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THE FUNERARY BOWLS AND VASES
OF THE IRISH BRONZE AGE
Plate 1. Basal view of bowl from Graage, Co. Roscommon (94).
The Funerary Bowls and Vases of the Irish Bronze Age

BREANDÁN Ó RÍORDÁIN
and
JOHN WADDELL
with a contribution by
ALISON SHERIDAN

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PREFACE

The preparation of this corpus commenced in the mid-1950s when Breandán Ó Riordáin indexed the Irish Bronze Age pottery bowls and vases in the National Museum of Ireland and compiled a catalogue of approximately 440 examples. The National Museum initiated the slow process of preparing publication drawings of the vessels in its own collections and, having circulated enquiries to a large number of museums in Britain and elsewhere, the recording of the pottery vessels preserved in other institutions and in private collections also began. In the case of Irish museums such as the Ulster Museum, Armagh County Museum and Cork Public Museum, it was possible, with their generous cooperation, to have much of their material drawn in Dublin. As far as other institutions were concerned, particularly those holding numbers of specimens such as the British Museum, the Royal Museum of Scotland (then the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland) and the Royal Ontario Museum, Canada, it was necessary to commission publication drawings. The compilation of this material continued in the 1960s but scarce resources and the National Museum of Ireland’s involvement in a decade of major excavations of Viking and Medieval Dublin at High Street and elsewhere, under the direction of Breandán Ó Riordáin, impeded the development of the project and progress all but halted in the 1970s.

Since my own research had touched on these early Bronze Age pottery vessels, Breandan Ó Riordáin, by then Director of the National Museum, invited me, in 1981, to complete the corpus. It was my task to prepare an account of the material, to rewrite and augment the catalogue and to see to the drawing of some 200 outstanding vessels. Every effort has been made to include all discoveries up to 1980 and only one major pottery group found prior to this date is omitted: regrettably, the collection of bowls and vases from the ‘Mound of the Hostages’ at Tara, Co. Meath, was unavailable for inclusion. Discoveries since 1980 are not included in the catalogue though a few references to recently published finds (Williams and Robinson 1983, Feley 1985, and Williams 1985 and 1986) occur in the text. Since the main purpose of this work is to publish the artifactual evidence, the study of bowls and vases undertaken here is deliberately a brief one. The drawings of the pottery assemblages are, not surprisingly, by several hands and while a considerable measure of standardisation has been achieved, the occasional minor stylistic discrepancy does occur.

This work consists of two parts. Part 1 being the short study of the bowls and vases from funerary contexts and Part 2 the corpus comprising catalogue and illustrations. The catalogue is arranged alphabetically by county and by townland name wherever possible. (Spelling usually follows, for better or worse, the General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland 1861.) Pottery vessels with no recorded provenance are then listed and are simply numbered no locality 1 to 98. The catalogue contains references to pottery from habitation and ritual sites in addition to the funerary material. It is the latter material which is figured in the illustrations numbered 1 to 646 following the catalogue. A small number of fragmentary finds are not depicted. Except for a few associated finds these illustrations are grouped typologically from simple and bipartite bowls, to vases, to unclassifiable pots. The illustrated vessels are listed alphabetically by county and by townland on pp. xii ff. and a classified list of these illustrated examples is to be found on pp. xix ff.

John Waddell
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many institutions and individuals have generously assisted the preparation of this work in many different ways. The late Dr A. T. Lucas, sometime Director of the National Museum of Ireland, and the staff of the Irish Antiquities Division have always been of immeasurable assistance. In recent years the Keeper of Irish Antiquities, Dr Michael Ryan, and Ms Mary Cahill, Mr Eamon Kelly, Ms Nessa O’Connor, Mr Raghnaill Ó Floinn and Dr Pat Wallace have been especially cooperative. The same is true of the staff of the Ulster Museum, Belfast, where Mr Laurence Flanagan, formerly Keeper of Antiquities, also very kindly provided drawings of the vases from his excavations at Cloghskelt, Co. Down, and where Mrs Winifred Glover has been particularly helpful. Special thanks are due to Mr D. R. M. Weatherup, Armagh County Museum; Mrs Helen Lanigan-Wood, Fermanagh County Museum; Dr P. Doran, University of Limerick; Mr Humphrey Case, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; Dr Ian Longworth, British Museum; and Miss E. Pirie, Leeds City Museum. The assistance of other members of staff in several of these institutions and various individuals in the Department of Archaeology, Queen’s University, Belfast; the Historic Monuments and Buildings Branch of the Department of the Environment of Northern Ireland; Cork Public Museum; the National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh; Peabody Museum, Harvard; Royal Ontario Museum, Canada; is gratefully acknowledged too. Additional information about certain sites or finds has also been supplied by Mr Colin Burgess, Mr A. E. P. Collins, Ms Angelique Day, Mr Brian Duffy, Mr Brian Lacy, Mr Noel Ross, Dr Ann Hamlin, Mr Larry Walsh and Mr Brian Williams. Dr Sheridan’s research, undertaken at the Institute of Irish Studies, Queen’s University, Belfast, was assisted by the staff of the Scanning Electron Microscope Unit at Queen’s University, and by Professor J. Brindley, Dr J. Preston, Mr C. B. Long, Mr T. P. Johnston, Dr J. Jackson, Dr M. S. Tite, Dr I. Freestone, Dr M. Pollard, Mr J. Evans, Dr A. Woods, Dr D. Tominlin, Mr G. Barclay, and Professor R. Buchanan.

The skills of half a dozen persons have provided the illustrations for the corpus, but the majority have been prepared by the late Miss Eileen Johnson, and Miss Rosaline Murphy of the National Museum of Ireland and Miss Angela Gallagher, University College, Galway. Research on the material and production of some drawings were aided by a small grant from the National Committee for Archaeology of the Royal Irish Academy and was also facilitated by Professor E. Rynne and the Department of Archaeology, University College, Galway.

A number of radiocarbon determinations have been supplied through the kindness of Jan Lanting and W. G. Mook of the Isotope Physics Laboratory, Groningen, with the assistance of Miss Anna Brindley. The National Library of Ireland permitted the reproduction of the drawing of the bowl from Cavanakill, Co. Armagh, and drawings of vessels from Churchfield and Greenan, Co. Antrim, and from Ardnushin, Co. Tyrone, are reproduced with the permission of the Royal Irish Academy.
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## Simple Bowls – Variant

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## Bipartite Bowls

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## Bipartite Bowls – Variant

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## Necked Bipartite Bowls

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**NECKED BIPARTITE BOWLS – VARIANT**

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<td>Rathbennett, Co. Westmeath.</td>
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<td>214</td>
<td>Rathbennett, Co. Westmeath (ribbed bowl)</td>
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<td>230</td>
<td>Powerscourt, Co. Wicklow.</td>
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**TRIPARTITE BOWLS - VARIANT**

**RIBBED BOWLS**

- 262 Deehomed, Co. Down.
- 263 Coolgrange (Freestone Hill), Co. Kilkenny.
- 264 Correro, Co. Mayo.
- 265 Carryglass, Co. Tyrone.
- 266 Gorticerum Irish, Co. Tyrone.
- 267 Woodend, Co. Tyrone.
- 268 No locality 22.
- 269 No locality 86.
Classified Corpus Figures

279 Kilhoyle, Co. Derry.
280 Kilmacthan, Co. Derry.
281 Bellanascadden, Co. Donegal.
282 Carrickbrack, Co. Donegal.
283 Ballynagross, Co. Down.
284 Mount Stewart, Co. Down.
285 Co. Down.
286 Balbriggan, Co. Dublin.
287 Chapelizod, Co. Dublin.
288 Courtlough, Co. Dublin.
289 Edmonstown, Co. Dublin.
290 Edmonstown, Co. Dublin.
291 Rush, Co. Dublin.
292 Annaghkeen, Co. Galway.
293 Brownstown, Co. Kildare.
294 Graney West, Co. Kildare.
295 Graney West, Co. Kildare (anomalous bowl).
296 Graney West, Co. Kildare (unclassifiable bowl).
297 Newtowntyburn, Co. Kildare.
298 Oldtown, Co. Kildare.
299 Plooquill, Co. Kildare.
300 Plooquill, Co. Kildare.
301 Luggacurran, Co. Laois.
302 Corrower, Co. Mayo.
303 Corrower, Co. Mayo.
304 Corrower, Co. Mayo.
305 Corrower, Co. Mayo.
306 Corrower, Co. Mayo.
307 Corrower, Co. Mayo.
308 Coan, Co. Kilkenny.
309 Cullaghan, Co. Mayo.
310 Ballyhaigue (Charlesfort Demesne), Co. Meath.
311 Bally, Co. Meath.
312 Betaghstown, Co. Meath.
313 Doon, Co. Meath.
314 Fourknocks (I), Co. Meath.
315 Fourknocks (II), Co. Meath.
316 Fourknocks (I), Co. Meath.
317 Fourknocks (II), Co. Meath.
318 Martinstown, Co. Meath.
319 Martinstown, Co. Meath.
320 Oldbridge, Co. Meath.
321 Lug, Co. Offaly.
322 Rathmore, Co. Roscommon.
323 Brougher, Co. Sligo.
324 Brougher, Co. Sligo.
325 Ballymote, Co. Sligo.
326 Carrowkeel, Co. Sligo.
327 Camagh, Co. Tyrone.
328 Rathbarron, Co. Sligo.
329 Strone, Co. Sligo.
330 Crock (Dun Ruadh), Co. Tyrone.
331 Curglassan, Co. Tyrone.
332 Loughry, Co. Tyrone.
333 Ballykilroe, Co. Westmeath.
334 Barretstown, Co. Westmeath.
335 Crookedwood, Co. Westmeath.
336 Greatdown, Co. Westmeath.
337 Rackavra, Co. Westmeath.
338 Killicloon More, Co. Wexford.
339 Haylands, Co. Wicklow.
340 Kelsumore, Co. Wicklow.
341 Knockanree Lower, Co. Wicklow.
342 Merginstown, Co. Wicklow.
343 No locality 27.
344 No locality 28.
345 Syonan, Co. Westmeath.

See 214.

RIBBED BOWLS — VARIANT

346 Ballykale, Co. Wexford.
347 Killicloon More, Co. Wexford.
348 Coolnakilly, Co. Wicklow.
349 No locality 26.

ANOMALOUS BOWLS

350 Armoy, Co. Antrim.
351 Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim.
352 Cloggy, Co. Cavan.
353 Derries Upper, Co. Cavan.
354 Kilmacthan, Co. Derry.
355 Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.
356 Jamestown, Co. Dublin.
357 Cush, Co. Limerick.
358 Keeneo, Co. Meath.
359 Ballyglass, Co. Roscommon.
360 Drumhonish, Co. Tyrone.
361 Stranagawilly, Co. Tyrone.
362 Harristown, Co. Waterford.
363 Redmondstown, Co. Westmeath.
364 No locality 58.
365 No locality 75.

See 295.

UNCLASSIFIABLE BOWLS

366 Kells, Co. Antrim.
367 Moneen, Co. Cork.
368 Moneen, Co. Cork.
369 Cloghskeet, Co. Down.
370 Greenhills, Co. Dublin.
371 Kilhoyle, Co. Derry.
TRIPARTITE VASES

389 Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim.
390 Craigywarren, Co. Antrim.
391 Curran, Co. Antrim.
392 Kilmakee, Co. Antrim.
393 Galgorm Parks, Co. Antrim.
394 No locality 39.
395 Glenavy, Co. Antrim.
396 Glenavy, Co. Antrim.
397 Magheraboy, Co. Antrim.
398 Gortnagarn, Co. Tyrone.
399 Broughshane, Co. Antrim.
400 Churchfield, Co. Antrim.
401 Co. Antrim.
402 Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow.
403 Co. Carlow.
404 Termon, Co. Cavan.
405 Aghacross, Co. Cork.
406 Ballyenahan North, Co. Cork.
407 Coolcarron (Carn Thierna), Co. Cork.
408 Coolhill, Co. Cork.
408A Glenacunna, Co. Tipperary.
409 Labbamolaga, Co. Cork.
410 Co. Derry.
411 Cumber, Co. Derry.
412 Bunnamayne, Co. Donegal.
413 Bunnamayne, Co. Donegal.
414 Mullaghpeep, Co. Donegal.
415 Tievebane, Co. Donegal.
416 Cloghskelt, Co. Down.
417 Cloghskelt, Co. Down.
418 Comber, Co. Down.
419 Comber, Co. Down.
420 Newry (‘Glenville’), Co. Down.
421 Greenhills, Co. Dublin.
422 Greenhills, Co. Dublin.
423 Greenhills, Co. Dublin.
424 Jamesstown, Co. Dublin.
425 Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh.
426 Mullyknock (Topped Mt.), Co. Fermanagh.
427 Coolmore, Co. Kilkenny.
428 Coolmore, Co. Kilkenny (unclassifiable vase).
429 Ballyogan, Co. Sligo.
430 Corkragh (Kilskeery), Co. Tyrone.
431 Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone.
432 Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone.
433 Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone.
434 Bishopstown, Co. Waterford.
435 Bishopstown, Co. Waterford (bipartite vase).
436 Bishopstown, Co. Waterford.
437 Ballyduff, Co. Wexford.
438 Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford.
439 Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford (bipartite vase).
440 Scarawalsh, Co. Wexford.
441 Tykille, Co. Wexford.
442 Ballinglen, Co. Wicklow.
443 Clonsheannon, Co. Wicklow.
444 Tuckmill Lower, Co. Wicklow.
445 No locality 23.
446 No locality 33.

BIPARTITE VASES

447 Ballygalley, Co. Antrim.
448 Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim.
449 Ballymena, Co. Antrim.
450 Ballywillin, Co. Antrim.
451 Ballywillin, Co. Antrim.
452 Moylarg, Co. Antrim.
453 Lisburn, Co. Antrim.
454 Toberagney (Lyles Hill), Co. Antrim.
455 Toberagney (Lyles Hill), Co. Antrim.
456 Toberagney (Lyles Hill), Co. Antrim.
457 Tullywinny, Co. Armagh.
458 Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow.
459 Balloon Hill, Co. Carlow.
460 Balloon Hill, Co. Carlow.
461 Balloon Hill, Co. Carlow.
462 Balloon Hill, Co. Carlow.
463 Balloon Hill, Co. Carlow.
464 Balloon Hill, Co. Carlow.
465 Balloon Hill, Co. Carlow.
466 Balloon Hill, Co. Carlow.
467 Ballyhacket Upper, Co. Carlow.
468 Ballymurphy, Co. Carlow.
469 Drumanespick, Co. Cavan.
470 Termon, Co. Cavan.
471 Termon, Co. Cavan.
472 Ballynahow, Co. Cork.
473 Ballynahow, Co. Cork.
474 Bealick, Co. Cork.
475 Castlehyde, Co. Cork.
476 Ballyarr, Co. Donegal.
477 Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal.
478 Bredagh Glen, Co. Donegal.
479 Bredagh Glen, Co. Donegal.
480 Bredagh Glen, Co. Donegal.
481 Carnaghan, Co. Donegal.
482 Killyceiman, Co. Donegal.
483 Moville, Co. Donegal.
484 Ballywilliam, Co. Down.
485 Ballywilliam, Co. Down (unclassifiable vase).
486 Ballywilliam, Co. Down (unclassifiable vase).
487 Ballyvester, Co. Down.
488 Cloghskelet, Co. Down.
489 Cloghskelet, Co. Down.
490 Cloghskelet, Co. Down.
491 Cloghskelet, Co. Down.
492 Cloghskelet, Co. Down.
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501 Cloghskelet, Co. Down.
502 Cloghskelet, Co. Down.
503 Cloghskelet, Co. Down.
504 Comber, Co. Down.
505 Comber, Co. Down.
506 Drumkaw, Co. Down.
507 Katesbridge, Co. Down.
508 Magheralin, Co. Down.
509 Mount Stewart, Co. Down.
510 Neill’s Hill, Co. Down.
511 Co. Down.
512 Glassamucky, Co. Dublin.
513 Annaghkeen, Co. Galway.
514 Annaghkeen, Co. Galway.
515 Carrowntober, Co. Galway.
516 Carrowntober East, Co. Galway.
517 Cloghroak, Co. Galway.
518 Cloghroak, Co. Galway.
519 Corrandrum, Co. Galway.
520 Cave, Co. Galway.
521 Gortnahown, Co. Galway.
522 Headford, Co. Galway.
523 Kilcornan, Co. Galway.
524 Kilcornan, Co. Galway.
525 Moyveela, Co. Galway.
526 Ower, Co. Galway.
527 Oldtown, Co. Kildare.
528 Tipper South, Co. Kildare.
529 Tipper South, Co. Kildare.
530 Ballyoskill, Co. Kilkenny.
531 Ballyoskill, Co. Kilkenny.
532 Ballyoskill, Co. Kilkenny.
533 Blanchneldsbog, Co. Kilkenny.
534 Blanchneldsbog, Co. Kilkenny.
535 Blanchneldsbog, Co. Kilkenny.
536 Coolrange (Freestone Hill), Co. Kilkenny.
537 Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny.
538 Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny.
539 Moviera, Co. Kilkenny.
540 Dunamase, Co. Laois.
541 Cush, Co. Limerick.
542 Cush, Co. Limerick.
543 Oaktate, Co. Louth.
544 Oaktate, Co. Louth.
545 Oaktate, Co. Louth.
546 Ballincha, Co. Mayo.
547 Ballincha, Co. Mayo.
548 Ballincha, Co. Mayo.
549 Ballivyma, Co. Mayo.
550 Carrowlisdoo, Co. Mayo.
551 Cashel, Co. Mayo.
552 Kinard, Co. Mayo.
553 Knock (Nymphsfield), Co. Mayo.
554 Letterken, Co. Mayo.
555 Letterken, Co. Mayo.
556 Letterken, Co. Mayo.
557 Letterken, Co. Mayo.
558 Stonepark, Co. Mayo.
559 Forthknoxx (II), Co. Meath.
560 Tara (Castleboy townland), Co. Meath.
561 Nevinstown, Co. Meath.
562 Moanmore, Co. Tipperary.
563 Lackpatrick, Co. Tyrone.
564 Lackpatrick, Co. Tyrone.
565 Ballynamult, Co. Waterford.
566 Corbally Beg, Co. Waterford.
567 Ring, Co. Waterford.
568 Ballybrennan, Co. Westmeath.
569 Edmondstown, Co. Westmeath.
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<td>Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow.</td>
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<td>622</td>
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<td>Crouck (Dun Ruadh), Co. Tyrone?</td>
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<td>See 428, 485 and 486.</td>
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<td>638</td>
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<td>No locality 97.</td>
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<td>See 435 and 439.</td>
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<td>See 166 and 167.</td>
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CHAPTER I

HISTORY OF RESEARCH

The number of urns, containing incinerated bones of men or the lower animals, which have, from time to time, been discovered in Ireland, either as the result of accident, treasure-seeking, or to gratify idle curiosity, is very great; but unhappily, the majority of them have been destroyed. They have been found singly in small kists, or stone chambers, beneath the surface of the ground, or aggregated, generally in earthen mounds ...'. So began William Wilde's short and remarkably accurate account of Bronze Age burial practices and pottery in his pioneering Catalogue of the Antiquities ... in the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy published in 1857. He continued: 'it is difficult to form an unexceptionable classification of mortuary urns, according to size, shape, or ornamentation; and except where other objects besides bones are found therein, such as metallic weapons, etc., anything like a chronological arrangement of them would be impossible.' Wilde did not attempt to adapt Richard Colt Hoare's classification of British pottery published over forty years previously. In his Ancient History of Wilshire (1812), the latter had divided these prehistoric vessels, on the basis of presumed function, into cinerary urns, drinking cups and incense cups. Fourteen years after Wilde, John Thurnam (1871) adopted Bateman's term 'food vessel' and four classes - drinking cup, food vessel, cinerary urn and incense cup - now formed the basis for his detailed study of Bronze Age funerary pottery. Thurnam had examined the pottery in the collection of the Royal Irish Academy in 1870, and was familiar with the Welsh and Scottish, as well as the English, material. Although he recognised regional differences in form and ornament, these play no major part in his classification. Their insular nature was also appreciated: R. A. Smith (1910) remarked that the food vessel did not correspond to any known continental form and suggested that the bowls known from Scotland and Ireland had evolved from the Neolithic bowl. He thought the Irish bowls were an intermediate type between the Neolithic forms and the taller conical food vessels frequently found in eastern England and elsewhere. A new era in the study of the Bronze Age of Britain and Ireland began with Abercromby's two-volume Bronze Age Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland. His 1912 classification marks the real commencement of the typological analysis of insular Bronze Age pottery.

Food vessels, the bowls and vases of this study, were so named because it was believed that they were intended to contain an offering of food. As Bateman (1861, 279) had remarked, they were 'usually found with unburnt bodies but not in-frequently with burnt bones, though never containing them.' Abercromby's classification of food vessels was based exclusively on variations in form. In Britain, south of the river Tweed, he distinguished six major types, some of which were also to be found in Scotland and Ireland where, however, he identified five other types, for the most part various forms of bowl. The elegant shape and profuse decoration of some of these bowls inspired him to observe that 'the small native women, sometimes under 5ft. high, who made these little vessels had certainly a fine sense of form and a delicate perception of the beauty of curved forms. The care and precision with which the ornament was effected, and the richness of the effect produced by simple means may excite our admiration.' Coffey (1913), too, admired these highly decorated pots and thought the simple, almost hemispherical bowl to be the earliest form and a development from the Neolithic bowl. He also believed that the name food vessel was hardly appropriate in Ireland where some of these small pots had been found containing cremated bones and serving the purpose of cinerary urns. This dual use, as supposed receptacle for food as well as container for some of the bones of the dead, was noted by Macalister (1921) in a short survey of form and ornament.

In his 1935 Prehistory of Scotland, Childe presented an elaborate, though essentially three-fold, classification of Irish and Scottish food vessels. In the following year, in a much simpler scheme offered to the Blackpool meeting of the British Association, Miss Lily Chitty distinguished two basic types in Britain and Ireland: the Irish Bowl and the English (or Yorkshire) Vase (Chitty 1939, 277, fn.). Thereafter, as Savory (1957, 197) noted,
there was 'a growing realisation of the regional specialization of Food vessel types' – both in Britain and Ireland. Their relative rarity in southern Britain is well known and was first clearly shown in the general distribution map published by Cyril Fox in 1932. Later pottery studies, such as those by Patchett (1944, 1950) in Cornwall, Musson (1954) in Sussex, Smedley and Owles (1962) in Suffolk, and Calkin (1962) in the Bournemouth area, have confirmed this southern scarcity. In contrast, regional studies such as Kitson Clark (1937) on the 'Yorkshire Vase', Young (1951) on the 'Tripartite Bowl' in Scotland and Ireland, Manby (1957) on the vases of the Peak District, Savory (1957) on the food vessels of Wales, Simpson (1965) in southwestern Scotland, ApSimon (1969) in the north of Ireland and Gibson (1978) and Pierpoint (1980) in north-eastern England, have all shown the popularity of these vessels in parts of northern England, Scotland and Ireland.

In a general study concerned primarily with origins and development, ApSimon (1958) distinguished four major regional groups: Irish Bowls, Yorkshire Vases, Irish Vases, and Southern English food vessels. Later (1972) he hesitated to distinguish so sharply between Southern English food vessels and Yorkshire Vases. In effect, ApSimon's general classification was adopted by Simpson (1965) in his study of this pottery type in southwestern Scotland where he noted Irish Vases, Irish Bowls, Yorkshire Vases, and an ill-defined group of vessels which he called 'Beaker Food vessels'. In 1968, Simpson published a useful summary of the dating evidence for Irish Bowls and Vases, and Yorkshire Vases. He also noted two main forms of Irish bowl: smooth profiled pots in some cases with a medial constriction and ridged bowls including tripartite examples. ApSimon's 1969 study of the earlier Bronze Age in the north of Ireland included an important revision of his food vessel classification. The Irish Vase became the Irish-Scottish Vase because of Simpson's identification of a few examples in Scotland. Of greater significance, however, was ApSimon's recognition that certain types of cinerary urn were sufficiently closely related to certain types of food vessel to merit their inclusion in one general category. He grouped Irish Vases and certain vase urns and encrusted urns together to form a general Irish-Scottish Vase and Urn group, the urns being differentiated from the vases mainly by their size and, to a lesser degree, by their function. His Irish Bowl group remained more or less intact, a small number of urn-sized vessels with Irish Bowl features being added to it. Pots in the north of Ireland related to the Yorkshire Vase were assigned to a separate category along with typologically related cinerary urns. ApSimon called this category the Food Vessel group and he suggested that the urn-sized vessels of this group be named Food Vessel Urns, a term adopted by Gibson (1978) and Cowie (1978). ApSimon's reorganisation of the various food vessel and urn types was an attempt to resolve the problem of the relationship of certain urn and food vessel types to one another and was a major contribution to a better understanding of this question. In the past, when it was generally believed that cinerary urns post-dated food vessels, any typological resemblances between the two pottery classes could be conveniently explained in various ways. The appearance of 'enlarged food vessels' (or vase urns), for example, was explained by Childe (1947, 148) in simple terms: 'Food Vessel communities were, in fact, simply absorbed into the Urn societies'. The realisation, in the 1960s, that various types of urn and food vessel seemed to be broadly contemporary (Burgess 1969) made it inevitable that the cultural significance of some of these different pottery types, so often expressed in terms such as 'Food Vessel people' and 'Urn folk', should be questioned. ApSimon, in 1969, had no hesitation in rejecting encrusted urns as 'a culturally significant class'. Kavanagh (1973) did not agree, however, believing that 'the very real distinction in burial rite between Urons on the one hand and Food Vessels on the other ... surely has important cultural connotations'. Waddell (1976) agreed with ApSimon that the typological and chronological evidence justified the inclusion of some urns and food vessels in the one category but expressed some reservations about the use of the name food vessel. Because this name obscured the typological differences between bowls and vases and because these pots, far from containing identifiable food remains, have sometimes contained burnt human bones, he favoured the discarding of a terminology based on assumed function. On the basis of pottery typology, a Bowl Tradition and a broad Vase Tradition were defined and ApSimon's scheme modified accordingly. The Bowl Tradition comprised several forms of bowl, the various forms being much the same as those identified by Burgess (1974). The Vase Tradition comprised various forms of vase, vase urn (the 'enlarged food vessel'
or 'food vessel urn' of other writers) and encrusted urn. A corpus of the encrusted urns of the Vase Tradition has been published by Kavanagh (1973) who (1977) has also included some miniature bowls and vessels in a corpus of 'pygmy cups'. General problems of chronology have been examined by Harbison (1969) and Brindley (1980).

Abercromby's 1912 corpus of insular Bronze Age pottery contained illustrations of 120 bowls and vessels from Ireland. The present corpus contains references to about 700 finds of which 98 have no details of circumstances or location of discovery recorded. The remainder come from funerary, ritual and domestic contexts and some 647 pottery vessels from certain or presumptive burials are illustrated. Various references in the archaeological literature to small pots of unknown type from graves are not included here. Many, if not all, of these may have been bowls or vases, e.g. Killegig, Co. Carlow, O'Brien's Bridge, Co. Clare, Balbybinabber, Co. Donegal, Ballinasconrey, Co. Dublin, Duninga, Co. Kilkenny, Macreary, Co. Tipperary, Lisnakinl, Co. Waterford, Sranecg, Co. Westmeath, and Ballyknockan, Co. Wicklow; they are listed in Waddell (1970) or (1990).

**Terminology**

Following Waddell (1976) the term 'food vessel' will be used as little as possible, the terms 'bowl' and 'vase' being preferred whenever feasible. 'Cinerary urn' is also avoided, the term 'urn' being used of specific types of large vessel, such as vase urn or cordoned urn, be they from settlement or funerary context. The slyly name 'pygmy cup' is abandoned too, the terms 'miniature bowl' or 'miniature vase', or simply 'cup', will be used where appropriate.

The terms adopted to describe the principal decorative techniques employed are conventional: 'comb-impressed decoration' consists of lines of small rectangular or square impressions executed with a toothed implement, as on the elegant bowl from Dunamase, Co. Laois (Plate 5, 163). The so-called combs used were in all probability dentated pieces of bone with only rudimentary teeth. Several examples are known from prehistoric Europe including one from Gwithian in Cornwall (Clarke 1970, Vol. 1, 10, fig. 1:6). Very fine comb impressions, made with an implement with very narrow rectangular teeth, occur on pots from Killycarrney, Co. Cavan (275), and Grange, Co. Roscommon (49). On the latter vessel they are approximately 0.5mm wide. Occasionally impressed lines were faintly executed or made with an implement with irregular, sparse or poorly fashioned teeth: this is the case with the vertical lines on a bowl from Fourknocks II, Co. Meath (Plate 6, 171), which contrast sharply with the better fashioned horizontal lines on the same pot. On Carrickinab, Co. Down (Plate 7, 145), two different sizes of comb were used, the larger just below the rim and on the base. Terms such as 'rouletting' and 'cog-wheel' impressions are misleading.

False relief decoration was described by Abercromby (1912, Vol. 1, 135) as 'produced by pressing with a triangular-headed slip of wood or bone in such a way as to produce a bar-chesson false relief, as the clay surrounding the motif had been pressed down... In some instances the triangular head is very much rounded as if the thumb-nail had been used instead of a slip of wood. But the principle is always the same – the motive had to stand out in apparent, though not real, relief'. Here, the term 'false relief' embraces various motifs, including the chevron, produced by impressing a triangular pointed implement or a rounded spatula into the wet clay. A neatly executed false relief chevron is to be seen on the Dunamase bowl (Plate 5, 163) and a saltire motif on the Fourknocks II pot (Plate 6, 171). On a number of vessels, such as Vermount, Co. Carlow (274), Grange, Co. Roscommon (Plate 1, 94), and Gortin, Co. Tyrone (196) the triangular impressions of a false relief design were made with an implement with one toothed side.

Incised decoration requires no explanation but the term may include both narrow and broad incised (or grooved) lines as on Lagnagroag, Co. Wicklow (Plate 8, 580). It is not always possible to distinguish between some incised and some impressed short line motifs, as, for example, on the vases from Corballinge, Co. Waterford (Plate 9, 566), and Bredagh Glen, Co. Donegal (Plate 9, 478).

Cord impressed decoration is used in various ways: the simplest form is twisted cord ornament in which two thongs or cords are twisted together and, when impressed in unfired clay, produce a row of short, closely-set, oblique impressions usually somewhat lentoid in shape. Coarse twisted cord ornament occurs on a bowl with no recorded provenance (Plate 10, 30). In some coarse cord impressions it is possible to detect, in individual marks, the several strands of the cord. This is not always possible and in some cases the term 'cord'
may be a misnomer (though retained here for convenience) – sinew, gut or animal hair conceivably being used. This is well illustrated in what is commonly called whipped cord ornament. In this decorative technique the impressions are made by whipping or binding a stamp of some description (or a thong or cord) with another cord or thread to produce a series of narrow, closely-set, parallel and usually elongated marks. Terms such as ‘milled lines’ and ‘maggot impressions’ have been used by some to describe this technique. Again in some cases where a coarse cord has been used, the several strands of the cord are visible as on the bowl from Banagher, Co. Cavan (Plate 11, 79), where cord was clearly wound around a short stamp of some sort. A finer thread or cord was whipped round two different stamps on a vase from Ballywilliam, Co. Down (Plate 10, 484). Very fine whipped cord occurs on a vase from Greenhills, Co. Dublin (Plate 11, 421). The narrow impressions on a bowl from Keenoge, Co. Meath (Plate 12, 51), were made with a stamp whipped with a very fine hard fibre, perhaps something like horse-hair. It is not clear what produced the vertical lines of impressions on a bowl from Killinagh, Co. Cavan (Plate 13, 37): perhaps a leather thong was whipped round a flexible stamp.

Plaited cord is so infrequent as to barely deserve mention here; this is the ‘laurel pattern’ or ‘three-cord plait’ of Abercromby (1907, 227) and Patchett (1944), and the plaited cord of Longworth (1984, 8). It occurs on one, or possibly two, vases from Co. Antrim (397 and 401) and another from Greenhills, Co. Dublin (Plate 11, 421).

The term ‘reserved ornament’ refers to a decorative design which incorporates plain, or reserved, areas, usually of lozenge, triangular or chevron form. Reserved lozenges, for example, are a prominent element in the decoration of a vase from Glenavy, Co. Antrim (Plate 14, 395), and another from Gortnagarn, Co. Tyrone (Plate 14, 398). Other decorative techniques are fairly rare: shell edge impressions are to be found on bowls from Mount Stewart, Co. Down (Plate 15, 284), and Rubane, Co. Down (8), and roughly circular impressions are prominent on a vase from Stonepark, Co. Mayo (Plate 15, 558), and on another with no locality (446), for instance.
CHAPTER 2

THE BOWL TRADITION

The pottery of the Bowl Tradition comprises, in the main, several forms of highly decorated, handmade, bowls usually varying from about 8cm to 15cm in height and about 11cm to 17cm in external rim diameter. The whole of the exterior is almost always decorated with impressed and incised designs, and bases and rim bevles occasionally bear decoration too. Simple geometric motifs are employed in horizontal zones and designs impressed with a toothed implement ('comb ornament') and with a triangular-pointed or spatulate implement ('false relief') are very common. Other decorative techniques occasionally occur.

Bowls are known mainly from funerary contexts but fragments have also been found on possible habitation sites and ritual sites. All finds are listed alphabetically in Part 2 by county and by townland name where possible, with bibliographical references. Material from possible habitation sites is not plentiful. A few sherds of bowl were reportedly associated with the faint remains of two, possibly rectangular, structures and a hearth on Coney Island in Lough Neagh, Co. Armagh. Sherds also come from possible settlements on Dalkey Island, Co. Dublin, at Lough Enagh, Co. Derry, Lough Gur, Co. Limerick, and Ballynagilly, Co. Tyrone. Fragments from various northern sandhill sites may, in some cases at least, reflect seasonal settlement. Such sites include Ballintoy and Whitepark Bay, Co. Antrim, Castlerock and Portstewart, Co. Derry, Magheragall, Co. Down, and Ballykinlar and Dundrum, Co. Down. Fragments of bowl come from what seem to be ritual contexts in a ring-ditch at Urbaileagh, Co. Antrim, a stone circle at Grange (Lough Gur), Co. Limerick, and a possible ritual site at Rathiodan, Co. Limerick.

Bowls are most frequently recorded from funerary contexts. A small number have been found in or associated with megalithic tombs but the great majority come from cist and pit graves. Examples from court tombs are few: the bowl from Audleys-town, Co. Down, is one certain find, and the lost pot, apparently with a pedestal base, found in the eighteenth century in Annacloghmullia, Co. Armagh (639), was possibly a bowl with a drum-shaped base like that from Cumber, Co. Derry (Plate 22, 130).

The excavators of the portal tomb at Clonlum, Co. Armagh, thought a small sherd found there to be a 'food vessel' but the fragment is unclassifiable. However, one of half a dozen cists just south and south-west of the portal tomb of Aghnaskeagh A, Co. Louth, produced a bowl. Here as elsewhere, a Neolithic monument was to serve as a cemetery in the Bronze Age.

Bowl (and vase) associations with passage tombs were examined by B. Ó Riordáin (1968). Bowls have been found accompanying secondary burials in the covering mound and complete and fragmentary pots from within some tombs apparently accompanied intrusive burials. A lost bowl from Waringstown, Co. Down, found in the seventeenth century, seems to have been found in a cist-like structure in a passage tomb. A bowl and a cremation were found on a slab which horizontally divided one of the transepts of a passage tomb on Belmore Mountain (Moylehrid townland), Co. Fermanagh; a second bowl was found in a cist in the covering cairn. Bowls and crouched skeletons are reported from the passage tomb in the 'Mound of the Hostages' at Tara, Co. Meath. Bowl sherds come from the cruciform tomb Cairn H in the Loughcrew (Sliaabh na Caillighe) cemetery in Newtown townland, Co. Meath.

It has been claimed that a bowl from Barnasrathy, Co. Sligo, was found in passage tomb no. 63 in the Carrowmore cemetery, but evidence is lacking. However, a few small sherds of probable bowl were found here in cruciform passage tomb no. 32. A bowl was found on the floor of the main chamber of one of the Carrowkeel tombs (Cairn K). Another megalithic grave in this cemetery (Cairn O) also contained a bowl. Other bowl finds associated with passage tombs include those from Donaghinnacle, Co. Tyrone, Fourknocks I, Co. Meath, Rush, Co. Dublin, Carriglong and Harris-town, Co. Waterford.

Bowls have been discovered in or associated with a number of wedge tombs. Two were found in the Loughash (Cashelbane) tomb in Co. Tyrone and were considered to be secondary deposits by the excavators. Sherds of the one bowl were found
in the chamber and in the cairn of a tomb at Kilhoyle, Co. Derry. Fragments of a small bowl were discovered, apparently associated with sherds of late beakers, in a wedge tomb at Laghantea, also in Co. Derry. Sherds of beaker and bowl were associated in the Lough Gur wedge tomb, Co. Limerick. Two bowls were found in secondary cists in or near the cairn of a wedge tomb at Kilmashogue, Co. Dublin. The sherds said to look like 'food vessel' from the Labbacallee, Co. Cork, wedge tomb are, in fact, unclassifiable. The majority of funerary bowls have been found in cists or in pit graves and these will be considered below.

On the basis of variations in form and ornament, four major bowl groups may be identified: (1) simple and bipartite bowls, (2) necked bipartite bowls, (3) tripartite bowls, and (4) ribbed bowls. This is a modification of the classification proposed by Waddell (1976). Only in a very small number of cases is this classification inapplicable or problematic. Those very rare instances, for example, in which it seems difficult to distinguish between a necked bipartite and a tripartite bowl (or indeed between a tripartite and a bipartite vase) are both an illustration of the relationship between the forms in question and, of course, an indication of the inevitable imperfection of classification systems of this sort. The relationship between other bowl forms such as simple and bipartite is revealed by certain shared decorative traits (below) and other related groups may also be identified (p. 52).

**SIMPLE AND BIPARTITE BOWLS**

Simple bowls (1–23) are small, well-made bowls with a smooth, curving, convex profile and inbent rims with a diameter less than the greatest diameter of the body (Fig. 1, 16 and 19). Usually 8 to 10cm high, they rarely exceed the latter figure. Rims are rounded or simply bevelled, the latter are occasionally decorated. Bases are flat or very slightly concave and they too are occasionally decorated.

The decoration on the exteriors of these pots is quite distinctive: it principally consists of two broad horizontal zones of the same motif usually separated by one or more horizontal grooves or one or two narrow zones of simple ornament. This division between the two major decorative zones is usually a little below the greatest diameter of the vessel. One more narrow zone of minor decora-
tion, perhaps just simple grooving, may occur above the major upper zone and just below the rim, and below the lower major zone and just above the base. On over half the bowls of this form, the two major decorative zones consist of a similar broad horizontal row of vertical lines. This motif may be incised or grooved as on Cabraugh, Co. Monaghan (Fig. 1, 16), and no locality 84 (22), but is usually impressed; it may be executed with an impressed piece of cord, coarsely twisted as on Mount Stewart, Co. Down (7), and whipped cord or fibre as on Co. Galway (11). More commonly, however, this vertical motif is comb-impressed as on 'Mountfield', Co. Tyrone (Fig. 1, 19). It may be delimited by horizontal lines or a horizontal row of triangular or arc-shaped impressions forming false relief. Other motifs to occur in these paired major zones include horizontal lines, impressed ovals or circles on Rubane, Co. Down (8), and made with a shell edge, and various impressed reserved designs mainly formed by opposed triangles and similar motifs as on Loughflown, Co. Antrim (3), no locality 94 (23) and Hartwell Upper, Co. Kildare (13). A design of reserved lozenges occurs on a bowl from Grange, Co. Roscommon (17). While horizontal lines were comb-impressed or incised, the rest of these designs were, for the most part, executed in characteristic fashion with comb impressions and false relief. Minor decorative motifs on these bowls occur in narrow zones, always narrower and sometimes half the width of major zones. The motifs consist mainly of short lines or lattice motifs of comb impressions or various forms of star or cruciform motif on the base. A series of concentric grooves occurs on the base of the Loughflown bowl (3).

Aside from a simple bowl from the Portstewart, Co. Derry, sandhills and an example from the wedge tomb at Loughash, Co. Tyrone, most if not all of the others presumably came from cist or pit graves. About ten are recorded as coming from cists but Hartwell Upper, Co. Kildare, may have come from a pit, and the absence of bones noted in several instances may imply decayed unburnt burials. Mention of a skull at Loughflown suggests an unburnt burial. A number of cremations are known: a bowl from Grange, Co. Roscommon, accompanied a cremation in a short rectangular cist in a cemetery mound. A bowl from Moylehaid (Belmore Mountain), Co. Fermangh, was also found with a cremation in a short rectangular cist; here, however, the cist was a secondary grave in the cairn of a passage tomb. In Oldbridge, Co. Meath, one compartment of a double cist is said to have contained the teeth of two adult males and a simple bowl (the other compartment contained the teeth of a female and a jet necklace).

The distribution of this form of bowl is a scattered one (Fig. 2) but predominantly in the northern half of the country. Except for the one from Grange, Co. Roscommon, one from Co. Galway, and one from southern Co. Kilkenny, these pots are found north and north-east of a line from Kilkala to Dublin. Two of the four unprovenanced simple bowls (no locality 1 and 61) are likely to have come from the north of Ireland.

A number of vessels seem to be variants of this bowl type. Five are simple bowls with straight or concave necks (24–28) and three of these, at least, bear the characteristic paired major zones of ornament. Three other pots (29–31) also seem to be versions of the simple bowl.

The name bipartite bowl is applied to small, well-made, vessels with a noticeable constriction in the external profile at or immediately below mid-height (32–51, 53–72). This narrowing just at or about the greatest diameter of the pot produces a characteristic bi-convex external profile (Fig. 1, 55 and 59) and only rarely is it difficult to distinguish between a possible bipartite bowl such as Ballysader, Co. Sligo (56), with minimal constriction, and simple bowls like Cabraugh, Co. Monaghan (Fig. 1, 16), with a narrow median groove. Pots such as these reflect the close relationship between the two forms. Like simple bowls, the rims of bipartite bowls are inbent and rim diameters are always less than the greatest width of the vessel. Heights rarely exceed 10cm by more than a few millimetres. A bipartite bowl from Mount Stewart, Co. Down (44), is exceptional with a height of about 12.3cm. Here, as on a minority of these bowls, the constriction affects the internal profile. Rims are usually simply bevelled and a majority are decorated. Rounded rims occur, for example, on Keenoge, Co. Meath (51), and Mount Stewart, Co. Down (44). Bases are flat or slightly concave and occasionally decorated. The decoration on a number of simple and bipartite bowls from Counties Antrim and Down suggests a stylistic subgroup (Fig. 28, p. 64).

This bowl form shares the distinctive decorative style noted on simple bowls: two major zones of similar ornament occur, one above and one below the constriction which itself may contain a narrow
Fig. 2. Distribution of simple bowls and bipartite bowls, and variants.
zone of ornament. One or more narrow minor zones may also occur just below the rim and above the base. The pair of major decorative zones on a majority of the pots of this type consist of a broad horizontal row of vertical lines. These lines are of false relief and comb impressions on the fine bowl from Mount Stewart, Co. Down (Plate 19, 43). The profile of, and the design of vertical lines on, a relatively tall vessel, over 14cm high, from Donaghahan, Co. Tyrone (73), indicate some relationship with bipartite bowls such as Mount Stewart (44), and this variant serves as a reminder that the makers of the bipartite type may have manufactured a range of pottery shapes and sizes. In general whipped cord lines, incised lines and comb-impressed lines are of almost equal popularity. Other motifs in these paired major zones include a few reserved motifs: two contrasting forms are illustrated by Connor, Co. Antrim (33) and Crouck, Co. Tyrone (59); some incised motifs and various motifs in false relief with comb impressions (see 42, 45, 46, 62, etc.) also occur. Minor decorative motifs (including those in the constriction) consist mainly of short line motifs in comb or whipped cord, horizontal lines in these techniques as well as incision, and chevrons in false relief.

Basal decoration includes cruciform designs as well as circles of comb, whipped cord, and triangular impressions, and star-shaped motifs.

Some details of burial rite have been recorded in only about a dozen cases. A bowl from Loughash, Co. Tyrone, comes from a wedge tomb and one from Donaghahan, Co. Tyrone, was possibly found in a cist in a passage tomb mound, with burnt bones. A majority of bipartite bowls seem to have come from cists and to have accompanied cremated bones. Two, from the one short rectangular cist in the Grange, Co. Roscommon, cemetery mound, were discovered before excavation and, according to the finder, were both placed mouth upwards, one on top of the other and accompanying the burnt bones. A bowl from another short rectangular cist in this mound was also placed mouth upwards accompanying cremated bones. However, another bowl from Grange was found with an unburnt burial in a cist and this rite is also reported from a flat cemetery at Brownstown, Co. Kildare (a pit grave). A bipartite bowl from the flat cemetery at Keentoge, Co. Meath, was found in a pit grave with a paved floor; it stood mouth upwards behind the skull of a crouched skeleton. A second bowl of the necked bipartite type was found in this grave at the lower back of the skeleton.

The distribution of bipartite bowls is a scattered one (Fig. 2) broadly corresponding to the distribution of simple bowls, i.e. mainly in the northern part of the country. Again six unlocalised bipartite bowls (no locality 3, 8, 54, 60, 67 and 92) in the Ulster Museum and in the Bell Collection in the Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, may well have come from the north. Two in the National Museum (no locality 10 and 19) may conceivably have had a more southerly provenance. Three variant bipartite bowls are preserved (73–75).

**Necked Bipartite Bowls**

Both simple and bipartite bowls have inbent rims and a convex or biconvex external profile. Necked bipartite bowls (52, 76–101) usually have, in part, a more or less biconvex profile with, however, the addition of a nearly vertical or slightly outward curving neck (Fig.1, 99 and 88). The degree of inversion of the upper body is not as marked as in simple and bipartite bowls and in most cases the rim diameter is only slightly less than the greatest diameter of the vessel. The constriction still occurs just below the mid-point of the vessel. The lower curve is usually as symmetrical as the upper. Occasionally, this symmetry is missing, e.g. Cloneen, Co. Kilkenny (91), Rush, Co. Dublin (Fig. 1, 88), Knockast, Co. Westmeath (100). These pots are fractionally taller, the great majority ranging from 10 to 12cm in height. Rims are usually simply bevelled and frequently decorated. Slightly rounded rims as on Knockast, Co. Westmeath (100), are rare. Bases are flat or slightly concave. Slightly drum-shaped bases, e.g. Killyree, Co. Antrim (76), and Taniyagan, Co. Derry (81), occur very occasionally. Just over half the bases are decorated.

The distinctive decorative style of a pair of horizontal zones of similar ornament, one above and the other below the constriction, is still the norm. These zones tend, however, to be narrower and, sometimes, of differing widths. The constriction usually contains a zone of ornament and one or two narrow zones (usually of horizontal or oblique lines) may occur above the base. Below the rim, the neck may bear a broad zone (or several narrow zones) of decoration: here horizontal lines of comb impressions and false relief chevrons are most common. The single most popular motif in the paired zones is a row of vertical comb-impressed lines sometimes delimited by a false relief chevron.
Variations on this paired design occur on several vessels, e.g. Rush, Co. Dublin (Fig. 1, 88), Dun gate, Co. Tyrone (97), Clonmore, Co. Kilkenny (91), etc. Other motifs used include filled triangles on Killyree, Co. Antrim (76), for example, and the comb impressions and long chevrons in false relief on Keenoge, Co. Meath (52), and Greenhills, Co. Dublin (Plate 12, 86), form, in effect, reserved designs. Reserved motifs are not particularly common, occurring on some half a dozen bowls. Other examples include Tamnyegan, Co. Derry (81), Blackhill, Co. Kildare (90), Rush, Co. Dublin (Fig. 1, 88), and Dun gate, Co. Tyrone (98). A decorative variant on Chapelizod, Co. Dublin (84), consists of multiple narrow zones: each major zone comprises three narrow zones of more or less equal width - lines of comb impressions flanked by false relief chevrons.

Basal decoration includes circles of arc-shaped impressions, star-shaped and cruciform motifs, and, on one bowl from Knockast, Co. Westmeath (100), a series of concentric grooves.

Sherds of a bowl from Knockiveagh, Co. Down, were associated with a disturbed secondary cremation in a Neolithic cairn and three other bowls also came from Neolithic monuments: Baunogena- sraid, Co. Carlow, Chapelizod and Rush, Co. Dublin. The majority of bowls were found in cists and cremated and unburnt burial seem to have been of more or less equal popularity. Few details are recorded but the Knockast, Co. Westmeath, bowl had been placed mouth upwards beside the cremated deposit and had itself contained some burnt bones. One bowl from a short rectangular cist in the cemetery mound at Grange, Co. Roscommon, was found lying on its side beside the burnt bones, and bowls from Cruinli, Co. Dublin, and Garvagh, Co. Tyrone, are each said to have contained burnt bones. One, from Vow, Co. Antrim, is said to have been discovered in an inverted position, some bone fragments being reported nearby.

Several unburnt burials are known. Rush, Co. Dublin, is poorly recorded. At Dun gate, Co. Tyrone, however, an approximately square cist contained the disarticulated unburnt bones of an adult male and a bowl with its mouth placed against the vault of the skull - an interesting juxtaposition considered to have been ‘clearly deliberate’. This cist also contained a few unburnt bones of a child and sherds of a second bowl of similar type. The Keenoge, Co. Meath, pit grave contained a crouched skeleton and two bowls, a bipartite bowl (51), mentioned above, was found near the skull and a second, necked bipartite, bowl (52) was found at the lower back. The latter is broadly comparable in form and ornament to the Greenhills, Co. Dublin, bowl (86). Finally, at Blackhill, Co. Kildare, a short rectangular cist held the crouched skeleton of a child, lying on its back, with a bowl at its feet.

The distribution of these bowls may be described, like that of simple and bipartite bowls, as a scattered but predominantly northern and eastern one (Fig. 3). However, unlike the other categories, these pots also display an interesting concentration in south Co. Dublin and an obvious scarcity in east Antrim and east Down. Two unprovenanced bowls (no locality 20 and 62) may originally have been found in northern parts. These two bowls and one from Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (102–104), may be variants of this bowl type.

**Tripartite Bowls**

Tripartite bowls were defined by Young (1951): 'in the series, which varies in height from 3 to 7 1/2 inches, the two horizontal mouldings are emphasised by ornament above and below, or by a pattern on the raised band, which may suggest that the form was traditionally important. The mouldings may be decorated by slanting stamped impressions, or lines of chevron pattern. Zones of approximately triangular impressions in false relief are frequent, or their derivative, the wide angle chevron [as on 143] made with a spatulate tool. The rim is straight, or very slightly everted, and usually decorated on the inner bevel. The chief characteristic of the group, apart from the tripartite form, is the rhythmic overall pattern, for which the same implement is often used in varying combinations'. Thirty-one vessels are illustrated by Young, fourteen from Ireland and seventeen from Scotland, and a distribution map records fifteen Irish examples and at least twenty-seven Scottish finds.

Young’s definition is adopted here with minor modification. These small bowls (105–165, 168–213, 215–261) have a pair of horizontal ribs or mouldings giving them an external tripartite profile (Fig. 4). The ribs usually delimit the widest part of the body of the vessel. They may be sufficiently widely spaced to divide the exterior into three broad zones or placed close enough together to give the impression of a shoulder groove (which may contain several perforate or imperfo-
Fig. 3. Distribution of necked bipartite bowls and variants.
rate lugs). Even with a tripartite form, there is still considerable variation in general shape and the range is best illustrated by internal profile which may be tripartite, bipartite or simple. Compare, for example, the profiles of Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone (Fig. 4, 192), Merginstown, Co. Wicklow (Fig. 4, 229), and Narney Demesne, Co. Kildare (Fig. 4, 159). Heights vary too but the great majority of bowls range from 10cm to about 15cm high. A small number fall below 10cm, e.g. Ballybrelan, Co. Wicklow (222), which is 8.4cm in height, Croaghan, Co. Donegal (138) is exceptional with a height of 17.8cm. Rims are usually simply bevelled and decorated, and occasionally slightly out-turned; a small number are undecorated and a few are flat. Bases are usually flat, a small number are slightly concave. A few are somewhat drum-shaped, e.g. Cumber, Co. Derry (Plate 22, 131), and Gortnatraw South, Co. Donegal (140). A little over one-third of bases are decorated.

Some thirty-five tripartite bowls bear lugs and in all but three cases (145, 151 and 177) these straddle the zone at the widest part of the pot delimited by the pair of horizontal ribs. The majority of these lugs (on twenty-seven pots) are merely low, round, oval or sub-rectangular perforate bosses. Some were certainly applied, some may have been pinched-up; they are clearly skeumorphic. A majority are simply decorated with vertical, horizontal or oblique lines, usually comb-impressed. Four, or perhaps six, equally spaced lugs are commonest but a few pots have five, or more than six. Vessels such as Ploepuck, Co. Kildare (161), with eight, or Croaghan, Co. Donegal (138), with nine, are exceptional. A bowl from Edmondstown, Co. Dublin (Plate 7, 151) has fourteen small lugs or bosses, seven placed on each of the grooved horizontal ribs. Only a few bowls have perforated lugs,
usually four or six, e.g. Cumber, Co. Derry (130). Doubly-perforated lugs occur on Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone (193). The four on the bowl from Carrickinab, Co. Down (Plate 7, 145), are placed below the rim, as with the opposed pair on Keenoge, Co. Meath (177). The majority of lugged bowls come from the north (below).

The narrow horizontal grooving on the ribs of the Edmondstown, Co. Dublin bowl (Plate 7, 151), has been mentioned. Such grooving is rare; it occurs on the lower rib of a bowl from Malahide, Co. Dublin (153), and on both ribs on Crowinstown, Co. Westmeath (208), producing double ribs. On a bowl from Rathbennett, Co. Westmeath (213), broad grooving seems to produce the effect of two pairs of horizontal ribs.

The zonal decoration on the majority of tripartite bowls usually consists of a quite limited series of motifs repeated in various ways on the exterior. Multiple horizontal zones are popular and these are, in a majority of cases, grouped together into two or three major zones of similar overall design. The central zone is invariably delimited by the pair of horizontal ribs. This repetitive two- or three-fold design recalls, of course, the decorative styles of simple and bipartite bowls. It seems to be a little commoner than decorative schemes consisting simply of multiple narrow zones extending from rim to base. The horizontal ribs themselves are frequently emphasized with decoration, usually in the form of comb-impressed oblique lines or a chevron in false relief.

The principal decorative motifs employed are only four in number: parallel horizontal lines, false relief chevrons, vertical lines, and oblique lines (often forming a herring-bone motif). The first two are a little more frequent than the latter two. False relief chevrons often delimit the zone of horizontal, vertical or oblique lines. Aside from some reserved motifs found mainly on tripartite bowls in the east Midlands (below), motifs such as filled triangles and lozenges are rarely used. Reserved triangles and filled lozenges are the principal decorative motifs on a bowl from Co. Armagh (119).

The overall decoration of impressed arcs on Croaghan, Co. Donegal (139), is quite unusual, as is the twisted cord impressed decoration on Roxborough, Co. Armagh (116). Incised lines occur occasionally, as do whipped cord impressions, but comb impressions and false relief are by far the commonest decorative techniques. Two plain tripartite bowls are known: one from Crossakeel, Co. Meath (170), the other from Co. Wexford (221). Cruciform motifs and star-shaped designs are the commonest basal decoration. Other designs include circles of impressed arcs or triangles and, on a bowl from Nurney, Co. Kildare (159), an incised lattice. The associated pair of bowls from Gorticrurn Irish, Co. Tyrone (195 and 266), suggest that several vessels, some with incised ornament (e.g. 263–269) should be considered as tripartite bowl variants.

