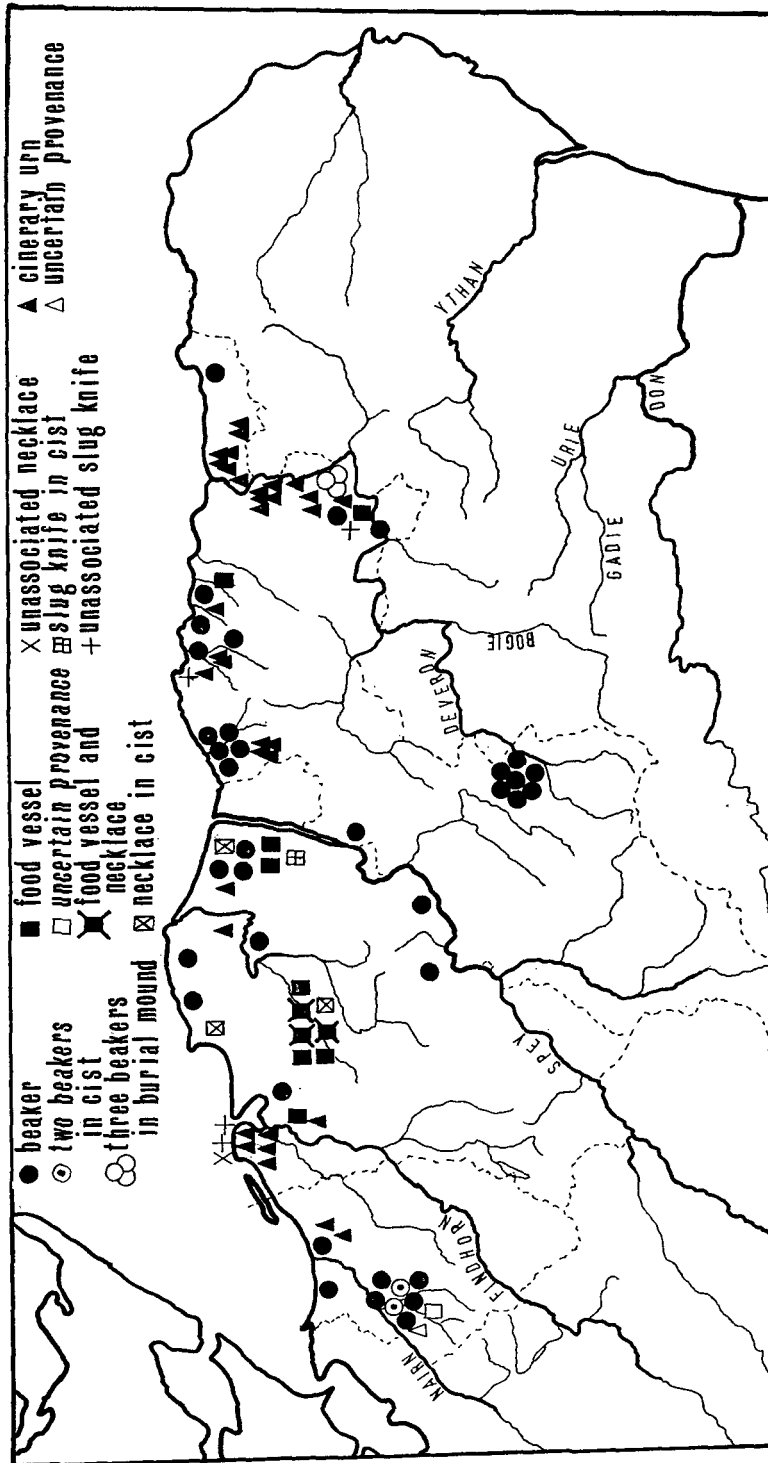


FIG. 1. Map showing distribution of second-millennium B.C. material (other than bronze) in Nairnshire, Moray and Banffshire

this. Its westward movement – it has recently split in two – can be traced in the various O.S. 1 in. maps or in the more detailed work by Steers¹ and the current is continuing to turn the river westwards, despite the strong scouring tidal action due to the bottle-necked entrance to Findhorn Bay.

When the harbour at Branderburgh, Lossiemouth, was excavated the material was drifted by the coastal current into a ridge 10 to 12 yds. wide at its base, 5 to 6 ft. high and about half a mile long.

The Spey in late medieval times, like the Findhorn, turned westwards along the coast for about three miles, and, despite recut channels, is still drifting W. as the owners of the two houses undermined at Kingston in 1960 because of this erosion will testify. In June, July and August 1880 alone the mouth of the river moved 20 yds., and the great parallel ridges of pebbles and latterly shingle and sand stretching W. for six miles nearly to Lossiemouth testify to the continuous changing of the coastline. Some of the material comes from the sea current eroding the cliffs in the area of Portgordon near the Moray-Banffshire border where, as already remarked, the low, flat Laich of Moray ends.

There is evidence in early medieval times of an arm of the sea at Lochloy and Maviston, E. of Nairn, now completely cut off by coastal deposition and almost totally dry land. Loch Spynie at Elgin was open to the sea as late as the fifteenth century and it was not until 1812 that the loch was reduced by drainage from c. 2000 acres to substantially its present form, though the great flood of 1829 wrecked the sluices and made the loch tidal until 1860.

Following the great sandstorms that overwhelmed the Culbin estates in 1694–5 the small lochs of Roseisle, Outlet and Keem, S. of Burghead, became choked, and by the early part of the eighteenth century part of the drainage of the area had been forced E. into Loch Spynie.

East of Loch Spynie, it was not until c. 1800 that the 150-acre area of the Loch of Cotts was reduced to the insignificant size it is today.

Evidence from brickworks cuttings suggests that in prehistoric times Loch Spynie was of a considerable depth and the Trias outcrop running E. and W. from Burghead to Covesea lighthouse and the smaller Trias and Upper Old Red Sandstone outcrop at Lossiemouth must have been virtually islands. It is interesting that local legends that Loch Spynie joined the sea S. of Burghead and W. of Stotfield at Lossiemouth still survive, though they have a medieval setting.

Probably the best known and certainly the most spectacular feature of this coast is the Culbin Sands between Findhorn and Nairn. Of the medieval Manor and sixteen farms that formed the 3600 acres of the Barony of Culbin only two farms, Earnhill and Binsness, survive. The history of this fascinating region is unfortunately not very coherent and cannot be covered here: local legend in the best tradition has the estate overwhelmed in a single night, the sand being graphically described as streaming across the landscape grasping field after field, house after house, while the lord of the manor played cards with the devil. In fact between autumn 1694 and spring 1695 the estate appears to have been devastated completely by drifting sand.

¹ *Geog. J.*, xc (1937), 498–528.

Since then various parts of the estates have from time to time been uncovered; the manor house appeared, *c.* 1800, and old land surfaces are occasionally exposed with rig-and-furrow cultivation and even individual plough-marks still to be seen. There are earlier records of severe sandstorms – Boethius records one of 1097, and following one in 1663 the Scottish parliament forbade the pulling of bent – and later ones: the Maviston dunes to the west of the Culbin Sands moved nearly a mile in a generation last century and in 1882 the Burghead railway was blocked by sand. The dunes are now largely planted with trees: the highest dune is 96 ft. O.D. and several are over 50 ft. O.D., which gives some idea of the amount of sand as the original land surface probably rarely rose above 20 ft. O.D. Pollen analysis at Kingsteps Quarry, west of Nairn,¹ where a crude mesolithic industry was found in an uncertain position, revealed that at the beginning of the Boreal-Atlantic transition (*c.* 5000 B.C.) and after, sandstorms were known in the area.

The productiveness of the Laich of Moray has been proverbial for centuries, despite the primitive agricultural techniques and land wastage deplored by more than one writer in the *Statistical Account*: even during the last part of the sixteenth century, when famine was general throughout Scotland, the Laich was able to spare large quantities of corn for less fortunate areas and men crossed the Cairngorms from Angus to buy food.

As early as 1640 there are references to the geniality of the climate of the Laich. The whole coastline boasts the most sunshine per year in Britain, Nairn claiming the most of all. The rainfall averages between 25 and 30 in. a year and the mean average temperature is between 45° and 50° F.

Inland, the story is very different: even at Grantown, only 750 ft. up and in the shelter of the N. side of the Spey valley, rarely a year passes without the temperature falling below 0° F. at least once, and between 15th December 1946 and 9th April 1957 there were only three days when the temperature in Strath Spey did not fall below freezing-point, the frost reaching a depth of 5 ft. in the Carrbridge area. In 1854 the Spey, the fastest flowing river in Britain, froze over at its mouth and stage coaches were driven across the ice; in 1895 the river froze over at the narrow pass of Craigellachie and a curling match was held. Occasional freak temperature changes wreak havoc with the crops: on 8th–9th August 1945 the temperature fell from 80° to 16° and rose again to over 80° in twelve hours and on 23rd June 1952 there were ten degrees of frost. On the other hand, the summer following the great freeze of 1946–7 had brilliant sunshine from the middle of June to the third week of September and the summer of 1955 was even longer.

Occasional flash floods devastate both the highland and lowland areas: the greatest known was that of 1829 graphically recorded by Lauder: at the Rock of Sourden where the Spey reaches the coastal plain the river rose 20 ft. 10 in. over a width of 237 ft.

Occasional storms can cause havoc to the sandy coastline: the great storm of 1100 which overwhelmed Earl Godwin's lands in Kent and traditionally formed the Goodwin Sands is mentioned as changing the Moray coastline; in 1266 a storm un-

¹ *T.P.B.S.E.*, xxxvi (1952–5), 226–9.

paralleled 'since the days of Noah' left traces visible in the time of John Fordun, approximately a century later; and the storm of 1952 which devastated East Anglia and the Netherlands resulted in the most spectacular tides of recent years on the Moray coast.

The coastline of Banffshire, as already remarked, is rocky beginning at Portgordon; E. of Portessie it becomes precipitous, and with the exceptions of Cullen and Sandend Bays the coastline is always rocky and often precipitous until Boyndie Bay, immediately W. of Banff, and the mouth of the Deveron, are reached. East of the Deveron the remaining ten miles or so of the coastline reach spectacular heights, in some places with sheer descents of over 500 ft. In this area a few burns have cut narrow and precipitous gullies down to the sea but the only reasonably marked defile leading to the top of the cliffs is at Gardenstown.

The hinterland is less easy to describe than that of Moray because there is neither a coastal plain nor a well-marked division into lowland and upland zones. Behind Buckie there is a flat extent of land backed to the E. by the steep-sided ridge culminating in the Bin of Cullen, 1050 ft. O.D., and to the W. by a less steep, but marked, rise to an undulating expanse of moor just under 1000 ft. O.D. The only natural gap through this area is on the W. following the Burn of Tynet, the route taken by the Buckie-Keith road and the now-removed railway. The next route inland is at Cullen, some eight miles E. Here there is one of the few open beaches of the coast and the narrow valley of the Burn of Deskford forms an important route over the moors to Strath Isla and Keith. Beyond Portsoy the hinterland becomes easier of access, but the Burn of Boyne is a useful route for reaching Glen Barry and Strath Isla, and taking one of the roads and the railway from the Banffshire fishing villages to Huntly.

The geology of Banffshire is in complete contrast to that west of the Spey: basically it consists of numerous parallel beds of different rocks lying NNE. and SSW. South of the Fiddich, a tributary of the Spey, what may be termed the mountainous region comprises mainly large areas of granites, quartzose schists, various mica schists, limestone and Old Red Sandstone. The lower ground to the north has as its chief rocks large areas of quartzose schists, various mica schists, clay slate, serpentine and other basic rocks.

From Banff the Deveron takes a tortuous and steep-sided course for 11 miles S. to Turriff and then turns sharply W. for 17 equally twisting miles until its confluence with the Isla is reached. This E.-W. route is continued by the Isla as far as Keith and continues to the Spey by the well-marked Mulben overflow channel from the Rothes Late Glacial lake, a route taken by the Elgin-Keith road and the inland railway from Elgin to Aberdeen.

From Turriff there is an easy route to the upper Ythan, from where one can either go down to the coast at Newburgh, 12 miles N. of Aberdeen or follow the Banff-Aberdeen railway to the Urie and thence to the Don and Aberdeen.

Four miles above the confluence of the Isla and Deveron is Huntly from where two routes, one taken by the Elgin-Aberdeen railway, from the Urie, a tributary of the Don, meet. Following the Deveron south 13 miles to Cabrach one can cross,

reaching a maximum height of 1370 ft., to the upper tributaries of the Water of Bogie and thence down the Shevock, Gadie, Urie and Don to Aberdeen.

Climatically, the period under consideration – the first half of the second millennium B.C. – would have been in the middle of the Sub-Boreal period, zone VIIb. The Sub-Boreal has been considered as representing a drier and more continental climate following the ‘climatic optimum’ of the Atlantic period, zone VIIa, but recent work, in particular that of Godwin,¹ has suggested that for England at least the dryness and warmth have been overestimated. In Ireland, however, pollen analyses suggest that the island had its climatic optimum during this period.² In the Laich the climate would have been markedly drier and milder³ than at present. The soil is light-textured and in most areas well-drained. Deciduous woodland was probably the dominant covering. It has been held⁴ that the Culbin area would have been habitable from the time the 25-foot sea retreated following the Litorina transgressions in Atlantic times,⁵ but recent study has suggested that there are no datable 25-foot beaches in Scotland⁶ – indeed the apparent lack of pre-Early Bronze Age material at Culbin may be because it was not habitable earlier (see p. 89).

In Boreal times, zone VI, the loch at Kingsteps Quarry was surrounded by pine forest but in early Atlantic times this had almost disappeared and been replaced by birch-alder scrub with some oak. Later, immediately after the sandy layer that represents a severe sandstorm, there is a marked increase in herbaceous pollen.⁷

Fraser’s and Godwin’s work⁸ at Strichen Moss, Aberdeenshire, just W. of the Banffshire border is probably⁹ representative of coastal Banff. Durno,¹⁰ comparing four coastal and four inland sites in the north-east notes that as the climate ameliorates the extent of woodland increases, with, as one might expect, the coastal areas reflecting this before the inland areas, but by late Boreal times the forest has become as well or better established in the higher land, and this situation remains until the end of the Sub-Boreal. At Strichen Moss, the Sub-Boreal began with the disappearance of all the pine, already on the decline since the beginning of the Atlantic period (as at Kingsteps Quarry); elm fell just as sharply while there was a spectacular increase in ling. Grasses declined sharply; sedges, already on the decline, continued so, while birch held its own. Generally there was a marked decline in overall tree-percentage early in the Sub-Boreal, which continued to the present time. Godwin believed that this implied not climatic changes but possibly the progressive leaching of fresh soils and the building up over the whole countryside of acid moor soils and subsequently of oligotropic bog in place of the neutral mull soils initially present.

Grant also points out¹¹ that E. of the Spey and S. of the coastal Fochabers-Cullen road the natural soils would probably have been peaty podzols with iron pan and induration. He also noted the acid Durnhill soils, not only in the Durnhill area itself, SSE. of Portsoy but in a large area stretching westwards to the Burn of Buckie,

¹ Godwin, H., *The History of the British Flora* (1956), 339.

² *P.R.I.A.*, LI (B) (1949), 85–290.

³ T. Grant, Soil Survey Department, Macaulay Institute of Soil Research, Aberdeen; *in litt.*

⁴ *Geog. J.*, XC (1937), 498–9.

⁵ *S.G.M.*, 73 (1957), 77.

⁶ Information from Mr I. Morrison, Depts. of Geography and Archaeology, University of Edinburgh.

⁷ *T.P.B.S.E.*, xxxvi (1952–5), 224–9.

⁸ *New Phytologist*, 54 (1955), 216–21.

⁹ S. E. Durno, Macaulay Institute; *in litt.*

¹⁰ *S.G.M.*, 73 (1957), 176–84.

¹¹ T. Grant, *in litt.*

W. of which the fertile Laich begins. Glentworth in his study of the soils of western Banff shows what a large area is podzolised, chiefly in the area of slate formation.¹ The soils in the Boyndie area, however, would be relatively easily worked by comparison.

Inland, conditions became dry enough in the Sub-Boreal over much of the north of Scotland for the pine forest to spread over the peat which had formed in the more humid climate of the preceding Atlantic phase. This is the Upper Forestian level and it generally occurs at high levels: afforestation must have taken place to over 2000 ft. in the Central Highlands and reaches as high as 3000 ft. in a few sheltered areas. In the higher levels, such as Strath Spey, pine and birch were predominant; lower down, birch was markedly predominant.

The area is not rich in natural resources. Copper deposits are known both to the W. and SE. of the area – at Bona on the W. shore of Loch Ness and Edzell in Angus respectively² – but none exist in the three counties under study, and no tin deposits are known in Scotland. The only metalliferous deposit known in the area, as noted in another article, is alluvial gold which was discovered last century in the Daltuilich Burn near its junction with the Nairn.³

Flint is scarce in the area: the nearest, indeed the only major source in Scotland, is in Buchan in the North-east.⁴ There are deposits of flint nodules on the Culbin Sands: how they reached there is uncertain, though the general geological explanation is that they were rafted by floating ice from a submerged Cretaceous outcrop in the North Sea,⁵ in which case other coastal or formerly coastal areas may have had similar small deposits – beach pebbles of flint are known from Boyndie Bay, immediately W. of Banff.⁶ There is a small outcrop of flint near Delgaty Castle, two miles E. of Turriff, Aberdeenshire, though according to Scott there is no evidence that it was worked in prehistoric times.⁷ Scott also records⁸ an outcrop of whitish chert in the New Red Sandstone at Lossiemouth which, he said, matched well with the fragments found ‘in a mesolithic site at Nairn’ – presumably he meant the site at Kingsteps Quarry, already noted.

