

cases there was a marked carination on the shoulder (Fig. 8, no. 39; Fig. 9, no. 46). The smaller thinner bowls tended to have rolled-over rims, whereas the larger ones were either expanded or externally thickened.

A small proportion of the sherds bore some kind of decoration. There were several examples of lightly incised vertical and diagonal lines over neck and rim (*e.g.* Fig. 9, nos 86/8, 109, 117); one neck-fragment bore a deep circular impression (Fig. 9, no. 121) and on another sherd there were shallow impressions reminiscent of decoration at Hurst Fen (Fig. 9, no. 50).

#### REPORT ON THE HUMAN REMAINS

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##### *The Primary Cremation*

This material consists of over 600 pieces of bone, many of which are precisely, and many more approximately, identifiable. Among easily recognized fragments are: several pieces of cranial vault, including parietal and occipital fragments and part of the left temporal bone including the posterior margin of the external auditory meatus, part of the tympanic plate, the sulcus sigmoideus, and the asterion point. Fragments of sphenoid are present and the base of a styloid process. The left and right maxillae are present, and fragments of mandible which include the left condyle and coronoid process, with a short extension of the ramus to include a few millimetres of the alveolus. This shows that the left third molar tooth had erupted and was in the jaw at death. A canine, a damaged premolar and a mandibular molar were the only loose teeth to be recovered. The canine had been damaged by firing but appears to have been little eroded by attrition during life. No jaw fragment carrying teeth survives but the loose molar is probably the missing left third molar noted above.

From the post-cranial skeleton the following are the chief surviving fragments: a small fragment of atlas, fragments of other vertebrae from all levels of the column, the central part of both clavicles, part of the blade of a scapula and about two-thirds of a scapular glenoid fossa, and many pieces of ribs. The fragments of long bones are mostly small but a few range from 6-10 cm in length, and come from humerus, ulna, radius, femur and tibia. Fragments of the proximal articular surfaces of humerus and femur are present, and a small piece of distal humeral articular surface. The proximal and the distal quarter of the right radius, and the proximal one-sixth of the right ulna survive. The right patella is present but

damaged. Fragments of carpals and tarsals can be identified, including a piece of os calcis. A few metacarpal, metatarsal and phalangeal fragments also survive.

As is almost invariably the case with severely fragmented cremations, some doubt must remain as to the sex of this person. However there is fairly strong evidence here which indicates that it is a male. Age can be determined with moderate precision. The eruption of the third molar tooth suggests that 18 years had been reached. There is also evidence that the epiphysis of the humeral head had fused and this would indicate that 20 years had probably been attained. But a small fragment of iliac crest shows that the epiphysis here was unfused and this probably indicates an age of less than 23 years. Therefore 21 or 22 would seem to be the likeliest time of death. In view of this it is interesting to see that the cranial sutures – notoriously unreliable as an indication of age – though mostly unfused, do already show a few areas of recent union, especially on the endocranial surface. No pathology was detected.

The cremation seems to have been efficiently performed; almost no traces of under-firing can be seen. It seems likely that the body was laid on the ground and the pyre built over it. The pattern of warping and firing here suggests that a temperature of near 950°C was reached and that, perhaps, this individual carried little body fat.

Collection of the remains from the pyre had been carried out with efficiency. It is difficult to decide whether the fragmentation of these bones was deliberately done after collection. On balance it seems not very likely. No trace of animal bones or of grave goods was found.

② *Secondary cremation in the south-east quadrant*

This contains a few dozen fragments and a mass of ash and soil. Almost all these consist of pieces of cranial vault and splinters of long bones. Identifiable are some partly fused sutures and a fragment of the glenoid fossa of a temporo-mandibular joint:

This is the cremation of an adult. It is probably a female. The firing has been well carried out. The subsequent collection of the remains was perfunctory, but plough damage to the urn leaves some doubt about this. Only one body can be identified here and no animal bones were found.

*Secondary inhumation from the north-east quadrant.*

This consists of the body of a female, aged 25-30 years.

Although very extensively damaged, parts of most of the body are present. The skull is extremely fragmented. It was lightly built with weak brow ridges and small mastoid processes. The jaws, though

broken, show over-crowding of the teeth. The mandibular third molars are unformed; the right maxillary third molar seems to have been impacted. All other teeth were present at death. Dental attrition is light and caries absent.

Almost all other bones throughout the body are damaged to some extent. These include all long bones, but the right femur and tibia can be provisionally reconstructed to give maximum lengths of 419 mm and 360 mm. This would correspond to a stature of about 1,615 mm (5 ft 3½ ins).

Muscle markings appear to be light throughout the body. The appearance suggests the gracility associated with the Neolithic skeleton rather than the more robust Bronze Age type, but in view of the imperfection of the body this judgement may be illusory. Traces of squatting facets were found on the distal ends of the tibia. No pathology was detected.

#### ANIMAL REMAINS

Animal bones found in the excavation were few and poorly preserved; they have been identified by Mr. D. J. Allen of the University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge.

③ *In the mound of the barrow (layer 2)*

1. Cattle: one unfused calcaneum of a young animal.
2. Cattle: two fragments of humerus.
3. Cattle: length of metatarsal.
4. Red Deer: fragment of metatarsal.
5. Sheep-size fragments.
6. ? Cattle: fragment of humerus.

② *From layer 7 of ditch-fill of barrow*

7. Cattle: upper 3rd molar tooth.

① *From occupation-layer under barrow (layer 10)*

8. Red Deer: upper 3rd molar tooth.
  9. ? Red Deer: distal end of humerus.
  10. ? Red Deer: fragment of rib.
  11. Goat or sheep: fragment of humerus.
- Land-snail: no further identification available.

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All finds have been lodged in Moyses's Hall Museum, Bury St. Edmunds.