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Freswick Links, Caithness. A Re-appraisal  
of the Late Norse Site in its Context

Two Volumes

Volume Two : Illustrations

by

Colleen Elizabeth Batey

Submitted for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy,  
University of Durham, Department of Archaeology.

1984



20 NOV 1984

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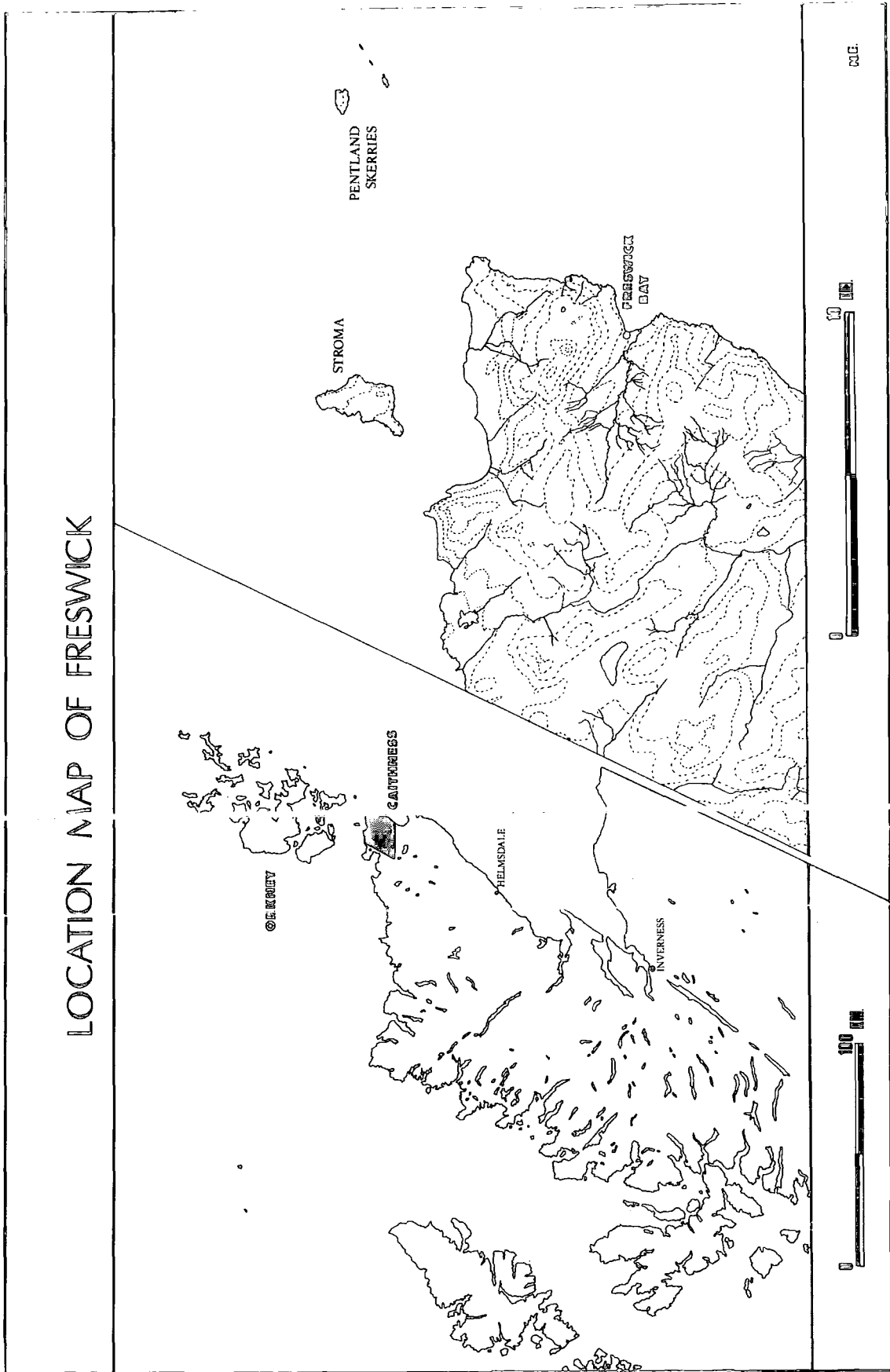


Figure 1. Location of Freswick, Caithness.

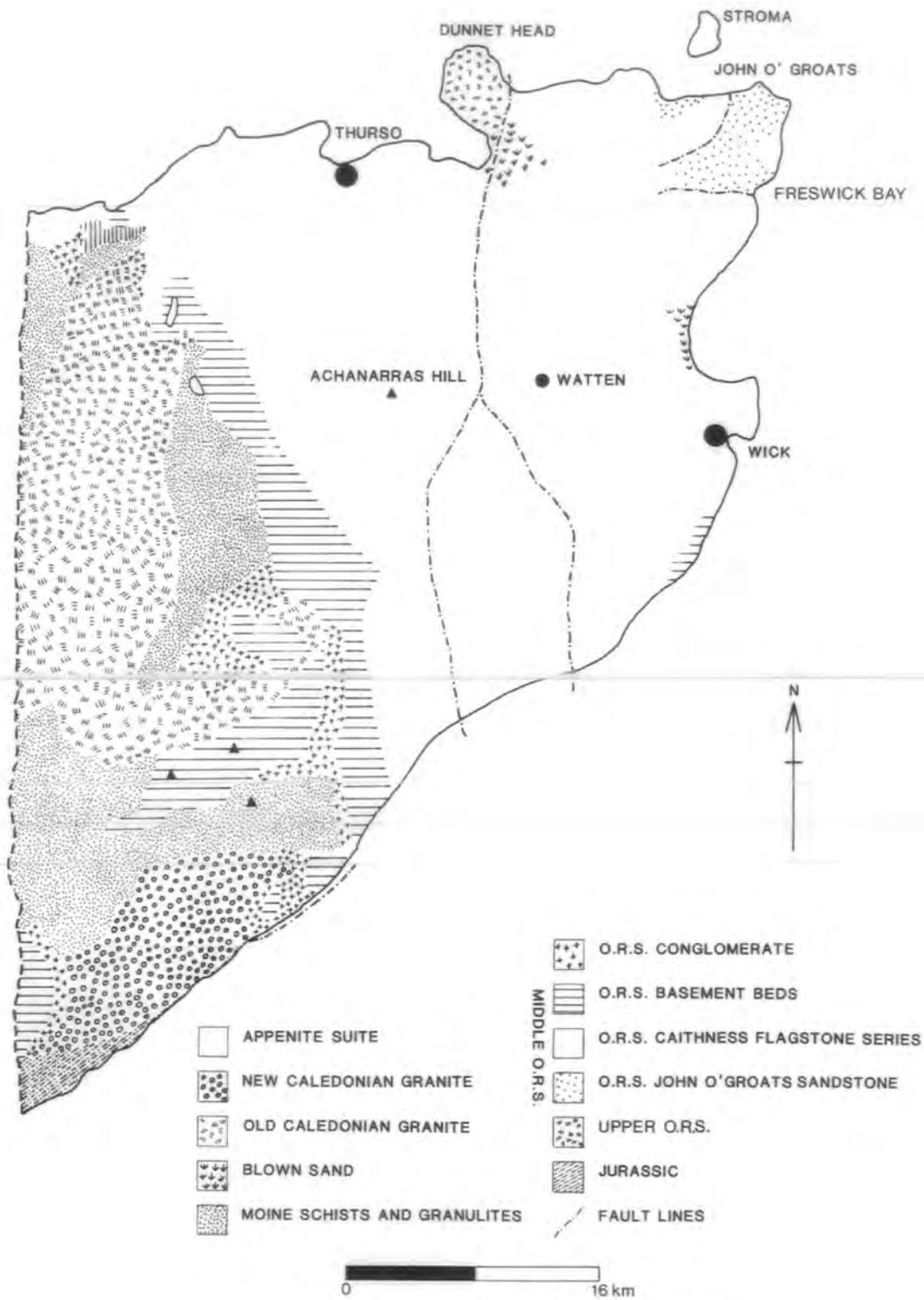
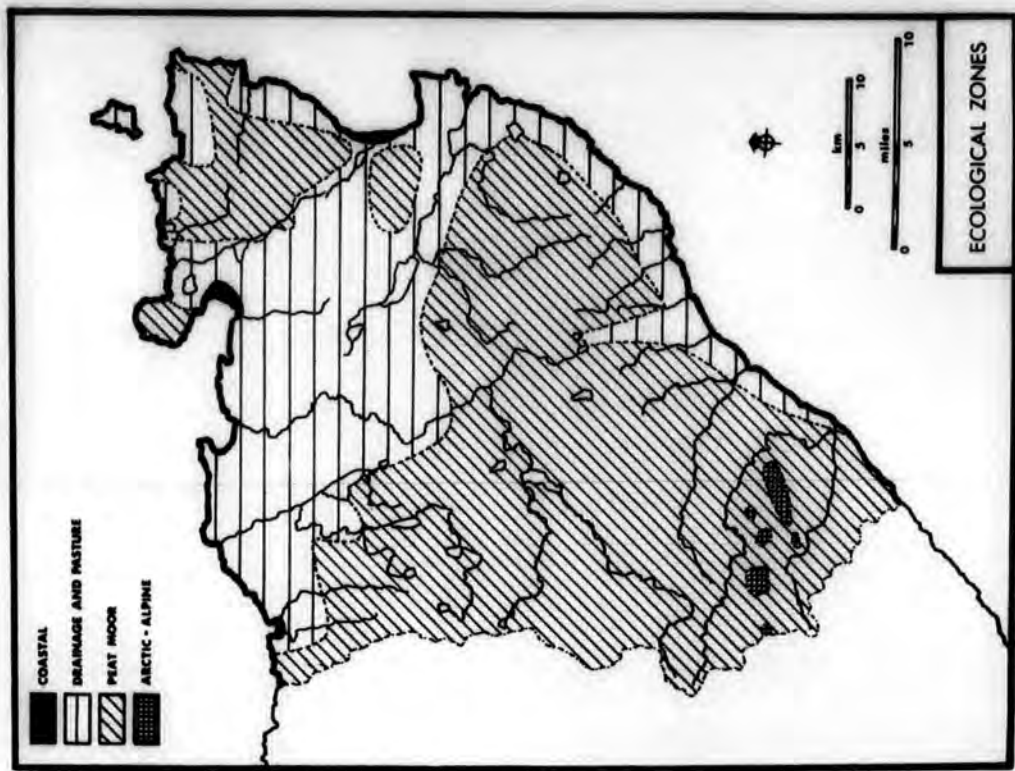
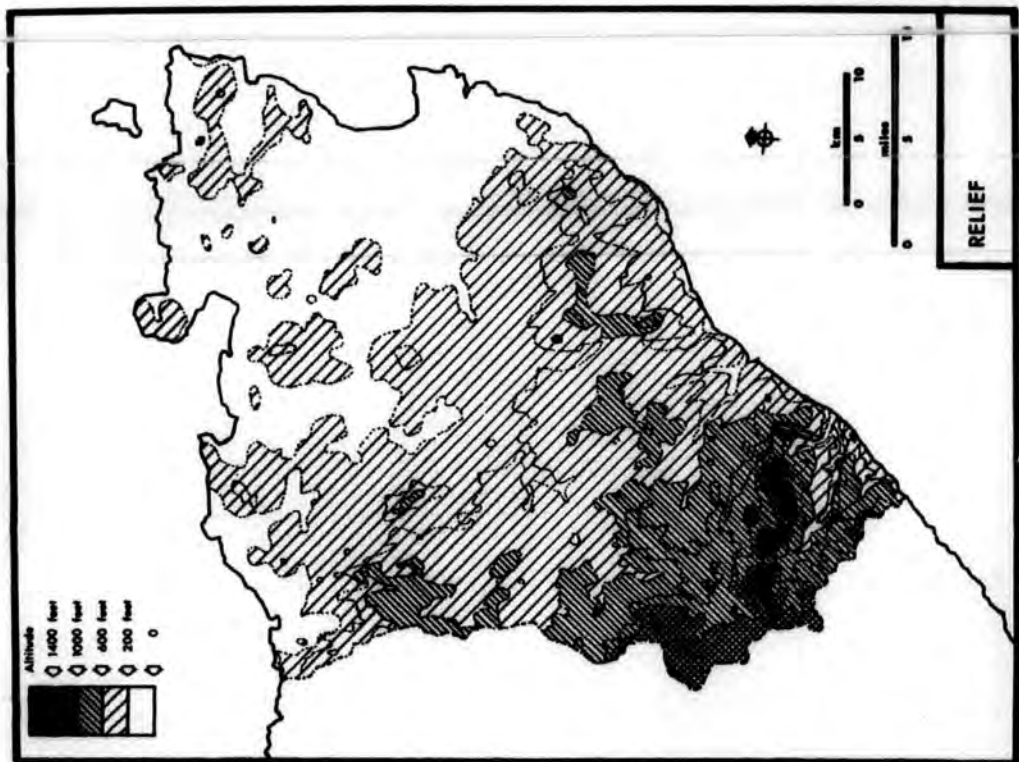


Figure 2. The Geology of Caithness (after Omand, 1982) (16 km is approximately 10 miles).



A



B

Figure 3. Relief and Ecological Zones of Caithness  
 ( (A) Butler, 1973; (B) Omand, 1973b).

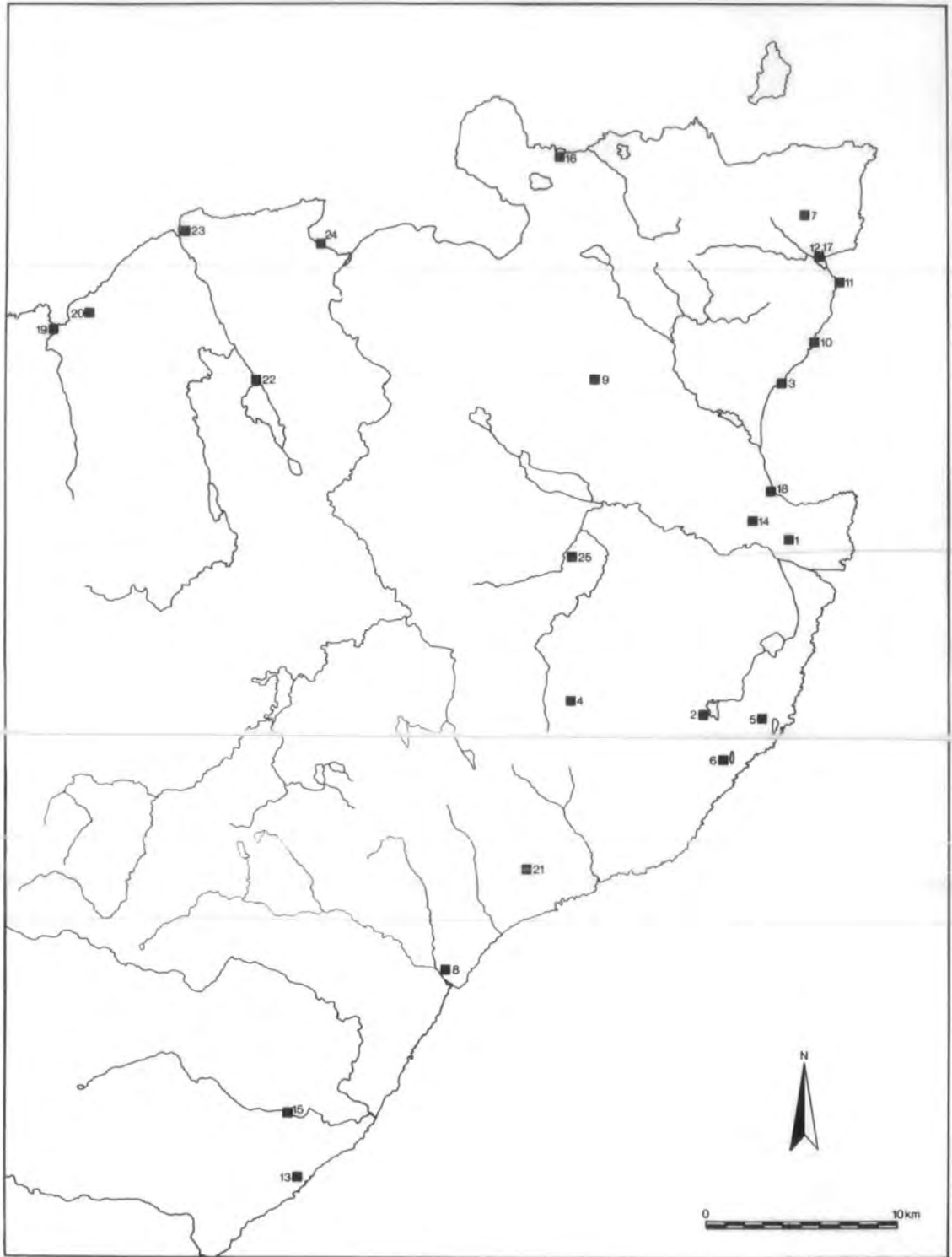
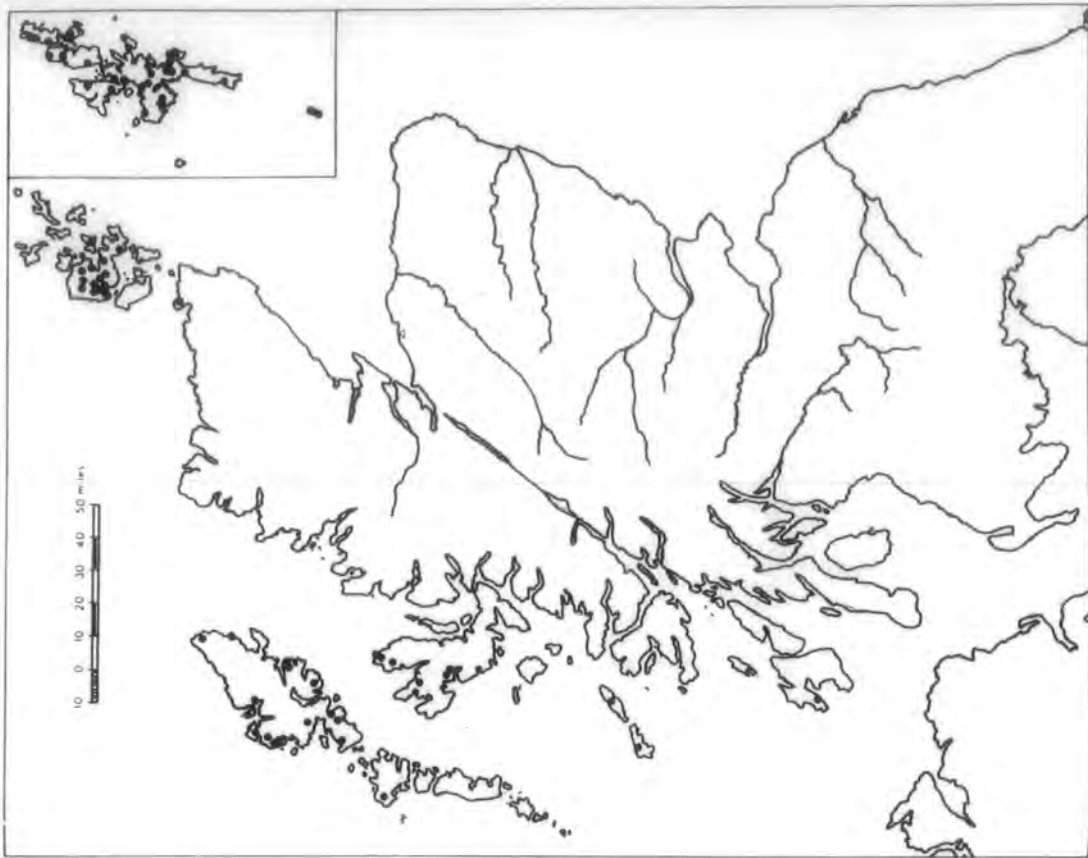
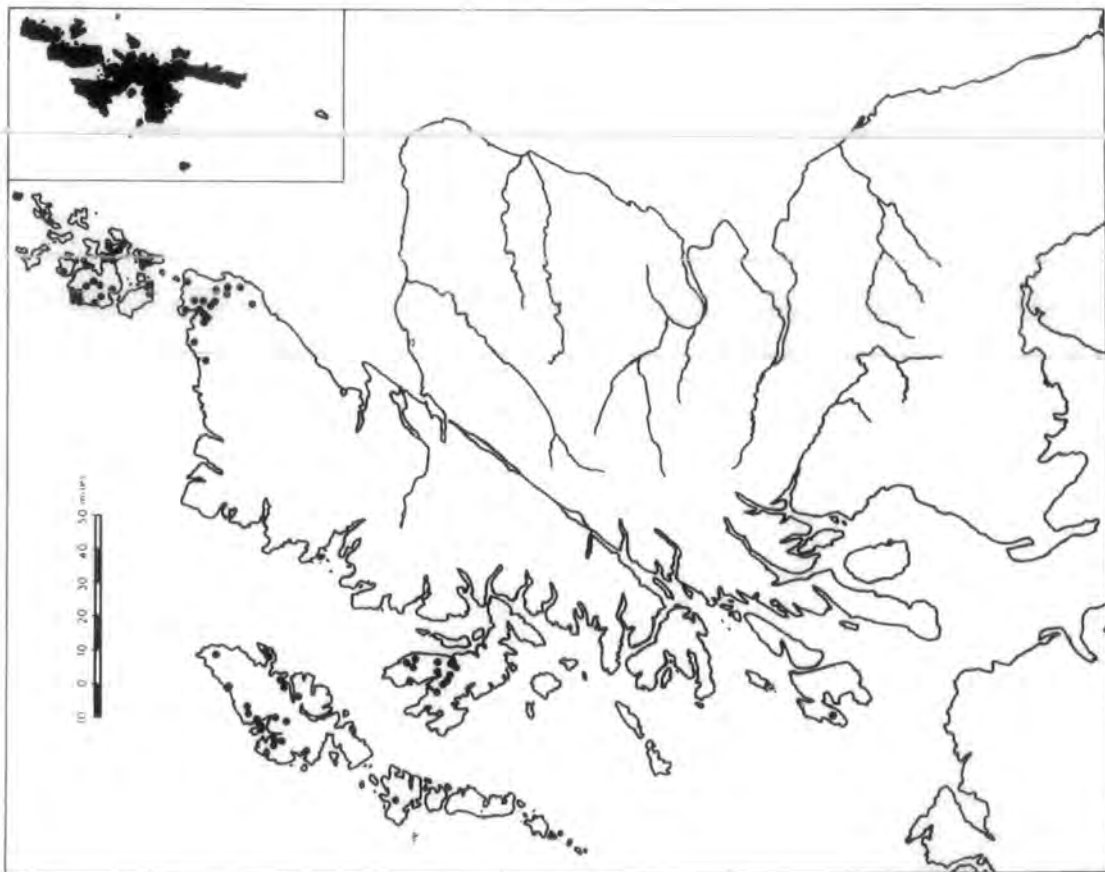


Figure 4: Archaeological Sites mentioned in Chapter 1.