A study of the Buchan flint bed has still to be made: it runs inland from Buchan Ness, immediately S. of Peterhead, and while none of its characteristic red material is known from S. of the Don, it has been recorded all along the S. coast of the Moray Firth, and at Dornoch, while an isolated core has been recorded as far N. as the Freswick Sands, N. of Wick.⁹

THE BEAKER SETTLEMENT

A study of the Beaker material in the area under consideration, as indeed the study of any Bronze Age pottery on a regional basis, suffers from the fact that Abercromby's work¹⁰ of half a century ago is still the only published corpus showing

¹ Glentworth, R., *Soils of the County round Banff, Huntly and Turriff* (1955); cf. his figs. 8a, 8b, 8c and 5.

² *P.P.S.*, xvi (n.s.) (1951), 69, Appendix II A, 43 and 49.

³ *P.S.A.S.*, xcvi (1962-3), 101.

⁴ *P.P.S.*, xvi (n.s.) (1951), 40-42, 70, fig. 1; *A.N.L.*, iv, No. 10, August/December 1952, 145-6.

⁵ *Geog. J.*, xc (1937), 500, footnote 2. ⁶ *P.P.S.*, xvi (n.s.) (1951), 40, but spelt ‘Boyndlie’

⁷ loc. cit.

⁸ op. cit., 41, footnote 2.

⁹ *ibid.*, 40.

¹⁰ Abercromby, J., *A Study of the Bronze Age Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland* (1912), vol. 1.

photographs of British Beakers. The only corpus of Scottish material was published as long ago as 1934¹ while Childe² added a not-too-accurate nor all-embracing catalogue ten years later.

As Piggott has recently³ set out the history of archaeological thought on British Beakers only a few points may be noted here. Crichton Mitchell in 1934, writing against an accepted background that C (Short-necked) Beakers were a late and insular development of A (Long-necked) Beakers, said that 'Aberdeenshire has undoubtedly been colonised from Holland and the Rhineland',⁴ a deduction slightly obscured by her feeling that Short-necked Beakers (which occur so densely in NE. Scotland) still had to be considered derivative forms and curiously ignored until the last few years.

Piggott⁵ studying the British material and Waals and Glasbergen⁶ the Dutch came to the conclusion, implicit in Crichton Mitchell's study, that Long-necked Beakers were in fact the insular development and therefore late. Determination of remanent magnetism in a cross-section of British Beaker types by Clarke and Connah⁷ suggest that the typological sequence should be Bell, Short-necked and Long-necked or vice-versa and Clarke⁸ by matrix analysis has shown that the Long-necked Beaker class appears only as a development of earlier features. However, the population movements and settlement patterns implied by this development are still undetermined.

An outline of Sangmeister's 'Rückstrom' or 'Reflux' theory on the Beaker spread in Europe was given by Piggott at the C.B.A. 'Problems of the Bronze Age' Conference in 1960⁹ and more recently has appeared in print.¹⁰ Following the initial rapid movements from Iberia to central Europe a widespread reflux occurred in which the major Beaker settlement of the Low Countries and the Rhineland occurred – a few Beakers of the primary movement are known there.

The studies of Waals and Glasbergen have greatly facilitated our understanding of the antecedents of the British Beaker settlement and enabled us to pinpoint this settlement with some accuracy. There is a dual ancestry to Dutch Beakers: the first, arriving *c.* 2400 B.C.¹¹ is the *standvoetbeker* or Footed Beaker belonging to Sangmeister's *Westdeutsche Bechergruppe*¹² and ultimately to the Saxo-Thuringian *Schnurkeramik* culture, and the second is the *klokbeker* or Bell Beaker which arrives as part of the Reflux movement, before 2200 B.C. Intermingling inevitably took place and, by the time the settlement of Britain commenced, Footed Beaker features – herringbone patterns and the foot itself, for example – are already found. From the close Dutch typology worked out the position of the Short-necked Beakers can be closely placed among Waals and Glasbergen's Type 2^{1b/c}; that is, after the true *klokbekers* but

¹ P.S.A.S., LXVIII (1933-4), 132-89.

² Childe, V. G., *Scotland before the Scots* (1946), 101-3.

³ Piggott, S., 'Traders and Metal-workers', 73-103 of *The Prehistoric Peoples of Scotland* (1962) (ed. S. Piggott); pp. 75-81.

⁴ P.S.A.S., LXVIII (1933-4), 161.

⁵ A.N.L., 6, 1 (1955), 15-16.

⁶ *Palaeohistoria*, IV (1955), 3-27.

⁷ *Ant.*, xxxvi (1962), 206-9.

⁸ P.P.S., xxviii (n.s.) (1962), 371-82.

⁹ Piggott, S., 'Abercromby and After', C.B.A. 'Problems of the Bronze Age' Conference, London, December 1960.

¹⁰ Piggott, S., in *The Prehistoric Peoples of Scotland*, 77.

¹¹ *Ant.*, xxxiv (1960), 17.

¹² Sangmeister, E., *Die Jungsteinzeit in nordmainischen Hessen: Die Glockenbecherkulturen und die Becherkulturen* (1951).

before the developed Veluwe Beakers, which were at one time suggested as ancestors of our Long-necked Beakers and must now be seen as a parallel development. From the Dutch C-14 evidence this latter would be in the nineteenth century B.C. The settlement of NE. Scotland must therefore have begun between 2000 and 1900 B.C.

Nicolaisen has shown that traces of a non-Celtic Indo-European language to be found in Britain¹ are comparable to traces in the Main basin² and the most probable connection is the Beaker folk. The Single Grave – Battle Axe – Corded Beaker complex of cultures over the North European Plain seems to have been partly Indo-European speaking, but only, Sulimirski suggests,³ those groups affected by the Single Grave element which came ultimately from barrow graves N. of the Black Sea and the Caucasus. C-14 dating has shown that an increase in plantain pollen, presumably from Hunnebedden settlements, can be dated to *c.* 2400 B.C.,⁴ the time of the earliest Footed Beaker arrivals, and traces of ard furrows have been found under a klokbeaker barrow⁵ so that primitive farming was known by the time Beaker folk arrived in Britain. Flax⁶ and *Bos longifrons*⁷ may have been introduced at this time though no evidence is known from Scotland, and barley appears to have been preferred to wheat.⁸ A solid single-piece oak wheel has been found in a context C-14 dated to *c.* 2000 B.C.⁹ so that it is possible that the Beaker settlers of NE. Scotland knew of the wheeled vehicle.

Until full corpora of both the Scottish and Dutch material are published a detailed analysis of the relationships between the two and more particularly an attempt to divide the material in the area under review into direct settlement, that from neighbouring regions and self-evolved types, cannot be made. Nearly a quarter of the Scottish Beakers come from Aberdeenshire alone. There the main concentrations are in the coastal area of the Dee and Don, up the valley of the latter and its tributary the Ythan, and its tributary the Gadie. Crichton Mitchell¹⁰ noted how a Beaker from Oostereng¹¹ resembled a typical Morayshire example; Piggott¹² has compared one from Ermlo with one from Edzell, Angus, and that contacts continued well into the Veluwe period, ending *c.* 1500 B.C., is strongly suggested by two of the three Beakers found in one cist at Nether Criggie, Dunnottar, Kincardine in 1954.¹³ In shape both are typical developed Veluwe types with the bowl-shaped body and almost-cylindrical neck, and the grooved decoration giving an almost plastic-like effect and the internally-bevelled rim of one are entirely typical. There are numerous Dutch parallels.¹⁴ The plastic-like effect of the undecorated strips on

¹ *Scottish Studies*, I (1957), 211–40.

² *P.P.S.*, XXI (N.S.) 1955, 122.

³ de Laet, S. J., *The Low Countries* (1958), 98.

⁴ Jessen, K., and Helbaek, H., 'Cereals in Great Britain and Ireland in Prehistoric and Early Historic Times', *Kong. Danske Videns. Selskab (Biol. Skrift. Bind III, nr. 2)* (1944), 17–19.

⁵ Piggott, S., *Neolithic Cultures of the British Isles* (1954), 91; Childe, V. G., *Prehistoric Communities of the British Isles* (1940), 98 (1956 reprint).

⁶ Jessen, K., and Helbaek, H., *op. cit.*, 65.

⁷ *P.S.A.S.*, LXVIII (1933–4), 159.

⁸ Piggott, S., in *The Prehistoric Peoples of Scotland*, 79 and Pl. 6.

⁹ *P.S.A.S.*, LXXXVIII (1954–6), 1–14.

¹⁰ *O.M.*, XIV (N.R.), Taf. ii and iii *passim*; *Palaeohistoria*, IV (1955), Pl. xiii, xv, xviii *passim*; *Ant. and Surv.*, II, 5–6 (1959), 100–24, fig. 21; Holwerdra, J. H., *Nederland's Vroegste Beschaving* (1907), Pl. i *passim*; del Castillo y Yurrita, A., *La Cultura del Vaso campaniforme* (1928), lámina cxiv, *passim*.

¹¹ *Beiträge zur Namenforschung*, 8 (1957), 209–68.

¹² *Palaeohistoria*, IV (1955), 117; *ibid.*, V (1956), 49.

¹³ *Ant.*, XXXV (1961), 45–52.

¹⁴ *O.M.*, XIV (N.R.) (1933), Taf. ii, 8.

the Beaker from Clashfarquhar, Banchory, Aberdenshire¹ may also reflect later contacts.

However, Piggott² has suggested that contributions to the Beaker settlement of NE. Scotland may have come from areas peripheral to the Netherlands and noted that the parallels for our B₁ (Bell) Beakers are at least as close in the Rhineland as in the Netherlands and that the parallels for our B₃ (Cord-zoned) Beakers are in the Rhineland and the North Sea coastlands – including the Netherlands – as far N. as the mouth of the Elbe.

Waals and Glasbergen noted that as the Dutch Beakers evolve their zones of decoration contract, giving a pattern which comprises several decorated bands together, then a gap, then more decorated bands and so on. With the beginning of the Veluwe period the gaps are being filled with contrasting decoration, the two most common motifs being triangles and metopes. As might be expected with the initial settlement of the North-east taking place before the Veluwe horizon the filling of the undecorated zones by these means is not common. The use of the metope in particular is rare, and where it does appear it is as part of the decorated zones themselves rather than bridging the gap between them.³ The Dutch examples where the metope is not confined to bridging the gap seem to be late Veluwe types,⁴ but close parallels to the Scottish use of the metopes in the zones are to be found in the Rhineland⁵ and for that matter in Bohemia⁶ where one assumes the Rhenish material originated. The Beaker from Dairsie, Fife,⁷ is an excellent example of the central European metopic decoration on a Beaker of typical British profile, and that from Lanark Moor, Lanarkshire⁸ has a more elaborate metope together with a band of zigzag ornamentation. Again, one of the three Beakers from a cist at Belhelvie, Aberdeenshire⁹ appears to have not only central European metopes but to be one of the rare examples with the true lozenge, an idea not uncommon in Bohemia,¹⁰ though it is known on a late Veluwe Beaker.¹¹ Metopic decoration in the Dutch sense is rare among the English Beakers featured by Abercromby, and when it does occur¹² it must reflect direct Veluwe influence.¹³

It appears, therefore, that there is corroborative evidence in the decorative motifs to add to Piggott's suggestion of a Rhineland element in the settlement of the north-east. Waals and Glasbergen date the initial Beaker settlement of Britain to their period 2^{Ib/c}/2^{Ib}, including their type 2^{Ib} (our Cord-zoned) Beakers, but C-14 dating suggests that the arrival of the latter could be earlier than at least the main stream of the 2^{Ib/c} (Short-necked) Beakers, possibly as early as c. 2200 B.C.

Waals and Glasbergen note that in the filling of the gaps caused by zone contraction triangles and metopes are used equally early, but the Scottish evidence suggests that the triangle may have been slightly earlier, otherwise the metope

¹ Abercromby, J., op. cit., Pl. xviii, No. 245.

³ e.g. Abercromby, J., op. cit., Pl. xvi, 203, 209; xv, 192.

⁵ Sangmeister, E., op. cit., Taf. i, ii, iv and v, *passim*.

⁶ *ibid.*, láminas clxvi-cxc, *passim*.

⁷ Abercromby, J., op. cit., Pl. v, No. 190.

⁹ Unpublished; in Marischal Coll., Univ. of Aberdeen, but see *P.S.A.S.*, LXVIII (1933-4), 165, No. 56.

¹⁰ del Castillo, A., op. cit., lámina cxxiv, 3; cxxv, 2.

¹² Abercromby, J., op. cit., Pl. v, Nos. 4 and 10.

² Piggott, S., op. cit., 80.

⁴ *O.M.*, xiv (N.R.), Taf. iii, 1, 3.

⁵ *ibid.*, láminas clxxxii-cxci, *passim*.

⁸ *ibid.*, Pl. xvi, No. 209.

¹¹ *Palaeohistoria*, IV (1955), Pl. xv, 43.

¹³ *Palaeohistoria*, IV (1955), Pl. xv, 43.

might be expected to have been more common than it is. One fairly common motif, as can be seen from the catalogue, is a shallow zigzag edging above and below the zones, which could be regarded as the origin for the triangles that subsequently fill the gaps in the Dutch series.

The geographical background as set out above strongly supports the contention that the Beaker settlement in the Moray Firth area was predominantly coastal: this is particularly obvious along the Banffshire coast which, as already noted, has few easy landing-places and at that time had predominantly poor soils. Between the mouth of the Deveron and the Banffshire-Aberdeenshire border there is only one practical landing-place, at Gardenstown, and it is here that the only Beaker from this area, No. 44, was found, at the head of the ravine leading up from the shore. Westwards, between the mouth of the Deveron and the Buckie area where the Laich of Moray begins, Nos. 35 to 37 are at or immediately adjacent to the few feasible landing points on the coast, or in the case of No. 38 about three miles up the Burn of Deskford from Cullen Bay, the only route leading into the interior in this area.

The dense cluster of Beakers from the Buckie area, Nos. 30-34, would be in keeping with its being the first major accessible area along the coast. The mouth of the Spey, for reasons noted above, may have been avoided, and any settlement there was must have been long since washed away or covered in sand. It may be significant that the only Beaker from the lowest part of the Spey, No. 19, is from about nine miles upstream, well away from the uncertain last few miles of the river. Bearing in mind the much changed coastline W. of the Spey, it is almost certain that Beakers 15-18 represent settlement immediately adjacent to the then coast, and Beakers 13 and 14 are on the Trias Burghead-Cove sea ridge, which as already noted must have been an island at this time. The former may represent a landing on the rocky coastline at Hopeman; the latter probably represents settlement by way of the prehistoric Loch Spynie.

Farther W., the changes that must have taken place over the last 4000 years in the Culbin area and at the mouth of the Nairn probably account for the sparseness of Beaker finds, for only two are known, those from Forres and Nairn (Nos. 12 and 11).

Inland settlement by contrast is sparse. The settlement in the bend of the Deveron in the Turriff area (Beakers 39-43), to which should be added at least three from the Aberdeenshire side of the valley,¹ could have come either up the Deveron from its mouth or from the Aberdeenshire area of settlement via the Don river system or the Ythan, but the two isolated cemeteries in the Cabrach comprising Beakers 22-24 and 25-29 (the latter having an almost destroyed cist in addition) represent outliers of the Don basin settlement. Crichton Mitchell noted² that Beaker settlement shows a marked preference for valleys and rarely appears on the intervening ground over which it in fact must have passed. This is the case here as she shows,³ for beyond the heavily settled area that stretches as far as the Gadie, the next valley - that of the Water of Bogie - is settled and the next again is that of the

¹ P.S.A.S., LXVIII (1933-4), Pl. i (map) and Nos. 38, 39 and 62. ² loc. cit., 155. ³ loc. cit., map.

Deveron. The fact that these burials form cemeteries suggests small groups, probably isolated families, living a settled life and presumably engaged in farming.

Beakers 20 and 21 from Knockando parish hint that the line of the old drove road over Dallas Moor from the Laich may have been used: it is curious that the broad and fertile Spey valley was never settled by the Beaker folk – indeed apart from the Clava cairn builders in the upper part of the Strath, the valley appears to have been virtually deserted throughout prehistoric times.

The concentration of Beakers in the Cawdor area of the Nairn, even allowing for three in a cemetery (Nos. 1 to 3) and two cists each with two Beakers (Nos. 6-7 and 8-9), is curious. There seems no obvious reason for this, but the lower reaches of the Nairn, as remarked in the Introduction, may have been unsuitable for settlement because of flooding. The settlement seems to have taken place just where the Allt Dearn and its tributary the Riereach Burn leave the hinterland to join the Nairn on the coastal plain: in view of the uncertainty about the provenance of some Beakers one can hardly draw conclusions from the sites where they were said to have been found; nevertheless those whose exact provenance is known appear to be restricted to the higher ground. The mutual exclusiveness of the Beaker settlement vis-à-vis that of the Clava cairn builders, however, cannot be coincidental and as already stated¹ it would appear that the latter were substantially contemporaneous with, but subsequent in arrival to, the Beaker folk.