A tripartite bowl was found, apparently associated with cremated bones, in a megalithic tomb (O) in the Carrowkeel, Co. Sligo, passage tomb cemetery. Sherds of another and unburnt bones come from Audleystown court tomb, Co. Down. Two were found in a sandpit at Ballymacilroy, Co. Antrim, a few metres apart; both were inverted and no bones were recorded. Finds from contexts such as these are the exception. Where some of the circumstances of discovery are known (in only about 55% of cases) it is clear that the majority of tripartite bowls have been found in cists along with cremated or unburnt burials (both rites being of almost equal popularity). At Sandville, Co. Tyrone, the cist was of irregular plan, but most seem to have been short, rectangular examples, occasionally, as Keenoge, Co. Meath (Grave 6), of massive construction (Plate 26). Precise information about the position of the pot in the grave is rarely available but considerable variety of ritual detail is evident. In some cases the bowl seems to have been placed mouth upwards and to have accompanied the bones, e.g. Gorticrurn Irish, Co. Tyrone, Corrower, Co. Mayo, Edmondstown, Co. Dublin (slightly tilted) and, possibly, Carrickinab, Co. Down. At Drinnagh, Co. Dublin, the upright bowl had been placed on some of the bones (in a long pit grave); at Ballynahnan, Co. Cork, a pit contained a cremation accompanied by a inverted bowl. In a cist at Tullyvallen, Co. Armagh, a bowl contained some burnt bone and more bones were found below the pot. Some cremated bone (of an adult) had also been placed in a bowl at Woodend, Co. Tyrone. Bowls found lying on their sides are reported (with bones) from Carryglass, Co. Tyrone, and from Rathbennett, Co. Westmeath. One of the cists in the Aghnaskeagh, Co. Louth, cemetery, had a tripartite bowl and two other fragmentary and anomalous vessels resting on the floor of the grave which contained a 36cm deep deposit of fine brown soil fill through which was mixed a very small amount of cremated
bone. A similar puzzling ritual is recorded at Ard-
ballymore, Co. Westmeath, and Stranagalwilly, 
Co. Tyrone (Cist 1).

Some ten tripartite bowls from the northern part 
of the country have been found with probable 
crouched unburnt burials, but over twice this 
number of burials have been accompanied by such 
bows in the east midlands where, it seems, this rite 
was particularly popular. Here, too, pit graves 
containing crouched burials also occur. Crouched 
burial with the bowl placed mouth upwards in front 
of the skull or upper chest is the norm and is re-
corded in some ten instances, as in Grave 6 in the 
Keenoge, Co. Meath, cemetery (Plate 26). Details 
of orientation are few and it may be fortuitous that 
three crouched skeletons with tripartite bowls 
from pit graves (Ballsbridge, Co. Dublin, Old-
town, Co. Kildare, and Keenoge, Co. Meath, 
Grave 11) all had their heads to the north and lay 
on the left side facing east. Otherwise no pattern 
of grave or corpse orientation is apparent and with 
information on the age or sex of skeletons available 
in only some half-dozen cases it is not possible to 
detect any bias, if such there be, in orientation cus-
tom based on these factors. While the majority 
of these burials may be justly described as 'single-
graves', in several instances this term seems inap-
propriate. At Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow, a rectan-
gular cist contained the skeleton of a young adult 
male reportedly lying on its back; the grave also 
contained some unburnt bones of a child (two of 
which were found in the bowl). At Annaghmore, 
Co. Wexford, a cist contained the skeleton of a 
young adult male beneath which were found the 
bones of a child. This may be an instance of the re-
use of the one grave also reported at Stranagal-
willy, Co. Tyrone (Cist 4). Another Wexford cist, 
at Bolinready, contained a male skeleton and the 
ribus of a child. A fragment of skull of a second in-
dividual and the cremated bones of an adult ac-
companied a crouched skeleton with tripartite 
bowl at Fourknocks II, Co. Meath. At Oldtown, 
Co. Kildare, the crouched skeleton, found with the 
tripartite bowl mentioned above, had a deposit of 
cremated bone placed in the area of the knees and 
lower limbs.

The Irish distribution of tripartite bowls (Fig. 5) 
is mainly northern and eastern. Apart from scat-
tered examples in Galway, Sligo, Mayo, Leitrim 
and Roscommon and, to the south, in east Cork, 
bowls of this type are to be found in Ulster with a 
concentration in the east Donegal–Tyrone–Derry 
area and in Leinster from north Wexford to 
Meath, notably, however, in the east midlands. It 
is these eastern bowls, already noteworthy for 
their frequent (though by no means invariable) 
association with unburnt burials, which also display a 
predilection for reserved ornament. This type of 
decoration is of rare occurrence elsewhere: just 
over half a dozen pots with a northern provenance 
bear reserved chevrons as on Loughgannon, Co. 
Donegal (143), and Loughinisland, Co. Down 
(146), or reserved lozenges as on Killadroy, Co. 
Tyrone (198). A possible variant of the latter 
 motif, a filled lozenge in a reserved zone, occurs on 
a bowl from Co. Armagh (119) and as a minor 
decorative motif on several pots, E.g. Croaghan, Co. 
Donegal (138), and Killyglen, Co. Antrim (110). 
Twice as many bowls with reserved designs occur 
in the east. Reserved chevrons and variations on 
this motif are commonest: for example, Oldtown, 
Co. Kildare (160), Lemanstown, Co. Wicklow 
(226), Ballsbridge, Co. Dublin (149), Crows-
town, Co. Westmeath (208). Impressed and re-
served sub-rectangular panels occur on Four-
knocks II, Co. Meath (Plate 6, 171), Rickards-
town, Co. Westmeath (215) and Merginstown, Co. 
Wicklow (228).

The use of reserved motifs, like the preference 
for unburnt burial, are noteworthy elements of the 
tripartite bowl tradition in the Leinster area. There 
does seem to be some correlation between the two. 
While the ratio of cremation to unburnt burial here 
is, as far as the inadequate evidence goes, approxi-
mately 1:2, the ratio of tripartite bowls with re-
served motifs found with cremations to similar 
bowls found with unburnt burials is 1:6. However, 
bowls with this sort of decoration and associated 
with unburnt burials represent only about one-
third of the total number of pots from Leinster. 
Thus, while some measure of regional fashion is 
evident, the isolation of a 'Leinster bowl' sub-type 
on these grounds seems unwarranted at present. A 
group of squat, tripartite bowls with lugs, in the 
north, from Donegal to Antrim (Fig. 23, p. 59) ap-
pear to form a sub-group, as may several tripartite 
(and ribbed) bowls with a rather globular profile 
mainly in the east and south-east (Fig. 25, p. 61). 

Other minor regional fashions are discernible. For 
example, as already mentioned, the majority 
(about 75%) of bowls with lugs come from Ulster, 
though the feature is not unknown in Leinster.

Just over thirty tripartite bowls have no prove-
nance recorded.
Fig. 5. Distribution of tripartite bowls and variants.
The term ribbed bowl is applied to a category of bowl with three or more horizontal ribs on its exterior (214, 270–294, 297–345). The great majority (about 76%) of vessels have three ribs, a few have four and a small number five or six. There is some variation in shape. The majority of vessels have a slightly out-turned rim or neck as on Rathbarron, Co. Sligo (Fig. 6, 328), and Annaghkeen, Co. Galway (Fig. 6, 292), or a more or less vertical rim or neck as on Plopluck, Co. Kildare (Fig. 6, 299), and Coan, Co. Kilkenny (308). A small group of just over a dozen bowls have inward curving profiles e.g., Carrowkeel, Co. Sligo (Fig. 6, 326) and Graney West, Co. Kildare (Fig. 6, 294). Several vessels with this curving profile, but having at most very slight ribbing, are included in this group: Martinstown, Co. Meath (319), Ballymote, Co. Sligo (325), Syonan, Co. Westmeath (345). The latter pot, in particular, may be related to a vessel classed as a bipartite vase variant from Termon, Co. Cavan (605), with slight ribs and incised and false relief decoration, and the Martinstown and Graney West vessels may also be compared to a number of tripartite bowls (Fig. 25, p. 61). Heights of ribbed bowls range from just under 8.5cm to 16.5cm and the great majority range from 10 to 15cm. Rims are usually bevelled and decorated; a small number are undecorated. A few are flat, plain or decorated. Bases are flat or slightly concave. A number are drum-shaped, e.g., Ballybit, Co. Cartlow (Plate 18, 273). Only about one quarter are decorated. Just one bowl, from Rackavra, Co. Westmeath (337), is lugged; three horizontal ribs produce two parallel shallow grooves each of which originally contained six perforate lugs.

The zonal decoration recalls that on tripartite bowls at least in so far as a limited series of motifs is repeated in various ways on the exterior. The principal motifs used are the same: 2r
lines, chevrons in false relief, parallel horizontal lines and vertical lines. The first two are marginally more popular than the latter two. Multiple narrow horizontal zones of such ornament are common. Apart from a small number of bowls bearing filled lozenges in a reserved zone as on Killycarn, Co. Cavan (Fig. 6, 275), Ballymote, Co. Sligo (325), and Cullaghan, Co. Mayo (309), motifs such as these and filled triangles occur only occasionally. Other reserved motifs include saltires on Ballrath and Martinstown, Co. Meath (311 and 319), and Syonan, Co. Westmeath (345), and chevrons on Rackavra, Co. Westmeath (337), and Kells, Co. Wicklow (340). The commonest decorative techniques are comb impressions and false relief. Whipped cord impressions occur on a few pots such as Crouch, Co. Tyrone (330), Ballinkross, Co. Down (283), and Corrower, Co. Mayo (302 and 303). A number of bowls bear extensive incised decoration: e.g. Chapelizod (287), Rush (291), Balbriggan, Co. Dublin (286), and Lug, Co. Offaly (321). Circular impressions (made with a tubular object) occur on Bellanascaddan, Co. Donegal (281) and a bowl from Mount Stewart, Co. Down (Plate 15, 284) has an unusual shell impressed motif. A small number are crudely decorated. A plain ribbed bowl comes from Merginstown, Co. Wicklow (342). Four pots (346–349) may be ribbed bowl variants.

Sherds of a probable ribbed bowl come from the chamber and cairn of the Kilhoyele, Co. Derry, wedge tomb and from the floor of the main chamber of a cruciform passage tomb (Cairn K) in the Carrrowkeel, Co. Sligo, passage tomb cemetery, but were not clearly associated with a burial deposit. However, the majority of these bowls with recorded archaeological context come from burials. Most have been found in cists but about one-quarter have been found in pit-graves and, overall, unburnt burial is almost as popular as cremation. Details of only a minority of the cists are known and most were of short rectangular form. Two, at least, were polygonal: one such from Balldullaghan, Co. Derry, contained the cremated bones of an adult accompanied by a bowl found lying on its side. Another in a cemetery mound at Corrower, Co. Mayo, contained three bowls (all standing mouth upwards) and cremated bones representing five persons; these bones had been mixed through a sandy fill in the grave. What seems to have been a pit grave at Curglassan, Co. Tyrone, contained a bowl inverted on a deposit of cremated bone. The bowl from Rackavra, Co. Westmeath, was also inverted. In cists at Ballinagross, Co. Down, and Brougher, Co. Sligo, the bowl was standing mouth upwards accompanying the cremation but in Kelshamore, Co. Wicklow, the pot had been placed mouth upwards on the bones. This upright position seems to have been the norm with unburnt burials, the bowl being placed mouth upwards in front of or behind the skull. For example, two cists in the Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, flat cemetery each contained a crouched skeleton of a youth with the bowl placed in front of the head; one skeleton lay on its left side facing south, the other on the right facing north. In a cemetery mound at Haylands, Co. Wicklow, a cist contained the crouched skeleton of a young adult on its left side with the bowl behind the skull. In the Fourknocks I, Co. Meath, cemetery mound, a cist contained the crouched skeleton of a child with a bowl placed at its lap and a bowl from Barretstown, Co. Westmeath, is said to have stood near the legs of a crouched skeleton.

The distribution of ribbed bowls (Fig. 7) is a preponderantly eastern one. Apart from an interestingly isolated scatter in the north, mainly in Derry and Tyrone, and another small group in the Sligo-Mayo area, the majority of these bowls come from Leinster, many from the east midlands. Two have no recorded provenance.

**UNCLASSIFIABLE AND ANOMALOUS BOWLS**

A small number of unclassifiable and very fragmentary bowls are preserved from certain or possible funerary contexts (296, 366–388). There are, in addition, some seventeen anomalous pots (295, 350–365) which cannot be assigned to the foregoing categories. The use of comb-pressed and false relief decoration on most of them strongly suggests their affinity with the Bowl Tradition even when their form is atypical. The two major zones of similar ornament on Cush, Co. Limerick (357), and Ballyglass, Co. Roscommon (359), for example, recall this style of decoration on simple and bipartite bowls. In spite of its sparse decoration, the three ribs (one near the base) on Jamestown, Co. Dublin (356), suggest some relationship with ribbed bowls. Of particular interest and worthy of mention here are two small fragmentary pots from Aghnasneagha, Co. Louth (166 and 167). These were found along with a tripartite bowl in a short rectangular cist: they are classed as anomalous pots (p. 31) assignable neither to the bowl nor to
Fig. 7. Distribution of ribbed bowls and variants.
the vase category. One is comb-ornamented and a slight angularity of the profile of the lower body and an almost imperceptible horizontal ridge at mid-height barely give a tripartite form; the other small tub-shaped pot has some very faint impressions on body and base. Both vessels are a useful reminder that the makers of highly decorated tripartite bowls probably made plainer variants of simpler shape, such as Freestone Hill, Co. Kilkenny (263), and no locality no. 86 (269). The significance of the associated pots from Gorticrum Irish, Co. Tyrone (195 and 266), in this respect has already been noted (p. 13).

BURIAL RITES

The funerary contexts of the several bowl categories have been briefly described. A majority of bipartite bowls may have been found with cremated burials usually in cists. Unburnt burial is, however, by no means uncommon and, in the necked bipartite, tripartite and ribbed bowl categories, it and cremation are of almost equal frequency. It is important to bear in mind, in any commentary on burial rite, the high percentage of provenanced bowls with little or no information about the circumstances of their discovery. For example, details of whether a particular bowl was found in a cist or a pit are available for only some 52% of pots; whether or not the accompanying human remains were unburnt or cremated is recorded in only about 45% of these cases, and of course more detailed information about the relative positions of pot and bones in the grave is even scantier. It is sad to recall that an analogous situation obtains in the case of some of the broadly contemporary metalwork: upwards of half of Irish axes and halberds, for example, have no details of discovery recorded (Harbison 1969a, 1969b).

Overall, approximately 43% of these bowls have been found with unburnt burials and 57% with cremated burials. Approximately 78% were from cists and 22% from pit graves. Where details are known, they clearly reflect the variety of ritual so characteristic of the funerary record.

A majority of bowls have been found either placed mouth upwards accompanying the cremated deposit or mouth upwards and containing some or all of the bones. A small number have been found lying on their sides or inverted. The very limited evidence is illustrated by the following examples:

Bowls accompanying cremations: mouth upwards
Duvernahg, Co. Armagh: cist
Bellanascaddan, Co. Donegal: cist
Ballynagross, Co. Down: cist
Drinnagh, Co. Dublin: pit (on top of some bone)
Edmondstown, Co. Dublin: cist (tilted)
Belmore Mountain, Co. Fermanagh: cist
Corrower, Co. Mayo: pit
Corrower, Co. Mayo: cist

Bowls accompanying cremations: lying on side
Ballydullahan, Co. Derry: cist
Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone: pit

Bowls accompanying cremation: inverted
Ballyenahan, Co. Cork: pit
(?Rackavra, Co. Westmeath: cist

Bowls accompanying cremation: mouth upwards and containing some bones
Knockast, Co. Westmeath: cist (cremation 38)
Kelshamore, Co. Wicklow: cist(?)
Stranagalwilly, Co. Tyrone: cist (bones mixed through fill)

Bowls mouth upwards and containing some cremated bone
Tullyvallen, Co. Armagh: cist(?)
Termon, Co. Cavan: cist
Greenhills, Co. Dublin: pit
Ballyglass, Co. Roscommon: cist

Bowl on side and containing cremation
Harristown, Co. Waterford: pit(?)

Bowl inverted over cremated bone
Curglassan, Co. Tyrone: pit

There is a noticeable concentration of unburnt burials in Leinster particularly in the eastern midlands (Ryan 1974, 23), notably in Counties Kildare, Westmeath, Meath and south Dublin. The preponderance of such burials in Meath and Kildare may be in part explicable in terms of the number of flat cemeteries there: e.g. Keenoge, Martinstown, Ploopluck and Brownstown which together contained no fewer than fifteen unburnt burials. Unburnt burials also occur in some numbers in Laois, Carlow and north Wexford. Some examples occur in the north mainly in Donegal and Tyrone and a small number are recorded from Limerick and
Cork. The small concentrations in Counties Clare and Roscommon (from the cemetery mounds of Poulawack and Grange respectively) suggest the apparent absence of such burials in some areas may be due to the lack of excavation of burial mounds. A small but interesting group of unburnt burials mainly from Counties Galway and Mayo were associated with vases. Given the confined distribution of vases and unburnt burials, there is a possibility that the aceramic unburnt burials in Leinster should be considered part of the Bowl Tradition. No certainty is possible, of course, but if this were so, then some 48% of graves were distinguished by a decorated pottery vessel while some 52%, for whatever reason, were not. If the presence of a pottery vessel is considered to be a reflection of the status of an individual then, as various discoveries at Fourknocks I and II, and Keenoge, Co. Meath, and Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, indicate, children, adolescents, as well as adults of both sexes were so honoured.

Bowls have been found in varying numbers in both flat cemeteries and cemetery mounds. They have been recorded in about twenty cemetery mounds and seventeen flat cemeteries. The cemetery mound at Corrower, Co. Mayo, may be exceptional in so far as bowl was the only pot type represented. Here, nine graves were found, and in five, the human remains, all cremated, were accompanied by bowls. The small flat cemetery at Halverstown, Co. Kildare, comprised three unburnt burials, one accompanied by a bowl. Three bowls come from a flat cemetery of four burials at Stranagalwilly, Co. Tyrone. Bowl Tradition cemeteries are a possibility. In the ill-recorded flat cemetery of Ploopluck, Co. Kildare, several pit graves containing unburnt burials and bowls were found. However, an urn sherd was also recovered from the area so a mixture of pot types is conceivable. Cemeteries usually contain more than one pot type and a variety of pots and burial rites (as at Keenoge, Co. Meath, and Edmondstown, Co. Dublin) is a common feature of both cemetery mounds and flat cemeteries.

**Bowls accompanying unburnt burials**
Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry: beside face
Aghfarrell, Co. Dublin: behind skull
Ballbridge, Co. Dublin: 'in front of skeleton'
Edmondstown, Co. Dublin (Cist 1): in front of head
Edmondstown, Co. Dublin (Cist 2): in front of head
Greenhills, Co. Dublin: at foot (containing cremation)
Whitestown, Co. Dublin: beside skull
Blackhill, Co. Kildare: at feet
Brownstown, Co. Kildare: beside skull
Calverstown, Co. Kildare: 'near the head'
Halverstown, Co. Kildare: behind skull
Oldtown, Co. Kildare: beside skull
Ploopluck, Co. Kildare: behind head
Fourknocks I, Co. Meath: on lap
Fourknocks II, Co. Meath: in front of skull
Keenoge, Co. Meath (Grave 3): two bowls: one behind skull and at lower back
Keenoge, Co. Meath (Grave 5): in front of skull (Plate 26)
Keenoge, Co. Meath (Grave 6): in front of skull (Plate 26)
Keenoge, Co. Meath (Grave 9): in front of skull
Keenoge, Co. Meath (Grave 11): in front of skull
Keenoge, Co. Meath (Grave 14): near skull
Stonepark, Co. Sligo: in front of face
Camaghy, Co. Tyrone: 'at hand'
Dungate, Co. Tyrone: on side, mouth against skull
Stranagalwilly, Co. Tyrone (Cist 2): near skull
Barrettstown, Co. Westmeath: near legs
Riverstown, Co. Westmeath: in front of face
Anaghmore, Co. Westford: at face
Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow (Cist 1): in front of face
Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow (Cist 2): beside skull
Haylands, Co. Wicklow: behind skull

Information about the relative position of bowls and unburnt burials is often lacking but, as this sample indicates, bowls were generally placed near the skull (78%) and usually mouth upwards. The Dungate bowl was carefully placed so that its mouth rested against the skull. The Greenhills bowl, placed at the feet, is said to have contained cremated bone.

**Associations and Date**
Associated finds with bowls (other than human bones) are varied. They may be summarised as follows:

Corkey, Co. Antrim: tripartite bowl, bronze dagger.
Kells, Co. Antrim: bowl fragment, leaf-shaped flint arrowhead (lost).
Duvenagh, Co. Armagh: two tripartite bowls.
Vermont, Co. Carlow: ribbed bowl, flint blade.
Killycarney, Co. Cavan: ribbed bowl, bone 'belt-hook', stone axe.
Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry: ribbed bowl, flint flake.
Carrikbrack, Co. Donegal: tripartite bowl, flint scraper, flint 'thumb' scraper.
Ballynagross, Co. Down: ribbed bowl, flint flake, (flint core outside grave).
Carrickinab, Co. Down: tripartite bowl, bronze dagger, copper or bronze awl, two flint 'thumb' scrapers.
Graney West (1), Co. Kildare: ribbed bowl, anomalous bowl, bowl fragments.
Graney West (2), Co. Kildare: tripartite bowl, a stone or bone pendant or toggle, a stone pendant or toggle.
Hartwell Upper, Co. Kildare: simple bowl, a 'copper spoon'? (lost).
Luggacurran, Co. Laois: bowl, beads of bluish colour (lost), two bronze bracelets.
Agghanaskeagh, Co. Louth: tripartite bowl, two anomalous pots.
Corrow (7), Co. Mayo: three ribbed bowls.
Croghan Erin (Kiltale), Co. Meath: bowl fragments, 'brass or copper' object (lost).
Crossakeel, Co. Meath: tripartite bowl, plain tripartite bowl.
Keenoge (3), Co. Meath: bipartite bowl, necked bipartite bowl, bronze knife, flint 'thumb' scraper, flint fragment (?arrowhead), flint flake, stone chips.
Keenoge (6), Co. Meath: tripartite bowl and (outside grave) two tripartite bowls.
Knockmunnion, Co. Meath: simple bowl, two leaf or lozenge-shaped flint arrowheads.
Oldbridge, Co. Meath: simple bowl, jet necklace.
Grange (2), Co. Roscommon: two bipartite bowls.
Grange (13), Co. Roscommon: simple bowl, bipartite bowl.
Carrickbanagher, Co. Sligo: bipartite bowl, sherds of a second vessel (lost).
Rathbarron, Co. Sligo: ribbed bowl, stone axehead, small stone disc.
Carryglass, Co. Tyrone: bowl fragment, plano-convex (?) flint knife.
Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone: tripartite bowl, flint knife.
Dungate, Co. Tyrone: two necked bipartite bowls.
Gorticrum Irish, Co. Tyrone: two tripartite bowls.
Mountfield, Co. Tyrone: simple bowl, lozenge-shaped lignite or shale object.
Stranagalwilly, Co. Tyrone: two tripartite bowls.
Stranagalwilly, Co. Tyrone: tripartite bowl, flint knife.
Barrettstown, Co. Westmeath: ribbed bowl, fragment of boar's tusk (lost).
Rathbennett, Co. Westmeath: tripartite bowl, ribbed bowl, two jet beads.
Ballybrew (1), Co. Wicklow: tripartite bowl, lignite bead, flint scraper, two flint flakes (rock crystal and quartz pebble beneath paved floor).
Ballybrew (2), Co. Wicklow: tripartite bowl, flint fragments, quartz chips.
Kelsamore, Co. Wicklow: ribbed bowl, plano-convex flint knife.

As this list of thirty-eight instances of associated finds demonstrates, the commonest artifact found with bowls is another pottery vessel. Of some fifteen pottery associations (and excluding five finds of anomalous or lost associated vessels) all the classifiable vessels are themselves of the bowl class. The discovery of fragments of bowl, a sherd of beaker and a collared urn at various levels in a pit at Gortcorbies, Co. Derry, should not, for the present at least, be considered a direct association. If this is so the absence of such associations with other pottery classes is interesting. The few examples of association of different bowl types may be significant. In the Keenoge, Co. Meath, flat cemetery, a pit grave (Grave 3) contained a bipartite bowl (51) and a necked bipartite bowl (52) along with a crouched skeleton. Finally at Rathbennett, Co. Westmeath, a cist contained an unburnt burial and two bowls, one a tripartite bowl (213) with lugs (albeit with deeply grooved horizontal ribs giving the impression of two pairs of ribs), the other a ribbed bowl (214). It would be unwise to suggest, on the basis of such associations, that most, if not all, bowl forms were in contemporary use, but it may be reasonable to assume at least some measure of chronological overlap between the various types. In the absence of independent evidence, it would be equally unwise to assume a developmental sequence from simple to bipartite, to necked bipartite to tripartite, to ribbed, for instance. Such a sequence has been suggested before, on purely typological grounds (Coffey 1913, 95, plate xi).

Objects of metal are very occasionally found with bowls. Small flat bronze riveted daggers have been found with tripartite bowls at Corkey, Co.
Antrim (108), and Carrickinab, Co. Down (145). The former is Harbison's eponymous example of a dagger type which 'may have had a long life-span' (Harbison 1969a, 23). The Carrickinab blade is corroded and fragmentary but the discovery of a single rivet with it suggests it too was a riveted type and analysis has shown it to be made of tin bronze. The small flat knife or dagger blade found with the Keenoge, Co. Meath, bowls (51–52) has been included by Harbison (1969a, 17) in his category of miscellaneous undecorated daggers. Of these three 'dagger-graves' only the cremated bones from Carrickinab have been examined: they represent one adult, possibly male. Like these daggers, the awl with a central rectangular-sectioned swelling, from the latter grave, is not a closely dateable type (Harbison 1967; Thomas in Collins and Evans 1968). The 'copper spoon' said to have been found with a simple bowl at Hartwell Upper, Co. Kildare, is unfortunately lost, as is the 'brass or copper' object found with the Croghan Erin (Kiltale), Co. Meath, bowl. This pot was found in a pit beneath a tumulus and with it was 'a thin piece of either brass or copper, about eighteen inches long and three inches wide, which was figured or carved round its edges'. A human skeleton, an iron spearhead and a bronze dagger of Harbison's (1969a) 'Type Kiltale' were also found but in the burial mound itself. A very inadequate nineteenth-century account of these discoveries has been published. As Flanagan (1961, 285) has pointed out, this account, contrary to claims by Rafty (1940, 61) and following him, Childe (1947, 123), indicates that the surviving dagger and the bowl were not found together.

Associated finds such as flint knives, flint 'thumb' scrapers and flint arrowheads are not closely dateable but are quite in keeping with the general early Bronze Age date suggested by the daggers and awl. A few items suggest some correlation with at least part of the Wessex funerary tradition of southern England. The object from Killycarney, Co. Cavan, was found with a small polished stone axehead in one or other of two compartments of a segmented cist; a ribbed bowl (275) from one of these compartments is also preserved. As Simpson (1968, 203) has pointed out, somewhat similar hooked bone 'belt fasteners' are known in Britain: one was found with a collared urn in the Brackmont Mill cemetery in Fife and another unprovenanced example is preserved in Devizes Museum. The best known is, of course, the sheet gold fastener from the celebrated Bush Barrow in Wiltshire. Various forms of bone belt-hooks have been occasionally found in Chalcolithic and early Bronze Age contexts in Central Europe (Kilian-Dirlmeier 1975). The placing of a necklace in a grave is a feature of some Wessex graves and of contemporary graves in northern England and Scotland. This custom may well have inspired the deposition of a necklace of jet beads (and a simple bowl: Plate 21, 12) in separate compartments of a double cist at Oldbridge, Co. Meath. The simple beads from this grave, of disc and slender barrel shape, along with a triangular fastener or pendant, find a good parallel in a Scottish dagger grave at Masterton, Fife. The Oldbridge necklace originally comprised some thirteen barrel-shaped beads, fifty-five disc-shaped beads, and a perforated triangular piece. The Masterton piece was found and carefully examined in situ (unlike the Oldbridge find) and comprised sixty-seven barrel-shaped, ninety-one disc-shaped beads and a perforated triangular piece (Henshall and Wallace 1965). The barrel-shaped beads were strung in five rows and roughly graduated with the smaller beads towards the ends. The disc beads were placed at the ends of the strings. The Oldbridge piece, presumably a single-string necklace, may have had its disc beads placed in this fashion too. The Masterton cist grave also contained a flat bronze dagger (with remains of a hilt of horn), fragment of a small bronze knife, and a pair of decorated bronze armlets of Melfort type. The dagger, Gerloff's (1975) 'Type Masterton', has close affinities with Irish 'Type Corkey' daggers and, like them, may have had a long life. Gerloff has argued that these typologically simple daggers may have been contemporary with both her Armoric-Noordish and Camerton-Snowshill series of Wessex daggers.

In Scotland jet beads have also been found with various bowls: disc beads, for example, were found with a tripartite bowl at Brown Head, Arran (Bryce 1902, 122,) and a fine jet necklace with spacer plates was found with another such bowl at Mountstewart, Bute (Bryce 1904, 65). At Kilmar- tin Glebe, Argyll, a fine bipartite bowl (with four perforated lugs) was found with what seems to have been a similar necklace (Greenwell 1866, 339; Anderson 1905, 233; Abercromby 1912, Vol. 1, fig. 239). The associations and circumstances of discovery of fifty-nine finds of jet beads and necklaces in Scotland have been summarised by
Morrison (1979).

It is unfortunate that so few details are known about the Luggacurran, Co. Laois, discoveries. Two cists were found about 3m apart in 1881. Each contained a bowl 'ornamented in a uniform manner' and in the pots were found 'two little links of beads' of 'a bluish colour'. Two bronze bracelets were also found but where precisely is not recorded. Only the bracelets and one ribbed bowl (301) are preserved. The association of a ribbed bowl(?) with what may have been (quot-shaped?) faience beads is interesting, as is the possible association with bronze bracelets of solid circular cross-section and with tapering, overlapping ends. Such bracelets are related to similar Scottish ornaments of both circular and D-section comparable to analogous Continental types of the Reinecke A2 phase of the European Bronze Age (Coles 1969, 51). A tripartite bowl found at Kinneff, Kincardineshire, and a Midlothian vase were each associated with such bracelets (Simpson 1968, 198) and contemporaneity with the Arranico-British phase of the Wessex Culture is generally accepted.

The segmented and ringed or perforated toggles found with a tripartite bowl at Graney West, Co. Kildare (158), are unusual objects. The complete example is made of stone and its rings are externally grooved. The same grooving of one ring occurs on a roughly similar object with a longitudinally grooved stem found with a vase at Labbamolaga, Co. Cork (409). Simpson (1968, 205) has compared the latter object with bone pendants or belt rings found with a few British beakers (e.g. D. L. Clarke 1970, figs. 136 and 261).

Since these various associated finds offer only a broad and imprecise indication of date, it hardly needs to be said that they provide no clear indication of any typological development within the Bowl Tradition as a whole. The same is true of much of the stratigraphical evidence.

Reference has already been made to the secondary deposition of bowls in megalithic tombs: in court tomb, in passage tomb of both cruciform and undifferentiated type, and in wedge tomb. Secondary burials with bowls have also been discovered in the mounds of other Neolithic monuments such as Drimmagh, Co. Dublin, and Baunogenasraid, Co. Carlow. Two secondary cists in the cairn of the Kilmashogue, Co. Dublin, wedge tomb each contained sherds of bowls, one classifiable as a tripartite bowl. It is likely that many other finds of bowl sherds in wedge tombs also represent secondary activity. Davies and Mullin (1940, 150) concluded that the simple and bipartite bowls from the wedge tomb at Loughash (Cashelbaine), Co. Tyrone, were secondary. According to D. L. Clarke (1970, 61, 527) the Beaker sherds from this tomb included fragments of All-over-Cord and European beakers. Sherds of a ribbed bowl came from both chamber and cairn of the Kilhoyle, Co. Derry, wedge tomb, which also produced indeterminate beaker. Fragments of European and indeterminate beaker as well as bowl were found in the much disturbed wedge tomb at Lough Gur, Co. Limerick. Another Co. Derry wedge tomb, at Largantea, produced fragments of an unusual bowl (a necked variant of a simple bowl), and sherds of late beaker. The beaker sherds included, according to D. L. Clarke (1970, 181, figs. 687 and 688), Late Northern and Late Southern types. The sherds of these particular beakers were found together in the tomb (chamber 1) in a yellow clay layer about 20cm above old ground level. The bowl sherds were found some 90cm away in the same chamber at the same level in a stony deposit of the same yellow clay. That some bowls should be contemporary with later beakers is not surprising but since wedge tombs may have been used and re-used over a period of time and since some bowls were clearly secondary deposits, the evidence from sites like Largantea must be treated with caution. The same must be said of the small necked bipartite bowl found with fragments of several beakers in an unroofed polygonal stone structure in an oval cairn at Gortcorbies, Co. Derry. For that reason, the Largantea and Gortcorbies material is omitted from the list of direct associations given above.

Stratigraphical evidence from a number of burial sites gives some indications of a *terminus ante quem* for different categories of bowl. In a cemetery mound at Grange, Co. Roscommon, an important secondary cremation in an urn was inserted into a mound which covered several cists containing bowls with unburnt and cremated burials. The bowls were of simple or bipartite or of the necked bipartite variety. The urn burial was a cremation, in a vase urn, accompanied by a twisted, bronze dagger with a bone pommel. The pommel has been published by Hardaker (1974, 28) and the dagger by Harbison (1968, 51). The dagger (Fig. 13) is flat, grooved, with six rivet holes (three rivets survive in their rivet holes and a fourth rivet is fused to one face of the dagger butt). Harbison has assigned it to his Type Topped Mountain. With its six rivets
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the Grange weapon is clearly a smaller version of Gerloff's Armorico-British A dagger typical of the first phase of the Wessex funerary tradition (Gerloff 1975, 70). It suggests that the various Grange bowls are at latest coeval with the earliest Wessex funerary tradition and indeed they may even predate it. Charcoal from the Grange dagger burial has been C14 dated to 3480±35 BP (GrN 9709), a date later than the majority of determinations for bowls and vases (p. 37).

At a small number of sites burials with pottery of the Vase Tradition have disturbed earlier burials with bowls. In the Fourknocks I, Co. Meath, cemetery a cist containing an unburnt burial and a ribbed bowl was disturbed by a vase urn burial. In the flat cemetery at Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, some of the stones protecting an encrusted urn burial were considered by the excavator to have been removed from the nearby disturbed Cist no. 4; this cist, which contained only a cremation, shared a side-slab with Cist no. 3, which contained a tripartite bowl and a cremation. A cremation with fragments of two bowls was disturbed by an encrusted urn burial at Moneen, Co. Cork. These finds suggest, at the very least, that the Bowl Tradition was eventually superseded by the Vase Tradition (see p. 37 for a brief consideration of the origins and development of bowls and vases, the chronology of the Vase Tradition, and the radiocarbon evidence).
CHAPTER 3

THE VASE TRADITION

The Vase Tradition in Ireland is the major ceramic and funerary tradition of the early Bronze Age (Waddell 1976). It comprises three major pottery types, vases, vase urns and encrusted urns, with a varied burial rite. The vases of this tradition vary in shape but are usually profusely decorated with incised and impressed designs. Incised decoration and impressed (or incised) short lines are particularly common but other decorative techniques occur occasionally.

Vases have been found mainly in funerary contexts. However, sherds of possible vases are reported from sandhills at Whitepark Bay, Co. Antrim, Castlerock and Portstewart, Co. Derry, and Dundrum, Co. Down, for example, and a possible habitation site at Dalkey Island, Co. Dublin. Possible vessel is recorded from the Knockadoon settlement and (from a ritual stone circle, Lough Gur, Co. Limerick. Surprisingly few vessels have been associated with megalithic tombs. A vase from Carnaghan, Co. Donegal, may have come from a cist in the cairn of a portal tomb; sherds come from Clontygora, Co. Armagh, and Ballymacadrack, Co. Antrim, court tombs, and several vases are reported with secondary burials in the Mound of the Hostages at Tara.

Two major groups of Irish vases may be identified on the basis of variations in form and ornament: (1) tripartite vases and (2) bipartite vases. (The names do not indicate any affinity with any bowl type).

TRIPARTITE VASES

The vases here termed tripartite vases (389–427, 429–434, 436–438, 440–446) are characterised by an angular profile with an everted, nearly vertical or vertical neck above a sloping shoulder; the neck is invariably at least half or more than half the length of the shoulder. The distinct neck, shoulder and body give a tripartite external profile e.g. Comber, Co. Down (Fig. 8, 418) and Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh (Fig. 8, 425). This category includes many of the vases which ApSimon (1969) placed in his Irish-Scottish Vase and Urn (Drumkilly series) group and those of Type 1 of Waddell (1976). Rims are usually simple, rounded or flat. Exceptions are several flat rims, with a slight inner lip, on a small sub-group of vases mainly from Co. Antrim, e.g. Magheraboy (397) and Craigywarren, Co. Antrim (Fig. 8, 390). With the exception of most of the pots of this sub-group, the interiors of necks are usually decorated. Bases are usually flat, occasionally slightly concave. They are rarely decorated. An unusual, plain, vase from Bishopstown, Co. Waterford (436) has a distinctly drum-shaped base. Excluding miniature vases such as Greenhills, Co. Dublin (423), heights usually range from 11 to 16cm. Small squat vases from Comber, Co. Down (419), and Labbamolaga, Co. Cork (409), about 10 and 9.5cm high respectively, and the large, 19cm high, vase from Greenhills, Co. Dublin (422), are exceptional. The latter vase has a rim diameter (17.4cm) less than its height, but apart from about half a dozen, tripartite vases are, in fact, greater in rim diameter than in height.

One lidded tripartite vase is recorded though its present whereabouts is unknown: from Coolcarron, Co. Cork (407), it apparently had a conical lid.

The great majority of vases bear incised decoration. Impressed decoration also occurs occasionally (and some zones of short, oblique or vertical lines may be either impressed or incised, it being sometimes difficult to differentiate between the two). Whipped cord impressions occur on a number of pots and one vase from Greenhills, Co. Dublin (421), is decorated with both whipped cord and, inside the rim, plaited cord impressions. The latter technique is quite unusual: it is also to be found, it seems, on the vase from Magheraboy, Co. Antrim (397), and on another also from that county with no more exact provenance recorded (401). Twisted cord is also rare, occurring, for example, on Temmon, Co. Cavan (404), Tievebane, Co. Donegal (415), Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone (431), and Craigywarren, Co. Antrim (Fig. 8, 390). So too are triangular impressions forming chevrons in false relief; such decoration occurs on some of the most ornate and carefully made pots such as Greenhills, Co. Dublin (Plate 11, 421), Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone (432), Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh (Fig. 8, 426), Comber, Co.

Down (Fig. 8, 418) and Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (402). Comb-ornamented pots are infrequent too: examples include the aforementioned Leckpatrick and Ballon Hill vessels and Cloghskelt, Co. Down (417).

Decoration usually consists of multiple horizontal zones on the exterior and, in many though not all cases, on the interior of the neck. On the exterior motifs such as oblique short lines, often forming a herringbone pattern, and filled triangles, are the commonest designs and almost equally popular. Zones of parallel horizontal or vertical lines, and lattice motifs occur only occasionally. Roughly oval impressions decorate the greater part of the exterior of a vase from Ballyroan, Co. Sligo (429). Reserved ornament, usually lozenges or triangles formed by filled triangles, occurs on ten vases (389–398) which form a distinct subgroup among these tripartite vases. They have vertical or near vertical necks with flat rims. As already mentioned, two of these rims, on Magheraboy (397) and Craigywaren, Co. Antrim (Fig. 8, 390), have internal lips. One of these vases has no recorded provenance (no locality 39; 394), eight come from Co. Antrim and one from Drumnakilly in mid-Tyrone.

Some details of burial rite are available in just over thirty cases. While the great majority of tripartite vases were found in cists, few particulars are available of cist forms. Several sub-rectangular or short rectangular cists are recorded and one, from Clonshannon, Co. Wicklow, has been described as square. Only five of the vases with everted necks have been found in pit graves but at least two, and possibly five, of the vases with vertical or near vertical necks come from such graves. This is further possible indication of the distinctiveness of this small subgroup. Little information
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is available about the position of the vase in these various graves: a majority seem to have been placed mouth upwards accompanying or even containing cremated bone. Vases from Mullaghceep, Co. Donegal, and Ballyduff, Co. Wexford, were found lying on their sides and accompanying cremated bones. The Ballyduff cist grave had contained some 15cm of clay fill through which were mixed the burnt bones (and a faience bead); the vase lay on top of this fill. Vases from Corkragh, Co. Tyrone, Glenavy and Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim, were inverted. The Toppled Mountain (Mullyknock), Co. Fermanagh, vase was apparently associated with an unburnt burial, though the grave also contained a deposit of cremated bone.

The distribution pattern of tripartite vases is a curious two-fold one with scattered groups both in the north, and the south and east (Fig. 9). In the latter, Munster and Leinster, groups, examples are found mainly in north Cork, Waterford, Kilkenny, Wexford, Carlow, Wicklow and south Dublin. A number of tripartite vases with sharp shoulders and long necks occur in the east and south-east (p. 57). In the north, the sub-group of vases with more or less vertical necks and reserved ornament is almost confined to Co. Antrim. Apart from two finds in Co. Down, the other tripartite vases have been found further to the west, in Donegal, Tyrone and Fermanagh, with one example with atypical decoration in Co. Sligo (Ballyogan).

BIPARTITE VASES

The majority of Irish vases are here assigned to a broad category named bipartite vases (435, 439, 447−484, 487−604). This category comprises the vases of ApSimon’s (1969) Food Vessel group and those of Types 2 and 3 of Waddell (1976). These pots are characterised by a bipartite, biconical profile and usually have a slightly everted rim. Profiles are only occasionally angular with a relatively sharp shoulder; they are, more often than not, of gently curving aspect, compare, for example, Moylarg, Co. Antrim (Fig. 10, Plate 23, 452) and Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal (Fig. 10, 477). They lack the everted neck of tripartite vases, the short, everted rims are always less than half the length of the sloping shoulder and, with very few exceptions, internially bevelled and frequently decorated. Exceptions include Ballybrennan, Co. Westmeath (568), with a flat rim and Bishoptown, Co. Waterford (435), with a slightly in-turned simple rim. Internally expanded rims are rare, e.g. Ballymurphy, Co. Carlow (468), and Killycolman, Co. Donegal (482). The occasional sharp profile, e.g. Lugnagroagh, Co. Wicklow (Plate 8, 580), and Headford, Co. Galway (522), recalls, of course, tripartite vases and is no doubt an indication of the close relationship between the two categories. This relationship is confirmed by their occasional association (below).

The great majority of bipartite vases have a gently curving profile which may vary from a rather squat bowl form as from Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (Fig. 10, 465), to a taller form as from Ballinchalla (546), Cashel, Co. Mayo (551), and Corbally Beg, Co. Waterford (Fig. 10, Plate 9, 566). Shallow horizontal ribbing is a feature of some pots, as on some of the Ballon Hill vessels (460−465), Carnaghan, Co. Donegal (481), Cush, Co. Limerick (541) and Crhep, Co. Wicklow (578). On a small number, pairs of horizontal ribs on the shoulder produce a shoulder groove and this groove may contain or be straddled by perforate or imperforate lugs: compare, for example, Ballyvester, Co. Down (487), Carrownotech East, Co. Galway (Fig. 10, Plate 24, 516) and Ballyhacket Upper, Co. Carlow (467). It was mainly the presence of such a shoulder groove, with or without lugs, which led Waddell (1976) to assign such vases to a distinct type with parallels among Yorkshire Vases. Now, examination of a larger body of material makes it difficult to differentiate so sharply between vases with this one feature and other bipartite examples. Lugs, for example, occur occasionally on vases with no shoulder groove at all. Apart from a few vases with such a groove and some impressed cord ornament (a rare decorative technique on bipartite vases generally) e.g. Moyveela, Co. Galway (Fig. 10, 525), Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone (563), Ballywilliam (Plate 10, 484), and Katesbridge, Co. Down (507), no other formal or decorative trait is apparent to warrant the creation of even a separate sub-group for these pots at present. Other lugged vases such as Carrownotech East (Fig. 10, Plate 24, 516) and Gornnahown, Co. Galway (521), bear typical decoration of incised herringbone.

The profuse decoration and curving profile of some bipartite vases, particularly the taller examples, sometimes results in quite an elegant appearance; good examples are Corbally Beg, Co. Waterford (Fig. 10, Plate 9, 566), and Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo (546). The latter has a neatly fashioned coni-
Fig. 9. Distribution of tripartite vases.
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Fig. 10. Bipartite vases: 452. Moylarg, Co. Antrim. 465. Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow.

cal lid still retaining traces of a strap handle. A somewhat similar lid was found with a sharper-profiled vase from Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny (537), and a fragmentary pottery lid was found in the same grave as a rather simply decorated vase at Annaghkeen, Co. Galway (Plate 24, 513).

Bases are normally flat or slightly concave; occasionally they may be slightly drum-shaped, e.g. Letterkeen, Co. Mayo (554). They are very rarely decorated, see Cush, Co. Limerick (542), Ring, Co. Waterford (567), and an unlocalised vase no. 47 (594). Apart from miniature vases such as Kilbride, Co. Wicklow (579), heights usually range from 11 to 16 cm. Smaller vases such as Magheralin, Co. Down (508), with a height of 9.6 cm, and larger vases such as Ballynahow, Co. Cork (472), Letterkeen, Co. Mayo (556) and Corbally Beg, Co. Waterford (Fig. 10, Plate 9, 566) with heights of about 18 to 19.5 cm, are exceptional. Vases such as the latter and the large example over 19 cm high from Tipper, Co. Kildare (528), fall just short of the lower height limits of the vase urn category (20 cm). The majority of vases have rim diameters greater than their height. About one-quarter, however, are taller and reverse these proportions.

The great majority of bipartite vases bear incised decoration. Impressed triangles or dots occur occasionally, as do twisted and whipped cord impressions. Irregularly-shaped impressed marks occur on Tipper, Co. Kildare (529), and the vase from Stonepark, Co. Mayo (Plate 15, 558), bears a quite unusual decorative scheme of impressed dots. Twisted cord impressions are to be found on Moyveela, Co. Galway (Fig. 10, 525) and Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal (Fig. 10, 477). Whipped cord impressions are only very slightly commoner, occurring, for example, on vases from Headford, Co. Galway (522), Moanmore, Co. Tipperary (562), and Ballywilliam, Co. Down (Plate 10, 484). Cord impressions of both types are commoner in the north of the country than elsewhere. Very occasional false relief occurs as, for example, on Cave (520) and Headford, Co. Galway (522), and Ballyoskill, Co. Kilkenny (530). A second vase
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from Ballyoskill (531) bears some comb ornament, a rare decorative technique, found also on examples such as Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim (455), Ballyvester, Co. Down (487) and Cloghskelet, Co. Down (490, 491 and 502).

Decoration usually consists of multiple horizontal zones. Short lines motifs, usually incised oblique lines forming a herringbone design, are, without question, the most popular decorative scheme. Sometimes zones of short and almost vertical lines occur as on Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim (454). This vase, with its vertically disposed herringbone pattern below the shoulder, displays a decorative trait found on a small but significant number of vessels in all parts of the country. Vertical ornament may vary from simple patterns, as on Moyveela, Co. Galway (Fig. 10, 525), to more complex designs of herringbone pattern and impressed dots as on Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo (546), and an unlocalised vase no. 46 (Plate 17, 593). In contrast to tripartite vases where herringbone ornament and hatched or filled triangles were equally popular, the latter motif is noticeably less common on bipartite vessels. It is about half as frequent as herringbone in Ulster and elsewhere is found on less than a third of these vases. Other motifs are infrequent: zones of parallel multiple horizontal lines occur on just over half a dozen pots, for example, Annaghkeen, Co. Galway (Plate 24, 513), and Edmondstown (569) and Knockmant, Co. Westmeath (571). Lattice motifs are also rare, e.g. Lisburn, Co. Antrim (453), Carrowisdoonaun, Co. Mayo (550) and Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (461).

Simple zig-zag motifs occur occasionally as in Cloghraok, Co. Galway (517) and Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny (537). The Danesfort vase also bears an unusual motif of multiple arcs, found as well on Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim (454), and Ring, Co. Waterford (567). A version occurs on Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (459). Reserved ornament is very rare, e.g. on Dunamase, Co. Laois (540).

A vessel from Termon, Co. Cavan (605), found with two anomalous vases, may be a bipartite vase variant.

Some details of burial rite are available for a little over half of bipartite vases. The great majority of these have been found in cists usually of short rectangular form, where they accompanied cremated bones. Only a few instances of polygonal cists are known: e.g. Bagenalstown and Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow, Cloghskelet, Co. Down, Moyalh, Co. Kilkenny, Knocknaskeagh, Co. Wexford, Moanmore, Co. Tipperary and possibly Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim. One long cist at Care, Co. Galway, contained a possibly extended, unburnt burial accompanied by a vase (and fragments of a second similar vessel). Another possible long cist is reported in the Cloghskelet cemetery. Pit graves, or unprotected burials, have been occasionally recorded: at Knockmant, Co. Westmeath, the cremated bones of a young adult female were accompanied by a vase placed mouth upwards. A vase from Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim, was found in a stone-lined pit outside the kerb of the cairn there; it had been inverted beside the bones of an adult male. A number of pits, including several at Cloghskelet, also contained urns. Unprotected cremations with vases came from mounds at Fourknocks II, Co. Meath, Freestone Hill, Co. Kilkenny, and Knockast, Co. Westmeath. In only about a fifth of these graves are details recorded about the position of the pottery vessel in relation to the cremation deposit. Most seemingly contained one or more vases placed mouth upwards and accompanying the burnt bones, but in several cases some cremated bone had been placed in the pot. A number of graves contained one or more vases in an inverted position and at least two held vases lying on their sides. (In one, from Cush, Co. Limerick, the recumbent position of the pots may have been due to disturbance.) The cremated bones in graves from Knocknaskeagh, Co. Wexford, Letterkeny, Co. Mayo, and Ower, Co. Galway, were mixed through a sandy clay or clay fill. The occurrence of pairs of vases in the one grave is noteworthy: e.g. Cloghskelet, Co. Down, Cush, Co. Limerick, Letterkeny, Co. Mayo (two graves), Termon, Co. Cavan, Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone, Cloghraok, Co. Galway, and Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo (a segmented cist). Where the human remains have been studied, the bones in these graves have been found to represent more than one person: a young adult and a child at Cush, and two adults and a child or adolescent in each of the Letterkeny graves. The Cloghraok, Co. Galway, cist is said to have contained the unburnt bones of a young person and an infant, and the cremated bones of an adult male. A similar mixture of ritual was discovered in a cist at Ballyhacket Upper, Co. Carlow, where the fragmentary unburnt remains of a female were found at one end and some cremated bone at the other. This grave, however, contained only one vase which was declared to have been associated with the unburnt remains.
The Vase Tradition

If the Ballyhacket Upper vase did indeed accompany the unburnt bones, then it belongs to a very small group of bipartite vessels found with unburnt burials. Apart from Ballyhacket, a vase from Glassnamucky, Co. Dublin (found in a cist, mouth upwards behind the skull of a crouched skeleton) and a poorly recorded possible association at Oldtown, Co. Kildare, the only concentration of bipartite vessels found with such burials is in the west of Ireland: they come from Carrowntober, Carrowntober East, Cave, Cloghroak, Kilcoran, Gortnahown, Moyveela, in Co. Galway, and Carrollisdoonaun, Kinard, and Stonepark, in Co. Mayo. Detailed information is available in only a few cases. The skeleton from Cave townland was apparently extended with a vase standing mouth upwards at its feet and, it seems, sherds of another near the head. An inverted vase accompanied a crouched skeleton in Carrowntober East and a vase from Kilcoran had been placed (presumably mouth upwards) at the back of the neck. The skeletons from Carrollisdoonaun, Moyveela and Stonepark may well have been crouched. The distribution of bipartite vessels is a widespread and somewhat scattered one (Fig. 11). There is a significant number of these pots in part of the west, in areas of Counties Galway and Mayo. Apart from this, the greater number of vessels are to be found in Leinster with fairly widely dispersed examples in Munster and Ulster.

Unclassifiable and Anomalous Vases

There are a few fragmentary and unclassifiable vessels from funerary contexts (428, 485–486, 613–627), as well as a small number of anomalous examples (606–612). The latter group includes vessels from Termon, Co. Cavan (606–607), found with a bipartite vase variant (605), and a strange pot with applied and impressed ornament (including comb) from Lossett, Co. Donegal (612). Its applied ornament conceivably indicates an affinity with encrusted urns of the Vase Tradition. Fragmentary vessels include those from Freestone Hill, Co. Kilkenny, Ballywilliam, Co. Down (485–486) and parts of the rim of a pot from Beilty, Co. Fermanagh (615) and Crock, Co. Tyrone (621), etc. Several vessels known only from old sketches or photographs (e.g. 613–614, 617) are also unclassifiable.

Unclassifiable and Anomalous Vessels

Only a few vessels (166–167, 628–646) cannot be assigned to either the bowl or vase categories. These include some fragmentary pots such as Chapelizod, Co. Dublin (631) and Camagh, Co. Tyrone (639).

A small number of anomalous vessels also defy classification and these include several undecorated pots (e.g. 628, 630, 644, 646) and two vessels (166 and 167) found with a tripartite bowl at Aghnaskeagh, Co. Louth. The single zone of reserved ornament on the exterior of an unlocalised vessel no. 50 (642) possibly suggests some relationship with small cordoned urns such as Corkagh, Co. Tyrone, itself found with a vase (430).

Burial Rites

The funerary contexts of each of the two vase categories have been described in brief. The great majority of these vessels have been found in cists with cremated bones, and unburnt burial is uncommon. As with bowls, a high percentage of provenanced vessels have little or no information recorded about the circumstances of their discovery. Since it is a reasonable assumption that most, if not all, of the more or less complete pots preserved come from funerary contexts, it is possible to calculate that only about 55% of vessels have some details of grave type recorded. Of this fraction, about 77% come from cists, and 23% from pits. Vases seem to be rarely associated with megalithic tombs: an example from Carnaghan, Co. Donegal, was found with a vase urn (possibly in a cist) in or near a portal tomb and sherds of vase come from Ballymacaldrack court tomb in Co. Antrim; possible vase is recorded from another such tomb at Clontygora, Co. Armagh. The rarity of unburnt burial has already been noted. Apart from the tripartite Topped Mountain vase possibly associated with an unburnt burial, the small number of mainly western vessels so associated are all of the bipartite category. Only about 55% of vessels have details, often scanty, of the accompanying bones recorded and approximately 86% of these vessels have been found with cremated bones, 11% with unburnt remains.

Details of the position of the vase or vessels in the grave have been infrequently documented: as has been pointed out, a majority seem to have been placed mouth upwards accompanying the bones (sometimes even containing some cremated bone) but a significant number have been inverted. The limited evidence may be summarised as follows:
Fig. 11. Distribution of bipartite vases and variants.
The Vase Tradition

Vases accompanying cremations: mouth upwards
Curran, Co. Antrim
Ballynahow, Co. Cork
Labbamolaga, Co. Cork
Bunnamayne, Co. Donegal
Ballywilliam, Co. Down
Greenhills, Co. Dublin
Annaghkeen, Co. Galway
Cloghroak, Co. Galway
Ballinclaiga, Co. Mayo
Moanmore, Co. Tipperary
Knocknant, Co. Westmeath
Knocknaskeagh, Co. Wexford (cremation in fill).

Vases accompanying cremation: mouth upwards and containing some cremated bone
Ballymurphy, Co. Carlow
Castlehyde, Co. Cork
Ballyvester, Co. Down
Ballybrennan, Co. Westmeath.

Vases inverted with or over cremations
Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim
Glenevy, Co. Antrim
Lyle's Hill, Toberagney, Co. Antrim
Termon, Co. Cavan
Letterkeny, Co. Mayo (cremation in fill)
Fourknocks II, Co. Meath
Neinstown, Co. Meath
Corkagh, Co. Tyrone
Knockast, Coolatore, Co. Westmeath
Burgage More, Co. Wicklow
Kilbride, Co. Wicklow (?).

Vases containing cremated bone
Ower, Co. Galway (cremation also in fill)
Ballyogan, Co. Sligo
Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone.

Vases accompanying cremation: lying on side
Mullaghheel, Co. Donegal
Ballyduff, Co. Wexford.
Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

Vases accompanying cremation: lying on side and containing some cremated bone
Cush, Co. Limerick.

In several instances vases, placed mouth upwards or in an inverted position, have accompanied inverted encrusted urns (e.g. Greenhills, Corkagh, Co. Tyrone, etc.). The occurrence of pairs of vases in the one grave has been mentioned, as has the occasional identification of the remains of more than one individual.