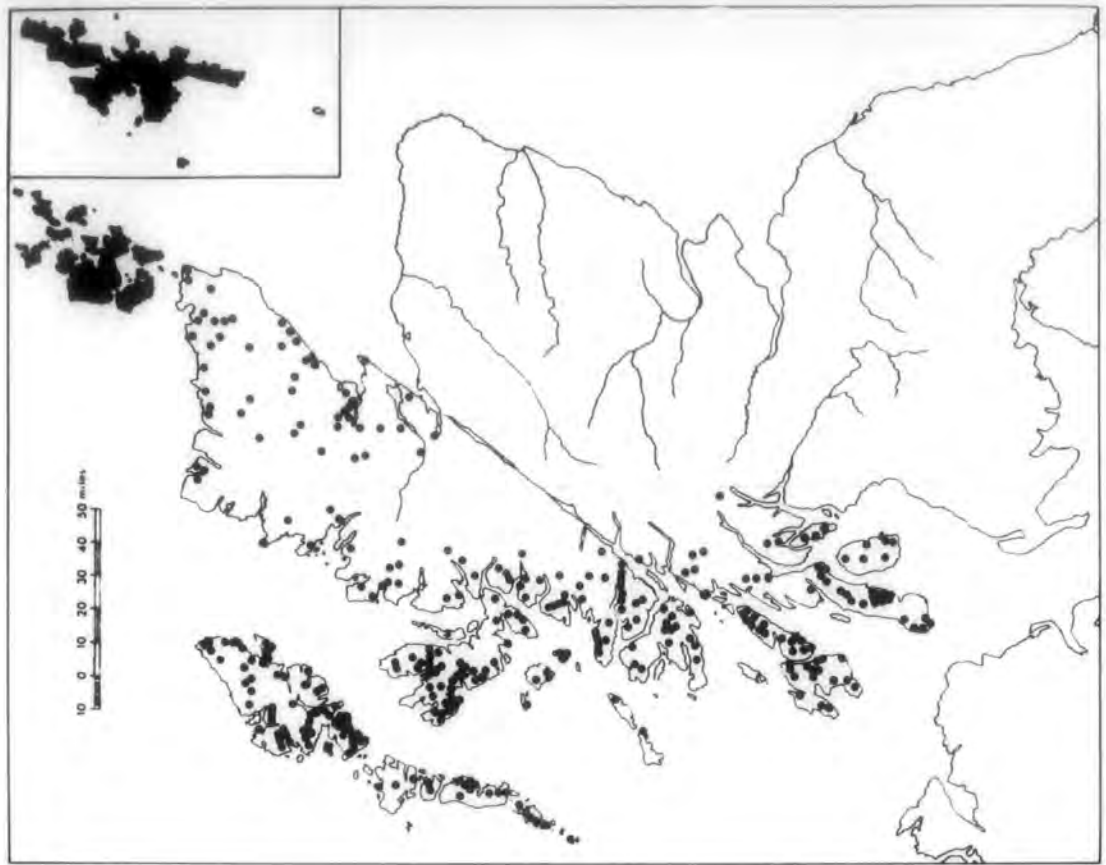


A

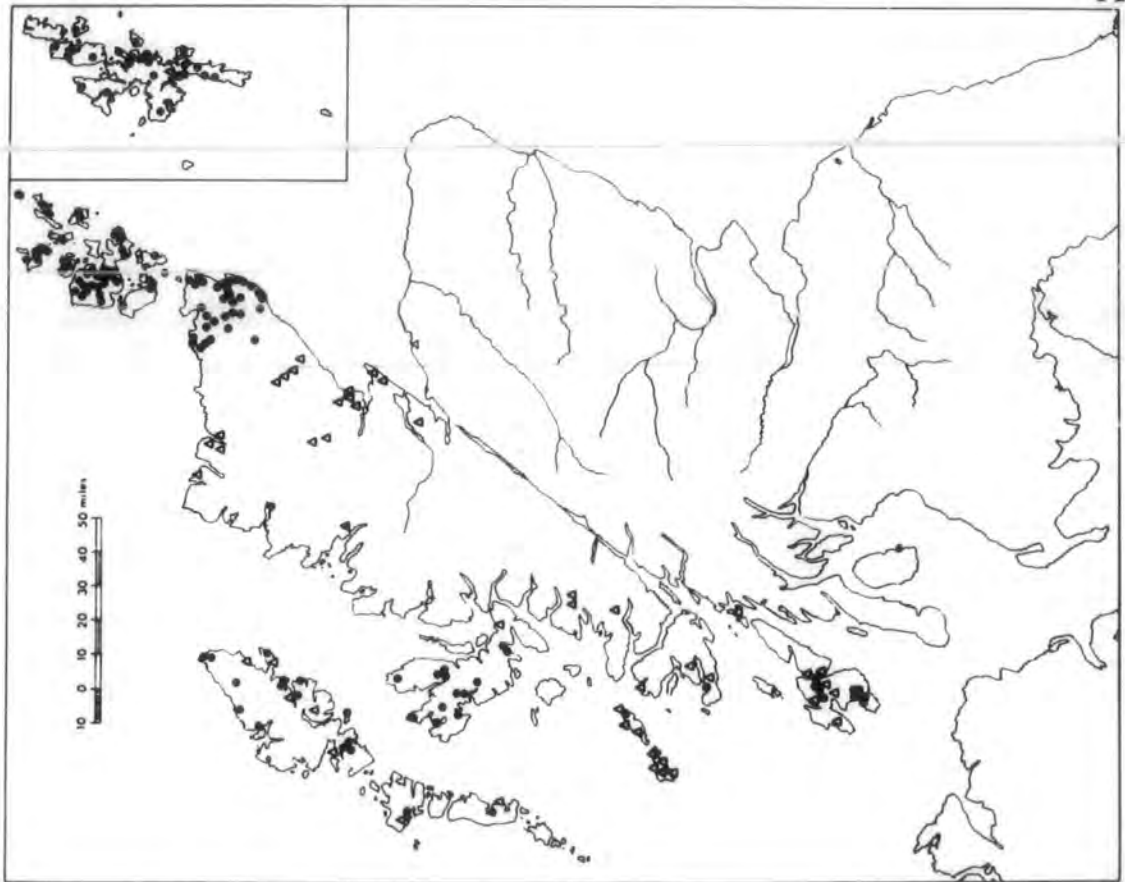


B

Figure 5. Norse Place Name Distribution in Northern Scotland (I)  
 (A) name containing staðr (B) name containing setr  
 (Nicolaisen, 1982b).



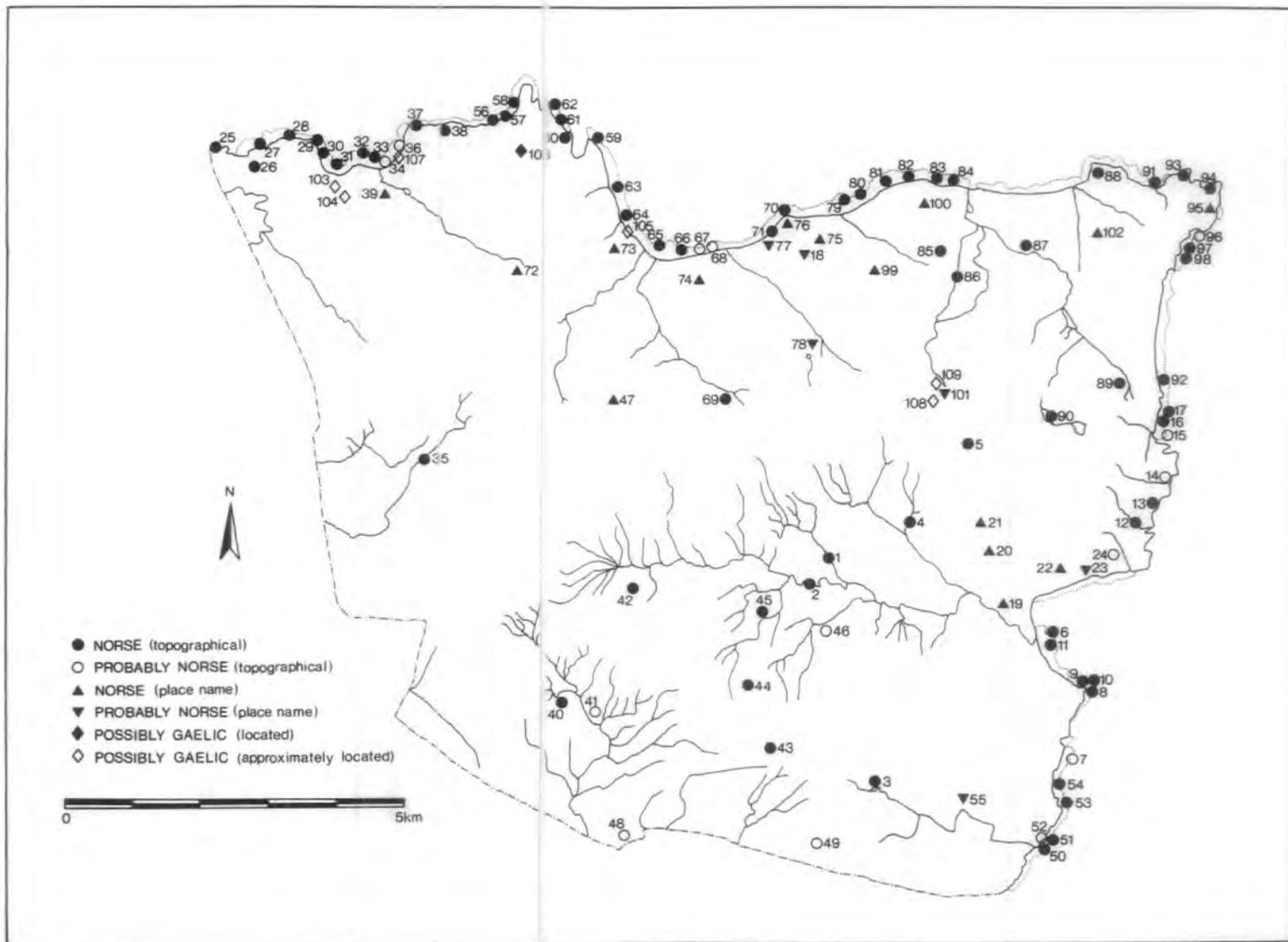
A



B

Figure 6. Norse Place Name Distribution in Northern Scotland (II)  
 (A) name containing dalr (B) name containing bólstaðr  
 (Nicolaisen, 1982b).

Figure 7: Canisbay Parish: Topography and Place Name Derivations.



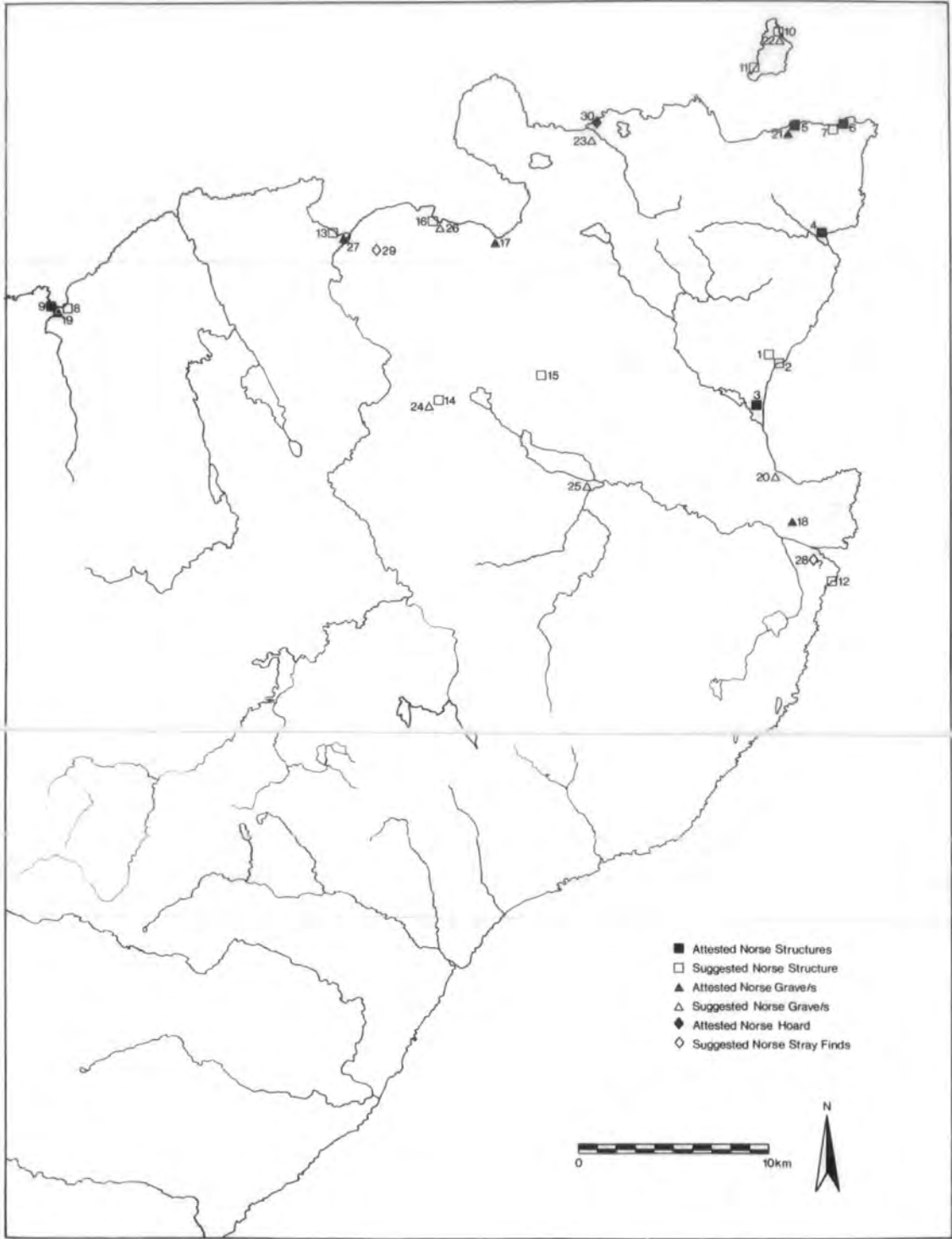


Figure 8: Viking and Late Norse Archaeological Sites in Caithness.



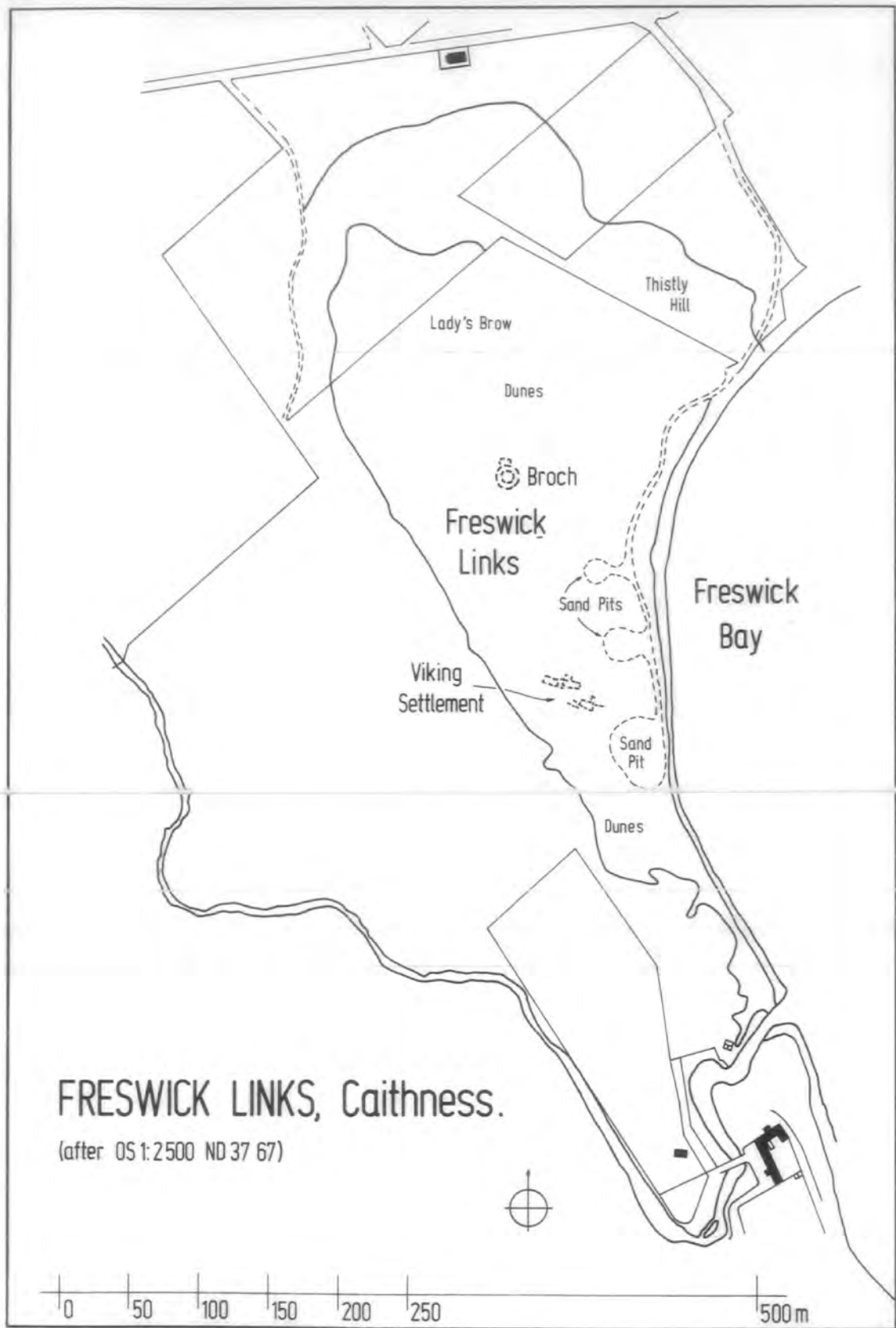
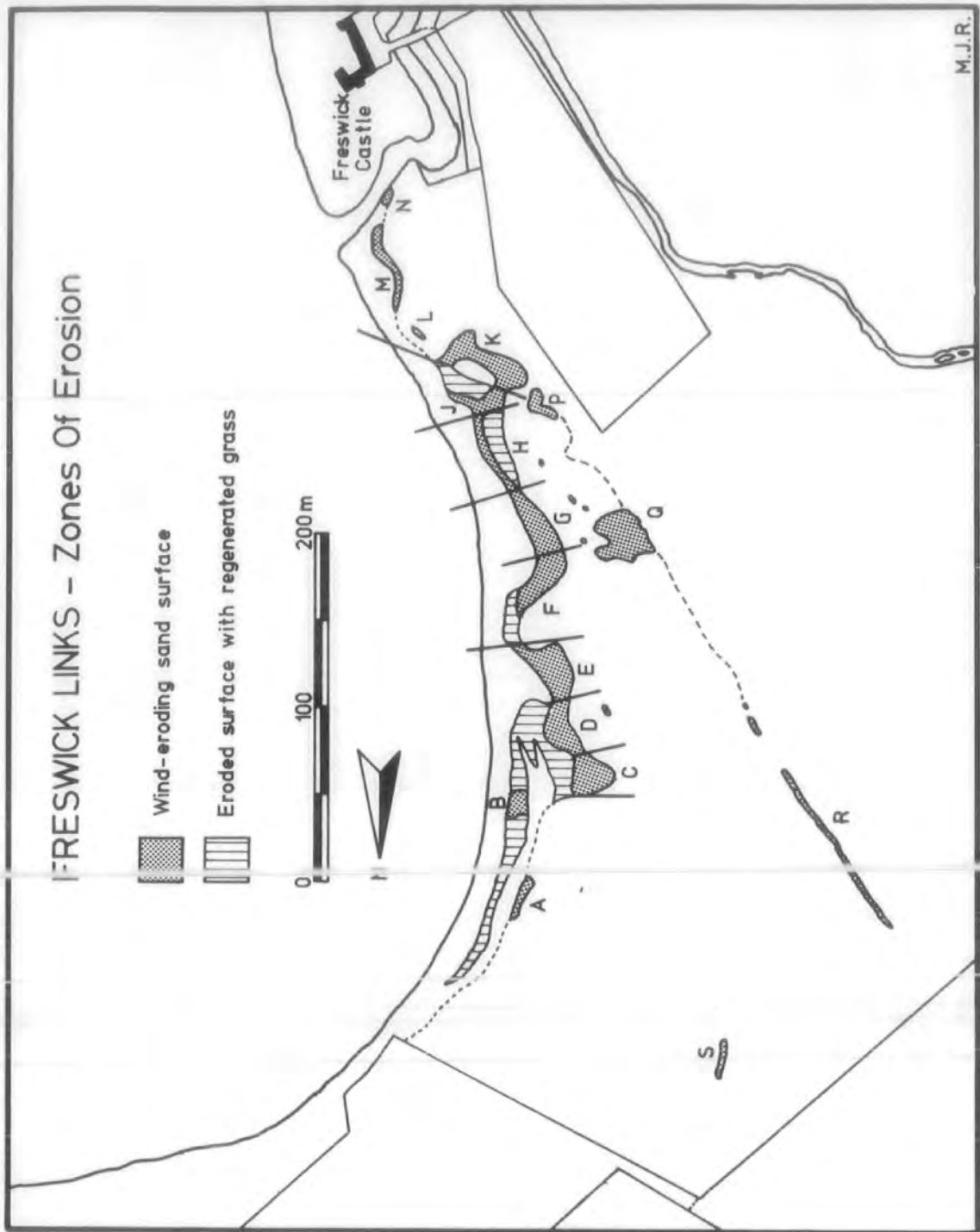


Figure 9. The Site of Freswick Links.



M.J.R.

Figure 10. Zones of Erosion identified between 1979 and 1981.

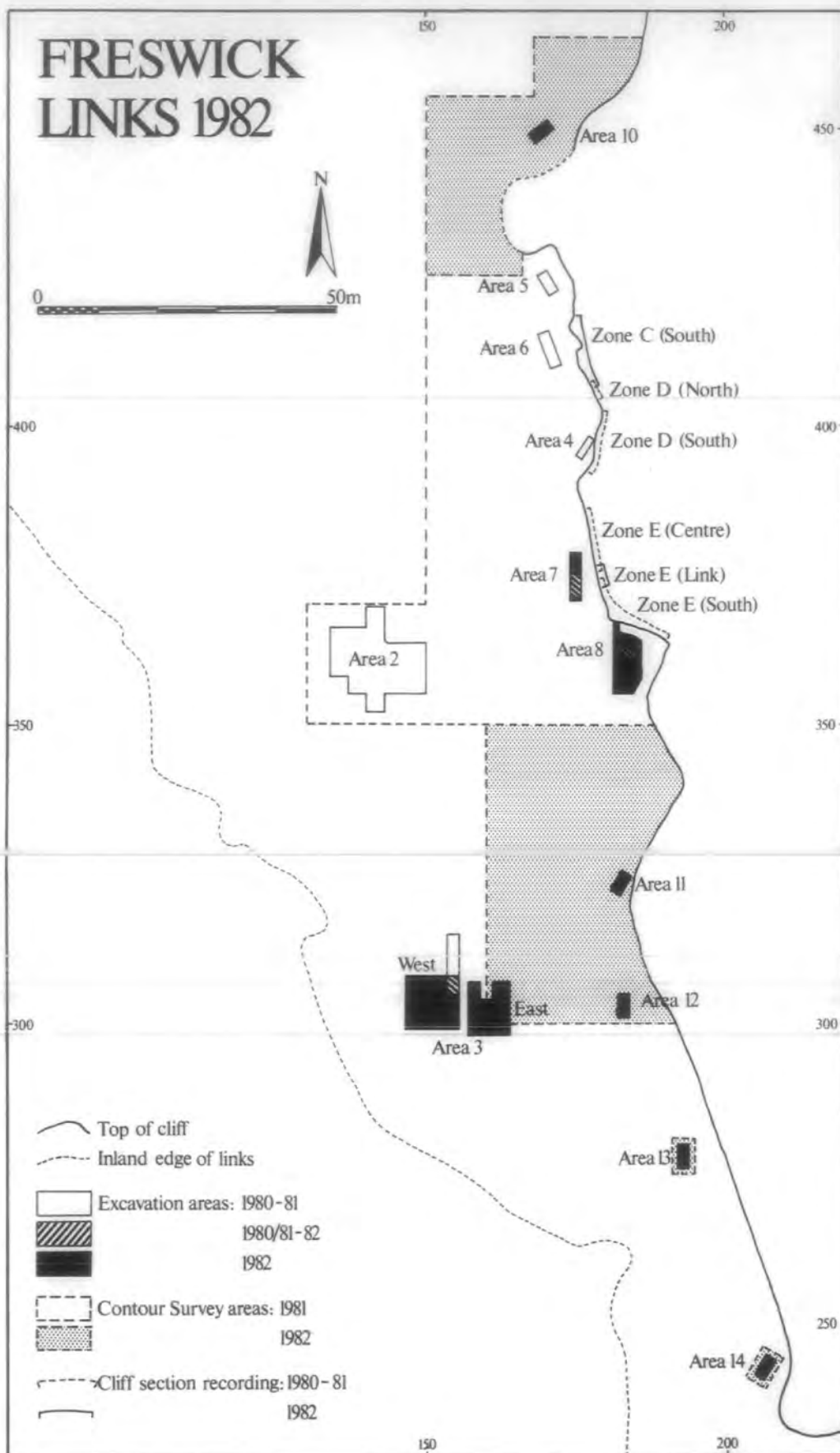


Figure 11: Recent Work at Freswick Links: main areas examined.

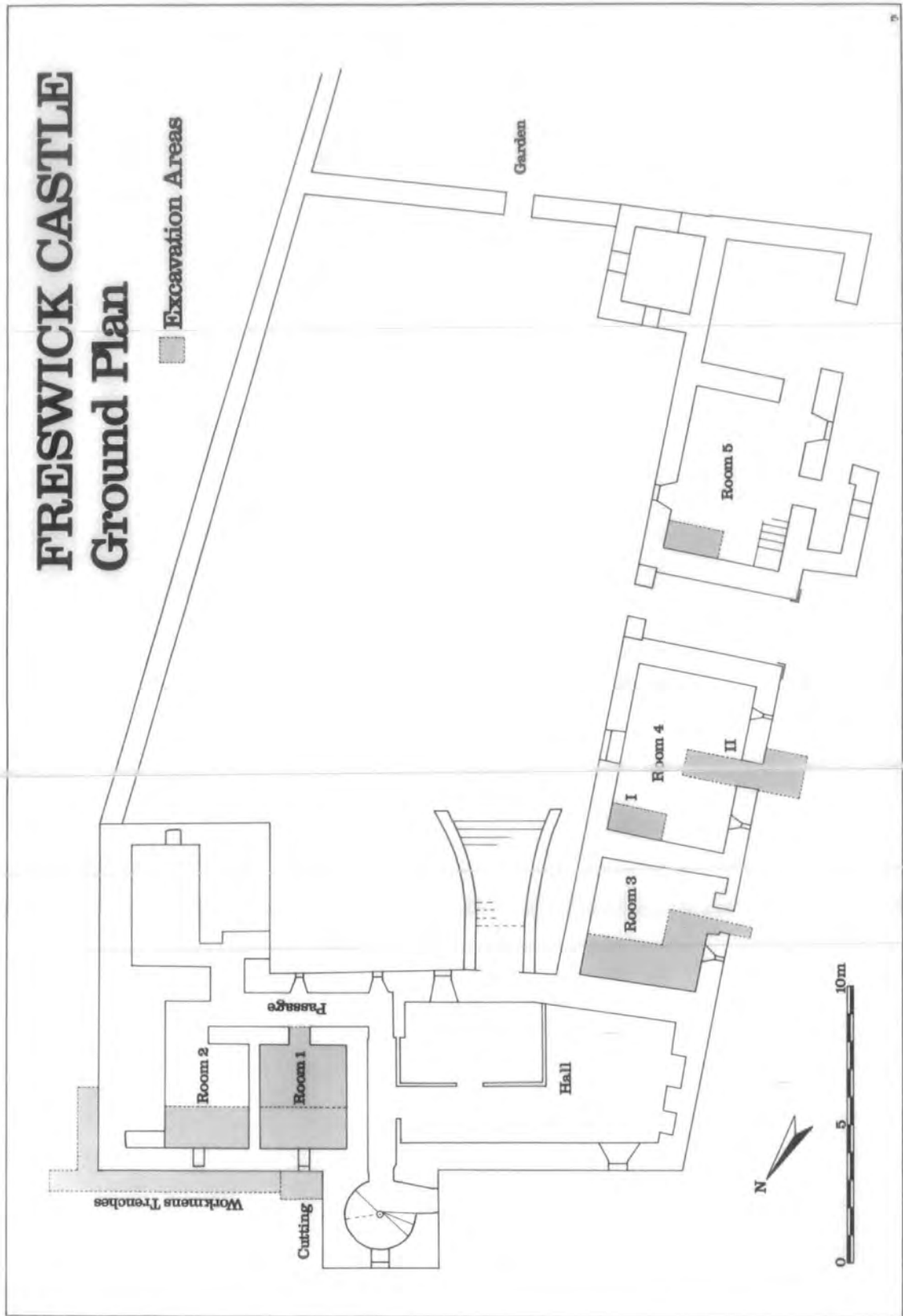


Figure 12. Areas of Excavation at Freswick Castle 1979.