Of the decorative motifs of the Beakers in the area under discussion there are two, Nos. 37 and 44, that have true bridging of the gaps between the bands of linear decoration. In both cases triangular motifs are used and there are examples where similar motifs fill the lowest gap (Nos. 11, 25 and 38), and as already noted a shallow zigzag, forming what might almost be called incipient triangles, also occurs (Nos. 11, 25, 26, 33, 40 and 43). Metopic bridging of the gap on the other hand is unknown, the examples where metopes are represented appearing to have Rhineland affinities: No. 13 is too fragmentary to have anything definite said about it but No. 25 clearly has a Rhineland inspiration. The use of the metope in No. 33 harks back to the same origin, and while it might be possible to argue that the metopes on No. 35 bridge gaps between zones of straight lines, it seems more likely that the metopic bands constitute the real decorated zones and the straight lines the filling of the gaps. A good many Beakers exist whose decoration fails to fall into any very obvious zoning, and possibly these are late and locally evolved, for in some cases they have lost the more distinctive elements of their shape as well.

On the other hand there are plenty of examples to reinforce the arguments for a Dutch origin over and above those mentioned above: No. 19 is very similar to the two compared by Piggott² and Nos. 10, 21, 32 and 42 also have the same characteristic bands of decoration.

The three Beakers, Nos. 41-43, found in a tumulus at Forglen House near Turriff are particularly interesting: the unique ritual is concisely recounted by Callander³ and the three Beakers, though quite different one from the other, give a

¹ *P.S.A.S.*, xcvi (1962-3), 105-6.

² Piggott, *S.*, op. cit., 79 and Pl. 6.

³ *P.S.A.S.*, xl (1905-6), 279-90.

thumb-nail sketch of the varied ancestry of the Scottish Beaker settlers. The primary burial was accompanied by a superb Cord-zoned Beaker of Waals and Glasbergen's type 2^{IIb} with a cordon below the rim, Beaker 41. Childe¹ at one time thought that such cordons might be a prelude to the Cinerary Urn tradition but the idea in fact must be ultimately connected with the cordon which appears on Dutch Footed Beakers as early as Waals and Glasbergen's type 1^a and also on *Glockenbecher* in the Rhineland.² The Forglen House example is of the highest craftsmanship, with thin walls and beautifully fired.

The Beaker with the second burial, No. 42, has already been mentioned as an example of the characteristic zones of linear decoration in the Dutch material. That with the third, No. 43, shows an interesting combination of diverse traits – it has the prominent foot and the herringbone decoration typical of the Footed Beakers, yet the pattern shows an advanced stage of zone-contraction with the bordering rows of zigzags hinting at the beginning of the bridging of the gap. The shape suggests a Footed Beaker modified to a more angular outline by *klokbekers* of Waals and Glasbergen's type 2^{Ic}.

The presence of this Cord-zoned Beaker lends interest to the presence of two Beakers, possibly related and possibly from the same area. Beaker B, which seems to have recently disappeared from Banff Museum, is a Cord-zoned Beaker, and Beaker A could be a local imitation. Although both are unprovenanced it is practically certain that they come from NE. Scotland, and quite likely that they come from the Deveron valley.

Corded-Beaker settlements are frequently found on sandy sites and their existence on other E. Coast sites such as Dunbar, North Berwick, Gullane, Tentsmuir and Freswick Sands makes their absence from the Culbin Sands the more curious – indeed except for the bracer noted below, there is no definite evidence of any Beaker occupation of the area. Slug knives, jet beads and a jet necklace end-plate suggest Food Vessel occupation in the area and Lacaille³ believes that the Culbin Sands flintwork is probably Early Bronze Age in date, but the only ceramic evidence is five Cinerary Urns.

Abercromby neatly side-stepped being too specific about Beaker 18 by listing it under both Beakers and Food Vessels, but Simpson⁴ identifies it as an outlier of his Brackmont Mill group, a group of Beakers developing in the Firth of Forth area and as far N. as Angus under the influence of Yorkshire Food Vessel expansion up the E. coast – that such influence percolated through the dense Beaker settlement of NE. Scotland and up to the Moray Firth is also suggested by Food Vessel 13 and Cinerary Urn 32 (see pp. 92, 96 below).

Two other Beakers may be noted – No. 2 from Achindown and No. 16 from Wallfield: on neither is the base preserved but the profiles of each bear resemblances to those of classic Bell Beakers. No. 2 is thin-walled and well made with restrained decoration; No. 16 is much thicker, of a heavy gritty brown-red ware with a slip-like

¹ Childe, V. G., *op. cit.*, 102–3.

² del Castillo, A., *op. cit.*, lámina clxxxii, 5; clxxxvi, 4; Sangmeister, E., *op. cit.*, Taf. i, 13, 16; ii, 14; v, 13.

³ Lacaille, A. D., *The Stone Age in Scotland* (1954), 281–2.

⁴ Information from Mr D. Simpson, Dept. of History, University of Leicester.

outer surface and has an unusual decoration, much of it grooved. It also has an internal bevel on the rim, a feature that might be considered to be Food Vessel influenced, and therefore late.

With 44 recorded Beakers in the region, the lack of definitive grave goods is disappointing: indeed with nine of them absolutely nothing about their discovery is known. The two bone awls and the bone chisel found with Beaker 9, however, are in line with Piggott's remarks¹ on the metal-less economy of the Beaker settlement of NE. Scotland, and so would be the unassociated flint knife from Forres, perhaps the 'flint spearhead' possibly at one time in Elgin Museum from the parish of Urquhart, Moray, though it was found in a massive cist,² and the flint knife from Balveny Castle, Mortlach, Banffshire,³ all of which may belong to the Beaker period. One bracer⁴ is known: it is from the Culbin Sands, and is an unfinished example of the two-hole type, less common in Scotland than the central European four-hole type and appearing over a wider area of the continent, including Iberia,⁵ but the type which almost exclusively exists in the Netherlands.⁶ A V-bored jet button is known from Carn Riv, Inverkeithny, Banffshire,⁷ immediately adjacent to the Aberdeenshire border and in the same general area as Beakers 39-43. It was found with a small 'axe-hammer', portions of three bronze armlets and some flint chips in or near a Recumbent Stone Circle known as the Carlin Stone. As all the details of discovery are not known, and the armlets were lost, the association, if any, of the button with the armlets is unknown - the latter could have been of the Migdale types⁸ but they could also have been from the Late Bronze Age.⁹

As it is hoped to deal with the metal-working industry of the region in a subsequent article it is not proposed to make any statements in this paper: however, it seems clear that though the Beaker folk did not introduce metallurgy into the area, they subsequently did enter the local Early Bronze Age economy, and indeed outlived it. How actively they participated in the metallurgical industry of the area is, however, a different matter. One bronze D-sectioned Migdale-type ring¹⁰ which on the Migdale hoard evidence must belong to the Beaker horizon is known from Netherglen, Glen Rothes, Rothes, Moray, and it is just possible that it may have been associated with a bronze flat axe - at least, one is known¹¹ from the same farm and was discovered the year after the ring. There is one isolated flat axe known from Howbog, the Cabrach¹² in the same area as Beakers 22-29 and I think it highly probable that the axe belonged to these isolated Beaker settlements. Further, from the same area - Bodibae, the Cabrach - 'a bronze penannular ring' was found at a spot where 'there was an accumulation of burnt ashes indicative of human occupation'¹³: as with that from Carn Riv mentioned above it may have been Late Bronze Age, but with only Beaker occupation known in the area it may well have been one of the Migdale types.

¹ Piggott, S., *op. cit.*, 81, 89.

³ *P.S.A.S.*, xxiii (1888-9), 18.

⁵ Piggott, S., *op. cit.*, 82.

⁷ *P.S.A.S.*, xxvii (1902-3), 122-4, 178.

⁹ Proudfoot, V. B., 'The Downpatrick Gold Find (*Arch. Research Pub. 3, N. Ireland*) (1955), 15.

¹⁰ Hitherto unpublished; Elgin Museum 1953.23.

¹² *P.S.A.S.*, xviii (1883-4), 326.

² *P.S.A.S.*, ix (1870-2), 256; *T.I.S.S.F.C.*, ii (1880-3), 45.

⁴ Hitherto unpublished; N.M.A.S. AT 9.

⁶ *Palaeohistoria*, iv (1955), 32.

⁸ *Invent. Arch.* GB. 26.

¹¹ Hitherto unpublished; Elgin Museum 1953.22.

¹³ *loc. cit.*

However, while the Beaker settlers from the Netherlands were Neolithic in their economy they cannot have been totally unaware of metal. The Footed Beaker ancestry was certainly entirely Neolithic: they are never associated with any metal objects and such associations as they do have are flint and stone. The Odoorn burial, one of two *klokbeker* burials to have a copper dagger, also has a copper awl with diamond-shaped thickening, a spiral copper bracelet, two tiny strips of sheet gold and two amber beads¹: the dagger has been shown to be of Alpine ore, and the other copper objects suggest contact with the SW. German Early Bronze Age, but the gold may reflect a Breton origin.² The amber must come from the Baltic. Such an accumulation must represent the grave goods of an extraordinarily influential person, but it also suggests that directly or indirectly there existed widespread trading contacts: similarly four burials, all with *klokbekers* with Footed Beaker influence, have daggers of Grand Pressigny flint which must reflect trade ultimately with the Seine-Oise-Marne people.

It appears therefore that the Beaker folk in the Netherlands had some knowledge of metal tools: as copper metallurgy is already known in Iberia by the time Beakers appear there³ it may well be that the earliest Beaker emigrants from there already had a metal-working technology but that in their widespread settlement lack of convenient sources resulted in some at least returning to metal-less economy, as in the Netherlands and initially NE. Scotland.

THE POST-BEAKER SETTLEMENT

Post-Beaker pottery types in the area are rather less rewarding of study, especially Food Vessels for which there is evidence of only a relatively minor occupation. These vessels have been subjected to many theories since 1871 when the redoubtable Thurnam in the course of his monumental papers on Wessex barrows first studied them.⁴ Abercromby⁵ again published the only corpus of British Food Vessels to which Childe added his supplement on the Scottish material.⁶ That the major formative influence in the origin of these vessels lay in the Neolithic traditions of this country and the impact on these of the Beaker settlers has never been seriously disputed, though various exotic influences from the North European Plain,⁷ the Atlantic⁸ and Mediterranean⁹ areas have been suggested in the past as part origins. Childe in a typical paragraph¹⁰ summed up well the lack of any real study of these vessels.

In 1959 ApSimon¹¹ propounded the idea that Irish Bowl Food Vessels were derived from Long-necked Beakers and Irish Vase Food Vessels from Short-necked Beakers. He noted some very convincing parallels both in shape and ornament for the latter (cf. e.g. Beaker 9 from Cawdor with ApSimon's fig. 2, 2 from Ballinglen, Co. Wicklow, for shape and cf. also the vertically-hatched semi-lozenge motif on

¹ *Palaeohistoria*, IV (1955), 36-37.

² *ibid.*, XXXIII (1959), 62; *ibid.*, XXXV (1961), 192-202.

³ Abercromby, J., *op. cit.*

⁴ *Arch. J.*, xciv (1937), 43-63.

⁵ Childe, V. G., *Prehistoric Communities of the British Isles* (1940), 133 (1956 reprint).

⁶ Childe, V. G., *op. cit.*, 119-20 (1956 reprint).

⁷ *Ant.*, xxxv (1961), 45-52.

⁸ *Arch.*, XLII, pt. II (1871), 378-88.

⁹ Childe, V. G., *op. cit.*, 105-18.

¹⁰ Childe, V. G., *Prehistory of Scotland* (1935), 93-94.

¹¹ *B.I.A.*, I (1958), 24-36.

the latter and the zone of vertical lines edged with small blank triangles of ApSimon's fig. 2, 1 from Topped Mountain Cairn, Co. Fermanagh, with the same pattern so common on Beakers in NE. Scotland shown by Crichton Mitchell.¹

ApSimon's other suggestion is backed by some close parallels in ornamentation, but the difference in shape between Long-necked Beakers and Irish Bowls presents a difficulty. The Dutch Veluwe Beakers become bowl-like when they evolve, but as noted above British Beakers stress the length of the neck rather than overall breadth as they evolved (ApSimon rejected the idea that Long-necked Beakers could be derived from Short-necked Beakers, but this does not invalidate his thesis). Megaw's remark² that the lack of bronzes in Veluwe graves is a drawback to the idea that these Beakers might be connected with Irish Bowls presupposes that bronze and pottery types in the same grave is a common occurrence.

There is good evidence that the Great Glen was used by settlers from Ireland or the Irish Sea route making their way to NE. Scotland before, during and after this period: pottery in the Lyles Hill tradition and Tievebullagh porcellanite stone axes show that the route was used in Neolithic times,³ and the Clava cairn builders came that way possibly contemporaneously with the arrival of the Beaker people.⁴ Irish Bowls are found in Aberdeenshire⁵ as well as at the S. end of the Great Glen⁶ showing that at the period under discussion the route was used, and it is to this period that the trade in bronzes, especially decorated flat axes, from Ireland to NE. Scotland and metal-working contacts with Scandinavia and the North European Plain belong. Again there is evidence, noted below, that Cordoned Cinerary Urn users came this way from Ireland. Later, there are renewed trading contacts between the North-east and Ireland in the Late Bronze Age.⁷ It is therefore entirely within reason that reciprocal movements took place and that the Irish Vase is substantially derived from late Short-necked Beakers in the North-east - Beaker 9 from Cawdor already mentioned and Beaker 34 from near Buckie being examples in the area under discussion of the ancestral North-east form.

The Food Vessel evidence from the three counties is unfortunately disappointing: there are few diagnostic features among the pots that survive. Food Vessel 11 may be a local imitation of an Irish Bowl while No. 13 is the most northerly example of a small class of vessel which has a distribution as far S. as Lincolnshire and seems to be centred in the Yorkshire-Lincolnshire area.⁸ This latter pot, like the Brackmont Mill Beaker from Sleepie's Hill noted earlier (p. 89), and the Enlarged Food Vessel Cinerary Urn with skeuomorphic groove stops from Newton of Mountblairry (p. 96 below), suggests settlement by newcomers moving up the east coast.

That the Food Vessel element represents to some extent the 'acculturation' - for want of a better word - of the Beaker settlers with the native population is hinted at by the occurrence of white quartz pebbles, which as has been noted elsewhere⁹ had

¹ P.S.A.S., LXVIII (1933-4), 163-70 *passim*.

² *Ant.*, xxxv (1961), 48-49.

³ Atkinson, R. J. C., 'Fishermen and Farmers', pp. 1-38 of *The Prehistoric Peoples of Scotland* (1962) (ed. S. Piggott); *passim*.

⁴ P.S.A.S., xcvi (1962-3), 105-6.

⁵ e.g. Childe, V. G., *Scotland before the Scots* (1946), 107.

⁶ e.g. Abercromby, J., *op. cit.*, Pl. xliii, No. 236; xlv, 237, 233.

⁷ P.S.A.S., xciii (1959-60), 33.

⁸ Information from D. Simpson, Dept. of History, University of Leicester.

⁹ P.S.A.S., xcvi (1962-3), 94.

a ritual purpose among the Clava cairn builders, under the head of a burial in an urnless cist in the Food Vessel cemetery at Burgie Lodge (see under Food Vessel 4) and possibly the pebbles 'partially covered with a white limey deposit' with Food Vessel 3. Further, the cist containing the latter had a huge cover-slab and it was topped with other heavy stones (as were two others at Burgie), which might suggest a megalithic tradition. The cists containing Food Vessel 9 and possibly No. 5 had cup-marked slabs in their construction, but as it seems probable that the Clava cairn builders themselves did not use these stones in a ritual connected with burial, their use here is probably accidental. A white pebble appeared to have been deliberately deposited with Beaker 1, and some were found at Foulford (see Cinerary Urn 16.) All save the last occur reasonably near the periphery of the densest Clava cairn concentration, and this is probably significant. That tradition from the Clava cairn builders may have continued a remarkably long time is suggested by the occurrence of white beach stones in a cist at Easterton of Roseisle, Moray,¹ one side-stone of which was a Pictish symbol stone used at least twice previously.

The one heavy concentration of Food Vessel occupation in the region is in the Burgie area of Moray: Nos. 4-8 were all found within a few hundred yards of each other, five other cists are noted together with a reference to a number of others. It should be noted that no Beakers are known from the immediate area.

To within this general period should be dated the two gold basket earrings and the lunula found at Orbliston Junction (invariably but inaccurately labelled Orton, which lies 3 miles to the S.), Speymouth, Moray. The circumstances of the discovery are obscure and the assumption that the lunula, discovered in 1868, is from the same spot as the earrings discovered five years previously depends on the assertion by local authorities that the railway ballast in which it was found came from the same hillock as that containing the cist with the earrings.

The two earrings (only one survives) were said to be identical and are more elaborate versions of a type apparently associated with Beakers - they occur with a Cord-zoned Beaker from Kirkhaugh, Northumberland² and a Blß Bell Beaker from Radley, Berkshire,³ and also in the Migdale hoard⁴ which dates to the Beaker horizon. Butler⁵ has noted that the Bennekom, Gelderland, the Netherlands, gold ornament combines the form of Scandinavian and Aunjetitz ornaments with the decorative style of western European gold earrings, mentioning the Orbliston example in particular and dating this style to the mid-sixteenth century B.C.

Whatever the ultimate origin of lunulas,⁶ it seems clear that the British examples must on distributional grounds be broadly contemporaneous with jet necklaces⁷ and that both lunulas and jet necklaces are later than, and therefore presumably derived from, the amber space-plate necklaces of the second part of the Wessex culture,⁸

¹ *Rel. and I.A.*, I (N.S.) (1895), 147.

² Childe, V. G., *Prehistoric Communities of the British Isles* (1940), 93 (1956 reprint).

³ *Invent. Arch.* GB.2

⁴ *ibid.*, GB.26.

