

Notes

THE MEARE LAKE VILLAGE EXCAVATIONS, 1936

THE excavations at Meare East Village were re-opened on 24 August 1936 and were continued for three weeks and four days (not counting the filling-in). Six men were employed.

The ground examined this season adjoined the east side of that excavated in 1935; and all of it was included in one large area. Digging began 70 ft. south of the datum line in a flat area of ground situated s.e. of Mound XVIII and s.w. of Mound XXI, and included the east edge of Mounds XVIII, XVA, XVB, the north half of Mound XXI (the south half had been dug last year), the whole area of clay XVC, and the southern margin of Mound XXIV.

Mounds XVC and XXI were apparently late structures and were without timber foundations, the clay floors being placed on the hard surface of the peat. Perhaps the most notable feature of this year's excavation was a remarkable series of twelve superimposed hearths in Mound XXI. The excavation of the eastern edge of Mounds XVA and XVB revealed the eastern margin of the accumulation of lias blocks and rubble which was dumped down sometime during the Roman occupation (see *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, lxxxii, 256).

Among the smaller objects discovered were the following:—

Antler.—Knife-handle of roe-deer antler; pieces of sawn antler; one 'cheek-piece'; a pointed piece, polished and ornamented; three weaving-combs.

Bone, etc.—Three worked shoulder-blades; pottery stamp for small circles; needle (broken); perforated and notched tibia; gouge; polishing bone; perforated canine tooth of dog.

Beads, etc., of Glass.—A clear glass bead with yellow spirals; blue glass bead; ring-bead of yellow paste; piece of dark mauve glass, thin.

Bronze.—La Tène III fibula ; brooch of the Roman period ; pieces of narrow bordering ; two rivets ; wire ; long needle (eye broken) ; lobed bracelet of Hallstatt type (broken up) ; small washer ; crescentic sheet of thin bronze with repoussé border, etc

Iron.—Bordering ; hinge ; loop ; awl ; part of sickle ; La Tène II dagger-blade with bronze terminal (one found last season, *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, lxxx, 257).

Lead.—Net-sinker with three perforations.

Crucible.—One fragment.

Kimmeridge Shale.—Part of an armlet ; part of small ring.

Whorls.—Seven spindlewhorls (stone, baked clay,—one ornamented).

Flint.—Core used as hammerstone ; four scrapers.

Stone.—Among the stone objects are a fine saddle-quern (lower stone) ; hammerstone ; two pounders ; slab of lias with shallow circular depression ; pivot-stone for a door.

Coins.—Two ' third brass ' late Roman coins, found on the Roman layer in this part of the Village.

Pottery.—Large part of a Belgic vessel ; much domestic ware, but comparatively little was ornamented.

Human Remains.—Parts of one skeleton and skull, scattered on the upper floor of Mound XVB ; also the greater part of a lower jaw belonging to another body in Mound XXI.

Animal Remains.—The remains of the animal food (sheep and cattle) were very plentiful ; large Pike was identified among the few fish bones.

ARTHUR BULLEID

H. ST. GEORGE GRAY

EARTHWORK AT EMBOROUGH

IN the field adjoining Manor Farm, Emborough (O.S. 6 in., Sheet XXVIII, N.E.) is a three-sided rectangular embankment, the sides measuring approximately 60 by 80 by 40 yards. The crown of the bank rises to a mean height of some 2 ft. above the field level, and varies from 3 to 5 yards in breadth. There are smaller bank-systems, also rectangular, in the same field, as well as five shallow circular depressions.

During May and June, 1936, a transverse trench was dug through the south bank by a party from Downside School under the direction of Mr. N. H. Watts. Some indications of a shallow external trench were found. The bank proved to be of earth, pitched with a single layer of stones of from 10 to 15 lbs. weight. Later a second and similar trench was dug close to the s.w. corner, but this excavation revealed no more than the first.

There appears to be no local memory or tradition of the banks having served as an enclosure of any kind, and a foot-path cuts diagonally across the system.

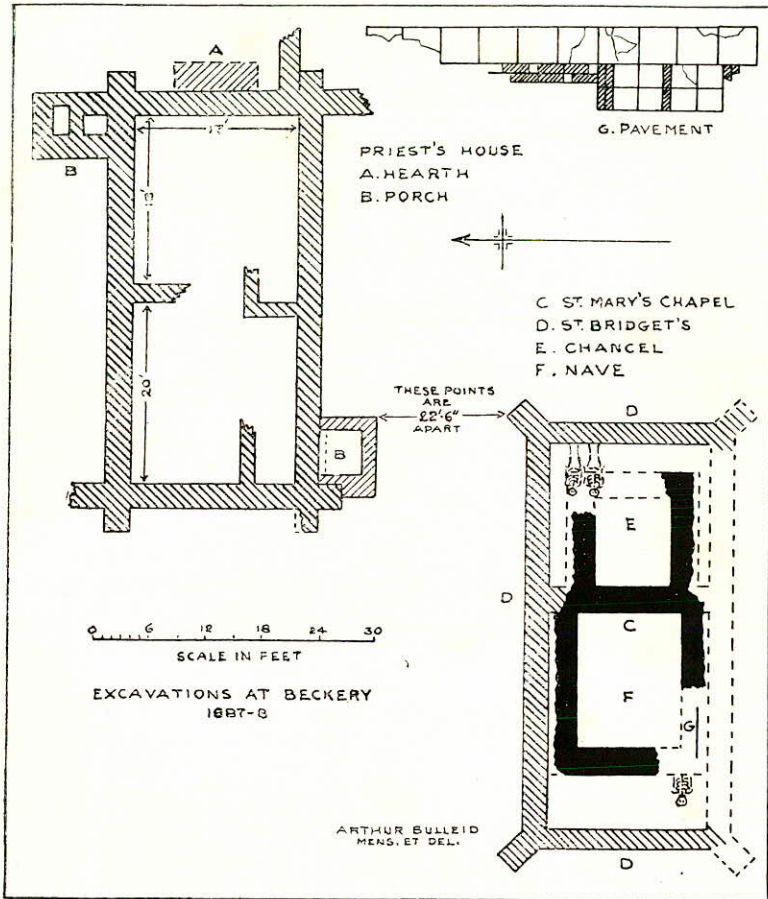
ST. BRIDGET'S CHAPEL, BECKERY (Plate XVII)

ALTHOUGH a reproduction of Dr. A. Bulleid's plan of St. Bridget's Chapel appeared in the second series of *Papers and Lectures, Glastonbury Antiquarian Society*, 1891 (pp. 65-70), to accompany the paper by Mr. John Morland on the subject, no plan appeared in the *Proceedings, S.A. & N.H. Society*, when the same paper was published, two years earlier, in vol. xxxv for 1889, pp. 121-6.

Dr. Bulleid has recently prepared a more complete plan and has allowed the Society to publish it here, instead of sending it out as a loose plate to be inserted in vol. xxxv by those possessing that number.

After fifty years the original plan in Glastonbury Museum had become faded and worn ; Dr. Bulleid has now made a new copy to replace it.

The excavations were carried out in the autumn of 1887, and the earliest note on the work appeared in *Proceedings*, vol. xxxiii, for 1887, pp. 163-4.



ST. BRIDGET'S CHAPEL, BECKERY,
 NEAR GLASTONBURY