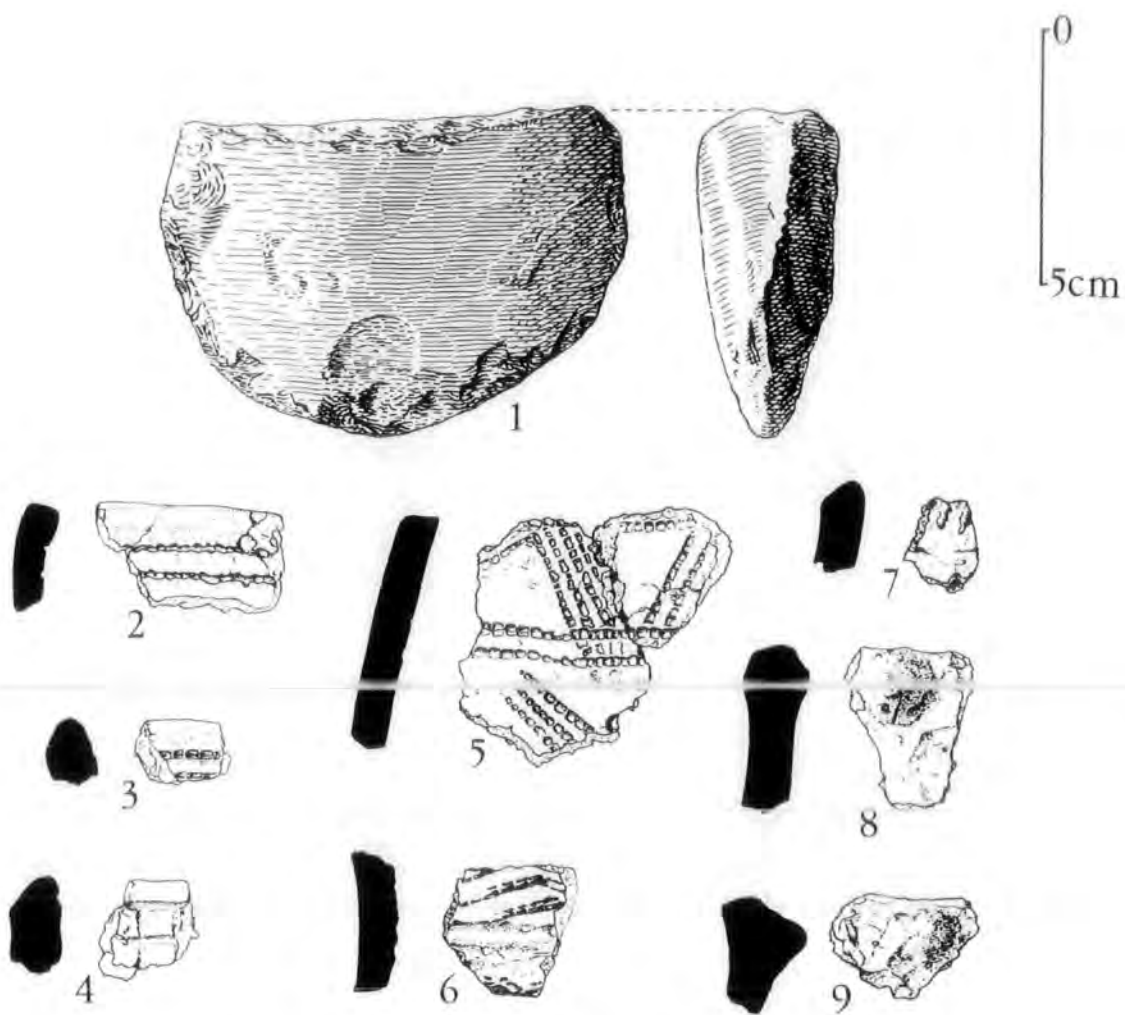


Figure 13. (Lacaille, 1954, fig. 118, 268) Stone and Pottery

Catalogue entries:

1)	6.8.23	2)	12.2.6	3)	12.2.7
4)	12.2.8	5)	12.3.16	6)	12.3. ?17
7)	12.2.9	8)	12.3. ?8	9)	12.3. ?9

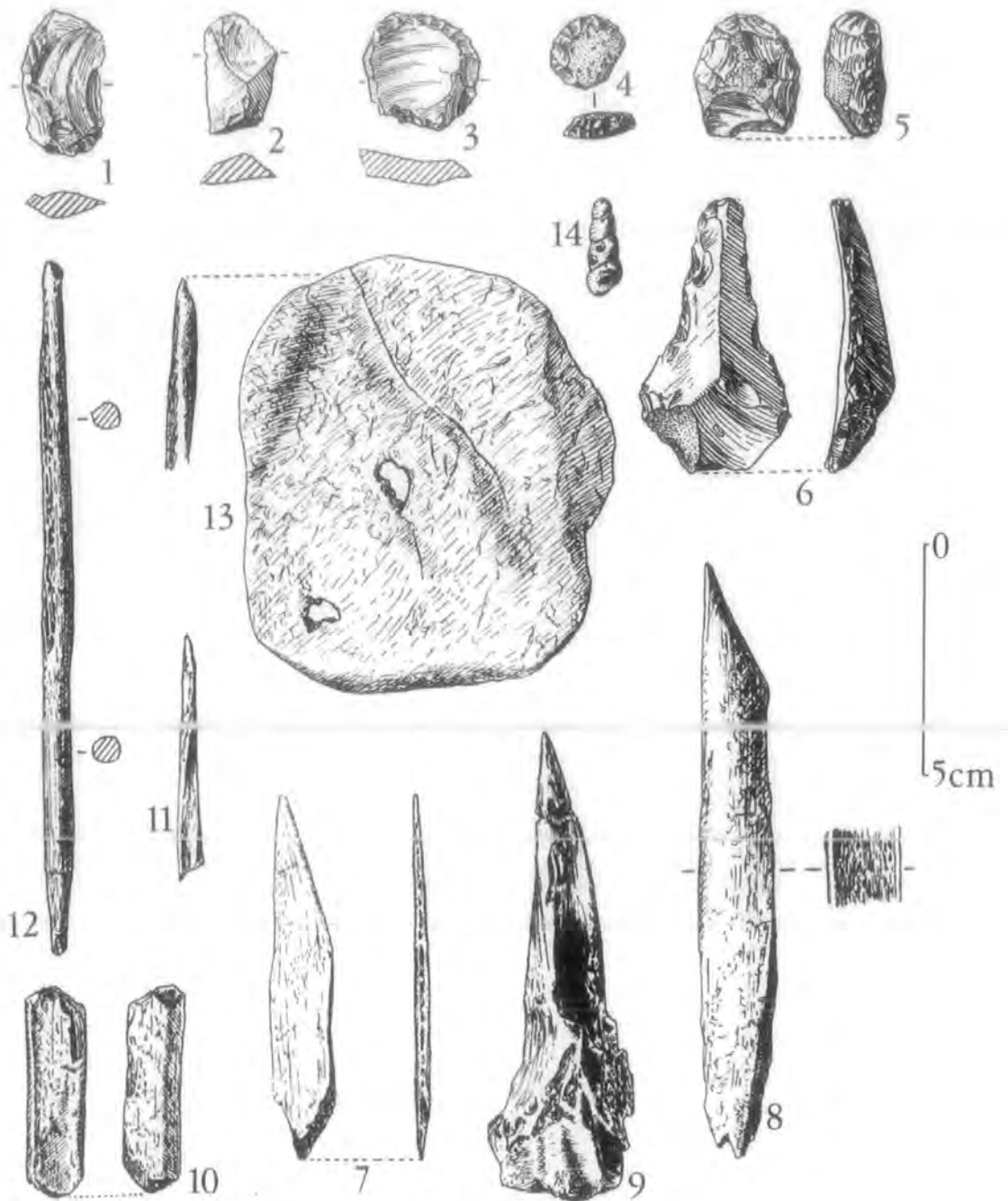


Figure 14. (Lacaille, 1954, fig. 117, 267). Stone and Bone.

Catalogue Entries:-

- |              |              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1) 6. 10. 19 | 2) 6. 11. 13 | 3) 6. 10. 7  | 4) 6. 10. 11 |
| 5) 6. 10. 12 | 6) 6. 11. 5  | 7) 8. 4. 12  | 8) 8. 4. 10  |
| 9) 8. 4. 7   | 10) 8. 15. 8 | 11) 8. 4. 13 | 12) 8. 6. 2  |
| 13) 8. 15. 7 | 14) 14. 1. 1 |              |              |

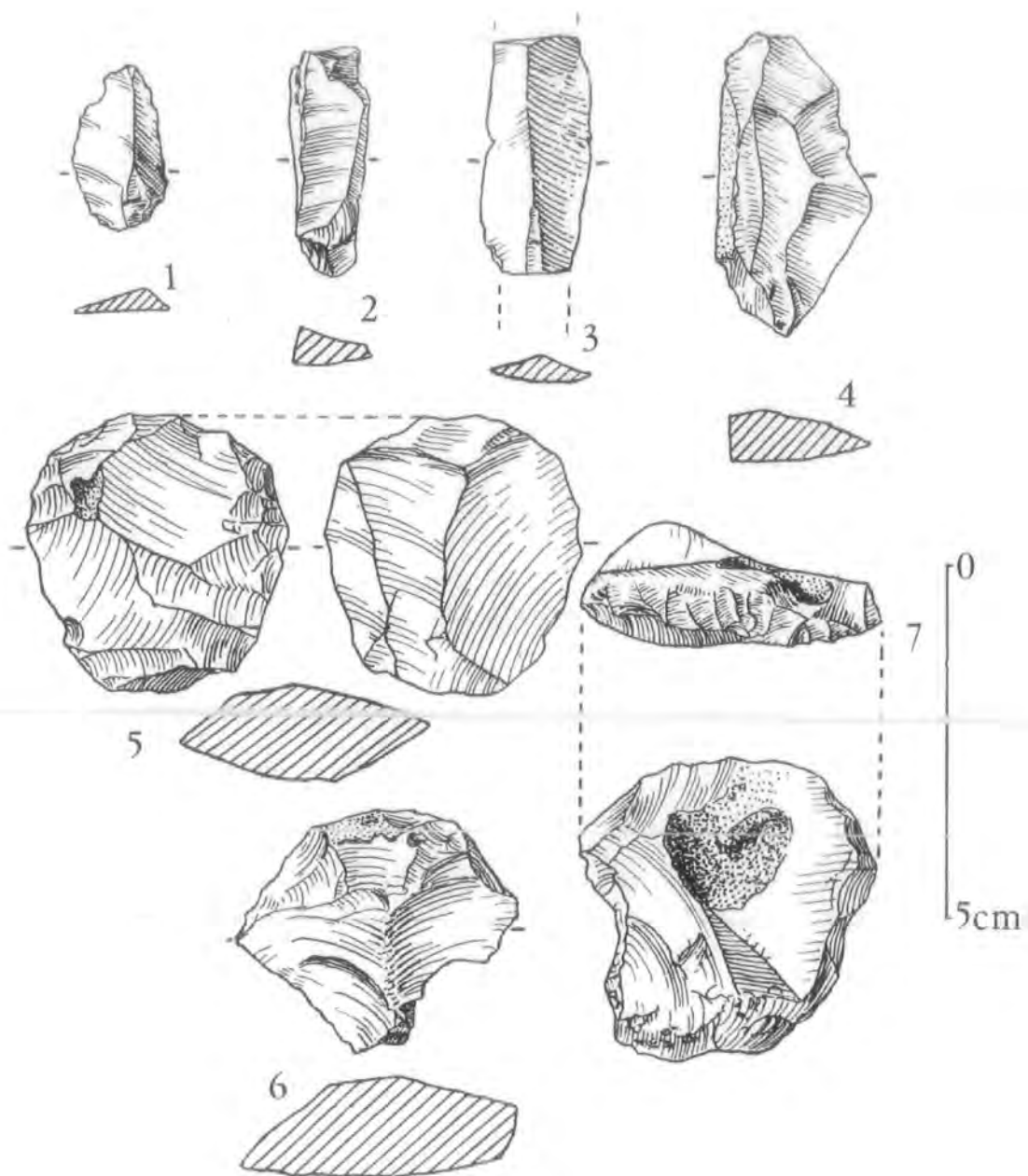


Figure 15 (Lacaille, 1954, fig. 72, 186). Stone.

Catalogue Entries:-

- |           |            |           |            |
|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| 1) 6.11.4 | 2) 6.13.14 | 3) 6.11.3 | 4) 6.13.13 |
| 5) 6.12.1 | 6) 6.13.12 | 7) 6.11.2 |            |

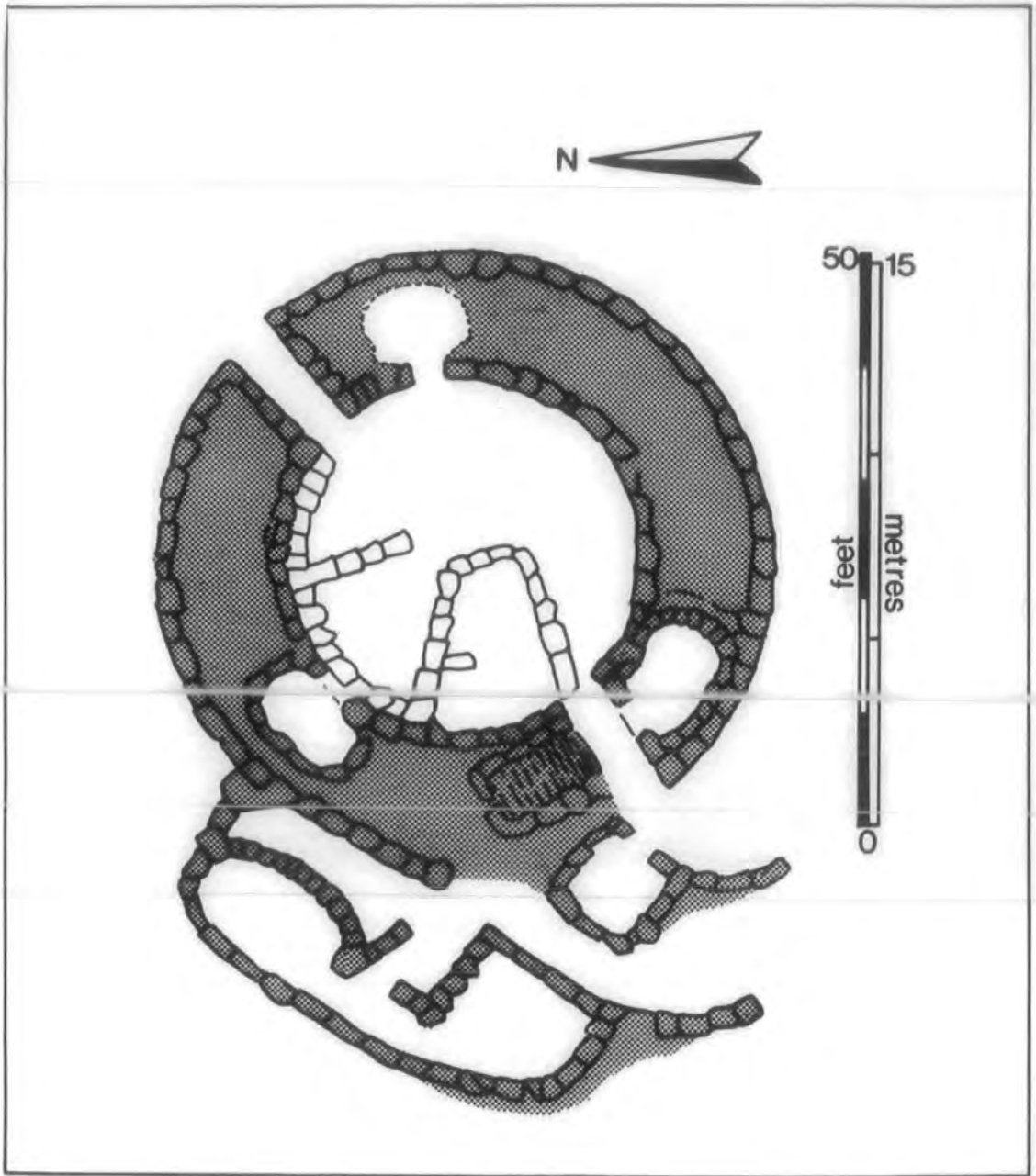


Figure 16. Freswick Sands Broch, (redrawn after RCAHMS, 1911b, 14).



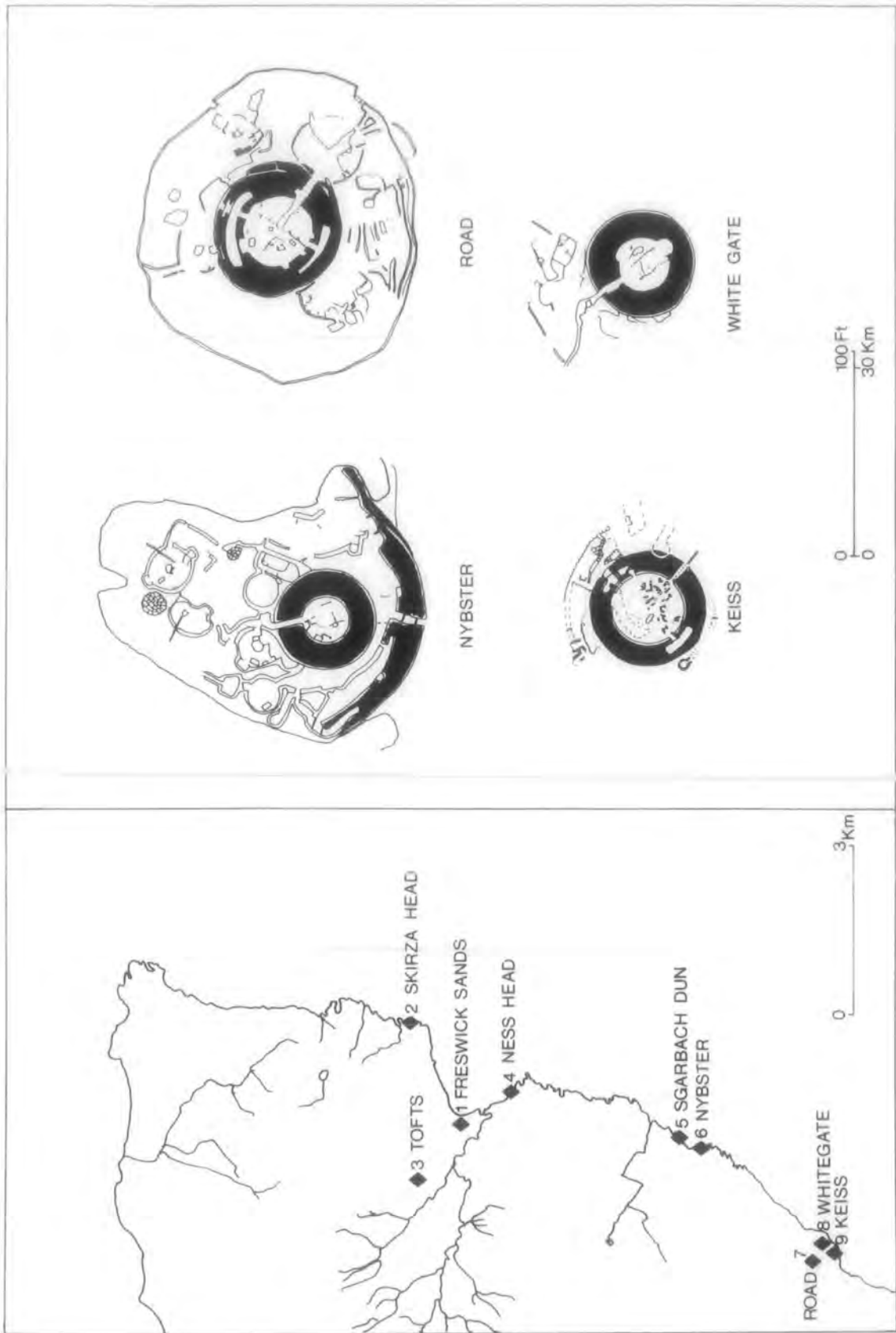


Figure 17. Excavated Brochs in the Vicinity of Freswick Links, indicating some of the extra-mural settlement (after Anderson, 1901).

# EARTH HOUSES AT FRESWICK, CAITHNESS

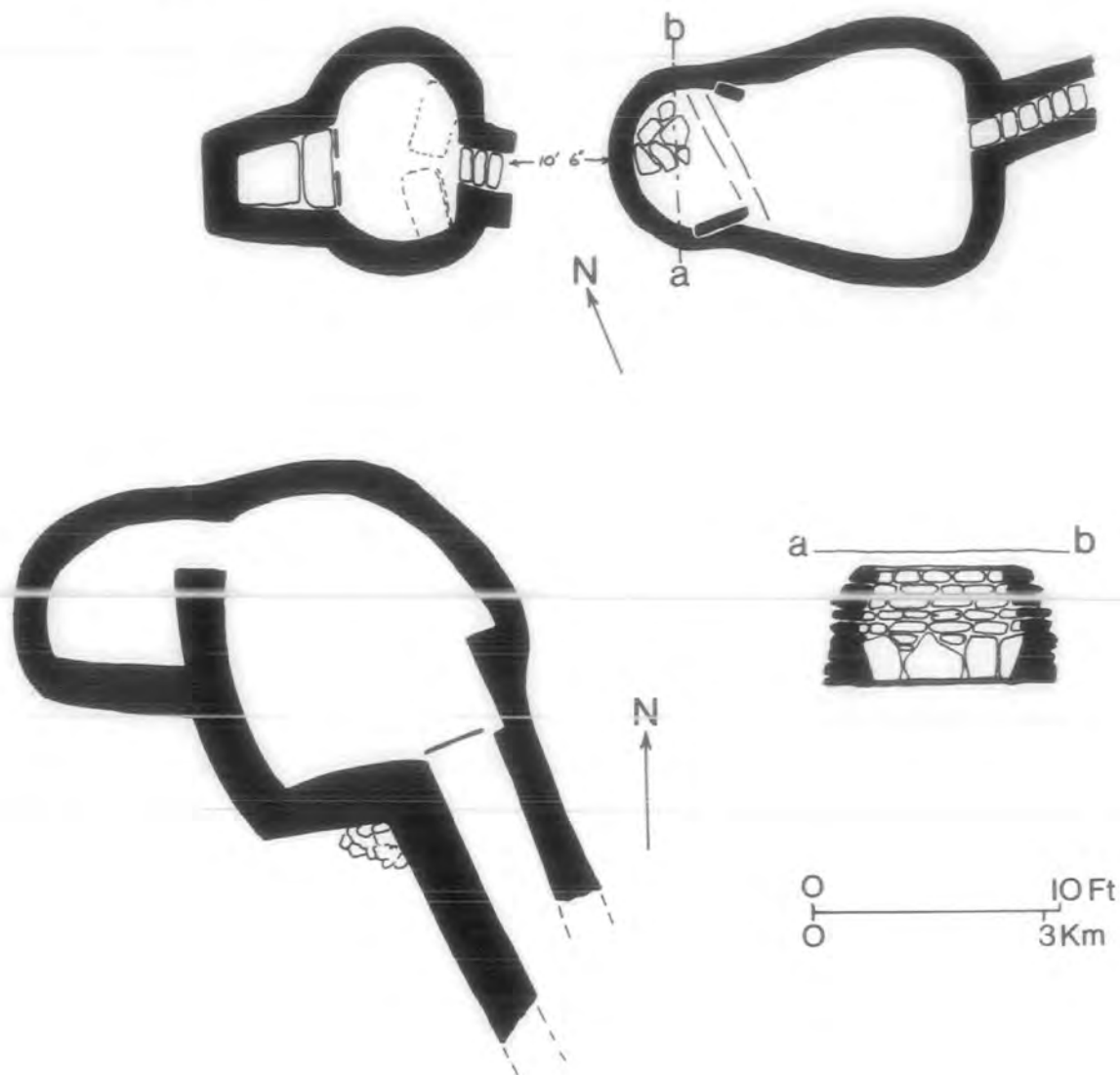


Figure 18. Souterrains at Freswick Links (after Edwards, 1925, figs. 3 and 4, 91-2 and 1927, fig. 6, 201).