⁵ *Palaeohistoria*, v (1956), 60-71.

⁶ *Folklore*, 72 (1961), 439-40 and refs.

⁷ *P.S.A.S.*, LXIII (1928-9), 170, fig. 8, with additions *P.P.S.*, xvii (N.S.) (1951), 77, 78-79, map at end.

⁸ Piggott, S., *op. cit.*, 99-100.

and there is some evidence in Scotland that jet necklaces exist well after the end of the Wessex culture.¹

However, if the earrings and lunula at Orbliston were indeed contemporaneous a sixteenth-century date for the latter would be possible, and, as for reasons briefly noted later (p. 98) the North-east becomes a backwater during the first half of the fifteenth century, neither the earrings nor the lunula should be later than 1525-1475 B.C. in any case. However, as this lunula is the only one from the North-east, an area which, until the first half of the fifteenth century, enjoyed a close trading relationship with Ireland, where lunulas are relatively common, it may be that the bulk of these ornaments date to after the cessation of this trade, in other words to the second half of the fifteenth century, and that the Orbliston ornaments date to the first half.

Jet necklaces, by contrast, are known from several sites, all in Moray, and this may imply an earlier currency than the lunulas. When the association is known it is a Food Vessel context. The collection in the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland from the Culbin Sands (Section *b* in the Food Vessel Appendix) contains the end-plate of such a necklace, a bevelled barrel-shaped bead, a flat elliptical bead and a flat oblong disc.

In the Food Vessel cemetery in the Burgie area three burials with jet necklaces were found. That accompanying Food Vessel 4 was found across the breast and neck of the skeleton and comprised seven plates and 107 beads. This necklace is at present reconstructed in Elgin Museum with 109 beads and it appears that it has been mixed with the two other jet necklaces there, that with Food Vessel 8 and one found in an urnless cist (Section *c* in the Food Vessel Appendix). The finds of the necklaces at Dam of Burgie (see under Food Vessels 6 and 7) are full of difficulties, which are discussed in the Appendix, but it appears that there were two burials, each with an urn and necklace. That found with Food Vessel 8 was, according to the Donation Book, found *in* the urn – it may never have been a complete example, as the earliest reference suggests four plates, eight beads, a pendant and a few fragments. At present the remains comprise two plates, part of a third, four beads and the pendant.

At Hill of Roseisle (Section *c* in the Food Vessel Appendix) at least 64 plates and beads were discovered with a skeleton: these were never illustrated and are now lost but were said to be identical to the necklace from Assynt, Ross and Cromarty.²

At Greenhowe, Pluscarden (Section *d* in the Appendix) the two end-plates and 23 of the beads were found with a skeleton after a careful search, suggesting that the whole necklace may not have been deposited.

At Branstone the jet necklace listed under Section *e* in the Food Vessel Appendix was discovered (according to the Donation Book) on a crouched skeleton. From the description it was apparently virtually entire when discovered, although pieces crumbled as soon as it was exposed to the air, and as already mentioned; the remains

¹ *ibid.*, 100-1.

² *Arch. Scot.*, III (1831), 49; Wilson, D., *Archaeology and Prehistoric Annals of Scotland* (1851), 293.

in Elgin Museum appear to have become confused with two others there. At present only an end-plate and two beads are catalogued under this find.

Slug knives, usually associated with Food Vessel occupation have been found at Culbin (two), Thriepland (in a cist), near Cullen House, and in the parish of Forglen (see sections *f-i* in the Food Vessel Appendix).

Cinerary Urns in the area have been briefly discussed already by the writer¹ and the history of archaeological thought on these vessels need not be repeated here other than to stress that it is now accepted that all the traditional types must be broadly contemporaneous, that they all derive from Secondary Neolithic traditions and that they must be in existence well before 1500 B.C.

Of the 35 certain examples recorded from the three counties, only 18 have survived or been accurately enough described to make classification reasonably certain and only 11 survive in a substantially undamaged condition. Of the 18, eight are Cordoned urns – Nos. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 27 and 33, six are enlarged Food Vessel urns – Nos. 3, 12, 24, 32, 34 and 35, two are Collared urns – Nos. 16 and 28, and there are single example of Biconical and Encrusted urns – Nos. 17 and 20 respectively. Such a division is of course subjective, but recent studies have shown that the importance of Cinerary Urn typology is no longer the *sine qua non* it once was. No. 16 has some affinities with a Cordoned urn and Nos. 34 and 35 have at least typological affinities with Collared urns, a possibility that May and Collins² have already seen.

The Middle Bronze Age date³ for Enlarged Food Vessels has always been assured by its obvious typological prototypes: Smith⁴ maintained that Encrusted urns in the Highland Zone 'reflected the strong survival and even expansion of a Late Neolithic culture', Rinyo-Clacton obviously being the influence implied, but Barber⁵ stressed for the first time the extremely close typological relationships between Enlarged Food Vessels and Encrusted urns and this appears quite probable. The derivation of Collared urns from the Mortlake/Early Fengate phase of the Secondary Neolithic is now a well-published fact⁶ and the suggestion that Cordoned urns have a distinctly different, but still Neolithic and early, origin in the Lough Gur Class II ware of Ireland has also been published.⁷

The writer has already summarised the evidence for the last-mentioned suggestion in as far as it applies to the three counties under review⁸ and little more need be added. A comparison between the Scottish and Irish Cordoned urns illustrated by Abercromby show how identical many of them are and the distributional pattern in Scotland as already noted is consistent with a settlement from Ireland.⁹ In the three counties all but two of the eight known Cordoned urns are from within easy settling distance of the northern end of the Great Glen (Nos. 2 and 4–8).

Ó Ríordáin¹⁰ suggested over twenty years ago that the origin of Lough Gur Class

¹ *P.S.A.S.*, xciv (1960–1), 318–20.

² *U.J.A.*, 22 (3rd ser.) (1959), 33–41.

³ Using the term for convenience in its traditional sense, not in its post-Wessex-only sense.

⁴ *U.L.I.A.*, 12th Ann. Rep. (1956), 47.

⁵ Barber, J., *The Middle Bronze Age Cinerary Urns of Scotland* (1958), unpublished M.A. thesis, University of Edinburgh; *P.S.A.S.*, xciv (1960–1), 320 (see *Univ. Edin. Dept. Arch. 10th Ann. Rep.* (1957–8), 3–4).

⁶ *P.P.S.*, xxvii (n.s.) (1961), 263–306.

⁷ Piggott, S., op. cit., 96.

⁸ *P.S.A.S.*, xciv (1960–1), 319.

⁹ Piggott, S., op. cit., 90, fig. 13.

¹⁰ *P.R.I.A.*, (c) XLVIII (1942–3), 271.

II ware might lie, along with that of the wedge-shaped gallery graves of southern Ireland, in the Seine-Oise-Marne and Horgen cultures of northern France, and recently Hawkes¹ has taken up this view. This is a possibility, but the Paris cist with its portholed subdivisions that show a connection between the S.O.M. culture and Denmark and southern Sweden² (possibly a more telling identification than the pottery parallels as the latter is in both cases such poor ware) is missing in Ireland. If the S.O.M.-Horgen pottery has any distinctive feature it is its splayed base and this is not a prominent trait of Lough Gur Class II ware.³

If we group the sole Encrusted urn with the six Enlarged Food Vessels, this constitutes the other major group, and if we accept Barber's suggestion that both derive from Yorkshire Vase Food Vessels, we have to admit a migrating or expanding population. The presence of a Brackmont Mill Beaker from the Firth of Forth-Angus area and a Food Vessel from the Yorkshire-Lincolnshire area noted previously (pp. 89,92) show that such movements did take place, and Cinerary Urn 32 with its skeuomorphic groove stops also shows Yorkshire influence coming as far N. as the Moray Firth. Chitty⁴ showed that Yorkshire Vase Food Vessels with these groove stops had a distribution in northern England, up the E. coast of Scotland and a subsequent spread to Ulster, and we are clearly only beginning to trace the complicated pattern of expansion and settlement that must have existed.

The Mortlake/Early Fengate origin of the Collared urn raises the problem of the immediate origin of the Scottish Cinerary Urns, for evidence of Secondary Neolithic occupation in Scotland is thin. On the other hand, a comparison of the Beaker, Food Vessel and Cinerary Urn settlement in the North-east clearly suggests that the Food Vessel tradition intruded on a Beaker-Cinerary Urn sequence. This might suggest that Cinerary Urns evolved from the impact of Beaker settlers on the native Neolithic population. The Neolithic in the North-east is ill-represented by pottery, but apart from the still obscure Recumbent Stone Circles recent work by Atkinson⁵ and Henshall⁶ suggests at least some population in pre-Beaker times.

Cinerary Urns do reflect the improved potting techniques of the Beaker settlers, but it is scarcely credible that the results throughout Britain could be so similar if each represented local responses quite independent one of the other. This requires us to postulate population movements.

The suggestion that there may have been a settlement of the lower Deveron valley by Cinerary Urn users has already been made.⁷ Of the 16 reasonably certain Cinerary Urns from here, only eight survive or are sufficiently described to be classified, and of these five are Enlarged Food Vessel/Encrusted urns, two Cordoned and one Collared. While this is too small a surviving number on which to make any definite statements, it may be suggested that there was a settlement of Enlarged

¹ Hawkes, C. F. C., 'A scheme for the British Bronze Age', C.B.A. 'Problems of the Bronze Age' Conference, London, December 1960.

² Childe, V. G., *The Dawn of European Civilization* (6th ed. 1957), 190, 198, 312-15.

³ *P.R.I.A.*, (c) LVI (1953-4), 297-452.

⁴ Chitty, L. F., meeting of the British Association at Blackpool, 1936.

⁵ Atkinson, R. J. C., *op. cit.*

⁶ Henshall, A. S., *The Chambered Tombs of Scotland* Vol. 1 (1963), 40-44.

⁷ *P.S.A.S.*, xciv (1960-1), 319-20.

Food Vessel/Encrusted urn users, for there are only two other urns of this class (Nos. 3 and 12) from the three counties. Further, the two Cordoned urns are the only ones outside the Culbin Sands and one at nearby Altyre (Nos. 2 and 4-8).

There are relatively few features among the Cinerary Urns that call for further discussion. The internally flanged rim of No. 5 is extremely unusual: it is best paralleled in a vessel in a long grave with no apparent remains at Lisnaget, Co. Antrim¹ for which an Iron Age date was suggested, and by an urn containing a cremation and some minute bronze fragments found in a century-old excavation at Eddertoun, Ross and Cromarty² apparently secondary to the quarry ditch of a barrow over a short cist containing a cremation with part of a bronze blade and a La Tène glass bead. The urn in question is known only from a sketch and has in addition a splayed base, so that it may not have been a Cinerary Urn; the bead may have reached the primary cist subsequent to the burial there, in which case it could convincingly be classified as an urnless Cinerary Urn burial with a razor, which would remove any necessity for giving the secondary urn in question, which may also have had a razor in any case, an Iron Age or later date. In the case of Cinerary Urn 5 however, all its other features – cordons, texture, colour – suggest that it is a genuine Cordoned urn. The two holes in No. 7 occur on either side of a crack, and must have taken the binding for the crack – an examination of Abercromby's illustrations suggests this was the normal use of such holes. Whether this implies repeated or relatively prolonged use is not known. The strike-a-light kit found with No. 6, the 13 barbed-and-tanged arrowheads and bone needle found with No. 20 and the possible association of similar arrowheads with No. 16 all suggest early dates for the *floruit* of Cinerary Urns.

In view of the lack of other ceramic evidence from Culbin the occurrence of two stone maceheads, usually associated with Cinerary Urns, may be connected with the Cordoned urns. One is known only from a reference³ to a 'perforated hammerstone' in the collection of the Rev. John MacEwan of Dyke, presumably from Culbin, the other is in the Hunterian Museum, University of Glasgow.⁴ This reeded type has parallels with Irish types, which may be significant if associated with Cordoned urns.

In terms of absolute chronology, dating is still difficult. The Topped Mountain Food Vessel already mentioned as having parallels with late Short-necked Beakers was found⁵ with a Bush Barrow-derivative dagger, suggesting a date parallel with Wessex I, probably 1550-1500 B.C.

The Ballyduff Irish Vase was found with a cremation and a segmented faience bead,⁶ suggesting a Wessex date. Further, at Collessie, Fife,⁷ an urnless cremation with a dagger with a gold mounting similar to that from Topped Mountain was more or less contemporary with two Short-necked Beakers. This suggests on the one hand that the movement from the North-east down the Great Glen to Ireland leading to the Irish Vase Food Vessel becoming a recognisable entity had occurred by c. 1600

¹ *U.J.A.*, 15 (3rd ser.) (1952), 66-69.

³ *T.I.S.S.F.C.*, v (1895-9), 122

⁴ Hitherto unpublished; Hunterian Mus., Univ. of Glasgow, B.1951.2121 from the J. Henderson Bishop Collection, bearing legend 'Culbin J. F. Clark, Col.'

⁶ *J.R.S.A.I.*, LXXXIII (1953), 49-57.

² *P.S.A.S.*, v (1862-4), 311-15; Pl. xxi, 2.

⁵ *P.R.I.A.*, iv (3rd ser.) (1896-8), 654, fig. 4.

⁷ *P.S.A.S.*, xii (1876-8), 439-61

B.C. and on the other that Short-necked Beakers continued as a recognisable entity at least until the end of the sixteenth century B.C., which is entirely reasonable for the area of initial and very heavy settlement. Alas that the 'very fine ornamented urn or vase' found with what must have been faience beads in a cist at Kinstear Park, Auldearn, Nairnshire,¹ should have disappeared without any more informative description of it.

While Beakers continued to exist at least as late as this, there is now no need to suppose that Food Vessels and Cinerary Urns must follow in linear succession – on the evidence above, Food Vessels must be contemporary with Beakers at least during the sixteenth century and possibly earlier, and Cinerary Urns must be of approximately the same period, for, as will be shown in a subsequent paper on the metalwork of the area, the area enters a backwater in the fifteenth century B.C., a bronzeless Middle Bronze Age in fact, from which it does not move until *c.* 700 B.C. During this period there appear no traces of outside contact at all, so that the settlements by various traditions of Cinerary Urn users must take place well before 1500 B.C. Further, regarding a Cordoned urn settlement from Ireland up the Great Glen it must be emphasised that this route makes the North-east as potential an area of primary settlement from Ireland as Galloway and the Clyde estuary.

May and Collins have rightly pointed out² that, though the early date for Cinerary Urn types is proven, there is no terminal date for their use: a mould from Campbeltown, Argyll, with a matrix for a Class I razor on one side and a Class IV spearhead on the other,³ implies that the former was current into the Late Bronze Age and the Class I examples at Traprain Law cannot be dated earlier than the seventh century B.C.⁴ Class I/II razors occur in the Taunton Workhouse⁵ and Glentrool⁶ hoards of the Middle Bronze Age ornament horizon, *c.* 1200–1000 B.C., and a version of the Class I/II hybrid at Traprain Law is paralleled only by one from a Cordoned urn cemetery at Carrowjames, Co. Mayo,⁷ suggesting that at least here the Cinerary Urn tradition continued really late.

¹ Bain, G., *History of Nairnshire* (1st ed. 1893), 12; (2nd ed. 1928), 9–10.

² *U.J.A.*, 22 (3rd ser.) (1959), 38–39.

⁴ *ibid.*, LXXXIX (1955–6), 55–56 and xciii (1959–60), 48.

⁶ For latest study see *P.S.A.S.*, xciii (1959–60), 114.

⁷ *P.P.S.*, xii (N.S.) (1946), 136; fig. 5, No. 20 and refs.

³ *P.S.A.S.*, LXXXI (1946–7), 171–2.
⁵ *Invent. Arch.* GB.43.