Aside from the small number of western vases found with unburnt burials, it is curious that in one of these graves (Cloghroak, Co. Galway) and in the graves from Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh, and Ballyhackett Upper, Co. Carlow, both unburnt and cremated bones should occur. As in the Annaghmore, Co. Wexford, cist (containing the unburnt remains of a child beneath the unburnt bones of an adult and a tripartite bowl), the re-use of a grave is a possibility. The suggestion (Waddell 1976, 98) that some deposits of cremated bones placed with unburnt burials might be sacrificial deposits should perhaps be borne in mind as well.

Vases are known from both flat cemeteries and cemetery mounds: they have been found in at least seventeen of the former and seven of the latter. The small flat cemetery at Clonshannon, Co. Wicklow, yielded a vase, a vase urn and an encrusted urn: it may be assigned to the Vase Tradition. Letterkeny, Co. Mayo, and Cloghskelet, Co. Down, are also likely cemeteries of this tradition even though Letterkeny also produced a biconical cup from one grave and part of a bowl was found at Cloghskelet. A mixture of pottery types in these cemeteries is more common.

Associations and Date
Associated artifacts from burials with vases are varied. They may be summarised as follows:

Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim: tripartite vase, burnt flint flake.
Ballywillin, Co. Antrim: two bipartite vases.
Galgorm Parks, Co. Antrim: tripartite vase, collared urn.
Glenevy, Co. Antrim: two tripartite vases.
Magheraboy, Co. Antrim: tripartite vase, vase urn, burnt flint knife.
Moylurg, Co. Antrim: bipartite vase, encrusted urn.
Lyle's Hill, Toberagney, Co. Antrim (1): miniature bipartite vase, encrusted urn.
Tullywiany, Co. Armagh: bipartite vase, encrusted urn.
The Vase Tradition

Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow: miniature bipartite vase; urn(?), three pebbles and dagger (latter objects lost).

Termon, Co. Cavan (Cist A): two bipartite vessels.

Termon, Co. Cavan (Cist D): bipartite vase variant, two anomalous vessels.

Aghacrass, Co. Cork: tripartite vase(?), 'small vessels' (lost).

Ballynahow, Co. Cork: bipartite vase, miniature bipartite vase.

Bealick, Co. Cork: bipartite vase, encrusted urn.

Coolhill, Co. Cork: tripartite vase, a 'ball of clay'.

Labbamolaga, Co. Cork: tripartite vase, bone pin, bone pendant or toggle.

Bunnamayne, Co. Donegal: two tripartite vessels.

Moville, Co. Donegal: bipartite vase, tanged plano-convex flint knife.

Ballywilliam, Co. Down: bipartite vase, two fragmentary vessels, one small pot (lost).

Cloghskelt, Co. Down (Grave 1): tripartite vase, two bipartite vessels, vase urn, encrusted urn.

Cloghskelt, Co. Down (Grave 2): bipartite vase, vase urn.

Cloghskelt, Co. Down (Grave 3): tripartite vase, encrusted urn, plano-convex flint knife.

Cloghskelt, Co. Down (Grave 5): bipartite vase, encrusted urn, plano-convex flint knife.

Cloghskelt, Co. Down (Grave 7): bipartite vase, plano-convex flint knife.

Cloghskelt, Co. Down (Grave 13): bipartite vase, encrusted urn.

Cloghskelt, Co. Down (Grave 16): two bipartite vessels, flint end scraper.

Greenhills, Co. Dublin: tripartite vase, miniature tripartite vase, encrusted urn.

Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh: tripartite vase, vase urn, plano-convex flint knife.

Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh: tripartite vase, bronze dagger, bone fragment.

Annaghkeen, Co. Galway: bipartite vase, pottery lid, miniature vase, bronze dagger, bronze awl, quartz pebble, and 'potsherds' (lost).

Carrowntober East, Co. Galway: bipartite vase, two flints.

Cloghrroak, Co. Galway: two bipartite vessels.

Corrandrum, Co. Galway: bipartite vase, two plano-convex flint knives, bone pin head.

Oldtown, Co. Kildare: bipartite vase, vase urn.

Tipper South, Co. Kildare: two bipartite vessels.

Ballyoskill, Co. Kilkenny: two bipartite vessels, one miniature bipartite vase.

Blanchfieldsbog, Co. Kilkenny: three bipartite vessels.

Coolbrane (Freestone Hill), Co. Kilkenny: bipartite vase, bone plaque.

Coolmore, Co. Kilkenny: tripartite vase, basal fragment of pot, chert knife.

Moyhara, Co. Kilkenny: miniature bipartite vase, vase urn.

Cush, Co. Limerick: two bipartite vessels.

Oaktaie, Co. Louth: two bipartite vessels, sherds of third, vase urn.

Ballinlanna, Co. Mayo: lidded bipartite vase, bipartite vase.

Ballinlanna, Co. Mayo: bipartite vase, 'bronze wire' (lost).

Kinard, Co. Mayo: bipartite vase, mussel shell.


Fourknocks II, Co. Meath (Burial 6): bipartite vase, encrusted urn.

Trenanimurtagh, Co. Sligo: anomalous vase, sherds of small pot.

Moamore, Co. Tipperary: bipartite vase, encrusted urn.

Corkragh, Co. Tyrone: tripartite vase, small corndon urn, encrusted urn, biconical cup, basal fragment of pot.

Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone: two tripartite vessels.

Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone: two bipartite vessels.

Bishopstown, Co. Waterford: one tripartite vase, two bipartite vessels.

Corball Beg, Co. Waterford: bipartite vase, rounded pebbles (lost).

Ballybrennan, Co. Westmeath: bipartite vase, four flint scrapers, flint flake.

Knockast, Coolatore, Co. Westmeath: bipartite vase, bronze razor, urn (decayed).

Ballyduff, Co. Wexford: tripartite vase, faience bead.

Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford: tripartite vase, bipartite vase, cup.

Knocknaskeagh, Co. Wexford: two bipartite vessels.

Scarawalsh, Co. Wexford: tripartite vase, encrusted urn.

Ballingleen, Co. Wicklow: tripartite vase, larger 'urn' (lost).

Burgage More, Co. Wicklow: bipartite vase, encrusted urn.

Tuckmill Lower, Co. Wicklow: tripartite vase, bipartite vase.
This list of some 66 directly associated finds demonstrates that by far the commonest artifact found with vases is another pottery vessel (in approximately 74% of cases). Aside from a few miniature vases, in 23 instances a vase has been found with one or more other vases (pairs of vases being commonest). In some 14 instances, however, vases have been directly associated with encrusted urns and in 7 cases vases have been found with vase urns. Vase urns and encrusted urns have also been discovered in the one grave: in the Cloghskelt cemetery (Grave 1), at Moneen, Co. Cork (Grave 6), possibly Greenhills, Co. Dublin (Grave 2), and in Grave 2 in the Keenoge, Co. Meath, cemetery. This recurring association of vase, vase urn, and encrusted urn, is one reason for the definition of the Vase Tradition some years ago (Waddell 1976) and this 'significant triangular pattern of association' contrasts with the scarcity or absence of direct funerary associations with other pottery types (Fig. 12). The association of vase and collared urn has been only twice recorded, at Galgorm Parks, Co. Antrim, and in the Mound of the Hostages at Tara, Co. Meath (Kavanagh 1976, 350). A third association is uncertain — at Craigyvarren, Co. Antrim. Vase Tradition and cordonned urn combinations are rare, occurring at Corkagh, Co. Tyrone (where an encrusted urn was also present). One associated find of cordonned urn and vase urn is reported from Livery Upper, Co. Antrim (Waddell 1990, 48).

In most cases of multiple vase finds, all are of the one category. The association of tripartite vase and bipartite vase is recorded at Cloghskelt, Co. Down (416 with 488–489), at Bishopstown, Co. Waterford (434 and 436 with 435), at Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford (438 with 439) and Tuckmill, Co. Wicklow (444 with 581). These finds not only imply some contemporaneity between the two vase categories but in some cases (as at Cloghskelt) serve as a reminder of the close typological relationship between them.

Metal artifacts are rarely found with vases and most are not accurately dateable. The best known find is the small grooved dagger found along with a gold object, at Topped Mountain, Mullyknock, Co. Fermanagh; the tripartite vase (426) from this grave is well known. As various writers have pointed out (Flanagan 1961, ApSimon 1954, Harbison 1969a) the triangular, grooved dagger has
affinities with those of the early Wessex funerary tradition in southern England. However, the Topped Mountain piece, with a length of about 140mm, is smaller than the classic Wessex daggers of Gerloff’s Armorico-British Type A (Gerloff 1975, plates 10 and 11); it also seems to have had just four rivets rather than the usual six. The small fragment of ribbed sheet gold appears to be part of a pommel mount or binding. Such mounts have been found with four Scottish daggers (Taylor 1980, 45).

The small triangular dagger found with the Annaghkeen, Co. Galway, bipartite vase (513) has a pair of rivets and a slight midrib. Harbison (1969a) places it in his ‘miscellaneous’ category. A lost bronze dagger is recorded from a cemetery at Balloon Hill, Co. Carlow, where it was found with a miniature bipartite vase (459) and an ‘urn’; the latter is also lost. The awl from Annaghkeen, Co. Galway, is not closely dateable, and the bronze ‘wire’ reported from Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo, is not preserved.

The oval bronze razor from Knockast, Co. Westmeath, found with a bipartite vessel (570) and a decayed urn (possibly a vase urn) is of the tanged variety and is simply decorated with incised lines forming an oval pamel. An oval panel containing incised filled triangles and reserved lozenges occurs on a similar razor found with a cordoned urn at Pollacorragogue, Co. Galway (Riley 1937; Harbison 1973, 1:1, fig. 13:4; Kavanagh 1976, 323, fig. 10A). Related decoration is to be found on a fragment of a razor (with tang missing?) from sandhills at Dundrum, Co. Down (ASCD 28, fig. 18:55) and a number of comparable decorated razors come from Scotland (C. M. Piggott 1946, 130, fig. 4). The dating of these implements is uncertain; they may be related to rare tanged blades found with late beakers or to decorated razors of the Continental Tumulus Bronze Age (Butler and Smith 1959).

The faience bead found with a tripartite vase (437) at Ballyduff, Co. Wexford, is segmented. However, consisting of but two segments, it differs from the common type of multi-segment bead found, for example, with Gerloff’s Aldbourne series graves of the Camerton-Snowshill Wessex phase (Gerloff 1975, 204). Two-segment faience beads are unusual: there is a record of an example of uncertain provenance, possibly from Dublin (Hartnett and Prendergast 1953, 55, fn). S. P. Ó Riordáin (1955, 171) compared the small Ballyduff bead, which has a diameter of only 8mm, to what he thought was a clay bead from Manton, Wiltshire, but this object is a relatively large unperforated stud. A more convincing parallel of approximately similar size was found at Llangwm, Denbigshire. This small two-segment bead of light blue faience was found with a second larger faience bead, a vase and a vase urn (Savory 1980, 134, fig. 49.344:4).

The segmented bone object from Corrandrum, Co. Galway, was found with a bipartite vase (519) and two plano-convex flint knives. It is probably the segmented head of a bone pin and has most recently been studied by Powell (1972). For him, this object, the Pollacorragogue decorated razor mentioned above and a plain example from Carrowjames, Co. Mayo, all from the west of Ireland, suggest possible connections with the Continental Tumulus Bronze Age where both tanged razors and bronze pins with ribbed heads occur.

The other associated finds, such as plano-convex flint knives, provide no more than an indication of a general early Bronze Age date. Between them, the Topped Mountain dagger and the Ballyduff faience bead hint at general contemporaneity with the Armorico-British and Camerton-Snowshill phases of the Wessex funerary tradition.

Given the typological relationship and the association between the several pottery types of the Vase Tradition, the dating evidence for vase urns and encrusted urns has some bearing on the dating of vases. Chronologically significant finds with these urn types are, unfortunately, quite infrequent. A secondary vase urn from the Grange, Co. Roscommon, cemetery mound was found with a dagger of Gerloff’s Armorico-British type A (Fig. 13) of the earlier phase of the Wessex funerary tradition. A flat dagger of Harbison’s Type Corkey was seemingly found with a vase urn at Oldtown, Co. Dublin, and one large fragment of the pot and most of the dagger are preserved in the National Museum of Ireland. The point of the flat triangular blade is missing but the dagger was probably about 14cm long originally and it had three rivets. Aside from several plano-convex flint knives, other associations are, as we have seen, mainly ceramic ones, usually of the Vase Tradition. The same is true of the pottery found with encrusted urns and, as Kavanagh (1973) has shown, the non-ceramic associated finds are of little chronological value.
CHAPTER 4

ASPECTS OF CHRONOLOGY
 AND QUESTIONS OF ORIGINS

ABSOULTE CHRONOLOGY

Associated finds with bowls suggest some contemporaneity with late beakers and the Wessex funerary tradition. Those with vases also imply contemporaneity with the Armorico-British and Cameron-Snowshill phases of the latter phenomenon and indicate that vase urns, encrusted urns, as well as collared and cordoned urns, were partly coeval. Yet stratigraphical evidence (p. 23) from Grange, Co. Roscommon, Fourknocks I, Co. Meath, Edmondstown, Co. Dublin, and Moreen, Co. Cork, suggests that the Vase Tradition, at least in part, superseded the Bowl Tradition. It is surely significant that no typical bowl has been found with a typical vase and it seems likely that social or religious factors must have induced this separation in the funerary record. The radiocarbon evidence seems to confirm that bowls and vases were in general use at the same time. The following determinations (part of a larger study of Irish prehistoric material) and all obtained from samples of unburnt bone have been kindly provided by Jan Lanting, W. G. Mook and Anna Brindley:


Keenoge, Co. Meath (51 and 52). Bipartite and necked bipartite bowls. 3685±43 BP (GRN 12272).


Betaghisstown, Co. Meath (312). Ribbed bowl. 3745±30 BP (GRN 11357).

Haylands, Co. Wicklow (339). Ribbed bowl. 4095±30 BP (GRN 11901).


Carrowntober East, Co. Galway (516). Bipartite vase. 3755±30 BP (GRN 11354).

Bolinrady, Co. Wexford (219). Tripartite bowl. 3620±60 BP (GRN 9321).


Glassamucky, Co. Dublin (512). Bipartite vase. 3765±40 BP (GRN 11899).


In addition a date of 3570±45 BP (GRN 11446) has been published for a recently discovered tripartite vase from Tremoge, Co. Tyrone (Foley 1985), and another such vase from a small Vase Tradition cemetery (Williams 1985) at Drumnakeel, Co. Antrim, has been dated to 3255±80 BP (UB 2639). A late and probably anomalous date of 2900±100 BP (GRN 11450) comes from a pit containing a tripartite bowl at Altanagh, Co. Tyrone (Williams 1986). By and large, these determinations appear to indicate, at least, the broad contemporaneity of tripartite and ribbed bowls, and bipartite vases. The contemporaneity of the two latter groups may be reflected in some pot forms. A number of ribbed bowls have inward curving profiles and several pots with this profile, but lacking clearly defined ribs, have nonetheless been included in that category (p. 16); Martins-town, Co. Meath (319), Ballymote, Co. Sligo (325), and Syonan, Co. Westmeath (345). These vessels are comparable in form to some bipartite vases, particularly some with curving profiles. Examples include several vases from Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (e.g. 460–461) and pots such as An-naghkeen, Co. Galway (Plate 24, 513), Cave, Co. Galway (520) and a bipartite vase variant from
Fig. 13. Bronze dagger from Grange, Co. Roscommon, with suggested reconstruction (right).
Termon, Co. Cavan (605), which with its false relief could be claimed to be a bowl-vase hybrid. In addition to similarity of form, some of these bowls and vases share a predilection for a decorative scheme of multiple narrow zones. There are differences however. The bowls usually bear characteristic impressed comb and false relief ornament while, apart from that variant from Termon, incised decoration (and herringbone ornament) is a prominent feature of the vases. However, bowls and vases such as these may some day provide a clue as to the nature of the relationship between the two pot types.

The majority of the available radiocarbon dates suggest a timespan of about 3800–3600 BP in round figures for most bowls and vases. As already mentioned, a date of 3480±35 BP (GrN 9709) has been obtained for the Grange dagger burial (Fig. 13) which provides a terminus ante quem for the simple, bipartite and necked bipartite bowls from that site – a chronological position in keeping with the available dates for other simple and bipartite bowls. However, associated finds such as the Killicarney belt fastener, the Topped Mountain dagger and the Ballyduff faience bead have all been claimed here and elsewhere (e.g. Simpson 1968) to imply some contemporaneity with one or other of the two phases of the Wessex funerary tradition. This ‘Wessex Culture’ is often conventionally dated, on much debated and slender evidence, to about 3600–3400 BP (Megaw and Simpson 1979, 207–229). The date for the Tremoge tripartite vase may hint at a relatively late date in the Irish bowl and vase series for some vases of this particular type. It allows the possibility of some chronological overlap with some of those Wessex burials as currently dated.

PROBLEMS OF ORIGINS

Various writers have commented on the question of the origin and development of bowls. Abercromby (1912, 121), for example, believed they originated in the round-bottomed Neolithic bowl and suggested a typological development from simple to bipartite to tripartite. Coffey (1913, 95) proposed a similar origin and development. Indeed, such bowl-shaped ‘food vessels’ in Ireland and northern Britain were seen as ancestral to English vases (Smith 1910, 348). Evans and Megaw (1937, 40) dismissed this suggestion and argued that the bowl originated ‘within the limits of the West-Scottish beaker province’. Hawkes (1940, 323), however, thought bowls incorporated elements of the pottery of the builders of Irish passage tombs.

J. Raftery (1951, 152) saw beaker influence in bowl decoration and proposed a typological sequence commencing with tripartite bowls and ending with bipartite bowls. Since Borlase (1897, 621) first compared the vertically ornamented bipartite bowl from Glenwhirry, Co. Antrim (34), to the gold bowl from Gonnebek, Schleswig-Holstein, various writers, including Mahr (1937, 372), Childe (1947, 121) and Raftery (1951, 154) have assumed such North European gold bowls to be copies of these insular pottery vessels.

ApSimon (1958, 31), in the first consideration in any detail of the question, derived Irish bowls directly from southern British beakers. He remarked that some bowls had a bipartite profile reminiscent of some beakers and that bowl forms occurred sporadically in most beaker groups. Bowl decoration particularly pointed to this beaker source. The use of comb impressions and the fashion of major zones of ornament repeated on the upper and lower halves of the bowl as well as the motifs employed were beaker derived. So too was false relief decoration which was another way of obtaining a chevron, lozenge, or flag pattern. ApSimon thought these developments took place mainly in eastern Ireland, whence the bowl spread to Ulster and to Scotland. Some ten years later, however, he recognised that bowl origins were more complex (ApSimon 1969, 37).

Simpson (1965, 33) has summarised some other views on bowl origins, and has suggested a contribution from late Dutch Veluwe beakers, perhaps to be correlated with Case’s supposed ‘Impact Phase’ of Continent-inspired innovations in early Irish metallurgy. In 1968, Simpson also suggested that there were two main formal bowl groups: one consisting of our simple and bipartite pots, the second comprising tripartite and ribbed bowls. He believed that each of these groups displayed some typological development. He reiterated these views in 1979 but, on the question of origins, did admit the possibility of the independent development of the bowl in Ireland, parallels with beakers in the Low Countries being due to a common beaker tradition.

D. L. Clarke (1970, 270) recognised two series of Irish bowls, one bearing decorative motifs of his Southern British beakers, the other using Late Northern beaker motifs. He suggested that the
source of the bowl shape was 'actual beaker bowls selected as models by the Irish Neolithic tradition, already accustomed to bowl forms' and that 'small Late Northern and Late Southern beaker groups, penetrating Northern and Southern Ireland respectively, superimposed themselves and their traditions on the native Irish Neolithic population'.

Burgess (1974, 182) saw both bowls and vases developing from Neolithic pottery traditions under beaker influence, their diversity resulting from the marked regional variations shown by both contributory traditions.

**The Beaker Contribution**

Some relationship between the Bowl Tradition and certain beaker ceramic styles is generally accepted, and the frequent use of distinctive comb-impressed decoration is but one indication of this presumed relationship. However, bowls are clearly not classic funerary beakers, and in some aspects of form and ornament they appear to display little or no beaker influence. Attempts to quantify this influence, particularly in decoration, reveal a puzzling picture.

The principal decorative motif on simple and bipartite bowls consists of a pair of broad zones of parallel vertical lines sometimes delimited by horizontal lines as on Cabragh, Co. Monaghan (Fig. 1, 16. See also Fig. 20, p. 56), a design not easily paralleled on insular beakers (cf. D. L. Clarke’s 1970 corpus, figs. 480, 526, 678, 764, 827, etc.). It and the use of decorative techniques such as incised (or impressed) grooves and whipped cord and other impressions would seem to imply (if spontaneous innovation is an unacceptable explanation) inspiration from some other source. The general shape of the simple bowl does, of course, recall the shape of round-bottomed Carrowkeel pottery and Case’s (1961) Goodland Bowls. The occurrence of impressed whipped cord ornament on some of the latter vessels (Herity 1982, 275: his ‘Style 3 – Globular Bowls’) is intriguing but their somewhat uncertain chronology and the differences in the decorative motifs employed are merely two factors which counsel caution. At present the relationship, if any, of these Neolithic pots to simple bowls is impossible to assess. It is possible, however, to offer some comment on the presumed beaker contribution. Apart from vertical lines delimited by horizontal lines, only three other decorative motifs occur with any degree of frequency on simple and bipartite bowls. Of these, the commonest is related to the vertical line motif just mentioned and consists of vertical lines delimited by triangular impressions sometimes forming a chevron in false relief, e.g. Loughash, Co. Tyrone (18), ‘Mountfield’, Co. Tyrone (19), and Ballysadare, Co. Sligo (56); see Fig. 19, p. 55. This motif seems to be a variant of a comb-impressed design found on some Northern beakers (D. L. Clarke’s motif no. 27). It is a feature of Clarke’s Late Northern beaker group (N3) and occurs, for example, on his figs. 586, 632, 635, 636, 655, 658, etc. It is to be found on a small number of Late Northern (N4) beakers and rarely elsewhere. The motif has a scattered distribution – from Caithness to Suffolk, but the majority of examples occur in northern England and in Scotland, notably in the north-east (D. L. Clarke 1970, 180). Beakers with this motif seem to belong mainly to step 5 of Lanting and van der Waals’ (1972) scheme (which, however, could not be satisfactorily applied to the north-east Scottish material and which has been modified by Shepherd (1986) – his step 4).

Reserved zones containing filled ovals or lozenges or, in one instance, a hexagon, decorate a relatively small number of simple and bipartite bowls. The lozenge design on Grange, Co. Roscommon (17) may be compared to D. L. Clarke’s motif no. 33(iii) and the design with hexagons on unprovenanced bowl no. 54 (Plate 2, 66) is comparable to his no. 34. The motifs on bowls such as no locality nos. 8 (63) and 19 (65), Connor, Co. Antrim (33), and Brownstown, Co. Kildare (47), are probably variations on these designs. Clarke’s motifs 33(iii) and 34 are found on some of his Southern beakers and he describes them as ‘suspended or “floating” patterns’. They are a feature of Developed, Late and Final Southern beakers (S2–S4) in Yorkshire, north Wales and southern England (Lanting and van der Waals’ steps 5 to 7). The reserved chevron on, for instance, the bipartite bowl from Crouck, Co. Tyrone (59), and on the simple bowl from Loughloughan, Co. Antrim (3), is, of course, a well-known beaker motif. It is D. L. Clarke’s motif 32(ii), found, for the most part, on Developed and Late (S2 and S3) Southern beakers in Yorkshire, south Wales and southern England. It is also to be found on such Irish examples as Largantea, Co. Derry (Clarke 1970, fig. 687), and Grange, Co. Limerick (S. P. Ó Riordáin 1951, 56, fig. 5). If ApSimon (1958, 31) is correct in believing that a false relief zig-zag is simply
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another easy way of producing a chevron design, then the degree of what seems to be adaptation of beaker motifs on these bowl types (and others) is even greater than indicated here.

While a wider range of motifs occurs on necked bipartite bowls, the commonest single motif is a broad zone of vertical lines, sometimes with a chevron-fringe in false relief, e.g. Crumlin (85) and Kiltalown, Co. Dublin (87). Reserved motifs are to be found on a few of these vessels: the reserved zone and lozenge motif on Greenhil, Co. Dublin (86), is comparable to that on the simple bowl from Grange, Co. Roscommon (17), mentioned above. On Dungate, Co. Tyrone (98), and Rush, Co. Dublin (88), triangular impressions form a saltire motif in false relief reminiscent of Clarke’s panelled motif no. 35(vii). When placed at intervals in a horizontal zone of vertical or horizontal comb impressed lines, a zone of rectangular-panelled ornament is created. Panelled motifs are to be found on both Northern and Southern beakers but apart from the use of panelling, there is little correspondence between individual beaker and bowl motifs of this sort. Indeed, it is possible that some if not all of these bowl panelled motifs derive from a reserved design with lozenge motif as on the Grange, Co. Roscommon, bowl (17), to which compare Connor, Co. Antrim (33), and Carrickbanagher, Co. Sligo (57).

Like the idea of paneling, the principal motifs found on tripartite bowls occur on a wide variety of beakers. Apart from the false relief chevron, the main comb-pressed motifs on these bowls are parallel horizontal lines, vertical lines and oblique lines (often forming a herringbone design). Reserved designs are found on only about one-third of tripartite bowls, these mainly in the Leinster area. The commonest motif is a reserved chevron, e.g. Tunkardsrock, Co. Louth (168), and Edmondsown, Co. Dublin (Plate 7, 151). The latter vessel with its minimal comb ornament in the triangular spaces of the reserved chevron would tend to support ApSimon’s (1958) contention about the relationship between the simple false relief chevron and the reserved chevron. The two motifs occur on a bowl from Cloonee, Co. Leitrim (164). Variants of the reserved design occur on such pots as Bolimeady, Co. Wexford (219), Aghfarrell, Co. Dublin (148), Gortcorbies, Co. Derry (132) and Loughagannon, Co. Donegal (143). Panels of vertical lines separated by saltires or rectangles in false relief occur on a number of vessels, e.g. Ballon Hill, Co. Cartlow (121), Fourknocks II, Co. Meath (Plate 6, 171), Gorticrum Irish, Co. Tyrone (195), Rickardstown, Co. Westmeath (215), and Merristown, Co. Wicklow (228). Other reserved designs are few: reserved zones containing lozenges occur on a bowl found near Malahide, Co. Dublin (153), and unprovenanced bowl no. 71 (255); related oval motifs similarly disposed occur on Oldtown, Co. Kildare (160). Reserved lozenges also decorate Killadroy, Co. Tyrone (198), and other reserved designs occur on Carrowkeel, Co. Sligo (182), Keenog, Co. Meath (173), two bowls from Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow (222 and 223), and a pot from Co. Armagh (119). These reserved designs, for the most part, find only very general parallels among Southern beakers.

Multiple narrow horizontal zones of vertical, oblique or horizontal short lines (only occasionally chevron-fringed) and zones of false relief chevrons are the commonest motifs on ribbed bowls. Reserved designs are rare: reserved zones incorporating filled lozenges or ovals decorate Killycarney, Co. Cavan (275), Brownstown, Co. Kildare (293), Cullaghan, Co. Mayo (309), and Balrath, Co. Meath (311). Filled hexagons occur on Martinstown, Co. Meath (319), and the design of floating lozenges on Coan, Co. Kilkenny (308), echoes the distinctive design of some Southern beakers.

The makers of these various bowl types clearly favoured a limited range of decorative motifs with some parallels among Northern and Southern British beakers. As we have seen, the chevron-fringed vertical lines, which are a noteworthy motif on simple, bipartite and necked bipartite bowls, are also a feature of later Northern beakers (N3 and N4) and found mainly, though not exclusively, in northern Britain. The few reserved motifs on these bowl types, such as chevron and ‘floating lozenge’ motifs, are generally paralleled on Southern beakers and are found from Yorkshire southwards. Some reserved motifs, however, such as those incorporating oval designs or panels delimited by false relief impressions, appear to be local versions of such beaker designs. A similar range of reserved motifs, again with general Southern beaker parallels, is of somewhat common occurrence in the decorative repertoire of tripartite bowls where chevron-fringed vertical lines are less frequent. The same is true of the recognisable beaker motifs on ribbed bowls.

How far the false relief chevron should be con-
sidered a beaker motif, or a derivative of such a motif, is uncertain. D. L. Clarke notes triangular impressions forming false relief or 'chip-carving' on some of his Northern beakers (1970, 192) for example, and also graphically illustrates (plate 8) how this decorative technique may be, as Childe (1935, 92) believed, a borrowing from woodworking. In passing it may be noted that other minor features of bowls may also echo the craft of the wood-worker: the concentric grooving on the bases of bowls from Loughloughan, Co. Antrim (3), and Knockast, Co. Westmeath (100), might reflect the contemporary use of lathe-turned wooden bowls. Some basal cruciform designs, as on Cavanakill, Co. Armagh (36), Grange, Co. Roscommon (93) etc., may have been inspired by polypod wooden vessels, a form known in pottery in Beaker contexts and in the vase series in East Yorkshire and elsewhere (Manby 1969).

If the obvious beaker motifs favoured by bowl makers were actually borrowed from Northern and Southern beakers, then their use displays a rather remarkable eclecticism. A whole range of other decorative motifs (including many found on Irish beakers) were ignored.

ApSimon was clearly correct when he declared (1969, 37) that the origins of the Irish bowl were more complex than a simple derivation from Southern British beakers. Indeed, it does not seem possible to even argue convincingly a dual Northern and Southern origin. A Northern contribution seems undeniable, however, and this is confirmed by the burial evidence: bowls found with crouched burials are known mainly from the eastern midlands and the pottery vessel is usually placed by the head in Northern beaker fashion (p. 20). Somewhat paradoxically, it is this eastern part of the country which has produced many tripartite bowls and it is this bowl group which displays some predilection for reserved decoration of Southern beaker derivation. However, there is no clear correlation between reserved ornament and unburnt burial.

D. L. Clarke (1970, 91) has written: 'Although the bulk of Irish bowl Food Vessels show motifs characteristic of Developed Southern British and Northern British beakers some at least are closer to earlier beaker models, in particular to beaker bowls ... some of these being so close as to make the transition indistinguishable'. Of the eight disparate pots he cites from Abercromby's corpus as comparable to beaker bowls, five are either vases or atypical vessels from Scotland and one is an atypical bowl (a variant of the bipartite category) with incised ornament from Moyleleh (Belmore Mt.), Co. Fermanagh (74). The two remaining vessels, one from Kilmurry, Co. Kilkenny (29), the other from Glenwhirry, Co. Antrim (34), are both bipartite bowls and, in form or ornament, hardly support this comparison. Clarke's suggestion of a later Northern and Southern beaker contribution, however, is confirmed in this study where the partial nature of this contribution is also apparent. The continued use of the bowl form is probably the most obvious indication of this partiality and Clarke saw this as a Neolithic fashion: 'The adoption of the bowl form at the expense of the beaker form might suggest that an influential beaker minority was absorbed by a local neolithic majority, favouring traditional bowl forms'. Greater knowledge of Irish late Neolithic pot types may, in time, clarify this supposed non-beaker element. It is an attractive hypothesis to account for non-beaker features of form and ornament which are sufficiently pronounced, as we have seen, to permit the suggestion that any explanation for bowl origins in terms merely of 'beaker derivation' is unsatisfactory. Equally unsatisfactory, as far as current thinking on the beaker problem is concerned (e.g. Harrison 1980), is the notion of intrusive beaker minorities being absorbed by local Neolithic majorities. On present evidence, bowls must be considered an essentially indigenous Irish fashion, a local version of the beaker phenomenon (as found in Britain), presumably with a roughly similar funerary purpose and social significance. Contemporary, at least in part, with later Northern and Southern beakers, they must be seen as a parallel development sufficiently attractive and popular, for whatever reason, to obviate any need to place a true beaker in pit or cist grave in Ireland.

The question of the origins of tripartite and bipartite vases admits of no easy answer either. Various writers have noted a beaker contribution: in 1943 J. Raftery saw such influence in the shape and decoration of a vase from Ower, Co. Galway (526), and O’Kelly (1946) considered the profile of the similar vase from Ballynahow, Co. Cork (472), to be reminiscent of beaker. ApSimon (1958) declared that the decoration on a number of tripartite vases (his 'Irish Vases') showed a close correspondence with the decoration on some North British beakers. Simpson (1965) agreed with ApSimon's suggestions of a north British beaker origin for
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these vases. However, because some occurred in Scotland, he believed that a Scottish origin and subsequent introduction to Ireland was more likely than independent beaker derivation in several areas of north Britain and Ireland.

D.L. Clarke (1970, 271) shed some further light on the beaker connection of these tripartite vases: according to him 'all the characteristic features defining Irish Vases can be satisfactorily derived from the Late/Final Northern Beaker group ... these features include the basis of the vase shape, the zonal styling and the use of the very distinctive Late Northern motifs nos. 22–7'. The chevron-fringed vertical line motif (no. 27), so characteristic of these beakers, is conspicuous on the everted neck of the well-known tripartite vase from Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh (426), which 'is of clear Northern beaker ancestry' (Clarke 1970, 189). The zone contraction (no doubt of similar inspiration) on the vases from Curran, Co. Antrim (391), and Greenhills, Co. Dublin (Plate 11, 421), is also worthy of note; so too is the reserved ornament which is a feature of the vertical-necked subgroup (380–398) to which the former vase belongs. If Northern beaker derivation seems a reasonable hypothesis, the subsequent development of tripartite vases is far from clear. The position, for example, of the geographically isolated southern vases in the series is a puzzle. Indeed, the suggestion of a simple derivation from late beakers may be an oversimplification – the association of tripartite vases with items such as plano-convex flint knives, vase urns and encrusted urns, should not be forgotten and is a reminder of the existence of a 'non-beaker' element.

The problem of the origins and development of bipartite vases is no less complex and cannot be separated entirely from that of the tripartite vases. Some vases of both types, at least, are clearly related as the several associated finds indicate: here, as occasionally elsewhere, even shape is but a minor difference. It is tempting to see the slack profiled bipartite vases as a broadly contemporary but sometimes inferior version. The occurrence of relatively finely decorated and less well decorated pots in the one grave may be instances: see, for example, Kilmuckridge (438 and 439) and Knocknaskeagh, Co. Wexford (574 and 575). Aside from the zonal ornament, frequently incorporating an incised herringbone motif, a direct beaker contribution to bipartite vases is difficult to identify. Indeed these bipartite vases are the 'food vessel' element of ApSimon's Food-Vessel group which he believed to be intrusive in Northern Ireland and to have possibly originated in north-east England, the territory of the 'Yorkshire Vase'. 'From its primary focus it expanded widely, seemingly at the expense of the Beaker cultures which it replaced in areas of favourable soils' (ApSimon 1969, 37). In the absence of a corpus of Yorkshire Vases and related pots in Britain, detailed comparison with Irish bipartite vases is not possible. However, it is clear that the classic Yorkshire Vase is rare in Ireland. As the work of Kitson Clark (1937), Manby (1957) and Gibson (1978) has shown, for instance, the commonest vase of this type has an expanded, internally bevelled rim, a bipartite body with a narrow or broad shoulder groove (frequently with lugs or stops) and a small, drum-shaped base. Incised or impressed herringbone ornament or decoration is common and cord-impressed ornament also occurs. Simpson in Megaw and Simpson (1979) has summarised the characteristic features of the class.

Only a very small number of vases in Ireland closely resemble Yorkshire Vases (as Simpson has noted). These were classified as Type 2 vases in Waddell (1976) but in this study are included in the bipartite vase category pending fuller study of the British material. While a few pots may be claimed to be 'Yorkshire Vases in Ireland', others with features such as very narrow shoulder grooves or lugs are typologically inseparable from bipartite vases generally. Ballywillin, Co. Antrim (450), Ballywilliam, Co. Down (Plate 10, 484), and Katesbridge, Co. Down (507), Ballyhackett Upper, Co. Carlow (467), Carrowtober East, Co. Galway (Plate 24, 516), Gortnahown, Co. Galway (521), Moyveela, Co. Galway (525), Kanard, Co. Mayo (552), and Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone (431), for example, are all vases with shoulder groove and lugs and could perhaps be cited as evidence of the transmission of a fashionable trait from one community to another, one which may have originated in northern Britain. The same may be true, of course, of bipartite vessels with shoulder groove but no lugs, such as Ballywillin (451) and Lisburn, Co. Antrim (453), Ballyvester, Co. Down (487), and lugless essentially groove-less vessels such as Ballivicmaha (549), Cashel (551), Knock (553) and Letterken, Co. Mayo (557). However, the smooth curving profile of so many of these Irish vases seems to be mainly an indigenous fashion and widespread simple traits such as lugs or incised herringbone
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ornament can hardly be ascribed with certainty to Yorkshire Vase 'influence'. As already mentioned, some contact with northern Britain may be a reasonable assumption but the nature of that contact and the degree of contact is difficult to assess at present. Given the differences between so many Irish bipartite vases and vases in northern England and Scotland (see Manby 1957, Simpson 1965, Morrison 1971 and Gibson 1978), the simple derivation of the former from the latter seems a less than adequate hypothesis. The possibility of contact is undeniable but the overall impression is of two broadly contemporary pottery traditions neither demonstrably ancestral to the other and both sharing an ultimate common heritage of either late Neolithic or beaker ceramic traditions or both.
CHAPTER 5

THE MANUFACTURE, PRODUCTION AND USE
OF IRISH BOWLS AND VASES

ALISON SHERIDAN

VEssel CONSTRUCTION

That Irish bowls and vases were constructed by the ring method — that is, by adding successive horizontal rings of clay and smoothing over the joints — is indicated by several specimens where joint lines are visible (Fig. 14). Collins (1957) noted their presence on a necked bipartite bowl from Knockaveagh, Co. Down (Fig. 14, 82); O’Kelly (1946) and Evans (1953) observed examples on bipartite vases from Ballynahow, Co. Cork (Fig. 14, 472) and Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim (454); and Jope and Jope (1952) recorded their presence on a tripartite bowl from Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone (Fig. 14, 192) and on a more globular bowl from the same site (193). Joint lines are also discernible on bipartite bowls from Keenoje, Co. Meath (Fig. 14, 51) and Buncrana, Co. Donegal (39), on a tripartite bowl (no locality 22, 268), on a ribbed bowl from Ballydullagh, Co. Derry (Fig. 14, 276), and on an unprovenanced necked bipartite bowl (no locality 54; Plate 2, Fig. 14, 66). In the Knockaveagh, Keenoje, Buncrana and unprovenanced specimens, the pots have broken or come apart along a joint line. The Keenoje, Buncrana and unprovenanced bowls appear to have been made using two rings, joined at the vessels’ mid-height constriction point, whilst the Drudgeon (192) and Knockaveagh bowls were seemingly made from three. The Ballynahow vase, by virtue of its greater height (18–19cm instead of c. 9–11cm), was probably made using more rings. Comparative evidence from some Scottish vases, with heights varying from 12.5cm to c. 14cm, indicates the use of four to six rings (Barclay 1983; Stevenson 1939).

Further details regarding vessel construction are available in a few cases. The Drudgeon tripartite bowl (192), for example, reveals that the flat base was integral with the lowermost ring, thereby indicating that the latter was worked up from the basal lump of clay. An additional inner skin is also shown on the Jopes’ illustration (Fig. 14, 192). This technique of building up the lowest ring from the base has also been noted on bowls and vases outside Ireland (e.g. North Mains, Perthshire: Barclay 1983, fig. 30). As for the shoulders of the Drudgeon bowl, these appear to have been made by manipulating the ends of the rings, rather than by adding fillets of clay. The resulting undulation of the inner face of the pot at the shoulders is a feature present on many shouldered and bipartite vessels. The vertical ribs on the Drudgeon bowl, and many of the lugs seen on tripartite bowls and bipartite vases, may similarly have been made without recourse to adding extraneous clay: they could simply have been pieched out from the body of the pot. Some shoulders and lugs, however, have clearly been added as a separate component, luted to the body. Collins (1954) noted the use of applied shoulder cordons on a tripartite bowl from Audleystown, Co. Down (144); here the internal undulations, as seen in the Drudgeon tripartite bowl, are absent. The use of applied lugs is demonstrated well on the tripartite bowls from Carrickfin, Co. Down (Plate 7, 145), Crouch, Co. Tyrone (190), Glenariff, Co. Antrim (109) and Loughloughan, Co. Antrim (111), and on the bipartite vases from Ballyhacket Upper, Co. Carlow (467), Cush, Co. Limerick (542) and Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim (454). The strap handles on a tripartite bowl from Keenoje, Co. Meath (177), and on the lids of the bipartite vases from Ballinchalla, Co. Mayo (546), and Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny (537), were also applied. Regarding the construction of the internal rim bevel, two methods are attested: on the Drudgeon tripartite bowl, it was formed by folding the top ring back on itself, then moulding the edge, whereas on the unprovenanced bowl (no locality 54), a separate triangular strip was added (Fig. 14, 66).

FINISHING

The final stages in the preparation of the pots prior to firing consisted of smoothing the walls (and sometimes burnishing the exterior surface)
and adding the decoration. Decorative motifs preferred by the makers of the different bowl and vases types have been examined (Chapters 2 and 3) and will be returned to below; all that needs to be added here is the observation that the quality of the decoration (i.e. the regularity of design and the fineness and precision of its execution) varies considerably and in a patterned manner. The proportion of vessels with poor quality decoration is higher for vases than for bowls (c. 18% to c. 11%), and the proportion of vessels with very fine decoration – as exemplified in a bipartite bowl from Mount Stewart, Co. Down (Plate 19, 43) and a tripartite vase from Comber, Co. Down (418) – is higher for bowls than for vases. The incidence of burning as a pre-decoration surface treatment correlates to a large extent with the quality of the decoration: in other words, vessels which have been burned also tend to have good to high quality decoration, e.g. a tripartite vase from Greenhills, Co. Dublin (Plate 11, 421). The smoothness of the vessels’ walls also correlates with the quality of the decoration: pots with crude or irregular decoration tend to have surfaces which have not been carefully smoothed and which often have large and/or prominent grits, e.g. a Cloghskelt tripartite vase (416). With more finely decorated vessels, the potter has aimed to achieve a smooth-surfaced pot, in which the lithic inclusions (which can be numerous) protrude as little as possible from the external surface. Usually the grits are barely visible on the outer surface, but sometimes a vessel with good quality decoration has numerous grits visible on its exterior, e.g. Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (121). As for other surface treatments, no example of the addition of a true slip has been noted, although a slip-like appearance is fairly common, e.g. Labbadish, Co. Donegal (142), Ballymacilroy, Co. Antrim (106), and could have been produced by a final smoothing of the vessel with a wet hand, or perhaps in some cases by applying a self-slip (i.e. a slurry made from the same clay as the rest of the pot).

FIRING

Information on the firing of bowls and vases has been obtained by studying: (a) the colour of the pottery, (b) the mineralogy of lithic inclusions in the clay, and (c) the microstructure of the clay (as revealed by scanning electron microscopy).

Regarding colour, although they display a wide variety of surface colours (ranging from dark grey to pale buff, and chocolate brown to bright red and orange), the vast majority of bowls and vases are united in having a blackish or dark grey core. In a sample of 100 vessels, including specimens of all bowl and vase forms, 74 showed this sandwich-like feature, with the dark core contrasting with the lighter colours of the oxidised surfaces. The thickness of the core varied, but in most cases it occupied over 75% of the width of the vessel wall. In the remaining examples, the vessels were either the same bright oxidised colour throughout, or had a light outer surface and dark core and interior.

The presence of the dark core indicates that the vessels had been incompletely oxidised during firing. Shepard (1956, 21) has pointed out that incomplete oxidation results from one or more of the following conditions: short firing, low temperature firing, insufficient oxygen in the firing atmosphere. In the present case, one could argue that the most plausible explanation is that of rapid firing. Some indication of the temperature of firing is given by the microstructure and mineralogy of the pottery, which suggests a level of around 800 °C (or, exceptionally, higher: see below for details). Since such a temperature is high enough to oxidise the carbonaceous matter which gives the core its dark colour,¹ a short firing time – i.e. less than one hour, and possibly substantially less – is suggested. (See Matson 1971a and 1971b, 1974, for experimental work on clay colouration during firing, and Nicklin 1981a and 1981b for ethnographic observations on firing times and temperatures.) As for the conditions of the firing, no attempt seems to have been made to produce a controlled reducing or oxidising atmosphere. Instead, the evidence is consistent with the use of an open bonfire, heath or firing pit, in which sufficient temperature and draught has been generated to oxidise the pottery, but which will have experienced a variable atmosphere during the different stages of fuel combustion and with shifting air currents. The blotchy surface colouration seen on some vessels, e.g. Molyang, Co. Antrim (Plate 23, 452), accords with such an interpretation, the dark patches generally corresponding

¹. That the dark colour is due to carbonaceous matter rather than to Fe₂O₃, is indicated by the results of refrig tests: when sherds from four black-cored vessels were refired for one hour in an oxidising atmosphere (using an electric muffle furnace), all traces of the dark core had disappeared. Had the dark colour been due to Fe₂O₃, a residual darkness would have been expected (Matson 1974, 42).
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with the areas touched by the flame.

As for the vessels which display a uniform light colour (usually reddish-orange or buff), these may well have been left in the fire for a longer period, attaining more thorough oxidation. The last category of vessels — those with a light exterior and dark core and interior — constitutes another variant of the phenomenon of incomplete oxidation, in which the interior surface has not received as much oxygen as the exterior. In fact, this represents an extreme example of a feature noted in many blackcored vessels, in which the inner surface is greyish whereas the outer surface is light brown, reddish, orange or buff. One possible explanation for this discrepancy between interior and exterior surface colouring is that the vessels may have been fired in an inverted position (cf. Bronze Age urns); however, it is equally possible that the phenomenon has been produced through rapid firing in an upright position, during which less oxygen has been able to circulate around the interior than around the exterior of the pot.3

The mineralogy of certain lithic inclusions, as seen in petrological thin sections, can provide further information on the firing of bowls and vessels. One vessel, a tripartite bowl from Glencoppleagh, Co. Tyrone (194), was found to contain tridymite, a conversion product of quartz which forms at 870 °C under conditions of low pressure heating.3 One might therefore infer that the vessel was fired at or above this temperature (tridymite being stable over the range 870–1370 °C). Moreover, the vessel’s bright reddish-brown colouration throughout its body indicates that it was thoroughly oxidised during the firing, and the presence of black blotches on the interior and exterior surfaces suggests that it was licked by the flames of the fire. However, it may be that this particular pot was fired at a higher temperature than was normal for such vessels (cf. the scanning electron microscope results below), and was in fact overfired, as its extremely friable fabric suggests. Despite this fault, it appears to have been used as an accompaniment to a burial.

A third source of information on firing is the microstructure of the clay matrix, as revealed by the scanning electron microscope. The degree of vitrification (i.e. the melting together of individual particles) displayed by a vessel gives some indication of the temperature at which it has been fired; the vitrification process usually begins at 800–850 °C when vessels are fired in a oxidising atmosphere, and at 750 °C when fired in a reducing atmosphere (see Maniatis and Tite 1981 for further details). By refining part of a sherd at known temperatures under controlled conditions, one can compare the degree of vitrification thereby produced with that visible in the sherd in its ‘as received’ state. For experimental purposes, sherds from five vessels4 were refired in an oxidising atmosphere (in an electric muffle furnace) at temperatures of 500, 600, 700, 800, 900 and 1000 °C. The rate of heating was kept as closely as possible to 200 °C per hour, and the soaking time (i.e. time left at the target temperature) was one hour. After refiring, a fresh fracture surface was examined under the microscope for signs of vitrification (that is, smooth-surfaced areas and glassy filaments). The results indicated that all five sherds in the as-received state fell into the category of ‘no vitrification/initial vitrification’;5 some slight increase in vitrification was visible after refiring to 800 °C, and a considerable increase was noted after refiring to 1000 °C (Plate 3). These results can be interpreted as suggesting that the vessels were probably originally fired around 800±50 °C (the +50 °C being added to allow for the more rapid firing in antiquity, and the −50 °C to allow for the possible effect of a partially reducing atmosphere during firing).6

CHOICE OF CLAYS AND TEMPERING

The choice of materials can sometimes offer insights into the homo- or heterogeneity of the potting tradition, and in a few rare instances suggest

2. I am grateful to Dr A. Woods for her comments on this topic.
3. My thanks to Dr J. Preston for this information.
4. Tripartite bowl from Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (121); ribbed bowl from Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry (276); tripartite vase from Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim (38); and bipartite vases from Cloghroak, Co. Galway (518) and Cloghskeil, Co. Down (486).
5. One of the samples (Ballon Hill) showed a slightly higher degree of vitrification than the others having areas of ‘initial/extensive vitrification’ (according to Tite’s terminology).
6. I am grateful to Dr M. S. Tite for his comments on the photomicrographs, and advice on experimental procedure. Thanks, too, to the Staff of the Scanning Electron Microscope Unit at the Queen’s University of Belfast.
the identity of the potters themselves. (Research by David Tomalin into the 'recipes' of temper type, size and quantity used by the makers of Bronze Age urns in southern England has revealed that a distinctive and influential new potting tradition appeared with the introduction of biconical urns (Tomalin 1983, 1988). In Tomalin's opinion, this may signify the actual arrival of continental potters into southern England, alongside foreign bronze-smiths.)

Although Irish bowls and vases may vary considerably in their hardness and friability of fabric, they show a marked tendency towards the use of fine-textured, often fairly heavily gritted clays in their manufacture. The fineness of the clay may be due to the deliberate selection of naturally well-sorted material (e.g. from alluvial deposits), or to the use of levigated clay. Sand-sized particles may be present, sometimes in considerable amounts, but according to Professor J. Brindley (pers. comm.), most of these are likely to have been added to the paste as part of the tempering material. Regarding the choice of the latter, an absolute preference for lithic rather than organic tempering is evident. Corky-textured vessels do occur, e.g. at Ballygalley Hill, Co. Antrim (447), and Coney Island, Co. Armagh (Addyman 1965, fig. 9, 9–11), but the corkiness appears to be due to the leaching out of inorganic material, rather than to the burning out of grass, straw, etc. Furthermore, only two possible examples of the use of greg tempering have been noted so far (both in thin-sectioned specimens): a tripartite bowl from Balrath, Co. Meath (311), was found to contain 'a few vague masses of finely granular matter' resembling greg, and a globular tripartite bowl from Kilmashogue, Co. Dublin (152), contains some fragments which are either greg or Lower Palaeozoic greywacke (Brindley, pers. comm.).

That the lithic material was deliberately added as temper is indicated by the angular and unweathered nature of most of the grits (Plate 4). A good example of these characteristics is shown by the Tertiary olivine dolerite tempering as seen in Plate 4: the fact that the individual pyroxene crystals are clearly discernible in thin-section indicates that the rock has been crushed up, exposing unweathered surfaces. (Under normal weathering conditions, the pyroxene would have leached out.) Furthermore, the fact that the grit size varies in a regular manner with the coarseness of the vessel (see below) suggests that the potters were controlling the size of grit to be incorporated into each pot, by crushing the temper to varying degrees of fineness.

Regarding the nature of the lithic temper, a wide variety of rock types is represented (see below for details). However, a preference for the use of Tertiary olivine dolerite and basalt was noted amongst a sample of 25 vessels which were submitted to petrological thin-sectioning, 7 and further examples of their use have been observed during macro- and microscopic examination of other bowls and vases. (A similar phenomenon was noted by J. and A. Brindley during their study of Beaker pottery from some Irish sites, and a preference for similarly dark-coloured rock types (including dolerite) has been noted in several studies of prehistoric pottery in Britain: Brindley 1984; Freestone and Tite, pers. comm.; Williams 1982; Williams and Jenkins 1979.) These rock types are present in vessels not only within the main areas of dolerite and basalt outcrops in north-east Ireland, but also in areas far removed from this, where the material might only be available from small local dykes or drift deposits. As will be argued below, it is unlikely that their presence signifies that bowls and vases were mass-produced at a single centre; it seems more likely that the material was deliberately selected at each locality, either from outcrops (where present) or drift deposits (where it would be visible as distinctive dark greenish and blackish pebbles). The advantages of using these hard igneous rocks would be that: (a) they are relatively stable during firing, not decomposing as some calcareous grits might do over the temperature range 650–988 °C (Mainman 1982); and (b) they would protect a vessel from thermal shock, if it were to be used for successive episodes of heating. However, since these pots from funerary contexts do not appear to have been used as cooking pots, the latter property would not be essential. Moreover, since other rock types share these same qualities, it may be that there was another reason for their choice. (A potter who had successfully used dolerite or basalt temper might recommend its use to other potters, for instance.)

Further evidence suggesting a degree of selectivity in the choice of tempering material is offered by the thin-sectioned bowl from Graney West, Co. Kildare (295). The local drift deposits are rich in limestone, yet it appears that other erratic material has been selected instead, thereby avoiding the use

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7. See appendix for a list of the vessels.
of this potentially problematic material (Brindley, pers. comm.).

The size of the lithic inclusions varies both within and between vessels, but very few grits exceed 10×6mm, and most of the medium to large-sized fragments fall within the range 2×2mm–6×4mm. The smallest grits are sand and silt-sized, and often represent the finely comminuted fraction of the larger grits. As in other respects (e.g. quality of decoration, surface treatment, wall thickness and often flakiness of fabric), coarse vessels can generally be distinguished from fine by the size and prominence of their grits. The bipartite vase from Moville, Co. Donegal (483), is an excellent example of a coarse pot, with numerous large grits clearly visible at and below the surface. By contrast, very fine specimens such as the vase from Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny (537), appear to contain tiny and well-concealed grits. The vast majority of vessels lie between these extremes, and contain numerous small to medium-sized particles which are evenly distributed through the fabric but prevented from protruding excessively through the external surface. The 25 thin-sectioned vessels, which represent this broad intermediate group, were found to contain grits with maximum sizes ranging between 2.5×1mm and 8×7mm (Fig. 15). Only in one case was a larger fragment noted, and this was 10×8mm. As expected, the size of the largest grits tends to increase with the increasing coarseness of the pot: compare, for example, the relatively fine specimens from Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry (276), and Kilmashogue, Co. Dublin (152), with the coarser vessels from Fourknocks II, Co. Meath (559), and Baltrath, Co. Meath (311).

In terms of the amount of grit per pot, one can again perceive clear differences between the coarser and finer specimens. One of the most heavily gritted vessels is the above-mentioned vase from Moville, in which the percentage of lithic inclusions in the fabric must be approaching 40–50%. It is hard to assess the proportion of grits in the finest vessels, since none of these is available for sectioning, but one can predict that it will be substantially less than this. Amongst the 25 thin-sectioned vessels, the amount of grit was found to vary between 15–35%, the coarser pots tending to contain the larger amounts (see Fig. 15). There is not, however, a neat linear correlation between the fineness of the vessel and the amount of grit it contains: while some of the finer pots contain only 15–20% grit, e.g. Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry (276); others, e.g. Kilmashogue, Co. Dublin (152), contain a comparable amount to that found in the coarser vessels, the only difference being that the fragment size is smaller. (The amounts were estimated by reference to Shvetsov charts, which give pictorial representations of graduated grit densities; see Terry and Chilingar 1955.) In the absence of quantitative estimates of grit content for other types of prehistoric Irish pottery, it is hard to assess whether or not these amounts are relatively high; but from the author’s research into Irish Neolithic pottery, it appears that the lightly- gritted specimens are comparable with some of the fine Western Neolithic plainware, whilst the more heavily gritted specimens can be matched amongst the medium to coarse variants of the same ware (see Sheridan 1985 for details).

One might, therefore, conclude that the tradition of bowl and vase manufacture shows a certain degree of homogeneity in terms of manufacturing practices (i.e. use of fine-textured clays, use of crushed stone as temper, rapid firing), even though there is considerable variation in the fineness of pots and the type of rock used for temper. The elements of homogeneity may be due to the transmission of information between potters, whilst the lack of absolute technological standardisation is characteristic of wares which are not mass-prod-

**Production**

The scale and organisation of pottery production can be investigated in several ways, ranging from the examination of manufacturing facilities (e.g. kilns, workshops), to analysis of design and decorative features (e.g. Shepard 1956), and petrological, chemical and other analysis of the vessels’ clay matrix and lithic inclusions (e.g. Freestone et al. 1982). In the case of Irish bowls and vases, no trace of any manufacturing facility has yet been found (thanks largely to the funerary bias of their discovery and excavation); but to judge from the evidence relating to firing conditions and temper variability, it is unlikely that kilns or bulk-production workshops were involved. If, as suspected, they were produced on a small scale basis using a simple open bonfire, hearth or firing pit, it could be hard to detect the presence of such features archaeologically, or to recognise their function correctly (Gibson 1986).

