

2. BRONZE AGE POTTERY FROM HOSPITALFIELD HOUSE, ARBROATH, ANGUS

In the museum of Hospitalfield House, Arbroath, Angus, there is an unprovenanced assemblage of Bronze Age pottery, so far unpublished. They were brought to the writer's attention by the Warden, Mr W. L. Reid, who has kindly given permission, on behalf of the Patrick Allan Fraser Trust, for their publication in this note. There are two complete Food Vessels, fragments of a third, and rim fragments of what is probably a Cinerary Urn.¹

Food Vessel 1 (fig. 2, 1). Diam. of rim, 6.8 in., diam. of base, 3.5 in., height, 5.6 in.: light brown ware of fairly hard fabric tempered with coarse grit, which in places disrupts the decoration on the surface of the pot. The inward-sloping rim is decorated with three lines of cord-impressed ornament. About 2 in. below the rim there is an uneven carination. Above this, there are two bands of cord ornament, three lines of impressions in each, and between them a double line of impressed 'commas'. This scheme continues below the carination; three incised lines take the place of cord impressions in the lowest dividing band.

Food Vessel 2 (fig. 2, 2). Diam. of rim, 4.6 in., diam. of base, 2.7 in., height, 4.5 in.: yellowish-buff ware, coarse fabric, smoothed on the outer surface with medium grits. The vessel is decorated in two registers with vertical bands of whipped-cord impressions.

Food Vessel 3 (fig. 2, 3, partially reconstructed). Diam. of rim, 6.5 in., diam. of base, 3.9 in., height as reconstructed, 4.4 in.: reddish-buff colour, compact sandy fabric with medium grits. The rim is thickened and has an inward bevel. The base is splayed and has a central interior boss. The decoration of the upper part of the pot consists of incised chevrons bounded by smaller jabs. Similar but less regular decoration occurs on the lower half of the vessel. Beneath the rim and at the carination there are incised horizontal lines, though these are not continuous. This pot survives in fragments and is incomplete.

Cinerary Urn (fig. 2, 4). Diam. of rim as reconstructed, 8.5 in.: six rim sherds with a buff to grey exterior surface, a black gritty fabric. Decoration consists of rows of circular im-

¹ Mr I. G. Scott's assistance in preparing the illustration is gratefully acknowledged.

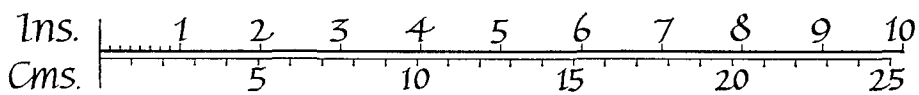
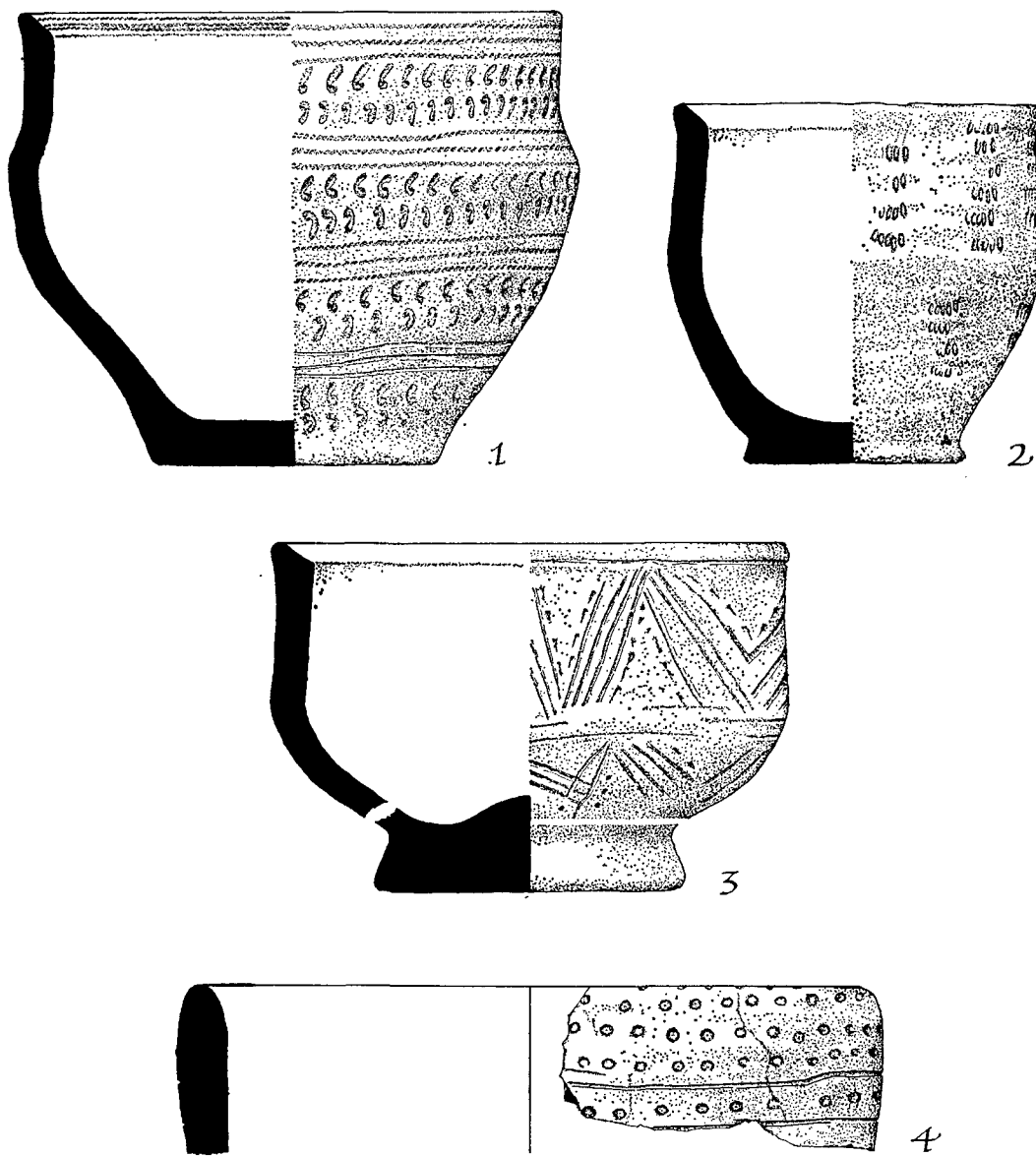


FIG. 2. Pottery from Hospitalfield House, Arbroath

pressions, a pair of incised lines with a single row of impressions between them. The impressions have been made with a hollow fibrous implement.

Food Vessels 1 and 2 would not be out of place in Angus: in shape No. 1 is comparable to that from Newmonthill Cemetery, Forfar.¹ Inclusion of No. 3 in the Food Vessel category is tentative and the writer can offer no convincing close parallel. Circular impressions are not unknown on Cinerary Urns from Angus; on the Collared Urn from Gilchorn, Inverkeilor, for example, there are oblique lines of similar impressions on the collar and also jabs along the rim,² and a similar motif appears on the Encrusted Urn from Aberlemno.³

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