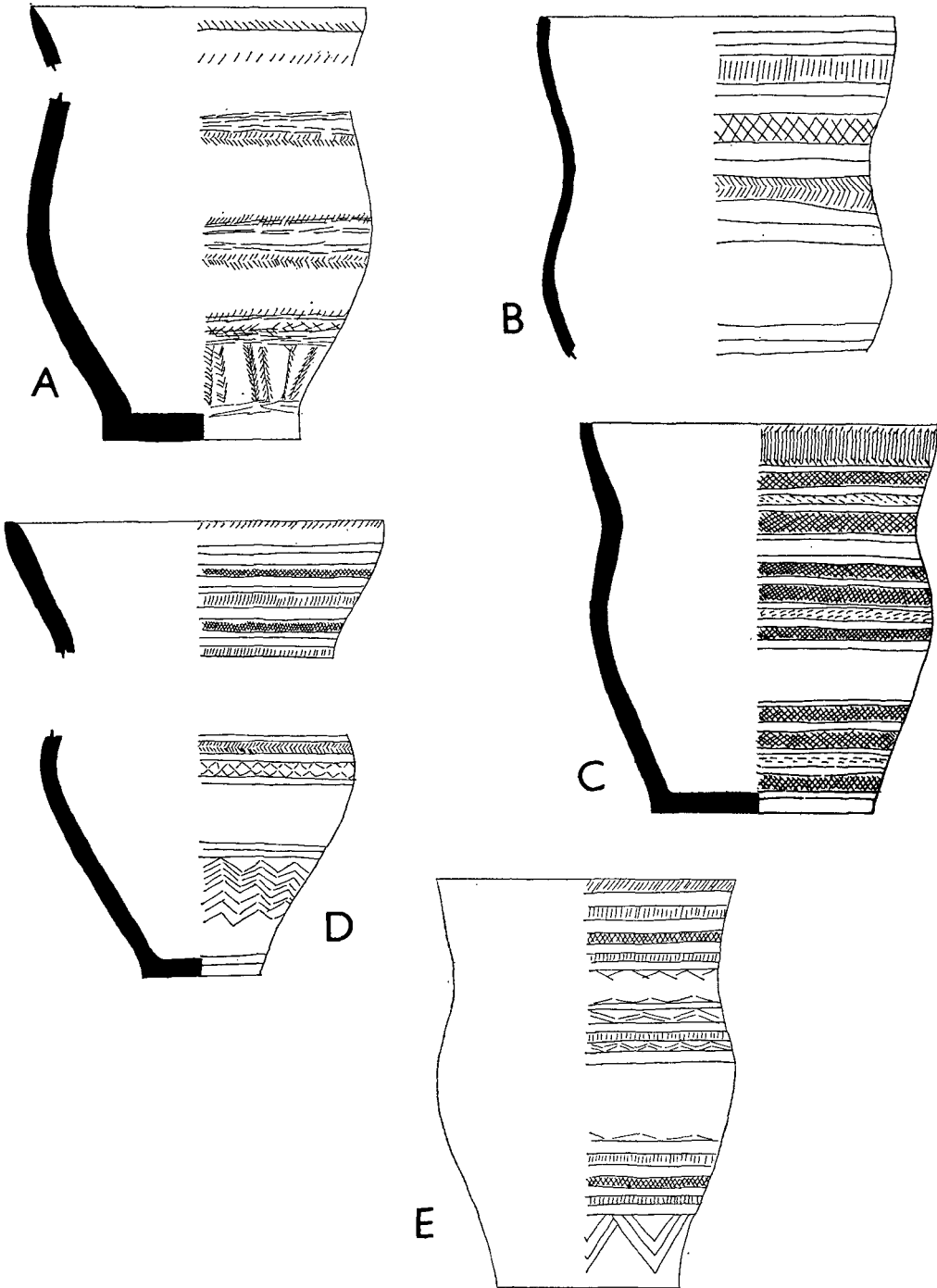


FIG. 2. Beakers from Nairnshire, Moray and Banffshire
 (a) No. 1, (b) No. 2, (c) No. 10, (d) No. 3, (e) No. 11. Scale $\frac{1}{2}$

<i>Number</i>	<i>Find Spot</i>	<i>References</i>	<i>Present Location</i>
1-3	Achindown Cawdor Nairn	<i>TISSFC</i> , I (1875-80), 187-8 <i>PSAS</i> , LXVII (1932-3), 232-5 ibid., LXVIII (1933-4), 186 G. Bain, <i>History of Nairnshire</i> (1st ed. 1893), 13; (2nd ed. 1928), 11-12	Inverness Museum
4 and 5	'Cawdor' Nairn	<i>Ant. J.</i> , v (1925), 419 <i>PSAS</i> , LXVIII (1933-4), 186 ibid., LXIX (1934-5), 397-8	Univ. Mus. Arch. and Eth., Cambridge - 23.1316 and 23.1317
6 and 7	Cawdor Cawdor Nairn	ibid., xxii (1887-8), 352 G. Bain, op. cit., 1st ed. 12-13; 2nd ed. 11	Formerly Nairn Museum
8 (a-c)	Cawdor Cawdor Nairn	G. Bain, op. cit., 1st ed. 13; 2nd ed. 11 <i>PSAS</i> , xcvi (1963-4), 255	Cawdor Castle?
9	Inchnacaorach Cawdor Nairn	<i>PSAL</i> , I (2nd ser.) (1859-61), 395-7 <i>PSAS</i> , xxvii (1892-3), 348-9 <i>Arch. Camb.</i> , II (6th ser.) (1902), 200 J. Abercromby, <i>A Study of the Bronze Age Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland</i> , Vol. 1, (1912)	BM - 1861, 6-27, 1-4
10	Easter Delnies Nairn Nairn	<i>PSAS</i> , xcv (1961-2), 305-6	Nairn Museum
11	'Nairn'	ibid., LXVIII (1933-4), 186 <i>D and E</i> 1962, 36 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	Formerly British Museum - 1911, 7-19, 3
12	Forres Forres Moray	unpublished	Hunterian Mus., Univ. of Glasgow - B.1951.1002
13	Possibly that from nr Hopeman Duffus Moray	unpublished	Elgin Museum - x.60

OF BEAKERS

Particulars

4 cists found shortly before 1878 by plough, 3 filled with sand and gravel and containing human bones, pieces of pottery and 'some black charred substance', fourth with croucher on L. side facing SW., an urn 'quite entire' and a white pebble. Urn was 'tastefully ornamented' with sharp instrument. *CM* over 50 years later published remains of 3 beakers, 1 FV and 1 CU with label on largest frag. noting discovery at 'Auchindoune' in 1877. She identifies the 'quite entire' urn with No. 1 in this corpus. It is not 'tastefully ornamented' nor decorated by sharp instrument - decoration haphazard, slovenly, and like other 2, done with comb, dimensions different suggesting doubts in identifying these Beakers and especially the FV and CU. *CM* 240, 242, 241 respectively. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 2a, b, d.)

Found in same cist, donated to museum 1925.
CM 243, 244 respectively.

Found in same cist, in museum by 1888, poss. still there 1928, now lost. From description not the same as Nos. 4 and 5 above.

Part of a short-necked Beaker and sherds of two others, all without localities, long preserved at Cawdor Castle were given to NMAS in 1963 - EG 99-101. It seems unlikely that the fine complete Beaker recorded by Bain as at Cawdor Castle is one of these, but there is otherwise no record of it now.

Found by plough before 1861 in cist orientated E.-W. with croucher and 2 bone awls and a bone chisel. Latter items not traceable 1960.
A 271; *CM* 239. (Illust. in this paper, Pl. XV, 1.)

Prob. found in cist. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 2c.)

Acquired by museum 1911 from Wm. Taylor, Lhanbryd, from H. W. Young, Burghead Collection.
A 266; *CM* 128, also 266. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 2e.)

Acquired from J. Henderson Bishop, 1951.

Prob. the frags. presented in 1866 found in a cist.

<i>Number</i>	<i>Find Spot</i>	<i>References</i>	<i>Present Location</i>
14	Gordonstoun Drainie Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , xxii (1887-8), 343 <i>TISSFC</i> , iv (1888-95), 216 <i>PSAS</i> , lxxviii (1933-4), 186 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	Elgin Museum - 1883.18
15	'nr Elgin' Parish uncertain Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , lxxviii (1933-4), 158 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	NMAS - EG 26
16	Law Farm, Wallfield Urquhart Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , ii (1854-7), 530-3 ibid., xxii (1887-8), 342 <i>TISSFC</i> , iv (1888-95), 215-16 <i>PSAS</i> , xxvi (1891-2), 67-68 ibid., xlv (1910-11), 12	Elgin Museum - 1888.1
17	Sleepie's Hill Urquhart Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , xxii (1887-8), 343 <i>TISSFC</i> , iv (1888-95), 216 <i>PSAS</i> , lxxviii (1933-4), 186 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	Elgin Museum - 1888.7 +
18	Sleepie's Hill Urquhart Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , xxii (1887-8), 343 ibid., lxxviii (1933-4), 186 J. Abercromby, op. cit.; also vol. II	Elgin Museum - 1853.1
19	Boharm Achroisk Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , viii (1868-70), 341 ibid., lxxviii (1933-4), 179 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	NMAS - EG 1
20	Lyne Knockando Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , lxxxviii (1954-6), 232-3 <i>ANL</i> , 5.6, Oct.-Nov. 1954, 99	NMAS - EG 96
21	Acres Knockando Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , xxii (1887-8), 342 ibid., lxxviii (1933-4), 186	Elgin Museum - 1870.1
22-24	Forteach The Cabrach Banff	ibid., v (1862-4), 362-4 op. cit., 415 <i>PSAS</i> , xviii (1883-4), 327 6 in. OS Map (2nd ed. 1904) Banffshire xxxi S.E.	Nos. 22 and 23 <i>formerlay</i> NMAS?; No. 24 unknown

Particulars

Found in 1850s or 60s.

A 284; *CM* 236. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 3*b*.)

Donated 1861.

A 271; *CM* 234. (Illust. in this paper, Pl. XV, 2 and fig. 3*a*.)

Slightly divergent reports. Found in central cist in cairn known as 'The Law' *c.* 60 ft. diam., *c.* 12 ft. high, orientated E.-W., croucher with 5 'bone' ornaments pierced at the ends resembling incisors of large dog or wolf. Excav. 1885. Traces of structure in and around cairn. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 3*c*.)

None.

A 275; *CM* 235. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 3*d*.)

Donated 1853.

A 285; *CM* 237 (also catalogued by *A* as FV 421). (Illust. in this paper, fig. 3*e*.)

Found in cist before 1870 orientated N.-S. with croucher.

A 272; *CM* 144.

Found in small cist 1954 (NGR NJ 176448) poss. cenotaph as urn on side in centre. (Illust. in this paper, Pl. XV, 3.)

Found in cist. Donated to Museum 1870.

A 268; *CM* 233. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 3*f*.)

One cist found 1864 filled with sand, let into a circular pit *c.* 6 ft. diam. Approx. orientated E.-W., skeleton on L. side with stone pillow, arms crossed. Urn broken at base; contents, a whitish-yellow powder, had stained part of floor paving; also contained a broken flint. Charcoal in pit filling, above corner, near body and much under floor together with a dark fibrous-looking substance. Some years previously and nearby to the SW. cist containing bones and urn found, the latter in possession of Mr Taylor, Boghead of Lesmurdie. 'Numerous other cists' previously found in area with bones and urns 'generally in a good state of preservation'. A third urn found in cist with skeleton and small piece of flint noted; urn and flint in possession of Rev. Alex. Gordon, M.A., LL.D., of London. First two allegedly donated to NMAS and apparently there 1884; not traced 1960, not mentioned 1876 or 1892 catalogues.

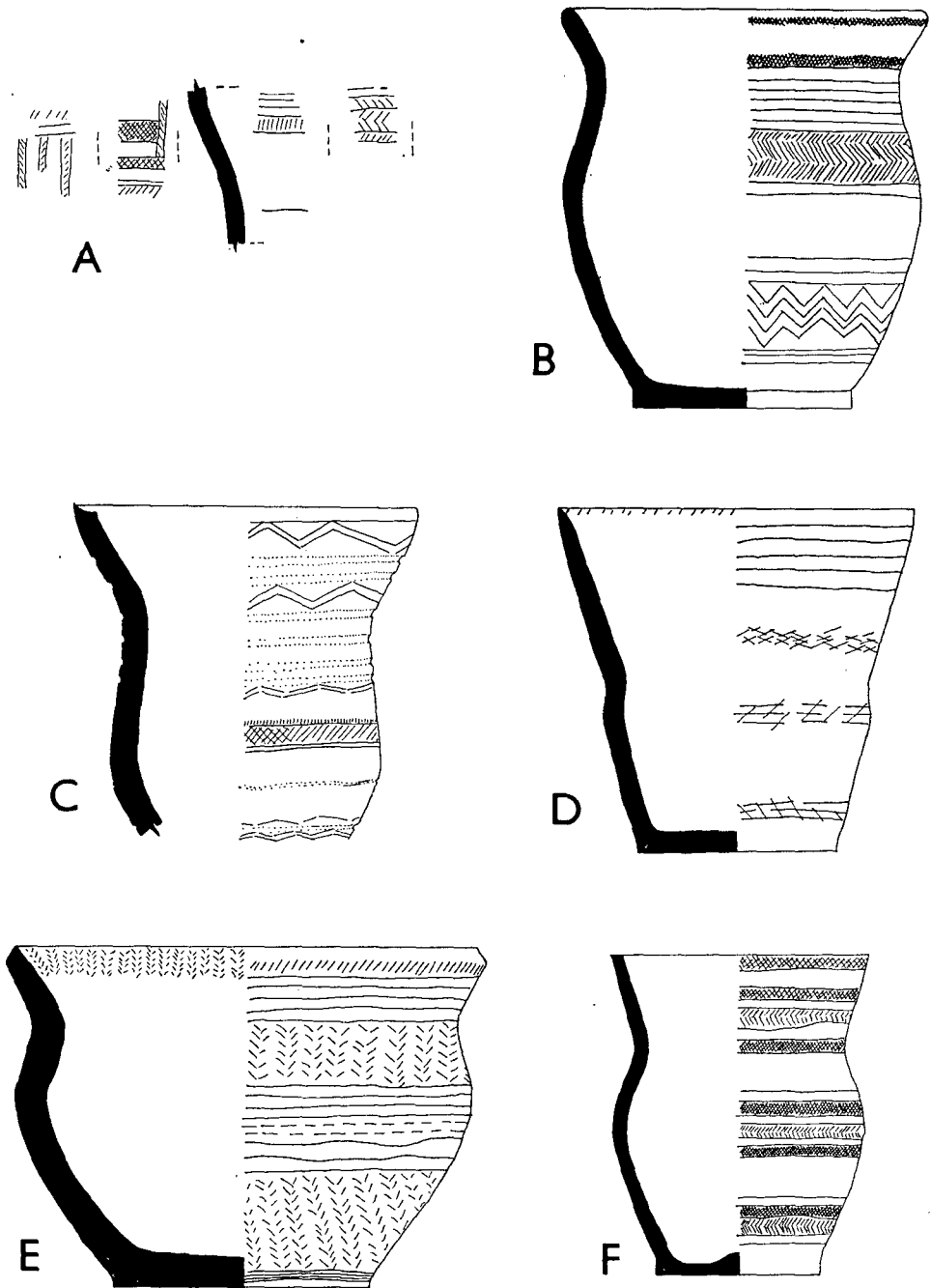


FIG. 3. Beakers from Nairnshire, Moray and Banffshire
 (a) No. 15, (b) No. 14, (c) No. 16, (d) No. 17, (e) No. 18, (f) No. 21. Scale $\frac{1}{2}$

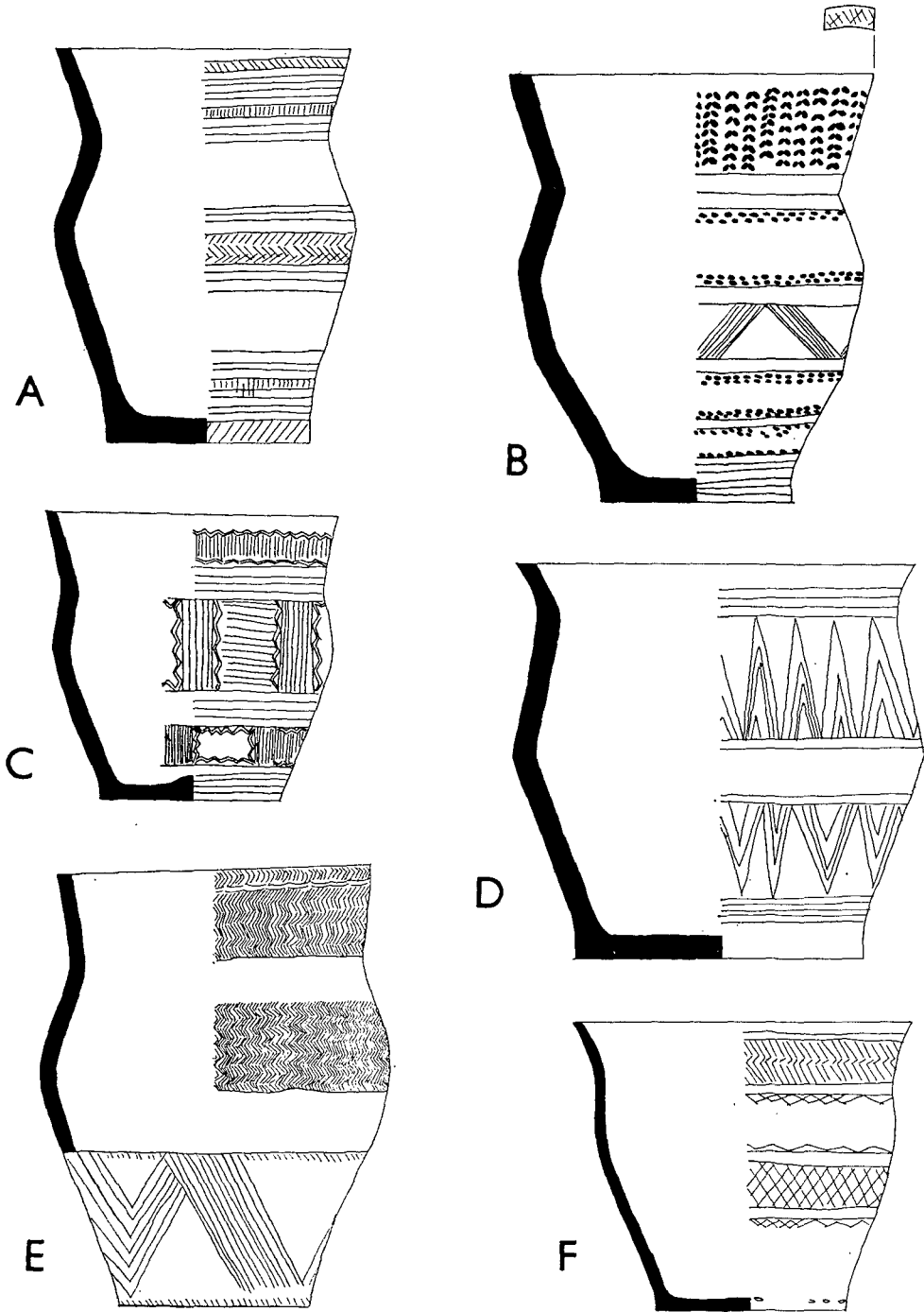


FIG. 4. Beakers from Nairnshire, Moray and Banffshire
 (a) No. 32, (b) No. 34, (c) No. 35, (d) No. 37, (e) No. 38, (f) No. 40. Scale $\frac{1}{2}$