Two aspects remain to be considered, namely: (a) patterning in vessel design and decoration; and
(b) the petrology and sourcing of lithic inclusions. The information derived therefrom is of use in determining whether these vessels were produced on a large or small scale, on a localised or centralised basis, and by specialist or non-specialist potters (or both).

(a) Stylistic patterning

As recent ethnoarchaeological work has demonstrated (e.g. Hodder 1981), the inference of production patterns from stylistic data is not as straightforward as some archaeologists had formerly suggested (e.g. Binford 1965). Hodder has argued, for example, that one cannot draw a simple, linear correlation between the degree of standardisation in pot design and decoration and the scale of its production. Notwithstanding such considerations, there are numerous archaeological and ethnocultural instances where the output of an individual potter, workshop or centre can arguably be distinguished on stylistic grounds. Within the context of vase studies, for example, Tomalin and others have drawn attention to the existence of a few pairs and small groups of vessels in which the similarity in design and decoration (and often fabric) between the pots is such that the work of the same potter is suspected (Barclay 1983; Pierpoint 1980; Tomalin 1979. See Fig. 16 for examples). In the case of the pair from a barrow at Newbarn Down (Isle of Wight), an additional piece of supporting evidence was the presence of a thumb impression at the base of each pot, as a kind of maker's mark (Fig. 16; Tomalin 1979). In some cases, the matching pots may be found close to each other (e.g. at Newbarn Down, or in neighbouring barrows at Goodmanham, Yorkshire: Pierpoint 1980), but in others, they may be separated by considerable distances. The vessels from North Mains, Perthshire and Cowdenhill, West Lothian were 36 km apart (Fig. 16; Barclay 1983), while the vessels from Cawthorn and Folkton in Yorkshire were separated by over 40 km (Pierpoint 1980). An even more distant link was noted by Tomalin between two vase urns from Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, and Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire, 72 km from each other (Tomalin 1983). Furthermore, to judge from the author's macroscopic examination of the North Mains and Cowdenhill vessels, it appears that the same lithic inclusions are present in both pots, and that the same kind of clay (firing to a light brown surface colour) was used for both, thereby suggesting that they could have been manufactured at a single locality.

In Ireland, one can distinguish several levels of stylistic similarity amongst the 670 or so bowls and vases from funerary and other contexts at our disposal. At the most general level, there is the sharing of basic vessel forms (e.g. the simple bowl, the bipartite vase), of individual decorative motifs (e.g. the filled running chevron, the herringbone), and of basic decorative schemata (e.g. zonal decoration). Examples of these are shown in Figs. 17-21. Such traits are widely distributed within Ireland, and some are also found in Scotland, and further afield in northern England as well. The use of the shoulder groove, particularly in association with herringbone decoration, is a classic feature of the Yorkshire Vase, and it has been suggested that
its use may have spread from northern England to Scotland and Ireland (Figs. 21–22; Megaw and Simpson 1979; Simpson 1965). An opposite movement of ideas, from Ireland to Scotland, has been inferred from the distribution of bowls, and of certain decorative traits such as the use of false relief (Simpson 1965, Young 1951). The sharing of these traits need not, of course, imply that pottery was produced on a centralised basis and traded out; rather, it suggests that potters were formulating and adopting certain conventions, and transmitting this information amongst themselves or between communities (and indeed from generation to generation) over an extensive network of contacts.

At the next level of similarity, one can detect the existence of geographically more restricted groupings, defined on the basis of vessel shape. A distinctive sub-group of tripartite bowls with a squat, angular profile (and often lugs as well) can be seen to have a northern concentration, in an area running from north Antrim to north Donegal (Fig. 23). A second group, consisting of tripartite vases with roughly vertical necks, clusters in Co. Antrim with a further example at the southern tip of the [continued on p. 57
Fig. 17. Distribution of the filled running chevron and filled triangle motifs, and incidence according to vessel type.
Key to Figs. 17–20. SB: simple bowl; BB: bipartite bowl; NBB: necked bipartite bowl; TB: tripartite bowl;
RB: ribbed bowl; anomal. B: anomalous bowl; unclass. B: unclassifiable bowl; TV: tripartite vase;
BV: bipartite vase; anomal. V: anomalous vase; var.: variant.
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Fig. 18. Distribution of the herringbone motif: large dots denote a major motif constituting one-third or more of a vessel’s decoration.
Fig. 19. Distribution of the fringed vertical line motif and its variants (open circles).
Fig. 20. Distribution of decorative schema featuring zones of vertical and horizontal lines.
Variants: open circles. Elaborate variants omitted.
Rhins of Galloway and a few more distant outliers in Ireland (Fig. 24). These vessels also share several decorative traits in common, such as the use of reserved ornament, filled triangles, herringbone and lattice motifs. A third formal grouping comprises tripodite and ribbed bowls with a markedly globular profile (Fig. 25). Such vessels are found in a triangular area stretching from Cos. Louth and Wexford to Co. Westmeath — the main distribution area for ribbed bowls — and once again tend to share decorative traits in common, such as the reserved zigzag and 'saltire' motif. (Two of the less typical outliers of this group, from Altanagh (Williams 1986) and Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone (193), form a distinctive local sub-group: see Fig. 25.) Finally a fourth, smaller group, comprising fine quality tripodite vessels with long necks and markedly angular carinations, can be identified in the south and east, with a few northern outliers (Fig. 26). Such regional groups could result from a variety of possible causes: they might, for example, reflect a pattern of close interaction between nearby communities (perhaps maintained over a period of time), or they could represent the output of a single production centre or itinerant potter.

At the highest level of similarity are those pairs or small groups of vessels which, by virtue of their sharing a particularly distinctive motif or set of attributes, appear to be the work of a single potter or workshop. One such pair is represented by the tripodite vases from Curran (391) and Kilmakee (392) in Co. Antrim (a sub-set of the vertical-necked Co. Antrim group referred to above), separated from each other by 35km (Fig. 27). Although not identical, they share many decorative features in common, including the use of extensive basal decoration (rarely found on vases) and they are also strikingly similar in size, finish, and the quality and technique of decoration. A group of five simple and bipartite bowls from findspots in Cos. Antrim and Down is similarly linked (Fig. 28); unique to this group is the use of a triple motif consisting of a false relief zig-zag line, a recessed panel and a comb-decorated panel, and of a motif featuring a zone of plain semi-circles or semi-ellipses set against a background of linear comb impressions. All five vessels have been carefully made, using a fineware fabric, and three bear traces of external surface polish. The distance between the furthest specimens (assuming that one was indeed found near Kells, Co. Antrim) is 50km.

A further example of the use of a particularly distinctive motif is given by two bowls from cist burials at Oldbridge, Co. Meath (Fig. 29: 12, 320). Here, despite the fact that the vessels differ in shape and overall decorative schema, the basal designs share the same idiosyncratic use of a wavy star-shaped design with multiple short lines between each arm. The star-shaped design can indeed be found on other bowls, e.g. Ballycoholgan, Co. Antrim (270), but nowhere is it executed in precisely the same way as at Oldbridge. Although the Oldbridge bowls are from different cists and are differently shaped, it is possible that they were broadly contemporary: a similar combination of bowl forms was found within the same, single period grave (no. 3) at Keenoge, Co. Meath (51, 52).

There are numerous other cases where pairs or groups of vessels are closely similar to each other, yet which lack the extra distinguishing feature of an unusual motif, e.g. the necked bipartite bowls from Killyree, Co. Antrim (76) and Tamnyagan, Co. Derry (81). Moreover, although many vessels share the same range of motifs and techniques of decoration, no two pots are identical, and it may be that potters were deliberately including an element of individuality in the design of each pot. Given such subtle variability, the task of identifying the work of an individual potter on stylistic grounds is particularly difficult as far as the remainder of bowls and vases is concerned. The only way to extract further information about production patterns is through the scientific analysis of the vessels' basic constituents (i.e. clay and lithic inclusions). The results of the programme of petrological analysis, which included samples from some of the stylistic sub-groups described above, are presented in the next section.

Finally, regarding the question of whether bowl and vase production was carried out by specialist potters or not, the evidence from pot design and decoration (and manufacture) offers some tentative indications. As noted before, the quality of a vessel's decoration, finish and fabric varies widely: one can easily identify a minority of particularly fine pots, e.g. a tripodite vase from Comber, Co. Down (418), and a minority of poorly decorated, 8 The globular bipartite vase from Glassamucky, Co. Dublin (512), is reminiscent of some of the bowls in this group, notably those from Fourknocks I, Co. Meath (315-17), and Doon, Co. Meath (313).

(continued on p. 63)
Fig. 21 (above). Distribution of bowls and vases with shoulder groove and lugs.

Fig. 22. Vases from Ireland, Scotland and northern England showing the use of the stopridge and of herringbone decoration.
Fig. 23. Distribution of squat tripartite bowls.
Fig. 24. Distribution of vertical-necked tripartite vases (including Trenose, Co. Tyrone, from Foley 1985). Cairnagaa, Wigtownshire (from Simpson 1965) illustrated lower left.
Fig. 25. Distribution of globular tripartite and ribbed bowls. Northern outliers (variant sub-group): Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone (193) and, lower right, Altanagh, Co. Tyrone (after Williams 1986).
Fig. 26. Distribution of fine quality tripartite vases with long necks and sharp shoulders.
coarse pots, e.g. the tripartite bowls from Gorticrum Irish, Co. Tyrone (195, 266), and assign the remainder to various intermediate grades of fineness. (One can even detect instances where an attempt appears to have been made by a less skilful hand to imitate the work of a more skilful hand: compare the two bowls (49 and 50) from Grave 2 at Grange, Co. Roscommon. The finer quality pots attest to a high degree of skill and sophistication in their design and manufacture; and the fact that some of these are associated with rare and luxurious grave goods such as daggers and knives, as at Annaghkeen, Co. Galway (513), Keenoge, Co. Meath (51, 52) and Topped Mountain, Co. Fermanagh (426), suggests that a well-made bowl or vase might have been regarded as a prestige item in its own right, and hence that the services of a good potter would be at a premium. Given that it is likely that specialists in other crafts existed at the time (e.g. goldsmiths: see Taylor 1980), there is no reason why specialist potters should not also have existed. However, such a statement begs several fundamental questions: for instance, is one to assume that only the finest vessels were made by specialists, or could it be that most or all bowls and vases were made by specialist potters, but with varying degrees of skill? Given the abundance of the raw material for pottery (in contrast to gold or jet), it would be within the capacity of most communities to produce competent potters, who could have operated as part- or full-time specialists, but whose expertise would have varied from individual to individual. That this may indeed have been the case is suggested by the numerous slight variations in the quality of manufacture and decoration, as noted above. (The variation in lithic inclusions from area to area – as discussed below – also supports such an interpretation.) As for the relatively coarse pots, some might well have been made by less skilled potters in an unsuccessful attempt to emulate the finer pots. However, others could conceivably have been made by skilled potters, for a particular reason. It may be, for example, that as urns became increasingly popular in funerary contexts, many potters felt less constrained to reproduce the regular and precisely-executed designs of former times and preferred to echo the sometimes looser, large-format design of the urns. Examples
Fig. 28. Stylistic sub-group of bowls from Counties Antrim and Down.
of such pots include the vases from Moanmore, Co. Tipperary (562) and Tremoge, Co. Tyrone (Foley 1985), and most of the vases from the cemetery at Cloghskele, Co. Down (e.g. 489–492, 494–5, 497–501). The coarseness of fabric noted in some of these pots may also reflect a shift towards the style of urn manufacture.

(b) Petrology and sourcing of lithic inclusions
Prior to the initiation of the research project, very few attempts had been made to identify and source the lithic inclusions present in Irish bowls and vases. Ryan (1974) recorded the presence of crushed and rounded fragments of granite in a tripartite bowl from Sliguff, Co. Carlow (124), and B. Raftery (1974) also reported the use of granite, together with other rock types, in a necked bipartite bowl from Baunogemasraid, Co. Carlow (78). The use of powdered limestone as temper was noted in a bipartite vase (526) from Ower, Co. Galway (J. Raftery 1943), and at Lyes Hill, Co. Antrim, Evans (1953) noted the presence of flint and basaltic amygdaloids in a tripartite bowl (112), and later McCorry (1977) observed quartz and fine-grained and olivine-basalts in a thin-sectioned sherd of a bipartite vase (455). All of these rock types could have been obtained from sources close to the findspots. Cleary’s petrological work on material from around Lough Gur, Co. Limerick, also concluded that locally-available grits appear to have been used here (Cleary 1986). However, Addyman suggested that the bowls found at Coney Island, Lough Neagh (Co. Armagh), might have been imported to the site (from an undisclosed distance), as their corky texture suggested the former presence of grits which ‘may well have been calcareous’ (Addyman 1965, 94).

During the author’s initial macroscopic survey of most Irish bowls and vases, it was noted that the type of lithic inclusions varies widely, sometimes even within a single cemetery (e.g. Graney West, Co. Kildare). Such evidence tallies with the suggestion that this pottery was probably made on a small-scale, localised basis. As for identifying and sourcing the grits, it was fairly easy in some cases to identify rock types through macroscopic or simple (binocular) microscopic examination: for example, bowl sherds from a recently-discovered sandhills site at Castlerock, Co. Derry, were found to contain sizeable fragments of dolerite or olivine-basalt, possibly derived from the nearby Portrush sill. In many cases, however, it was clear that the grits were either too small or undiagnostic to be identified by such means, and would require closer scrutiny through petrological thin-sectioning. A sample of 25 vessels, from widely scattered and geologically contrasting findspots, was therefore submitted to this kind of examination (Fig. 30).

9. Collections from the following institutions were examined: National Museum of Ireland, Ulster Museum, National Museums of Scotland, Armagh County Museum and the Queen’s University, Belfast. Some of the vessels in the Archaeological Survey of Northern Ireland were also examined.
10. I am grateful to Dr J. Preston for furnishing this identification.
Selection of the vessels depended largely on the availability of loose sherds for slicing; although it was desirable to include specimens from the stylistic sub-groups as defined above, in practice it was only possible to thin-section a limited number of such vessels. The groups of squat tripod bowls and vertical-necked tripod vases were represented by one example each, from Larbadish, Co. Donegal (142), and Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim (389); the globular tripod and ribbed bowls by six specimens, including a northern outlier from Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone (121, 152, 193, 300, 315, 316); and the Antrim-Down group of five simple and bipartite bowls by Knock, Co. Down (42). A second specimen from the last-mentioned group, from near Kells, Co. Antrim (366), was investigated by removing individual grits and examining some in immersion oil in a polarising microscope, and others by X-ray diffraction. The pair of vertical-necked tripod vases from Curran and Kilmakee, Co. Antrim (391-2), were also examined, using a hand lens and binocular microscope. Details of the remaining thin-sectioned vessels are presented in Fig. 30; these comprise a cross-section of vessel shapes and fabrics, and in three cases two vessels from the same cemetery are represented. The selection of specimens from scattered and geologically-contrasting findspots was designed to highlight any differences or patterns in inclusion types which might yield information on the nature of bowl and vase production.

The results of these investigations are presented in the Appendix. Before discussing them in detail, however, it is necessary to emphasise that the pinpointing of specific source areas by such means was not possible; all that could be determined in each case was whether the lithic inclusions could have come from a local source, be it primary (i.e. outcrop) or secondary (i.e. glacial, fluvial or marine deposit). The reasons for this are as follows: (a) many of the rock types found in the pottery tend to outcrop over a large area and/or in many different localities, and are thus of low diagnostic value (e.g. basalt, dolerite); and (b) the movement of material by glacial, fluvial and marine action has extended the potential source area of many rock types. Whilst most drift material has only been moved a few kilometres from its primary source, in some cases erratics have been known to travel hundreds of kilometres (e.g. Ailsa Craig riebeckite-microgranite).

Notwithstanding this limitation, it was possible to draw some meaningful conclusions from the lithic data. Firstly, apart from the apparent preference for Tertiary olivine-dolerite and basalt as noted above, there was considerable variation in grit types from area to area, and in general this did reflect the nature of the local solid and drift geology. Compare, for example, the inclusions found in a bipartite vase from Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (466), with those present in the tripod bowl from Glenbogagh, Co. Tyrone (194), and those in a bipartite vase from Letterkeney, Co. Mayo (556). The Ballon Hill vase contains fragments of a distinctive type of basic igneous rock known as Caledonian hornblende-appinite, whose primary source is limited to a group of small outcrops in the Killarneagh-Kiltegan area, about 25km to the north-east. Erratics of this material can be found in the drift around Ballon Hill, appearing as dark green pebbles; and Professor J. Brindley has commented (pers. comm.) that if potters were seeking out dark greenish pebbles for temper — for whatever reason — then this material would resemble the much-used Tertiary olivine-dolerite. By contrast, the Glenbogagh bowl contains fragments of hornblende-bearing schists, which outcrop in the immediate vicinity of the findspot; and the Letterkeney vase contains grits of Dalradian metavolcanic rock which matches material from the nearby Buckoog and Mount Eagle mountains. Such evidence suggests that the vessels could have been manufactured on a localised basis.

Secondly, regarding the use of Tertiary olivine-dolerite and basalt as temper, the following comments may be offered. As suggested above, basalt outcrops extensively in north-east Ireland, and numerous dykes of dolerite and basalt can be found as far south as Balbriggan and the Cavan-Longford area. Erratics of these materials are also common in this part of Ireland, and are present in drift deposits further to the south and west. Despite some variability within and between deposits, these rock types are basically uniform and thus of low diagnostic value for sourcing purposes. Grits of basalt, dolerite or basalt/dolerite appear in 12 out of the 25 thin-sectioned vessels (see Plate 4a-b, and also in the vase from Kilmakee (392) and the bowl fragments from the sandhills at Castlerock,

11. Or seven, if one includes the bipartite vase from Glassamucky, Co. Dublin (512).
12. I am grateful to Drs I. Freestone and M. S. Tite for undertaking this work.
Manufacture, Production and Use

Co. Derry, and from near Kells (366). The dolerite grits vary from vessel to vessel in grain size, olivine and iron ore content and texture (i.e. ophitic vs. non-ophitic); and whilst theoretically they could all derive from a single large and variable dolerite body somewhere in north-east Ireland, it is equally possible that they were obtained from many different sources, each occurring close to the vessels’ findspots. Where the findspots do not lie within a primary source area for basalt or dolerite, in all but one case – Plopluck, Co. Kildare (300) – they lie within 5km of a dyke. Furthermore, in every case, erratics would be available (and visually distinctive) in the local drift deposits. Therefore, it is quite possible that the vessels were all made locally and on an individual basis. That this may indeed have been the case is suggested by the facts that: (a) the vessels in question are not united by any particularly close stylistic or textural similarities, and may well have been made at widely differing times; and (b) as noted above, other Irish bowls and vases contain grits which could have been obtained from local sources, and which vary from area to area, thus supporting the idea of local manufacture.

Thirdly, as for the relationship between stylistic groupings and inclusion types, the most useful evidence comes from the group of globular tripartite and ribbed bowls, which is represented in thin-section by six examples. The lithic inclusions vary from vessel to vessel (see Plate 4 c-d), and in all cases but one, Kilmarshogue, Co. Dublin (152), they could have been obtained from primary or secondary sources within a few kilometres of the vessels’ findspots. Furthermore, even though a variety of rock types may be present as erratics in the drift, it is extremely unlikely that all of the types seen in these six bowls could have appeared together at a single location. Some variation is also displayed in the Antrim-Down group of bowls: the thin-sectioned bowl from Knock, Co. Down (Plate 4d: 42) was found to contain amphibolite (which could be derived from local drift deposits), whilst the bowl from near Kells (366) contains grits of locally outcropping basalt/dolerite. (As for the other bowls in this group, no conclusions regarding grit types could be drawn from macroscopic inspection.) The group of squat tripartite bowls also appears, from macroscopic examination, to contain variable grits; the one thin-sectioned specimen from Labbadish, Co. Donegal (Plate 4c: 142) was found to contain some locally-outcropping material (Dalradian biotite schist) and some exotic grits of Dalradian metavolcanics and biotite microgranite, which could have been brought to the area by glacial action. Finally, as for the group of vertical-necked tripartite vases, the evidence is somewhat inconclusive: the specimens from Ballymacaldrack (Plate 4a: 389) and Kilmakee, Co. Antrim (392) both contain Tertiary basalt, but their findspots lie on the huge basalt outcrop which extends over most of the county; and although the specimen from Curran, Co. Antrim (391), is thought to contain non-local Tardree rhyolite and ‘pitchstone’, this identification is only provisional. However, when taken as a whole, the evidence relating to stylistically similar vessels suggests that they are unlikely to have been produced in ‘bulk’ in centres of pottery manufacture; it is more likely that the stylistic similarities are due to the sharing of ideas between neighbouring potters working on a small-scale, localised basis. As for those stylistic groupings which are suspected to represent the output of an individual potter (i.e. the Antrim-Down bowls and the Curran-Kilmakee ‘pair’ of vases), the evidence from lithic inclusions is unfortunately too exiguous and provisional to allow of any firm conclusions.

Fourthly, regarding intra-cemetery variability in grit types, the thin-section evidence is as follows. In the case of the two specimens from Cloghskelet, Co. Down (488, 503), both were found to contain the same grit types (Tertiary olivine-basalt/dolerite and granite/granodiorite), which are thought to derive from local drift deposits. The two globular bowls from Fourknocks I, Co. Meath (315–6), display some variation in their range and type of grits, but again a local source is likely. As for the vessels from Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow, one (466) contains fragments of a crushed pebble of Caledonian hornblende-appinite, whilst the other (plate 4h: 121) contains a mixture of crushed rock types, dominated by quartzose greywacke. In both cases the material was probably picked out of a local drift deposit. Such evidence supports the view that potters were consistently turning to local sources for their temper material.

Finally, what of the vessels for which a local primary or secondary temper source cannot be suggested? The vessels in question are a tripartite vase from Clonshannon, Co. Wicklow (443), a bipartite vase from Glassamucky, Co. Dublin (512), and a globular tripartite bowl from Kilmarshogue, Co. Dublin (152). All three pots were
found in the Wicklow Mountains, within the limits of the Leinster granite, and all contain grits which appear to derive from fluvial or fluvioglacial gravel deposits. A variety of rock types is represented in each, and the gravel seems to have been crushed up prior to being added to the pot. A lowland source for the gravels seems likely, and this tallies with the evidence regarding clay sources: the uplands do not tend to contain abundant supplies of potting clay. For the Glassamucky grits, a possible source lower in the Dodder Valley (at or to the north of Bohernabreena) has been suggested; alternatively, a source may exist in the Kildare lowlands (J. Brindley, pers. comm.). Either way, a distance of 3km at the very least from the vessel’s findspot is indicated. As for the Kilmashogue grits, a source to the west of the findspot, again possibly in the Kildare lowlands, is possible; if this is the case, an even greater distance is implied. Regarding the Clonshannon grits, a source to the west, perhaps near the Wicklow-Kildare border, has been suggested. If the people interred at Clonshannon, Glassamucky and Kilmashogue were living close to these burial places, this suggests that they may have been dependent on outside sources for their supplies of pottery or potting materials. If this was indeed the case, it represents the only evidence (except perhaps for the above-mentioned material from Coney Island, Lough Neagh) for the use of non-local pottery or potting materials.

In conclusion, it would appear from the evidence presented above that bowl and vase production in Ireland was probably carried out on a small-scale, localised basis by potters who may have been part- or full-time specialists. That they were aware of each other’s products, and deliberately chose to follow certain conventions, is suggested by the existence of various elements of stylistic similarity, and by regularities in tempering and firing practice. However, certain aspects of production (e.g. the sex and status of the potters) are unknown and are likely to remain so.

As a footnote to this section, it is worth remarking that two vessels confirm by their technique of decoration that they are likely to have been made locally: these are a simple bowl from Rubane, Co. Down (8), and a ribbed bowl from Mount Stewart, Co. Down (Plate 15, 284), which bear cockleshell impressions. Both were found on the Ards Peninsula, within a few hundred metres of the shore of Strangford Lough.

Despite their traditional appellation as ‘Food Vessels’, there is as yet no unequivocal evidence in Ireland to demonstrate how these pots were used, and what they contained. Since so few vessels have been found in non-funerary contexts, it is hard to assess their role as domestic wares; but it may be that, as with Beaker pottery, there were various categories of ware (i.e. fine and coarse wares – the latter including urn-sized vessels), and that these corresponded to functional categories (i.e. serving vessels, storage vessels, cooking vessels). The finer end of the spectrum is represented at Coney Island, Lough Neagh, Co. Armagh (Addyman 1965), and the coarser wares are represented by material from Dalkey Island, Co. Dublin (Liversage 1968). To judge from the size, fabric and appearance of the Coney Island pots, it is most likely that they were used as serving rather than as storage or cooking vessels.

As for the vessels found in funerary contexts, it has generally been assumed that they contained food or drink (if anything), as they are mostly found upright or on their side, and only rarely contain bones. In Scotland, confirmation of such a use has recently emerged from a palynological study of a lump of residual organic material found in a vase at North Mains, Perthshire: the analyst concluded that the vessel had contained either ‘a porridge of cereals (e.g. frumenty) or a fermented ale, flavoured with meadowsweet flowers or extract’ (Bojancke 1983, 180; cf. Dickson (1978) on the discovery of lime honey or mead flavoured with meadowsweet from a Beaker at Ashgrove, Fife). Also in Scotland, there is an earlier report (1936) of the use of chemical analysis to determine the nature of a black substance adhering to the interior of a vase found at Ferniegair, Lanarkshire: this substance was supposedly found to be the remains of ‘some cereal food which has slowly carbonised’ (Mann, quoted in Welfare 1975). There are also several references to the discovery of ‘browney deposits’ in Scottish Beakers (e.g. Stevenson 1939).

In Ireland, there is one early reference (Coffey 1898) to the discovery of ‘a black greasy substance’ inside a bowl from Belmore Mt., Co. Fermanagh, but unfortunately the substance has not been preserved. A bowl from Cloonee, Co. Leitrim (164), had supposedly been packed full of a white substance when found; but it is possible that this consisted of comminuted cremated bone (cf. the
'yellowish material, at first thought by the finders to be gold-dust', in a vase from Ballynahow, Co. Cork; O'Kelly 1946).

During the author's survey of Irish bowls and vases a few specimens with patches of blackish or brownish encrustation on their exterior surface were noted, e.g. Cloghskelt, Co. Down (488); Glassamucky, Co. Dublin (512); Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry (276); Ballyvennagh, Co. Antrim (32); no locality nos. 56 and 57 (597–8). In addition Ryan has reported a 'fairly heavy carbonised deposit' around the middle of the interior of a bowl from Sliguff, Co. Carlow (124); the bowl had apparently been found on its side. These encrustations have not yet been submitted to scientific analysis, but it would be wrong to assume that they necessarily relate to the former contents of the vessel: some could conceivably have been produced during the firing process (i.e. through sooting), and some (e.g. Ballyvennagh) may consist of peat which has accumulated since the vessel's deposition. However, in the Glassamucky vessel, the encrustation is accompanied by traces of a possible 'tideline', and it may be that the latter constitutes a stain left behind by the pot contents as they evaporated. Such 'tidelines' have been identified in several Scottish vases by Gordon Barclay, who has been researching into organic residues in Scotland (Barclay 1987), and a couple of examples have been identified by the author in Irish vessels, e.g. Ballymacilroy, Co. Antrim (106), Ballynagross, Co. Down (283), Connor, Co. Antrim (33).

Again, one cannot be certain that such marks do represent the final traces of the vessels' contents, but they do appear to be more extensive and/or less amorphous than the dark blotsches, seen on some pots, which can be produced during the firing process, e.g. Vow, Co. Antrim (77).

The science of identifying organic residues from such exiguous traces is still at a relatively early stage of development: while encrustations can yield information through palynological and chemical analysis, the examination of 'tideline' evidence is considerably more problematical, and may entail the destruction of entire sherds (e.g. for gas chromatography extractions). The same is true of non-visible organic residues. During the research project, an attempt was made to determine whether non-visible residues might be identifiable from scrapings taken from the surfaces or core of selected pots. Eight bowls and vases and ten miniature cups ('pygmy cups'), none with visible encrustations or 'tidelines', were chosen, and scrapings of a few milligrams from each were analysed using infra-red spectrophotometry.13 No organic residues were found, but the analyst commented that a much larger sample—of several grams—would be needed to determine whether any were genuinely present or not.

While direct evidence for pot contents in Ireland thus remains tenuous and in need of further study, there is some indirect evidence to suggest how the bowls and vases in funerary contexts were used. This evidence consists of: (a) physical characteristics (e.g. porosity) and (b) formal characteristics (e.g. shape).

The physical characteristics which relate to the use of a vessel include such features as the porosity and permeability of the pot (Shepard 1956), its resistance to mechanical and thermal stress (Stephanitis 1984), and the presence or absence of external bands of soot and highly oxidised areas (which would suggest whether or not the pot had been used as a cooking vessel). None of the bowls or vases from funerary contexts bears an external band of soot, and the pattern of partial oxidation seen in most vessels (with its sandwich-like appearance) indicates that they are most unlikely to have been used as cooking vessels. As for the other properties, these were not measured scientifically in the present study; but to judge from the thin-section evidence, it appears that the size, shape and density of pores varies between vessels. Some of the finer specimens, e.g. Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry (276), have a particularly dense fabric, in which the pores are few and tiny, the clay is very fine-textured, and the grits are small. Such a vessel would be ideal as a serving vessel or container of either solid or liquid matter, and would theoretically not be suited to use as a cooking pot (because of its potentially low thermal shock resistance). As regards the permeability of such a vessel (i.e. its suitability as a storage vessel for cooling liquids), one might expect this to be low, in contrast to some other vessels which have larger, more numerous and interconnected pores, e.g. Clonshannon, Co. Wicklow (443). However, it should be noted that

13. I am grateful to Mr. J. Evans for undertaking this analysis. The samples were originally taken for analysis using pyrolysis-mass spectrometry and electron spin resonance, but various factors necessitated a change of plan.
Fig. 30. Map and list of thin-sectioned bowls and vases.

1. Labbadish, Co. Donegal (142): squat tripartite bowl
2. Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim (389): Tripartite vase with vertical neck
3. Near Kells, Co. Antrim (366): bowl (of Antrim–Down stylistic sub-group). (Not thin-sectioned; individual grits examined by X-ray diffraction and by inspection in immersion oil under polarising microscope)
4. Ballydullaghan, Co. Derry (276): ribbed bowl
5. Glencoppogagh, Co. Tyrone (194): tripartite bowl
6. Drudgeon, Co. Tyrone (193): globular tripartite bowl
7. Knock, Co. Down (42): bipartite bowl
8. Cloghskel, Co. Down (408): bipartite vase; (563): bipartite vase
9. Carrickina, Co. Down (145): tripartite bowl
11. Letterkeen, Co. Mayo (556): bipartite vase
14. Fourknocks I, Co. Meath (315): globular ribbed bowl; (316): globular ribbed bowl
Fourknocks II, Co. Meath (559): bipartite vase
15. Ardballynore, Co. Westmeath (206): tripartite bowl
17. Kilnasoghogue, Co. Dublin (152): globular tripartite bowl
18. Glassamucky, Co. Dublin (512): bipartite vase
19. Ploopluck, Co. Kildare (300): globular ribbed bowl
20. Clonshannon, Co. Wicklow (443): tripartite vase
22. Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (121): globular tripartite bowl; (466): bipartite vase
in the case of relatively porous vessels, their permeability can be reduced, either by polishing the external surface of the pot or by sealing the interior with a coating of milk or similar material (Heron, pers. comm.)\textsuperscript{14}. In general, one might conclude from the physical characteristics of bowls and vases in funerary contexts that they are well suited to a use as a server or container of solid or liquid matter, and are most unlikely to have been used as cooking vessels prior to their deposition.

As for their formal characteristics, these too suggest that the vessels were most probably designed as serving vessels or containers, rather than as storage or cooking pots. Their small size would tend to preclude the latter uses and their extensive and usually intricate decoration suggests that these pots were intended to be seen (e.g. as serving vessels). Furthermore, the presence of basal decoration on some specimens (particularly on bowls) tallies with the suggestion that such vessels were designed for the purpose of drinking liquids or semi-liquids: as the contents drained, the eye of an observer would be caught by this decorative detail (cf. a similar phenomenon on handled Beakers: Clarke 1970). Another feature which has been interpreted on vessels elsewhere as indicating their use as drinking pots is the presence (on some bipar-

tite vases) of a heavy, club-like rim, e.g. Gortnahun, Co. Galway (521). In the light of the palynological results from North Mains, Christopher Hawkes' suggestion (1981) that such rims may have been designed to hold back sediment or porridge and allow the 'boozey juice' to be sucked off may not be as far-fetched as it appears. Further support for the suggestion that bowls and vases were used as containers of food or drink is offered by the presence of ceramic or stone lids in a few cases, e.g. Annaghkeen, Co. Galway (513: Plate 24: ceramic), Ballinchaalla. Co. Mayo (546: ceramic), Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny (537: ceramic), Corroy, Co. Roscommon (181; stone), Drumanespick, Co. Cavan (469; stone).

As bowls and vases have been found in domestic contexts, it would appear that this type of pottery was not exclusively manufactured for funerary purposes. However, it is harder to determine whether the pots which are found in graves had been used at all prior to their deposition: in other words, whether they had been made for a single, funerary, episode of use. There is at least one example where a vessel has been deposited in a damaged state (at Carrig, Co. Wicklow: Grogan pers. comm.), but the damage could have occurred shortly before burial and need not imply previous use. (There are, of course, other cases where 'sub-standard' pots have been used in burials, e.g. the deformed biparite vases from Moylarg, Co. Antrim (Plate 23, 452), and Cloghskelt, Co. Down (503).) The pristine, unworn condition of most bowls and vases would tend to suggest that they were probably made specifically as a grave gift.

APPENDIX

PETROLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF THIN-SECTIONED VESSELS

Twenty-five vessels were thin-sectioned (Chapter 5) and in these reports initials given in brackets refer to the geologist who undertook the identification. JB: Professor James Brindley; TPJ: Mr Terry Johnston; CBL: Mr Barry Long; JP: Dr John Preston.

In five cases, details of the elemental composition of the clay matrix are also given. These were obtained using an electron-probe microanalyzer; I am grateful to Vincent McCafferty of the Queen's University Electron Microscope Unit for undertaking the analyses. (The vessels in question are the ones whose firing temperature was determined using the scanning electron microscope.) In every case, all (or virtually all) of the grits observed in thin section appear to represent material which has been deliberately crushed and added to the clay as temper.

ARDBALLYMORE, Co. Westmeath (206) Fig. 15D

The coarse grit consists of angular fragments of Tertiary ophitic olivine-dolerite, ranging in size from 5 x 2mm to sand-grade material in a seriate fashion. Sand grains (mostly of quartz, but a few of
felsite or quartzite) are liberally scattered throughout the clay matrix. They are usually sharply angular, but a few are conspicuously rounded. A couple are composite quartz grains, possibly from sandstone.

The dolerite has most likely been obtained from the local glacial drift, where it would appear as dark greenish pebbles. The sand grains could have been incorporated into the clay matrix as a result of crushing the dolerite in a sandstone quern. (JP)

**BALLON HILL, Co. Carlow (121) Plate 4H Fig. 15C**
The coarse grit consists of angular and sub-angular fragments, up to 5×3mm, of a mixture of rock types. The mixture is dominated by large fragments of quartzose greywacke sandstone; other rock types comprise chlorite schist, biotite schist and a few fragments of granite. Sand-grade material is relatively sparse, and consists of comminuted fragments of the above-mentioned rock types.

The material probably represents a selection of crushed-up grits from the local drift deposits (perhaps a gravel deposit). The ultimate origins of the rock types are diverse: the granite, for example, outcrops in the immediate vicinity of the site, whilst the greywacke is thought to derive from Silurian deposits to the north-west. (JB)

Elemental composition of the clay matrix (in percentage terms; average of four readings): Si 26.61; K 2.62; Al 8.57; Fe 5.34; Mg 1.31; Na 1.82; Ti 0.44; Ca 3.54; P 3.38; S 0.31; Cl 0.09; O 45.99.

**BALLON HILL, Co. Carlow (466)**
Large angular fragments (up to 5×4mm) of Caledonian hornblende-apatite, most probably obtained from the local drift in pebble form. The ultimate origin can be traced to a group of small outcrops in the Kilranelagh-Kiltegan area, about 25km to the north-east of the site. (JB)

**BALLYDULLAGHAN, Co. Derry (276) Fig. 15A**
Small and medium-sized angular fragments (up to 3×1.5mm), mostly of Tertiary olivine basalt. Some metamorphic rock fragments also present; these could be dolerites from the Dalradian schists. Sand-grade material sparse, and consists of comminuted fragments of the above-mentioned rock types.

Basalt outcrops in the immediate vicinity of the site, and for many kilometres around; the metadolerites are present in the local drift deposits, and outcrop about 5km to the west. (JP)

Elemental composition of the clay matrix (in percentage terms; average of six readings): Si 24.98; Al 12.63; K 17.85; Fe 10.44; Ti 9.44; Mg 3.62; P 0.22; O 45.89. Note: the high iron content is characteristic of basalt-derived clays, such as would be available in the locality.

**BALLYMACALDRACK, Co. Antrim (389) Plate 4A**
Medium-sized (around 2×2mm) and smaller fragments (down to sand-size) of Tertiary olivine basalt, in a variety of textures. Outcrops in the immediate vicinity of the site, and for many kilometres around. (JP)

Elemental composition of the clay matrix (in percentage terms; average of four readings): Si 22.83; Al 13.19; Mg 6.14; Fe 8.10; K 2.31; Ca 0.44; P 0.72; Ti 0.42; Cl 0.17; S 0.04; O 45.65. Note: the high iron content is characteristic of basalt-derived clays, such as would be available in the locality.

**BALKATH, Co. Meath (311) Fig. 15F**
The inclusions consist almost entirely of angular Tertiary ophitic olivine-dolerite, ranging in size from large fragments (up to 5×4mm) down to sand-grade material (which is relatively sparse). The dolerite is coarser-grained than that present in the Ardallymore vessel, and has less olivine. Also present are a few sub-angular quartz grains, and a few vague masses of finely granular material, possibly gog.

The dolerite could have been obtained from a local drift deposit. (JB)

**CARRICKINAB, Co. Down (145) Plate 4 B and C**
Small to medium-sized (up to 2.5×1.5mm), angular fragments of dolerite/basalt, of probably Tertiary age; also some small to medium-sized (up to 3×1.5mm), sub-angular fragments of greywacke. Sand-grade material (relatively sparse) consists of comminuted fragments of these rock types.

The local drift deposits could have supplied both rock types. (JP)

**CASHEL, Co. Mayo (551) Plate 4F**
Angular fragments, ranging in size from c. 0.5×0.5mm to 7×2mm, of Tertiary ophitic dolerite and granite/granodiorite. Also several single crystals (mostly between 0.5×0.5mm and 1×1mm) of concentrically-zoned plagioclase, and a fragment of quartzose sandstone with mud cement. Sand-grade material is relatively abundant, and is domi-
nated by angular and rounded quartz grains.

A source for this material amongst the local glacial deposits is possible. Regarding the ultimate origins of the material, the nearest outcrops of Tertiary dolerite lie a few kilometres to the east of Cashel, and there are other dykes in north-west Ireland (e.g. in north-west Mayo and the Ox Mountains). The granite/granodiorite fragments are similar to some of the finer-grained granitic rocks associated with the Ox Mountains granodiorite, some 30+ km north-east of Cashel. The sandstone may be derived from a Carboniferous source; one such outcrop occurs within 5–10 km of the site. As with the Ardballymore vessel, the sandstone and sand grains may have been incorporated into the clay as a result of crushing the other rocks in a sandstone quern. (TPJ, CBL)

CLOGHROAK, Co. Galway (518) Plate 41
Angular fragments, ranging in size from sand-grade material to 2.5×1.5 mm, of granite/granodiorite and of feldspathic, poorly sorted sandstone.

A source amongst the local glacial deposits is possible. The ultimate source of the granite/granodiorite could be in east Connemara, approximately 20 km to the west of Cloghroak; the sandstone might be derived from a Carboniferous age outcrop, of which examples occur within 10 km of the site. (CBL)

Elemental composition of the clay matrix (in percentage terms; average of five readings): Si 28.10; Al 10.65; K 2.65; Ca 3.59; Ti 0.30; Fe 5.26; Cl 0.14; Mg 1.61; Na 1.03; S 0.10; O 46.64.

CLOMABEACH, Co. Wexford (442)
The coarse grit consists of various rock types in angular to sub-rounded fragments up to 8×7 mm in size. These comprise altered igneous rocks, namely augite-basalt (dolerite), biotite-diorite, granodiorite and felsite. Sand-grade fragments in the clay (which are relatively sparse) consist of comminuted fragments of the same rock types.

The first-named rock type comprises with the Ordovician volcanics of the Chair of Kildare—Hill of Allen area, some 35 km to the north-west, the others with the Caledonian plutonic suite in Co. Wicklow. One could envisage such a mixture of rocks occurring in some east Kildare—west Wicklow gravel deposit, but not in the area of the Leinster granite body within which Clonmassion lies. It is therefore possible that the grits (if not the entire pot) were obtained from a lowland source, at some distance from the site. (JB)

CLOGHESKELT, Co. Down (488 and 503; since both pots share virtually identical grits, they are described together)
The coarse grit comprises angular and sub-angular fragments, up to 4×3 mm, mostly of Tertiary olivine basalt/dolerite, with some granite/granodiorite. One fragment of hypabyssal porphyry was also noted. The abundant sand-grade material present in both vessels comprises comminuted fragments of basalt/dolerite and granite/granodiorite.

The local drift deposits could have supplied these rock types; the variety of textures shown by basalt/dolerite fragments is typical of the Tertiary basic volcanics. (JP)

Elemental composition of the clay matrix of 488 (in percentage terms; average of five readings): Si 27.76; K 2.20; Al 11.08; Fe 7.28; Mg 2.18; Na 11.36; Ti 0.70; Ca 0.96; O 46.70.

CORROWER, Co. Mayo (302)
The coarse grit consists of angular and sub-angular fragments (up to 4×3 mm) of coarse hornblende (metadolerite), together with a few fragments of impure recrystallised arkosic sandstone. Sand-grade material is relatively abundant, and consists of comminuted fragments of these rock types.

Both rock types could have been obtained from primary or secondary sources within about 5 km of Corrower. The metadolerite could have come from one of many intrusions in the nearby Ox Mountains, which run to the east of the site, and the arkosic sandstone (diagnosed as either Carboniferous or Old Red Sandstone) could have come from the Carboniferous sandstone outcrops which fringe the Ox Mountains. (JB)

DRUDGEON, Co. Tyrone (193)
Angular fragments, ranging in size from sand-grade material to 4×1 mm, of metadolerites. Also some angular grains of detrital quartz, whose extinction pattern suggests a possible metamorphic origin. It is conceivable that these grits derive from local drift deposits; their nearest potential primary source lies some 10 km to the north-east of Drudgeon, in the outcrops of Ordovician volcanics east-north-east of Omagh. (TPJ, CBL)
FOURKNocks I, Co. Meath (315)
The coarse grit consists predominantly of coarseish Tertiary ophiitic olivine-dolerite, in medium-sized to large (maximum 5×3mm), angular fragments. There are also a few smaller fragments of impure greywacke-stock sandstone, and a few single grains of rounded quartz. Sand-grade material is abundant and consists mostly of quartz grains (mostly angular, a few rounded), with a few metamorphic or vein quartz grains.

The dolerite appears to be much altered, perhaps through weathering. It could have come from the local drift; alternative supplies would be available amongst the beach deposits some 12–15km away. The quartz sand could have become incorporated into the clay as a result of crushing the dolerite in a sandstone quern. (JB)

FOURKNocks I, Co. Meath (316)
The coarse grit consists almost exclusively of medium-sized to large, mostly angular fragments (up to 6×4mm) of Tertiary ophiitic olivine-dolerite; a few fragments are sub-rounded. One shale fragment was also noted, together with some angular and rounded quartz grains. Sand-grade material is fairly abundant and consists mostly of angular quartz grains, with occasional feldspar and rare quartzite grains. A few markedly rounded quartz grains are also present, together with a few fragments of comminuted dolerite.

The dolerite is medium- to coarse-grained, and in places is rich in iron ore; it was most probably derived from a local drift deposit (cf. 315). The shale fragment could well derive from the local Silurian shale outcrops. As in 315, the sand could have come from a sandstone quern. (JB)

FOURKNocks II, Co. Meath (559) Fig. 15E
Angular (and a few sub-rounded) fragments of Tertiary ophiitic olivine-dolerite, ranging in size from sand-grade to 6×4mm. A few fragments of felsite are also present, and amongst the abundant sand-grade material are a few angular and sub-angular quartz grains.

For comments on sources, see 315 and 316. (JB)

GLASSAMucky, Co. Dublin (512)
Angular to sub-rounded fragments, ranging from a few sand-sized pieces to 7×6mm, of a variety of rock types. These comprise much altered granitic rocks, namely granites, microgranites and felsite, together with impure angular-grained sandstones (coarse-ish greywackes). The sand-grade material (which is not particularly abundant) includes angular and sub-angular quartz and quartzite.

This heterogeneous mixture would seem to have come from a gravel deposit, although such a deposit can scarcely be expected at Glassamucky, which is well within the Leinster Granite area. The grits (if not the pot itself) may have come from further down the Dodder Valley, perhaps at a lowland location (where supplies of potting clay would be more abundant). (JB)

GLENCOPPOGAGh, Co. Tyrone (194)
Angular fragments, ranging from sand-sized to 4×3.5mm, of hornblende-bearing schists. Sand-grade material (which is relatively abundant) includes angular quartz grains. Some of the quartzofeldspathic schists show partial melting (fritting), and paramorphs after tridymite occur. This indicates that the vessel has been fired at a temperature exceeding 870°C (but lower than 1370°C).

The inclusions could all have come from local outcrops. (JP)

GRANEY WESt, Co. Kildare (295) Plate 4G
Angular fragments, ranging from a few sand-sized pieces to 6×4mm, of porphyritic metavolcanics. Sand-grade material (which is fairly abundant) comprises angular to rounded quartz grains, much-altered feldspars and speckles of iron ore (which also occurs as slightly larger masses).

The inclusions could have been obtained from local drift deposits. The nearest primary source for the metavolcanics is the area of Ordovician volcanics to the north of Baltinglass, about 13km to the north-east. (TPJ, CBL)

KILMASHOGUE, Co. Dublin (152) Fig. 15B
Small, angular fragments (up to 2.5×1mm) of a mixture of rock types. These comprise altered basic igneous rocks (dolerite/basalt); coarse, angular-grained sandstone (Old Red Sandstone arkose), and either grog or Lower Palaeozoic greywacke. Sand-grade material is relatively sparse and consists of angular, often strained quartzes, potash feldspar and speckles of iron ore. There are also some rounded quartz grains.

All of the rock types can be matched by outcrops in the Chair of Kildare area and also at Portrane, north Co. Dublin, but the fact that they occur as a mixture suggests that their immediate source may have been a gravel deposit in Co. Kildare. Since
Kilmashogue lies well within the main Leinster Granite body, it is unlikely that the grit was obtained locally (although a nearby deposit of 'shelly drift' may be worth investigating). A lowland source for the grits (if not the entire pot), somewhere to the west, is possible. (CBL)

Knock, Co. Down (42) Plate 4D
Medium-sized to large (up to 5×3mm), angular and sub-angular fragments of epidiorite. Sand-grade material is relatively abundant and consists mainly of angular quartz, with some plagioclase feldspar and comminuted epidiorite.

The epidiorite could have come from the local drift. (JP)

Labbadish, Co. Donegal (142) Plate 4E
Angular and sub-angular fragments, ranging from sand-sized material to 5×3mm, of metadolerite, biotite schist and biotite microgranite. Angular to sub-rounded quartz grains are also present amongst the sand-grade material, which is moderately abundant.

The metadolerite fragments are Dalradian metavolcanics, whose primary source is most likely in north Donegal. The biotite schist could have come from local Dalradian deposits, and the biotite microgranite may have come ultimately from north-western Donegal. A local source in a drift (perhaps a gravel) deposit is possible. (CBL)

Letterkenny, Co. Mayo (556)
Angular to sub-angular fragments, in a variety of sizes ranging from sand-grade to large (10×8mm), of Dalradian metavolcanic rock. A few angular to sub-rounded quartz grains are also present in the sand-grade material (which is moderately abundant).

The nearest primary source of the metavolcanic rock is in the nearby Buckoogh–Mount Eagle area. (CBL)

Ploopluch, Co. Kildare (300)
Medium-sized to large angular fragments (up to 5×3mm) of medium-coarse ophitic-dolerite, with some coarse iron ore grains. Also a few fragments of fine-ish, impure, greywacke-type sandstone. The sand-grade material (which is fairly abundant) comprises comminuted fragments of the dolerite, together with angular and sub-rounded quartz grains.

The dolerite could have come from a local drift deposit whilst the sandstone is a locally-outcropping type. Once more, the quartz grains could have been incorporated as a result of crushing the dolerite in a sandstone quern. (JB)
ABBREVIATIONS

ASCD  Archaeological Survey of County Down (1966)
Ant. Jour.  Antiquaries Journal
Arch  Archaeologia (London)
Arch. Jour.  Archaeological Journal
BAP  Abercromby, The Bronze Age Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland (1912)
BAR  British Archaeological Reports
BM  British Museum
CLAJ  County Louth Archaeological Journal
Excavations  Excavations ... Summary Accounts of Archaeological work in Ireland
JCHAS  Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society
JGAHS  Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society
JIA  The Journal of Irish Archaeology
J. Kildare A.S.  Journal of the Kildare Archaeological Society
JRSAI  Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland
NLI  National Library of Ireland
NMAJ  North Munster Antiquarian Journal
NMI  National Museum of Ireland
NMS  National Museum of Scotland
OS  Ordnance Survey
PBNHPS  Proceedings of the Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society
PPS  Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society
PRIA  Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy
PSAS  Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
RIA  Royal Irish Academy
TRIA  Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy
UJA  Ulster Journal of Archaeology
UM  Ulster Museum
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PART 2
CATALOGUE

ENTRIES ARE LISTED BY COUNTY AND BY TOWNLAND NAME IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, FOLLOWED BY REFERENCE TO CORPUS FIGURE (AND PLATE) WHERE APPROPRIATE. THE OS REFERENCE IS TO THE ORDNANCE SURVEY 1:10560 SHEET
Fig. 31. General distribution of illustrated bowls and vases
ANTRIM

ALTIGARRON 105 OS 60
Tripartite bowl found about 1840 at a place called ‘Yellow Jack’s Cairn’. The pot is stated to have measured 127mm in height, 172 mm in greatest diameter and 152mm in diameter at the rim. The base was plain.
Present whereabouts unknown.
*JRSAI* 11 (1870–1), 506, fig. Arch. 43 (1871), 382, fig. 74. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59, no. 2.

ARMY 350 OS 13
Small pot found in Armoig Bog near Ballymoney. Only 90mm high, it is decorated with horizontal lines of short linear impressions (made with a loosely whipped cord?) and oblique and zig-zag whipped cord impressions.
UM 522-1925.
*UJA* 32 (1969), 59, no. 3.

BALLINTOY OS 3/8
Some sherds of bowl from sandhills.
UM 174-1934.
*UJA* 32 (1969), 59, no. 4.

BALLYAGHAGAN OS 56
Small rim sherd 25mm in maximum length found in 1895 on the surface of Cave Hill not far from Mac Art’s Fort. Possibly from a bowl.
Present whereabouts unknown.
*UJA* 2 (1896), 140, fig.; 32 (1969), 59, no. 4a.

BALLYCLOGHAN 270 OS 33
Bowl ‘dag up’ in a potato garden. No mention of any cist; it was said to have contained ‘a little ashes’. The reconstructed pot is decorated with false relief and comb impressions. Not examined. Royal Ontario Museum 924.49.4 (AE712). ex Knowles coll.
*UJA* 1 (1895), 95, plate 1, fig. 4; 32 (1969), 59, no. 5.

BALLYCRAIGY 271 OS 32/38?
Ribbed bowl found containing ‘fragments of bones’. False relief and comb-impressed ornament.

UM 1911-323.

BALLYGALLEY 447 OS 35
Approximately one-third of a vase was found in a rock crevice in the course of the excavation of a ringfort. The pot is decorated with incised ornament and triangular impressions forming false relief.
UM.
*UJA* 32 (1969), 52, no. 2; 41 (1978), 22, fig. 8:11.

BALLYMACDARRACK 448 OS 22
Two sherds of a vase found unstratified in the court of a court tomb.
UM.
*UJA* 39 (1976), 5, fig. 3: 4 and 5.

BALLYMACDARRACK 389 OS 22
Fragments of the greater part of a large vase from a small flat cemetery of five burials. Found inverted in a pit and containing some cremated bone (Burial 5). It also contained a flint flake described as ‘a broken burnt flint ... the lower section with a maximum thickness of .23 ins. One end is broken: the present length is 1.6ins., the width .9ins.’ (not located). The rim of the vase is decorated with triangular impressions and the body bears incised ornament.
UM.
*UJA* 4 (1941), 63, fig.; 32 (1969), 62, no. 3.

BALLYMACILROY 106 OS 37
One of two bowls found a few metres apart in a sandpit, both were inverted and no other finds were reported. This example was found about 1m below the surface; it is a tripartite bowl with four imperforate lug and is decorated with false relief and comb-impressed ornament. Impressed decoration also occurs on the base.
UM 299-1934

BALLYMACILROY 107 OS 37
One of two bowls found in a sandpit: see above. This example was found at a depth of 1.20m, and was said to have been filled with a fine red dust which was not preserved. This large tripartite bowl
is restored: a small part of the rim and body is missing. Five low imperforate lugs survive; there are traces of a sixth and there may have been seven originally. Decorated with lightly impressed ovals or circles and lines of comb impressions. UM 300-1934.

*Ballymarlagh* OS 38

Sherds of possible vase (or vase urn) from a court tomb: pot C. The largest fragment (37 by 29mm) is a rim sherd bearing incised horizontal herringbone ornament on expanded bevel and exterior. UM.

*UJA* 12 (1949), 26, fig. 4; 32 (1969), 61, no. 1.

**near Ballymena** 449 OS 32/38

The base, about half the body and a few small rim sherds of a vase are preserved. Original profile uncertain. It bears crudely incised ornament. UM K31.


*Ballyvennaght* 32 OS 9/15

Bipartite bowl found in a cist in a small cairn at Loughaveema. Decoration consists of horizontal lines of comb impressions, rectangular panels of vertical lines of comb impressions and triangular impressions forming false relief. Comb-impressed triangles occur on the base. UM.


*Ballywillin* 450 OS 6

A small cist contained 'two small urns, one on top of the other'. This vase stood mouth upwards and a smaller vase (below) had been inverted on it as a lid. No bones were reported. The pot bears incised decoration, slightly arc-shaped impressions and a zone of false relief chevron in a very shallow shoulder groove which also contains four undecorated imperforate lugs. UM 3957.


*Ballywillin* 451 OS 6

See above. This vessel, the smaller of the two vases, served as a lid and bears incised decoration. UM 3956. *BAP I*, fig. 260.

near Broughshane 399 OS 33?


near Broughshane OS 33?

Sherd of a bowl. UM.

*UJA* 32 (1969), 59, no. 9.

*Carrickfergus* 351 OS 52

A bowl found near Woodburn waterworks. It stood mouth upwards in the north-western angle of a cist and is said to have contained a small amount of fine white dust; it may have accompanied a cremation. A few fragments of burnt bone are preserved in the vessel. The pot has been reconstructed and its interior and much of its exterior are obscured by plaster. It is decorated with comb-impressed, incised and false relief ornament. NMI 1898:81.

*RSAI* 19 (1889), 74, 86. *BAP I*, fig. 334.

*Churchfield* 400 OS 9

A short rectangular cist near Barnish 'contained an earthen urn full of pulverised bones and ashes and covered by a peculiar kind of stone supposed to have been procured about 2 miles distant from the vault'. The urn is described as 'handsomely ornamented' and measuring 'on the outside 5½ inches in diameter and 5½ inches in height'. A long cist (?) was found nearby and a small sketch of the vase is given. (Account by Thomas Fagan, 16th October 1838).

Present whereabouts unknown.


*Connor* 33 OS 38

Bowl 'dag up in a Rath in Connor townland, Co. Antrim, 1840'. Bipartite example decorated with false relief ornament, comb impressions and horizontal lines of very fine whipped cord impressions. The slightly concave base bears whipped cord ornament. UM 1911-317.