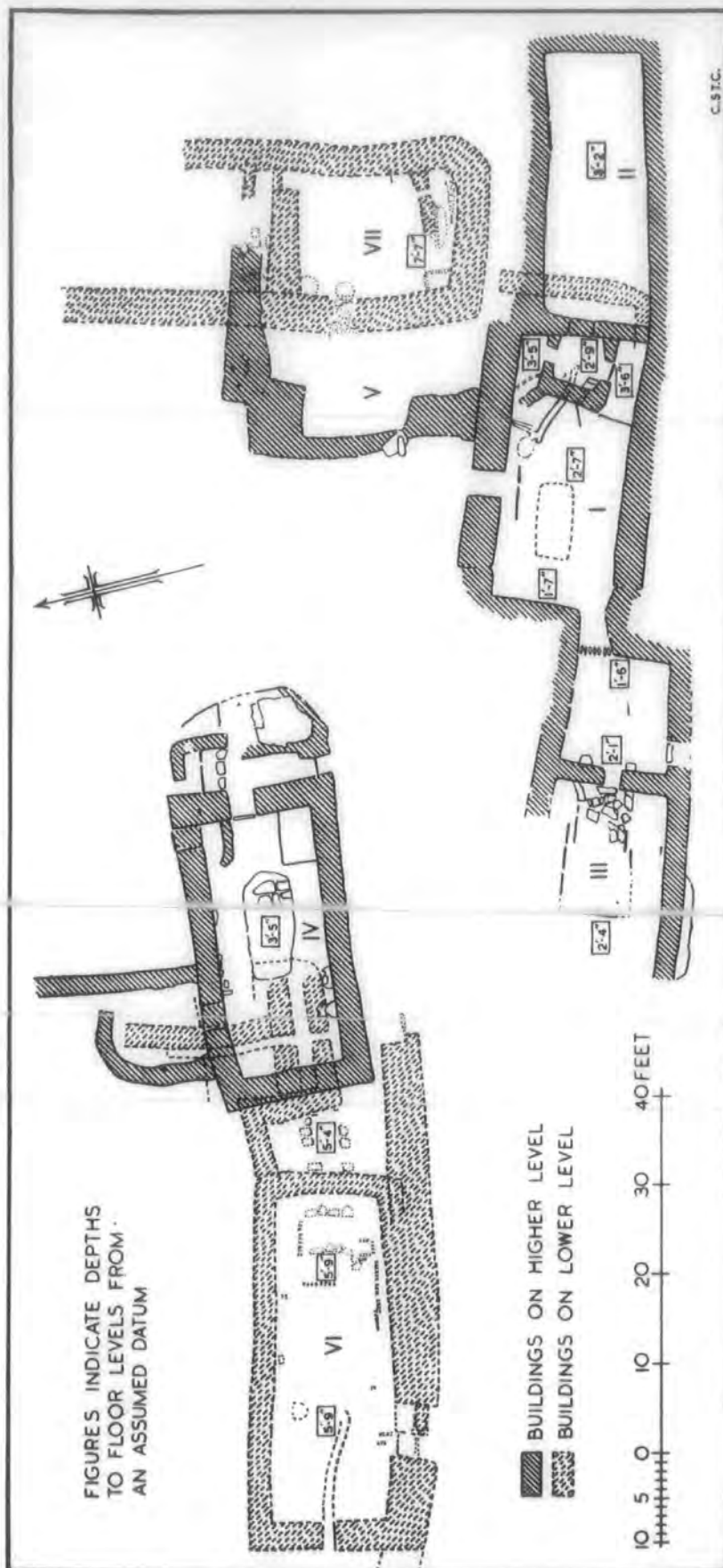


Figure 19. Overall plan of Buildings revealed during Curle's excavations, as published.

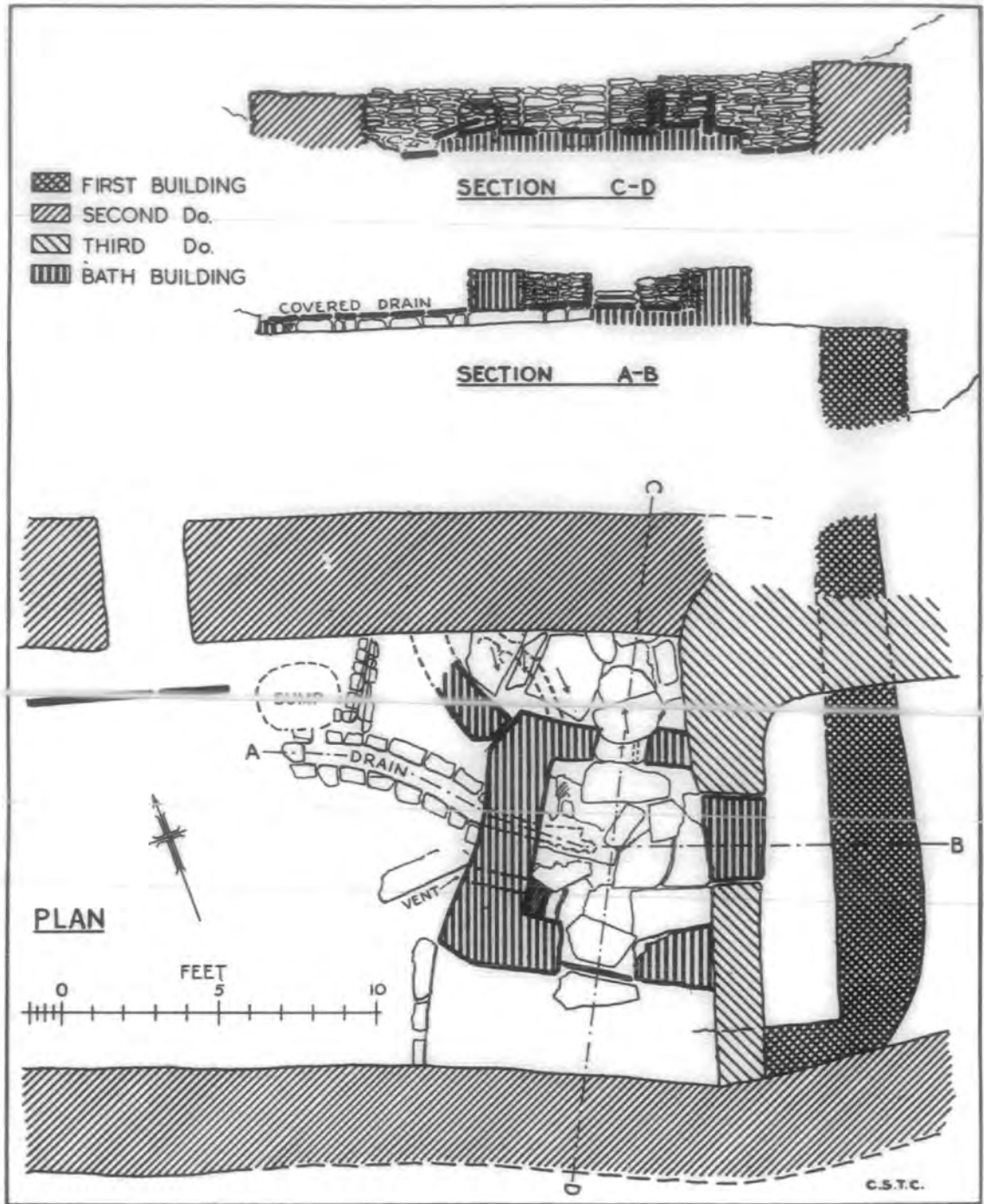


Figure 21. Detail of the East end of Building I, published as West end.



Figure 22. Plan of Curle's Building VI as revealed during recent excavations.

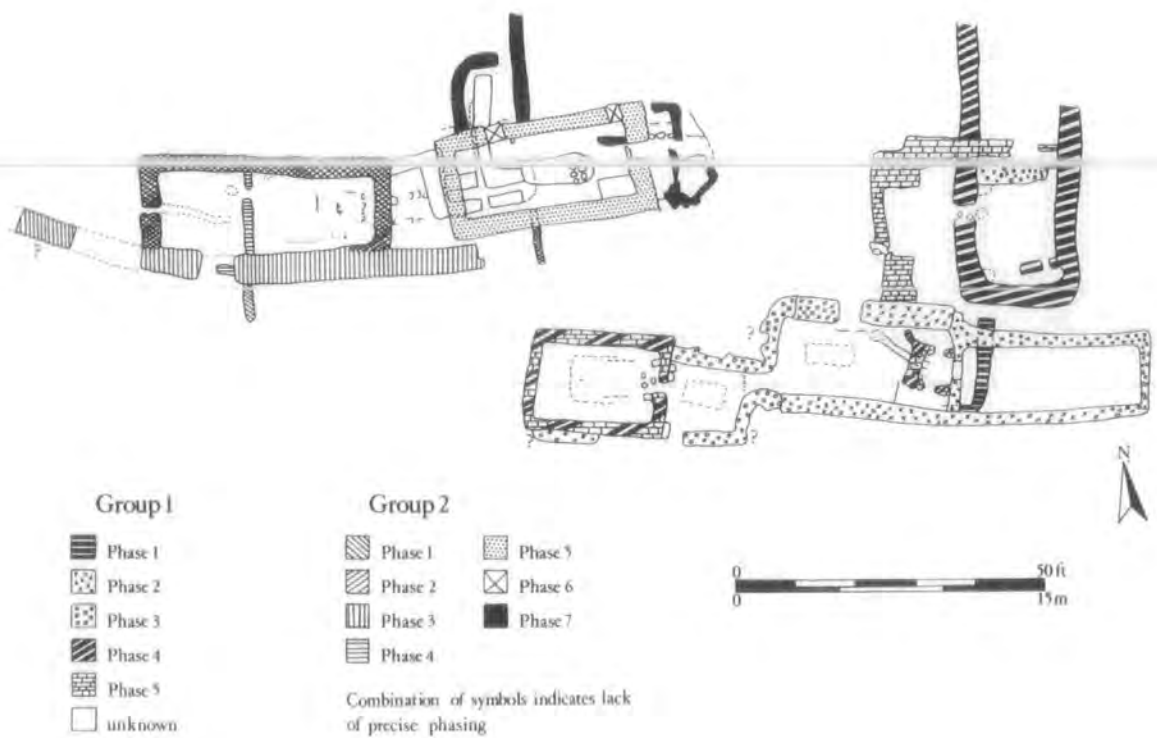
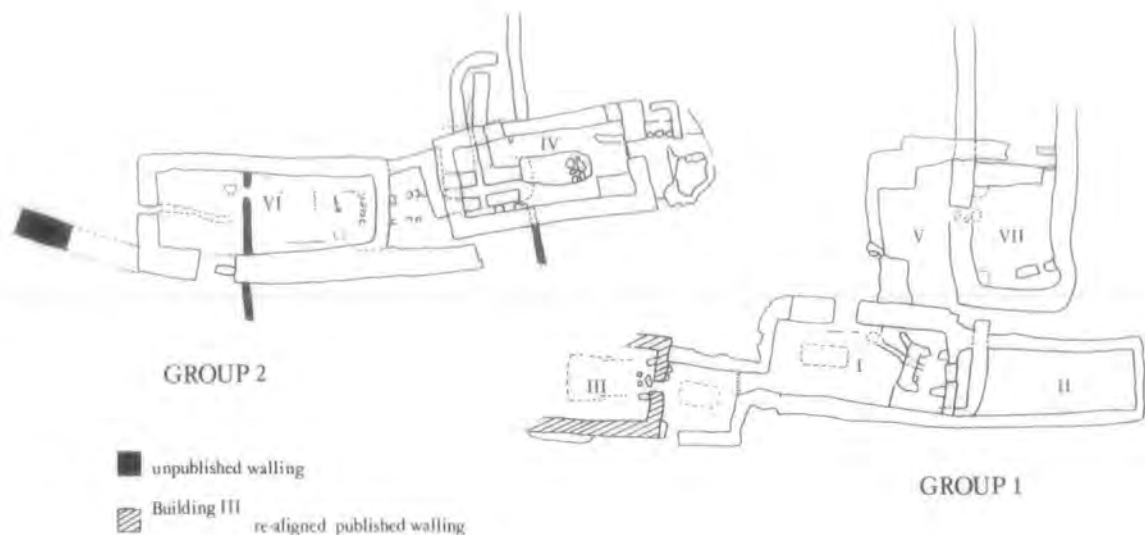
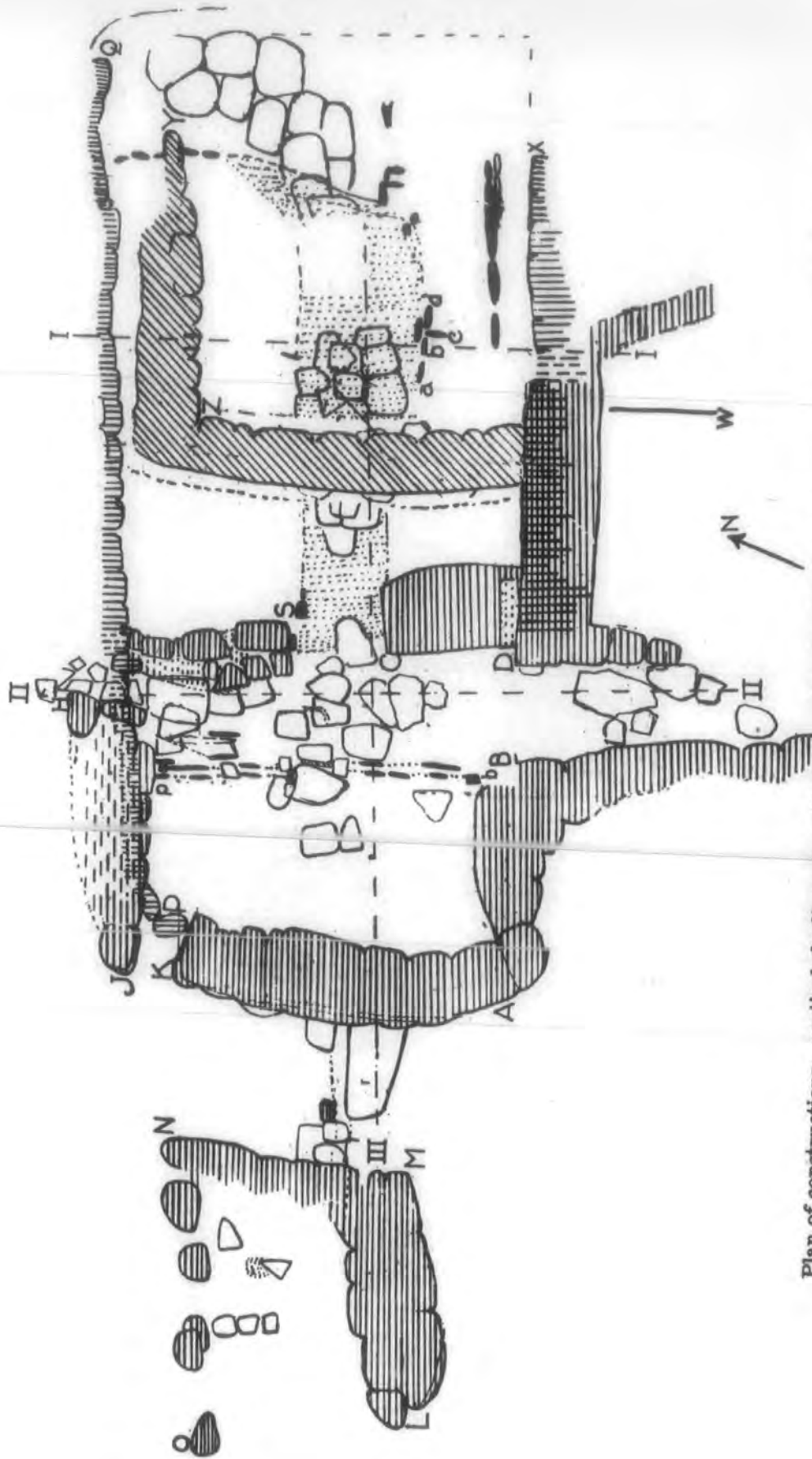


Figure 23. Revised Plan and Phasing of Buildings revealed by Curle.



Plan of constructions: vertical shading, phase I; horizontal, phase II; oblique, phase III; stippling, ash layers.

Figure 24. Buildings revealed during Childe's excavations, as published.

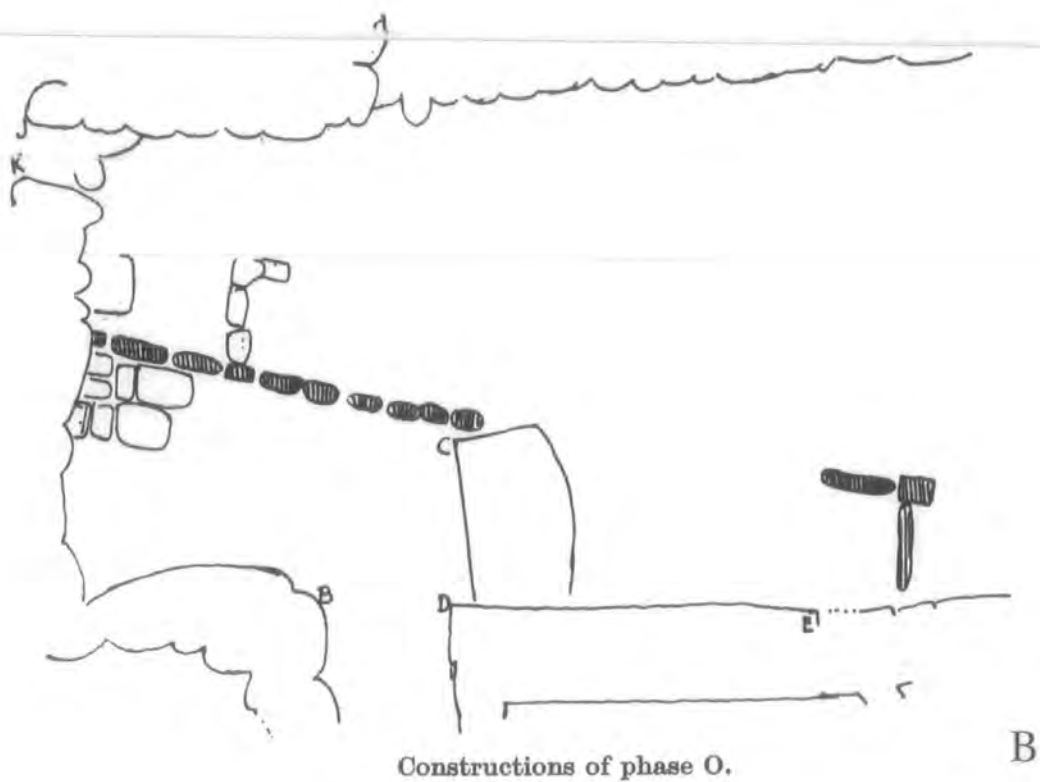
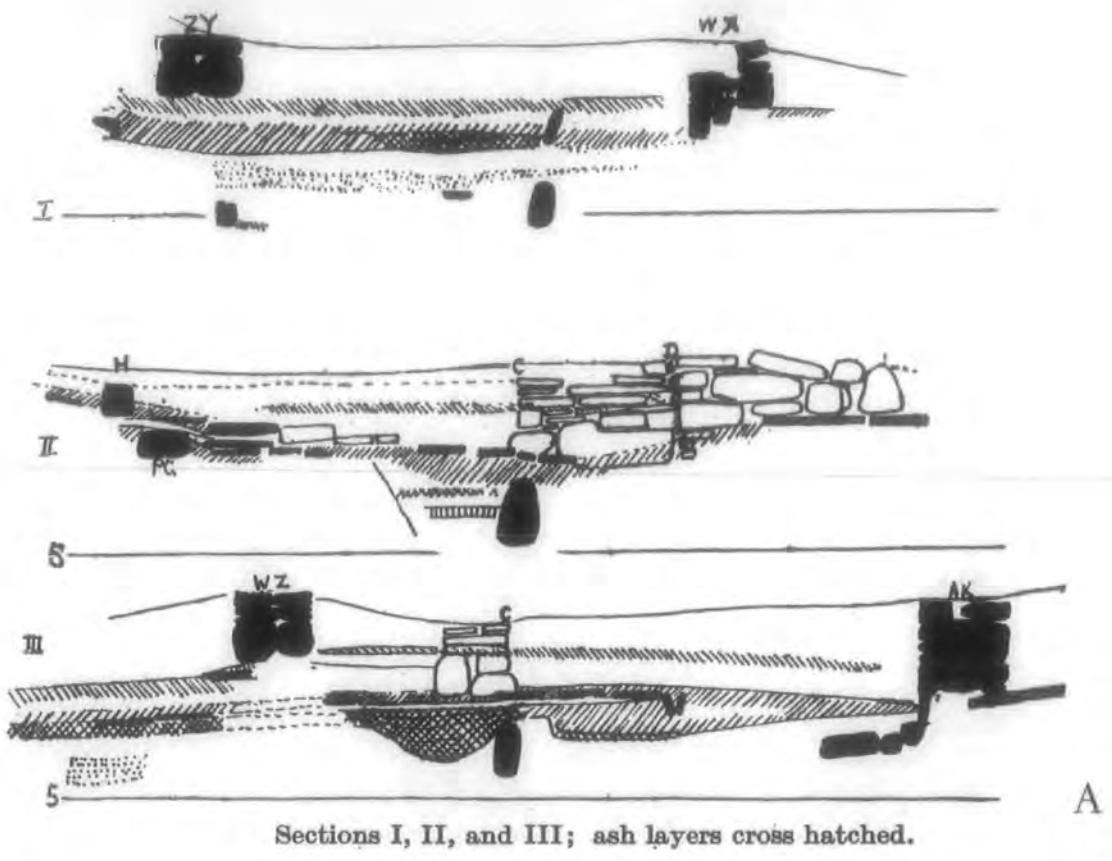


Figure 25, A Sections of Buildings excavated by Childe.  
 B 'Phase O' examined by Childe, as published,



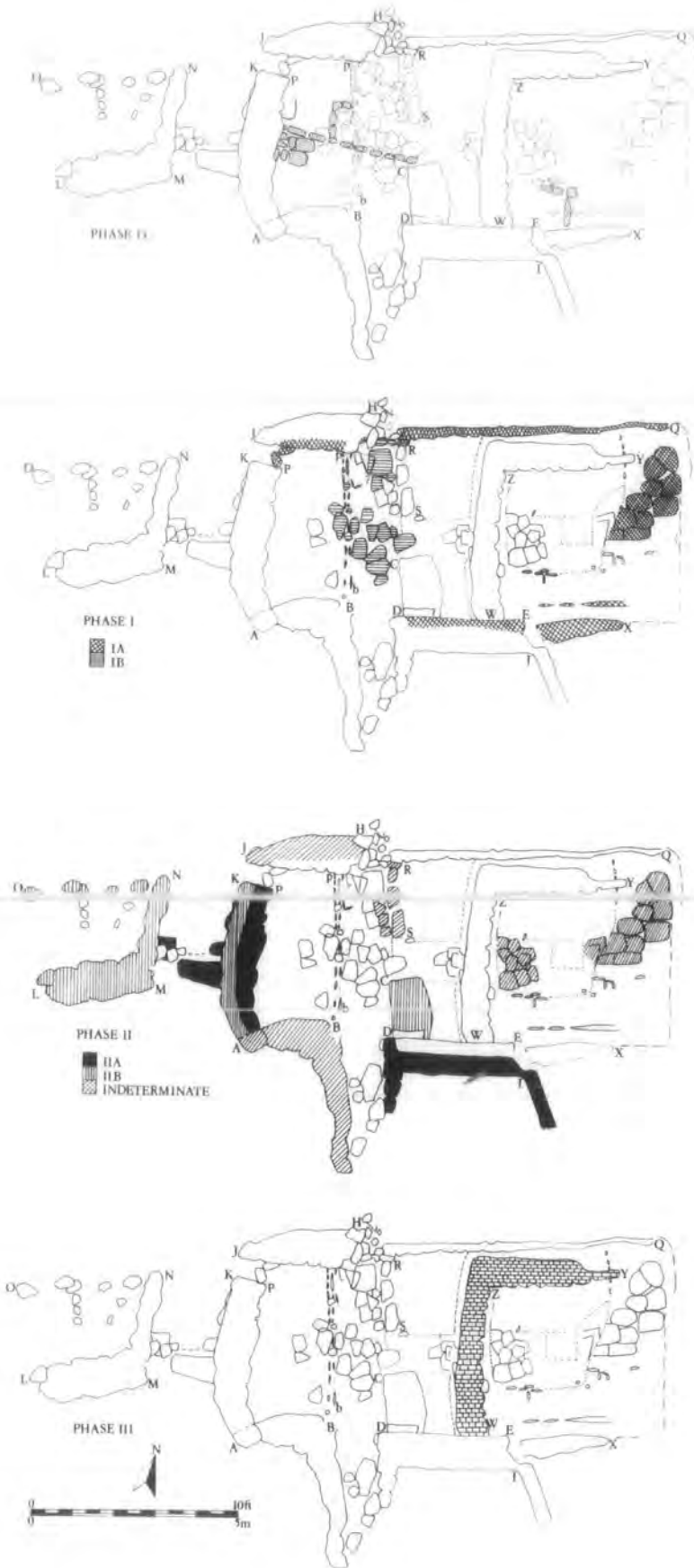


Figure 26 Revised Phasing of Childe's Excavations

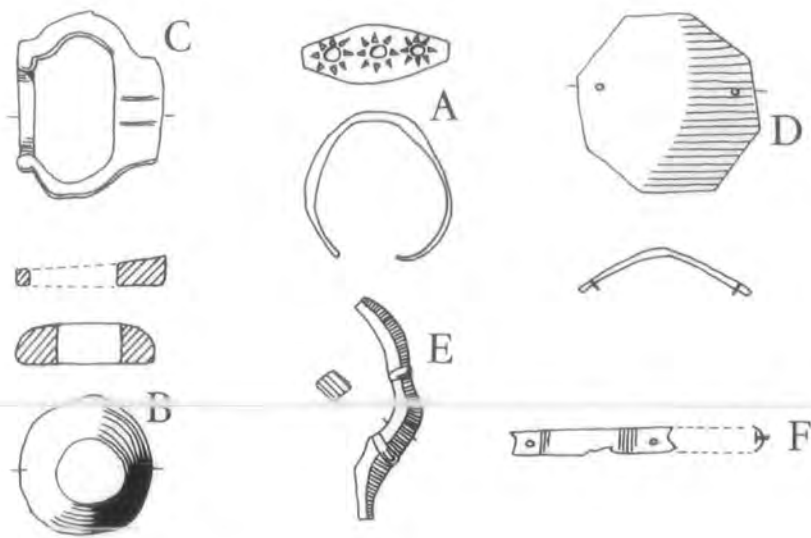


Figure 28. A-F Metalwork  
 A, 1.1.1; B, 3.1.1; C, 4.2.1; D, 4.3.2;  
 E, 4.3.6; F, 4.3.8.

