

Ancient Monuments in Somerset

Scheduled under the Ancient Monuments Act, 1913

WHEN the preservation of any Ancient Monument appears to the Commissioners of Works to be of national importance it is scheduled under the Act for that purpose, passed in 1913. The owner is informed of this, and he is warned that if he proposes to 'demolish or remove, in whole or in part, structurally alter, or make additions to' such monument, he must acquaint the Commissioners, and must not commence any work for a month after giving the notice. Non-compliance with these orders renders the owner liable to a fine not exceeding £100, or three months' imprisonment, or both.

Our members can assist in the preservation of the Ancient Monuments of the county by noting those that are scheduled in their immediate neighbourhood, and by informing the undersigned should they see that such monuments are being interfered with.

Suggestions as to other buildings, crosses, earthworks, stones, etc., that might be scheduled will be welcomed, but neither buildings inhabited as dwelling-houses, nor churches, can be placed upon the list.

ETHELBERT HORNE

Chief Correspondent with the Office of Works

SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN SOMERSET

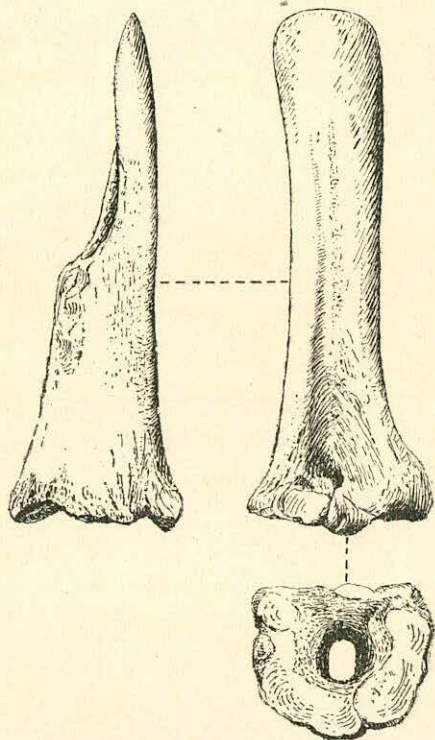
1. Glastonbury Abbey.
2. Nunney Castle.
3. The Abbot's Fish House, Meare.
4. Farleigh Castle.
5. The Circles, Avenues and Cove, Stanton Drew.

6. Long Barrow, Stoney Littleton.
7. Worlebury Camp.
11. Bury Bridge, Dulverton.
12. Tithe Barn, Preston Plucknett.
14. Tithe Barn, Pilton.
15. Congresbury Cross.
18. Market Cross, Somerton.
19. Castle Neroche, Staple Fitzpaine.
21. Market Cross, Cheddar.
22. Tithe Barn, Glastonbury.
23. Tithe Barn, Doulting.
24. Bishop's Tithe Barn, Wells.
26. Cynwit Castle, Cannington.
27. Church House, Crowcombe.
28. Wick Barrow, Stogursey.
29. Packhorse Bridge, West Luccombe.
30. Horner Packhorse Bridge, Luccombe.
31. Cleeve Abbey, Old Cleeve.
32. Yarn Market, Dunster.
34. Torr Steps, Hawkridge.
35. Malmsmead Bridge, Oare.
36. Stone Circle, Withypool Hill.
37. Caratacus Stone, Spire Cross, Winsford.
39. Wedmore Village Cross.
40. Long Barrow and Round Barrow on Felton Hill.
42. The Roman Baths, Bath.

Notes

ARCHÆOLOGICAL REMAINS FOUND AT MIDDLEZOY

THE bone implement represented half-size linear in the accompanying illustration was found in 1924 by Mr. John



Finely-worked bone implement found at Greylake, parish of Middlezoy.

Scale $\frac{1}{2}$ linear.

From a Drawing by Mrs. St. George Gray.

Millard junior, of Whitehead Farm, Middlezoy, and given by

him to the Somerset County Museum. It consists of the proximal end of a metatarsus of ox, with a bevelled and finely polished business-end, length $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. The implement is stated to have been found with a wooden handle inserted (then shrunk and quite loose) in the longitudinal perforation seen in the lower figure of the drawing. Such a tool might have been used for flaying or dressing skins. The nearest parallels known to the writer are the chisel-shaped bone implements found in the Angle Ditch, Handley Down, N. Dorset, at depths which would suggest their belonging to the early iron age; neither of them has a longitudinal hole. (Pitt-Rivers *Excavations*, iv, Plate 263, and pp. 108-9.)

When the writer visited Middlezoy on October 2, 1924, he found the water too high to make any examination of the place of discovery, but Mr. Millard said that he had found the implement in one of his fields at Greylake in Middlezoy parish and on the w. side of King's Sedgemoor. He was engaged in moving or rather cutting off some wooden uprights which in dry seasons project slightly above the surface of the field, causing damage to mowing-machines and other agricultural implements.