<i>Number</i>	<i>Find Spot</i>	<i>References</i>	<i>Present Location</i>
25-29	Lesmurdie The Cabrach Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , I (1851-4), 205-9 ibid., LXVIII (1933-4), 180 J. B. Davis and J. Thurnam, <i>Crania Britannica</i> , Vol. II, I, (1865), iv, p. 116 J. Anderson, <i>Scotland in Pagan Times: Bronze and Stone Ages</i> (1886), 73-74 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	Nos. 25, 26 and 29 NMAS - EG 32, 30 and 31 respectively; Nos. 27 and 29 unknown
30	Old Mill of Gollachy, Auchintea Rathven Banff	<i>TISSFC</i> , II (1880-3), 275-6	Unknown
31	Easter Gollachy, Buckie Rathven Banff	op. cit., 276	Unknown
32	Easter Gollachy, Buckie Rathven Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , LXX (1935-6), 357-8	BM - 1911, 7-19, 5
33	St Peter's Church, Buckie Rathven Banff	ibid., XVI (1881-2), 414-15 ibid., LXVIII (1933-4), 180 J. Anderson, op. cit., 79-80 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	NMAS - EG 4
34	nr Buckie Rathven Banff	<i>Rel. and I.A.</i> , I (n.s. 3rd) (1895), 229-30 <i>Arch. Camb.</i> , II (6th ser.) (1902), 200 <i>PSAS</i> , LXVIII (1933-4), 179 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	BM - 1911, 7-19, 2
35	Home Farm, Cullen Cullen Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , XXII (1887-8), 369 ibid., LXVIII (1933-4), 179 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	Banff Museum
36	nr Findlater Castle Fordyce Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , LXVIII (1933-4), 180 C. Corinder, <i>Remarkable Ruins and Romantic Prospects of North Britain with Ancient Monuments and Singular Sub- jects of Natural History</i> , Vol. III (1795), no pagination	Unknown

Particulars

A cemetery of 5 cists found in 1849 and 1851 near where another cist with croucher and 'urn' had been found prob. early in 18th cent. No. 25 was in cist orientated NE.-SW.; very little skeletal evidence but prob. teeth at SW. end. 26 was in cist orientated NNE.-SSW., the croucher lying on L. side with head at NNE. end. 3 chips of flint and minute fragments of dark brown oxide found, poss. strike-a-light. 27 was in a cist orientated NE.-SW. the skeleton lying prob. on its L. side with head at NE. end. 28 was in a cist orientated NNE.-SSW., apparently a cenotaph. 29 was apparently the one in cist first discovered in 1849 noted above. In excavation report 25-28 were in cists A-D respectively. Another cist, ruined, was found beside others - no surviving remains. 25-28 are A 281, 280, not noted, and 282 respectively, and CM 122, 121, 120 and 123 respectively. (Nos. 25-26 illust., Pl. XV, 4 and Pl. XVI, 1 in this paper.)

In cist found 1881 orientated NE.-SW.

In cist found 1882 orientated SE.-NW. Contained white sand and 'a little mould'.

In cist found 1889 orientated SE.-NW. apparently otherwise empty. Purchased by museum 1911 from Wm. Taylor, Lhanbryd, from H. W. Young, Burghead collection. (Elgin Mus. cat. records 'urn and bones, grave, Easter Gollachy' presented by Gordon and Thomson in 1889; probably not the same Bker). (Illust. in this paper, fig. 4a.)

In cist found c. 1882 with skeleton. (Illust. in this paper, Pl. XVI, 4.)

In cist found 1895 with quantity of charred and burnt bones in one corner. (Report notes similar graves had been discovered in same field, 2 or 3 containing flints and arrowheads as well.) CM notes whereabouts unknown; rediscovered 1960 having been purchased by museum 1911 from Wm. Taylor, Lhanbryd, from H. W. Young, Burghead Collection. A 267; CM 112. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 4b.)

In museum by 1888. A 274; CM 115. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 4c.)

In cist found shortly before 1795 under mound called both tumulus and cairn, urn filled with ashes and small pieces of bone. Unidentifiable fragments of other urns in mound inspires author, a divine, to conclude 'they had experienced in their subterranean abode, as all things must, the fatal and irresistible effects of time'. Rite suggests CU rather than Bker, as poss. does small base-wide mouth and upside-down depiction but decoration and general profile is Bker - no scale with drawing. CM 127.

Number	Find Spot	References	Present Location
37	Auchmore, nr Portsoy Fordyce Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , xxii (1887-8), 369 ibid., lxviii (1933-4), 180 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	Banff Museum
38	Carestown Deskford Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , xxii (1887-8), 369 ibid., lxviii (1933-4), 179 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	Banff Museum
39	possibly that from 'Inverkeithny' Banff	Unpublished	Elgin Museum - x.61
40	Burnside of Whitefield, Aberchirder Marnoch Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , xi (1905-6), 306-10 ibid., lxviii (1933-4), 179 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	NMAS - EG 102
41-43	Forglen House Forglen Banff	<i>NSA</i> , xiii, 87 of Banff section (written July 1836, pub. 1845) <i>PSAS</i> , xl (1905-6), 279-90 <i>TBFC</i> , 21st June 1906, 3-5 <i>PSAS</i> , lxviii (1933-4), 180 J. Abercromby, op. cit.	NMAS - EQ 746, and 748-9
44	Afforsk, nr Gardenstown Gamrie Banff	<i>Rel. and I.A.</i> , (n.s. 3rd) (1896), 178-9 <i>TBFC</i> , 3rd November 1898, 39 <i>PSAS</i> , lxviii (1933-4), 180 K. Jessen and H. Helbaek 'Cereals in Great Britain and Ireland in Prehistoric and Early Historic Times', <i>Kong. Danske Videns. Selskab</i> (<i>Biol. Skrift.</i> Bind III, Nr. 2) J. Abercromby, op. cit.	BM - 1911, 7-19, 4

Two Beakers in Marischal College, University of Aberdeen, labelled 'Culbin Sands' and catalogued 240/7 and 240/8 come in fact from Aberdeenshire. (See *PSAS*, xcvi (1961-2), 305-6.)

The Beaker listed by Crichton Mitchell (*PSAS*, lxviii (1933-4), 179) as being from Nether Buckie, Rathven, Banff, and then in the BM (1911, 7-19, 3) is the same one she also lists, along with Abercromby (op. cit.) as coming from 'Nairn'. See No. 11 of this catalogue and *D. and E.* 1962, 36.

In 1888 (*PSAS*, xxii (1887-8), 367) an 'Urn of drinking-cup type, ornamented, 6 in. in height by 4½ in. across the mouth, the bottom imperfect - no locality given, but probably found in Banffshire' is noted as being in Banff Museum. It does not appear to be there now, nor does an unprovenanced and unpublished Cord-zoned

Particulars

In museum by 1888. At present contains 11 pieces bone and 1 charcoal.
A 291; *CM* 126. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 4*d*.)

Presented 1858.
A 270; *CM* 113. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 4*e*.)

Poss. the frags. found with bones.

In cist found 1905 orientated approx. E.-W. under a mound with skeleton prob. of child. Reference to 'unburnt' portion of skull may mean entire skeleton unburnt (so *CM*) or that part was cremated. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 4*f*.)

3 urns in and under almost circular mound of sand and clay (64 by 68 ft.) 7 ft. high, NGR NJ 699509, excav. 1906. Primary burial (No. 1 in excav. report) had Beaker 41 in pieces but orig. upright in very thick deposit of black material mainly charred wood under which was remains of skeleton in 1 ft. deep 5 ft. diam. saucer-shaped grave in old land surface. Small jaw frag. with 2 molars all that was well-preserved (at present kept with urns). Small barbed and stemmed light yellow flint a'head also found (also at present kept with urns). Secondary burial had Beaker 42 (No. 2 in report) standing leaning slightly to one side in 1 ft. thick deposit of black; no remains observed. Fires had been lit on ground before building of mound; though no turf-lines are noted mound apparently increased in size after each burial as report specifically says 2nd and 3rd burials not dug into mound. Small thin bands of charcoal noted throughout mound. 2nd burial overlaid by 3 ft. sq. stone pavement with triangle of single stones on one side and single lines of stones running 11 ft. from this to 3rd burial. 'False portal' let into SW. side of mound covered in leaf mould. Lack of remains with 2nd and 3rd burials and poor state of 1st due to sandy soils.

A 277, 278 and 279 respectively; *CM* 117, 118 and 119 – but note that 117 is a B Beaker and the skeletal remains were with 117, not 119. Finds presented to NMAS 1964. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 5*a, b, c*.)

In cist discovered in 1870s or 80s with skeleton; in possession of laird of Troup, acquired shortly before 1896 by H. W. Young, Burghead, acquired by museum 1911, prob. via Wm. Taylor, Lhanbryd; *CM* notes whereabouts unknown, discovered 1960. Imprint of grain of Naked Barley.
A 283; *CM* 124. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 5*d*.)

Beaker which was in the Museum until very recently (B in this catalogue, drawing kindly supplied by Miss A. S. Henshall, F.S.A., NMAS). There is however another unprovenanced and unpublished Beaker, with imitation cord-zone decoration (Beaker A): there are six shallow grooves at the top of the vessel and the remainder has lines of thin comb-decoration. (Most of the lower part had been skilfully restored at some time and here the decoration has been replaced by thin incised lines.) Beakers A and B illust. in this paper, fig. 5*e, f*.

In Elgin Museum there are three Beaker sherds (x.62, x.63, and x.68) from different vessels, unprovenanced.

In Inverness Museum there is a solitary scrap of unprovenanced Beakerware at present (1960) unaesthetically set in the midst of 27 sherds of medieval green-glaze ware.

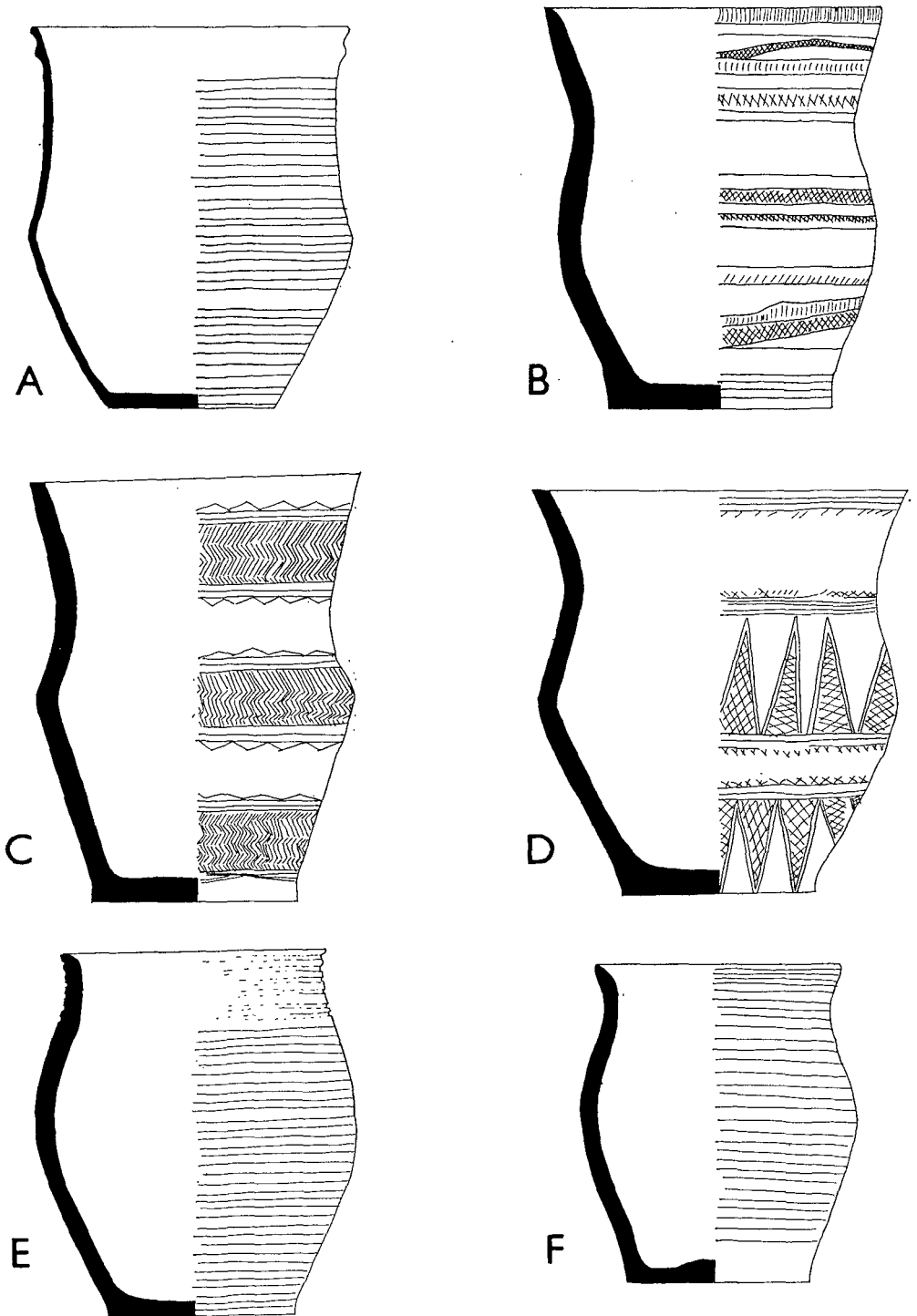


FIG. 5. Beakers from Nairnshire, Moray and Banffshire
 (a) No. 41, (b) No. 42, (c) No. 43, (d) No. 44, (e) Beaker A, (f) Beaker B. Scale $\frac{1}{2}$

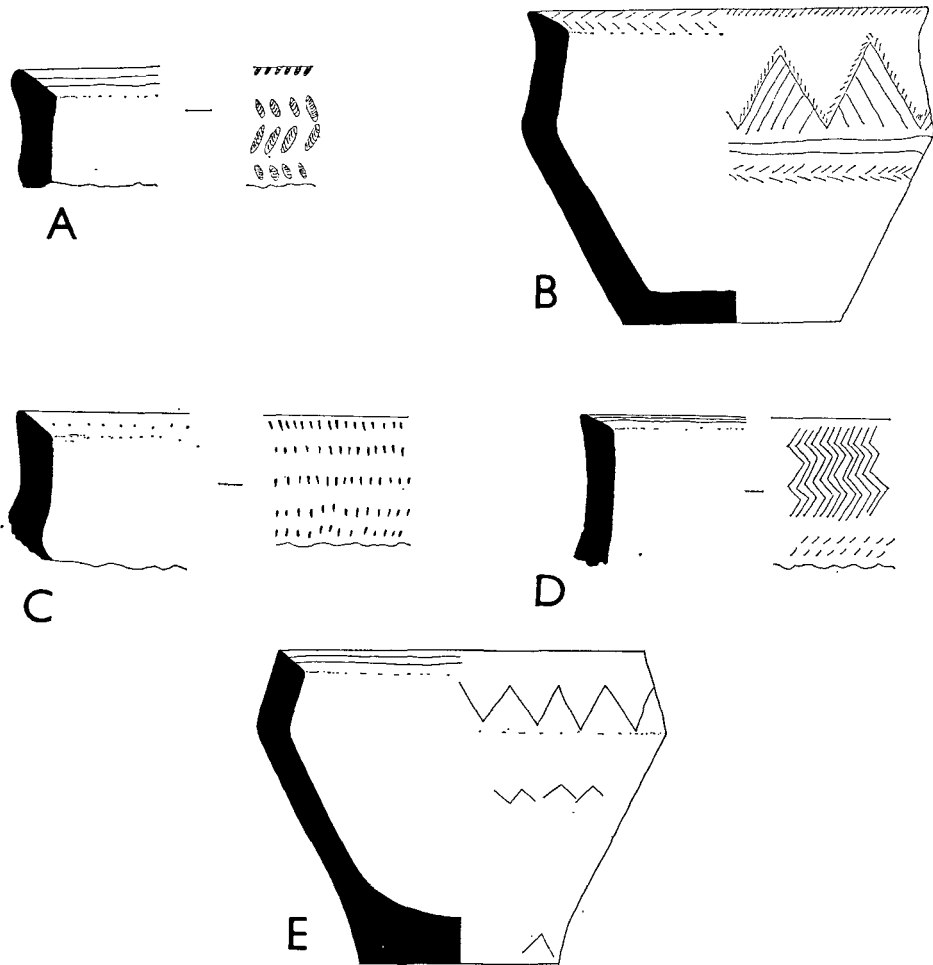


FIG. 6. Food Vessels from Nairnshire, Moray and Banffshire
 (a) No. 1, (b) No. 2, (c) No. 3, (d) No. 9, (e) No. 11. Scale $\frac{1}{2}$

CATALOGUE OF

<i>Number</i>	<i>Find Spot</i>	<i>References</i>	<i>Present Location</i>
1	Achindown Cawdor Nairn	See Beakers 1-3	Inverness Museum
2	'Cawdor' Nairn	J. Abercromby, op. cit., Vol. II V. G. Childe, <i>Scotland before the Scots</i> (1946), 107 (App. IV)	NMAS - EE 9
3	Loch of Blairs, Altyre Forres Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , LXVI (1931-2), 137, 404-5 V. G. Childe, loc. cit.	NMAS - EE 123
4-5	Burgie Lodge Farm Rafford Moray	<i>Antiquary</i> , XLIX (1913), 325 <i>PSAS</i> , L (1915-16), 203-7 V. G. Childe, op. cit., 106; but the whole entry is inaccurate	FV 4 lost; Jet Necklace Elgin Museum - 1914.1 FV 5 lost

FOOD VESSELS

Particulars

See Beakers 1-3. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 6a.)