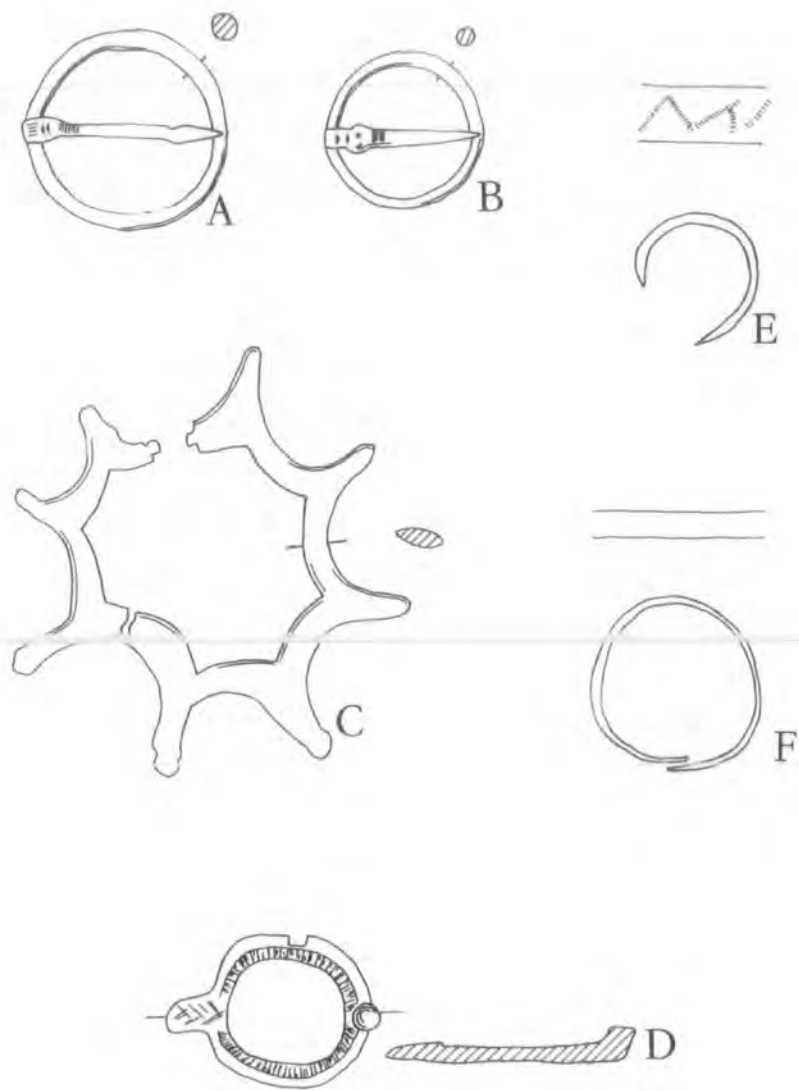


Figure 29A-F Metalwork

A, 4.4.1; B, 4.4.2; C, 4.4.3; D, 4.4.4;  
 E, 4.5.3; F, 4.5.4.

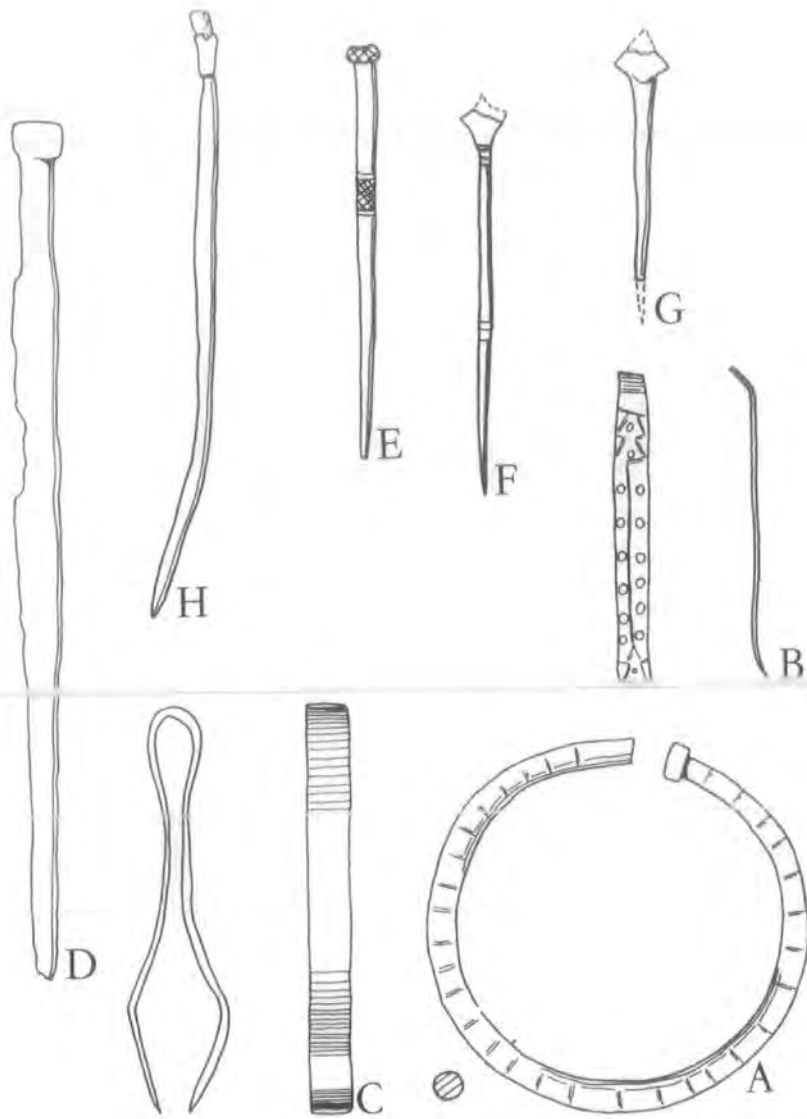


Figure 30A-H Metalwork

A, 4.6.1; B, 4.7.1; C, 4.7.3; D, 4.8.11;  
 E, 4.8.2; F, 4.8.6; G, 4.8.7; H, 4.8.10.

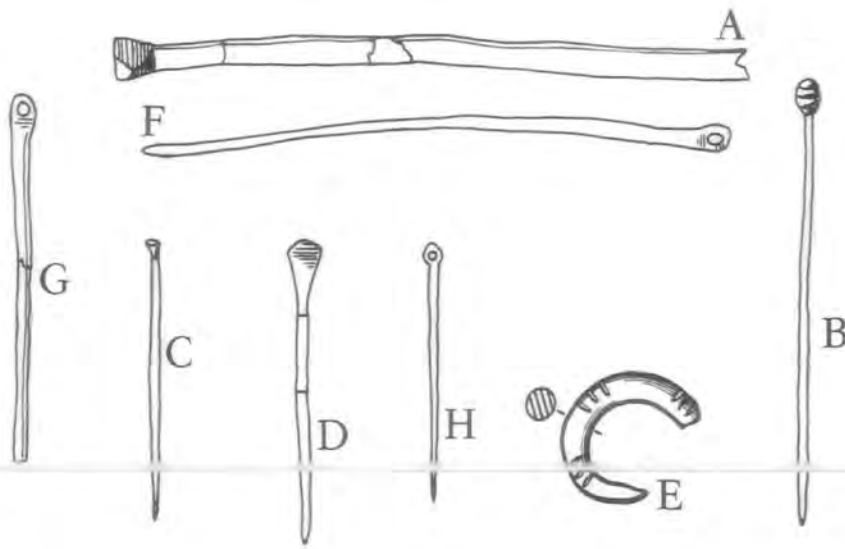


Figure 31. A-H Metalwork  
 A, 4.8.13; B, 4.8.26; C, 4.8.71; D, 8.8.81;  
 E, 4.8.87; F, 4.9.3; G, 4.9.8; H, 4.9.17.

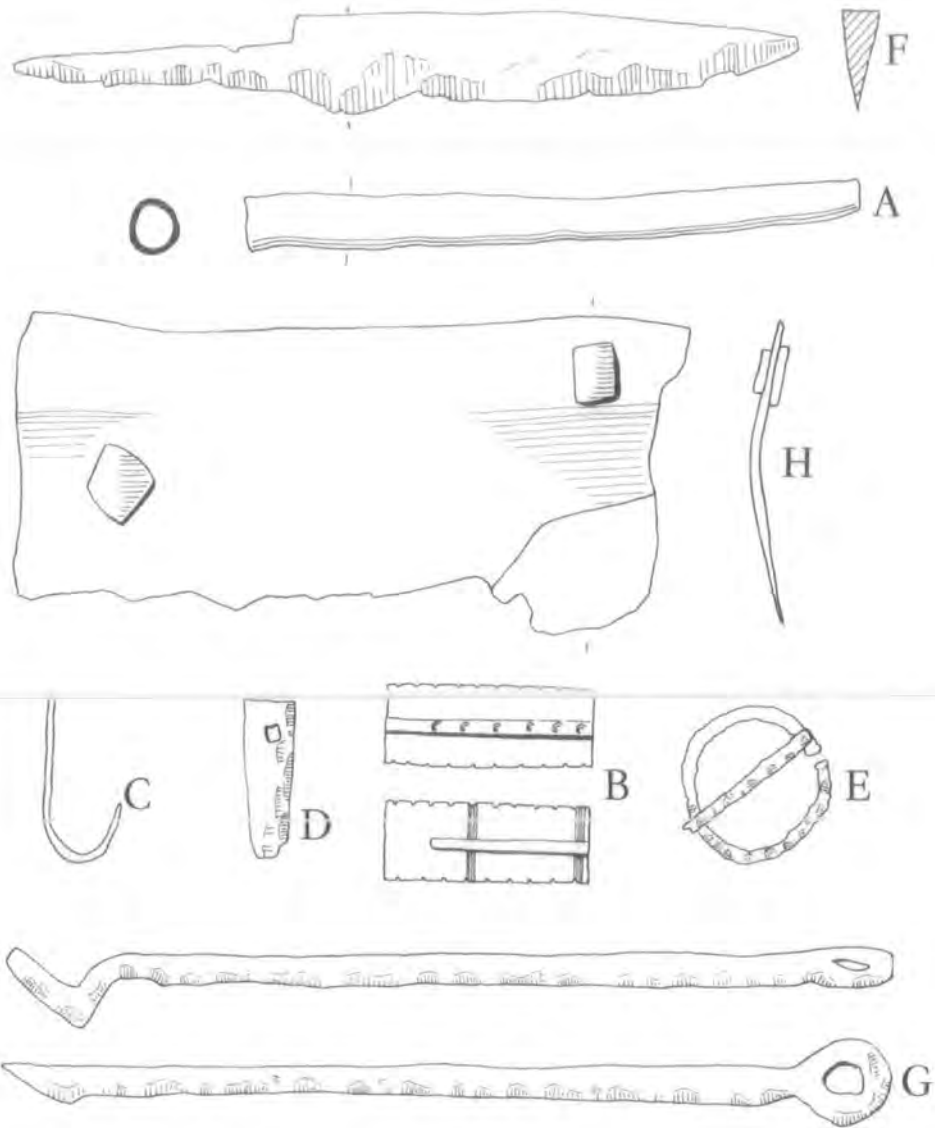


Figure 32A-H

Metalwork

A, 4.12.1; B, 4.12.2; C, 4.12.3; D, 5.1.1;  
 E, 5.2.2; F, 5.3.3; G, 5.4.2; H, 4.10.6.

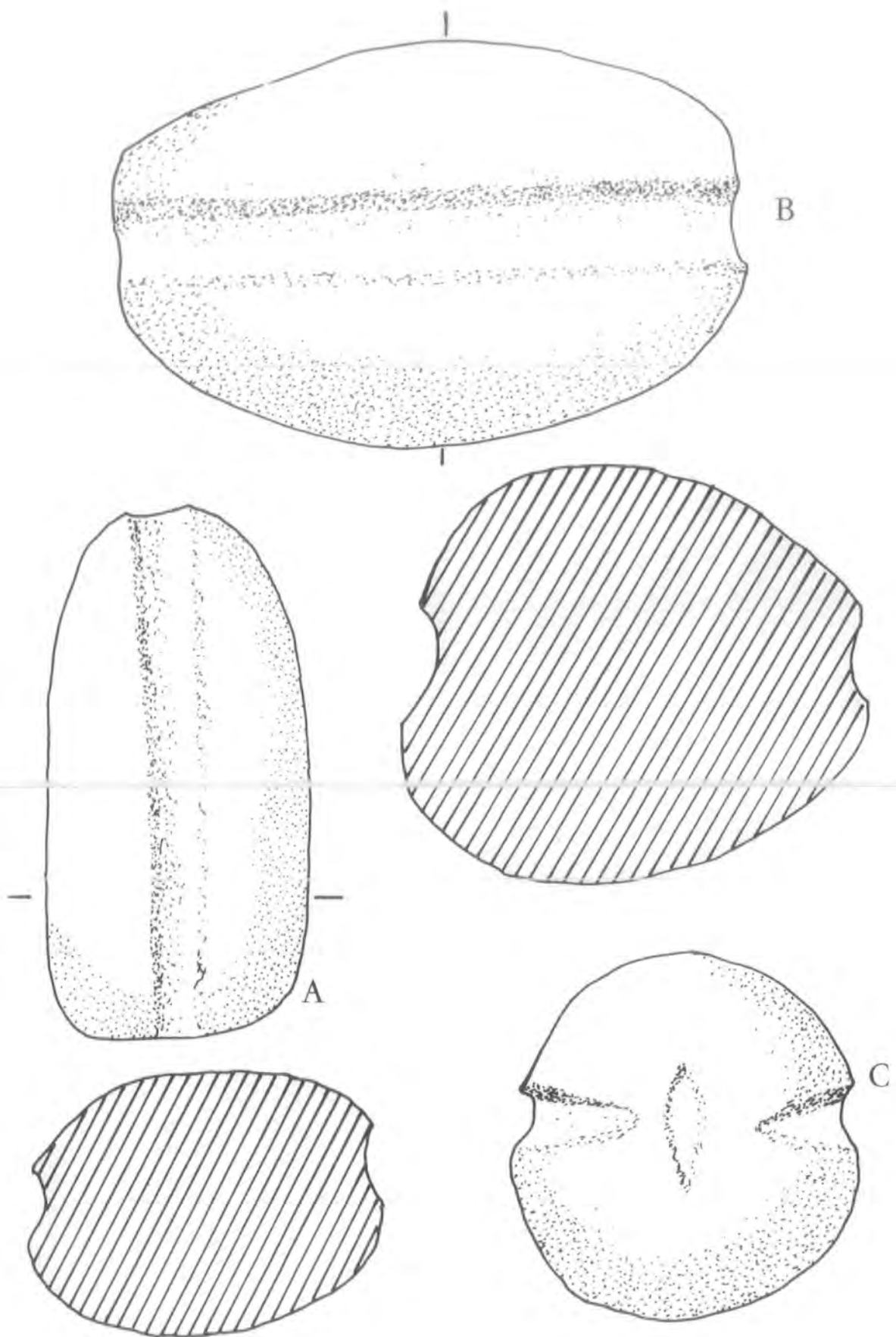


Figure 33. A-C Stone  
A, 6.1.3; B, 6.1.12; C, 6.1.18.

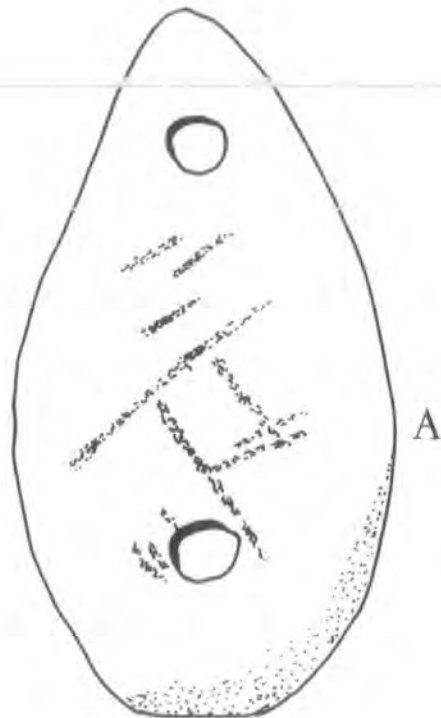
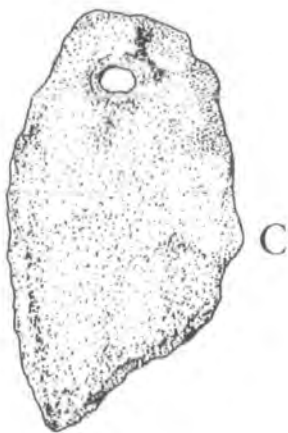
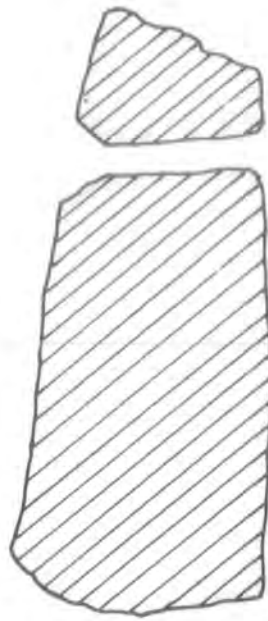
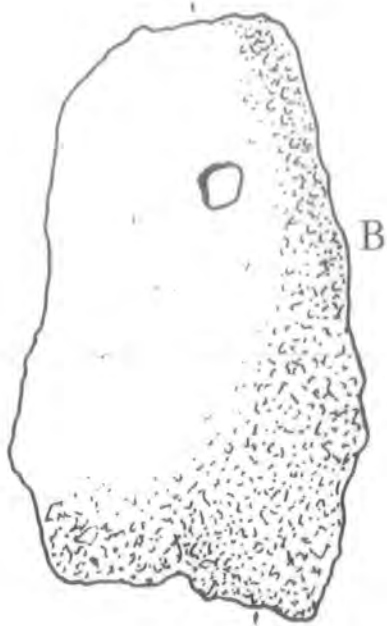


Figure 34. A-C Stone  
A, 6.1.15; B, 6.1.17; C, 6.1.20.



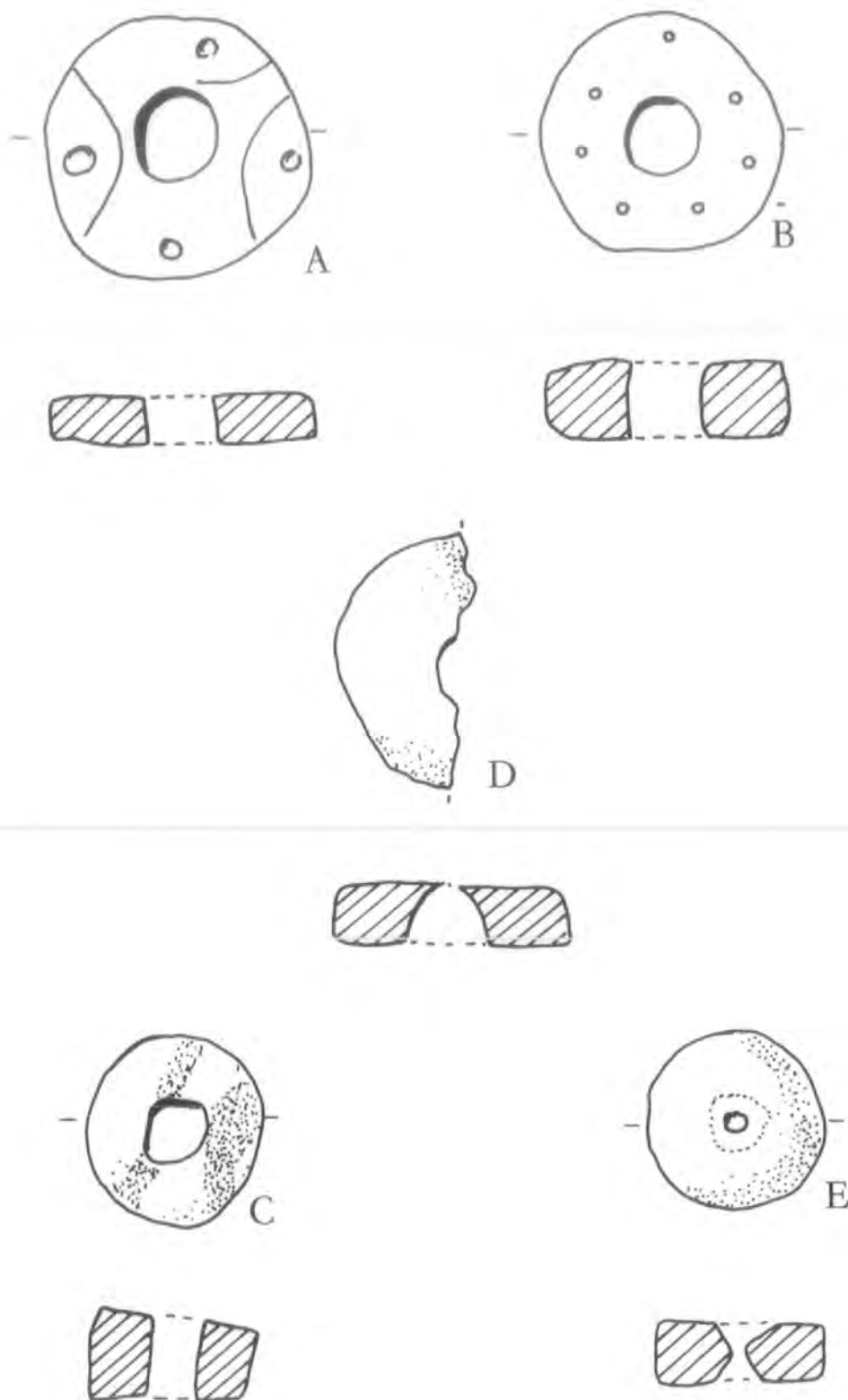


Figure 35. A-E Stone  
 A, 6.2.1; B, 6.2.2; C, 6.2.3;  
 D, 6.2.10; E, 6.2.11.

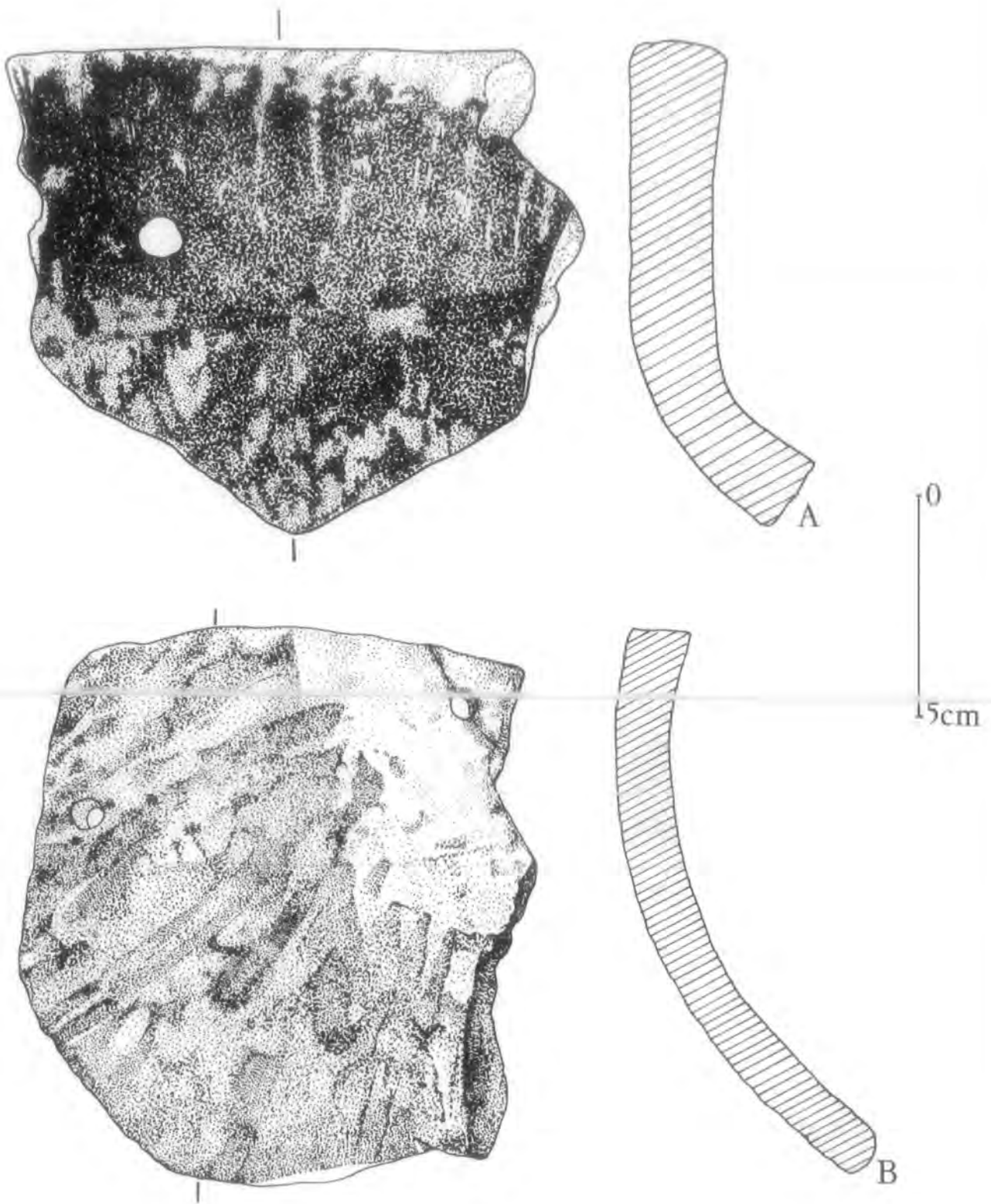


Figure 36. A. B. Stone, A, 6.3.5. B, 6.3.7.