Middlezoy having been mentioned to me in another connection (deposits of sand, etc.) Mrs. Gray and myself visited the place where the bone was found, with Mr. Millard and the Rev. J. F. A. Thomas, vicar of Middlezoy, on September 9, 1926, when we did some digging and partly uncovered four large rather flat-sectioned piles of oak, two of them being very near together; the two others, not far away, about 4 ft. apart. Just to the s. of the most southerly of the two last-mentioned piles two long, rough oak planks, averaging $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. in thickness were placed side by side (covering a width of 10 in.) and extended for a length of 13 ft., E.N.E. and W.S.W. The middle of the planks was $17\frac{1}{2}$ in. below the surface of the field; at the w. end about 20 in., and at the E. end about 21 in.

The site is in a low-lying field to the s. of and adjoining 'Greylake Fosse' (the main road)—the most westerly field on the 6 in. ordnance sheet, No. LXII. N.E. It is close to the southern ditch bordering the field, and about 210 ft. (paced)

E. of the s.s.w. corner of the field. The site is only $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile, as the crow flies, E.N.E. of Greylake Manor Farm.

The place was again visited by the above-mentioned, together with Dr. A. Bulleid and Mrs. Bulleid, on September 13th, when further digging was carried out. We examined an area, about 6 ft. square, between the two most easterly piles found previously and to the s.w. of them. The N.E. pile was removed at the end of the afternoon's digging, and proved to be roughly sharpened and $9\frac{1}{4}$ ft. in length, its max. thickness being $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. At $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. from the top was a neatly cut mortise-hole, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. by 3 in., the larger dimension being in the length of this large pile. Another pile, broken off at about 2 ft. below the surface by Mr. Millard some time ago, was also dug out, the length of the part recovered being $5\frac{1}{2}$ ft.; the actual point broke off in the operation. Small alder limbs and brushwood were met with below 4 ft. from the surface. No pottery was discovered, but deep down a few animal bones (vertebral) were uncovered and one or two small pieces of burnt flint; also several species of freshwater mollusca (*Proc.* iv, 93; xi, 218; xv, 49).

Mr. A. S. Kennard, A.L.S., has kindly identified the mollusca, recently collected, as follows:

<i>Limnæa auricularia</i> (Linn.).	<i>Planorbis albus</i> (Linn.).
„ <i>pereger</i> (Müll.).	„ <i>contortus</i> (Linn.).
„ <i>palustris</i> (Müll.).	<i>Bithynia tentaculata</i> (Linn.).
„ <i>stagnalis</i> (Linn.).	„ <i>leachii</i> (Shepp.).
<i>Planorbis planorbis</i> (Linn.).	<i>Valvata piscinalis</i> (Müll.).
„ <i>vortex</i> (Linn.).	

During the afternoon Dr. Bulleid and the writer visited other fields to the N.E. and beyond King's Sedgemoor Drain and Greylake Bridge. In the field s. of 'Laurel Cottage' (and in Moorlinch parish) a decided trackway showed in fair relief, on the line of a series of piles discovered in the next field s. (Shapwick parish, detached).¹ The last-named remains (known to Dr. Bulleid for several years past as 'Strangway's Causeway') were apparently in line with those uncovered on September 9th and 13th, and with the bank of sand now being dug out for road purposes.

¹ Two of these piles were removed in 1895 by the late Mr. Strangways of Shapwick, and have since been exhibited in the Glastonbury Museum.

In this connection some early records by Sir W. Boyd Dawkins should be read on the finding of prostrate oak trees in the neighbourhood of Middlezoy (*Proc.* xviii, i, 29 ; xxvi, 115), but no mention is made of worked timber.

H. ST. GEORGE GRAY.

MARSHALL'S ELM

THE place takes its name from the family of Marshall who were in possession of Ivythorn Manor—which is close at hand—in the reign of Edward IV. Until 1867 a public-house existed here, having for its sign an elm tree beneath which were soldiers. This board is now lost. It has been assumed, probably on the strength of this board, that Marshall's Elm received its name from the skirmish which took place in the neighbourhood on the 2nd of August 1642, at the beginning of the Civil War. As a matter of fact, the place was known by this name before that date, as Hopton, in his *Narrative of his Campaign in the West* (*Som. Rec. Soc.* xviii, 7), speaks of the troops marching from Wells 'towards Somerton as farr as Marshalls-Elme.' . . . He also says that from the top of the hill at this point, they could see 'a body of sixe hundred foote drawn up in a corne field about two miles from them.' A message was sent to the leaders of these men asking that they would meet Hopton's officers 'at an Elme in the midd way between them' . . . which meeting accordingly took place. This was probably the scene depicted on the public-house signboard. The exact position of the tree known as Marshall's Elm is now uncertain, but it is generally supposed to have stood somewhere about the top of the hill. If this were so, and if Hopton's description of the tree where the parley took place is correct, it was not beneath Marshall's Elm that the officers met, but under another tree altogether, for Hopton says it was 'midd way' between the top of the hill where his troops were, and the opposing force in the 'corne field' two miles away.