*UJA* 32 (1969), 59, no. 11.
County Antrim

CORKEY 108

CRAIGYWARREN 390
Vase apparently found with cremated bone. According to the Ulster Museum register the vessel once contained bones and fragments of two other urns were also found. A label attached to the vase reads ‘Craigywarran, associated with a nearly perfect urn and remains of another’. The upper part of a large collared urn is preserved (UM 4029) from this site. The vase is restored and only one fragment of rim is preserved. The exterior is decorated with twisted cord impressions and incised lines. UM 4180. ex Grainger coll. *PRIA* 76C (1976), 341, fig. 15:7 (collared urn); Longworth, *Collared Urns of the Bronze Age in Great Britain and Ireland* (1984), no. 2203 (collared urn).

CURRAN 391
A vase was found in a cist discovered in a small quarry in 1935. The pot stood mouth upwards, a stone placed on top of it; a few ‘bones’ and a plano-convex flint knife (1938:8654) were also found in the grave. Decoration on the vase is incised. NMI 1938:8653. *UJA* 32 (1969), 63, no. 9.

near DERVOCK 1

DUNGONNELL 628
Small plain tub-shaped vessel. Said to have been found about 60cm below the surface in heathy ground near Dungonnell Fort, near Parkmore; it contained calcined human bones, charcoal, and a flint flake. UM 305-1934. *UJA* 8 (1945), 106.

Galgorm Parks 393
Three collared urns and a vase were found on top of a sand ridge. It is possible that the three urns were in the one pit. Each urn stood mouth upwards on stones but they were otherwise unprotected; each contained cremated bones. The largest collared urn (Kavanagh no. 13) contained three calcined barbed and tanged flint arrowheads. A second collared urn (Kavanagh no. 14) contained a vase. The whereabouts of these urns (known from published illustrations), and the third, smaller, plain urn, are unknown. The arrowheads and the vase are preserved. The vase, which is partly reconstructed, is decorated with whipped cord impressions. UM 579-1924; 653-1924 (arrowheads). ex Knowles coll. *UJA* 1 (1895), 91, plate 3:11; 32 (1969), 63, no. 11. *JRSAI* 19 (1889), 109; 99 (1969), 81, fig. 9. Kavanagh, *PRIA* 76C (1976), 343, fig. 16 (urns).

Glenariff 109
Tripartite bowl reportedly found in a cist, bears false relief and comb-impressed ornament. The pot, which is almost complete, originally had five or six lugs, all were probably perforated. There are clear traces of five on the body and one detached lug is preserved. UM 229-1946. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59, no. 14.

Glenavy 396
One of two vases found in a gravel ridge in 1834. This small vase was found ‘half-filled with calcined bones’ and the second, larger, vase (below) was inverted over it. No stones were recorded: probably a pit grave. Part of an unburnt human skeleton was found 1.50m away. The pot is decorated with neat whipped cord impressions. UM 1337. ex Knowles coll. *UJA* 5 (1898), 24, fig.; 32 (1969), 63, no. 13, fig. 4:3.

Glenavy 395 Plate 14
One of two vases: see above. Greater part of a
vase; restored. Finely incised ornament occurs on most of the exterior with some extremely fine whipped cord impressions on and above the shoulder. UM 1338. ex Knowles coll. UJA 5 (1898), 24, fig.; 32 (1969), 63, no. 13, fig. 4:4.

**Glenbank** 608 OS 8/14 Found at ‘Aghaleck’ about 1877. This ribbed vessel is decorated with incised and impressed ornament. Short lines on the rim bevel are incised or impressed. The external ornament is incised but for triangular impressions near the base. UM 307-1934. ex D’Evelyn coll. UJA 32 (1969), 59, no. 1.

**Glenwhirry** 34 OS 39 A cemetery mound known as the ‘Bishop’s Cairn’ is said to have contained three cists. Two bowls are preserved. One is a bipartite bowl decorated with neatly impressed ornament possibly made with a large-toothed comb. UM 3924. ex Knowles coll. Borlase, The Dolmens of Ireland, Vol. 2, 621, fig. 552. BAPI I, fig. 282. Chart, Preliminary Survey of the Ancient Monuments of Northern Ireland (1949), 32. UJA 8 (1945), 105; 32 (1969), 59, no. 15.

**Glenwhirry** 2 OS 39 A second bowl from the ‘Bishop’s Cairn’ (see above); a note with this pot reads ‘Urn found in cist in the Bishop’s Cairn behind Glenwhirry Presbyterian Church with flint implement in it of the kind locally called ‘slugs’. Another urn was found in a different cist several years ago...’ The flint implement was not with the vessel when it was acquired by the Ashmolean Museum. The bowl is repaired and decorated with comb impressions and false relief; the rim is greatly damaged but the internal bevel was apparently decorated with oblique impressed lines (not certainly original). Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. 1924:926. ex Knowles coll.

**Greenan** 613 OS 9/14 The ‘lower part of a small vase containing calcined bones and ashes’ was found ‘deposited in a small vault beneath the surface in Kilemayaranee ancient grave yard, situated in the Td. of Greenan, and holding of Edward O’Connor. It measures 2.5 inches between the bottom and the raised hoop above shown and 5 inches in diameter at the latter place. And nearly 1/2 an inch thick and quite hard and yellow surface.’ (Sketch and account by Thomas Fagan, 15th October 1838). The pencil sketch suggests a vase with a raised rib on the shoulder and whipped cord (?) ornament. Present whereabouts unknown. RIA OS Memoirs, Co. Antrim, Culfeightrim parish.

**Killyglen** 110 OS 35/40 Bowl with part of rim and upper body missing. Said to have been found in a small mound. Decorated with arc-shaped and triangular impressions forming false relief, and fine comb impressions. Abercromby mistakenly attributes this Killyglen provenance to an unlocalised bowl no. 79. See also no locality 75. BM 1853, 12-16, 9. Arch. 62 (1910), 348, plate 39:4. BAPI I, fig. 327 (incorrectly captioned); Borlase, The Dolmens of Ireland (1897), Vol. 2, 685, fig. 641. UJA 32 (1969), 59, no. 17.

**Killyree** 76 OS 27 Bowl found in 1887 in a short rectangular cist, it was discovered inclined near the south-west corner of the grave. Nothing else was found though something like ‘ashes’ reportedly lay inside the vessel. Decorated with impressed ornament including comb impressions and false relief. UM 3940. ex Grainger coll. JRSAI 19 (1889), 107, fig.; UJA 1 (1895), 96, plate iv, fig. 6; 32 (1969), 59, no. 18. BAPI I, fig. 302.
KILMAKEE 392 OS 64
A vase was found in 1849 in a sand ridge: ‘three cinerary urns were discovered, two of which were of large size, capable of holding about two gallons each; these were filled with calcined bones, and on being exposed to the air fell to pieces: the third one was of small size and quite perfect...’. The urns were inverted on pieces of slate. Only the small vase is preserved; it is decorated with incised ornament.
NMI 1936:3462.

NEAR LISBURN 453 OS 68
Small vase with no details of discovery recorded. Incised ornament.
UM 1911-219.

LOUGHLOUGHAN 3 OS 28/33
A cemetery mound contained three short cists: one (A) contained this bowl which stood near the centre of the grave with the remains of a human skull lying nearby, the second cist (B) contained another bowl (below) and the third contained two jet beads, no bones being noted. The vessel from Cist A is a simple bowl decorated with horizontal grooves, comb impressions and false relief; the base is decorated with concentric grooves.
Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. 1924.927, ex Knowles coll.
_JRSAI_ 32 (1902), 163, fig. _BAP_ I, 117, fig. 232.

LOUGHLOUGHAN 111 OS 28/33
Bowl from Cist B of a cemetery mound (above). This pot is said to originally have had three perforated lugs, one of which survives. Decoration is impressed and includes comb and whipped cord; the base is decorated with two concentric circles of impressed dots.
Royal Ontario Museum 924.49.2 (AE 715). ex Knowles coll.

MAGHERABOY 397 OS 12/13
Vase apparently found ‘near Stranocum’ with a vase urn, cremated bones and a burnt flint knife. The vase has been crudely restored and much of its interior is obscured by plaster. Decorated with cord impressions (seemingly plaited cord) and incised lines.
UM 3939. ex Grainger coll.
_UJA_ 32 (1969), 63, no. 15, fig. 4:2.

MOYLARGE 452 Plate 23 OS 32
Vase found with an encrusted urn in an esker at ‘Dromona’. No details of discovery. Decorated with incised ornament. The mouth of the pot was distorted before firing – it is now a very irregular oval measuring about 17.5 by 11cm.
UM 3941. ex Grainger coll.
_UJA_ 1 (1895), 91; 8 (1945), 105; 32 (1969), 61, no. 9. _PRIA_ 73C (1973), 529, fig. 5c (urn).

MOYLARGE 272 OS 32
Bowl said to have been found at ‘Esker Dromona’ when making a railway to Portrush. No further details. Not examined.
Royal Ontario Museum 924.49.5 (AE 713). ex Knowles coll. ex Buick coll.
_Catalogue ... of Prehistoric Antiquities, Etc. ... formed by W. J. Knowles, Esq., M.R.I.A. (1924), 47, plate vi:697.

TEMPLEPATRICK 35 OS 51
Bowl labelled ‘Garton, Templepatrick’, from Co. Antrim? No details of discovery but according to museum register ‘contained a quantity of bones and teeth’. Decorated with neat comb impressions and false relief. A small quantity of cremated bone is preserved.
UM 443-1936.
_UJA_ 32 (1969), 60, no. 8 (‘Co. Donegal’).

TOBERAGNEE (Lyles Hill) 112 OS 56
Fragments of bowl found with the cremated bones of a small adult, probably female, in Cist 2 outside kerb of cairn. Two other graves were found, one containing a bowl, the other a vase, outside this kerb (see below). The cairn itself produced cremated remains and contained a centrally placed stone-lined grave (possibly disturbed) in which cremated bone and fragments of Neolithic and necked beaker (?) pottery were found. The bowl from Cist 2 is decorated with false relief, horizontal grooving and impressed lines, some containing light comb marks.
UM.
County Armagh

TOBERAGNEE (Lyles Hill) 454 OS 56
Vase found in fragments in a stone-lined pit (‘Cist’ 3) outside kerb of cairn, it had been inverted beside the cremated bones of an adult male. It is decorated with incised ornament and originally had six imperforate lugs, five of which survive. Grain impression of naked barley in base.
UM.
Evans, Lyles Hill (1953), 49, plate vi:2. UJA 32 (1969), 61, no. 15.

TOBERAGNEE (Lyles Hill) 455 OS 56
Sherds of a vase found scattered on northern edge of cairn: no accompanying bones. Comb impressions and incised ornament.
UM.
Evans, Lyles Hill (1953), 49, fig. 18:86.

TOBERAGNEE (Lyles Hill) 456 OS 56
Sherds of small vase found beside inverted encrusted urn containing cremation in Cist 1 situated outside kerb of cairn. Incised ornament.
UM.
Evans, Lyles Hill (1953), 48, fig. 18:89. UJA 32 (1969), 61, no. 15.

UPBALLYREAGH OS 6
Sherds of bowl from fill of ring-ditch which enclosed cordoned urn burial.
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VOW 77 OS 21/22
Bowl found in a gravel pit in 1935; it was unprotected by any cist and inverted some 46 cm below the surface. It was full of gravel; a few fragments of bone were reported nearby but no details are preserved. The bowl is decorated with comb impressions and false relief, a comb-impressed cruciform design occurs on the base which has a slight footring.
UM 81-1954.

WHITE PARK BAY OS 3/4
Sherds of bowl and vase from sandhills. ApSimon declares UM 171-1934 probably from this site: these are two small sherds (joining to give a fragment 50 by 49 mm) of the everted or vertical neck of a vase decorated externally with whirled cord impressed lines. Half a dozen comb impressed and false relief decorated sherds (UM 184-1956) represent a tripartite bowl.
UM.
UJA 32 (1969), 51, no. 24, 24a; 63, no. 17.

Co. ANTRIM 401
Vase decorated with horizontal lines of plaited cord impressions. No precise provenance. According to the museum register it contained burnt bones and was found in Co. Antrim. It was presented by Sir Wyville Thompson.
BM 1876, 8-5-1. BAP II, fig. 566. UJA 32 (1969), 63, no. 19.

ARMAGH

ANNACLOOGLMULLIN 629 OS 25
A court tomb investigated by Sir Walter Synott in 1791 produced a small urn ‘of singular form’. The pot was found in the second chamber from the entrance and is known from a rough sketch (after John Bell) in Sir William Betham’s Etruria Cetica. It was possibly a bowl with a drum-shaped base like that from Cumber, Co. Derry (Plate 22, 130). Present whereabouts unknown.

CAVANAKILL 36 OS 21
A drawing of a bowl (by George Petrie) is preserved: it is dated 1829. The bowl was found in a cairn by Sir Walter Synott of Ballymoyer. Present whereabouts unknown.
NLI MS 4458.

CLONLIM OS 29
A small fragment of unclassifiable comb (?) decorated pottery from a megalithic tomb (possibly bowl, according to ApSimon in 1969, probably Carrowkeel ware according to Herity in 1964 and, in 1982, possibly a Neolithic ‘Necked Vessel’). The sherd, which measures 31 by 16 mm and 11.5 mm in thickness, bears several rectangular impressions
and a narrow triangular impression or incision.


Clontygora OS 29

Fragments of possible vases from court tomb. Pot L: basal fragment, several small body sherds and two small rim sherds. Decoration comprises irregularly shaped impressions, incised lines and horizontal lines of twisted cord impressions.

Pot E: one rim sherd bearing twisted cord impressions, a small shoulder fragment and a body sherd, plain but for a few irregular scratches.

Armagh Museum.

UIA 32 (1969), no. 1. PBNHPS 1 (1936–37), 20, fig. 3.

Coney Is., Lough Neagh OS 2

A few sherds of bowl from habitation site (?).

UM.

UIA 28 (1965), 78; 32 (1969), 59, no. 2.

Duvernagh 114 OS 22

A small cist discovered in 1941 contained two bowls, one at each end, one stood mouth upwards, the other was in sherds; between them in the centre were the cremated bones of an adult male. Tripartite bowl decorated with incised or impressed lines and false relief, impressed ornament on base. Some at least of the irregular near-vertical lines above the upper rib are impressed with a two-toothed implement.

Armagh Museum 121-1947.

UIA 7 (1944), 99, fig. 212; 32 (1969), 59, no. 3. JRSAI 108 (1978), 45.

Duvernagh 113 OS 22

One of two tripartite bowls from a cist (see above). Decorated with impressed comb and false relief ornament. In some of the impressed lines comb marks are faint or absent.

Armagh Museum 121-1947 bis.

Liscoran 115 OS 6

Bowl found in a sandpit: no cist stones noted but no other details recorded. Decorated with comb-impressed lines and impressed circles. Some impressed lines contain no comb marks.

Armagh Museum 14-1942.


Mullynure 4 OS 12

Bowl believed to have been found at Mullynure near or on the site of the old abbey. Neat grooved ornament. Some of the upper vertical grooves contain irregular comb impressions; the lower vertical grooves do not. A few irregular scratches occur on the base.

Armagh Museum 8-1940.

UIA 32 (1969), 51, no. 5. JRSAI 112 (1982), 71, fig. 25.

Roxborough 116 OS 28

Found in a cist in a cemetery mound; no bones recorded. Almost complete bowl with a little of rim missing. Decoration consists of an incised horizontal line flanked by twisted cord impressions on the rim bevel. Vertical closely-set lines of twisted cord impressions decorate much of the exterior. Some incised herringbone ornament occurs and triangular impressions delimit a zone of ornament consisting of pairs of vertical lines of apparently twisted cord impressions with short oblique impressions between them. This zone contains six low imperforate lugs.

County Louth Archaeological Society, Dundalk.


Sleive Gullion 117 OS 28

The North Cairn on Sleive Gullion covered two short rectangular cists: one contained fragments of a bowl and the cremated bones of one adult. The bowl bears false relief and comb-impressed ornament.

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UIA 26 (1963), 34, fig.; 32 (1969), 59, no. 7.

Tullyvalen 118 OS 27

A pot found in 1910 in a round cairn contained some cremated bones: it had been placed mouth upwards and was protected by a few stones. A deposit of cremated bone was found some distance below the pot. Decorated with coarse whipped cord ornament. A few incised lines occur on the rim bevel.

UM 480-1927.


Tullywinny 457 OS 25

A cist found c. 1935 contained an incrusted urn
inverted over both cremated bones and a vase; the bones represented an adult female and possibly a second individual. Slightly asymmetrical vase decorated with whirled cord impressions.


**CARLOW**

*Bagenalstown* 458 OS 16

Miniature vase found with fragments of a larger urn (lost) in what may have been a polygonal cist. One handle only: finely incised and cord-impressed ornament.

NMI W14.


**Ballon Hill** 120 OS 13

Nineteenth-century reports suggest that a cemetery mound and one or more flat cemeteries were uncovered on Ballon Hill. No precise details survive about the circumstances of discovery of the surviving pottery which includes bowls, vases, urns, a cordoned urn and three vessels with collared urn affinities. See also unlocalised pot no. 86. General references to the site and discoveries: *JRSAI* 2 (1852–3), 295; 3 (1854–5), 374; 9 (1867), 209; 60 (1930), 74; 89 (1959), 31. *Arch. Jour.* 11 (1854), 73.

Bowl decorated with false relief and comb impressions.

NMI 1928:435.


**Ballon Hill** 121 OS 13

Fragments of an almost complete bowl decorated with incised horizontal lines and false relief. Comb impressions occur on the rim bevel and some of the short lines on the exterior, seemingly impressed, contain faint comb marks. Impressed or incised ornament occurs on the base.

NMI 1928:430.


**Ballon Hill** 122 OS 13

Bowl decorated with incised and impressed ornament.

NMI 1928:437.

*BAP* I, fig. 316.

**Ballon Hill** 102 OS 13

Bowl decorated with lightly grooved or impressed short lines and incised horizontal lines.

NMI 1928:438

*BAP* I, fig. 315.

**Ballon Hill** 462 OS 13

Small vase with five imperforate lugs: incised ornament.

NMI 1928:432.

*JRSAI* 2 (1852–3), 295, plate 1:5.

**Ballon Hill** 463 OS 13

Small vase with impressed and incised ornament. Rough triangular impressions occur near the base.

NMI 1928:433.


**Ballon Hill** 464 OS 13

Vase decorated with incised lines and false relief; a raised rib emphasizes the shoulder.

NMI 1928:434.


**Ballon Hill** 465 OS 13

Vase decorated with incised lines.

NMI 1928:436.

*JRSAI* 2 (1852–3), 295, plate 2:11.

**Ballon Hill** 402 OS 13

Finely decorated vase with false relief, horizontal whipped cord impressions and comb impressions on the interior of the neck; the exterior bears comb-impressed lines, triangular impressions (executed with a wooden implement— the grain of the wood being visible) and whipped cord forming horizontal lines.

NMI 1928:440.
Ballon Hill 459 OS 13
Miniature vase with finely incised ornament and five perforate lugs. Found in a five-sided 'chamber' and containing 'some very small bones', it was accompanied by a larger vessel, a bronze knife or dagger (both lost), three pebbles and a few burnt bones.
BM 1920, 11-9-4.
JRSAI 2 (1852-3), 295, plate 3:13; 89 (1959), 31, plate II.

Ballon Hill 461 OS 13
Vase decorated with incised lines and incised or impressed short lines; arc-shaped impressions also occur. The pot suffered war damage in the British Museum.
BM 1920, 11-9-2.
JRSAI 2 (1852-3), 295, plate 1:1; 89 (1959), 31, plate 1:1.

Ballon Hill 460 OS 13
Vase with drum-shaped base; restored. Decoration is incised.
BM 1920, 11-9-3.
JRSAI 2 (1852-3), 295, plate 2:7; 89 (1959), 31, plate 1:2.

Ballon Hill 466 OS 13
Numerous small fragments of a vase bearing incised ornament.
NMI 1928:447.

Ballon Hill 609 OS 13
Anomalous vase, ribbed with some incised ornament.
NMI 1928:439.
BAP II, fig. 541a.

Ballon Hill 630 OS 13
Anomalous vessel, plain; of buff-coloured, thick, heavy fabric.
NMI 1928:431.

Ballybit 273 Plate 18 OS 3/8
Vessel found in 1862 under a large boulder. The pot is decorated with incised lines and short lines of comb impressions.
NMI 1928:628.
JRSAI 7 (1862-3), 12, plate. Arch. 43 (1871), 382.

Ballyhacket Upper 467 OS 3
The greater part of a small vase from a cist: the fragmentary unburnt remains of an adult, probably female, were found at one end, some cremated bone at the other. The vase was apparently associated with the unburnt bones. Incised ornament; eight perforate lugs survive (there were originally ten). An apparently calcined and unworked flint flake (1934:431) was also found in the cist.
NMI 1934:428.
JRSAI 64 (1934), 141, fig.

Ballymurphy 468 OS 8
A small vase was found in a cist in a gravel pit in 1912. The cist lay at a depth of about 1.20m and few details are preserved: 'the urn contained small bones; around it lay human bones' – probably a cremation. Decorated with incised or impressed short lines and incised horizontal lines. A circular groove occurs on the base and six small perforate lugs in a shallow shoulder groove.

Baunogenasraid 78 OS 8
A Neolithic burial mound was enlarged to contain at least ten burials: one crouched skeleton in a disturbed pit with traces of organic (wood) lining was probably accompanied by a bowl which was found in bulldozed soil nearby. Less than half the pot survives: it is decorated with incised lines, comb or coarse whipped cord impressions and false relief. Faint traces of a cruciform or star-shaped design and comb or coarse whipped cord impressions occur on the base.
NMI 1969:727.
PRIA 74C (1974), 296, fig. JRSAI 102 (1972), 237, fig. 2.

Royal Oak 123 OS 16
Three conjoined cists were found in 1884, one contained 'an urn and some bones', another contained a bowl and some possibly unburnt human bones, and the third contained the unburnt bones of a child. The bowl is decorated with comb-impressed and false relief ornament; there is a cruciform or star-shaped design on the base.
Carlow County Museum
JRSAI 18 (1887-8), 491. Cooke, Wakeman's Handbook of Irish Antiquities (1903), 145, fig.
County Cavan

Sliguff 124 OS 19
A short rectangular cist contained the crouched skeleton of a young adult male in a sandy fill. The skeleton lay on its right side, head in the north corner; the bowl lay on its side near the face. The tripartite pot is decorated with impressed ornament including short strokes, false relief and comb impressions (forming a zone of herringbone near the base). Impressed ornament occurs on the base along with a cruciform design in false relief.
Carloviana 2, no. 23 (1974), 21, fig.

Tomsassock, Old Leighlin 611 OS 15
Small vase, of which approximately half survives, bearing incised decoration: 'found on David Gahan's farm at Lacken 1890'.
NMI.

Vermount 274 OS 9
A short rectangular cist (long axis east-west) contained a bowl and parts of the skeletons of two adult females; the bowl was found in the north-west corner. It is decorated with horizontal incised lines, comb impressions and false relief. Some of the triangular impressions forming the zone of false relief on the shoulder bear toothed marks on one side. A small flint blade (1955:22) with long side edges lightly retouched and measuring 5.3 cm in length and 1.7 cm in maximum width was also found in the grave.

Co. Carlow 403
Sherds of most of a large vase, now reconstructed. About half of the rim is missing. Decoration on the exterior and inner neck consists of incised lines and triangular impressions. Small triangular impressions occur on the flat rim. Labelled 'Co. Carlow': no further details.
UM 3928, K39.

Cavan

Banagher 79 Plate 11 OS 26
Bowl found in a cist in a cairn. The pot is decorated with triangular impressions forming false relief, horizontal and oblique lines of comb impressions, and coarse whipped cord impressions. Arc-shaped impressions containing short impressed lines (some with comb marks) occur near the base.
NMI 1973:188.

Cloggy 352 OS 24/25
Bowl found in a cist with another pot of unknown type: one of the vessels was reportedly full of bones. The surviving bowl, complete but for a damaged rim, is decorated with whipped cord impressions, false relief and incised horizontal lines on the exterior. An apparently incised zig-zag design occurs on the rim bevel and an impressed or incised design on the base.
JRSAI 60 (1930), 74, plate.

Derries Upper 353 OS 19/25
Fragments of a vessel found resting on the lake mud and partially covered by water in Lough Oughter. Nothing was found with the pot but it was stated that there were some stones around it. It is decorated on rim bevel and exterior with shallow whipped cord impressions.
NMI P1953:70.

Drumanespick 469 OS 27/33
A stone-lined grave (possibly a cist) contained a cremation: it was disturbed after discovery. A vase is said to have stood outside the grave at its northern end but this is not certain. The mouth of the pot was covered with a lozenge-shaped piece of thin shale. The vase bears incised ornament.
NMI 1942:104.
JRSAI 90 (1960), 10; 100 (1970), 110.

Gortnacargy OS 9
A cemetery of pit graves containing extended unburnt skeletons also yielded stray sherds of beaker and unclassifiable pottery. Four sherds, with some incised ornament and V-shaped impressions, are possibly of a tripartite bowl variant. The contemporaneity of burials and pottery is uncertain.
JRSAI 97 (1967), 61, fig. 4.

Killinagh 37 Plate 13 OS 2
Bowl found in 1822 in a stone chamber buried 2 feet underground. The pot 'when found was nearly full of ashes; the place about bore evident marks of
fire' (Wilde). Wakeman in the NMI register states that it was found 'lying between six large stones, placed perpendicularly, and opposite to each other, three at either side'. The bowl is decorated with impressed comb, whipcord and false relief ornament.
NMI R88, W13, Wk 76.
*PRIA* 3 (1845–7), 539. *BAP I*, fig. 295.

**KILLYCARNET** 275 OS 1/2

A cemetery mound contained three cists: one contained an encrusted urn burial, one was empty and one was a segmented cist. In each of the two compartments of the latter grave a pottery vessel contained cremated bones. A small 7cm long polished stone axehead and a bone 'belt-hook' (intact but for tips of hooks) were also found, though exactly in which part of the cist is uncertain; a bowl is preserved. It bears incised decoration near the rim and base and comb-pressed and false relief ornament elsewhere. The fine rectangular comb impressions are unusually narrow.
NMI 1880:66, Wk 26, 98.

**TERMON** 470 OS 2

A cemetery mound contained four cists: two short rectangular cists (B–C) were destroyed and a small pot in one of them was lost; a third short cist (A) contained two vases inverted over cremated bones, some more cremated bone lying elsewhere in the cist. The fourth (D) was a long cist in which stood two anomalous vessels and a bipartite vase variant all containing cremated bones. One vase from Cist A is decorated with incised ornament and a row of triangular impressions; six lugs were once applied to the exterior but none survive. The lower interior has been reinforced with a skin of clay which is rather poorly fired.
NMI 1955:49.
*JRSAI* 87 (1957), 57, fig. 3:1.

**TERMON** 606 OS 2

The second vase from Cist A is decorated with impressed and incised ornament, a row of false relief occurs on the rim bevel.
NMI 1955:30.
*JRSAI* 87 (1957), 57, fig. 3:2.

**TERMON** 607 OS 2

One of three vessels from Cist D: decorated with rows of oblique and horizontal short lines of coarse whipped cord impressions.
NMI 1955:51.
*JRSAI* 87 (1957), 57, fig. 3:3.

**TERMON** 605 OS 2

One of three vessels from Cist D: undecorated with a narrow shoulder groove with horizontal moulding above.
*JRSAI* 87 (1957), 57, fig. 3:4.

**TERMON** 404 OS 2

One of three vessels from Cist D: large bipartite vase variant decorated with incised lines and false relief.
NMI 1955:52.
*JRSAI* 87 (1957), 57, fig. 3:5.

**TERMON** 404 OS 2

Sherds of a large vase found with cremated bones in a pit in a sand ridge. Incised lines and twisted-cord impressions decorate the inner neck and the exterior.
*JRSAI* 97 (1967), 9, fig. 5.

**CORK**

**AGLACROSS** 405 OS 19

A vase or vase urn containing some cremated bone was found in a cist. Four other 'small vessels' were reportedly found in the cist as well; they were replaced in the grave and the larger pot taken to the USA. A drawing of the latter depicts a pot with an everted neck and incised ornament.
University College, Cork, Department of Archaeology (drawing).

*JRSAI* 100 (1970), 110. *PRIA* 76C (1976), 358 ('Ballyshurdan').

**BALLINDINIS** (near Castlemartyr) 125 OS 77

Small bowl said to have been found with a few bones in a cist in a tumulus. Decorated with incised lines and false-relief.
*Jchas* 16 (1910), 167, plate; 50 (1945), 15. *JRSAI*
County Cork

107 (1977), 81, fig. 12:9.

BALLYENAHAN NORTH 126 OS 18
A flat cemetery discovered in 1949 contained some 17 graves most of which were destroyed. Six were excavated, two of which contained pottery (a bowl and an unclassifiable sherd); a vase from one of the destroyed graves is also preserved. Bowl from a pit burial (Grave F): an oval pit contained a deposit of cremated bone representing the fragmentary remains of a child at one end and an inverted bowl at the other. Decorated with comb impressions and false relief ornament; imperforate lugs (probably four originally) occur. Cork Public Museum. JCHAS 59 (1954), 42, fig.

BALLYENAHAN NORTH 406 OS 18
Vase from flat cemetery; no details of circumstances of discovery. Decorated with incised lines, whipped cord and arc-shaped impressions. Cork Public Museum. JCHAS 59 (1954), 42, fig.

BALLYNAHOW 472 OS 27
Vase found in a cist with a miniature vase and a deposit of cremated bone (latter not preserved). The pots stood mouth upwards on opposite sides of the cremation. Incised ornament. Cork Public Museum. JCHAS 51 (1946), 78, fig.

BALLYNAHOW 473 OS 27
Fragmentary miniature vase (see above) decorated with rough pointillé ornament; one imperforate lug survives. Cork Public Museum. JCHAS 51 (1946), 78, fig. JRSAI 107 (1977), 81, fig. 11.

BEALICK 474 OS 71
A short rectangular cist contained an encrusted urn, a vase and the cremated bones of a small adult. The surviving fragments of vase bear incised ornament. Cork Public Museum. JCHAS 49 (1944), 116, fig.

CASTLEHYDE 475 OS 35
A short rectangular cist contained a vase which was apparently half-filled with cremated bones, a fossil encrinite was also found in the grave. The vase is decorated with impressed whipped cord ornament, false relief, and incised lines; it has four narrow, horizontal, imperforate lugs. NMI 1906:1, ex Day coll. JCHAS 11 (1905), 187, plate. BAP 1, fig. 401.

COOLCARRON (Carn Thiarna) 407 OS 35
Vase apparently found with lid in a ‘stone chamber’ in a mountain-top cairn. Seemingly decorated with incised and impressed ornament, the height of the vase is given as 14cm. Present whereabouts unknown. Borlase, The Dolmens of Ireland (1897), Vol. 1, 12, fig. 9. JCHAS 34 (1929), 57, fig. and refs.

COOLHILL 408 OS 121
Vase found in 1840 perhaps in a cairn covering three concentric circles of stones. The pot contained a ball of clay or ‘ashes’ (?). It is complete except for about one third of the rim and neck. Decorated with low vertical ribs on neck and whipped cord impressions. Traces of ten vertical ribs survive; there may have been twelve originally. UM 248-1928. PPS 3 (1937), 362. JCHAS 43 (1938), 54; 61 (1956), 103.

LABBACALLEE OS 27
Two very small sherds from this wedge tomb came, in the opinion of the excavators, from ‘what appeared to be a foodvessel’. The sherds are unclassifiable. NMI. PRIA 43C (1936), 88, fig. 128.

LABBAMOLAGA 409 OS 10
A sub-rectangular cist contained a small vase, a bone pin, a bone pendant or toggle and a deposit of cremated bone. A secondary encrusted urn lay above and to the west of this grave. The bones represented a young adult female and a child, and possibly a third, adult, individual. The vase, which probably stood at the northern end of the grave, bears incised ornament. Cork Public Museum. JCHAS 55 (1950), 15, fig.

MONEEN 367 OS 27
A cemetery mound covered four cist graves and two pit graves were found just outside the kerb of the mound. One of the latter (Burial 5) was greatly disturbed by the other, an encrusted urn burial
County Derry

(Burial 6). The remains of Burial 5 were in a slab-covered pit and consisted of an unidentifiable cremation accompanied by fragments of two bowls decorated with impressed ornament which includes comb and false relief ornament.

Cork Public Museum.

PRIA 54C (1952), 121, fig. 5 (basal sherd also figured). BAR 107 (1982), 461, fig. (one sherd).

JIA 4 (1987–8), 15, fig. 2e.

MONEEN OS 27

Sherd of second bowl from Burial 5 (as above).

Cork Public Museum.

PRIA 54C (121), fig. 8:16.

MONEEN 368 OS 27

Several sherds of bowl were found in the lowest layer of the cemetery mound (above); ornament includes comb impressions and false relief ornament.

Cork Public Museum.

PRIA 54C (1952), 121, fig. 8:14, 15. JIA 4 (1987–8), 15, fig. 2d.

Derry

BALLYDULLAGHAN 276 OS 26

A cemetery mound at Cornaclery contained four or five burials: A. Small rectangular cist containing sherds of a bowl, no bones found. B. Cist containing a crouched skeleton and bowl. C. Cist containing a cremation and a bowl. D. A disturbed cist containing a cremation and sherds of an urn. E. A cremation. The fragments of about half a large well-made bowl from Grave A are decorated with comb-impressed and false relief ornament. The base does not survive.

UM.

JRSAI 72 (1942), 81, fig. 1.

BALLYDULLAGHAN 127 OS 26

Grave B in a cemetery mound (see above) contained a crouched skeleton and a large tripartite bowl; the grave was a rectangular cist and the pot was found mouth upwards in front of the head of the unburnt remains of a young adult male. Impressed ornament consists of neat comb and triangular impressions forming false relief on the shoulder; the base is decorated.

UM 2271-1942.

JRSAI 72 (1942), 81, fig. 3. UJA 32 (1969), 59, no. 2.

BALLYDULLAGHAN 277 OS 26

Grave C in a cemetery mound (see above) was a polygonal cist containing the cremated bones of an adult accompanied by a flint flake and a ribbed bowl found lying on its side. The bowl bears comb impressions and false relief ornament. Its base is partly restored.

UM 2270-1942.

JRSAI 72 (1942), 81, fig. 5. UJA 32 (1969), 59, no. 2.

CASTLEROCK OS 2/3

Some sherds of bowl and vase recorded from sandhills.

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UJA 32 (1969), 59, no. 3, 63, no. 1.

CLAGAN (near Altaghanney) 80 OS 23/29

A sketch of a ruined cairn containing a megalithic tomb also shows a cist 'where an urn was found'. A sketch of this vessel said to be in the possession of a Mr Ogilvy of Kilcattan shows that it is a bowl previously believed to be from Altaghanney. The bowl is preserved and is decorated with fine comb impressions, incised lines and false relief; the base bears an incised cruciform design. (See Kilcattan).

NMI R1770, Wk 130.

RIA OS Memoir, Banagher parish. BAP I, fig. 289. UJA 32 (1969), 59, no. 1.

CREEVAGH UPPER 128 OS 20

Bowl reportedly found with skeletal remains in a cist (information from D. McCourt). It is decorated with triangular impressions and impressed short lines, some containing faint comb marks. It has five imperforate lugs.

UM 106-1959.

CROSSGARE 129 OS 11

A small flat cemetery comprised three graves: two bowls and a cordoned urn were found. Grave A was a cremation, possibly in a pit, accompanied by a bowl. Bones lost and no details recorded. The tripartite bowl bears impressed ornament consisting of comb impressions and false relief.

Armagh Museum 42-1940.

UJA 7 (1944), 65, fig. 3; 32 (1969), 59, no. 4. JRSAI 108 (1978), 45.
**County Derry**

**Crossgare 278** OS 11
Grave B in a small flat cemetery (see above) was a short rectangular cist, no capstone was found and it contained a bowl standing mouth upwards. There were no bones in the cist but some cremated bones representing an adult, possibly female, were found 15cm above it. The bowl is decorated with comb impressions and false relief; comb ornament and triangular impressions on the base form a star-shaped device.

Armagh Museum 43-1940.
*UJA* 7 (1944), 65, fig. 4; 32 (1969), 59, no. 4. *JRSAI* 108 (1978) 45.

**Culbene** OS 13/18
Sherds of vase with herringbone ornament. Not located.
UM 773-1936.
*UJA* 32 (1969), 61, no. 1.

**Cumber 5** OS 23
A bowl found in the late nineteenth century along with several other ‘urns’ may have come from a flat cemetery. A miniature vase (found inside a larger urn) is also preserved. The bowl is reconstructed and decorated with comb impressions and false relief; a star-shaped motif occurs on the base.


**Cumber 411** OS 23
A miniature vase was found in a larger urn, from a possible flat cemetery (above). Plain but for circular impressions (made with a tubular implement) on rim bevel.


**Cumber 130 Plate 22** OS 23
A well-made bowl found c. 1925 on the estate of Col. C. H. Browne-Lecky, Comber House. No further details. The pot is decorated with fine comb impressions, horizontal grooving and false relief. Four perforated lugs occur on the shoulder and the cylindrical base is decorated with arc-shaped impressions and comb impressions.
NMI E92:548. ex Swan coll.

**Gortcorbies 131** OS 10
A small oval cairn covered an unroofed polygonal stone structure which contained some fragments of cremated bone, beaker sherds and a miniature bowl containing a pyramidal pile of small stones. The bowl bears impressed ornament; the upper zone of vertical lines seems to have been executed with loosely twisted cord and the two middle zones with loosely whirled cord. The basal zone consists of rows of short impressions, some possibly made with loosely twisted cord.

UM.

**Gortcorbies 132** OS 10
A stone-filled ditch enclosed an area some 21m across. An eccentrically placed rectangular pit contained an inverted collared urn and cremation 20cm above the pit floor; fragments of a bowl and a flat flake were found 10cm below this, and a sherd of comb-ornamented beaker or bowl, some flints and cremated bone came from the fill of the pit. The bowl fragments represent a tripartite pot (now restored). Impressed short lines (some with faint tooth marks) occur on the rim; comb impressions, incised or impressed chevrons and incised horizontal lines decorate the exterior. Impressed ornament occurs on the base.

UM.
*JRSAI* 77 (1947), 5, fig. 4. *UJA* 32 (1969), 59, no. 6.

**Kilcattan 280** OS 23
A bowl presented by a Mrs Ogilvy of Kilcattan, near Claudy, is presumed to come from that area. The pot is decorated with incised lines on the rim bevel and incised vertical lines on the exterior; most of the decoration consists of arc-shaped impressions. This is one of three bowls from the Kilcattan area (below) and may be one of the three ‘urns’ which according to Lewis were found at nearby Altaghoney: ‘at Altaghoney were discovered, in the summer of 1835, three stone coffins, each covered with three flag stones, and in each an urn containing ashes, calcined bones, etc. The graves were two feet deep in the gravel, where 8 feet of bog had been cut off the surface; and near the coffins were two idols, carved out of solid oak, which, with the urns, are now in good preservation, in the museum of Alex. Ogilvy, Esq., of Kilcattan’. (See Clagan).
County Derry

NMI R1768.

KILCATTAN 133 OS 23
A bowl probably from the Kilcattan area is decorated with incised lines, comb impressions and false relief. See above.
NMI R1769. BAP I, fig. 321. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 7.

KILCATTAN 354 OS 23
Bowl found near Kilcattan, 1837. Decorated with comb-impressed and false relief ornament, an irregularly star-shaped motif occurs on the base. See above.
NMS EF 20. ex Bell coll. BAP I, fig. 358, 358a. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 7.

KILHOYLE 279 OS 17
Sherds of a probable ribbed bowl found both in the chamber and the cairn of a wedge tomb (pot 6). The exterior is decorated with five horizontal chevrons in false relief interspersed with zones of horizontal lines of comb impressions; the comb marks are very neat and fine (each tooth mark is about 1mm square). The base was decorated probably with an impressed star-shaped design.
UM. PBNHPS1 (1937–38), 34, fig. 3. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 8.

KILHOYLE 371 OS 17
About a dozen small sherds and crumbs of a bipartite bowl (pot 5) were found in a wedge tomb (above) near the entrance. Decoration consists of incised lines both horizontal and vertical, some impressed (?) short lines and impressed dots.
UM. PBNHPS1 (1937–38), 34, fig. 2.

LARGANTEA 24 OS 10
Sherds of a small vessel, from the chamber of a wedge tomb, bear decoration consisting of comb and triangular impressions. The pot is now reconstructed; part of its exterior is very abraded and the base is damaged. Some apparently haphazard lines on the base are uncertain decoration.
UM 177-1938.

UJA 1 (1938), 164, fig. 5; 32 (1969), 60, no. 10.

LOUGH ENAGH OS 14
Sherds of bowl recorded from a possible settlement.

MULLAGHMEASH 134 OS 30
Vessel found with cremated bones in a cist in a small cairn on Mullaghmeash mountain. It is decorated with comb impressions and false relief, and a shoulder groove contains four imperforate lugs.

PORTSTEWART OS 3
Sherds of bowl (including simple bowl) and vase from sand hills.

JRSAI 78 (1948), 149–52.

SLAGHTNIEIL 38 OS 32
Bowl found in the course of levelling a pile of stones near Maghera c. 1910. Decorated with fine whipped cord impressions.
UM 479-1927. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 11.

TAMNYAGAN 81 OS 30
Bowl decorated with comb impressions, triangular impressions forming false relief, and impressed oblique lines forming large chevrons in false relief. The base is decorated. It was found in a short rectangular cist with cremated bones.

CO. DERRY 410
Vase with incised ornament. No details of discovery recorded.
BALLYARE 476  OS 45
Vase found c. 1854 in a cist in a burial mound; the grave contained a second, larger vessel which was apparently not preserved. The vase is decorated with closely-set comb-like impressions and deeply impressed lines. Vertical impressions in whipped cord also occur on the exterior near the rim. NMI 1874:10, Wk 110. JRSAI 19 (1889), 286. BAP 1, fig. 395. UJA 32 (1969), 62, no. 1.

BALLYSHANNON 477  OS 107
Vase found in a sandpit (which may also have produced two vase urns and an encrusted urn: possible flat cemetery), no other details of discovery known. The fragmentary vase is reconstructed and about half of it is preserved. No base survives. It is decorated with neat twisted cord impressions and incised lines. Ornament on the rim bevel is incised. NMI 1929:90. PRIA 42C (1934–5), 166, plate xx:68a. UJA 32 (1969), 62, no. 1.

BELLANASCAADDAN 281  OS 45
Bowl found mouth upwards in a cist with the cremated bones of an adult. The ribbed pot is decorated with roughly triangular and irregularly shaped impressions (some executed with an object such as a tubular piece of bone or a quill) and what seem to be very coarse whipped cord impressions. NMI 1931:13. PRIA 42C (1934–5), 166, plate xxi:69. NMI Report 1930, plate 2:3. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 1.

BREDAGH GLEN 478  Plate 9  OS 21
Three vases and cremated bones were found in a short rectangular cist. This vase is decorated with incised herringbone ornament and seven doubly perforated lugs straddle a pair of grooves formed by three low ribs on the shoulder. NMI 1975:260.

BREDAGH GLEN 480  OS 21
A fragmentary and restored vase from a cist (above) is decorated with incised ornament. The surface of the body is greatly decayed. NMI 1975:261.

BREDAGH GLEN 479  OS 21
A vase from a cist (above) is decorated with incised ornament and some triangular impressions. NMI 1975:262.

BUNBEG  OS 32
Numerous small potsherds from sandhills. 'Found on flat expanse of sand'. Many are plain and of thick coarse well-gritted reddish-brown ware. Some sherds (9 to 11mm thick) bear comb impressions and some bear impressed arcs (occasionally forming false relief). They may be from large bowls. NMI 1938:9494–9498, 9501–9504.

BUNCRA NA 39  OS 29
A bowl, 'found in sinking the foundations for the New Hotel at Buncrana', was once in the collection of G. Knox, Esq. It was possibly found in a cist. Fragments representing the greater part of this bipartite vessel are preserved; it is decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised horizontal lines. Two very shallow and apparently concentric grooves occur on the surviving fragment of base. A break at mid-height suggests it was built of two rings of clay. UM 941-1937. First Annual Report of the Natural History and Philosophical Society of Derry, Derry 1871, 28 and fig.

BUNNAMAYNE 412  OS 47
A cist contained two small vases standing mouth upwards at one end and a deposit of cremated bone (not preserved) at the other. The larger of the two pots is decorated with incised lines, impressed herringbone and a zig-zag line near the rim executed with comb impressions. NMI P1950:19. JRSAI 81 (1951), 48, plate v. UJA 32 (1969), 62, no. 3.

BUNNAMAYNE 413  OS 47
One of two small vases from a cist (above). This crude vessel bears irregularly scored lines on exterior; same ornament on rim bevel and base. NMI P1950:20. JRSAI 81 (1951), 48, plate v. UJA 32 (1969), 62, no. 3.
CARNAGHAN 481 OS 37
A vase, fragments of a vase urn and a small plain cup were found in 1880 (in a cist?) in or near a megalithic tomb (a portal tomb) known as the 'King's Grave'. The vase, about half of which is preserved, bears incised ornament. Two perforate lugs survive (and traces of a third) each decorated with two vertical lines between short oblique lines. The base is decorated. Another cist was found in the late nineteenth century about 1.5km to the east of this tomb; it contained two 'food vessels' and fragments of bone, one was broken and one was taken by a local antiquary. Information from Miss M. R. Colhoun; see also Lacy, Archaeological Survey of County Donegal, 1983, no. 290. NMI 1960:550.

CARNDONAGH Plate 25 OS 11
Two bowls found at Glenagannon 'both come from what, judging by the description, must have been a tumulus... One of the vessels is of extremely good clay, and the base exhibits the peculiar feature of a circle sunk in the clay. The height is 88mm and the diameter at rim 128mm. The other vessel, which is not at all of such good workmanship, has a height of 94mm, diameter at rim of 141mm' (S. P. Ó Riodáin 1934).
Private possession.

CARRICKBRACK 135 OS 70
Bowl found in a short rectangular cist. It stood mouth upwards in the south-western corner and accompanied a deposit of cremated bone, some quartz chippings and two flint scrapers, one a 'thumb-scrapers'. The bowl is decorated with comb impressions, incised horizontal lines and false relief.
NMI 1957:69.
JRSAI 88 (1958), 145, fig. 13. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 3.

CARRICKBRACK 282 OS 70
The discovery of a bowl is recorded c. 1866: 'a finely ornamented burial urn was, some time ago, uncovered in a small cist on the lands of Carrickbrack. The covering stone of the cist was disturbed while ploughing, and on being removed, the urn was found underneath... no remains of any kind were in the urn or cist. It is now in the possession of J. S. Weir, J.P. of Carrickbrack. It resembles very much an urn of the Food Vessel type I saw described by Mr. Knowles which was found near Ballymena. It is completely covered with ornament, the base is also ornamented by circular lines round the edge enclosing a cross-like figure within. Unfortunately it was rather badly broken in removing the covering stone of the cist and was put together with ordinary mortar which defaces part of the ornament and partly destroys the shape of the urn.' A photograph of the pot and a drawing of the decorated base (with measurements) are preserved in NMI. The pot was 11.5cm high and 12cm in rim diameter.
Present whereabouts unknown. NMI records. JRSAI 26 (1896), 382; 88 (1958), 149; 100 (1970), 113.

CASTLEQUARTER 136 OS 38
Bowl found in a small cist with a skull (?remains of a skeleton). The pot is decorated with incised lines, more or less square-toothed comb impressions and false relief.
NMI 1944:94.

CRAIG 137 OS 39
Bowl found in a short rectangular cist with a crouched skeleton. The pot is decorated with comb impressions and false relief.
NMI.

CROAGHAN 138 OS 37/46?
According to a brief account published in 1871 two vessels were 'found in the same cist at Grange' by Mr. McCrea. There is a Grange township on Inishowen (OS 46) and on Inch (OS 37) but the Ulster Museum records state that these two pots came from 'Croagh Hill near Strabane' (OS 70; about two miles west of Strabane, in Co. Donegal, near the passage tomb cemetery of Kilmannon Middle). This large bowl is decorated with impressed ornament including comb, false relief and lunate
impressions. There are nine perforate lugs in the shoulder groove.
UM 3948, K27.
First Annual Report of the Natural History and
Philosophical Society of Derry, Derry 1871, 27 and
plate. BAP I, fig. 357. UJA 32 (1969), 6o, no. 7.
JRSAI 98 (1968), 1.

CROAGHAN 139 OS 37/46?
Small vessel found in a cist with a large bowl
(above). The pot is reconstructed and about half of
it is preserved. Impressed ornament: the exterior is
covered with lunate impressions.
UM 3926, K23.
First Annual Report of the Natural History and
Philosophical Society of Derry, Derry 1871, 27 and
plate.

GORTNATRAW SOUTH 140 OS 27
Sherds of about two-thirds of a bowl were re-
covered from a short rectangular cist; no bones re-
corded. The pot bears unusually coarse comb and
lunate impressions; part of an imperfect stop
survives on the shoulder groove, there are traces of
three others 5 to 7cm apart and there may origi-
nally have been six.
NMI 1964:45.
JRSAI 97 (1967), 8, fig. 4. UJA 32 (1969), 6o, no. 9.

KILLYCOLMAN 482 OS 28
A cemetery cairn is said to have contained a large
number of cists, possibly as many as twenty-five.
Burials were unburnt and cremated, and a number of
pots were found. One vase is preserved; it bears
incised ornament.
NMI 1934:5628.
PRIA 42C (1934–5), 173, plate xxi:72. UJA 32

KINNAGOE 141 OS 29
At least two urns are said to have been found in a
sandpit, possibly in the 1890s in the course of the
construction of the Benacrana to Carndonagh rail-
way. One tripartite bowl is preserved. It is deco-
rated with false relief, comb-impressed lines and
an impressed or grooved herringbone design. Five
unevenly spaced perforate lugs (with vertical
grooves) occur in a broad zone between a pair of
horizontal ribs. (Information from Mr Brian
Lacy).
St Columb’s College, Derry.
Lacy, Archaeological Survey of County Donegal
(1983), 66.

LABBADISH 142 OS 54
A cist was found in a gravel ridge and destroyed. A
pot was recovered, no bones recorded. The pot is
decorated with fine comb impressions and there
may have been a cruciform motif in this technique
on the base. There are four perforate lugs in a
shallow shoulder groove.
NMI 1964:25.
JRSAI 97 (1967), 8, fig. 3. UJA 32 (1969), 62, no. 7.

LAHEEN OS 103
An inverted cordonned urn in a pit contained a cre-
ation and a stone battle-axe. Two sherds of bowl
or vase (?) were also found: both bear whipped
cord ornament and one has traces of a row of trian-
gular (false relief) impressions.
NMI 1964:220A.
JRSAI 97 (1967), 41, fig. 2a and b.

LETTERBRICK 40 OS 67
One of three cists in a burial mound contained two
bowls and unburnt bones. One bowl is decorated
with whipped cord impressions on rim bevel and
exterior and also bears wedge-shaped impressions
containing whipped cord impressions.
NMI 1892:7, Wk 160.
BAP I, fig. 242. UJA 32 (1969), 6o, no. 5.

LETTERBRICK 41 OS 67
One of two bowls from a cist (see above). Decora-
tion consists of false relief and comb impressions.
The vertical lines are executed with a lightly im-
pressed comb.
NMI 1892:7a, Wk 159.
BAP I, fig. 243. UJA 32 (1969), 6o, no. 5.

near LETTERKENNY 355 OS 53
A biconical pot is said to have been found with
another vessel in a field about one mile from Let-
terkeny. It has been heavily restored. The origi-
nal decoration may have included rectangular im-
pressions and incised lines.
NMI 1898:80. ex Milligan coll.
PRIA 42C (1934–5), 169, plate xx:69(5). UJA 32
(1969), 6o, no. 11.

LOSSIE 612 OS 44
Sherds of a small encrusted vessel were found out-
side a short rectangular cist containing cremated
bones. The tub-shaped pot bears applied vertical
strips of clay, comb impressions, lunate and notch-like impressions.
NMI 1958:127.
JRSAI 90 (1960), 9, fig. 5.

Loughagannon 143 OS 45/53
An exceptionally large bowl, which is said to have been found in a cist, is decorated with comb impressions and false relief. There were originally four lugs on the shoulder groove; these do not survive. NMI 1959:14.

Magheragallon OS 32
Pottery sherds from sandhills include sherds of bowls.
NMI.

Moville 483 OS 21/22
Vase said to have been 'found with another urn in what must have been an eroded tumulus near Moville, Co. Derry (sic), and that its fellow urn was broken and the bones both contained dispersed'. A small tanged plano-convex flint knife (NMI 1915:123) may have been found with this vessel. The vase is decorated with incised and impressed ornament; the latter consists of a row of short oval impressions on the exterior just below the rim and slight, roughly triangular, impressions on the body obscured by the coarse stoney tempering which is clearly visible. Traces of four imperforate equidistant lugs are also visible: none survive. NMI 1915:118. ex Day coll.

Mullagheep 414 OS 45
Vase found lying on its side in a short rectangular cist and accompanying a cremation. Decorated with incised lines.
UJA 7 (1944), 95, plate xii; 32 (1969), 63, no. 2.
JRSAI 94 (1964), 95.

Norra 614 OS 4
A vase with a height of 6 inches (approx. 15cm) and a diameter of 5½ inches was found at Main Hall, possibly in a cist. A drawing of the pot is published.
Present whereabouts unknown.
First Annual Report of the Natural History and Philosophical Society of Derry, Derry 1871, 28 and fig.

Tievebane 415 OS 38
According to the finder, this vase was found standing mouth upwards in the centre of an empty, short rectangular cist. Several large sherds of rim and body and one small piece of the base of the vase are preserved. The rim bevel is decorated with horizontal lines of twisted cord impressions and short incised lines. Twisted cord impressions occur on the upper exterior and incised herringbone below the shoulder.
NMI 1971:1130.

Audleystown 144 OS 31
Fragments of a bowl (now restored) seemingly associated with unburnt bones; it is decorated with comb impressions and false relief on the upper exterior, and shallow incision and oval impressions. Found on top of the burial deposit in a court tomb. UM.
UJA 17 (1954), 25, fig. 8; 32 (1969), 60, no. 1.
ASCD 60, fig. 24:27.

Ballykinlar OS 44
Sherds of bowl from sandhills.
NMI.
JRSAI 68 (1938), 69. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 2.

Ballynagross 283 OS 38
A short rectangular cist contained the cremated bones of an adult male accompanied by a bowl which stood mouth upwards in one corner. A flint flake was found beside the bones and a flint core was found outside the grave. The pot is decorated with triangular impressions, incised lines and coarse whipped cord impressions.
UM 743-1934.
ASCD 59, fig. 23:15. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 3.

Ballyvester 487 OS 2/6
A short rectangular cist contained the cremated bones of a child and a vase which stood mouth upwards at one end. Some bones may have been in
the vase which bears impressed or incised short lines on the lower body and comb-impressed ornament on the upper body and rim bevel.

**Ballywilliam** 484 Plate 10 OS 2
A short rectangular cist is said to have contained a cremation, a flint knife (lost) and four small pots, one placed mouth upwards in each corner of the grave. Three vases are preserved. One, with four equidistant imperfect lugs in a shoulder groove, is decorated with whipped cord impressions.
UM 244-1907.

**Ballywilliam** 485 OS 2
Lower part of a vase (see above), the base is damaged. Decorated with whipped cord impressions.
UM 244-1907.
_ASCD_ 59, fig. 22:8.

**Ballywilliam** 486 OS 2
Basal part of a vase (see above) decorated with incised lines.
UM 244-1907.
_ASCD_ 59, fig. 22:9.

**Caericknab** 145 Plate 7 OS 44
A short rectangular cist contained a bowl, the cremated remains of an adult male, a bronze knife or dagger, a copper or bronze awl, and two 'thumbscrapers'. The bowl, which stood mouth upwards in the centre of the grave, is decorated with comb impressions (a fine and a coarse comb were used), incised lines, triangular impressions, and false relief. A rough cruciform design in comb occurs on the base and there are four perforated lugs below the rim.
UM.
_JCHAS_ 72 (1967), 94, fig. 1. _PRIA_ 67/C (1968), 44, fig. 12. _UJA_ 31 (1968), 18, fig. 3; 32 (1969), 60, no. 4. _JRSAI_ 99 (1969), 71, fig. 4.