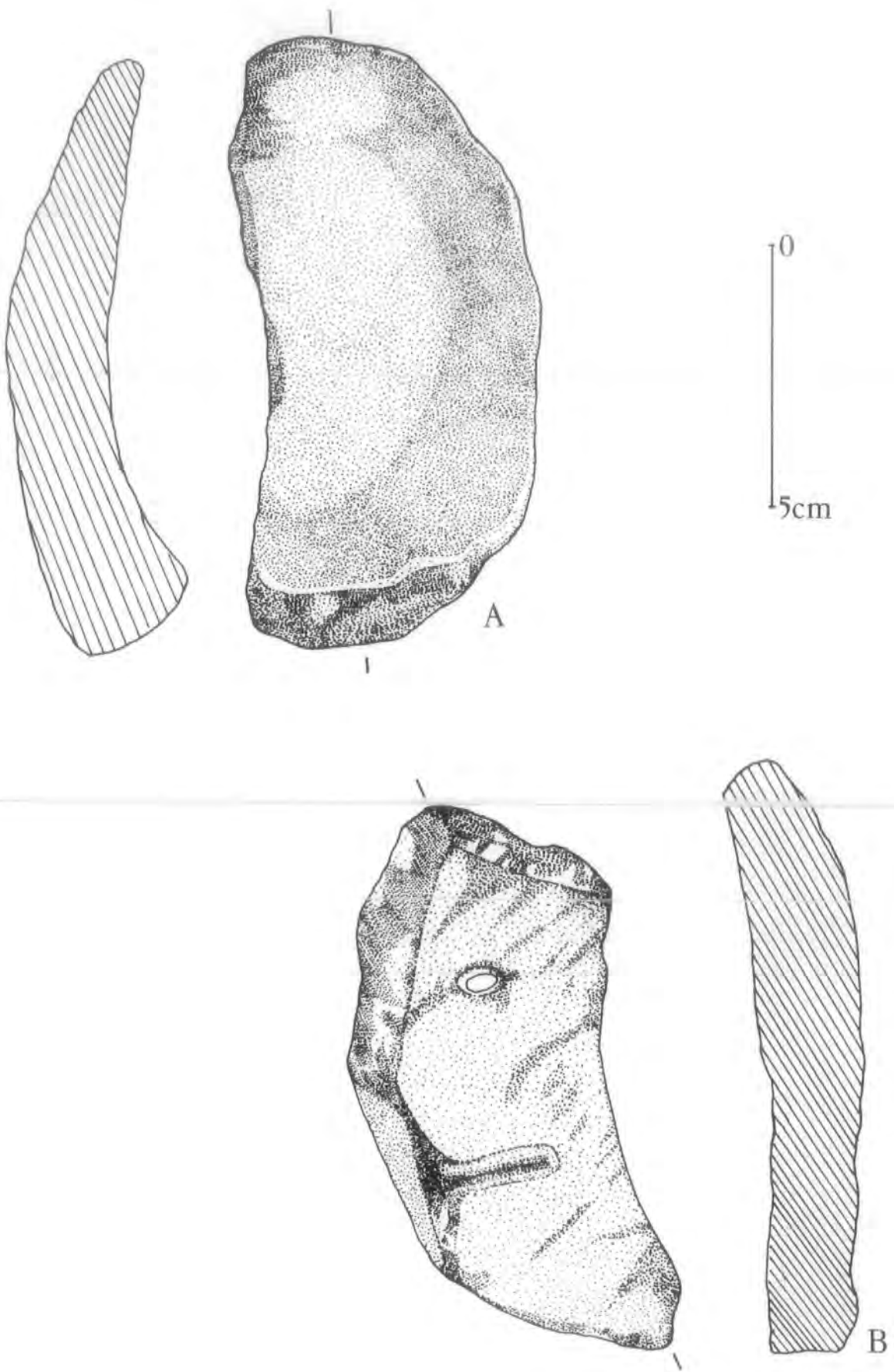


Figure 37. A, B. Stone, A, 6.3.4, B, 6.3.6.

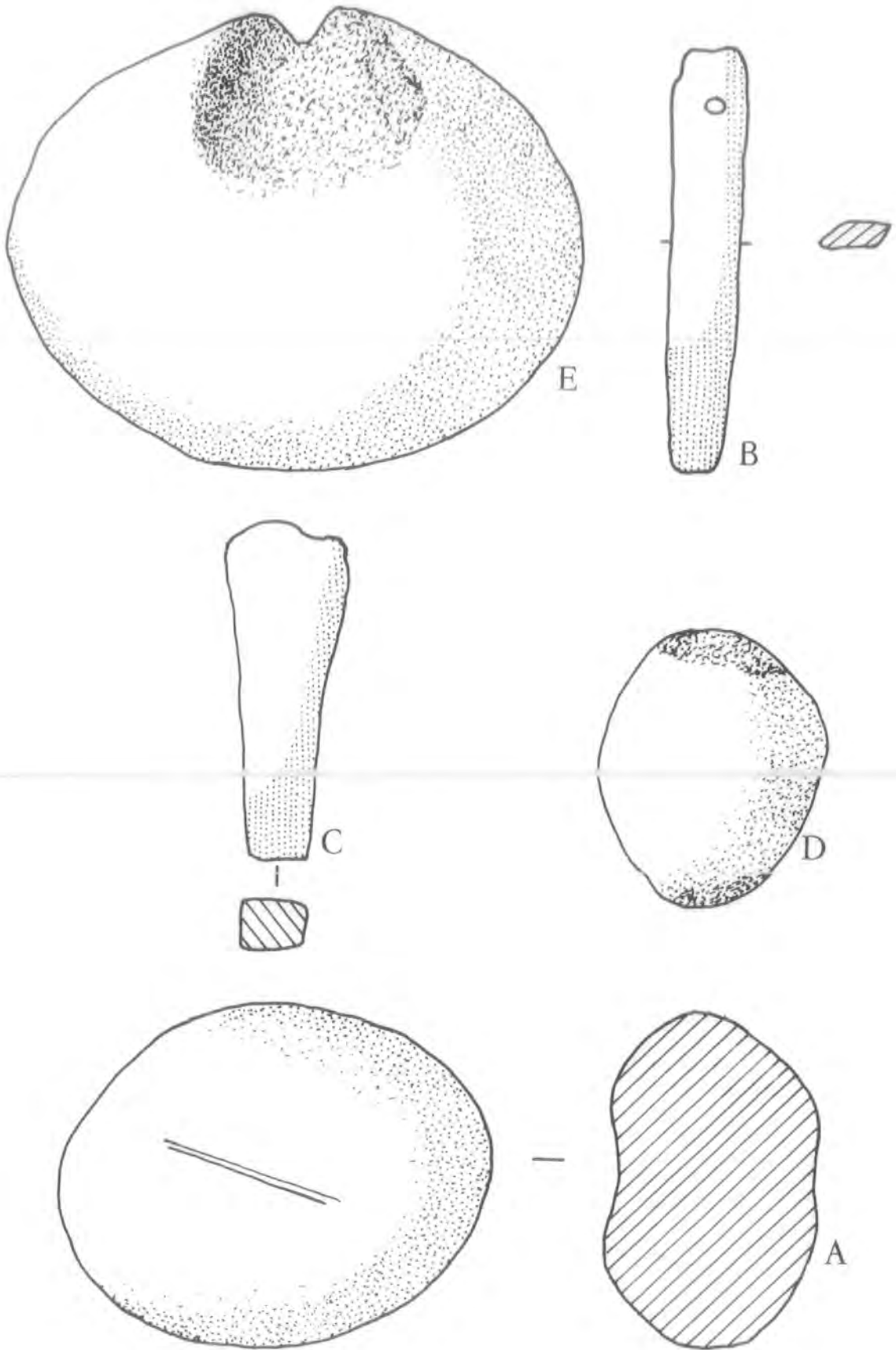


Figure 38. A-E Stone  
 A, 6.6.1; B, 6.6.2; C, 6.6.8; D, 6.8.1;  
 E, 6.8.9.

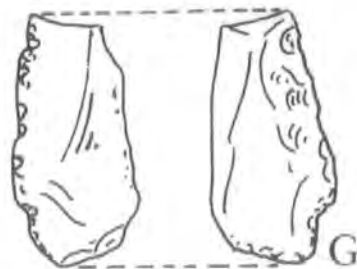
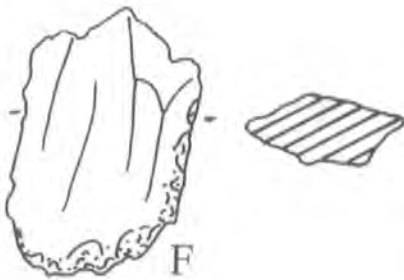
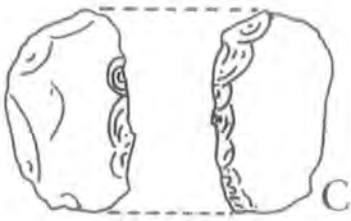


Figure 39A-G Stone

A, 6.9.3; B, 6.10.5; C, 6.10.15; D, 6.10.16;  
E, 6.10.18; F, 6.11.18; G, 6.11.19.

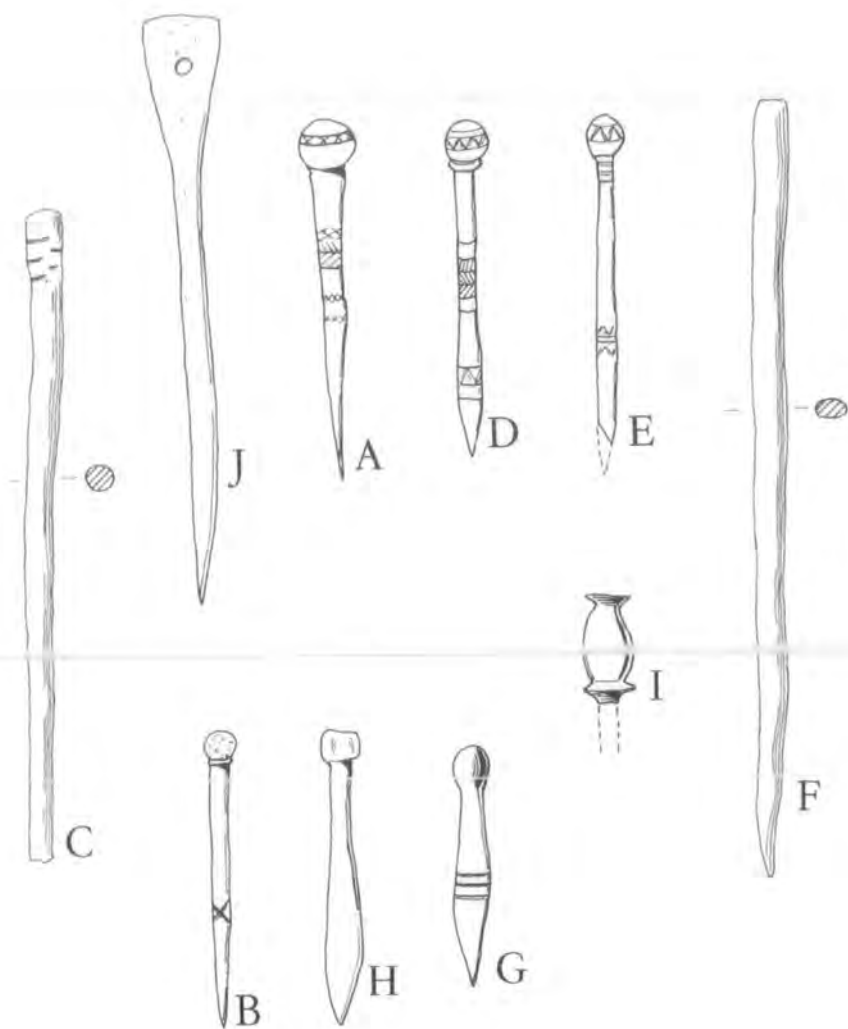


Figure 40. A-J

Bone and Antler

A, 8.1.1; B, 8.1.2; C, 8.1.4; D, 8.1.5;  
 E, 8.1.6; F, 8.1.7; G, 8.1.11; H, 8.1.17;  
 I, 8.1.18; J, 8.1.20.

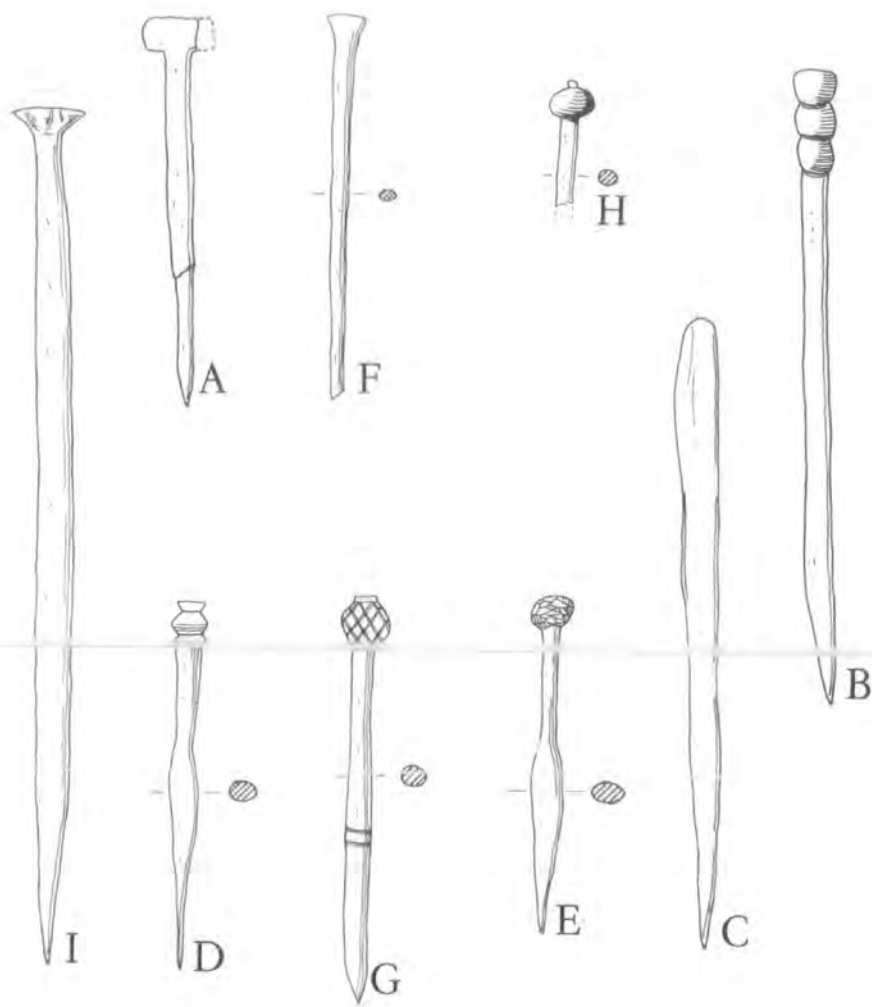


Figure 41. A-I

Bone and Antler.

A, 8.1.23; B, 8.1.31; C, 8.1.32; D, 8.1.35;

E, 8.1.36; F, 8.1.37; G, 8.1.38; H, 8.1.39;

I, 8.1.40.

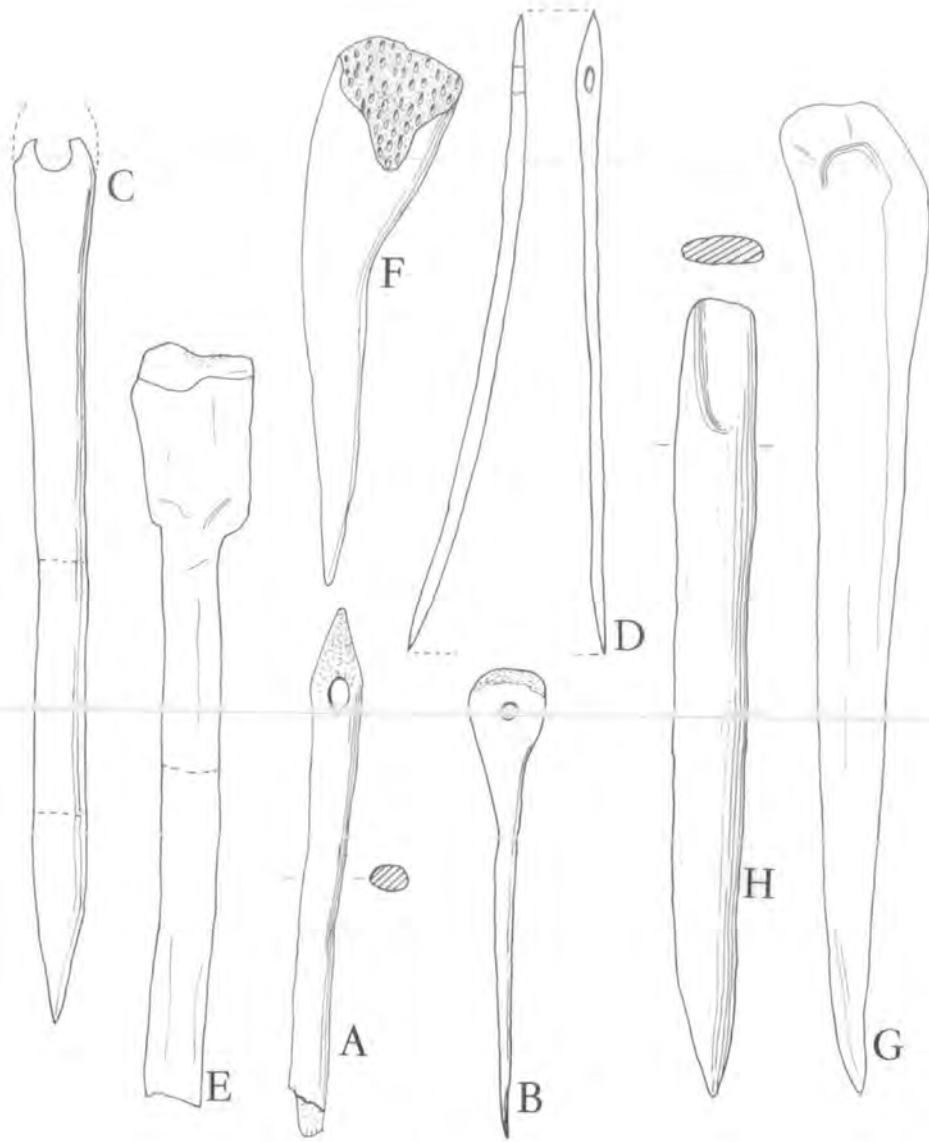


Figure 42. A-H Bone and Antler  
 A, 8.2.1; B, 8.2.2; C, 8.2.3; D, 8.2.5;  
 E, 8.3.1; F, 8.4.16; G, 8.4.20; H, 8.5.3.



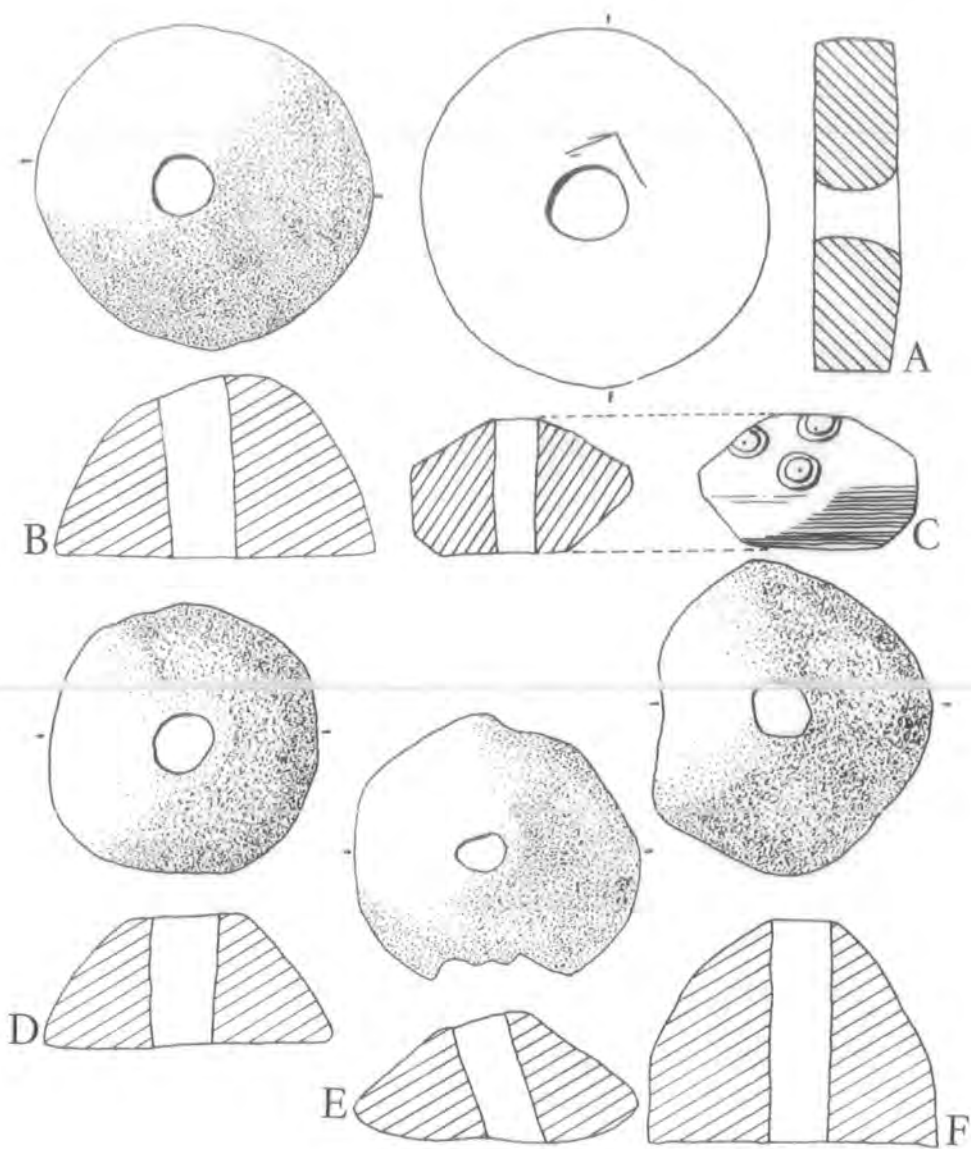


Figure 43A-F Bone and Antler

A, 8.7.1; B, 8.7.2; C, 8.7.3; D, 8.7.14;  
 E, 8.7.24; F, 8.7.31.

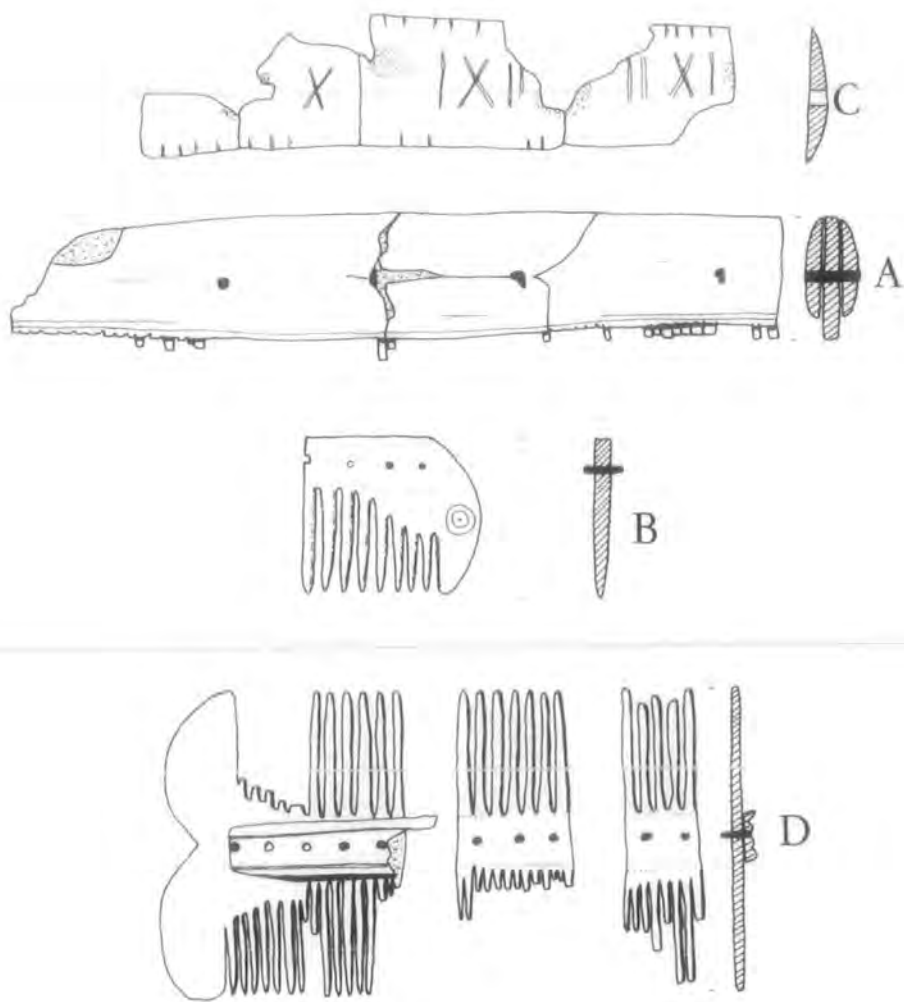


Figure 44, A-D

Bone and Antler

A, 8.8.8; B, 8.8.18; C, 8.9.2; D, 8.9.4.