TITHE MAPS, CHIEFLY WEST SOMERSET

THE Society has acquired a number of copies of Tithe Maps, made about 1843, with MS. copies or drafts of Tithe Apportionment books, made between 1838 and 1870.

Some of the maps are over 8 ft. square, mounted on linen on rollers at scales of 6 chains to an inch (i.e. over 13 inches to a mile); some are of 3 chains, others of 16 chains.

Many are lithographed, or are tracings ranging from large coloured copies down to small rough drafts.

The Apportionment books give the reference number of each field or enclosure as marked on the maps, with the names of the owners and occupiers; place-names, which interest many people now, are shown. There are also details of the Tithe Commission's awards as to enclosures or rights of common.

For the following parishes (or parts of each) there are maps and books: Bicknoller, Brompton Ralph, Cannington, Carhampton, Crowcombe, Cutcombe, Dunster, Elworthy, Exford, Exton, Fitzhead, Glastonbury, Huish Champflower, Ile Abbots, Kilton, Kilve, Kings Brompton, Kingston, Minehead, Monksilver, Nettlecombe, North Petherton, Old Cleeve, Porlock, St. Decuman's, Selworthy, Stogumber, Stogursey, Stoke Pero, Stringston, Taunton, Timberscombe, Treborough, West Monkton, West Quantoxhead, Wilton, Winsford, Withiel Flory, Withycombe, Wiveliscombe, Wootton Courtney.

For the next, there are maps only: Angersleigh, Chilcompton, Clatworthy, Dodington, Dulverton (Pixton), Holford, Kittisford, Lilstock, Luccombe, Lydeard St. Lawrence, Norton Fitzwarren, Over Stowey, Pitminster, Sampford Brett, Stawley, Withycombe; and in Devon, Halberton, Willand, and Kentisbeare.

For the rest, there are Apportionment books only: Culbone, East Quantoxhead, Ilminster, Luxborough, Nether Stowey; and in Devon, Swimbridge.

In a number of parishes there are duplicates of the maps, and the Society is prepared to dispose of these.

H. R. PHIPPS.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES, TAUNTON

A FINE set of imperial or standard weights and measures formerly belonged to the Taunton Market Trustees, and were deposited on loan by them in the Somerset County Museum from 1910. When the Corporation of Taunton acquired all the properties of the Trust on October 1, 1926, application was made to that body asking that these weights and measures might be presented to the Museum. The Town Council has now kindly granted the Society's request.

The following is a description of the articles :

(1) Beam and scales ; the beam, which is $37\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, is painted in red, ' Class 2, to weigh 1 cwt.'

(2) Four bell-metal weights, marked on the top, ' 56 lbs. Avoir.', ' 28 lbs. Avoir.', ' 14 lbs. Avoir.', and ' 7 lbs. Avoir.' respectively ; all inscribed on the top of the basal part, ' LIBERTY OF GILLINGHAM. COUNTY OF DORSET. 1826'.

(3) Four small brass weights, 8, 4, 2 and 1 oz. All are stamped ' SOMERSET DISTRICT, No. 7 ', and ' GR^{IV}. 1824 ' ; on the bottom of all of them κ is indented. The largest is inscribed round the rim, ' Liberty of Gillingham, County of Dorset, 8 oz.'

(4) Four large imperial measures, of bell-metal, each provided with two handles, and inscribed, ' LIBERTY OF GILLINGHAM. COUNTY OF DORSET. 1826 '. They are : one bushel, half bushel, one peck, and one gallon, and are so marked.

(5) Six small imperial measures, of bell-metal, without handles ; inscribed as those above. They are : half gallon, one quart, one pint, half pint, one gill, and half gill, and are so marked.

(6) Imperial yard measure, of bell-metal, inscribed, ' LIBERTY OF GILLINGHAM. COUNTY OF DORSET. 1826 '. (In a long wooden case.)

H. ST. GEORGE GRAY.

LEADEN COFFIN, BEDMINSTER DOWN

BEING in the habit of collecting information having reference to the discovery of leaden coffins in Somerset during several years past,—all the references appearing in my paper on the 'Roman Coffins discovered at Keynsham, 1922', *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.* lxxviii, 87-92,—it might be well in this place to add another record which comes to me through the instrumentality of Mr. A. Selley of Bristol and Mr. E. L. Wyatt of Bishops-worth. It is to the effect that a leaden coffin (presumably Roman) was found about fifty years ago during some quarrying operations on Bedminster Down, which at that time formed part of the parish of Bishops-worth. Old people in that place have recollection of the occurrence, and believe it to have been reburied in the village churchyard. The vicar, however, has searched the registers and is unable to find any entry of such a burial.

H. ST. GEORGE GRAY.