Orn. in whipped cord.

A 408; Childe 31, type B. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 6b.)

Found in frag. condition in 1931 in short cist in gravel and sandpit with crem. Urn in N. corner, gravel to a depth of c. 10 in. with 'a number of pebbles up to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., partially covered in a white limey deposit' above gravel at S. end. Rim frag. survives, orig. also a wall frag. Orn. by upward jabs with sharp point. Cist NE.-by-S. by SW.-by-N., short, with roof slab nrly double length (4 ft. 9 in.) and 12 to 18 in. thick; topped with a number of large water-worn stones. Childe 29, type C1. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 6c.)

Excav. 1913. Childe lists 4 cists, his 18-21, none with FV but 2, his 19 and 20, with jet necklaces; the article to which he refers lists 6 cists, 2 with FV and one of these also with necklace. First FV discov. entire on side but broke during excav. and subseq. app. lost. Orn. by chisel-ended tool pressed cornerwise. Skel. almost comp. decayed except skull and teeth, 2 of which showed decay. Head at S. end of NNE.-SSW. orientated cist; urn behind R. shoulder. Short cist, roofstones cemented with clay with 3 large stones on top. Necklace disturbed by rodents as beads at top but remainder across breast, incl. 'two groups of four beads each forming a star'. 7 plates, 107 beads - present reconst. in museum uses 109 beads plus 5 more cat. X 1914.1 as coming from here and triangular fastener. App. this necklace and that with FV 8 and Assoc. Material Section c have become mixed. Cist with No. 4 apparently 5 ft. SE. of prob. remains of another, and 25 yds. NW. of former in same sandy ridge was cist with FV 5 (q.v.); 6 ft. SE. of this was another cist.

C. 150 yds. NE. of this area cist discov. in sandpit nr. to where local legend said a number old cists had been found many yrs. bef. Roof slab c. 1 ft. thick with stone on top, cist approx. E.-W. with well-preserv. but subseq. dest. skel. lying on R. side, prob. that of a brachy. man 5 ft. 4 in. tall with 'osseous formation (which) suggested a prone position to have been used by the man in life and the feet to have been unaccustomed to any firm form of protection'. Cist floor studded with pebbles, esp. thick under head where all were quartz. Presum. Childe 18. C. 111 yds. NNE. ruined cist found with a small deposit of much-decayed bone. Presum. Childe 21.

C. 110 yds. ESE. of last but one, cist discov. in gravelly hillock, pointed oval in shape with huge capstone 6 ft. by 4 ft. by 12 to 17 in. thick and est. weight of $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons. Headstone at E. end. Floor small pebbles with flat stone in cent. and on this some burnt bone and ashes incl. small pieces of charcoal.

See FV 4 for details. Urn in frags, 'probably not over 6 in. in height'; upper pt. with 3 lines of ridge mouldings, thick everted rim with vertical markings on brim and inside lip. The lower 'band' (moulding?) orn. with inter-crossed zigzags. Writer implies urn lost or dest. soon after discov. Skull at W. end of NE.-by-E. by SW.-by-W. cist, skel. in much-decayed condit., urn nr. R. shoulder. S. side and W. end slabs of cist with cup (poss. nat.) and other marks like quern-and whetstone-produced.

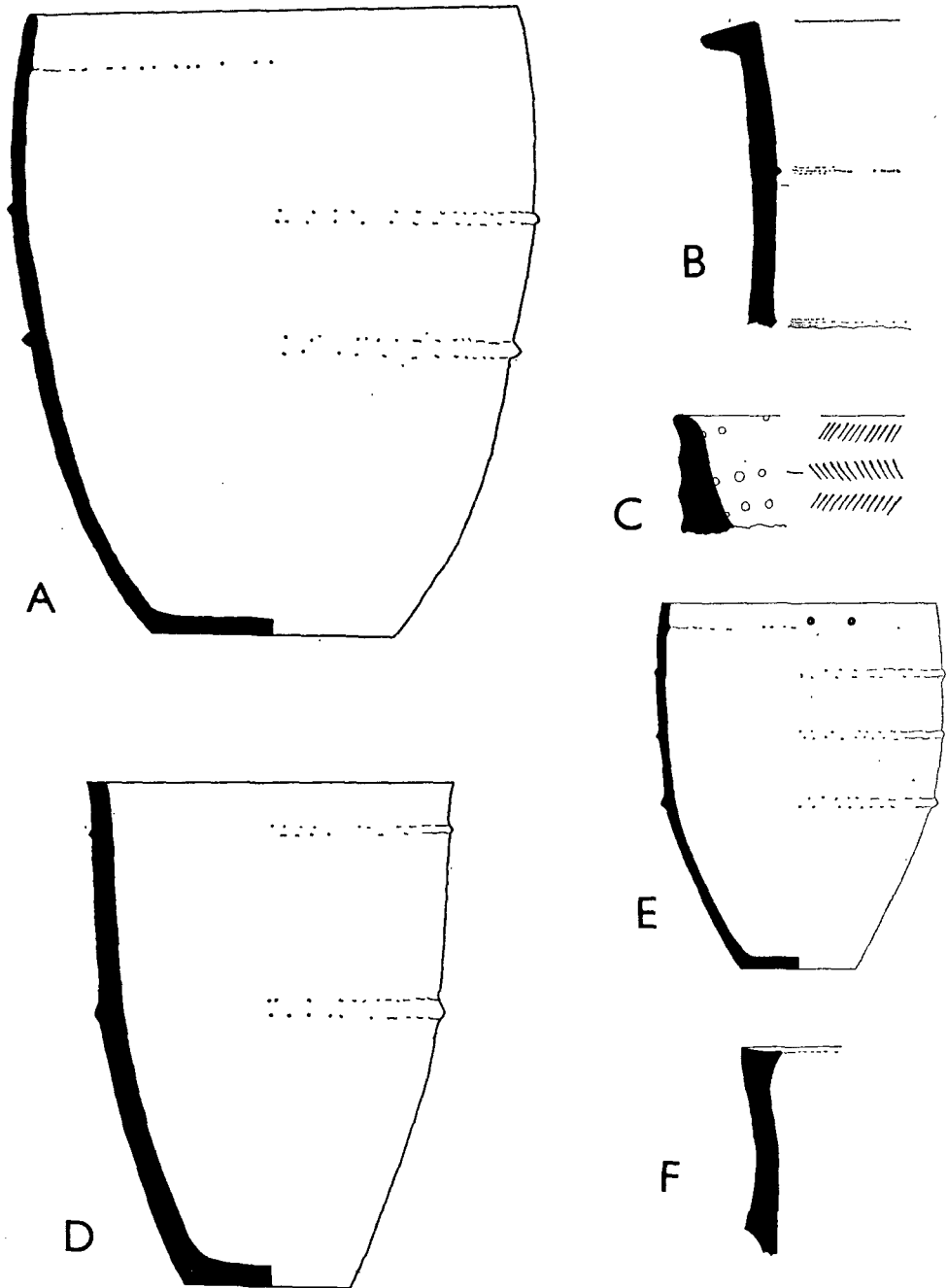


FIG. 7. Cinerary Urns from Nairnshire, Moray and Banffshire
 (a) No. 2, (b) No. 4, (c) No. 3, (d) No. 5, (e) No. 6, (f) No. 10. Scale $\frac{1}{2}$

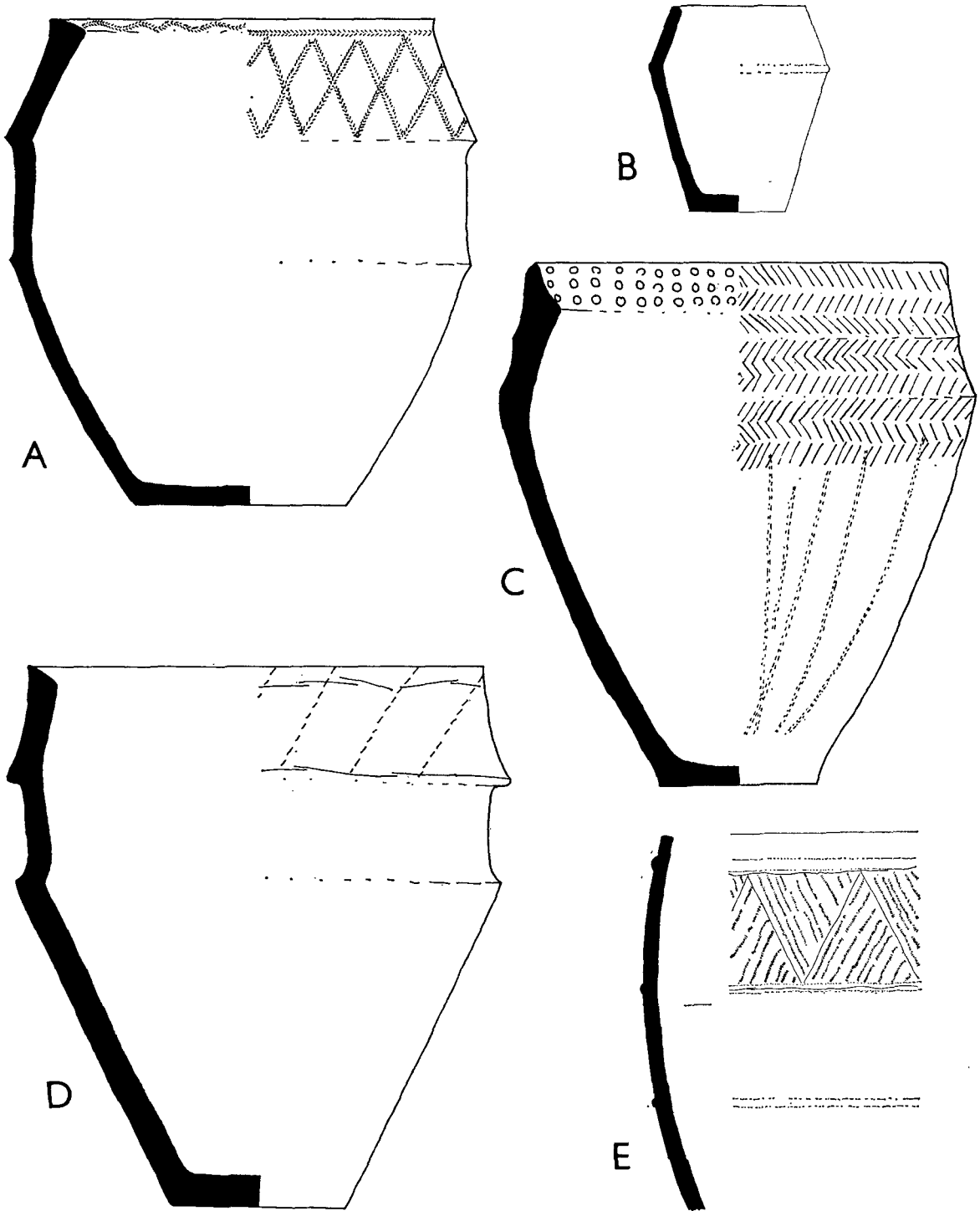


FIG. 8. Cinerary Urns from Nairnshire, Moray and Banffshire
 (a) No. 16, (b) No. 17, (c) No. 24, (d) No. 34, (e) No. 33. Scale $\frac{1}{2}$

Number	Find Spot	References	Present Location
6-7	Dam of Burgie Rafford Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , XII (1876-8), 298-9; quoting <i>Forres Gazette</i> , 7th April 1841 <i>ibid.</i> , XXII (1887-8), 353 <i>ibid.</i> , L (1915-6), 204-5; 239 6 in. O.S. Map, 2nd ed. (1906), Elginshire XI N.W. <i>NSA</i> , XIII; 249 of Elgin section written March 1842, pub. 1845 D. Wilson, <i>Archaeology and Prehistoric Annals of Scotland</i> (1851), 434	Both Falconer Museum, Forres
8	Newmill Alves Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , XII (1876-8), 299-300 <i>ibid.</i> , XXII (1887-8), 343 <i>ibid.</i> , L (1915-6), 205, 240 V. G. Childe, loc. cit.	FV lost; Jet necklace Elgin Museum - 1840-2
9	<i>Perhaps that from</i> Carsewell, Crook of Alves Alves Moray	<i>TISSFC</i> , IV (1888-95), 214-15 6 in. O.S. Map, 2nd ed. (1906), Elginshire VI S.E. V. G. Childe, loc. cit.	Elgin Museum - x.64
10	Kenny's Hillock Urquhart Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , IX (1870-2), 260 <i>ibid.</i> , XIV (1879-80), 109-10 <i>TISSFC</i> , II (1880-3), 44 V. G. Childe, op. cit., 107; inaccurate	BM - 79, 12-9, 1928
11	Kenny's Hillock Urquhart Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , XIV (1879-80), 109-10 <i>TISSFC</i> , II (1880-3), 44 J. Anderson, op. cit., 86 J. Abercromby, op. cit. V. G. Childe, loc. cit.	NMAS - EE 6
12	'Fordyce' Banff	V. G. Childe, loc. cit.	Formerly Banff Museum
13	Netherdale Marnoch Banff	<i>Arch. Scot.</i> , III (1831), App. II, 126 V. G. Childe, loc. cit.	NMAS - EE 36

Particulars

Two separate discoveries subseq. confused. At present 2 tiny scraps of pottery joined by piece of sticking plaster, one decor. with criss-cross lines, other with vertical maggots. Papers in nearby case show drawings of 2 jug-like pots with these decorations, one with maggots dated 1837, other undated. *NSA* written 5 yrs. later mentions other cists, this one with urn decor. 'with . . . spiral shells' (maggots), 10 by 7 in. and two rhomboid pieces of jet 2 by 1 in. 1888 records that 1 yr. bef. *NSA* inhum. with FV and part of necklace of jet plates and beads discov. and part of urn, and skull, at Forres. 1851 records cist with skel., poss. female, in 'sitting' position, head touching knees, with ring of polished shale or coal $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. diam., 4 rhomboid pieces of same (largest pair 2 in. long) and c. 100 large beads with urn decor. with 'incised lines' 10 in. high. At Forres a phrenological chart dated April 1841 made for person bet. 30 and 50 yrs. old lies with a skull. At present jet ring, one undecor. sub-triang. end-plate and one bead survive. Noted 1916 where O.S. map ref. to 'The General's Grave' discov. 1848; 1877 ref. quotes *Forres Gazette*, 7th April 1841, not held in Nat. Lib.

Childe 23 but 'urn' also found – Donation Bk. records necklace found 'in' urn and app. presented with necklace but now lost. Found in 1840 or earlier (from date of donation). Necklace at present comprises one triangular piece, 4 barrel-shaped beads, a square plate, a spacer-plate decor. with a diamond and 2 triangles and part of sim. plate. Earlier descripts. differ – app. this necklace and that from Brandstone, Urquhart (Assoc. Material Section c) have been confused and poss. mixed – but app. never complete.

Donated 1887 but app. now lost. 4 unident. sherds poss. from this urn, decor. by comb and/or cord impress. O.S. ref. perh. to this.

Childe 24. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 6*d*.)

Childe 27 or 28, his descrip. suggests No. 11 below. This and No. 11 found in much-robbed app. kerbed cairn c. 8 yds. diam. 2 yds. inside E. circumf. pit 5 ft. deep with 'massy boulders' covering a flagstone over 2 deposit ash with No. 10 beneath, filled with blackened sand app. of the same type as nat. subsoil. Very faint and fragmentary comb or imp. string decor, zigzags on body and 2 rows sim. decor. on lip. Excav. by Rev. James Morrison, Urquhart, subseq. to Greenwell and thence to BM.

Found in same cairn as above, unspecified posit., oval cist orientated N.-S. approx. same depth, pit full of boulders, cist topped with flattish boulders and resting on sand, gt. amt. of wood ash and charred oak, no traces of bone, urn on side in SE. corner decor. with maggots and incised lines. Piece flint among ashes poss. fallen in during excav.

A 415; Childe 28 or 27, type ?A. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 6*e* and Pl. XVI, 2.)

Only known ref. to this urn, not at Banff now, no Donation Bk.
Childe 34, type ?C3.

Donated 1828, very lopsided, in ht. – 4 to $4\frac{9}{10}$ in., mouth diam. c. 7 in.
Incised herringbone decor. perforated lugs.
A 363; Childe 33, type B.1a. (Illust. in this paper, Pl. XVI, 3.)