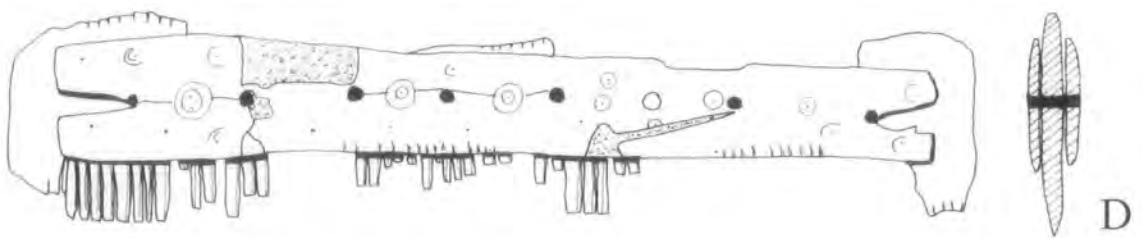
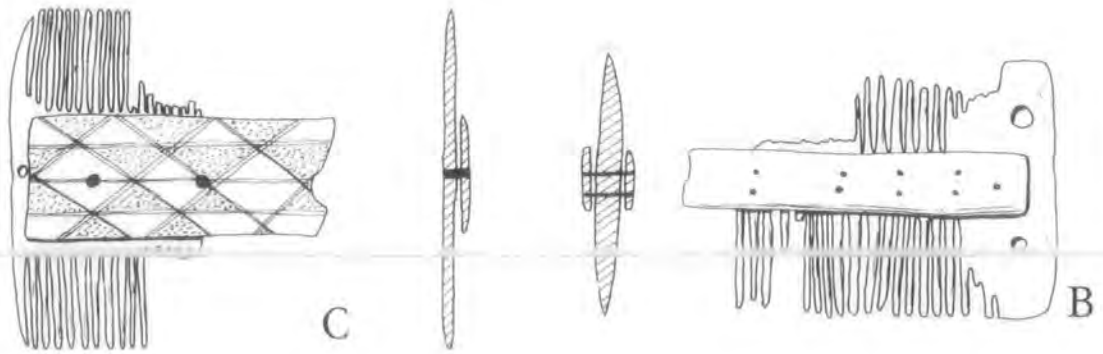
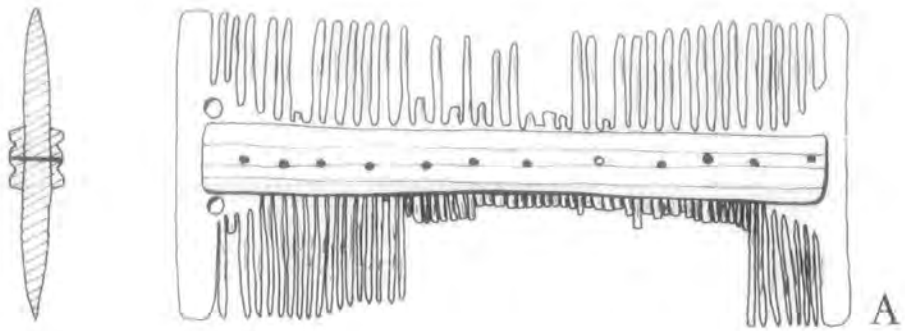


Figure 45. A-D Bone and Antler.  
 A, 8.9.13; B, 8.9.16; C, 8.9.17; D, 8.9.8.

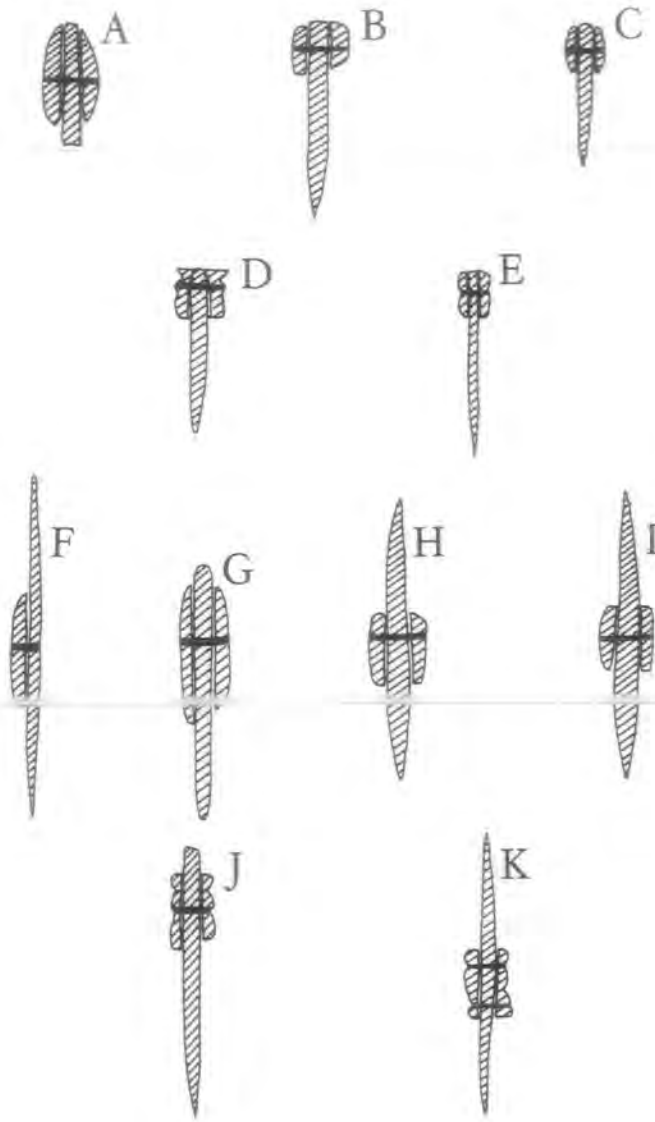


Figure 46 Sections of a selection of composite combs  
 A, 8.9.2; B, 8.8.5; C, 8.8.4; D, 8.8.6;  
 E, 8.8.7; F, 8.9.17; G, 8.9.8; H, 8.9.6;  
 I, 8.9.7; J, 8.8.2; K, 8.9.9.

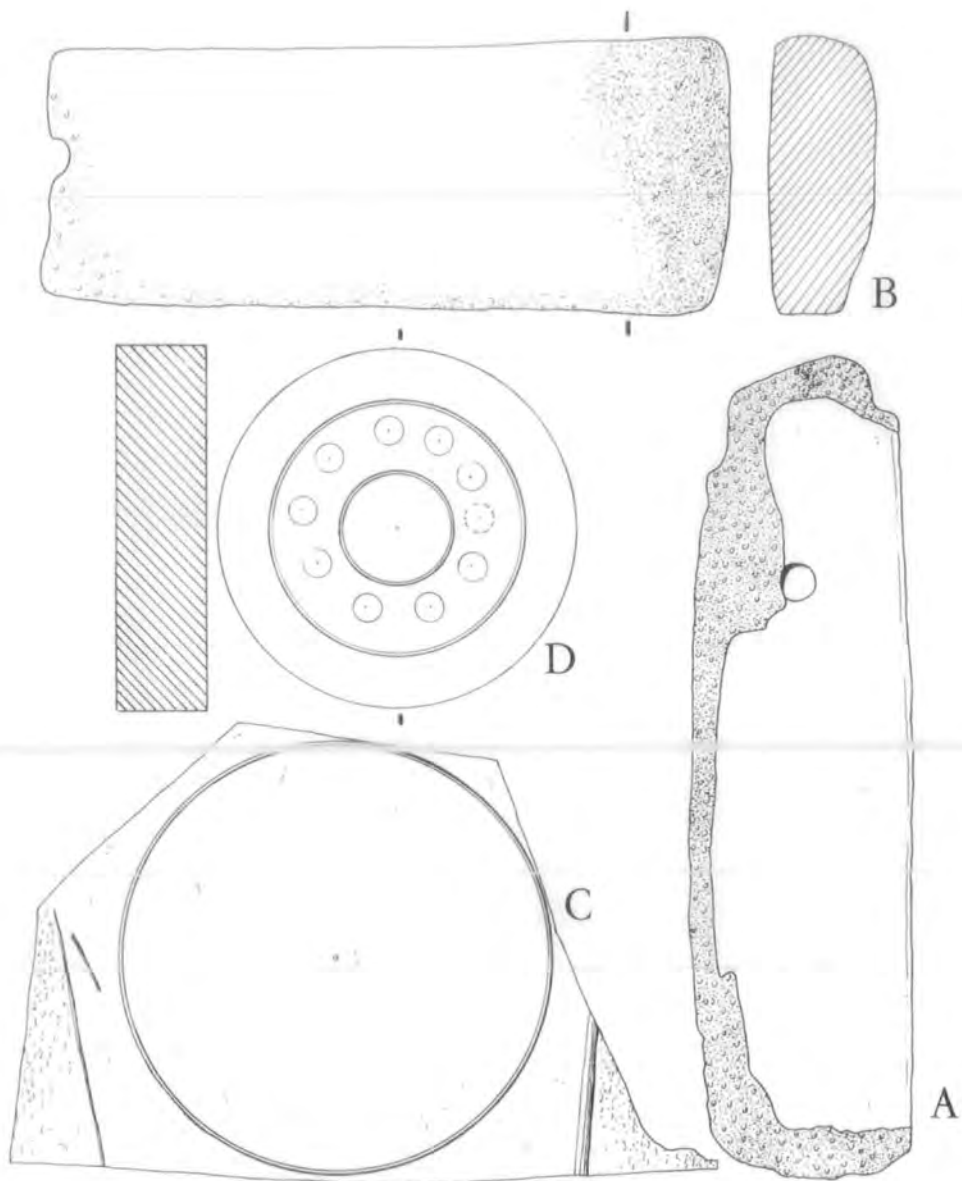


Figure 47. A-D Bone and Antler.  
 A, 8.12.2; B, 8.12.3; C, 8.13.1; D, 8.13.2.

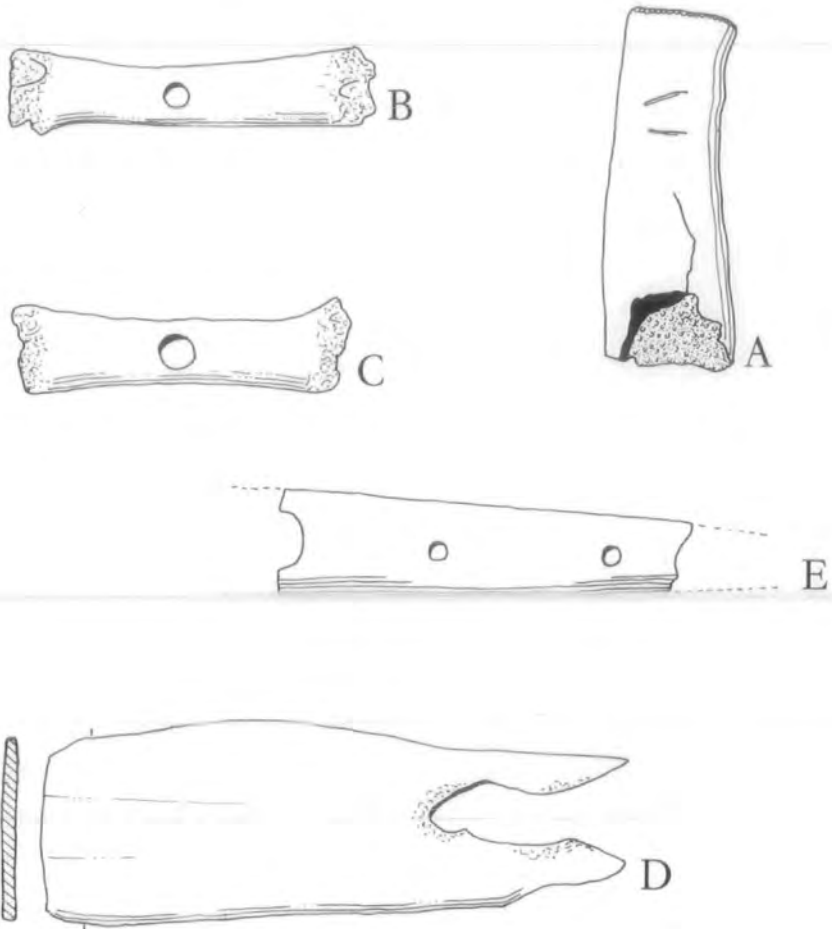


Figure 48, A-E Bone and Antler.  
 A, 8.11.3; B, 8.14.3; C, 8.14.5;  
 D, 8.15.2; E, 8.15.11.

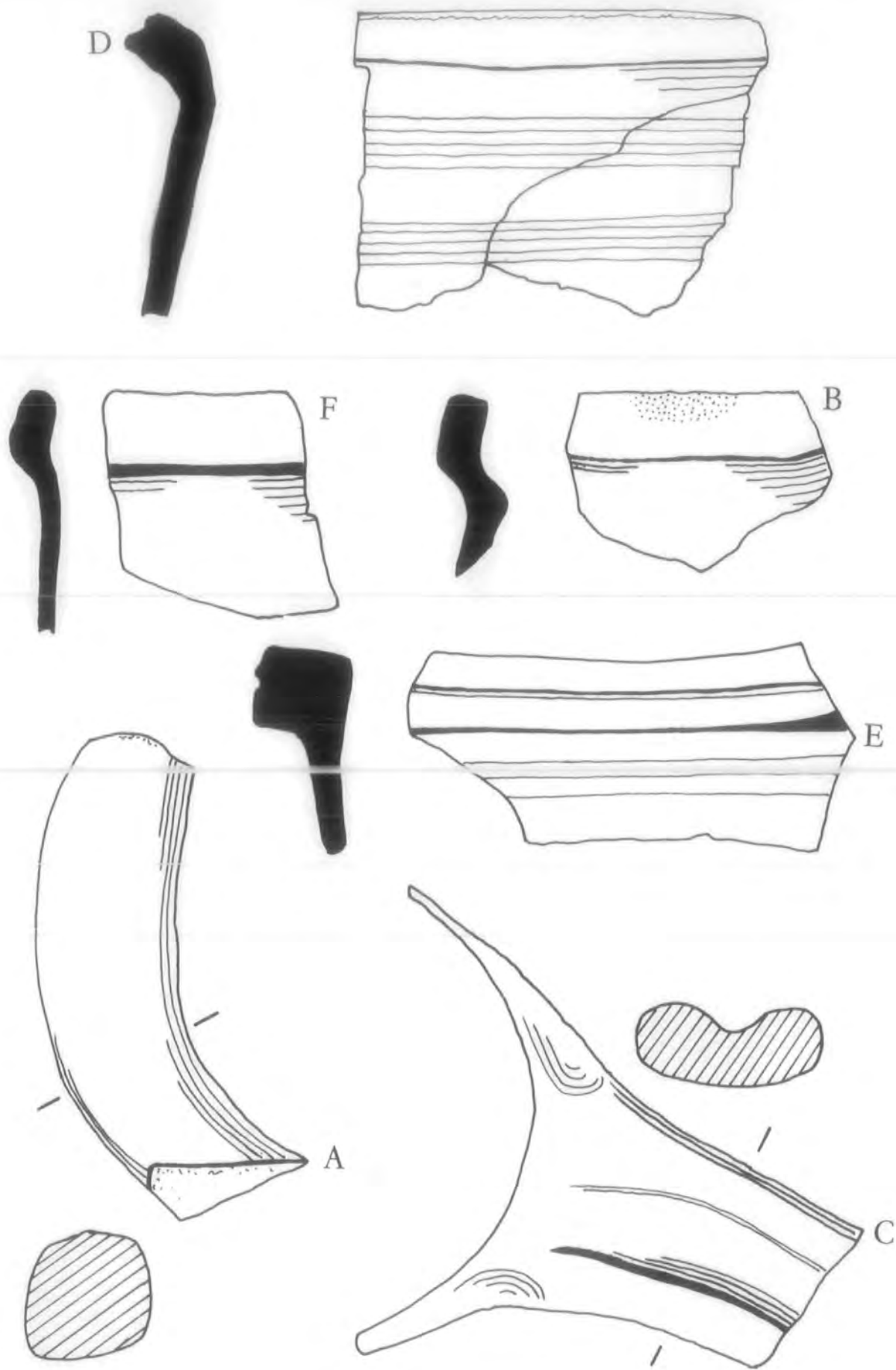


Figure 49. A-F

Pottery

A, 9.1.1; B, 9.2.2; C, 10.1.1;

D, 10.3.4; E, 10.3.5; F, 10.3.6.

RIM TYPE 1



A



B



C

RIM TYPE 2



A



B



C

RIM TYPE 3



A



B



C

Figure 50. Distinguishable rim forms



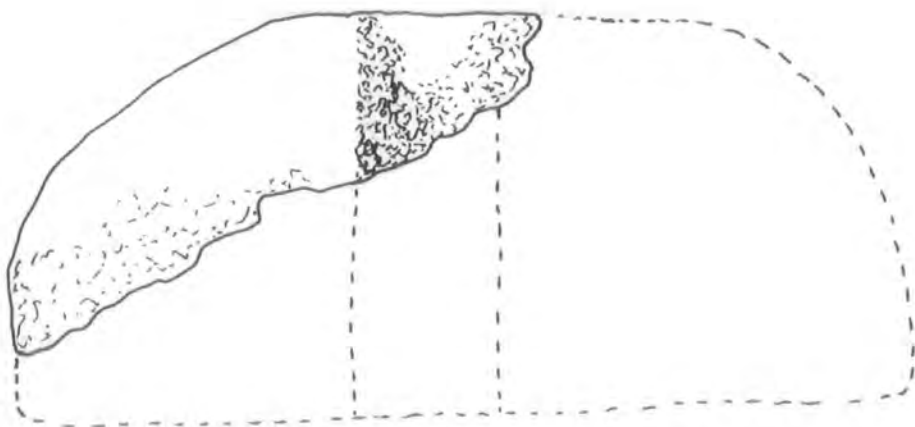
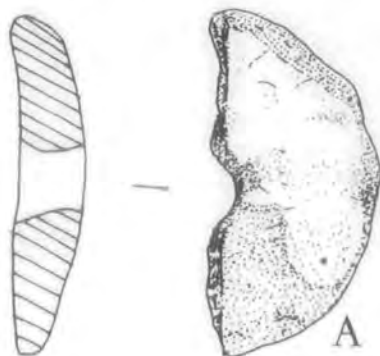


Figure 51. A, B Pottery and Burnt Clay  
A, 11.6.1; B, 13.1.1.

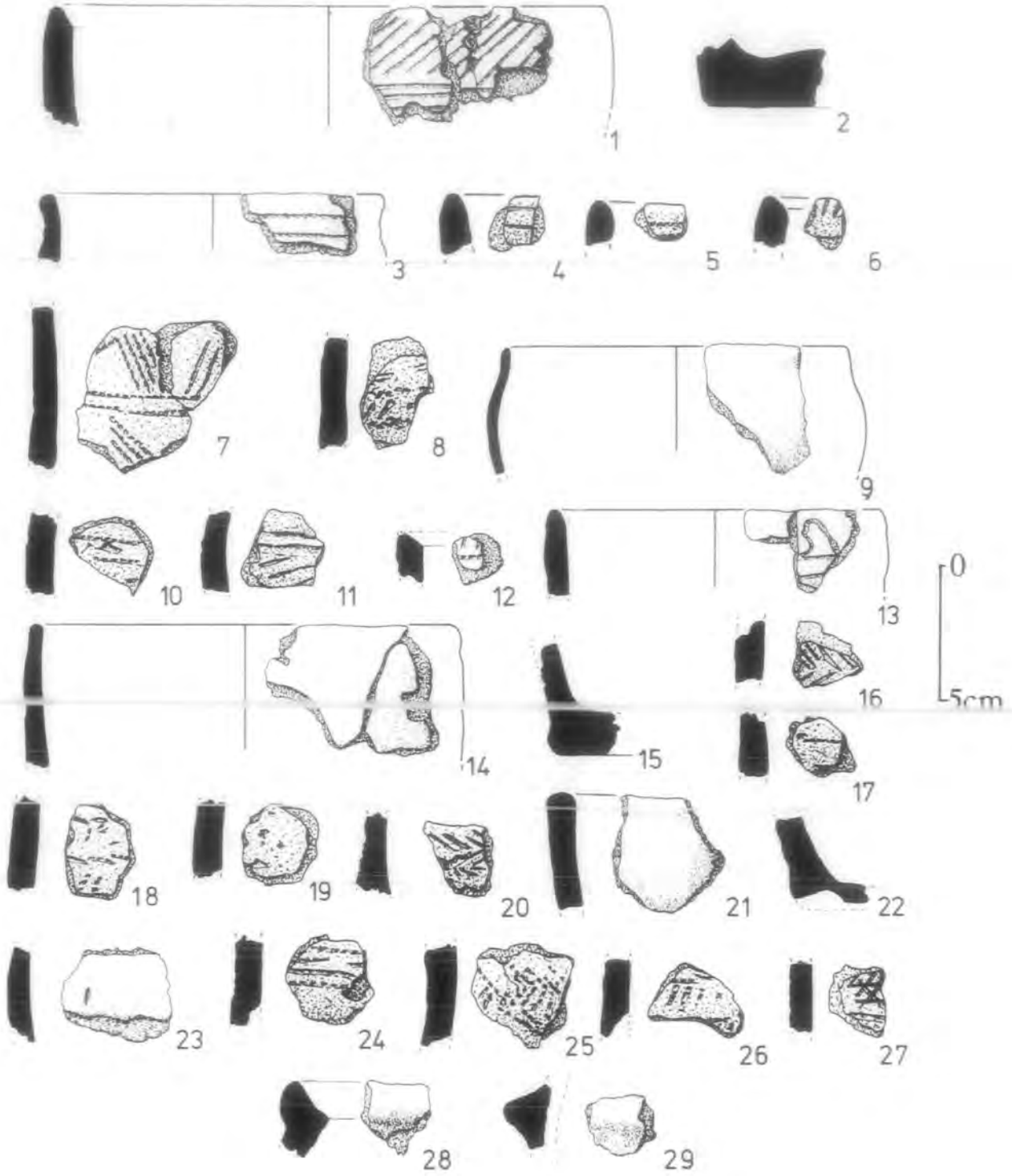


Figure 52. (Gibson, 1982, 408, fig. F. S. 1) Grit Tempered Pottery.



A



B

Plate 1A,B. Aerial views of Freswick Bay.



A



B

Plate 4A, B      Exposed walling and associated midden at  
Robertshaven, Caithness.



Plate 5 Thurso Runic Stone (after Allen, 1903, 37, fig. 33)  
scale approx.  $\frac{1}{6}$ .

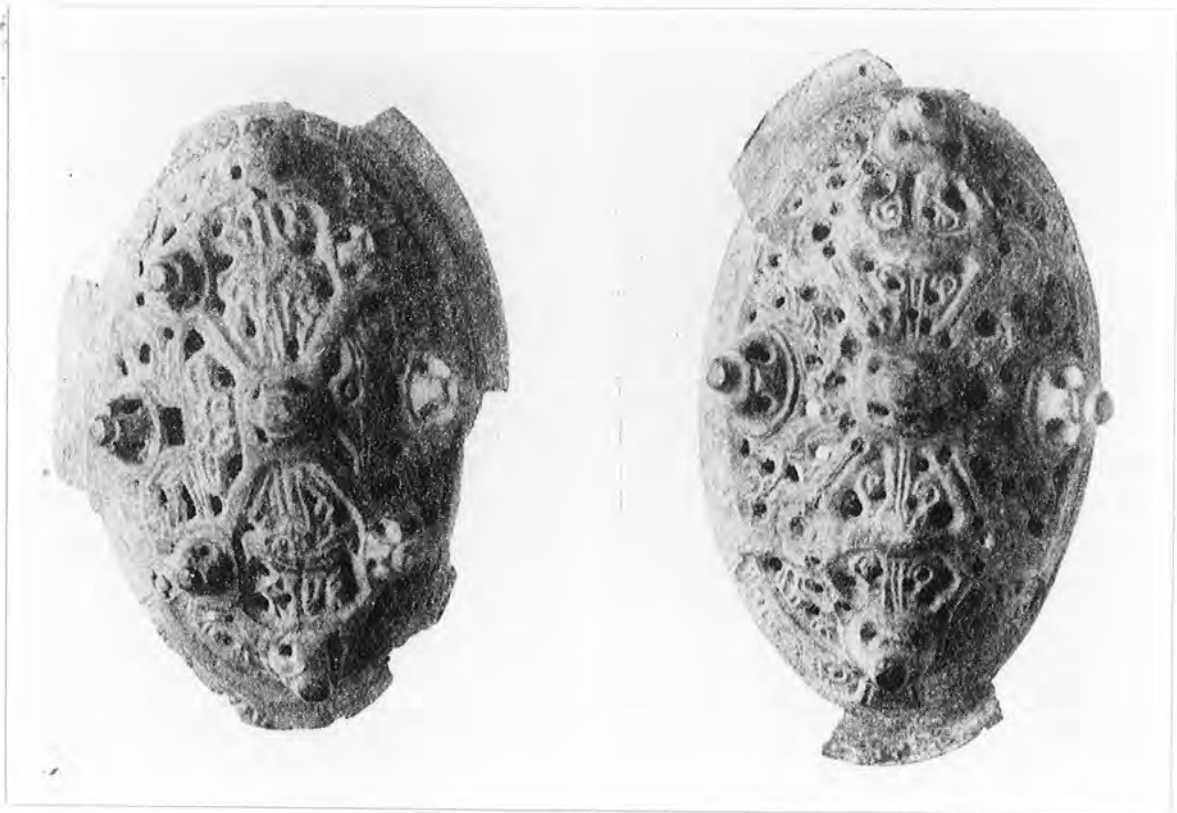


Plate 6. Oval brooches from gravel mound, Westerseat, Caithness.