**Cloghskelt** 488 OS 35
A flat cemetery of at least twenty-three graves was excavated in 1973. Two old finds from the site are recorded: a vase urn and an encrusted urn (_ASCD_ 61). Apart from several sherds of a bowl (CK 23)
all the excavated funerary pottery is of the Vase Tradition and comprised vase urns and encrusted urns and eighteen vases. Brief preliminary accounts of the cemetery have been published in _Excavations_ 1973 and _IARF_ 5 (1976), 7.
Grave 1, a pit grave, contained two urns (a vase urn and an encrusted urn) and three vases: this vase is profusely decorated with impressed and incised ornament.
UM CK 1/3.

**Cloghskelt** 489 OS 35
Vase from Grave 1 (above) decorated with irregular impressions and roughly incised lines.
UM CK 1/4.

**Cloghskelt** 416 OS 35
Vase from Grave 1 (above) with roughly incised ornament and four low perforate lugs on the shoulder.
UM CK 1/5.

**Cloghskelt** 490 OS 35
Grave 2, a small roughly polygonal cist, contained a vase urn and a vase which is decorated with comb-impressed, incised and false relief ornament and perforate lugs.
UM CK 2/2.

**Cloghskelt** 417 OS 35
A pit grave (Grave 3) contained the rims of two encrusted urns, a vase and a plano-convex flint knife. The vase was decorated with comb-impressed and incised ornament.
UM CK 3/1.

**Cloghskelt** 491 OS 35
Grave 4, a pit, contained a vase decorated with comb-impressed, false relief and incised ornament.
UM CK 4.

**Cloghskelt** 492 OS 35
Grave 5, a pit, contained an encrusted urn, a plano-convex flint knife and a vase bearing incised and irregularly impressed ornament.
UM CK 5/2.

**Cloghskelt** 493 OS 35
Grave 7, a pit, contained a plano-convex flint knife and a vase finely decorated with incised ornament.
UM CK 7.
County Down

CLOGHSKELT 494
Grave 8, a pit, contained a vase bearing roughly incised ornament. UM CK 8.

CLOGHSKELT 496
Grave 13, a pit, contained sherds of an encrusted urn and two rim sherds of a vase with incised ornament. UM CK 13/2.

CLOGHSKELT 503
Grave 15, a pit protected by some stones, contained a plain vase. UM CK 15.

CLOGHSKELT 497
Grave 16, a long cist(?), contained two vases and a flint end-scaper. This vase bears incised ornament. UM CK 16/1.

CLOGHSKELT 498
The second vase from Grave 16 is a small plain vessel. UM CK 16/2.

CLOGHSKELT 499
Grave 17, a pit protected by a few stones, contained a vase bearing incised ornament. UM CK 17.

CLOGHSKELT 500
Grave 18, a pit protected by a few stones, contained a vase decorated with incised lines and roughly triangular impressions. UM CK 18.

CLOGHSKELT 501
Grave 20, protected by a few stones, contained a vase bearing incised and impressed ornament. UM CK 20.

CLOGHSKELT 502
A pit (Grave 21) contained a vase bearing incised and impressed ornament, including comb decoration and false relief. UM CK 21.

CLOGHSKELT 495
A pit (Grave 22) contained a vase bearing incised ornament.

UM CK 22.

CLOGHSKELT 369
Three sherds of bowl were found, decoration includes false relief and whipped cord impressions. UM CK 23.

COMBER 505
Vase decorated with horizontal ribbing and vertical incisions. Possibly one of two vessels found in 1858. Department of Archaeology, Queen's University, Belfast. ASCD 60, fig. 24:22. UJA 32 (1969), 63, no. 2.

COMBER 419
A small vase decorated with incised lines; some incised ornament occurs on the base. There is a very slight foot-ring. UM 213-1952. ASCD 60, fig. 24:26. UJA 32 (1969), 63, no. 1.

COMBER 418
A fine vase decorated with carefully incised or impressed lines and false relief. UM 214-1952. ASCD 60, fig. 24:23. UJA 32 (1969), 34, 63, no. 1.

COMBER 504

DIEHOMED 262
Bowl possibly from a cist, found in a cairn in 1873. The pot is decorated with comb impressions and false relief. UM 783-1963. ASCD 60, 83, fig. 23:17. UJA 28 (1965), 113, fig. 48, plate; 32 (1969), 60, no. 5. JRSAI 103 (1973), 110, fig. 8.

DRUMCAW 506
Fragmentary vase, found in a cist in a cairn, bears impressed ornament on rim bevel and incised ornament on exterior. There are two small bosses on the shoulder placed some 5.5 cm apart; there may have been as many as a dozen originally. UM 3029. BAP I, fig. 403. The Antiquary 21 (1890), 234.
County Down


Dundrum OS 43/49
Sherds of bowl and vase recorded from sandhills.
UM.
UJA 15 (1952), 15, fig. 8; 22 (1959), 5, figs. 7 and 8; 23 (1960), 51, fig. 2; 32 (1969), 60, no. 11, 62, no. 13.

Greengraves 6 Plate 20 OS 5
Several 'urns' found on removing stones in a field. A bowl is preserved; it is decorated with impressed ornament which includes comb and false relief. Vertical grooves are filled with comb impressions and a comb-impressed cruciform motif occurs on the base.
Armagh Museum 43-1936.

Katesbridge 507 OS 35
Vase with perforate lugs in a shoulder groove which is also decorated with whirled cord impressions. Other ornament is impressed and incised. The incised design on part of the neck above the zone of filled triangles is an irregular zone containing a crude lozenge flanked by some rough herringbone ornament followed by a crude zig-zag and some oblique lines. In 1932 Gogan compared the lozenge motif to passage-tomb art, a comparison rejected by Mitchell in the following year.
NMI SA 1925:10. Man, Nov. 1932, no. 299, fig. 257; Man, June 1933, no. 133, 107.

Knock 42 OS 5
Bowl decorated with neat rectangular comb impressions, incised lines and false relief. Interior is obscured by plaster. Two concentric grooves and comb ornament occur on the base.
UM 1911-322.

Knockiveagh 82 OS 41
A disturbed secondary cremation (of an adult and a child) in a Neolithic cairn was associated with fragments of the upper part of a bowl. Impressed ornament on the bowl includes comb and lozenge designs. The upper two zones of lozenges contain short impressed lines in the lozenge-shaped impressions; the lower lozenges contain fine comb impressions.

UM.

Loughinisland or Loughbrickland 146 OS 23/24/34?
Bowl, said to have been found in a cist, is decorated with comb impressions and false relief. A star-shaped motif occurs on the base. Exact provenance uncertain.
UM 3925.
BAP I, fig. 332. ASCD 60, fig. 24:24. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 9.

Magheralin 508 OS 13
Small vase bearing incised ornament. Found inside a larger urn (lost) in topsoil at a quarry.
UM 67-1908.
ASCD 60, fig. 23:16.

Mount Stewart 284 Plate 15 OS 11
A cemetery mound investigated in 1786 is said to have contained a large central cist and fifteen smaller cists in its southern half. Each small cist contained a pot and a cremation. Five bowls and a vase are preserved.
A ribbed bowl bears impressed decoration executed with the surface and edge of a shell, perhaps a cockle-shell, and incised lines.
UM L14-1935.

Mount Stewart 7 OS 11
A bowl decorated with a comb-impressed lattice and vertical lines of coarse twisted cord impressions.
UM 321-1911.
ASCD 59, fig. 22:2.

Mount Stewart 509 OS 11
Less than half a vase is preserved and much restored; it is decorated with incised ornament and two lines of irregular impressions.
UM 1911-336.
ASCD 59, fig. 22:3.

Mount Stewart 44 OS 11
Bowl decorated with incised lines and roughly arc-shaped impressions.
UM L12-1935.
ASCD 59, fig. 22:4. BAP I, fig. 235.
Mount Stewart 45 OS 11
Bowl decorated with incised lines, false relief and roughly oval impressions.
UM L15-1935.
ASCD 59, fig. 22:5.

Mount Stewart 43 Plate 19 OS 11
Bowl decorated with comb impressions and false relief; a cruciform design occurs on the base.
UM L13-1935.
ASCD 59, fig. 22:6. BAP I, fig. 233.

Neill's Hill, Belfast 510 OS 4
Large vase bearing incised or impressed lines on the rim bevel and, on the exterior, incised ornament with two zones of roughly arc-shaped impressions.
UM 524-1925.
ASCD 60, fig. 24:21.

near Newry 46 OS 46/50
Bowl found near Newry. It is decorated with incised horizontal lines, approximately oval impressions and comb impressions.
UM 3952. ex Grainger coll.
BAP I, fig. 290. ASCD 59, fig. 23:10. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 13.

near Newry 420 OS 46/50
Miniature vase, undecorated; four small perforations occur on the neck.
UM 3934. ex Grainger coll.

near Newry 147 OS 46/50
Tripartite bowl found at 'Glennie' near Newry. It is decorated with comb impressions and false relief.
UM 3933. ex Grainger coll. ex Glennie coll.
BAP I, fig. 329. ASCD 60, fig. 23:19. UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 12.

Rubane 8 OS 18
Bowl from a short rectangular cist; no bones were found. It is decorated with roughly D-shaped impressions, comb impressions, incised lines, and two zones of oval motifs formed by short impressions apparently executed with the edge of a cockle shell.
UM L56-1931.

Waringstown 373 OS 20
In 1684, a bowl was found apparently containing cremated bone, in a cist-like structure in a passage tomb.
Present whereabouts unknown.

Co. Down 83
Bowl decorated with fine comb-impressed oblique lines and false relief. Vertical lines are possibly comb-impressed. Comb ornament on base.
UM 246:1924. ex Marquis of Downshire coll.
UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 16.

Co. Down 285
Bowl decorated with comb-impressed ornament and some false relief in the form of five pairs of impressed lozenges. These lozenges are made by opposed triangular impressions and they are placed about 7cm apart. The pot has a clearly defined foot-ring.
UM 247:1924. ex Marquis of Downshire coll.
UJA 32 (1969), 60, no. 16.

Co. Down 511
Large vase bearing grooved ornament. Two of the vertical lines below the rim are made with impressed whipped cord, the rest are grooved.
BM 1893, 5-17. 2. ex Glennie coll.
BAP II, fig. 561. UJA 32 (1969), 63, no. 5.

Dublin

Aghfarrell 148 OS 24
A short rectangular cist contained a crouched skeleton of an adult male and a bowl decorated with irregularly executed ornament, some lines may be incised but some are finely toothed and are impressed. The bowl stood behind the skull.

Dublin

Aghfarrell 148 OS 24
A short rectangular cist contained a crouched skeleton of an adult male and a bowl decorated with irregularly executed ornament, some lines may be incised but some are finely toothed and are impressed. The bowl stood behind the skull.

Dublin

Aghfarrell 148 OS 24
A short rectangular cist contained a crouched skeleton of an adult male and a bowl decorated with irregularly executed ornament, some lines may be incised but some are finely toothed and are impressed. The bowl stood behind the skull.

Dublin

Aghfarrell 148 OS 24
A short rectangular cist contained a crouched skeleton of an adult male and a bowl decorated with irregularly executed ornament, some lines may be incised but some are finely toothed and are impressed. The bowl stood behind the skull.
of the pot seems to be a reconstruction. It was apparently decorated with incised ornament and a row of roughly D-shaped impressions filled with incised lines.
NMI 1891:1.

**Ballsbridge 149 OS 18**

Bowl found in 1892 in what was apparently an unprotected pit and accompanying the crouched skeleton of a woman, lying on her left side, head to north-east. 'The bowl lay in front of the skeleton.' The bowl is decorated with comb impressions and incised lines; the base is decorated.
NMI 1921:3.

**Chapelizod 84 OS 18**

A large tumulus at 'Kaokeemaree' in the Phoenix Park was investigated in 1838 and found to cover a central, Neolithic, megalithic grave. Four smaller cists were also found, each contained a small pot and cremated bones; three pots are preserved. Half of this example survives; it is decorated with narrow horizontal zones comprised of incised lines, comb impressions and false relief. Its base bears light comb-pressed ornament.
NMI W26, Wk 151.

**Chapelizod 287 OS 18**

One of three vessels preserved from a tumulus in the Phoenix Park (see above). This example, the greater part of which is preserved, is decorated with incised lines and approximately triangular impressions which form lines of false relief on the rim bevel and upper exterior.
NMI W27, Wk 152.

**Chapelizod 631 OS 18**

Part of the base and side of a small pot found in a tumulus in the Phoenix Park (see above). Decoration consists of incised lines and whipped cord impressions.
NMI W28, Wk 153.

**Courtholough 9 OS 5**

Large bowl found in a short rectangular cist; no bone recorded. Roughly oval impressions decorate the rim bevel of this vessel, incised lines occur on the exterior as well as approximately circular motifs composed of several irregular impressions.
NMI 1939:1144.
*JRSAI* 69 (1939), 117.

**Courtloogh 288 OS 5**

Sherds of a bowl were recovered from a pit along with some cremated bone. This burial was about 60cm from that noted above. The fragments are decorated with approximately triangular impressions and comb impressions on the exterior; very faint comb and triangular impressions occur on the rim bevel.
NMI 1939:1145.

**Cremlin 85 OS 18/22**

Bowl found in a sand quarry and said to have contained cremated bones. It is decorated with comb impressions and false relief; the base bears roughly triangular impressions and incised lines.
NMI 1912:65.

**Dalkey Island OS 23**

Shards of bowl and vase from settlement site.
NMI.
*PRIA* 66 C (1968), 157.

**Drinagh 150 OS 18**

A tumulus contained a Neolithic grave and four secondary burials. Two of the latter contained pottery, one an urn, the other a bowl. The bowl was found in a long pit with the scattered cremated remains of an adult, it had been placed, mouth upwards, on a small pile of the burnt bone near the centre of the grave. The bowl is decorated with whirled cord impressions.
NMI.
*JRSAI* 69 (1939), 190, fig. 3.

**Dunsink OS 13/14**

Quarrying activities on a natural gravel hillock produced miscellaneous finds from the Bronze Age to the nineteenth century. The only Bronze Age artifact was one small sherd (approx. 2cm by 2.5cm) of bowl bearing two horizontal grooves with a narrow zone of vertical comb or whipped cord impressed lines between them. A few flecks of cremated bone were also noted in the disturbed
material. (Information from Miss E. M. Prendergast).

Edmondstown 289 OS 22
A flat cemetery of some eighteenth burials was excavated in 1950–51. Three short rectangular cists contained bowls and other burial pottery included collared urn, encrusted urn and cup. Three tiny fragments of bowl or vase (1951:19) were found in the area of one encrusted urn burial and two sherds of possible vase (1951:33) came from the vicinity of another such burial. Cist I was a short rectangular cist which contained the crouched skeleton of a 12–15 year old. A bowl, found (mouth upwards?) in front of the head, is decorated with incised horizontal lines, false relief and impressed short lines. False relief occurs on the rim bevel. The base is missing.
NMI 1951:29. 
JRSAI 100 (1970), 116 (note).

Edmondstown 290 OS 22
Cist II of a flat cemetery (above) contained the crouched skeleton of a 14–16 year old with a bowl mouth upwards in front of the face. The bowl bears incised, false relief and comb-impressed ornament; the base is decorated.
NMI 1951:30.

Edmondstown 151 Plate 7 OS 22
Cist III of a flat cemetery (above) contained the cremated bones of a youth and a bowl which stood at one end of the grave with its mouth tilted towards the south. The bowl is decorated with incised horizontal lines, comb impressions and false relief; the base bears a cruciform design of triangular and comb impressions. Two grooved ribs on the exterior each bear seven small perforate lugs or bosses. A groove and comb impressions occur on the rim.
NMI 1951:35.

Glassamucky 512 OS 24/25
A short rectangular cist contained a crouched skeleton lying on its left side, head to north-northwest. A vase stood mouth upwards behind the skull. A vase urn (1978:344) and cremation were found some 5 m from the cist. Fragments of the greater part of the vase are preserved and have been reconstructed; the base is missing. Decoration consists of impressed oval dots on the rim bevel and neatly incised lines over most of the exterior. Short oblique lines just below the rim are impressed and two shallow shoulder grooves each contain nine out of a possible original ten low perforate lugs more or less equally spaced.
NMI 1978:342.

Greenhills 422 OS 22
A flat cemetery of at least five burials produced, in addition to bowl and vase, pottery of encrusted urn and vase urn type. Burial 1 was a sub-rectangular cist containing an inverted encrusted urn and cremation; the urn contained a miniature vase. A larger vase stood mouth upwards beside the urn. This vase bears incised decoration and three zones of whipped cord ornament.
NMI SA1898:18c. 
PRIA 18 (1891–3), 400; 21 (1898–1900), 338, plate xii:2; 29 (1910), 106; 73 (1973), 545, fig. 16, no. 37 (urn). BAP II, fig. 531a.

Greenhills 423 OS 22
Miniature vase from Burial 1 of a flat cemetery (above). Decorated with false relief, incised lines and horizontal lines of whipped cord impressions. Five circular holes in neck of pot filled with clay before firing.
NMI 1958:18b.
PRIA 21 (1898–1900), 338, plate xii:1. BAP II, fig. 551b. NMAJ 1 (1931–9), 2, plate ii:3c. JRSAI 107 (1977), 84, no. 25, fig. 13.

Greenhills 372 OS 22
Burial(?) 2 of a flat cemetery (above) was a pit containing an encrusted urn and possibly a plain vase urn. Only fragments of both these pots were preserved and no bones were noted. It was also reported that 'on examination three small fragments of a third vessel of smaller size (of the bowl-shaped food-vessel class) were found amongst the fragments of the larger urns'. Nature of association uncertain. One rim sherd of a bowl bearing impressed short lines (faint comb marks are visible in one) is preserved and numbered along with the bowl sherds from Burial 3 (below). It may be from the 'third vessel'.
NMI 1898:20c (bis).
PRIA 21 (1898–1900), 341, fig. 1 (vase urn), fig. 2 (encrusted urn); 73 (1973), 544, fig. 16, no. 36 (encrusted urn).
Greenhills 370  OS 22
Burial 5 of a flat cemetery (above) was the skeleton of a man from what seems to have been a pit grave. The head of the skeleton was towards the north, but its position is not stated. At its feet, a bowl contained cremated bones. Sherds of the pot are preserved and bear incised, grooved and impressed ornament: some of the lines on the rim and the long vertical lines on the upper body contain comb marks.
NMI 1898:20c.
PRIA 21 (1898–1900), 342, plate XIII:1.

Greenhills 86  Plate 12  OS 22
Burials 4 and 5 from a flat cemetery (above) seem to have been each accompanied by a vase urn but a bowl from this area found c. 1802 is possibly from the same cemetery (Burial 6?): it is known to have come from a sandpit at Greenhills and the unburnt bones of an adult were found in the immediate vicinity. The bowl is decorated with arc-shaped impressions and triangular impressions forming false relief, incised lines and comb impressions.
NMI 1892:48.
BAP 1, fig. 299.

Greenhills 421  Plate 11  OS 22
A fine vase was found in the Greenhills sandpit c. 1802 and is possibly from the flat cemetery (above) but no details of its discovery are preserved. The vase bears triangular impressions forming false relief and horizontal whipped cord impressions on the exterior and false relief and three lines of plaited cord on the interior of the neck.
NMI 1945:373.

Jamestown 356  OS 26
Several burials from a sand quarry found since c. 1908 may represent the remains of a flat cemetery: an encrusted urn, an anomalous bowl and a vase are preserved. The anomalous bowl was found in what seems to have been a cist; human bones were reportedly strewn on the paved floor of the grave. The pot is of well-girtled ware and is crudely decorated with oval impressions on rim bevel and external ribs.
NMI 1908:158.
PRIA 73 (1973), 545. JRSAI 100 (1970), 116.

Jamestown 424  OS 26
Vase from a possible flat cemetery (above) was found with cremated bones but no details preserved. The vase is decorated with incised and impressed ornament.
NMI SA1927:45.

Kilmashogue 152  OS 25
A small cemetery of three secondary cists in or near a wedge tomb produced two bowls and a vase urn. Cist 1 contained sherds of a bowl; no bones were found. The bowl bears incised lines, roughly oval impressions and triangular impressions forming false relief. The base is decorated with an impressed design within concentric grooves.
PRIA 56C (1953–54), 465, fig. 2:1.

Kilmashogue 374  OS 25
A small cist (no. 2) near the remains of the cairn of a wedge tomb (above) contained the remains of a bowl and cremated bones. The surviving fragments of the upper part of this pot bear incised lines and false relief.
NMI 1956:452.
PRIA 56 C (1953–54), 465, fig. 2:2.

Kiltalough 87  OS 24
A cist under a low mound contained a bowl and the remains of a skeleton. Several small ‘chamber tombs’ (cists?) and a large pit containing burnt bone were also found. A rim sherd of an urn was found (NMI Wk 94). The bowl is decorated with comb-impressed lines and false relief; an impressed star-shaped motif occurs on the base.
NMI W 10, Wk 93.
PRIA 4 (1847–50), 187. BAP 1, fig. 300 (urn sherd also illustrated). Préhistoire 2 (1933), 225, fig. 32b (base).

Malahide? 153  OS 12?
Sherds of a bowl and some bones of a skeleton are preserved. They were probably found in the Malahide area. The pot is decorated with false relief and comb impressions.
NMI 1959:577.
JRSAI 91 (1961), 88.

Rush 291  OS 8
Several burials appear to have been found on or near the site of a passage tomb. Two bowls are pre-
served. One, probably found in the nineteenth century with cremated bone, is decorated with incised lines. The base is decorated.
JRSAI 98 (1968), 164, fig. 1.

RUS H 88 OS 8
A cist, found in 1934 at the northern edge of the cairn of a passage tomb, contained a bowl and unburnt bones. The pot is decorated with false relief, comb impressions and incised horizontal lines. A few unburnt bones are preserved.
NMI 1934:432.
JRSAI 98 (1968), 165.

STILLORGAN 375 OS 23
A bowl was found in a slab-built cist with the 'promiscuously dispersed' bones of an adult in the eighteenth century. The discovery of other urns is recorded and a disturbed cist grave was found in this area in 1955. Present whereabouts unknown.
Molyneux (ed.) in Boate, A Natural History of Ireland (1755), 201 and fig. 6. JRSAI 100 (1970), 116.

FERMANAGH

BEHY 615 OS 32
Two similar neck sherds of a vase bearing incised ornament; the larger measures 4 by 3.5cm, the smaller 3 by 3.3cm. Labelled: 'fragments of pottery from chambered tomb, Beihy, Florencecourt, Enniskillen. Presented by Hughes'. Possibly from a cemetery mound investigated in the nineteenth century but the only pottery recorded from that site is a basal fragment (below).
Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology Z846, 2848.

BEHY 616 OS 32
Base of small pot. Surviving fragment is plain and 7cm in diameter. See above.
UM.

Cavadcarragh 155 OS 22
A number of small cists were found in a cemetery mound. One compartmented cist contained a small pot in each compartment. Part of a bowl is preserved. It is decorated with comb impressions, incised lines and false relief.
NMI 1902:3.

Clogher Bog 89 OS 20
A cist in a cairn in 'Clough Bog' (possibly Clogher bog) is said to have contained three pottery vessels and cremated bones. One bowl is preserved. It is decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised horizontal lines.
NMI 1878:4, Wk 65.
BAP I, fig. 307. UIA 32 (1969), 60, no. 2.

Enniskillen 425 OS 22
A vase urn, vase and a calcined plano-convex flint knife (1900:57c) were found with cremated bones in sandy soil. The larger vessel had been inverted on a stone stab. The vase is decorated with twisted cord impressions on the inner neck and some horizontal lines in this technique occur on the exterior which also bears incised lines and whipped cord impressions.
NMI 1900:57.
BAP II, fig. 570. UIA 32 (1969), 63, no. 1.
KILTERNEY
Sherds of bowl reported from cairn.
*UJA 32* (1969), 60, no. 3.

MOYLEHID (Belmore Mt.) 10 OS 26
A secondary rectangular cist in the cairn of a passage tomb contained a cremation accompanied by a bowl said to have contained traces of some black greasy substance (not preserved). The bowl is decorated with incised lines, false relief and comb impressions. The base is decorated.
NMI 1898:15.


MOYLEHID (Belmore Mt.) 74 OS 26
A bowl and cremation were found on top of a slab which seems to have horizontally divided one of the transepts of a passage tomb. The bowl is decorated with incised lines and roughly crescentic impressions. The base is missing.
NMI 1898:16.

*PRIA 20* (1896–8), 659, fig. 4. *BAP I*, fig. 240.

GALWAY

ANNAGHKEEN 292 OS 55
A circular tumulus, examined in 1924, was found to contain a rectangular cist, the contents of which had been disturbed. In it were found the unburnt bones of an adult male and a child accompanied by a bowl. The bowl, which seemingly lay partly on its side, is decorated with neat comb impressions, false relief, incised horizontal lines and impressed notches. Two sizes of comb were used.
NMI 1932:6525. ex Costello coll.


ANNAGHKEEN 513 Plate 24 OS 55
A large circular cairn, partly quarried away in 1907, covered a large rectangular cist in its south-eastern quadrant. The cist, with paved floor, contained cremated bones, a vase, a pottery lid, a miniature vase, a few decayed potsherds, a small bronze dagger, a bronze awl and a quartz pebble. The vase seems to have stood mouth upwards near the deposit of cremated bone in the centre of the cist, the dagger lying nearby. The miniature vase is said to have stood at the grave’s north-western end, the pottery lid lay at the other. The vase is decorated with three horizontal zones of incised lines. The fragmentary pottery lid has been roughly restored, it bears impressed and incised ornament.
NMI 1908:13 (vase); 1908:15 (lid).


ANNAGHKEEN 514 OS 55
A plain miniature vase from a cist (above).
NMI 1908:14.

*JRSAI 107* (1977), 84, fig. 13.

CARROWNTOBER 515 OS 71/84
A small short rectangular cist was found in a sand ridge in 1929. It was disturbed after discovery but had contained the unburnt bones of a child less than a year old, and a vase. Fragments of the vase survive, much obscured by some restorer’s plaster. It is decorated with incised ornament and several horizontal lines of comb impressions on the shoulder.

University College, Galway, Department of Archaeology, 129.
County Galway


Carrowntober East 516 Plate 24 OS 84 A short rectangular cist contained the unburnt skeletal remains of a female adult, presumably crouched, accompanied by an inverted vase. Few details of burial preserved, two flint scrapers and fragments of a child’s skull were also found. The vase is decorated with incised ornament and a narrow shoulder groove bears four imperfect lugs. NMI 1931:166. 

Cave 520 OS 42 A long cist was uncovered in 1902 in the southern part of a hill-top cairn near Knockma. It contained the skeleton of an adult, possibly extended with head to west. A vase stood mouth upwards at the eastern end of the grave and parts of a second were recovered near the skull. The complete vase is decorated with finely incised close-set lines and some impressed false relief. It once had five lugs on the shoulder: none survive. NMI 1932:6524. ex Costello coll.

Cave OS 42 Fragments of a vase found in a long cist (above). Said to have been of similar fabric and decoration to the complete vase. Present whereabouts unknown.

Cloghroak 517 OS 104 A short rectangular cist contained the unburnt remains of a young person, probably female, and an infant, and the cremated bones of an adult male. Two vases were found, standing mouth upwards at either side in the middle of the cist. One vase is complete and bears incised ornament; a narrow groove occurs on the shoulder. Its upper body is heavily encrusted with carbonate of lime. NMI 1944:220. 

Cloghroak 518 OS 104 A fragmentary vase, one of two from a cist (above). Only the upper part and a few body sherds (encrusted with carbonate of lime) are preserved. They bear incised ornament and one low imperforate lug survives on the shoulder. Traces of three other lugs are visible and if all were set 4 to 5cm apart, there may have been eight originally. NMI 1944:221.

Corrandrum 519 OS 57 A short rectangular cist, found in an esker, contained the cremated bones of an adult. A polished bone object (possibly the head of a pin) and two plano-convex flint knives had been placed on top of the bones. A vase was also found in the cist but its position was not recorded. The vase is reconstructed but almost complete. The whole pot bears somewhat irregularly incised ornament. The horizontal line below the shoulder occurs on only part of the circumference. The pot is slightly asymmetrical: the height varies from 13.4 to 14.3cm from one side to the other. NMI 1933:1268. 

Gortnahown 521 OS 84 Two short rectangular cists were found in 1913 in a gravel ridge; other ‘graves’ reported. One small cist contained unburnt bones and a vase. Decoration is incised and a shoulder groove bears two very low imperfect lugs with some impressed or incised herringbone on them; there were five lugs originally. NMI 1913:45. 

Headford 522 OS 41/42 A vase found near Headford, Co. Galway, and ‘containing fragments of burnt bones and broken bits of, probably, marine shells’ (NMI Register) was presented by R. F. St. George. This is possibly one of two urns, ‘a greater and a less, both of them containing ashes and burnt bones’, found in a possible cist in a cairn on the lands of the St. George family in 1678. The vase is decorated with finely incised lines on the interior and exterior of the rim and exterior body, and whipped cord and false relief impressions on the upper exterior. NMI R1881, Wk 119.
Country Kildare


**Kilcornan** 524 OS 95
A small flat cemetery comprised at least three cists. Few details recorded: Cist 1 was a short rectangular cist which contained the crouched skeleton of a youth on its right side, head to the south-south-east. A vase had been placed at the back of the neck. Cist 2 contained cremated bones and Cist 3 seemingly contained cremated bone and some fragments of vase. Stray finds from the site include a sherd of undecorated pottery (?vase), some burnt bone and a calcined flint scraper. The vase from Cist 1 is decorated with roughly incised lines; its base is missing.

**Kilcornan** 523 OS 95
Sherds of the rim and body of a vase from Cist 3 of a flat cemetery (above). Decoration is incised.
University College, Galway, Department of Archaeology, 125.

**Killimor** 156 OS 107/117
A bowl, of which a little over half is preserved, is decorated with incised lines, comb impressions and crescentic impressions.
NMI.

**Moyveela** 525 OS 95/96
A short rectangular cist in a small mound contained the possibly crouched skeleton of a youth c. 12 years old, possibly female, accompanied by a vase. No precise details recorded. The vase, of which about half is a reconstruction, has one surviving imperforate lug in a shallow shoulder groove; traces of a second are visible and there were originally probably four. Decoration consists of short, closely-set incised lines and coarse, twisted cord impressions.

**Ower** 526 OS 41
A short rectangular cist contained a vase full of cremated bone. The pot stood mouth upwards on a cobbled floor in the middle of the grave which was filled almost to the capstone with fine sand containing cremated bone. Decoration is incised; a zone of fingernail(?) impressions occurs near the base.
NMI 1941:730. *JGAHS* 20 (1942), 75, fig. 2; 34 (1975), 19.

**Co. Galway** 11
A bowl, decorated with horizontal grooves and oblique and vertical whirred cord impressions, is said to come from Co. Galway. A label in the vessel reads 'Pot Galway 1853'. The label was made by or belonged to 'Dennison, London'.

**KILDARE**

**Blackhill** 90 OS 15
A short rectangular cist contained the crouched skeleton of a child (lying on its back). A bowl, found at the feet, bears false relief, comb-impressed lines and incised lines.

**Brownstown** 47 OS 23
A flat cemetery of at least four or five burials was found in an esker known as Mellon Hill c. 1937.

Two encrusted urn burials and two unburnt burials (one in a pit, the other possibly so) each accompanied by a bowl are recorded. Sherds of two other bowls are preserved. Few details known. This bowl, represented by seven sherds, was found with an unburnt burial at a depth of about 1.20m. It is decorated with false relief, comb-impressed and incised lines. An incised or impressed design occurred on the base.
County Kildare

BROWNSTOWN 293 OS 23
An almost complete bowl found with an unburnt burial in a pit grave; it was found beside the skull. This was one of several burials in a flat cemetery (above). The bowl is decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised lines. An incised design on the base has some comb impressions.
NMI 1935:443.

BROWNSTOWN 377 OS 23
Five sherd of a bowl from the site of a flat cemetery (above). They represent more than half of the decorated lower part of the pot. Decoration consists of incised lines, false relief and comb impressions.
NMI 1935:445A.

BROWNSTOWN 376 OS 23
Three sherd from the body of a bowl found on the site of a flat cemetery (above). They bear some false relief and whipped cord (?) impressions.

CALVERSTOWN 378 OS 28/32
A short rectangular cist found in 1788 contained a crouched skeleton and a bowl. Judging from the published engraving the decoration on the pot included false relief. It is stated to have been deposited in the Royal Irish Academy (but is not noted in Wilde’s 1857 catalogue of that collection).
Present whereabouts unknown.
TRIA 2 (1789), 51, fig.

CORTEN 617 OS 39/40
A cist, discovered c. 1892, contained cremated bones and two ‘urns’. One urn was preserved and is known from a poor photograph. It seems to be a small biconical vase with slightly everted rim, decorated externally with horizontal zonal ornament which includes narrow zones of obliquely incised lines, hatched triangles and two lines of chevron in false relief. A number of vertically ribbed lugs occur on the shoulder. (Similar vases come from Lyles Hill, Co. Antrim, and Balion Hill, Co. Carlow).
Present whereabouts unknown.
J. Kildare A. S. 5 (1906–08), 119, plate.

GRANEY WEST 294 OS 40
A flat cemetery of three burials was found in 1953 in a sand ridge: all were disturbed. 1. A flat slab on some small boulders protected the unburnt remains of two adults (?crouched) accompanied by at least two bowls. One of these bowls was recovered intact and one in fragments. Part of a third bowl was found among the latter fragments. The two other burials consisted of a small cist-like structure (2) of three upright slabs (no capstone) containing a cremation, a bowl and two toggles or pendants and a pit grave (3) containing a crouched skeleton and some unclassifiable cramps and sherds (?bowl). The complete bowl from Burial 1 is decorated with incised lines (oblique on bevel and near rim), and short impressed lines and comb-impressed lines on the body. Decoration on the base is impressed. Three seed impressions of barley (Hordeum sp.) were identified (by Miss M. Scannell); one each occurs on the two upper ridges encircling the pot and one in the groove between.
NMI 1953:1.
JRSAI 100 (1970), 119 (note).

GRANEY WEST 295 OS 40
Fragments of a bowl from Burial 1 of a poorly recorded flat cemetery (above). It is of noticeably poor fabric, numerous grits give a rough surface. Decoration consists of incised horizontal lines, false relief and comb impressions. The bevelled rim and two zones on the exterior bear lines of sub-rectangular impressions. The base is decorated with comb impressions and lightly grooved (?) arcs.
NMI 1953:2.

GRANEY WEST 296 OS 40
Part of a bowl found among sherd of another bowl (above) from Burial 1 of a flat cemetery. Decoration consists of false relief, triangular and rectangular impressions and incised lines.
NMI 1953:2A.

GRANEY WEST 158 OS 40
Bowl found with cremated remains and two toggles or pendants in Burial 2 of a poorly recorded flat cemetery (above). The bowl is decorated with approximately triangular impressions (forming a false relief design below the rim), comb impressions and incised lines. Six perforate lugs are set at fairly regular intervals around the vessel between two ribs. One of the toggles or pendants is broken (Reg. no. 1953:5), it is possibly made of bone (not stone) and its stem is horizontally grooved. Faint double grooving occurs on the exterior of the ring; the present length of the object is
18mm. The complete toggle (1953:6) is made of stone, almost certainly phylite (encrusted with calcite) of the lower Palaeozoic; its stem is horizontally grooved and both rings are double-grooved externally. Its length is 41mm. NMI 1953:4.

Graney West OS 40 Two sherds (each about 23 by 19mm) and some small fragments and crumbs were recovered with some unburnt human bones from a pit grave exposed in the face of a sandpit. The head of the apparently crouched skeleton lay to the east. No further details. Some incised lines occur on the sherds (?bowl). NMI 1953:32.

Halverstown 26 OS 28 A small flat cemetery of three pit burials, each containing a crouched skeleton, one of which was accompanied by a bowl. In this burial the crouched skeleton of an adult male faced east and 'one hand supported the head'. The bowl stood mouth upwards behind the skull. Decoration consists of comb impressions, incised lines, triangular impressions and false relief. The oval cartouches containing incised lines are themselves seemingly incised. A circular groove occurs on the base. NMI 1939:1141. JRSAI 70 (1940), 57, fig.

Hartwell Upper 13 OS 20 A bowl was found in what may have been a pit in a sand ridge. Along with the pot were 'a number of bones which appeared to be charred, and a copper spoon'. The bowl was preserved but the 'copper spoon' (?a twisted dagger or knife) was lost. Decoration consists of false relief, horizontal comb impressions (in two grooves on the exterior) and vertical and oblique impressed short lines, some showing faint comb marks; incised horizontal lines and roughly circular impressions (formed by several irregular impressions) also occur. Traces of incised or impressed decoration occur on the remains of the almost rounded base. NMI 1939:487.

Kilraine 157 OS 2/3 A cist found in 1854 contained 'a small human skeleton, that of a girl about eleven years old', and 'an urn, containing ashes'. A bowl containing unburnt bones is preserved. Decoration consists of crude whipped cord impressions (on rim bevel, base and exterior), shallow false relief and triangular impressions and incised lines. Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology Z36202. ex Murray coll. J. Kildare A. S. 3 (1899–1902), 330. The Murray Collection. Catalogue of the Collection of Irish Antiquities formed by the late Thomas R. Murray, J.P. of Edenderry, King's County. Cambridge 1901 (University of Cambridge Museum ... Sixteenth Annual Report of the Antiquarian Committee) (provenanced as 'Kilraine, Co. Wexford').

Knockaulin (Dún Ailinn) OS 28 A pit containing bowl(?) sherds with a C14 determination of 1270±55bc. (Si-982) is reported.


Newtown Macabe 297 OS 10 A small cist in an esker contained an unburnt burial and a bowl. No precise details. The bowl is decorated with impressed ornament including false relief and comb impressions. NMI 1971:902. J. Kildare A. S. 15 (1971), 19, fig.

Nurney Demesne 159 OS 27 A bowl, from the collection of the Royal Dublin Society, is said to have been found in a gravel hill in the demesne of Nurney, Co. Kildare, near which there were formerly found some broken urns and burnt bones. 'From Lieut. Col. Bagot, Nurney'. The bowl is decorated with incised lines, short impressed lines, false relief and comb impressions. Very faint incised lattice occurs on the base. NMI R208, Wk 102. BAP I, fig. 322. PSAS 85 (1950–51), 38, fig. 2:11.

Oldtown 160 OS 23 A poorly recorded flat cemetery in a sand ridge seems to have comprised three burials (1–3), each consisting of a skeleton in a pit grave. Two contained bowls and a third is said to have contained a small vessel and a vase urn. This bowl accompanied a crouched skeleton (Burial 2) lying on its left side, head to north-west. The long sides of the pit were lined with small stones and a deposit of cremated bone lay in the area of the knees and
County Kilkenny

lower limbs. The bowl, found close to the skull (and seemingly in front of it), bears comb-impressed ornament and false relief.
NMI 1955:87.

OLDTOWN  298   OS 23
Burial 1 in a flat cemetery (above) was about 7m from Burial 3 and was, according to the finder, a pit containing a crouched skeleton with head to northwest. Sherds of a bowl were recovered from the grave. The few surviving sherds of any size bear lightly incised or impressed ornament.
NMI 1955:82.

OLDTOWN  527   OS 23
Burial 3 in a flat cemetery (above) was virtually unrecorded. According to the finder, sherds of a vase and a vase urn (1955:86) were found with a skeleton, but no details and no bones are preserved. Numerous small fragments and crumbs of the smaller pot are preserved, they bear traces of lightly incised ornament.
NMI 1955:85.

PLOOPLUCK  300   OS 19
A poorly recorded flat cemetery produced four burials in 1935. All were in pits in a natural sand ridge and in several instances these pits were said to have been filled with clay.
1. Unburnt burial without pottery. 2. Bowl said to have been found with a skeleton which crumbled away when touched. 3. Bowl found in a clay-filled pit; it was stated to have been placed behind the skull of a crouched skeleton which faced north. 4. Bowl found beside skull of an unburnt burial. Some time before these discoveries, the remains of at least four unburnt skeletons, two sherds of a bowl and a sherd of an urn were found in the area, possibly in the general vicinity of the flat cemetery. No details available. This bowl (from Burial 2) is fragmentary and decorated with impressed short lines, false relief and comb impressions.
NMI 1935:547.

PLOOPLUCK  299   OS 19
Bowl found behind the skull of a crouched skeleton (3) in a flat cemetery (above). It is decorated with incised horizontal lines, comb impressions and false relief.
NMI 1935:545.

PLOOPLUCK  161   OS 19
Bowl found with an unburnt burial (4) in a flat cemetery (above). It is decorated with triangular impressions, false relief, and whipped cord impressions. Triangular impressions decorate the base. A shallow shoulder groove has eight low perforate lugs.
NMI 1935:544.

PLOOPLUCK  379   OS 19
The remains of four skeletons and sherds of a bowl were found in the vicinity of the above flat cemetery. No details. Two small sherds decorated with false relief and comb-impressed lines are preserved. A small sherd of twisted cord ornamented urn also survives (1935:7).
NMI 1935:8, 10.

TIPPER SOUTH  528   OS 19
Two large vases were found together with cremated bones in a sandpit. The larger of the two, with a height of 19.4cm, is just below the lower limit of the vase urn category. It is decorated with incised lines.
NMI 1930:12.

TIPPER SOUTH  529   OS 19
One of a pair of large vases (above) bears decoration consisting of incised lines, triangular impressions (on shoulder) and irregularly shaped impressions (made with an implement with two or three closely-set points or teeth).
NMI 1930:13.

KILKENNY

BALLYSKILL  530   OS 5
The remains of a cemetery mound contained five cists; all were empty but one which contained three pots and some fragments of burnt bone. Greater part of a vase decorated with arc-shaped impres-

sions producing two zones of false relief on the lower body and rough false relief on the rim bevel, incised horizontal lines and short incised or impressed lines.
NMI.
Excavations 1971, 16.

BALLYOSKILL 531 OS 5
One of three pots from a cist (above). Almost complete vase decorated with short incised lines, incised horizontal lines, triangular impressions and comb impressions.
NMI.

BALLYOSKILL 532 OS 5
The smallest of three pots from a cist (above) is a miniature vase without decoration.
NMI.

BLANCHFIELDSOG 533 OS 17
Three vases were found c. 1918 in a small cist in a hill-top mound. This biconical vase is of unusually thick (14 mm) and gritty fabric and decorated with broadly incised lines.
NMI.
JRSAI 100 (1970), 120.

BLANCHFIELDSOG 534 OS 17
A biconical vase from a cist (above) is decorated with incised lines and irregularly shaped impressions.
NMI.

BLANCHFIELDSOG 535 OS 17
Two large rim and body sherds and the base of a vase from a cist (above). The pot is decorated with incised lines and narrow impressions. An incised line on the base is doubtful ornament.
NMI.

CLONMORE 91 OS 42
A bowl found near Clonmore in 1830 is decorated with false relief and comb impressions. The oval cartouches which contain rough comb impressions are produced by triangular impressions and irregularly shaped impressions occur on the rim bevel.
NMI W12, Wk 74.

COAN 308 OS 6/11
Bowl with no details of discovery recorded. It is decorated with whipped cord and comb impressions (one not always distinguishable from the other) and incised lines. The base is decorated with a comb-impressed cruciform design.
NMI W16, Wk 62.
Arch. 43 (1871), 385, fig. 80 (base). BAP I, fig. 379.

COOLRANGE (Freestone Hill) 162 OS 20
A hill-top cemetery mound had been considerably disturbed in early Iron Age times. It contained at least sixteen graves; the majority of burials were cremated. The remains of at least two bowls (E61:350 and 354) and several vessels (E61:373, 351.355–8, etc.) are preserved. This pot comprises small fragments of a bowl bearing false relief, comb impressions, impressed short lines and incised horizontal lines found in the area of the cairn.
NMI E61:354.

COOLRANGE (Freestone Hill) 263 OS 20
Sherds of a slightly asymmetrical tripartite bowl variant found with cremated bone (CI1) of a young adult in a cemetery mound (above). The upper part of the bowl bears crudely incised ornament. Some faint scratches on the rim bevel are doubtful ornament.
NMI E61:373.

COOLRANGE (Freestone Hill) 536 OS 20
Fragments of a vase found with cremated bones of at least one adult (C VIII) in a cist in a cemetery mound (above). A perforated oval plaque of bone (E61:113) was associated with this burial. The vase is decorated with impressed dots (on the rim) and impressed or incised short lines.
NMI E61:351.

COOLRANGE (Freestone Hill) OS 20
A small comb-ornamented sherd probably from a bowl. Stray find.
NMI E61:350.

COOLRANGE (Freestone Hill) OS 20
Sherds of a vase (?) found with a deposit of cremated bone (C IX) in cemetery mound. The bones represented one, possibly two, children. The pot sherds, of extremely coarse, gritty fabric, are very abraded; they bear incised or impressed ornament.

COOLMORE 427 OS 31
A small flat cemetery contained four cist graves each containing cremated bones. One short rec-
tangular cist, which held the cremated bones of a person under twenty years of age, also contained a vase (possibly damaged by fire), the basal fragment of another and a calcined knife of white chert. The more complete vase is warped and bears incised ornament.
NMI 196:222.
*JRSAI* 93 (1963), 123, fig. 3; 100 (1970), 121. *Old Kilkenny Review* 15 (1963), 34.

**Coolmore** 428 OS 31
Basal fragment of a vase bearing some comb impressions and incised horizontal lines on the body. From a cist (above) in a flat cemetery.
NMI 1961:223.

**Danesfort** 537 OS 23
A number of burials were seemingly found in an esker in the course of sand removal. In 1837 a small cist was found to contain burnt bones and a lidded vase. Another cist found in 1838 also contained cremated bones and two 'elaborately ornamented urns' which were said to have been placed on top of the side stones and beneath the capstone (which rested on stones on top of the side stones). Other vessels and two extended skeletons are stated to have been found in this sandpit; one other vase is preserved.
The lidded vase is of hard well-fired ware; the vase bears finely incised decoration. Above and below the shoulder, the exterior bears a field of inverted V-shaped impressions interrupted by six equidistant arcs formed of eight to sixteen incised lines. Similar impressed and incised decoration occurs on the lid which has a strap handle and which neatly fits over the rim of the vase, being a few millimetres wider.
NMI 1886:90, Wk 116.

**Danesfort** 538 OS 23
Vase with no details of discovery recorded. Roughly triangular impressions decorate the interior of the neck and three horizontally ribbed zones on the exterior; incised herringbone also occurs. Eight imperforate lugs occur on the shoulder.
NMI 1886:89.

**Kilmurry** 92 OS 43
Bowl found 'under ground' in 1833. No details survive. It bears neat comb-impressed ornament.
NMI W9, Wk 78.

**Kilmurry** 14 OS 43
Bowl 'found in a grave'. It is decorated with incised lines, and wedge-shaped impressions and triangular impressions forming a rough false relief design. Some cremated bone is preserved in the pot.
NMI W15, Wk 113.

**Kilmurry** 29 OS 43
A bowl, 'produced from a grave', is decorated with incised lines and triangular impressions which themselves contain short incisions.
NMI W17, Wk 106.

**Moyhora** 539 OS 1/6
A polygonal cist contained an inverted vase urn, cremated bones and a miniature vase with deeply grooved ornament (on one small part of the exterior a patch of additional clay has been applied and lightly grooved).
NMI RSAI 299.
*JRSAI* 1 (1849-51), 136; 107 (1977), 85, fig. 13:29.

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**LAOIS**

**Dunamase** 163 Plate 5 OS 13
A bowl found in a cist in a tumulus near the Rock of Dunamase. It accompanied an unburnt skeleton. According to Wilde, writing in 1849, a 'small stone chamber' found five years before, in 'the outer circle or breastwork of a rath, within 150 yards of the south side of the Rock of Dun-Mac or Dunamase ... close by the side of the skeleton was found a cinerary urn ...'. In his catalogue of the NMI collections, Wakeman claimed that a small
vase (Wk 85, below) was found with this bowl, but there is no evidence to support this assertion. The bowl is finely decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised lines. The base bears impressed ornament.
NMI Wk 84, ex Petrie coll.

DUNAMASE 540 OS 13
A small well-made vase with its circumstances of discovery unrecorded (see above). It bears finely incised ornament.
NMI Wk 85, ex Petrie coll.
BAP I, fig. 313a.

LUGGACURRAN 301 OS 25
Two short rectangular cists were found, about 3m apart, in 1881. One contained a bowl and unburnt bones. The other cist, divided into two compartments by an upright slab, contained a bowl in one compartment and unburnt bones in one or both compartments. The bowls are not described in any detail in the original report, but it is stated that they were 'ornamented in a uniform manner'. One bowl is preserved. The report further states: 'in the urns were found what appear [to be] two little links of beads, of some mineral substance of a bluish colour, and highly polished and finished. There were also two rings of bronze.' The beads, possibly faience, are lost, but the two bronze bracelets are preserved; they are of circular cross-section with overlapping tapering ends.
The surviving bowl is decorated with incised horizontal lines and comb-impressed short lines.
NMI 1881:538, Wk 146.
IRSAI 15 (1879–82), 446. BAP I, fig. 248 and plate LXI, 0.48 (bracelets). PSAS 85 (1950), 38, fig. 4, no. 29.

LEITRIM

CLOONEE 164 OS 33
A short rectangular cist contained a bowl and cremation. The bowl was found at the south-eastern end of the grave and, according to one of the finders, was packed full of a white substance. Some cremated bone was found underneath the bowl. It is decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised horizontal lines. The base is decorated with a comb-impressed design.
NMI 1925:23.
Raftery, Prehistoric Ireland (1951), 150, fig. 158, 158a.

LIMERICK

CUSH 541 OS 48
A short rectangular cist contained cremated bone representing a young adult and a child of two to three years of age along with two vases. Some bones lay on the floor of the cist and some was contained in each of the vases which were found lying on their sides (probably due to disturbance) at either end of the grave. This vase bears incised decoration and roughly triangular impressions.
NMI E10:314.
PRIA 45 C (1939–40), 124, 165, 172, plate xxxvii.

CUSH 542 OS 48
Biconical vase, one of two found in a cist grave (above). This vessel is decorated with impressed dots on rim, exterior and base. Traces of four strap handles or perforate lugs on shoulder.
NMI E10:315.

CUSH 357 OS 48
The disturbed remains of a cemetery mound are known to have contained some five burials: three small deposits of cremated bone, an encrusted urn burial, and a long cist. The cist held a few fragments of what was thought to be tooth enamel and a pot with bowl affinities lay on its side near the southern side of the grave. This large vessel, with a possible height of about 17cm, is decorated with arc-shaped impressions and incised lines.
PRIA 45 C (1939–40), 133, 169, 173, fig. 46, plate xxxvii.

KNOCKADEA 633 OS 57
Several burials found over a period of time may have come from a small flat cemetery. A small cist contained a cordoned urn inverted over a deposit of cremated bone; a small vessel sometimes
described as a ‘foodvessel’ was also found in the cist. Over three-quarters of this pot is either a reconstruction or is obscured by plaster and it is difficult to be certain if its present shape owes something to its enthusiastic restorer. Of reasonably well-fired reddish-brown fabric, it bears finely incised ornament.
NMI P7948:137.
JRSAI 61 (1931), 56, plate I, no. II.

LOUGH GUR
Sherds of bowl and (?)vase from settlement site on Knockadoon.
— PRIA 56C (1954), 319, fig. 9; 341, fig. 20; 87C (1987), 461, fig. 72.

RATHJORDAN
Sherds of bowl from oval ‘ring-barrow’.
— JCHAS 53 (1948), 26, fig. 5.

LOUTH

AGHNASKEAGH 165
Six cists were found in an oval cemetery mound south and south-west of a portal tomb (Aghnaskeagh A). Four of these cists contained cremated bone, two contained pottery as well. Cist 1 was a short rectangular cist in which some 36cm of fine brown soil fill contained a little cremated bone. Three small pots, one almost complete and two fragmentary, stood on the floor of the grave. A deposit of blackberry seeds was found beneath one of the floor slabs. The almost complete pot is a tripod bowl. Impressed ornament includes approximately triangular impressions, D-shaped impressions, false relief and comb impressions. Some of the triangular impressions were made with an implement toothed on one side.
NMI E1:19.
CLAJ 8 (1933–6), 245.

AGHNASKEAGH 166
The second fragmentary vessel (Pot B) from Cist 1 of a cemetery mound (above) is of anomalous form and decorated with shallow comb impressions. An almost imperceptible horizontal rib occurs at approximately mid-height.
NMI E1:20.

AGHNASKEAGH 167
The third fragmentary pot (C) from Cist 1 of a cemetery mound (above) is decorated with very slight impressions.
NMI E1:21.

AGHNASKEAGH 632
Cist 3 in a cemetery mound (above) was a pentagonal structure and its upper levels at least had been disturbed. Some fragments of a small pot without decoration were found on the floor.
NMI E1:22.

CARRICKEDMOND 618
Three cists were found in the eighteenth century in a stone circle (?the remains of a kerbed barrow). Two or three ‘urns’, burnt bones and charcoal were discovered; one vessel is said to have had a rim diameter of about 15cm. A rim fragment bearing some herringbone ornament is illustrated by Wright.
Present whereabouts unknown.
Wright, Louthiana III (1748), 8, plate II. CLAJ 7 (1931), 332.

OAKTATE 543
A round cairn contained a short rectangular cist. Two vases, a sherd of another, and sherds of a vase urn were recovered from the cist; no bones noted. The vase urn is represented by seven body sherds (1928:639) about 14mm in thickness. They bear light ribbing on the exterior and one very small sherd bears a few incised lines. This vase has horizontally grooved ornament on its rim bevel and exterior.
NMI 1928:636.
CLAJ 6 (1925–8), 61, plates.
County Mayo

OAKTATE 544
A small vase from a cist (above) is decorated with finely incised herringbone ornament.
NMI 1928:637.

OAKTATE 545
A rim sherd of a vase from a cist (above) is decorated with incised lines.
NMI 1928:638.

TANKARDSROCK 168
A short rectangular cist contained a bowl, and bones which were said to be slightly cremated and comminuted. The pot, which stood mouth upwards beside the bones, is decorated with incised lines, comb impressions and false relief. The base is decorated.
County Louth Archaeological Society, Dundalk. CLAI 2 (1908–11), 325, plate; 14 (1960), 223, no. 90. Praehistorische Zeitschrift 3 (1911), 185.

Mayo

BALLINCHALLA 546
A flat cemetery of some nine cist graves was uncovered in an esker over a period of years. Most contained cremated bones; one long cist contained an extended unburnt burial. Pottery consisted of one vase urn and three vases. Two vases came from a short rectangular cist divided into two compartments by a transverse slab. One compartment contained a large, lidded, vase standing mouth upwards beside a deposit of cremated bone, the other compartment contained a vase, also mouth upward and accompanying a cremation. The finder of the lidded vase had it embellished with a coat of green paint. The vase is profusely and finely decorated with incised lines, impressed dots and (on the interior of the neck) triangular impressions. The decorative design consists of alternate vertical zones of rows of small D-shaped impressions and of rows of oblique lines sometimes forming herringbone. One vertical zone consists not of D-shaped impressions but of comb impressions. The conical lid, which neatly fits the vase, originally had a strap handle (now missing). Accord to the report of the find, ‘when discovered the lid was found to have been antenously broken into two large fragments’. Its upper surface bears a finely incised star-shaped design and a similarly executed herringbone pattern occurs beneath its rebated rim.
NMI 1944:92.

BALLINCHALLA 547
Vase found with cremation in a compartmented cist (above) in a flat cemetery. This small vase has a low horizontal rib on the shoulder and is decorated with incised ornament.
NMI 1944:97.

BALLINCHALLA 548
A short rectangular cist in a flat cemetery (above) contained a small vase, cremated bone and a ‘fragment of bronze wire’ (lost). The ornament on the vase consists of incised lines, impressed dots, and pairs of impressed short lines forming triangular motifs.
NMI 1944:98.

BALLINCHALLA 549
The remains of a vase and cremated bone were recovered from a short sub-rectangular cist in an esker. A little burnt bone and one large fragment and over a dozen smaller sherds of the pot are preserved. Ornament is incised; horizontal grooves also occur on the rim bevel and shallow vertical grooves on the lower body. Two low imperforate lugs survive 4.5cm apart.
JRSAI 94 (1964), 95; 100 (1970), 124.

BILBERRY IS. (Lough Coan) 619
A body sherd of a vase (?) found on the shore of Bilberry Island. The sherd measures about 5.4 by 3cm; it is horizontally ribbed and bears incised herringbone ornament.
NMI 1969:745.
JRSAI 102 (1972), 192, 236.