<i>Number</i>	<i>Find Spot</i>	<i>References</i>	<i>Present Location</i>
<i>a</i> (gold lunula and two gold earrings)	Orbliston Junction Station Speymouth Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , viii (1868-70), 28-32; 33 ibid., x (1872-4), 462 <i>Palaeohistoria</i> , v (1956), 53-72 J. Anderson, op. cit., 66	Lunula: NMAS FE 2 Earrings: one lost, one NMAS EQ 117 (replica in Elgin Museum 1888.11 +)
<i>b</i> (jet necklace frags.)	Culbin Sands Dyke and Moy Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , xxv (1890-1), 510 (1) ibid., liv (1919-20), 15 (2)	(1) end-plate NMAS Culbin Coll., BI 28,401-757 includes obj. (2) bevelled barrel-shaped bead NMAS BIB 54 (BI 29,435) flat elliptical bead NMAS BIB 47 (BI 29,436)
<i>c</i> (part of a jet necklace)	Hill of Roseisle, Roseisle Duffus Moray	ibid., iii (1857-60), 46-47 ibid., l (1915-16), 239 V. G. Childe, op. cit., 106	Unknown
<i>d</i> (part of a jet necklace)	Greenhowe, Pluscarden Elgin Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , lviii (1923-4), 239-41 V. G. Childe, op. cit., 107 <i>PSAS</i> , xcvi (1964-6), 318	Pluscarden Priory
<i>e</i> (at least part of a jet necklace)	Branstone Urquhart Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , ii (1854-7), 531 <i>TISSEFC</i> , ii (1880-3), 45 <i>PSAS</i> , xxii (1887-8), 343 ibid., l (1915-16), 240 V. G. Childe, op. cit., 106	Elgin Museum - 1851.2
<i>f</i> (two slug knives)	Culbin Sands Dyke and Moy Moray	Both unpublished	One NMAS Culbin collection (no number); One Hunterian Mus., Univ. of Glasgow - B.1951.1710
<i>g</i> (slug knife)	Thriepland Urquhart Moray	Unpublished	Elgin Museum - 1869.1
<i>h</i> (slug knife)	nr Cullen House Cullen Banff	Unpublished	Elgin Museum - 1853.2
<i>i</i> (slug knife)	'Forglen' Banff	Unpublished	NMAS - AA 26

*Material**Particulars*

Earrings found 1863 3 ft. deep in gravel mound 200 yds. N. of what was then called Fochabers Station, now Orbliston Junction and *c.* 40 yds. from side of the 'Old Road' on line of railway, in cist, perh. short. lying *c.* $\frac{1}{2}$ distance from one end on either side of a ridge of black dust. Kept by navvies, then daughters of sub-contractor for that part of line, then to jeweller in Aberdeen, then bought by an Alex. Walker 'Barely in time to save them from the melting pot', and one donated in 1869 (as late as prev. year the other was known to be in private hands). Lunula found August 1868 continuing track of railway 'scarcely a mile east' (*sic* - S.) in load of ballast. Local authorities said ballast from same hillock as that where cist and earring had been found. Donated 1873. Surv. earring $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. long by $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. broad at top, weight 182 gr., decor. round edges with 2 engraved lines with row punched dots between and row of short vert. lines below. A replica of one - presum. this earring - in Elgin Mus. presum. copy mentioned as being made at time (donated bef. 1888). App. both earrings identical.

Circumstances of discov. unknown; end-plate mentioned and illus. 1891, remainder bevelled barrel-shaped bead, flat elliptical bead and flat oblong disc, respectiv., acquired at sale of collection of Rev. J. M'Kewen of Dyke 1919. End-plate $1\frac{9}{16}$ in. long, widths $1\frac{9}{16}$ in. and $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Discov. presum. 1857 in short cist nr surface *c.* 12 yds. N. of cairn on summit of hill known as 'Tappock', with skel. and 64 beads and larger pieces of jet. Skull sent to Elgin Mus. but not there now nor entered in Donation Book. Finder James Dean retained jet objs. Lady Dunbar of Duffus made drawing of 2 triangular pieces (not reprod.) showing both decor. with double row of punctured lines, very sim. to one from Assynt, Ross and Cromarty (illus.). Childe 22.

Discov. 7th May 1923 in short cist orientated E.-W. 3 ft. from W. side of cairn 18 to 20 ft. diam. situated 146 ft. E. and 165 ft. W. of the 2 roads leading to farm. Over 20 cart loads of stone removed from cairn. No roof slab on cist. poss. due to prev. disturbance. A few frag. bones and 2 unorn. triang. plates. and 23 beads of jet necklace in cist. App. never given to Museum. Childe 30.

Cist *c.* $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from The Law with skel. in 'sitting' posit. and acc. to Donation Bk. a jet necklace *on* skel. fd. in 1851 or earlier. Pt. of necklace and skel. disintegrated on exposure; 1888 notes 'a portion of a necklace of beads and plates . . .' but app. confused and poss. mixed with No. 8 - at pres. 2 beads and one triangular plate catalogued.

No info. on NMAS specimen; Hunterian specimen acquired with J. Henderson Bishop Collection 1951.

Found in 1869 or earlier in a cist.

Found in 1853 or earlier and pres. by Mr Curtis of Grant Lodge.

Donated in 1878.

<i>Number</i>	<i>Find Spot</i>	<i>References</i>	<i>Present Location</i>
1	Achindown Cawdor Nairn	See under Beakers 1-3	Inverness Museum
2	Kinstearny Auldearn Nairn	<i>TGAS</i> , XII (pub. 1953 for years 1940-5), 37-38	Hunterian Mus., Univ. of Glasgow - A.1939.1
3	'Auldearn' Nairn	Unpublished	Falconer Museum, Forres
4	Culbin Sands Dyke and Moy Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , xxv (1890-1), 485	NMAS - Culbin Collection, no number
5	Culbin Sands Dyke and Moy Moray	Unpublished	NMAS - Culbin Collection, no number
6	Culbin Sands Dyke and Moy Moray	<i>ibid.</i> , xxv (1890-1), 490, 503	NMAS - EA 122
7	Culbin Sands Dyke and Moy Moray	<i>ibid.</i> , xxiii (1888-9), 21-22 <i>ibid.</i> , xxv (1890-1), 485, 490, 503	NMAS - EA 120
8	Culbin Sands Dyke and Moy Moray	<i>ibid.</i> , xlv (1910-11), 160-5	NMAS - BI 29,429-42
9	<i>Possibly that from</i> <i>'Altyre'</i> <i>probably Rafford</i> Moray	Unpublished	Elgin Museum - x.65 and x.66
10	Lochside Spynie Moray	<i>TISSFC</i> , iv (1888-95), 216	Elgin Museum - 1852.1
11	Longhill Urquhart Moray	<i>PSAS</i> , ix (1870-2), 254-5	Unknown

CINERARY URNS

Particulars

See Beakers 1-3.

Found in 1939 or earlier *c.* 1 ft. below ground inverted with a few crem. bones inside. Note odd ridge inside $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. from top (cf. No. 7). (Illust. in this paper, fig. 7a.)

Labelled found 'in Auldearn' and 'a Late Bronze Age burial urn for containing cremated bones' (implying that this urn was not recorded as being found with such bones?). (Illust. in this paper, fig. 7c.)

6 very small rim pieces in box labelled 'Fragments of Urn and burnt bones from large hole on Culbin Sands when two other Urns were found' (poss. Nos. 6 and 7) - see map in ref. (Illustration. in this paper, fig. 7b.)

Purchased 1895. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 7d.)

Purchased in 1889 contained burnt bones and a strike-a-light. See map in ref. (Illust in this paper, fig. 7e.)

Purchased 1888, found - see map in 2nd ref. - with burnt bones.

In box labelled 'From a wheat site on Culbin Sands, J. Graham Callender, F.S.A.Scot. 1911'. Catalogue lists 14 items but at pres. only 6 frags. pottery, 2 at least of CU, 2 prob. not.

2 sherds of slightly expand. rim and collar, lightly incised decor of contin. chevron, each triangle filled with horiz. lines (x.65). Wall sherd decor. with band of lattice pattern of impressed string (x.66). Neither of these finds has any identifi., poss. one or other or both from CU donated by Sir William Gordon Cumming, from Altyre, in 1915.

Rim and moulding frags. not mentioned in Donation Bks. but found 1852 or earlier from accession no. Prob. that in ref. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 7f.)

Cist discov. summer 1870 app. empty except for 'very rude' urn on side at S. end (cist therefore approx. orientated N.-S.). Urn described as of flower-pot shape, 7 in. high, 4 in. diam., base a good 1 in. thick with round upper edge 3 rows indentations 'such as might have been made by the point of a small finger', below this a double line (incised?) and below this another row of indents. Below this a line and below this standing on another line a series of triang. figs. one inside the other.

<i>Number</i>	<i>Find Spot</i>	<i>References</i>	<i>Present Location</i>
12-15	nr Stroup Brae, the Enzie Rathven Banff	<i>TISSFC</i> , II (1880-3), 276-8, quoting <i>Elgin Courant</i> , 23rd Dec. 1884 (<i>sic</i>)	Unknown
16-17	Foulford, nr Cullen Rathven Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , xxxi (1896-7), 220-2 J. Abercromby, <i>op. cit.</i> 6 in. O.S. Map (2nd ed. 1905), Banffshire II S.E.	NMAS - EQ 243 and 244
18	Foulford, nr Cullen Rathven Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , xxxi (1896-7), 219	Unknown
19	Towie Fordyce Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , xxii (1887-8), 370	Formerly Banff Museum
20-23	Hill of Doune Banff Banff	T. Pennant, <i>A Tour in Scotland</i> 1769 (4th ed. 1776), 154-5 (9 marked), Pl. xxi	Unknown
24	Bridge of Banff <i>Almost certainly</i> <i>Gamrie, just possibly Banff</i> Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , v (1862-4), 213 J. Abercromby, <i>op. cit.</i>	NMAS - EA 11

Particulars

Found 15th December 1884 on new cutting of now-dismantled Keith-Buckie railway half-way bet. Stroup Brae and Burn of Buckie at a depth of 5 ft. (Orig. ref. *Elgin Courant* dated 23rd Dec. 1884, not held in Nat. Lib. but *TISSFC* ref. in vol. for 1880-3 poss. error in date somewhere.) 4 inverted cistless urns discov., 3 crumbling when exposed to air. 4th over a compact pile of calcined bones, bits of skull and thigh identif. Described as of common straw beehive shape, with 2 'heavy flanges' one below other and a deep groove under each 'giving it a heavy lip'. Otherwise unorn., 12 in. high, 42 in. circumf. at centre of upper flange, 37 in. at lower and 16 in. at base. In possession of a local gentleman of character who also had not only sev. antediluvian objs. but a feather of the cock that crew at Peter.

2 CU found in mound principally of stones, and earth, *c.* 200 yds. NW. of Foulford Bridge, 6 ft. high, 40 ft. diam. almost circular in plan. *A* records only No. 16 (his 189) but gives its height that of No. 17. (Act. height of No. 16, 11½ in., 9 in. mouth diam.).

C. 1864 2 poss. 3 cists found in same mound - one towards N. side with pottery frags., one towards S. with urn surr. by white pebbles and 3rd urn nr. centre; all about 2½ ft. apart and all small. App. none preserved but ref. to 'Some of the pebbles referred to and fragments of the urn are sent herewith' appears to be 2nd burial. Not app. in NMAS now.

9th March 1897 on line of new Cullen water system cist discov. 18 yds. from N. cist ref. to above. Urn inverted on slab on which burnt bones rested (i.e. bones outside urn?). Mouth of urn app. sealed to stone by clay, bone in very good condit., teeth, skull and thigh frags. being identif. Pieces of charcoal round urn which was hardly 2ft. below surface. Cist in a small natural bed of fine sand only a few ft. in extent and surrounded by yds. of coarse gravel, indicating an intimate knowledge of soils.

No. 17 was found *c.* 2 ft. farther along trench from the above, *c.* 12 in. below surface and standing mouth upwards with no protecting stone (poss. not in cist), containing a consid. amt. burnt bone.

Author was not able to arrive in time to prevent mixing of remains, but a barbed-and-tanged a'head 1½ in. long and a bone pin 3½ in. long with a chisel-shaped head were also found.

O.S. ref. poss. to this find. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 8*a*, *b*.)

A 'large urn' discov. while gravel digging in an 'artificial hillock upwards of 30 yards long' at *c.* 3½ ft. depth. Urn covered by a stone and app. similar to CU 20. 'In the same cairn' were 2 small urns, a few ft. apart. At least one CU indicated, poss. 3.

Frag. of 'large Urn of cinerary form' in Mus. by 1888. Loose label there at present says 'small urn, Towie, Banff': all CUs app. to be identif., one Incense Cup unidentif.

Found in cist in cairn presum. bef. 1769. One illus. placed upside down on a stone surr. by 3 others, smaller and 'quite plain'. Each cont. ashes, burnt bones, flint arrowheads and 'a piece of flint of an oval shape flattened'; also a bone pin 4 in. long with eye at blunt end found in large urn and another in one of smaller - altogether 13 a'heads. Large urn 13 in. high and made of dried, not fired clay acc. to author, who also says that it had been placed over bones when they were still hot and full of oil as whole inside was 'blackened with the steam and where it may be supposed to have been in contact with them, the stain pervades the entire thickness'.

Found containing burnt bones between the Bridge of Banff and the railway station of the Turriff railway; presented with other articles via Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer, it being accounted Treasure Trove. Lines on lower pt. of body channelled rather than incised. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 8*c*.)

<i>Number</i>	<i>Find Spot</i>	<i>References</i>	<i>Present Location</i>
25-26	Longman Hill Gamrie Banff	<i>TBFC</i> , 3rd November 1898, 38-39 <i>ibid.</i> , 2nd April 1909, 77 <i>PSAS</i> , LIX (1924-5), 24-26 A. S. Henshall, <i>Prehistoric Chambered Tombs in Scotland</i> , Vol. 1 (1963), 42, 44, 390	Destroyed
27-31	Easter Culbeuchly Banff Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , xciv (1960-1), 317-20	Marischal Coll., Univ. of Aberdeen 27-29; destroyed 30-31; Pygmy Cup private possession
X (Several number unknown)	Easter Culbeuchly Banff Banff	<i>NSA</i> , xiii, 31 of Banff section, written June 1836, published 1842	Unknown
32	Newton of Montblairry Alvah Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , II (1854-7), 346-7, 370-1 J. Anderson, <i>op. cit.</i> , 115-16 J. Abercromby, <i>op. cit.</i>	NMAS - EA 13
33	nr Montblairry House Alvah Banff	<i>PSAS</i> , v (1862-4), 213	NMAS - EA 14
34	Earlsloch, Hill of Montblairry Alvah Banff	<i>ibid.</i> , xli (1906-7), 65	NMAS - EA 170
35	Carnousie Forglen Banff	<i>ibid.</i> , xvi (1881-2), 237	NMAS - EA 47

Particulars

Secondary interments in long barrow (approx. 220 ft.). 18th September 1886 at W. (*sic*, presum. S.) end 'a very fine urn' 12 in. high and filled with calcined bones found. After removal it was 'by some mischance' broken and only the 'merest fragments remain' which subseq. disappeared. Later rep. says urn was inverted on flat stone. 5th February 1888 urn found in N. end of mound *c.* 8 in. high filled with 'black mould'. Its mouth rested 'in a saucer' (?) and it was decor. with 'zigzag markings' and 'surrounded with a ridge of bosses every few inches apart'. It was dest. by the farm servants who found it. (Both urns were found nr. surf., rains and frost having exposed them – author notes their secondary position.)

App. 5 CUs and an Incense Cup found in gravel and sand mound being used as gravel quarry, known as Gallows Hill, poss. *c.* 50 yds. long and *c.* 15 ft. high. 2 broken and taken away with gravel, 3 (1 frag.) and Cup preserved. Series of small pits filled with black material noted, also a *c.* 5 ft. long grave with a stone floor on which, under a layer of stones, lay crem. bone, but no stone top or sides. Relation of CUs. and Cup to e.o. and to pits and grave unknown; bones with two illus. urns identified as adult. Twin holes in Cup app. functional for draining. (Prior to 1836 another mound nearby was removed revealing sev. CUs – see below).

The cemetery of sev. CUs found on the same farm as the prev. and referred to above. Mound was found to contain 'several vases of baked earth, placed on a sort of stone bench supported by blocks of stone – some of these were in an inverted position, others had a flat stone on the top, and the whole enclosed in a tumulus'.

Found bef. 1857 in or nr. a Stone Circle (app. 2 in area); inverted and cont. calcined bones. A rounded mass of hard clay perforated and shaped like a hammer-head perh. found with urn – later mention ref. to 2 hammers found nr. various 'paved graves' cont. charred bones and earth.
A 511. (Illust. in this paper, Pl. XVII, 1.)

Cont. burnt bones. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 8e.)

Found June 1904, inverted with calcined bones outside (these incl. $\frac{1}{2}$ a bivalve shell kept by finder) in slightly rising knoll during turnip planting, almost on b'dary bet. Alvah and Forglen parishes. Pres. to Mus. by Abercromby, who omitted it from his magnum opus. (Illust. in this paper, fig. 8d.)

Found 'several years' bef. 1882. (Illust. in this paper, Pl. XVII, 2.)



1. Beaker from Inchnacaorach, Nairn (No. 9)
Photograph by permission of the British Museum



Nat. Mus. Ant. Scot.
2. Beaker No. 15 from near Elgin, Moray



Nat. Mus. Ant. Scot.
3. Beaker No. 20 from Lyne,
Moray



Nat. Mus. Ant. Scot.
4. Beaker No. 25 from Lesmurdie,
Banffshire



Nat. Mus. Ant. Scot.

1. Beaker No. 26 from Lesmurdie,
Banffshire



Nat. Mus. Ant. Scot.

2. Food Vessel No. 11 from Kenny's Hillock, Moray



Nat. Mus. Ant. Scot.

3. Food Vessel No. 13 from Netherdale, Banffshire



Nat. Mus. Ant. Scot.

4. Beaker No. 33 from Buckie,
Banffshire



Nat. Mus. Ant. Scot.

1. Cinerary Urn No. 32 from Newton of Montblairry, Banffshire



Nat. Mus. Ant. Scot.

2. Cinerary Urn No. 35 from Carnousie, Banffshire