

## Two early Bronze-Age axes

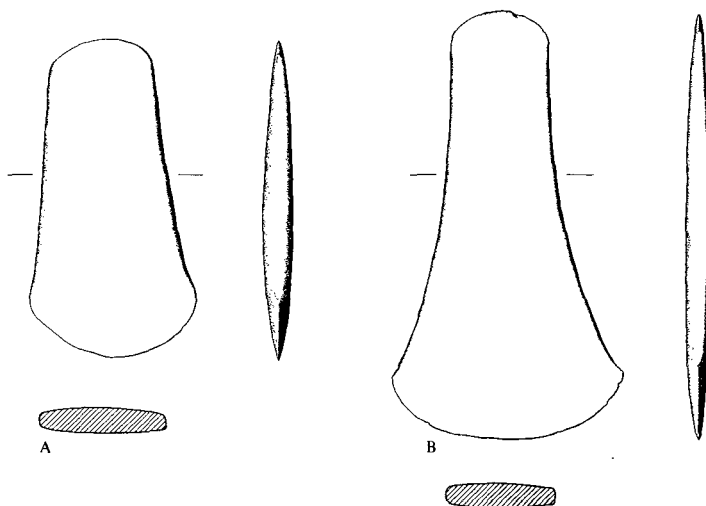
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### ABSTRACT

*Two flat bronze axes of Type Migdale from Kincardine and Angus are described.*

Two early Bronze Age axes have recently been brought to the attention of the author; both are in the possession of private individuals and are previously unpublished.

Between 1944 and 1954 a flat bronze axe was found on Berryhillock farm, south-east of Laurencekirk in Kincardineshire (NGR NO 762 686). The exact findspot and circumstances of the discovery are not known, the axe having been found by a now-deceased relative of the present owner, who lives near Forfar. The axe (illus 1a) measures 128 mm long by 65 mm at the widest part of the blade by 12 mm thick.



ILLUS 1 Flat bronze axes from: A, Berryhillock Farm, Kincardine and B, Auchnacree, Angus (scale 1:3)

Two minor points of note concerning the shape of the axe are that the thin, arched butt is rather broad in relation to the length, and one tip of the blade is slightly more developed than the other, lending the axe a lop-sided appearance. Such features indicate that this axe is characteristic of one

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element in Schmidt and Burgess's broad Type Migdale (1981, 35–6). The axe from 'Kincardineshire' (*ibid*, pl 12, 144), which is listed by Coles as from Muchalls (1969, 82, fig 17), is a good parallel.

A second flat axe (illus 1b) was found at Auchnacree, Fern in Angus (NO 464 638) in about 1906. The present owner, who lives in Dundee, inherited the axe from her father, who owned the Auchnacree Estate until about 1922, and the details of the discovery are not recorded. There is no evidence to suggest that the axe may have been an early stray find from the hoard discovered in 1921 (Callander 1922).

The axe measures 172 mm long by 93 mm by 10 mm thick and like the Berryhillock axe is in an excellent state of preservation. It possesses all the characteristics of Type Migdale axes and, in terms of shape and size, a parallel is known from Burrelton, Perthshire (Schmidt & Burgess 1981, pl 8, 89; Coles 1969, 25, fig 21, no 8).

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#### REFERENCES

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