CARROWLISD OOAUN 550
A short rectangular cist first discovered c. 1853 was examined eighty years later. The grave contained the remains of a vase and the unburnt bones of an adult thought to have lain in a crouched position. The lower part of the vase is fragmentary and now obscured by restoration. The decoration is incised.
NMI 1933:3408.
County Mayo

CASHEL 551 OS 89
A cemetery mound known as ‘Turnincorragh’ was partly disturbed. One short rectangular cist was examined and found to be compartmented. One compartment contained a burial: a cremation and a fragmentary vase. The vase is a large example, bears incised decoration including several broad grooves on the shoulder which also originally had five or six imperforate lugs (two of which survive). NMI 1956:30.
JGALS 26 (1954–6), 72, fig. 8.

CORROWER 302 OS 40
A disturbed cemetery mound contained nine graves, four of which were cists (one seemingly empty). All the humae remains were cremated and five graves produced seven bowls. Grave 1 was a small cist, reportedly square, which contained the cremated bones of a child and a bowl (some or all of the bones may have been in the pot). Only a few sherds of the bowl were preserved. It was decorated with triangular impressions, including false relief, whipped cord impressions and incised horizontal lines. Traces of incised ornament and impressed triangles occur on one of the two basal sherds recovered.
NMI 1937:3653.
PRIA 61 C (1960), 79.

CORROWER 306 OS 40
Grave 2 in a cemetery mound (above) contained a cremation and a bowl. The grave was a cist and was destroyed and only a few sherds of the pot are preserved. It is decorated with false relief and comb impressions.
NMI 1939:1149.

CORROWER 304 OS 40
Grave 3 in a cemetery mound (above) consisted of a deposit of cremated bone resting on a flat slab accompanied by a bowl. The rim bevel, base and exterior of the pot are all decorated with comb impressions.
NMI 1939:1151.

CORROWER 264 OS 40
Grave 4 was a pit in the subsoil beneath a cemetery mound (above). It contained a cremation with a bowl placed mouth upward beside it. The base of the pot is missing and its exterior bears coarse whipped cord impressions and a line of roughly circular impressions (above the lower rib).
NMI 1939:1152.

CORROWER 303 OS 40
Grave 7 in a cemetery mound (above) was a polygonal cist filled with sand through which was mixed a large quantity of cremated bone. The bones represented at least five persons including an adult and a child. They were accompanied by three bowls, each placed mouth upwards. One bowl is almost complete, two are fragmentary. The more or less complete pot is decorated with false relief, whipped cord impressions and incised lines.
NMI 1940:17.

CORROWER 305 OS 40
A fragmentary bowl from Grave 7 in a cemetery mound (above) is decorated with comb impressions on rim and exterior.
NMI 1940:18.

CORROWER 307 OS 40
A fragmentary bowl from Grave 7 in a cemetery mound (above) is decorated with false relief, comb impressions and incised horizontal lines.
NMI 1940:19.

CULLAGHAN 309 OS 61/72
A bowl now labelled ‘Cullaghan, Swinford, Co. Mayo’ was found sometime before or in 1900. It has been considerably restored and no details of its discovery are known. It is decorated with approximately triangular impressions forming false relief and with comb impressions. Incised and comb-impressed lines decorate the base.
NMI 1912:119.

KINARD 552 OS 38
A short rectangular cist found in an esker contained unburnt bones and a miniature vase. The long axis of the grave lay north-south and the skull was found at the southern end with the vase in the south-western corner. Two fragments of mussel shell were found at this end of the grave. The vase has been repaired and the base is a reconstruction. One perforated lug survives, spanning a narrow shoulder groove. Original number uncertain. The fabric is well gritted and unusually thick. The decoration comprises incised lines and impressed dots.
NMI 1935:16.
JRSAI 100 (1970), 125 (note).
KNOCK 553 OS 121
A cairn with kerb near Nymphsfield was investigated by Sir William Wilde c. 1866. A 'small square chamber', with dry masonry walls and a capstone, contained a vase which held burnt bones. Decoration consists of short incised lines on the rim bevel, the ribbed upper exterior and lower body. Three (of an original four) imperforate lugs occur on the shoulder.
NMI R2453, Wk 133.

LETTERKENNY 554 OS 46
Five graves were found in a low ridge occupied by an early Historic ringfort. Possibly a flat cemetery, though one burial is reported to have had a small covering cairn. Several pits and a trench were thought to have been a crematorium. Three cists and two pit graves all contained cremations. Apart from a biconical cup with one pit cremation, two cists (Burials 1 and 2) contained vases. Burial 1 was a short rectangular cist which held the cremated remains of two adults and a child; two vases were recovered from this grave, which had been disturbed. The more or less complete vase bears incised decoration and a narrow groove occurs on the shoulder.
NMI 1935:392.
PRIA 54 C (1952), 89.

LETTERKENNY 555 OS 46
A fragmentary vase from Burial 1 of a possible flat cemetery (above) lacks its lower part. It bears incised ornament.
NMI 1935:393.

LETTERKENNY 556 OS 46
Burial 2 of a possible flat cemetery (above) was a short rectangular cist filled with sandy clay through which was mixed the cremated bones of two adults and a 14-year-old child. Two vases were found inverted on the cobbled floor of the grave; they covered a very small amount of cremated bone. The larger of the two vases bears incised ornament.
NMI E15:1.

LETTERKENNY 557 OS 46
The smaller of two vases from Burial 2 of a possible flat cemetery (above) bears eight slight bosses or imperforate lugs on its shoulder. Decoration has been impressed seemingly with a toothed implement.
NMI E15:2.

STONEPARK 558 Plate 15 OS 100
A disturbed, short rectangular cist contained the unburnt bones of an adult male (apparently crouched), a vase, and 'a curiously shaped fossil coral' (*Michelinia magastoma*). The vase is decorated on most of its exterior with oval impressions. Incised ornament occurs on the exterior of the rim and on the ribbed rim bevel.
NMI 1933:3410.
JGAHS 16 (1934), 59, plate.

MEATH

BALLINVALLEY 610 OS 9
A short sub-rectangular cist contained the cremated bones of an adult and a vase. The underside of the capstone was decorated with pairs of concentric circles. The vase is of thick coarse fabric and bears roughly incised ornament.
NMI 1935:540.

BALLYHAUGH (Charlesfort Demesne) 310 OS 17
A bowl was found in a cist 'near Kells' in 1830. No details. The pot is decorated with lightly impressed lines of comb and false relief; an impressed design occurs on the base.
NMI 1872:13, Wk 103.
*BAP* I, fig. 378. *IRSAI* 100 (1970), 126.

BALKATH 311 OS 3
Fragments of a bowl and a few scraps of cremated bone are preserved. They were found c. 1939 in a sandpit one mile from Balkath post office. Two extended skeletons and a boar's tusk were found near this discovery. No further details. The fragments of bowl bear false relief and comb impressions.
NMI 1939:1136.
BETAGHSTOWN 312 OS 21
A short sub-rectangular cist contained the crouched skeleton of an 18-year-old male lying on its back with head to the north-east. A bowl, found inverted at the left shoulder, is decorated with neat comb impressions. Approximately triangular impressions and shallow vertical grooving occur on the lower body.
NMI 1977:2329.

CROGHEAN ERIN (Kiltale) 380 OS 37
A tumulus, examined c. 1849, is said to have contained a human skeleton. An iron spearhead and a bronze dagger were also found. A pit beneath the mound contained a bowl and 'a thin piece of either brass or copper, about eighteen inches long and three inches wide, which was figured or carved round its edges'. The bowl was broken and the copper object was not preserved. No bones were recorded. Fragments of the upper part of a bowl survive; they are decorated with false relief impressions and incised lines.
NMI W44, Wk 228, 230–32.

CROSSAKEEL 170 OS 16
Fragments of two 'cinerary urns' were found in a cist at Crossakeel in 1874: 'position of cist east and west. One urn was placed at the NW, the other at SW corner'. There is some confusion in the registers of the NMI. One pot, represented by the base and a little over half the body, is possibly the vessel registered as 1874.8, and described as 'two fragments'. This vessel is plain except for a few rather haphazard incised lines on its exterior.
NMI 1874.8, Wk 8.
PRIA 100 (1970), 126.

CROSSAKEEL 169 OS 16
The second pot from the Crossakeel cist (above) is registered 1874.7 and described as a 'moletly nearly perfect'. A reconstructed bowl now bearing the number 1874.8 and some sherds including a few damaged basal fragments (Wk 36) possibly represent this vessel. It is decorated with coarse whipped cord impressions and approximately triangular impressions forming false relief. It is figured with some minor inaccuracies in PSAS 85 (1950-51), 44, fig. 3:19.
NMI 1874.7(?). Wk 36.
Abercromby figures a bowl (BAP I, fig. 245) and a plain tub-shaped pot (fig. 246) and states both to be from 'Ardha, Keel (sic), Co. Meath' (i.e. Crossakeel). Both are unprovenanced (below, no locality nos. 25 and 87).

CROSSAKEEL 634 OS 16
Fragments of a small pot found c. 1880 near Crossakeel. It bears impressed ornament with a few irregularly incised lines just above a horizontal rib.
NMI 1935:869.

DOON 313 OS 1
A bowl was found in 1947 in a cist with cremated bones. On the bowl triangular impressions form designs in false relief, impressed short lines, comb impressions and incised horizontal lines also occur.
NMI 1947:231.
PRIA 100 (1970), 126.

FOURKNOCKS I 314 OS 33
Eight secondary burials were found in the enlarged mound of a passage tomb. Four of the five cists contained the unburnt bones of infants or children (two accompanied by bowls). One cist was empty but for a few scraps of burnt bone. An unburnt adult burial in a pit was accompanied by a bowl. A bowl without accompanying bones was also found. One of the unburnt burials with bowls was disturbed by one of two vase urn burials. Cist 1 was short rectangular and contained the skeleton of an 8-year-old child. A bowl 'rested at a slight tilt on the child's lap'. The bowl is horizontally ribbed. The rim is decorated with impressed dots and incised lines occur on the upper and lower body. The greater part of the body bears closely set impressions: 'a criss-cross pattern, the lines of which go under and over each other as in a weave'. These impressions may have been made by a piece of coarsely woven matting. Comb-impressed lines decorate the base. Several grain impressions, of naked barley (Hordeum) and wheat (Triticum) including bread-wheat, occur on the exterior.
NMI E8:109.
PRIA 58 C (1957), 197.

FOURKNOCKS I 315 OS 33
Cist 5 in a cemetery mound (above) was greatly disturbed by a later vase urn burial. Sherds of a bowl and part of an unburnt femur survived. The bowl fragments bear incised lines, triangular impressions and oval panels containing finely incised lines.
NMI E8:115.
County Meath

FOURKNOCKS I 316 OS 33
A pit grave in a cemetery mound (above) had once contained the skeleton of an adult accompanied by a bowl. Only the teeth survived with the remains of a bowl lying close by. The bowl fragments bear false relief impressions and incised lines. NMI E8:110.

FOURKNOCKS I 317 OS 33
Sherds of an incomplete bowl were found outside the kerb of a passage tomb and cemetery mound (above). No traces of a burial survived. The rim of the pot is missing and the fragments are decorated with triangular impressions forming false relief, arc-shaped impressions and comb impressions. NMI E8:111.

FOURKNOCKS II 171 Plate 6 OS 33
Eight secondary burials were placed in or near a Neolithic burial mound. Burials were cremated and unburnt. Four cists were found and pottery comprised two bowls, an encrusted urn and a vase. Burial 4 in this cemetery was a short rectangular cist which contained the disturbed crouched skeleton of an adult, a skull fragment possibly from another individual and the cremated bones of an adult. A bowl stood mouth upwards near the skull. The pot is decorated with approximately triangular impressions forming false relief motifs on the exterior, comb impressions and incised lines. NMI P1952:20, E18:99. PSAS 85 (1950–51), 44, fig. 3, no. 16. PRIA 71C (1971), 35, figs.

FOURKNOCKS II 172 OS 33
Fragments of the rim and body of a bowl were found in the vicinity of an intrusive lime-kiln in a Neolithic tumulus and later cemetery (above). A few scraps of cremated bone were found in the area. The sherds bear incised ornament (including zig-zags on bevel and exterior) and comb impressions. The horizontal lines near the base were apparently impressed: a few contain faint comb marks. NMI P1952:20, E18:98.

FOURKNOCKS II 559 OS 33
Burial 6 in a cemetery mound (above) was a partly rock-cut pit covered with a slab which contained a vase and an encrusted urn, both inverted over cremated bones of an adult. Only parts of both pots were preserved. The vase, of friable fabric, bears incised ornament (the original form is somewhat uncertain, the reconstruction given here is more likely than that in the published report). NMI P1952:20, E18:101.

KEENOGHE 52 OS 27
A flat cemetery of fourteen graves in an esker ridge was uncovered from 1929 to 1936. The majority of the graves were pits containing crouched unburnt skeletons (Burials 3–5, 10–14) accompanied by bowls in four instances. Three cists contained unburnt burials (6–7, 9) accompanied by bowls in two cases. Three cists contained cremated burials (1–2, 8), one with an encrusted urn and a vase urn. Burial 3 was a pit with a paved floor on which lay a crouched skeleton on its left side, head to southeast. A bowl was found standing mouth upwards behind the skull, another was found at the lower back (exact position not recorded by finder). A small bronze knife (1928:8) lay by the bowl near the skull. Also found were a small 18mm long bifacially-worked pointed fragment of flint (fragment of a flint arrowhead?), a flint thumb-scraper, a flint flake (1929:9, 10, 16a respectively), and a few stone chips (one oddly shaped – resembling a boar’s tusk). Two unworked dog’s teeth were found outside the grave, a metre or two away. The point of the possible arrowhead was found in material thrown out of the grave by the finder. The bowl found near the lower back is decorated with false relief, comb impressions, and two incised lines. NMI 1926:6. NMI Report 1928–9, 11, plate 4 (grave 3). PPS 21 (1955), 167 (broaZe knife); 3 (1937), plate 26 (encrusted urn). PRIA 67C (1968), 82, fig. 23 (finds from grave 3). JRSAI 99 (1969), 69, fig. 3 (finds from grave 3). PRIA 73C (1973), 559 (encrusted urn). NMI Report 1929–30, plate 7, and Macalister, Ancient Ireland (1935), fig. 13 (grave 6). JRSAI 100 (1970), 127 (note).

KEENOGHE 51 Plate 12 OS 27
The second bowl from Burial 3 of a flat cemetery (above) was found mouth upwards behind the skull of the crouched skeleton. It is decorated with false relief and comb impressions, incised lines and two broad zones of vertical lines of very fine whipped cord impressions (perhaps made with a stamp whipped with some hard fibre, perhaps horsehair). The pot appears to have been made in two sections, having broken at the joint which occurs at mid-height at a constriction.
NMI 1929:7.

KEENOGGE Plate 26 OS 27
Burial 5 in a flat cemetery (above) was a pit containing a crouched skeleton with its head to the north and lying on its right side. A bowl was found in front of the skull.
NMI 1929:18 (not located).

KEENOGGE 173 Plate 26 (cist) OS 27
Burial 6 in a flat cemetery (above) was a short rectangular cist which had a paved floor and contained the crouched skeleton of an adult. The skeleton lay on its left side, facing approximately south-east, and a large bowl stood mouth upwards in front of the face. Two smaller bowls were found outside the cist. The bowl from the grave is decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised lines. An incised star-shaped motif occurs on the base.
NMI 1929:20.
PSAS 85 (1950–51), 44, fig. 3, no. 18.

KEENOGGE 174 OS 27
One of two bowls found outside Burial 6 in a flat cemetery (above). Decoration on this bowl consists of comb impressions on rim bevel and impressed short vertical lines (some containing comb marks) on the exterior. Impressed horizontal lines (with some light comb marks) occur on the neck, incised (?) horizontal lines and impressed arcs also occur on the exterior. The base bears impressed ornament.
NMI 1929:21.

KEENOGGE 175 OS 27
One of two bowls found outside Burial 6 in a flat cemetery (above). Decoration is incised and arc-shaped impressions also produce a false relief design.
NMI 1929:22.

KEENOGGE 176 OS 27
Burial 9 in a flat cemetery (above) was a short rectangular cist with a roughly paved floor on which lay the crouched skeleton of a child. The head was to the west and faced north. A bowl was found in front of the skull and a boar’s tusk was also recovered from the grave. The bowl bears comb impressions, false relief and incised lines. The base is decorated with a comb-impressed cruciform design.


KEENOGGE 177 OS 27
Burial 11 in a flat cemetery (above) was a pit which contained the crouched skeleton of an adult lying on its left side with a bowl on the east in front of the face. The bowl bears incised decoration (including incised arcs) and impressed dots. Two opposed strap handles occur below the rim.
NMI 1929:29.

KEENOGGE 358 OS 27
Burial 14 in a flat cemetery (above) was a pit lined with a few stones and containing a crouched skeleton. A small pottery vessel was found ‘near’ the skull. Of coarse thick ware, the pot bears incised horizontal lines, impressed or incised short lines and slightly arc-shaped or triangular impressions.
NMI 1929:73.

KNOCKMUNNION 15 OS 25
A bowl was found in a cist near Ferganstown c. 1860 with a leaf and a lozenge-shaped flint arrowhead(?). The bowl is decorated with comb impressions, false relief and (near the base) incised lines. The base bears a cruciform design of arc-shaped impressions and comb impressions. The arrowheads (not located) are described as follows in the Museum register: 1883:616. ‘Flint implement. brown, leaf-shaped – thin – both faces tooled, edges sharp. Length 1½th. inch. Greatest width ⅞th. inch.’ 1883:617. ‘Flint implement. brown – thin – lozenge-shaped – surfaces tooled – edges sharp. Length 1⅔th. inch. Greatest width ¾ inch. Found with 615 and 616’.
NMI 1883:615.
BAP 1, fig. 285.

MARTINSTOWN 178 OS 37
At least five burials were uncovered over a period of time in an esker ridge. Four were pit graves containing unburnt skeletons; three of these were accompanied by bowls and a small unclassifiable sherd (1952:219 – bearing an impressed or incised line) is all that survives of a vessel found with the fourth. Sherds of a vase urn (1950:29–30) and a Neolithic grave were also found in this esker. This bowl was found in a pit with an unburnt burial. From a possible flat cemetery. The bowl bears neat comb-impressed ornament. Arc-shaped and comb impressions decorate the base.
County Meath

Martinstown 319 OS 37
A bowl found in a pit with an unburnt burial. From a possible flat cemetery (above). The pot is decorated with comb impressions, false relief, and incised lines.
NMI P1953:17.

Martinstown 318 OS 37
A pit grave in a possible flat cemetery (above) contained the crouched skeleton of a child and a small pot. The pot has been restored and less than half the rim survives. It bears a seed impression of barley (Hordeum sp.) and incised horizontal lines, impressed short lines and roughly triangular impressions.
NMI P1953:15.

Monknewtown 75 OS 19
A small short rectangular cist contained a bowl and cremated bones. The bowl, about three-quarters of which survives, bears several slight horizontal grooves and irregularly incised lines.
NMI 1956:206.

Nevinstown 561 OS 25
A pit excavated in 1977 contained an encrusted urn placed mouth downwards and filled with cremated bone. An inverted vase had been placed beside the urn. The bones represented at least two adults and one child. The vase bears deep horizontal grooving with impressed short lines on the intervening ridges; irregular oblique lines, some forming herringbone, occur on the base.
NMI E162:148.

Newgrange OS 19
Some sherds of vase(?) found on Beaker settlement.
NMI.
O’Kelly et al. (eds.) Newgrange, Co. Meath, Ireland. The Late Neolithic/Beaker Period Settlement. BAR 190 (1983), 108, fig. 51.

Newtown (Loughcrew) OS 15
Three sherds of bowl were apparently found in nineteenth-century investigations in a cruciform tomb (Cairn H) in this passage tomb cemetery. Two are body sherds and one a basal fragment: all bear comb impressions as well as triangular impressions in shallow horizontal grooves.

NMI.

Oldbridge 12 Plate 21 OS 20
A tumulus covered a double cist, each compartment of which contained unburnt burials, only the teeth surviving. A jet necklace and, it is said, the teeth of a young adult female were found in one compartment, the teeth of two adult males and a bowl in the other. The bowl was found lying on its side and bears incised and impressed ornament. Comb impressions occur on the rim bevel and in two major zones on the body, which is also decorated with false relief, incised horizontal lines and incised or impressed short lines. The base is decorated with an impressed twelve-pointed design and impressed short lines, some seemingly containing comb marks.
The jet necklace from the other compartment, when examined by Coffey, consisted of a triangular piece, 13 barrel-shaped beads and 55 disc-shaped beads. When examined in the National Museum in 1955, 10 slender barrel-shaped beads varying slightly in length, some 46 disc-shaped beads and several fragments of beads survived. A triangular bead or fastener (31 mm in length) has one cylindrical perforation near its longest side. The precise position of the beads in the grave was not recorded and the original form of the necklace is not known.
Private possession. NMI records.
PRIA 19 (1893–6), 747, fig. 3. BAP I, p. 159 and no. 232a.

Oldbridge 320 OS 20
A short rectangular cist contained an unburnt burial: a skull of an adult male was found in the southwest corner and long bones with smaller bones on top lay in the centre of the grave. A bowl stood beside the skull and was said to have contained ‘some burnt ashes’. Part of the rim and body of the pot is missing. Decoration consists of some comb impressions, incised or impressed short lines and false relief. Incised horizontal lines also occur. The base is decorated with an impressed star-shaped design and impressed or incised lines which also occur on the rim bevel.
Private possession. NMI records.
PRIA 20 (1896-8), 570, fig. 1.
County Monaghan—County Offaly

TARA (Castleboy townland) 560 OS 31
Excavation revealed that the ‘Mound of the Hostages’ comprised a passage tomb cairn covered by a secondary mantle of clay containing some 40 burials. All but one of these burials were cremated and pottery included encrusted urn, collared urn, vase and this miniature vase. Crouched burials and bowls are reported from the tomb. Department of Archaeology, University College, Dublin. PPS 21 (1955), 163. PRIA 73C (1973), 555; 76C (1976), 350. JRSAI 107 (1977), 86. Herity, Irish Passage Graves (1974), 253.

MONAGHAN

BALLYBAY 179 OS 19
A bowl found with cremated bones ‘close to Ballybay’. No further details known. Incised lines decorate the flat rim and part of the exterior which also bears comb-impressed lines. A few irregularly scratched lines occur on the base: uncertain decoration. NMI 1903:237.

CABRAGH 16 OS 24
A bowl, said to have been found in a cist, is decorated with shallow horizontal grooving and deeper vertical grooving. NMI 1958:141. JRSAI 90 (1960), 18, fig. 8.

OFFALY

LEHINCH 180 OS 8
Fragments of a bowl were found in the course of mechanical gravel digging. According to the finder the bowl was discovered above the head of an unburnt skeleton in a pit. The head of the skeleton was to the east but it is not certain that it was crouched. Subsequent excavation revealed a cremation and five extended skeletal burials all in pits. The sherds of bowl have been reconstructed. Decoration consists of triangular impressions, short whipped cord impressions and incised horizontal lines. NMI 1979:20.

LUG 321 OS 9
A cist (Grave 3) close to the conjectural centre of a badly disturbed cemetery mound (above) was of short rectangular type with paved floor. It contained the crouched skeleton of an elderly female on her right side facing south. A bowl, which stood mouth upwards behind the skull, bears incised ornament. Incised (or impressed) short lines occur on the rim bevel. NMI.

LUG 636 OS 9
A small cist (Grave 6) in a cemetery mound (above) had been disturbed but fragments of cremated human bone and one rim sherd and a few crumbs of pottery were recovered. The rim fragment (28 by 33 mm) has a simple bevel, and two slight vertical lines on its exterior are uncertain decoration. NMI.

LUG 635 OS 9
A small cist (Grave 7) in a cemetery mound (above) had been disturbed. Cremated bones of an adult were found, along with numerous sherds of a small pot with a simply bevelled rim and an exterior decorated with incised lines and shallow grooves. NMI.
BALLYGLASS 359 OS 28
A small cist found in a small mound (not certainly artificial) contained a bowl and cremated bones. The bones were reportedly in the vessel. The bowl, about half of which survives, is decorated with triangular impressions and comb impressions.
JRSAI 98 (1968), 121, fig. 17.

CORROY 181 OS 16
A small short rectangular cist contained the unburnt remains of a child accompanied by a bowl which was found near the skull. A flat irregularly shaped piece of stone is said to have covered the mouth of the pot. The stone (1928:935) measures about 13 by 10 cm. The bowl is decorated with comb and false relief impressions and incised lines occur near the base.
NMI SA1928:634.
JRSAI 59 (1929), 99, plate.

GRANGE 17 OS 28
A cemetery mound excavated in 1966 was found to contain some thirteen graves, eight of them cists. Six cists (Graves 1–3, 8, 8a, and 13) contained eight bowls. Two cists contained cremated bones but no pottery (Graves 4 and 5), and three secondary pits contained cremated bones and the remains of urns (Graves 6, 9 and 10). Two of the latter could be identified as vase urns: one (6) was associated with a cup and the other (10) contained, in addition to the burnt bones, a distorted six-rivet bronze dagger (Fig. 13) and a bone pommel. The majority of the graves were found in the eastern half of the circular mound. Grave 8 in the eastern half was the largest cist and Grave 2 was closest to the centre of the monument.
In Grave 1, a short rectangular cist disturbed before excavation began, a bowl had been placed mouth upwards along with a deposit of cremated bone. The bowl is a finely made, heavy, vessel decorated with horizontal grooving, comb impressions and false relief. Impressed ornament occurs on the base.
NMI E65:1.

GRANGE 50 OS 28
Grave 2 in a cemetery mound (above) was a short rectangular cist (which, like Grave 1, was disturbed before excavation) containing cremated bones and two bowls. According to the finder both pots were mouth upwards one on top of the other, the lower being ‘propped up with little stones’. This bowl was uppermost and is decorated with whipped cord impressions, incised horizontal lines, impressed (?) chevrons and very narrow lines (c. 0.5 mm wide) of fine comb impressions. Incised short lines occur on the rim bevel.
NMI E65:2.

GRANGE 49 OS 28
The lower of two bowls in a cist (Grave 2) in a cemetery mound (above). It is decorated with horizontal grooving, comb impressions, impressed short lines and triangular impressions.
NMI E65:3.

GRANGE 53 OS 28
Grave 3 in a cemetery mound (above) was a short rectangular cist containing a bowl and a crouched skeleton. It is decorated with horizontal incised lines at mid-body, comb-impressed lines elsewhere, and false relief. Comb and triangular impressions form a star-shaped design on the base.
NMI E65:9.

GRANGE 93 OS 28
Grave 8a in a cemetery mound (above) was a sub-rectangular cist which contained a bowl lying on its side and accompanying cremated bones. The bowl is decorated with incised horizontal lines on rim and exterior. Light comb impressions occur inside the rim and the exterior bears comb impressions and false relief. An impressed cruciform design occurs on the base.
NMI E65:30.

GRANGE 94 Plate 1 OS 28
Grave 8 in a cemetery mound was about 1 m north of Grave 8a (above). This rectangular cist contained a bowl placed mouth upwards with a crenation. The bowl is finely decorated with comb impressions and false relief. The triangular impressions of the latter design were executed with an
County Sligo

implement with one toothed edge. The base is also decorated.
NMI E65:44.

Grange 54 OS 28
Grave 13 in a cemetery mound (above) was a short rectangular cist containing a cremation and two bowls. This bowl is decorated with whipped cord impressions on the body and some irregularly grooved lines on the base.
NMI E65:47.

Grange 55 OS 28
The second bowl from Grave 13 in a cemetery mound (above) is finely decorated with neat rectangular comb impressions and with vertical grooving.
NMI E65:48.

Kilkenny 381 OS 51
A small cairn covered a centrally placed and disturbed long cist which contained some cremated bone and sherds of a bowl. Eight fragments were recovered of a pot which may have had a rim diameter of about 14 cm. Decoration consists of an irregular line of comb impressions below the rim on the exterior, incised lines and false relief. The triangular impressions contain comb impressions.
NMI 1945:29.
JGAHS 29 (1960–61), 74, plate xii.

Lecarrow 620 OS 42
About half a dozen very small fragments of a vase are preserved. They bear incised herringbone ornament with small irregularly shaped impressions on the shoulder area. According to the Museum register they are part of a small collection of objects ('bones and a few bits of pottery and a bone needle or pin and flint scraper') with no details of their discovery recorded. However, some of the bones were marked 'Lecarrow' and it is possible that some or all of these finds were found there c. 1923: 'Beneath the central stone of a small stone circle was found the skeleton of a young adult powerfully built man. Unfortunately the bones were broken into small pieces before they could be examined. At a later date two small Bronze Age urns found near the north edge of the circle placed on the limestone rock four feet below the surface. With the urns was a large collection of burnt bones, the remains of at least four individuals'. The bones comprise a few fragments of unburnt (human skull and jaw) bones and some burnt bones. Some pieces of antler, a bone pin (like that from Labbamolaga, Co. Cork – above) and a flint end-scraper are also preserved with the pot sherds.
NMI SA1927:901.
JRSAI 53 (1923), 4.

Rathmore 322 OS 35
Sherds of a disintegrated bowl and some cremated bone were found in a sub-rectangular cist. The illustration (322) is a tentative reconstruction. The bowl, less than half of which is preserved, is decorated with grooved lines, impressed comb and false relief.
NMI 1978:347.

SLIGO

Ballymote 325 OS 33
A bowl is said to have been found in 1827 in a 'vault' (according to the Museum register) with bones near Ballymote and the discovery of other vessels (lost) in the area is recorded (see two sherds below). The bowl is decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised lines. The lower body is a plaster reconstruction.
NMI R2452, Wk 67.

Ballymote OS 33
Two small body sherds represent one or two vases(?). One (Wk 68) bears some incised ornament including a hatched triangle; it measures about 4 by 3 cm and 9 mm in thickness. The other (Wk 69) is of similar thickness, measures about 3 by 3 cm, and is decorated with two incised hatched triangles and some lines in whipped cord. No details of discovery recorded.
NMI Wk 68, Wk 69.
JRSAI 18 (1887–8), 267, fig. 165 (Wk 69). Wood-Martin, The Rude Stone Monuments of Ireland (1888), 205, fig. 165 (Wk 69).
County Sligo

BALLYOGAN 429 OS 17
A short rectangular cist containing cremated bones and a vase. A polygonal cist containing a cremation was found about 1m away. The vase, which is said to have held the burnt bones, is decorated with incised lines and roughly oval impressions.
NMI 1931:170.

BALLYSADARE 56 OS 20
According to Wilde this bowl was found ‘in a stone chamber at Ballagraddone, county of Sligo’. Ballysadare is possibly meant. The bowl is finely decorated with what appears to be whipped cord impressions and false relief.
NMI W11.
Wilde, Catalogue (1857), 187, no. 11. JRSAI 18 (1887–8), 262, fig. 158. Wood-Martin, The Rude Stone Monuments of Ireland (1888), 200, fig. 158.
Wood-Martin, Pagan Ireland (1895), 337, fig. 104.
Borlase, The Dolmens of Ireland (1897), Vol. 1, 183, fig. 171. BAP 1, fig. 293. Coffey, The Bronze Age in Ireland (1913), plate xi (mid-left).

BARNASHRAHY 95 OS 14
A bowl said to have been found in a passage tomb in the Carrowmore cemetery (no. 63). According to Wood-Martin, in 1888, this tomb ‘is most probably the monument’ in which this pot was found, though in 1895 he declared it came from a ‘cist’ in this townland. By ‘cist’ he may, of course, have meant the megalithic tomb. Not examined; apparently bears incised and false relief decoration.
Alnwick Castle collection.
Wood-Martin, Pagan Ireland (1895), 337, fig. 103.
Wood-Martin, The Rude Stone Monuments of Ireland (1888), 85, fig. 76. JRSAI 18 (1887–8), 60, fig. 103:1.

BROUGHIER 323 OS 40/45
A small bowl was found some 4.5m from a cist (above). This bowl is said to have been found mouth upwards in a small slab-covered pit. No bones were noted. Incised lines decorate the rim of the pot. On the exterior there are roughly D-shaped impressions, incised lines and fine comb-impressed herringbone and vertical lines. Impressed lines and roughly D-shaped impressions occur on the base; some of the lines contain faint comb marks.
NMI 1970:19.
JRSAI 103 (1973), 186, fig. 7.

CARRICKBANAGHER 57 OS 26
A bowl was found with bases and fragments of another vessel (lost). The bowl is decorated with false relief and comb impressions and an impressed cruciform design occurs on the base.
NMI R2456.

Carrowkeel 326 OS 40
This bowl was found on the floor of the main chamber of a cruciform passage tomb (Cairn K). The pot ‘did not contain anything but a little bone dust’ and the floor of the main chamber was covered with loose stones and small fragments of burnt bone among which were several passage tomb type stone pendants and a stone ball. The bowl is decorated with finely executed comb impressions and arc-shaped impressions forming false relief.
NMI.
PRIA 29 C (1911–12), 335, plate xxv, no. 2.

Carrowkeel (Doonaveeragh townland) 182 OS 40
A megalithic grave in Cairn Q contained a bowl ‘resting on the top of a pile of burnt and unburnt bones intermixed with flat sandstone slabs about one foot in diameter’. The bowl is decorated with comb-impressed ornament and small triangular impressions. Comb ornament occurs on the base.
NMI.
County Tipperary

PRIA 29 C (1911–12), 336, plate xxv, no. 1.

Carrowmore  OS 14
A few small sherds of a probable bowl were found in cruciform passage tomb no. 32 in this megalith cemetery. Judging from the published illustration of two fragments (measuring altogether 2.5 by 3cm), ornament comprised grooved lines and impressed false relief. Present whereabouts unknown.


Rathbarron  328 OS 20/26
A cist described as ‘a small square coffer of flagstones … on the summit of an ancient rath’ contained a bowl, a small polished stone axehead (W512) and a small stone disc (R864). The bowl is decorated with comb-impressed lines and incised horizontal lines.

NMI R864, W20, Wk 70.

Sroove  329 OS 44
A ring-cairn enclosed two cists. One cist contained the cremated remains of several individuals; some bones were beneath the floor slabs and others were associated with a ribbed bowl. The bowl is incomplete and is decorated with triangular impressions sometimes forming false relief, incised lines and coarse whipped cord impressions. The second cist had three floors: one covered some hazelnuts and cremated bone, and on the uppermost floor was a cremation of a child. With this cremation was a small fragment of pottery in two pieces (329A): only the outer surface survives and bears incised ornament.

NMI.

Stonepark  183 OS 45
A short rectangular cist contained the crouched skeleton of an adult female on its left side facing approximately south-west. A bowl stood mouth upwards in front of the face. It is decorated with false relief, comb impressions, incised horizontal lines and an incised zig-zag near the base.

NMI 1929:1301.
*JRSAI* 59 (1929), 104, plate.

Tawnymucklagh  OS 46
Two large but very abraded fragments of a tripartite bowl with rounded rim and traces of incised ornament. The largest piece measures about 11 by 7.5cm. Found on the shore of Lough Gara, April 1955.


Treasnamcurtagh  637 OS 40
A short cist near the edge of a cairn on a mountain ridge was examined and found to contain the crouched skeleton of a child, head to north, lying on its left side. A very small pottery vessel stood mouth upwards in front of the skull and the cremated bones of an adult were found under and among the child’s bones. Two sherds of a second pot (637A) with impressed ornament were also found. The pot which accompanied the crouched skeleton has some faintly incised lines on its flat rim, a chevron of impressed dots and incised lines occur on the exterior.

*JRSAI* 99 (1969), 148, fig. 3.

TIPPERARY

Cheesemount  OS 72/79
About sixteen very small sherds of one or two vases are preserved; some incised ornament.


Dundrum  638 OS 51/60
A tub-shaped vase said to have been found in a cist with cremated bones. The pot bears deeply incised ornament.

*JRSAI* 100 (1970), 130.

Glenacunna  408A OS 78
A compartmented cist contained an inverted vase urn in each of two compartments. Both urns contained cremated bones of one individual, and one urn, the more elaborate, also contained a miniature vase. The miniature vase is decorated with
arc-shaped finger-nail impressions on the concave neck and upper body just below the shoulder. Two roughly impressed zig-zag lines occur on the body.

*JCHAS* 81 (1976), 67, fig. 3.

Moanmore 562 OS 65
A polygonal cist contained an inverted encrusted urn containing the cremated bones of two adults. A vase stood mouth upwards just to the west of the urn. The vase is decorated on rim bevel and exterior with whipped cord impressions. NMI 1977:1219.

*NMAJ* 19 (1977), 21, fig. 3.

**TYRONE**

Ardunshin (near Clogher) 58 OS 58/59
Three small urns containing bones which were so small that it was doubted whether they were human were found in the spring of 1826 by people 'who were setting potatoes'. Sketches of two bowls are preserved. This example is bipartite. Present whereabouts unknown. RIA OS Memoirs, Clogher parish.

Ardunshin (near Clogher) 184 OS 58/59
A sketch of a tripartite bowl is preserved. See above. Present whereabouts unknown.

Ballynagilly OS 21
Sherds of bowl from settlement site.


Ballyladden 185 OS 64
A bowl accompanied an unburnt burial in a short rectangular cist in a sand ridge. Three other cists were found in the vicinity – a possible flat cemetery. Most of the pot is preserved: about half the rim is missing. The bowl is decorated with comb impressions and triangular impressions sometimes forming false relief. UM 35-1935.

*UJA* 7 (1944), 105; 32 (1969), 60, no. 1.

Brackaville 186 OS 47
A tripartite bowl was found 'in white sand' in the collapse of a sandpit. No further details. No associated finds. The small pot has a shoulder groove with five perforate lug impressions. Other decoration includes triangular impressions forming false relief, comb impressions (some very faint) and incised horizontal lines. UM A203-1965.

Simpson in Coles and Simpson (eds.), *Studies in Ancient Europe* (1968), 205, fig. 49, no. 2 ('Cookestown'). *UJA* 7 (1944), 107, fig. 3; 30 (1967), 39, fig. 4; 32 (1969), 60, no. 2.

Camagh 639 OS 45
Two short rectangular cists (A and B) were found 3m apart and both contained unburnt burials and pots. Cist A had been disturbed after discovery and had contained the skeleton of a young adult male, presumably crouched. Part of the lower part of an unclassifiable vessel (a possible bowl?), found near the head, is preserved. It bears some whipped cord impressed ornament. NMI 1922:13.

*PRIA* 36C (1921–4), 150, fig. *UJA* 32 (1969), 60, no. 3.

Camagh 327 OS 45
One of two cists (B) found near one another (above) contained the unburnt skeleton of a teenage girl, presumably crouched. A bowl was found near the head. The pot bears comb impressions, false relief and incised horizontal lines. Comb ornament occurs on the base. NMI 1922:13.

Carryglass 382 OS 57
A cemetery mound at Trillick, examined in 1871, was found to contain eight short rectangular cists. It seems that two cists were empty, the others contained unburnt bones. Two of the latter contained pottery: one cist had been disturbed and in addition to unburnt bones had contained a plano-convex flint knife and a pot, only one sherd of which survived. Judging from the published illustration the sherd bears comb impressions and some false relief and may come from a bowl. Present whereabouts unknown.

*JRSAI* 11 (1870–1), 579, plate 2 (sherd on upper
Carragh (Kilskeery) 430 OS 56
A short rectangular cist held an encrusted urn and a vase both inverted and containing cremated bones. A small cordonned urn stood mouth upwards beside the vase and the base of another pot was also found in the grave. The encrusted urn contained a cup. The bones from the urn and those from the vase were mixed together by the finders: the bones were those of an adult male and an adult female. The fragmentary and restored vase is decorated with incised lines and a line of whirped cord impressions on the rim and shoulder.

Crouck 96 OS 19
A very disturbed and poorly recorded cemetery cairn (enclosed by a low bank with internal ditch) at ‘Dun Ruadh’ may have contained at least thirteen cists. Seven bowls and sherds of at least two vases come from investigations in April 1908 (and following months) and an excavation in 1935. The latter excavation also revealed traces of Neolithic activity beneath the cairn.
Bowl (found in 1908) is decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised lines. The vertical lines are possibly comb-impressed. Base bears impressed or lightly incised ornament. It is less than accurately described and figured in *PSAS* 85 (1950–51), 42, fig. 2:12 and in the excavation report in *PBNHPS* 1 (1935–6), 69, fig. vii.

Crouck 190 OS 19
Bowl recovered in fragments (in 1908 and 1935) from a short rectangular cist (Cist III) in a cemetery mound (above). Fragments of cremated bone were also found. The pot is profusely decorated with comb impressions and false relief. One of five broad horizontally perforated lugs survives straddling a groove midway on the exterior. These lugs were not set at regular intervals around the circumference but were placed from 66mm to 98mm apart.
*NMI* 1909:38. *PBNHPS* 1 (1935–6), 70, fig. viii.

Crouck 188 OS 19
Fragments of a bowl (now reconstructed) found in a cemetery mound in 1908 (above). The base of the pot is missing and its exterior is decorated with incised lines and triangular impressions forming false relief on the lower of a pair of external ribs. Vertical lines on the upper rib are comb-impressed.
*NMI* 1909:37. *PBNHPS* 1 (1935–6), 70, fig. viii.

Crouck 330 OS 19
Almost complete bowl found in 1908 in a cemetery mound (above). It is decorated with whipped cord and false relief impressions. Whipped cord impressions decorate the base.

Crouck 189 OS 19
Fragments of a bowl (now reconstructed) found in 1908 in a cemetery mound (above). Decoration consists of false relief, neat comb impressions and incised lines. The base was decorated with a comb-impressed design but about two-thirds of it is obscured by plaster.

Crouck 59 OS 19
Bipartite bowl found lying on its side on the paved floor near the centre of a sub-rectangular cist (Cist IV) in a cemetery mound (above). No bones found. Decoration consists of whipped cord impressions and incised lines and a star-shaped design occurs on the base.
*UM* 634-1935.
County Tyrone

_Crouch_ 621 OS 19
Fragments of a vase from a cemetery mound (above). They were recovered in 1935 and may originally have come from a grave. A rim sherd (30 by 32mm) and about a dozen very small plain sherds are preserved. The simply bevelled rim appears to be from a pot with a vertical or slightly everted neck with some twisted cord-impressed ornament.

UM.

_PBNHPS 1 (1935–6)_ 66, fig. iv (pot 104).

_Crouch_ 622 OS 19
Several small sherds of a small pot are preserved. One is a rim sherd and is simply bevelled. The exterior seems to have been decorated with broad grooved vertical lines.

NMI 1909:41.

_Crouch?_ 623 OS 19
About ten small sherds of a vase with no label are preserved with the Crouch sherds (above); they bear incised ornament.

NMI.

_Curglassan_ 331 OS 39
A grave in a sandpit, presumably a pit, was found in 1918. It contained a bowl inverted on a deposit of cremated bone representing an adult male. The bowl is decorated with triangular impressions forming false relief near base and rather irregular comb impressions. In some impressed lines comb marks are very faint or absent.

Armagh Museum 8-1945.


_Donaghanie_ 60 OS 35/43
The cairn of a possible passage tomb also covered 'numerous sepulchral cells'. Two small pots, found with cremated bones, are preserved from this cemetery. One is a bowl decorated with whipped cord impressions and incised horizontal lines. The base is decorated with a cruciform design in whipped cord. Most of the rim bevel is reconstructed and obscured by plaster but was apparently similarly decorated.

NMI W8, Wk 118.


_Donaghanie_ 73 OS 35/43
A relatively tall bowl comes from a possible cemetery mound (above). The reconstructed vessel is decorated with broadly incised lines. Its fabric is similar to that of the other bowl from this site and it contains a small quantity of cremated bone.

NMI W19, Wk 147.

_BAP_ II, fig. 562.

_Dromore_ 191 OS 50
No details about the discovery of this bowl are known. It is decorated with incised lines, horizontal short lines of whipped cord and oblique lines of comb impressions.

UM 3946. ex Grainger coll.

_BAP_ I, fig. 328. _UJA_ 32 (1969), 61, no. 8.

_Drudgeon_ 192 OS 42
Two or possibly three burials were found in the course of gravel-digging. Two were pit graves, about 13m apart, each containing cremated bones and a bowl. One bowl lay on its side, the other was recovered in fragments. A flint knife had accompanied one of the burials. The complete bowl has four imperforate lugs straddling a broad groove above the shoulder. Decoration consists of comb impressions, incised vertical lines and arc-shaped and triangular impressions forming false relief.

Queen's University, Belfast, Dept. of Archaeology.

_UJA_ 15 (1952), 61, fig. 1; 32 (1969), 61, no. 9.

_Drudgeon_ 193 OS 42
Part of a bowl from a pit grave (above). The base is missing. The fabric is coarse and friable with grits.
County Tyrone

up to 6mm across. Doubly-perforated lugs (probably four originally) occur on the shoulder and decoration consists of incised lines (above and below grooves on the shoulder) and false relief.
Queen's University, Belfast, Dept. of Archaeology.

DRUMHONISH 360 OS 33/34
A small bowl was found with cremated bones in a cist 1 1/4 miles from Drumquin, probably in the townland of Drumhonic. It is decorated with broadly incised vertical lines and impressed short lines.
UM 110-1934.

DUNGATE 98 OS 28
An approximately square cist contained the disarticulated unburnt bones of an adult male and a bowl lying on its side, its mouth in contact with the vault of the skull. A few unburnt bones of a child and sherds of a second bowl were also found in this cist. A second cist containing a cremation was found just over 2m away. The complete bowl found with the male skeleton is decorated with false relief and comb impressions and an impressed design occurs on the base.

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UJA 40 (1977), 27, fig. 2.

DUNGATE 97 OS 28
An incomplete and fragmentary bowl was found with the unburnt bones of a child in a cist (above) which also held the unburnt remains of an adult. The bowl bears false relief and comb-impressed ornament and an impressed design on the base.

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GARVAGH 99 OS 46
A bowl, found in the course of ploughing c. 1887, is said to have contained burnt bones which have not been preserved. The bowl is decorated with false relief and comb impressions. Comb impressions decorate the base. A small section of rim is missing and part of the bevel is not decorated.

GLENCOPPOGAGH 194 OS 11
Sherds of a tripartite bowl bear horizontal lines of comb impressions, impressed short lines and impressed arcs. Apparently found with cremated bones, a few of which are preserved. No further details known.
UM.

GORTICRM IRISH 195 OS 5
Two pots were found in a 'stone coffin'. They stood at one end of the grave and cremated bones were found at the other. A fragment of a collared urn was found outside the cist. Decoration on this reconstructed tripartite bowl consists of incised lines on the rim bevel (most of which is a reconstruction), impressed lines and false relief on the exterior. Most of the impressed lines contain lightly impressed comb marks.
NMI 1906:253.

GORTICRM IRISH 266 OS 5
The second pottery vessel from a cist (above) is a tripartite bowl variant crudely decorated with incised and impressed ornament. A little over half the pot seems to be a reconstruction.
NMI 1906:254.

GORTIN 197 OS 18
Two bowls (one said to have held cremated bones) were found in the 'Gap of Gorteen'. A fragment of a cordoned urn and an encrusted urn sherd were found in the general area. No details of these discoveries known. This bowl is decorated with arc-shaped and comb impressions and incised lines.
NMI SA1898:1a, 1880:822.
BAP1, fig. 310. PSAS 85 (1950-51), 40, fig. 1, no. 3 (incorrect). UJA 32 (1969), 61, no. 11.

GORTIN 196 OS 18
One of two bowls found in the 'Gap of Gorteen' (above) bears false relief and comb-impressed decoration. A cruciform design occurs on the base. The triangular impressions of the false relief design were executed with an implement with one toothed side.
NMI SA1898:1b, 1880:823.
BAP1, fig. 310a (base).

GORTNAGARN 398 Plate 14 OS 37
A cist contained a vase, an 'urn' and cremated bones. No details are preserved and only the vase and a few burnt bones survive. The vase bears finely incised ornament on its exterior and on the
County Tyrone

JRSAI 11 (1870–71), 29, plate. Macalaster, *Ireland in Pre-Celtic Times* (1921), 210, fig. 78c, upper.

Leckpatrick 563 OS 5
One of two vases found in 1882 (Burial 3 – above). Reconstructed, its base and lower body are missing and it bears whipped cord and triangular impressions.
NMI 1882:233, Wk 120.
*BAP* I, fig. 333.

Leckpatrick 564 OS 5
One of two vases found in 1882 (Burial 3 – above). The rim does not survive and the exterior of the body bears whipped cord impressions.
NMI 1882:233a, Wk 149.

Leckpatrick 199 OS 5
About a dozen small sherd of a bowl bear comb-impressed ornament. A small quantity of cremated bone is preserved. 'Found on 11th May 1882 a little to the east of a cairn containing fictile remains, burnt bones, etc., etc. in the townland of Leck'. Possibly from a cist (see above).
NMI Wk 175.

Loughash (Cashelbane) 48 OS 6
A bowl was found 'at a fairly high level' and above the burial deposit in the inner chamber of a wedge tomb. The pot (pot N) lay on its side with a stone wedged into its mouth. It is slightly waisted and decorated with some false relief and incised lines.
UM.
*JRSAI* 70 (1940), 157, fig. 6. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61, no. 15.

Loughash (Cashelbane) 18 OS 6
A simple bowl was found at the mouth of the inner chamber of a wedge tomb. It was found partly crushed in a layer of grey clay and considered secondary by the excavator (pot P). It is decorated with triangular impressions forming false relief and comb impressions.
UM.
*JRSAI* 70 (1940), 159, fig. 8. *UJA* 32 (1969), 61, no. 15.

Loughry 332 OS 38
A short rectangular cist in a small tumulus contained a bowl and the unburnt remains, possibly crouched, of a youth. The bones were disturbed and the bowl had been placed near the skull. The

rim bevel.
Armagh Museum 6–1940.

Killadroy 198 OS 43/51
A bowl, cremated bones and a flat stone measuring about 12.5 by 11 cm were found in a cist. No details preserved, and it is not certain that the stone was a cover for the pot. The bowl is decorated with comb impressions, incised lines and false relief.
UM 148–1933.

Leckpatrick 432 OS 5
Several burials found in the nineteenth century in this area may, at least in part, have come from a flat cemetery. 1. A cist found c. 1863 held two vases, each standing mouth upwards at either end of the grave and each containing some cremated bone. 2. Another cist and vase were found in the same locality c. 1869. 3. Two vases were found in 1882 'beneath a rough heap of stones in the townland of Leck' (possibly Leckpatrick) and a cist (4) containing a cremation was found some 3 m away. Shards of a bowl may come from this cist. 5. Shards of a vase urn and cremated bone were found near the latter grave. The larger of the two vases from Burial 1 is profusely decorated with incised lines, comb impressions and triangular impressions forming false relief.

Leckpatrick 433 OS 5
The greater part of the base of the smaller vase from Burial 1 (above) is a plaster reconstruction. Ornament consists of broad whipped cord impressions and short incised lines.

Leckpatrick 431 OS 5
This vase was found in a cist c. 1869 (Burial 2 – above). The pot stood mouth upwards and contained cremated bones. It bears impressed marks resembling cord impressions, incised ornament and some triangular impressions. Five perforated lugs straddled a narrow shoulder groove; two survive.
pot is decorated with false relief and comb impressions.
UM L27: 1940.
UIA 4 (1943), 145; fig. 32 (1969), 61, no. 17.

LOUGHRY 640 OS 38
A megalithic tomb in Loughry demesne produced two ‘urns’. One bowl or vase some 11.5 cm high is figured in the report; the other pot is said to have been half this size.
Present whereabouts unknown.

‘Mountfield’ 19 OS 27/35
Bowl said to have been found with a ‘stone arrowhead’ at Mountfield near Omagh (but see Keskinshule below). No further details. The exterior of the bowl is decorated with comb impressions and arc-shaped impressions forming false relief. The base is ornamented in similar fashion. The associated lozenge-shaped object (1906:203) measures 6.5 by 3.9 cm by 9 mm thick, and has been described by Collins as a ‘(?!) lignite or shale javelin head’ of anomalous type. Childe thought it a stamp for decorating pottery.

SANDVILLE 294 OS 2
An irregularly-shaped cist with paved floor contained the unburnt bones of a young adult (position unrecorded) and a bowl. The pot is decorated with false relief and comb impressions.
Queen’s University, Belfast, Dept. of Archaeology.
UIA 23 (1960), 15, fig. 3; 32 (1969), 61, no. 20.

SHESKINSHULE OS 27
A cist described as about 60 cm square contained small pieces of flint and ‘broken fragments of bone’ and a bowl lying on its side. A second cist and a similar vessel were also found in the vicinity. A poor illustration of the bowl is given and it seems almost identical in size, form and ornament to the bowl from Mountfield several miles away (above), but there is no mention of a lozenge-shaped object. Indeed, it is stated of the Sheskinshule find that ‘no arrowhead or bronze implement was found in either urn or cist’.
UIA 1 (1895), 254, fig. 1.

STANAGALWILLY 200 OS 7
A small flat cemetery consisted of four cists: one was destroyed along with the pottery vessel it contained. An oulying cist was also found and altogether four were investigated. Cist 3 contained the crouched skeleton of an adult male, a bronze awl with wooden haft and a number of flint flakes. Cists 1, 2 and 4 yielded bowls. Cist 1 contained a 15 to 23 cm deep fill which consisted of a mixed deposit of loose gravel and cremated human bone. One bowl found standing mouth upwards at the northern end of this short rectangular cist was completely buried in this deposit and contained a similar mixture. A second bowl was found lying on its side at the southern end where it had been crushed by a displaced end stone. The mixed bones represented a child of 5–6 years and a male and female adult. Spectrographic analysis of a greenish discolouration on many of the bones has shown an appreciable copper content. No trace of any metal artifact was found. This southern bowl is well made and decorated with false relief, triangular impressions and comb impressions. It had four perforated lugs, three of which survive, straddling a broad shoulder groove.
UM.

STANAGALWILLY 201 OS 7
The northern bowl from Cist 1 (above) is decorated with larger comb impressions and false relief. A very slight, broad rib occurs on part of the circumference of the lower body.
UM.

STANAGALWILLY 361 OS 7
Cist 2 in a flat cemetery (above) was a small short rectangular example which contained unburnt bones representing the partial remains of a child of about 6 years. A skull (facing east) lay in the southwest corner and a displaced mandible, scapula and other fragmentary bones were recovered. A comb-decorated bowl, probably originally standing mouth upwards, lay near the skull.


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Stranagalwilly 203 OS 7
Cist 4, found 100m from a flat cemetery (above), was a short rectangular example which, it is reported, originally held an unburnt burial of an adolescent accompanied by this bowl, a flint end-scaper and a flint knife. The western side stone of this cist was seemingly removed to accommodate the insertion of a secondary cremation also accompanied by a tripartite bowl (202) and three burnt flint scrapers and a tubular bone object. The cist was then closed by five sandstone slabs. The bowl is decorated with arc-shaped impressions and comb-impressed lines.

UM.

Woodend 267 OS 5
A small flat cemetery of five cist graves was found in a sand ridge. All contained cremated bones and in one the bones of an adult had been placed in a small tripartite bowl variant. The vessel bears false relief, whipped cord impressions and incised lines.

UM 313-1957.
UJA 3 (1940), 162, fig. 2; 32 (1969), 61, no. 22.

Waterford

Ballynamult 565 OS 13
In 1786 'an urn of baked earth and very rude workmanship' was found 'near Ballynamult, on the mountains between Clonmel and Capoquin, under a small tumulus, with the mouth downwards, covering some black earth stained by the burnt ashes of the corpse, and part of the bone and skull of a youth not burnt'. Vallancey's illustration of the pot resembles an unprovenanced vase in the National Museum which should be considered as probably from the Ballynamult area. This vase is decorated with incised lines, deep horizontal grooving and approximately oval impressions.

NMI. ex Trinity College, Dublin.
Vallancey, Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicos 1v (1786), 42, fig.

Bishopstown 435 OS 7
A 'stone-built cist' was destroyed and few details are preserved. It had contained the cremated bones of at least three individuals (two adults and a youth) and the remains of three vases were recovered. Other graves may have been found in the same field. This almost globular bipartite vase is decorated with impressed dots and incised lines some of which are arranged in alternate panels of horizontal and vertical lines on the body.

Cork Public Museum.

JCHAS 44 (1939), 117, plate.

Bishopstown 436 OS 7
One of three vases found in a cist (above) is a fragmentary tripartite pot with everted neck. It is undecorated and its rim is missing.

Cork Public Museum.

Bishopstown 434 OS 7
The fragments of a third (tripartite) vase from a cist (above) are decorated with incised chevrons and impressed herringbone.

Cork Public Museum.

Butlerstown 205 OS 9/17
A bowl is preserved from a destroyed small cist. Sherd of the greater part of the vessel (now reconstructed) survive. Impressed oblique lines decorate the rim bevel and the exterior bears comb impressions forming false relief. Some oblique and vertical lines could be whipped cord impressions.


Carraiglone OS 17
Fragments of bowl from megalithic tomb of 'undifferentiated' passage tomb type. Four small pot sherds bear some comb impressions and two also bear false relief; they probably come from the one bowl (1940:147, 176, 177, 178). One other comb-decorated fragment (173) is possibly a bowl. The museum registration numbers correspond to the numbers in Powell's 1941 illustration.


**County Westmeath**

**CORBALLY BEG 566 Plate 9 OS 27**
A vase and human bones were found when 'a pillar stone surrounded by two or three irregularly laying boulders' was removed and a large slab resting 'like a table-top upon three low uprights' was revealed. This cist(?) contained human bones (no details known) and an inverted vase. Several rounded pebbles were found in the grave and a pit containing ashes was found close by. The vase is decorated with finely incised lines and impressed dots (above the shoulder); its base is a reconstruction.
NMI 1907:100.

**HARRISTOWN 362 OS 27**
Seven secondary burials were found in the mound of a passage tomb of 'undifferentiated' type. All were cremated and pottery comprised cordoned urn, a cup and a bowl. The latter (Burial 3) was found lying on its side on a slab and protected by a second slab set on edge. It contained some cremated bone, of a male adult, which spilled out of the mouth of the vessel. The base of the bowl is missing. Decoration consists of impressed lines and roughly oval impressions.
NMI E47:11.
*JRSAI* 71 (1941), 141, fig. 4.

**RING 567 OS 36**
The nineteenth-century discovery of several 'urns' is recorded. A vase and a sherds of another are preserved. The vase bears incised ornament and originally had four perforated lugs on the shoulder, straddling a narrow shoulder groove. The base is decorated with lightly incised or impressed arcs.
NMI RSAI 203.
*JRSAI* 13 (1874–5), 369, 436, 481.

**RING 624 OS 36**
The above vase contains a body sherd of another (with the same registration number). The sherd measures 6 by 4.5cm and 7mm thick, and is decorated with incised herringbone, horizontal lines and a zig-zag.
NMI RSAI 203.

**WESTMEATH**

**ARDBALLYMORE 206 OS 37**
A short rectangular cist contained a bowl and cremated bones. The bones were said to have been mixed through sand which at least half filled the grave. The bowl stood at the north-west end of the cist. Along with the base, less than one-quarter of the body of the bowl survives. On two fragments pairs of lightly impressed arcs form a design in false relief. The rest of the decoration is comb-impressed.
NMI 1956:223.
*JRSAI* 100 (1970), 133.

**BALLYBRENNAN 568 OS 32**
Some 3 to 4m from a cist containing a bowl in a small flat cemetery (above), a short rectangular cist with floor slab contained cremated bone and a vase. Four flint scrapers, a flint flake and a chert fragment were also found. Fragments of burnt bone were reportedly found with soil in the pot, behind and under the cist slabs and on the capstone of the cist. The cremated bones include fragments of adult human bones, bones of a young person and some animal bones. The vase has five low perforate lugs or bosses on its shoulder. The pot bears incised decoration. (Of the stone items, scraper 1948:82 was found on the floor of the cist, scrapers 77 and 79 came from the packing of the pit just outside the cist, scraper 78, flake 80 and piece of chert 81 were found in soil on top of the capstone).
NMI 1948:76.
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BALLYKILBOE 333 OS 32
A short rectangular cist contained a circular pile of cremated bones and a few unburnt ones. All the bones lay in the centre of the cist; the burnt bones were those of a child of 10–12 years and the unburnt bones were part of the foot bones and fibula of an adult. A bowl stood mouth upwards in the north-western corner of the grave. The bowl is decorated with comb-impressed and incised horizontal lines and false relief. Comb and triangular impressions decorate the base.
NMI 1970:37.
JRSAI 103 (1973), 188, fig. 9.

BARRATTSTOWN 334 OS 25
A tumulus covered two cists or possibly a double cist. One cist or compartment contained the crouched skeleton of an adult male and some animal teeth. A deposit of cremated bone lay on the capstone. The second cist or compartment contained the crouched skeleton of an adult, a bowl and part of a boar’s tusk (lost). The pot reportedly stood on its base near the legs of the skeleton. The bowl, which is reconstructed, is crudely decorated with shallow oval impressions, whipped cord impressions and incised lines.
NMI R2469, W46.
PRIA 7 (1857–61), 89. JRSAI 14 (1876–8), 178.

CLONICKILVANT 641 OS 20
A small vessel was reportedly found with unburnt bones in a rectangular cist. Sherds of most of the tub-shaped pot are preserved and decoration consists of very shallow broad grooving with some impressions, usually of a three-toothed comb-like implement.
NMI 1980:42.

CROOKEDWOOD 335 OS 12
A small flat(? ) cemetery of five graves comprised four unburnt burials and one cremation. One burial was in a cist grave destroyed by the finders. This cist had contained the crouched skeleton of a young adult male accompanied by a bowl. Fragments of the bowl are preserved: it bears false relief, incised horizontal lines and comb-impressed ornament.
NMI 1933:960–969.
JRSAI 65 (1935), 102, fig. 2.

CROWINSTOWN 208 OS 9/14
No details are recorded about the discovery of a small pot bearing incised ornament. An incised line occurs on the rim bevel.
NMI R886A, Wk114, W4.
Wilde, Catalogue (1857), 184, no. 4.

EDMONSTOWN 569 OS 20
A short rectangular cist with paved floor and large capstone held a vase which contained cremated bones. The vase bears incised ornament. Acquired from Thomas Carroll of Killucan who found a second cist in the following year (below).
NMI 1885:355, Wk7.
JRSAI 100 (1970), 134.

EDMONSTOWN 27 OS 20
Sherds of the upper part of a bowl found in 1886 ‘with a mass of calcined bones in a cist’. The fragments are decorated with arc-shaped impressions, neat comb impressions and incised horizontal lines. Another grave also found (above).
NMI 1886:21, Wk34, 177–179.

GREATDOWN 336 OS 20
A bowl and unburnt human bones were found in a cist which was disturbed on discovery. Part of the skeleton is preserved and it is said to have been crouched. The ribbed bowl is decorated with comb and false relief impressions. A part of the decorated base is slightly damaged.

KEOLTOWN OS 25
A small sub-rectangular cist contained cremated bones and a bowl. The cist was disturbed on discovery; the bones are said to have lain in a neat pile at one end and the pot was found at the other. A number of small sherds are preserved: surviving decoration on one fragment consists of triangular impressions.
Riocht na Midhe 7 (1982–3), 86, fig. 2.

KILLUCAN 209 OS 20
A bowl was found c. 1862 in a cist in a sand ridge. No further details. The pot has been much restored but is decorated with arc-shaped impressions sometimes forming false relief; incised or impressed lines also occur and some of the latter contain very light toothed impressions.
NMI 1899:8.
JRSAI 100 (1970), 134.
Knockast (Coolatore townland) 100 OS 31
A cemetery mound contained just over forty burials; the great majority of them were cremated. Four cists were found and pottery included encrusted urn, vase urn, cordoned urn, a bowl and a vase. The bowl was found with cremation no. 38 in a short sub-rectangular cist. A pile of cremated bone (of an adult male) lay in the centre of the grave and the bowl (which also contained burnt bones) stood in the southern corner. The bowl is decorated with false relief, comb impressions and incised lines. Traces of concentric grooving occur on the base.
NMI 1932:6684.
PRIA 41 C (1934), 245, plate xii, fig. 2.

Knockast (Coolatore townland) 570 OS 31
Cremation no. 14 in a cemetery mound (above) was found in the very decayed remains of an urn placed in the cairn. The urn was inverted and no sherds could be preserved. Its form suggests a vase urn and, in addition to bones, it contained a rolled up, bronze, tanged and decorated razor. A small vase was inverted beside the urn and it too covered a few burnt bones and some charcoal. The fragmentary vase is of thick coarse ware; it is decorated with incised lines (those on the body apparently made with a double pointed implement). Irregular impressions and low imperforate lugs occur on the shoulder. The lugs are closely set, 2 to 2.5 cm apart; traces of eight survive and there may have been twelve or thirteen originally.
NMI 1932:6685.
PRIA 41 C (1934), 239, plate xii, fig. 1.

Knockmant 571 OS 27
Five unprotected and extended unburnt burials of uncertain date were found in a sand ridge. A sherd of coarse urn-like pottery (1966:185) was found near one skeleton and a cremation and vase near another. The cremation, of a young adult female, was an unprotected oval deposit. The vase, which stood mouth upwards beside it, has triangular impressions on the rim bevel and on the exterior (forming one zone of false relief). It also bears incised lines. Most of its base has not survived.
JRSAI 99 (1969), 125, fig. 2.

Millland 210 OS 20
A short rectangular cist contained the cremated bones of one adult and a bowl. The bowl bears false relief and comb impressions. Comb impressions form a star-shaped design on the base.
NMI 1963:43.
Riolch na Midhe 3 (1964), 114, fig. 1.

Milltown 211 OS 25
A bowl was found in a short rectangular cist with an unburnt, crouched burial. The skeleton lay on its right side, head to south-south-west, and the vessel stood mouth upwards in front of the skull. The remains were those of a young adult male of c. 25 years. The pot is decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised horizontal lines. A few faint short marks on the base do not appear to be decoration.
NMI 1971:905.

Pettswood 212 OS 19
A bowl is reported to have been found with a skeleton in a sandpit. No precise details preserved. Decoration on the pot consists of comb impressions, false relief and incised lines.
NMI.

Rackavra 337 OS 24
A small cist contained bones, possibly cremated, and a large inverted bowl. False relief and comb impressions decorate the rim bevel. The exterior is profusely decorated in similar fashion and two grooves each contain imperforate lugs; five of an original six survive in the upper groove, two of an original six survive in the lower groove. Some of the impressions, such as those above the upper row of lugs, may be of whipped cord. An impressed cruciform design occurs on the base.
NMI 1965:2.
Riolch na Midhe 3 (1963–8), 223, fig. 1. JRSAI 98 (1968), 121, fig. 17.

Rathbennett 213 OS 11
A short rectangular cist in a tumulus contained two bowls (one tripartite, the other ribbed), two jet beads (1931:343–4), and what seems to have been the remains of a disarticulated unburnt skeleton. Both bowls were found lying on their sides in the north-east and south-east corners respectively. The tripartite bowl from the south-east corner has four low and apparently pinched-out imperforate lugs, not equidistant from each other. Between these lugs vertical incised or impressed lines are superimposed on comb-impressed lines. The rest of the decoration consists of comb-impressed and
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incised lines and some impressed dots. The base bears an incised cruciform design.
NMI 1931:342.
PRIA 40C (1931–2), 308, plate.

Rathbennett 214 OS 11
The second (ribbed) bowl from a cist in a tumulus (above) bears incised lines, approximately triangular impressions forming a crude false relief in places, and comb impressions.
NMI 1931:341.

Redmondstown 363 OS 24
Three short rectangular cists found in 1956. Two contained crouched skeletons and one contained a cremation and a bowl. The bowl is decorated with roughly oval and comb impressions. A zone of incised vertical lines occurs near the base.
NMI 1956:231.
JRSAI 100 (1970), 135.

Rickardstown 215 OS 13
A bowl was found with a crouched skeleton in a sandpit. Presumably a pit grave: no details known. The bowl is decorated with false relief and comb impressions and an impressed star-shaped motif occurs on the base.
NMI 1944:855.

Riverstown 216 OS 27
A short rectangular cist contained a crouched skeleton of an adult lying on its right side facing north. A bowl was found standing mouth upwards near one hand in front of the upper chest. The bowl is decorated with impressed arcs and triangles forming false relief, incised horizontal lines and short impressed lines (some containing faint comb marks). A lightly impressed cruciform design occurs on the base.
NMI 1969:671.
JRSAI 102 (1972), 234, fig. 1.

Sonnagh Demesne 217 OS 18
Three burials were found in an esker. One was a small cist containing a bowl and the cremated bones of a child. The other two are of uncertain date and they lay on either side of the cremation: one was a headless extended skeleton in a stone-lined pit, the other was a headless crouched skeleton in a pit. The bowl bears comb-impressed ornament and incised or impressed lines. Sporadic, lightly-toothed impressions occur in some of the latter lines on the pot's mid-section.
NMI P1954:15.
JRSAI 100 (1970), 135.

Syonan (near Horseleap) 345 Plate 16 OS 31
A bowl is said to have been found in a stone chamber at the 'Moat of Sionan' near Horseleap. This 'moat' was probably a large mound in Syonan townland destroyed in the construction of a railway line in the nineteenth century. The large bowl bears comb-impressed and false relief ornament, as well as incised horizontal lines. Some of the short lines on the lower half of the pot are apparently impressed – some contain faint tooth marks. The base is reconstructed.
NMI R2472, W49.
PRIA 7 (1857–61), 128. BAP 1, fig. 364.

Wexford

Annaghmore 218 OS 2
A short rectangular cist contained the disturbed, crouched skeleton of a young adult male. A bowl had stood mouth upwards near the skull and the poorly preserved bones of a young child were found beneath the crouched skeleton. The bowl is decorated with incised lines, false relief and comb impressions. There is an impressed star-shaped design on the base.
NMI P1948:100.
JRSAI 83 (1953), 46, plate. P5AS 85 (1950–51), 44, fig. 3, no. 15.

Ballyduff 437 OS 16
A small rectangular cist contained the cremated bones of two young adults, possibly a male and a female. The bones and a small, burnt, segmented faience bead were found mixed through fill in the grave. A vase lay on its side on top of the fill in the south-western corner. It is decorated with incised lines.
NMI P1952:5.
JRSAI 83 (1953), 49, plate.

Ballykale 346 OS 11/12
A square cist in a small mound contained an 'urn' (lost). Adjoining this cist was another containing a
small vessel bearing incised ornament.
NMI 1882:264.
BAP I, fig. 381. JRSAI 15 (1879–82), 744. PRIA 16 (1879–88), 159.

**BOLINREADY** 219 OS 16
A short rectangular cist was disturbed; the unburnt remains of a young adult male survived and part of the fibula of a 5- to 6-year-old child was also found. A bowl was discovered standing mouth upwards in the north-east corner of the grave. Incised lines decorate the rim bevelf of the bowl and its exterior bears comb impressions, false relief and impressed short lines (near rim and base). Some of the arc-shaped impressions contain comb marks. A cruciform design formed by impressed lines with some faint tooth marks occurs on the base.
NMI 1965:78.
JRSAI 98 (1968), 121, fig. 17, 161.

**ENNISCORITY** 572 OS 20
A short rectangular cist contained cremated bone and, in one corner, a vase lying on its side. The pot is decorated with incised lines and triangular impressions.
NMI 1975:264.

**GOREY** 573 OS 6/7
Several fragments of a vase are said to have been found near Gorey in 1887. No details. The pot has been restored and the lower body is the reconstruction. A pair of low ridges give a slight impression of a shoulder groove and decoration is incised.
NMI SA1909:32.

**KILLINCLOYEE MORE** 347 OS 28
Several burials are recorded from the Kilmuckridge area (below) but few details are preserved. A cist containing a crouched skeleton and an 'urn' was found in 1886, a vase urn was discovered some time before 1902 and in 1931 a small bowl-shaped pot was found under a large stone, possibly with cremated bones. Broad shallow irregular grooves occur on the exterior of this vessel and the low ridges produced between them bear incised vertical lines.
County Museum, The Castle, Enniscorthy.
JRSAI 66 (1936), 187, plate xviii, fig. 2.

**KILLINCLOYEE MORE** 338 OS 28
A bowl found in 1886 in a cist accompanied a crouched skeleton. A pot, probably that from this cist, is preserved. It is horizontally grooved and bears whipped cord impressions. A crudely incised cruciform design occurs on the base.
Private possession. NMI records.
JRSAI 66 (1936), 189.

**KILMUCKRIDGE** 438 OS 22
Two vases and a cup were found in a cist in 1887. No details known. The larger tripartite vase bears incised ornament (and, as on the other pots from the cist, filled triangles are the dominant motif).
UM 3936. ex Grainger coll.

**KILMUCKRIDGE** 439 OS 22
The smaller of two vases from a cist (above) is bipartite and bears short incised lines on its rim and its exterior bears an unusual decorative design of large incised filled triangles.
UM 3937. ex Grainger coll.
BAP II, fig. 565b.

**KNOCKNASKEAGH** 574 OS 20
A small polygonal cist contained the cremated bones of a child of 14 to 15 years and two vases. The bones were mixed through the earthen fill of the grave. The exact positions of the pots were not recorded but it was reported that they had stood mouth upwards. The larger of the vases bears incised ornament.
NMI 1967:112.
JRSAI 100 (1970), 154, fig. 4.

**KNOCKNASKEAGH** 575 OS 20
The smaller of two vases from a cist (above) is haphazardly decorated with incised lines. Less than half the pot survives.

**SCARAWALSH** 440 OS 20
A small flat cemetery of some six graves contained one cist. All the burials were cremated and pottery comprised collared urn, vase urn, encrusted urn and vase. The vase was found with Burial B: an inverted encrusted urn contained some cremated bone. The grave had been disturbed but is described as 'a small pit'. Fragments of a vase were associated. The half-a-dozen sherds of the latter pot bear incised ornament.
County Wicklow

NMI 1963:50.  
JRSAI 96 (1966), 42, fig. 2.

Shelmalier Commons 220 OS 42  
A large cairn near Skeater Rock was destroyed in 1884. An ‘urn’ was found standing in a small pit or trench beneath some flat stones at its centre. No bones are recorded. The vessel was a bowl decorated with incised lines, impressed short lines and triangular impressions. Some incised lines occur on the base.
Private possession. NMI records  

Tyk ill len 441 OS 37  
A vase was found in a sandpit. No details of discovery recorded. It is decorated with incised ornament.
NMI.  
PRIA 21 (1898–1900), 338, plate xv. BAP II, fig. 568.

Co. Wexford 221  
Part of a small bowl-shaped pot with two horizontal ribs on its exterior is preserved. It is said to come from Co. Wexford and is undecorated.
UM 3921.

Wicklow

Aughrim 34 OS 32  
A biconical cup (1914:7) and some burnt bones were found in an old sandpit near Aughrim. Two pot sherds and some more cremated bone were found a little later and sent to the National Museum. The sherds were described as ‘probably the remains of a food-vessel’ but their acquisition is not recorded.
NMI ? (not located).  

Ballinlough 442 OS 39  
A large cist was found in 1832. It contained cremated bones, an urn and a vase. The urn was destroyed. The vase has an asymmetrical, roughly oval, mouth measuring 18 by 15cm. Finely incised decoration occurs on the inner neck and the exterior bears vertical and oblique incised lines (including a zone of filled triangles), horizontal lines of neat comb impressions and arc to triangular shaped impressions forming false relief.
BM 1927, 11–8, 1.  

Ballybren 222 OS 3  
Cist 2 in a small flat cemetery (above) was short and rectangular. It contained the crouched skeleton of a young adult male lying on its back, the skull to the east. A bowl stood in the corner of the cist near the skull. The scattered remains of the skeleton of a child lay to the north of the adult skeleton and two bones of the child were found in the bowl. A flint flake (797a), three flint fragments (one possibly a natural pebble), and two quartz chips were also found. The bowl is decorated with impressed short lines on the flat rim and on the exterior false relief, comb impressions, impressed short lines and incised lines. An incised and impressed cruciform design occurs on the base.
NMI 1935:796.  
BURGAGE MORE 576 OS 5
A short rectangular cist contained an encrusted urn inverted over cremated bones, and an inverted vase. The vase bears incised ornament.
NMI 1934:5647b.

CLONSHANNON 443 OS 22
A small flat cemetery of three or four burials included three cists. Pottery consisted of vase urn, encrusted urn, a biconical cup and a vase. A small square cist, which had been disturbed, contained sherds of a large vase and the cremated bones of an adult. The vase bears horizontal lines of twisted cord impressions on the interior of a neck which was possibly slightly everted. Decoration on the exterior is incised.
NMI 1931:446.
JRSAI 62 (1932), 75, fig. 3; 107 (1977), 90. PRIA 73 C (1973), 570.

COOLNAKILLY 348 OS 24/25
A bowl was found probably some time before 1836. No details preserved. This much-restored pot, about one third of which is a reconstruction, is decorated with what seems to be coarse whipped cord impressions.
NMI W2, Wk105.
PRIA 42 C (1934-5), 52, fig. 8.

CREHILL 577 OS 15
A possible cemetery mound may have contained several cists. A slab-covered cist or pit contained five pottery vessels and 'small pieces of bone'. No further details. Two vases and a small plain cup are preserved. This vase, about half of which is preserved, bears incised ornament.
NMI.
JRSAI 61 (1931), 122; 63 (1933), 61, plate viii:a.
PRIA 42 C (1934-5), 45. JRSAI 107 (1977), 90.

CREHILL 578 OS 15
This vase is one of several pottery vessels found in a cist or pit in a possible cemetery mound (above). Only a large fragment of rim and body survives and bears incised ornament.
NMI.
JRSAI 63 (1933), 61, fig. 5.

DILLONSDOWN 224 OS 5
A bowl was found in a sand and gravel pit with unburnt bones. No precise details recorded. The fragmentary pot is decorated with comb-impressed lines and some incised vertical lines on the body. Triangular impressions occur on the base.
NMI 1934:11.

HAYLANDS 383 OS 5
A disturbed burial mound was examined in 1932 and traces of some five graves were found; two containing bowls. The central grave (L) had been destroyed. Possibly a cist; some fragments of (charred) human bones and a fragment of a bowl were found. The fragment is a rim sherd measuring 3 by 2.6cm and decoration on the exterior consists of incised lines enclosing comb impressions.
NMI 1932:6578a.
JRSAI 63 (1933), 49, fig. 5.

HAYLANDS 339 OS 5
Cist D in a cemetery mound (above) contained the crouched skeleton of a young adult male lying on its left side with skull to the south-west. A bowl was found behind the skull. The pot is decorated with comb impressions, incised horizontal lines, arc-shaped impressions and impressed dots.
NMI 1932:6577.
JRSAI 63 (1933), 49, plate viia.

KELSHAMORE 225 OS 21
Two short rectangular cists each apparently contained a cremation and a bowl. Cist 1 was disturbed and the burial (probably a cremation) was destroyed. A bowl was recovered but its position in the grave was not recorded. The rim bevel is irregularly grooved and bears faint impressions. Decoration on the exterior consists of triangular impressions forming false relief designs, impressed dots, comb impressions and incised lines. One side of the spatulate implement used to produce the triangular impressions was serrated or toothed.
NMI P1951:125.
JRSAI 82 (1952), 153, fig. 3:1.

KELSHAMORE 340 OS 21
Two cists were found about 5.4m apart (above). Cist 2 contained the cremated bones of an adult, a bowl and a calcined plano-convex flint knife. The bones formed a 10cm deep deposit on the floor of the grave and the bowl rested on top of them in the
centre (presumably mouth upwards). The flint knife was found among the bones. Decoration on the bowl consists of incised horizontal lines, false relief and comb impressions. The slightly bevelled rim bears comb impressions.

NMI P1951:126.
PSAS 85 (1950–51), 44, fig. 3, no. 17. JRSAI 82 (1952), 153, fig. 3:2.

KILBRIDE 579 OS 40
A short rectangular cist found in 1839 is said to have contained a vase inverted over two small bones 'pronounced to be joints of human fingers and toes'. The miniature vase bears incised decoration.

NMI W5, Wk96.

KNOCKANREE LOWER 341 OS 35
A small short rectangular cist was found in a monument described as a ‘rath’ with a ditch some 50 yards in diameter. It has also been said to have been found near a cairn some 18 or 20 yards in diameter. The cist contained a bowl in which were ‘ashes and portion of a charred bone’. The pot was broken and the fragments are now reconstructed. The ornament is obscured by plaster. It is decorated with impressed short lines and dots and incised lines.

NMI 1933:1242.
JRSAI 46 (1916), 77, fig. PRIA 42 C (1934–5), 52, fig. 7.

LEMONSTOWN 226 OS 9/15
A bowl was found in 1818 in a large flat-topped tumulus surrounded by a ditch and external bank. No further details known. The bowl is decorated with comb impressions, triangular impressions forming false relief and incised lines.

NMI 1883:378.
BAP I, fig. 311. JRSAI 63 (1933), 48, plate 1b.

LISCOLEMAN 227 OS 37
A bowl and some unburnt bones were recovered from a cist in a mound in 1978. Two or three small vessels are said to have been found in slab-lined graves in another mound nearby. The surviving bowl is decorated with horizontal grooving, comb-impressed oblique lines, incised lines, impressed dots and false relief. An impressed or grooved cruciform design occurs on the base.

J. Kildare A. S. 13 (1955), 303.

LUGNAGROAGH 580 Plate 8 OS 10
A vase, with no details of its discovery recorded, is carefully decorated with neat approximately oval impressions and incised lines.

NMI W21, Wk83.
Wilde, Catalogue (1857), 189, no. 21, fig. 125. BAP I, fig. 402. JRSAI 63 (1933), 62, plate vuc.


MERGINISTOWN DEMESNE 229 OS 15
Several ‘ancient graves’, some containing ‘small sepulchral urns’, were found in the 1840s. A circular area, believed to be the remains of a mound, was investigated here c. 1880 and two cists were found just over 7m apart. One cist contained ‘bones’, the other contained ‘two bones’ and a small pottery vessel. The remains of four pots are preserved. They were all found in the locality and possibly come from this cemetery. The most complete pot is a bowl decorated with arc-shaped impressions sometimes forming false relief and comb impressions. Arc-shaped impressions form eight oblong panels in a shallow shoulder groove.

NMI L1931:14.
JRSAI 63 (1933), 60, plate iii.

MERGINISTOWN DEMESNE 228 OS 15
A much repaired bowl possibly from a cemetery (above). Triangular impressions form a line of false relief on the rim bevel and arc-shaped impressions and incised lines decorate the exterior.

NMI L1931:15.
JRSAI 63 (1933), 60, plate iii.

MERGINISTOWN DEMESNE 342 OS 15
Shoulder and lower body of a pottery vessel possibly from a cemetery (above). Three horizontal ribs occur on the exterior which is undecorated.

NMI L1931:16.
JRSAI 63 (1933), 60, plate iii.

MERGINISTOWN DEMESNE 384 OS 15
Fragment of a bowl possibly from a cemetery (above). A body sherd measuring about 7 by 5cm is decorated with incised lines and impressed short lines.

NMI L1931:16 (bis).
Powerscourt 230 OS 3/7
In 1764 it is recorded 'not long since, six urns were discovered in one of these mounts near Powerscourt in the County of Wicklow, of a different sort from what are commonly found, one of which here delineated ... is now in the possession of Mr. Proby. The capacity of it, if intire, would not much exceed a quart; it is of light brown colour, and comprised of a crumbling soft clay, rudely enough wrought, and each urn was covered with a small flat stone, and filled with black dirt, which possibly might have been ashes reduced to that condition by time'. The illustration suggests a bowl with some false relief decoration. Present whereabouts unknown.

Harris' 1764 edition of Sir James Ware's Antiquities (The Works of Sir James Ware concerning Ireland), 146, plate ii, no. 3. Dublin Penny Journal 1 (1832), 108. PRIA 42 C (1934-5), 55, fig. 9.

Tornant 231 OS 15
A bowl is said to have probably come from a cist at Tornant. No details are known. It is decorated with comb impressions and incised horizontal lines. Comb-impressed arcs decorate the base.

NMI 1885:155, Wk104.
JRSAI 61 (1931), 120; 63 (1933), 63, plate vlb.
BAP I, fig. 318.

Tuckmill Lower 581 OS 27
A cist was destroyed and no details are known. Fragments of two vases and a little cremated bone were recovered. Three sherds represent part of the rim and upper body of a bipartite vase. The bevelled rim and the exterior bear whipped cord impressions.
NMI 1969:735.
JRSAI 102 (1972), 236.

Tuckmill Lower 444 OS 27
Sherds of rim, shoulder and body of a tripod vase (representing less than a third of the pot) come from a destroyed cist (above). The interior of the everted neck is decorated with horizontal grooves and small roughly oval impressions. The exterior bears alternate zones of vertical and horizontal impressed or incised lines and four imperforate lugs survive on the shoulder 5 to 6 cm apart. Ornament on shoulder and body is incised. The base is missing.
NMI 1969:736.
JRSAI 102 (1972), 236.

UNPROVENANCED POTTERY VESSELS
(No Locality)

1. Society of Antiquaries, London. 20
Bowl decorated with comb and false relief impressions and grooved lines. A comb-impressed cruciform design occurs on the base. Presented in 1861 by W. Downing Bruce and said to have been 'found with a celt in Ireland'. It has been suggested that this pot may have come from Mount Stewart, Co. Down.
Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries, London, 2 (1864), 5, fig. Arch. 43 (1871), 381, fig. 73, fig. 79 (base). PPS 3 (1937), 38, pl. x: g.

2. NMI W18, Wk132. 232
Bowl decorated with fine rectangular comb impressions and approximately triangular impressions made with an implement toothed on one side. An unlocalised find according to Wilde and Abercromby but Wood-Martin declared that it comes from Co. Down.

Wilde, Catalogue (1857), 189. BAP I, fig. 312. Wood-Martin, Pagan Ireland (1895), 335, fig. 100.

3. UM 595-1937. 61
Bowl decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised horizontal lines.
ex F. J. Robb coll.

4. NMI 1881:462, Wk123. 233
Bowl decorated with comb impressions and false relief.
ex Perry coll.
BAP I, fig. 319.

5. NMI. 234
Fragmentary and partly reconstructed bowl decorated with comb impressions.
BAP I, fig. 330.
6. Cork Public Museum. 62
Bowl decorated with incised lines and triangular impressions (some impressed with a toothed implement) forming false relief.
ex Power coll.

7. UM 303-1934. 235
Bowl decorated with neat comb impressions and false relief. A shoulder groove bears seven imperforate lugs. The base is much restored.
ex D'Evelyn coll.

8. UM 387-1913. 63
Bowl decorated with neat comb impressions and broad oval impressions. Two shallow grooves occur just below the rim.
ex Milligan coll.

9. UM 1911-318. 30 Plate 10
Bowl decorated with coarse twisted cord impressions.
ex Benn coll.

10. NMI Wk77. 64
Bowl decorated with broadly incised lines. Triangular and sub-rectangular impressions form a crude chevron in false relief.
ex Royal Dublin Society coll.
_BAP I_, fig. 292.

11. NMI 1919:33. 236
Approximately half a bowl is preserved (reconstructed). It is decorated with comb impressions on a pair of horizontal ribs and on the lower body, and arc-shaped impressions form false relief. Horizontal incised or impressed lines and short impressions, possibly executed with a shell edge, also occur. Traces of comb-impressed ornament are visible on the base.

12. NMI W55, WK107. 237
Bowl decorated with comb and arc-shaped impressions. Some of the latter contain toothed impressions. Comb ornament on base. Labelled 'a ciner-ary urn, bought 17th March 1871, E. Clibbon'.

13. NMI 1915:119. 238
A large bowl decorated with false relief, comb impressions, and four imperforate lugs in a shoulder groove. Comb impressions occur on the base.
ex Day coll.

14. NMI 1916:119. 239
Reconstructed bowl decorated with incised lines and approximately triangular impressions forming false relief. One of two pots with the same registration number. (See no. 32 and no. 52 below).
ex C. Murphy coll.

15. NMI Wk115. 240
Reconstructed bowl decorated with comb impressions, false relief and short incised lines.
_BAP I_, fig. 331.

16. NMI W6, Wk131. 31
A tall and badly repaired bowl is decorated with arc-shaped impressions, comb impressions and incised horizontal lines. According to Wilde 'this urn which contains fragments of unburnt bones, a dorsal vertebra, portions of the upper jaw and teeth of the human subject, together with a fragment of one of the long bones of some mammal was presented by F. M. Jennings, Esq.' Clarke has published a slightly idealised illustration.
Wilde, _Catalogue_ (1857), 185. _BAP I_, fig. 413.

17. NMI R1645, W127. 241
Bowl decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised lines. Arc-shaped and comb impressions occur on the base.
_BAP I_, fig. 320.

18. NMI. 242
Three small sherds representing part of rim and body of a bowl. Decorated with incised lines, neat rectangular comb impressions and oval impressions.
No Locality

19. NMI. 65
Base and two fragments of the body of a bowl decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised horizontal lines.
ex Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland (Kilkenny) coll.

20. UM 3930. 103
About half a small bowl is preserved; restored. It is decorated with incised lines and false relief. Some irregularly and lightly impressed or incised lines occur on the base.
ex Grainger coll.

21. UM 304-1934. 243
Bowl decorated with comb impressions and approximately triangular marks (impressed with a toothed implement) forming false relief. Four equidistant perforate lugs. Comb-impressed ornament occurs on the base.
ex D’Evelyn coll.

22. University of Limerick (Hunt coll. no. 581).
268
Tall tripartite bowl, intact but for some slight damage to base. The slightly bevelled rim bears impressed comb(?) ornament. It and much of the exterior are obscured by an encrustation of carbonate of lime. On the exterior below the rim there is a zone of horizontal grooves apparently without comb impressions; two zones of vertical grooving are each delimited by triangular or U-shaped impressions and separated by horizontal lines of comb-ornament. Patchy comb ornament occurs on the lower third of the pot; some impressed (or grooved) lines contain no dentated impressions.

23. University of Limerick (Hunt coll. no. 582).
445
Well-made vase complete but for part of the rim and neck. There is a roughly circular hole c. 3-4cm in diameter in the centre of the base. All the decoration is incised.

24. NMI Wk44. 244
A bowl is decorated with incised lines and roughly triangular impressions. The base is a reconstruction.

25. NMI Wk11. 245
An almost complete bowl, now reconstructed. It is decorated with incised horizontal lines, comb impressions and arc-shaped impressions, some forming false relief. Arc-shaped impressions and comb ornament occur on the base. Abercromby declares this unprovenanced pot to be from Crossakeel, Co. Meath (q.v.).
BAP I, fig. 245.

26. NMI Wk135. 143. 349
Bowl decorated with comb impressions, false relief, incised lines and impressed dots. It is reconstructed and its interior is completely obscured by plaster. Two sherds (Wk135) not incorporated in the reconstruction show that the rim was bevelled and plain.
Borlase, The Dolmens of Ireland (1897), Vol. 2, 380, fig. 357 (incorrectly provenanced).

27. Leeds City Museum D.219.1954. 343
Bowl labelled ‘Celtic cinerary urn, thong impressed from collection of Jas. Wardell, Esq., Senior, from Ireland’, c. 1882. It is decorated with whipped cord and false relief impressions. A craciform design of whipped cord impressions occurs on the base.

28. UM 283-1964. 344
Bowl with sparse decoration consisting of irregular impressions and impressed or incised lines.
UJA 29 (1966), 110 (not illustrated).

29. UM 306-1934. 246
Small vessel with shoulder groove containing six perforate lugs. The flat rim is decorated with comb impressions, short lines of comb impressions (some with as few as two tooth marks) and a short incised zig-zag occur on the exterior. The pot has been crudely restored. A small quantity of cre-
mated bone is preserved with it. ex D’Evelyn coll.

30. NMI R210. 582
Vase decorated with incised lines. ex Royal Dublin Society coll.

31. NMI P1948:139. 583
Tall vase (or vase urn) decorated with incised lines and whipped cord impressions.

32. NMI 1916:119 (bis). 584
Fragments of a large vase decorated with incised lines on the rim bevel, comb impressions on the outer rim, vertical lines of coarse twisted cord impressions below the rim. Some incised herringbone occurs on the mid-section along with comb impressions there and on the lower body. See no. 14 above and no. 52 below. ex C. Murphy coll.

33. NMI RSAI 206. 446
Vase decorated with incised and impressed ornament: arc-shaped impressions occur on rim bevel and exterior. ex Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland (Kilkenny) coll.
Macalister, *Ireland in Pre-Celtic Times* (1921), 209, fig. 78b, upper.

34. NMI RSAI 205. 585
Vase decorated with horizontal zones of incised lines. There is a low rib on the shoulder. ex Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland (Kilkenny) coll.

35. NMI W22, Wk145. 586
Vase bearing incised decoration on rim bevel and exterior. Decoration obscured by encrustation of carbonate of lime. According to Wilde it contained ‘a quantity of small fresh-water shells, particularly *Planorbis corneus*, *P. marginatus*, *Lymnea stagnalis*, and also *Littorina littoralis*, a marine species’. Wilde, *Catalogue* (1857), 190, no. 22. BAP I, fig. 393.

36. NMI. 587
Small vase with incised decoration on rim bevel and exterior. BAP I, fig. 400.

37. NMI Wk134. 385
Two small sherds of a bowl bearing neat comb-impressed ornament.

38. NMI 1893:22, Wk155–6. 625
Fragments of a vase bearing incised ornament on surviving body. ex Crofton Croker and Bateman colls. *JCHAS* 34 (1929), 62.

39. NMI. 394
Small vase with vertical neck and flat rim. The exterior and base bears incised ornament. ex Petrie coll. (no. 4).

40. NMI 1972:314. 247
Eleven sherds representing less than half of a tripartite bowl decorated with fine comb and false relief impressions. ex Carroll coll., Dublin.

41. UM 3953. 588
Vase with incised ornament on rim bevel and exterior. Horizontal ribbing and four equidistant perforate lugs occur on the triple-ribbed shoulder. ex R. McAdam and R. Grainger colls. UJA 32 (1969), 39, fig. 4:1.

42. UM 3950. 589
Vase decorated with whipped cord impressions and incised lines. The whipped cord ornament consists of oblique lines just below the rim and on the shoulder, a horizontal line below the shoulder and vertical lines near the base. Contains a little cremated bone. ex Glenny and Grainger colls.

43. NMI W24, Wk126. 590
Large vase of red ware with surface abraded in
many places. Most of the linear ornament may have been comb-impressed. This is true of the vertical lines below the rim, the lattice pattern on the lower body and the horizontal lines near the base. Circular impressions have in some cases a central 'boss' and were executed with a hollow tube or bone.

BAP 1, fig. 398.

44. NMI R349. 591
Vase with slight shoulder groove. Flat rim and exterior decorated with incised lines.

BAP 1, fig. 327 (bis).

45. NMI W25, Wk73. 592
Vase with impressed and incised ornament. Some chevron ornament in false relief occurs at the base of the neck and the body has a design of impressed slender ovals with incised lines. An incised or impressed design occurs inside the rim.

Wilde, Catalogue (1857), 190, no. 25, fig. 126. BAP 1, fig. 384. Macalister, Ireland in Pre-Celtic Times (1921), 216, fig. 82, lower right.

46. NMI 1893:21, Wk157. 593 Plate 17
A vase is labelled 'septichral urn containing bones. Found in Ireland'. Decoration is mainly incised. On the exterior groups of two to three vertical lines divide the body into six panels alternately containing (as the motif) incised chevrons and circular impressions.

ex Crofton Croker and Bateman colls.

BAP 1, fig. 417. JCHAS 34 (1929), 62.

47. NMI 1937:9. 594
Vase purchased from a Dublin antique dealer. Decoration consists of incised lines and impressed short lines. Arc-shaped impressions form a rough false relief design above the shoulder.

48. UM 1911-324. 595
Vase containing some cremated bone. Decoration consists of incised lines, incised or impressed short lines, and roughly triangular impressions.

ex Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society coll.

49. NMI. 596 A large vase with incised decoration on rim bevel and exterior. The base is partly reconstructed.

50. NMI SA1898:3b. 642
A small anomalous pottery vessel bearing incised ornament on rim bevel and exterior. Said to have contained bones and flint.

51. NMI 1873:37. 643

52. NMI 1916:118. 248
Lower part of bowl; rim missing. Decorated with triangular impressions forming crude false relief and impressed (some containing comb marks) or incised lines. (See nos. 14 and 32 above).

ex C. Murphy coll.

53. Peabody Museum, Harvard 56-12-40/6697. 249
Bowl decorated with comb impressions and triangular impressions forming false relief. Six imperforate lugs in shoulder groove. Said to come from Northern Ireland.

ex Bell coll. and NMS Edinburgh (former reg. no. EF 2).

BAP 1, fig. 352.

54. NMS EF 1. 66 Plate 2
Bowl decorated with false relief and comb impressions. Base bears comb ornament.

ex Bell coll.

BAP 1, fig. 296. Catalogue of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland (1892), 175.

55. NMS EF 3. 250
Bowl, of which almost half is a plaster reconstruction, decorated with false relief, impressed dots, and incised lines. Base decorated.

ex Bell coll.

BAP 1, fig. 308.
56.  
NMS EF 4.  597  
Vase with impressed and incised ornament. ex Bell coll.

57.  
NMS EF 5.  598  
Vase bearing impressed and incised ornament. ex Bell coll.

58.  
NMS EF 6.  364  
Bowl decorated with false relief, comb-pressed and incised ornament. It is much repaired and reconstructed with plaster. A series of comb and incision decorated raised ribs and bosses occur above and below the shoulder. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 356.

59.  
NMS EF 7.  251  
Bowl decorated with comb impressions, false relief and incised lines. Five imperforate lugs in shoulder groove. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 353.

60.  
NMS EF 8.  67  
Bowl decorated with false relief and comb impressions. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 284.

61.  
NMS EF 9.  21  
Bowl with part of rim and upper body missing; decorated with whipped cord and arc-shaped impressions and incised lines. Base decorated with a cruciform design of whipped cord impressions. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 287.

62.  
NMS EF 10.  104  
Bowl with comb-pressed, false relief and incised decoration. Incised lines form a rough cruciform motif on the base. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 309.

63.  
NMS EF 11.  252  
Bowl decorated with incised and impressed lines and approximately triangular impressions. Five imperforate lugs in shoulder groove and triangular impressions on base. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 351.

64.  
NMS EF 12.  253  
Bowl decorated with comb impressions and impressed triangles and arcs sometimes forming false relief. Three imperforate lugs in shoulder groove. Comb ornament on base. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 355.

65.  
NMS EF 13.  599  
Vessel decorated on rim bevel and exterior with coarse whipped cord impressions. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 404.

66.  
NMS EF 14.  600  
Vase bearing incised ornament. Impressed triangles form a false-relief chevron on the rim bevel. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 396.

67.  
NMS EF 15.  68  
Bowl decorated with whipped cord impressions, arc-shaped impressions and incised lines. Much restored: most of the rim is reconstructed. ex Bell coll.  
*BAP* I, fig. 283.

68.  
NMS EF 16.  644  
Small bowl without decoration. ex Bell coll.

69.  
NMS EF 17.  254  
Bowl decorated with comb impressions and false relief. Six imperforate lugs in shoulder groove. ex Bell coll.
70. NMS EF 18. 601
Vase decorated with incised lines and triangular impressions.
ex Bell coll.
*BAP* I, fig. 324.

71. NMS EF 19. 255
Fragment of a bowl decorated with false relief and comb impressions. No basal piece.
ex Bell coll.

72. NMS EA 22(bis). 386
Rim fragment of bowl bearing comb-impressed and false relief ornament.
ex Bell coll.

73. NMS EA 22. 387
Half a dozen fragments of one ribbed (?) bowl with decorated base. Not reconstructed. Comb-impressed ornament.
ex Bell coll.

74. BM 1855, 3-26, 3. 69
Bowl decorated with comb and false relief impressions, and incised horizontal lines. Base decorated. See nos 75 and 85.
ex McCleland, Dungannon, possibly from north of Ireland.
*BAP* I, fig. 288.

75. BM 1855, 3-26, 1. 365
An almost complete, restored bowl bears neat comb-impressed and false relief ornament. A horizontal rib occurs on the body. See nos 74 and 85.
ex McCleland, Dungannon,

76. BM 1885, 7-12, 11. 256
Bowl with neat comb-impressed and false relief ornament. One side of the triangular implement used to produce the false relief was toothed. Base bears faint comb ornament.
Presented (like nos. 78 and 81) by T. W. U. Robinson.

77. BM 1893, 6-18, 39. 257
Bowl decorated with incised horizontal lines, incised or impressed short lines and triangular impressions forming false relief. The zones of the latter ornament also bear circular impressions made with a tubular implement and impressed short lines. Many of the short lines in the circles of the lower zone were made with a double-toothed implement. The base is decayed.
ex Bateman coll. Said to have been found along with no. 80 (below) in a stone chamber in Ireland in 1856.
*Arch* 62 (1910), 348, plate 39:1. *BAP* I, fig. 325.

78. BM 1885, 7-12, 12. 258
Bowl with comb-impressed lines and arc-shaped and triangular impressions forming false relief ornament. The slightly damaged base is decorated with arc-shaped impressions. The pot contains a few fragments of burnt bone but they are not mentioned in the register. Presented (like nos. 76 and 81) by T. W. U. Robinson.

79. BM 1853, 10-14, 1. 101
Bowl with comb-impressed and false relief ornament. The lower zone on the exterior appears to consist of whipped cord impressions but much of the body is encrusted with carbonate of lime. Impressed or incised ornament occurs on the slightly damaged base. According to the register this pot was purchased from Mr Wilkins (Mullingar, Ireland).
*BAP* I, fig. 301 (incorrectly provenanced as Killyglen, Co. Antrim).

80. BM 1893, 6-18, 40. 645
Small pottery vessel with raised rib on shoulder. Impressed ornament: oval impressions occur on the upper body and short impressed lines near the base; the intervening impressions may have been made with a coarse comb.
ex Bateman coll. According to a label it was found along with no. 77 (above) in a stone chamber in
Ireland in 1856. 'The chamber contained four compartments, each with an urn but two were broken'. *BAP I*, fig. 354.

81.

BM 1885, 7-12, 10. 602

Vase decorated with impressed notches and incised ornament; the latter occurs on the rim bevel and lower body.

Presented (like nos. 76 and 78) by T. W. U. Robinson.

*BAP I*, fig. 397.

82.

NMI Wk10. 259

Base and part of the body of a miniature bowl. One imperforate lug survives. Decoration consists of horizontal lines of fine comb impressions, impressed short lines and shallow arc-shaped impressions.

*JRSAI* 107 (1977), 91, fig. 16:62.

83.

BM 1910, 10-25, 18. 70

Bowl decorated with grooved horizontal lines and impressed lines; the short oblique lines on the body contain irregular comb marks and the vertical lines appear to be comb-pressed. Labelled 'Ancient British Vase'.

Given (along with a similar bowl – below) by the Library Committee of the Corporation of London.

84.

BM 1910, 10-25, 19. 22

Bowl decorated with roughly oval impressions on the rim and, on the exterior, approximately square and arc-shaped impressions, incised horizontal lines and vertical grooves. Labelled 'Ancient British Vase'.

Given (along with a similar bowl – above) by the Library Committee of the Corporation of London.

85.

BM 1855, 3-26, 2. 626

Base and lower body of a pot. Decoration is incised. See nos. 74 and 75.

ex McCleland, Dungannon.

86.

BM 1920, 11-9, 1. 269

Bowl (variant) with incised lines on the rim bevel and broad shallow incised lines on the exterior. Incised or impressed short lines occur just below the rim and on two horizontal ribs. This pot may come from the Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow, cemetery. It was presented along with the three pots identified as coming from that site (see *JRSAI* 89 (1959), 31), but since it is not figured in the original report, no certainty is possible.

87.

NMI. 646

A small tub-shaped pot, plain but for an incised horizontal line below the rim, bears no registration number. Abercromby declares that it and another, apparently unprovenanced, pot (no. 25 above) come from Crossakeel, Co. Meath (q.v.).

*BAP I*, fig. 246.

88.

NMI Wk44, 226. 555. 28

Various fragments of the upper part of a bowl decorated with fine comb impressions, arc-shaped impressions and (on the lower body) horizontal grooving.

89.

NMI W38, Wk15, 18, 28, 139. 388

Sherds of the upper part of a vessel decorated with coarse whipped cord and approximately triangular impressions.

90.

NMI 1860:212, Wk82, 434. 603

Three fragments of upper body and one basal fragment of a vase. Incised lines and incised or impressed triangles decorate the rim bevel. Incised lines and incised or impressed short lines occur on the exterior.

91.

NMI. 260

Five sherds of the rim and body of a bowl. The largest fragment measures about 70 by 9cm. Decoration consists of false relief and comb impressions.

ex Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland (Kilkenny) coll.

92.

UM 784:1963. 71

Fine bipartite bowl decorated with triangular impressions (with two tooth impressions on one side) inside rim bevel. Exterior bears horizontal groov-
ing and horizontal and oblique lines of comb impressions. Vertical lines of whipped cord are deeply impressed, leaving raised ridges. A shallow foot-ring occurs on the base.

_UJA_ 28 (1965), 113, fig. 4a. _JRSAI_ 103 (1973), 110, fig. 8, no. 4.

93.

**UM 309-1934.**

About a dozen small, friable, sherds of a tripartite (?) bowl. Decorated with irregular comb impressions on rim bevel and exterior. One sherd bears traces of two horizontal ribs and one low imperforate lug.

94.

**UM 1190-47.**

Simple bowl decorated with horizontal grooving, false relief, whipped cord impressions and circular impressions (some with central boss indicating a tubular implement). Acquired from York Museum where it was in a case with wooden mugs etc. from Ireland and labelled Robinson collection; the bowl was assumed to have an Irish provenance but no details known.

95.

**NMI RSAI 204.**

Tripartite bowl bearing false relief and comb-impressed ornament. ex Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland (Kilkenny) coll.

96.

**NMI X190.**

Two rim sherds of a vase with incised ornament; the abraded surface suggests a sandhills find.

97.

**NMI Wk12.**

Two sherds of the upper body and rim of a vase. Decoration is incised.

98.

**UM A458-1975.**

A bipartite bowl with grooved lines, false relief impressions and impressed ovals containing comb-impressed lines. No information available at present (1986) about the circumstances of discovery of this pot.
CORPUS FIGURES
21. No locality 61. 22. No locality 84. 23. No locality 94.
63. No locality 8. 64. No locality 10. 65. No locality 19.
101. *Necked bipartite bowl.* No locality 79.
104. No locality 62.
119. Co. Armagh. 120. Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow.

127. Ballydullaghan (Cornaclery), Co. Derry (Grave B).
128. Creevagh Upper, Co. Derry.
129. Crossgare, Co. Derry.
130. Cumber, Co. Derry.
131. Gortcorbies, Co. Derry.
175. Keenoge, Co. Meath (near Burial 6).
223. Ballybrew, Co. Wicklow (Cist 1) and two small flint flakes, a larger flint scraper, a broken lignite bead and a piece of rock crystal. 224. Dillonsdown, Co. Wicklow.
225. Kelshamore, Co. Wicklow (Cist 1).
259. No locality 82.  260. No locality 91.  261. No locality 95.
265. Carryglass, Co. Tyrone. 266. Gorticrum Irish, Co. Tyrone (found with 195).
267. Woodend, Co. Tyrone.
277. Ballydullaghan (Cornacary), Co. Derry (Grave C), and a small flint flake (after May).
300. Plopluck, Co. Kildare (Burial 2). 301. Laggacurran, Co. Laois: possibly from a compartmented cist which also contained two bronze bracelets and beads.

330. Crouck (Dun Ruadh), Co. Tyrone.
331. Curglassan, Co. Tyrone.
332. Loughry, Co. Tyrone.
335. Crookedwood, Co. Westmeath.
351. Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim.  
355. Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

371. Greenhills, Co. Dublin (Burial 2).
378–384. *Unclassifiable bowls*  
380. Croghan Erin (Kiltale), Co. Meath.  
382. Carryglass, Co. Tyrone, and a flint knife (after Wakeman).  
384. Merginstown, Co. Wicklow.
393–396. *Tripartite vases*.  393. Galgorm Parks, Co. Antrim, and a collared urn
408A. Tripartite vase. Glenacunna, Co. Tipperary, a miniature vase and two vase urns.

429–430. *Tripartite vases.* 429. Ballyogan, Co. Sligo. 430. Corkragh (Kilskeery), Co. Tyrone, found with a small cordoned urn, a base of a pot, an encrusted urn (after Evans and Paterson) and a cup (after Kavanagh).
432–433. Leckpatrick, Co. Tyrone (Burial 1).
444. Tuckmill Lower, Co. Wicklow, found with bipartite vase 581.
445. No locality 23. 446. No locality 33.
484. Ballywilliam, Co. Down, and 485-486 unclassifiable vases.
516. Carrowntober East, Co. Galway.
543–545. Oaktate, Co. Louth, and sherds of a vase urn.
549–553. *Bipartite vases.*

553. Knock (Nymphsfield), Co. Mayo.
570–572. Bipartite vases. 570. Knockast (Coolatore townland), Co. Westmeath, found with a vase urn and a bronze razor (after Hencke and Movius).
found with tripartite vase 444. 582. No locality 30.
617. Gorteen, Co. Kildare (after a photograph: no scale).
634. Crossakeel, Co. Meath.
635-639. *Anomalous or unclassifiable pots.* 635. Lug, Co. Offaly (Grave 7).
636. Lug, Co. Offaly (Grave 6). 637. Treanmacmurtagh, Co. Sligo,
and sherd (637A) of a second vessel. 638. Dundrum, Co. Tipperary.
639. Camaghy, Co. Tyrone (Cist A).
Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

Plate 2. Bowl: no locality 54 (66) with joint line at mid-height constriction. (Photograph courtesy of the Royal Museum of Scotland.)
PLATE 3. Photomicrographs showing the degree of vitrification displayed by three samples in the 'as received' state (left), and after re-firing to 1000 °C in an oxidising atmosphere (right).

Scale represents 10 microns.

Key: NV/IV: no vitrification / initial vitrification; IV/V: initial / extensive vitrification; V: extensive vitrification; CV/MB: continuous vitrification with medium-sized boiling pores.
Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

(a) Ballymacaldrack, Co. Antrim (389): fragment of Tertiary olivine basalt (right), and detail of clay matrix (left), showing presence of sand-sized inclusions.
(b) Carrickinab, Co. Down (145): fragment of dolerite/basalt of probable Tertiary age.
(c) Carrickinab, Co. Down (145): greywacke fragment.

(d) Knock, Co. Down (42): fragment of amphibole-bearing metamorphic rock, most probably metabasalt, and detail of clay matrix with sand-sized inclusions.
(e) Labbadish, Co. Donegal (142): fragment of biotite schist. Blue area on right is adhesive on glass slide.

(g) Graney West, Co. Kildare (295): fragment of porphyritic metavolcanic rock (centre), and detail of clay matrix (left).
(h) Ballon Hill, Co. Carlow (121): fragment of biotite schist (left), and subangular quartz fragment (upper right), in clay matrix.
(i) Clogherock, Co. Galway (518): fragment of poorly sorted felspathic sandstone.

Plate 4. Photomicrographs of thin-sections of selected vessels taken under crossed polars at a magnification of ×25.
Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

Plate 5. Bowl from Dunamase, Co. Laois (163).
Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

Plate 7. *Above:* bowl from Carrickinab, Co. Down (145). (Photograph courtesy of Ulster Museum.)

*Below:* bowl from Edmondstown, Co. Dublin (151).
Plate 8. Vase from Lugnagroagh, Co. Wicklow (580).
Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

Plate 10. Above: vase from Ballywilliam, Co. Down (484).
Below: simple bowl variant, no locality 9 (30).
Plate II. Above: bowl from Banagher, Co. Cavan (79).
Below: vase from Greenhills, Co. Dublin (421).
Below: bowl from Greenhills, Co. Dublin (86).
Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

Below: vase from Gortnagarn, Co. Tyrone (398).
Below: vase from Stonepark, Co. Mayo (558).
Plate 16. Bowl from Syran, Co. Westmeath (345).
PLATE 17. Vase: no locality 46 (593).
Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

PLATE 20. Bowl from Greengraves, Co. Down (6).
PLATE 21. Bowl from Oldbridge, Co. Meath (12), and jet necklace.
Bronze Age Bowls and Vases

Plate 22. Bowl from Cumber, Co. Derry (130).
*Plate 23.* Vase from Moylurg, Co. Antrim (452).
Below: vase from Carrowtober East, Co. Galway (516).
PLATE 25. Bowls from Carndonagh, Co. Donegal.
Below: Keenoge, Co. Meath (Grave 6).