A

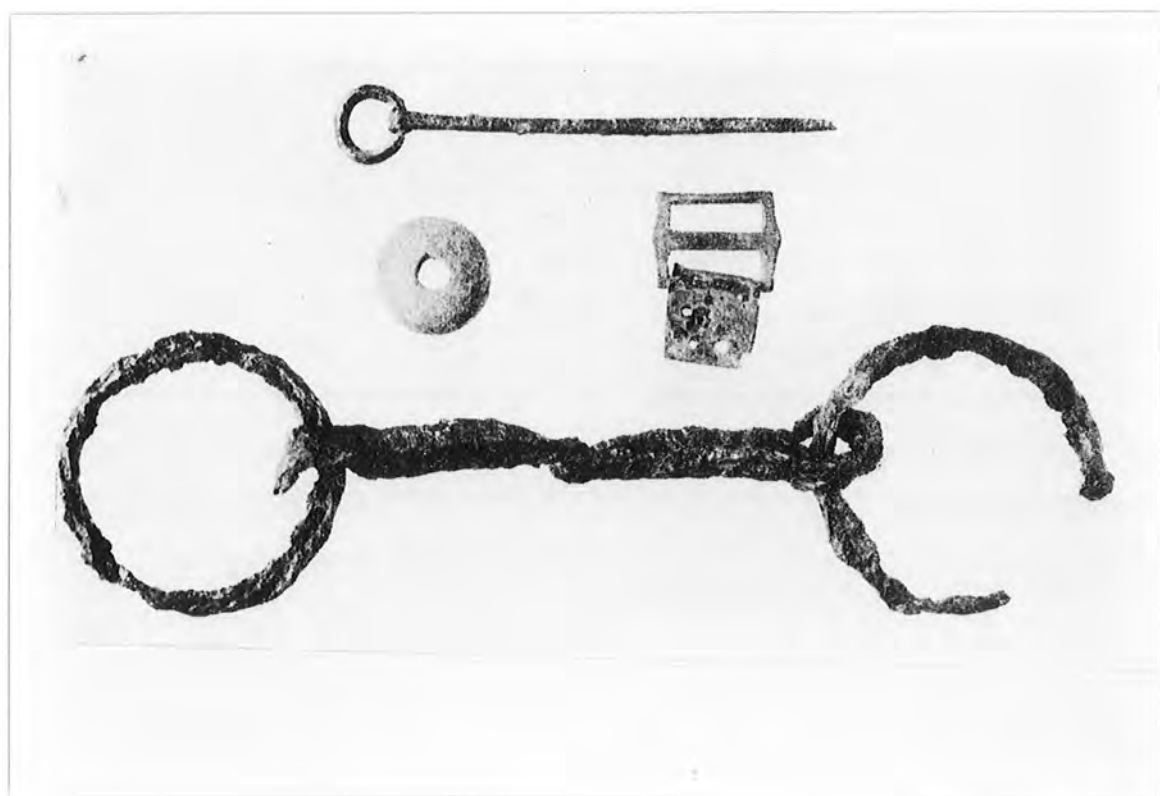


B

Plate 7A, B. Grave group from Castletown, Caithness.



A



B

Plate 8A, B. Grave group from Reay, Caithness.





A



B

Plate 9A, B. Freswick Sands Broch excavation photographs.  
A. indicating intra mural staircase and chamber.  
B. detail of chamber.



A



B

Plate 10A, B. Freswick Sands Broch excavation photographs.  
A. indicating entrance passage and  
B. upstanding walling.



A



B

Plate 11A, B. Indeterminate Structures on the Links at Freswick  
A. 'Shore Ruins', B. 'Cremation' or possible earthhouse.



Plate 12. Interior Building I with flagging and bath (looking East)  
during Curle's Excavations (Curle, 1939, plate XXXVIII, no. 1).



Plate 13. Detail north-east corner of Building I showing displaced flagstones north of Bath (Curle, 1939, plate XXXIX, no. 1).



Plate 14. Detail interior of Bath in Building I indicating clay heap in north west corner (unpublished).



Plate 15. Remains of 'Smithy' Building III with possible traces of hearth in foreground (unpublished from this angle).



Plate 16. General view looking east of Building VI under excavation (Curle, 1939, plate XLIII, no. 1).





Plate 17. Building VI with foundations of secondary cross wall  
(Curle, 1939, plate XLV, no. 1).



Plate 18. South side of Building VI during excavation showing cutting through the midden and walling in foreground not on final plan (unpublished).



Plate 19. Vent at west end of Building VI with overburden  
(Curle, 1939, plate XLIV, no. 2).



A



B

Plate 20A, B Childe's excavations at Freswick.  
A - South wall of East room looking South with  
Freswick Castle in the background  
(Childe, 1943, plate 11, no. 2).  
B - West room looking South  
(Childe, 1943, plate 1, no. 2).



A



B

Plate 21A,B. Recent excavations of Curle's Building VI

A. East end indicating complexity of construction

B. Entrance in South wall indicating partial blocking,  
paving and walling continuing to the south.



A

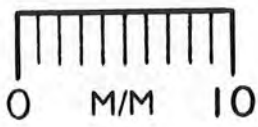


B

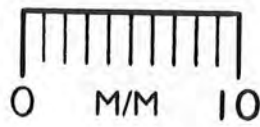


C

Plate 22A-C  
 A. Brooches 2.1.1 and 2.1.2.  
 B. Pin 2.2.1.  
 C. Detail pin 2.2.1.



A



B

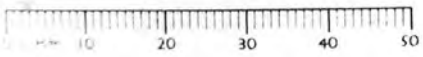


C

- Plate 23A-C
- A. Coin, obverse 2.3.1.
  - B. Coin, reverse 2.3.1.
  - C. Strap ends 4.1.1 and 4.1.2.



B



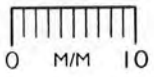
A



C

Plate 24A-C A. Buckles 5.2.1 (top), 4.2.8 (right) and 4.2.10 (left).  
B. Mount 4.3.1.  
C. Tweezers 4.7.4.





A



B



cm



C



D

Plate 25A-D

- A. Pin 4.8.80.
- B. Detail pin 4.8.80.
- C. Pins 4.8.1, 4.8.5 and 4.8.12 (left to right).
- D. Pins and needles 4.8.3, 4.8.4, 4.9.2, 4.9.4, 4.9.5 and 4.9.6 (left to right).

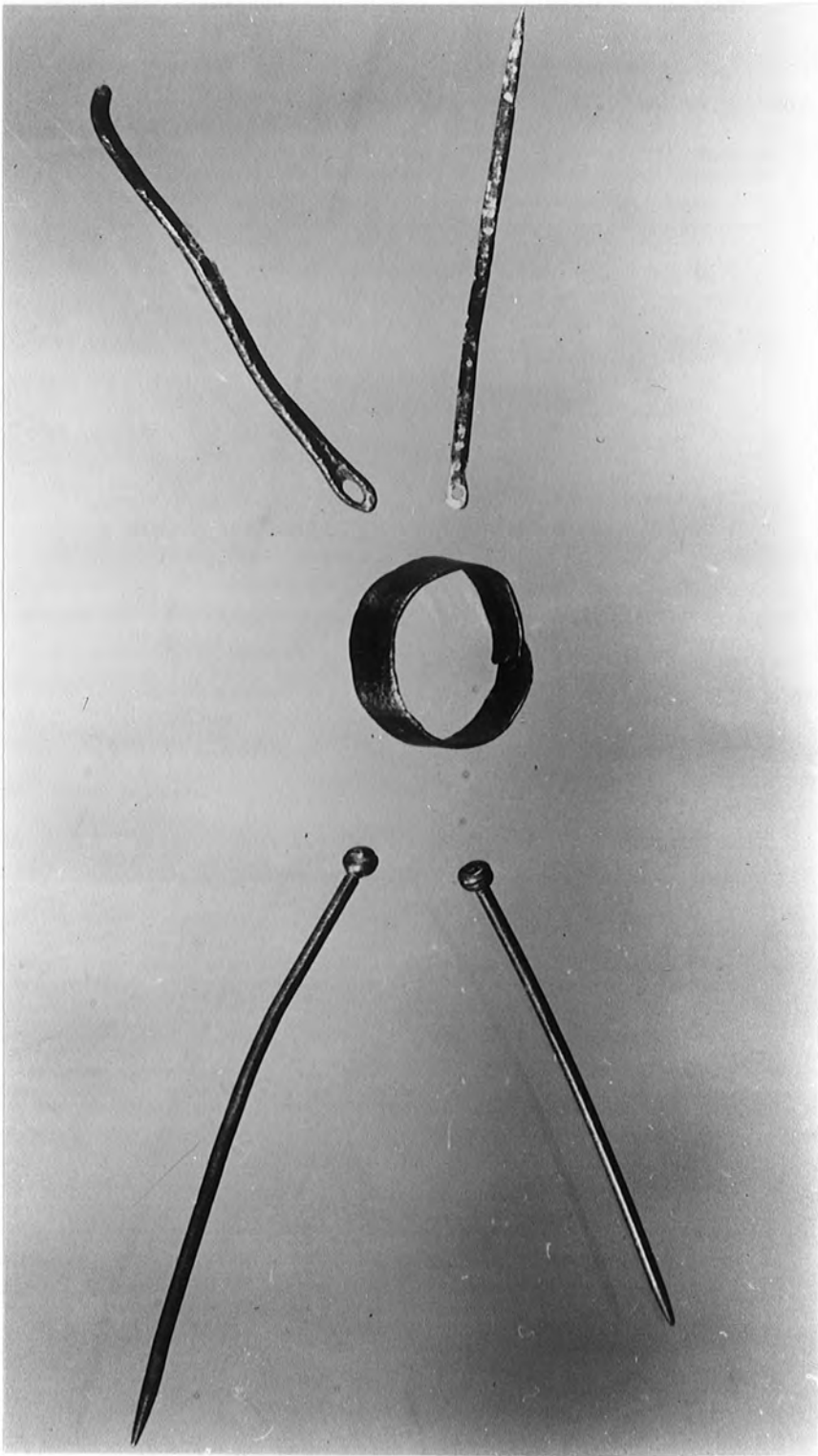


Plate 26 Pins 4.8.85/86, ring 4.5.7 and needles 4.9.18/19.



A



B



C

- Plate 27A-C. A. Pin 4.8.82.  
 B. Detail pin 4.8.82.  
 C. Sheet metal 4.10.17, 4.10.18 and 4.10.16 (left to right).



A



B

Plate 28A, B. A. Knife 5.3.5.  
B. Barrel lock hook 5.4.1.



A



B

Plate 28A, B. A. Knife 5.3.5.  
B. Barrel lock hook 5.4.1.



Plate 29. Sinkers, top left 6.1.13, top right 6.1.1,  
lower right 6.1.7.



A



B

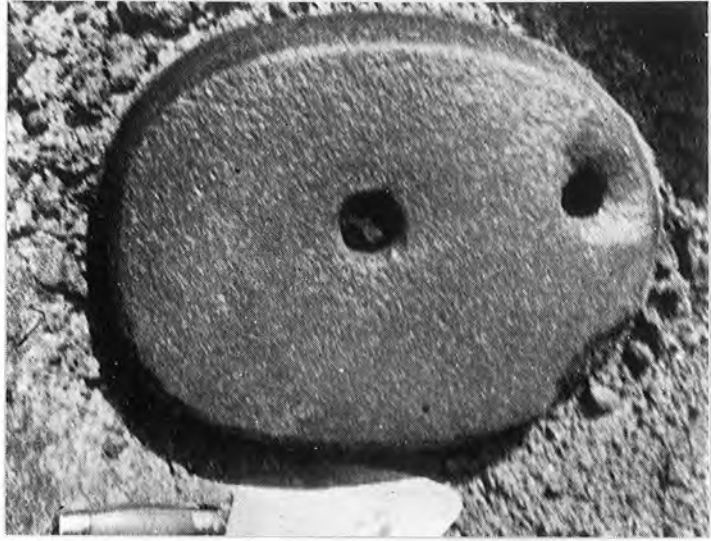


Plate 30A-C

- A. Whorl 6.2.5. C  
 B. Whorls 6.2.6 and 6.2.7 (right).  
 C. Whorls 6.2.8 and 6.2.9 (right).



A



B



C



D

Plate 31A-D  
 A. Disc 6.4.5.  
 B. Quernstone 6.5.3.  
 C. Hones 6.6.6 and 6.6.4 (right).  
 D. Hone 6.6.11.





A

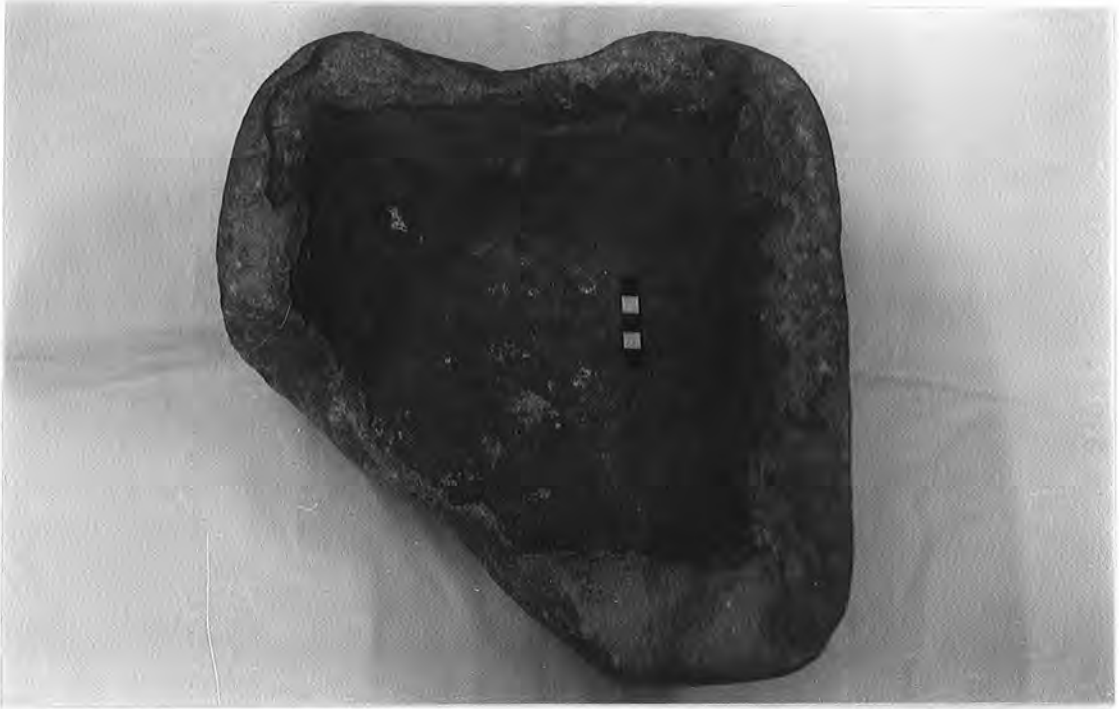


B



C

Plate 32A-C.    A. Steatite 6.3.1.  
                  B. Steatite 6.3.7.  
                  C. Steatite 6.3.5.

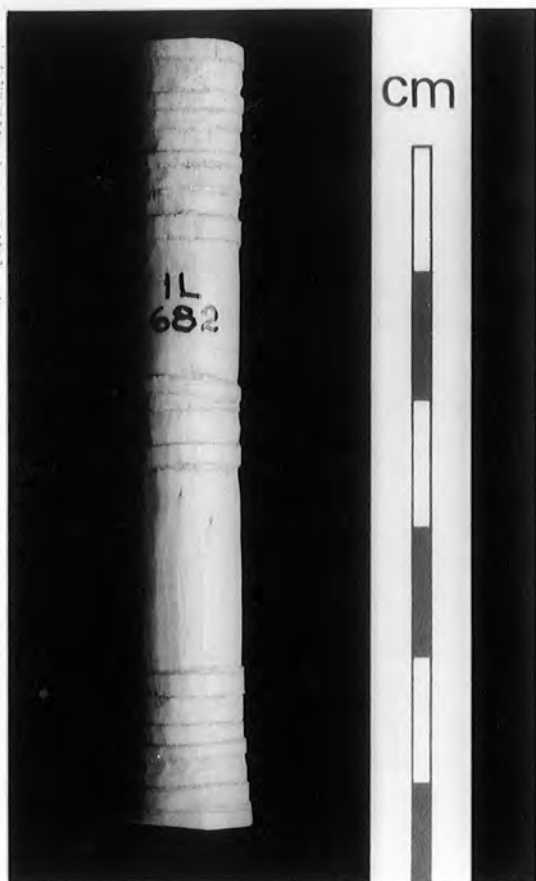


A

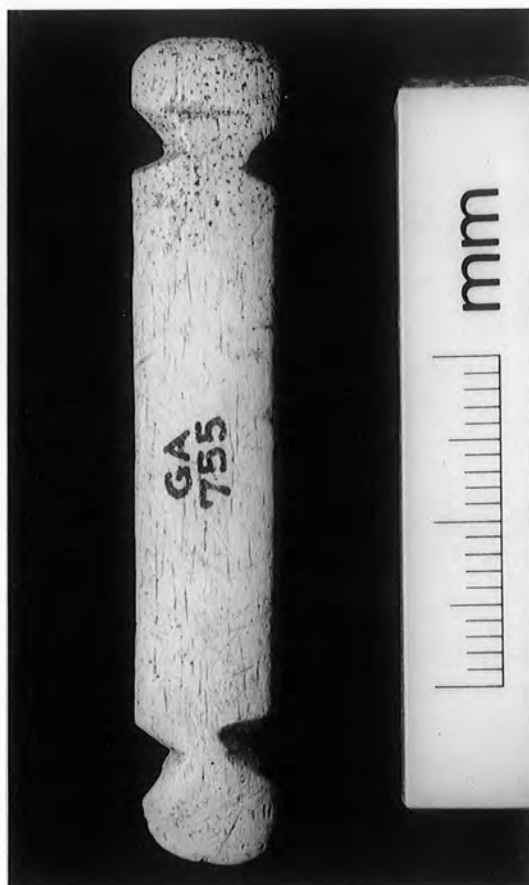


B

Plate 33A, B. A. Stone Vessel 6.3.3.  
B. Stone Vessel from Croft DUN 006,  
Dunnet, Caithness.



A



B



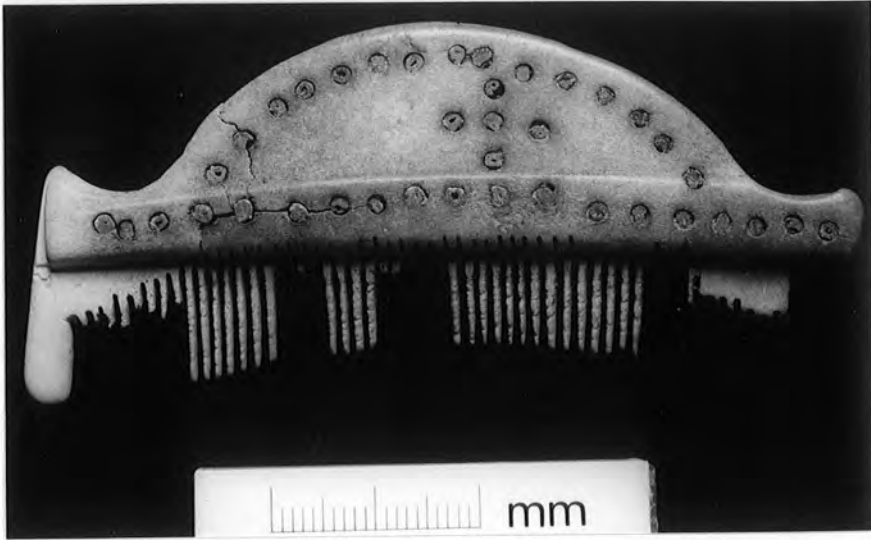
C



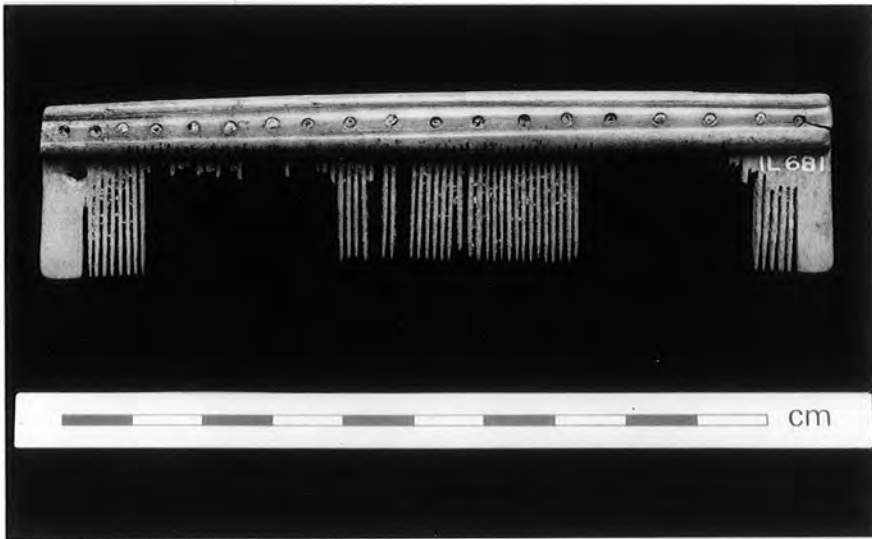
D

Plate 34A-D

- A. Handle 8.11.2.
- B. Notched bone 8.15.1.
- C. Femur head whorls, top 8.7.27, lower 8.7.18.
- D. Worked whalebone, top 8.15.13, lower 8.12.5.



A

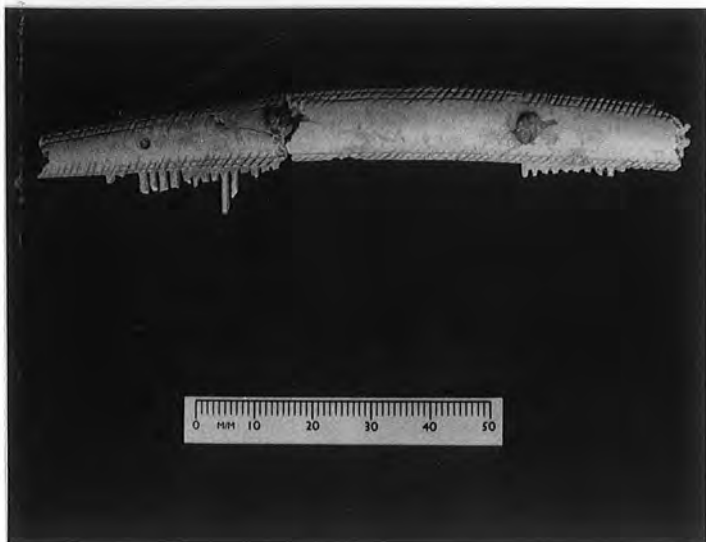


B

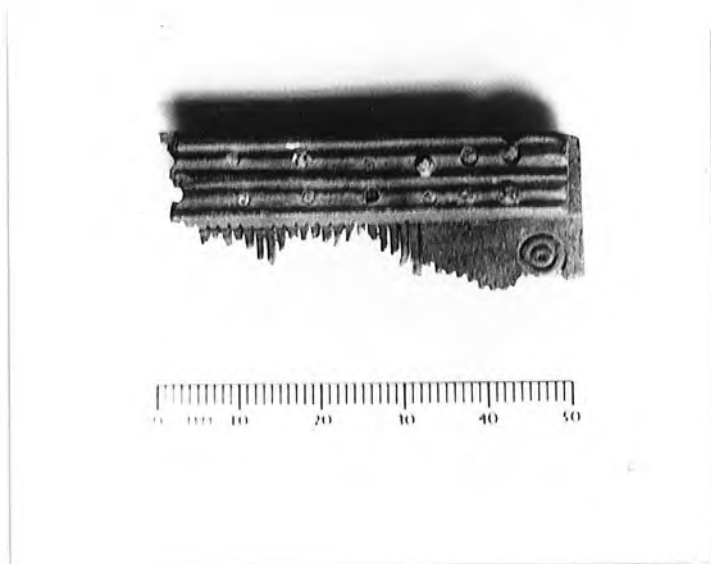
Plate 35A,B Single-sided composite combs:

A. 8.8.1.

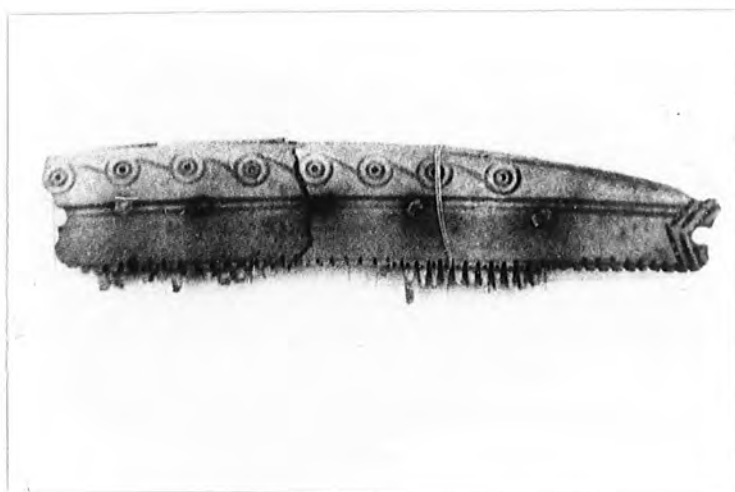
B. 8.8.7.



A



B



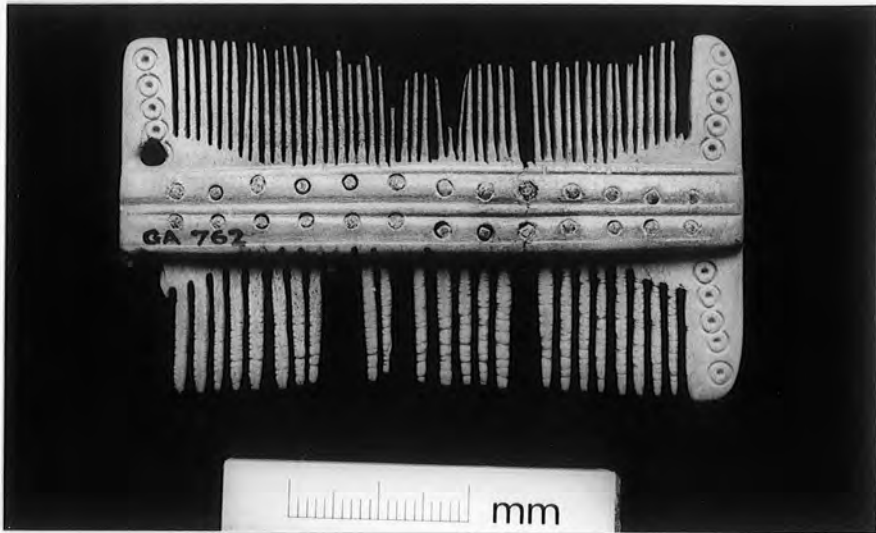
C

Plate 36A-C Single-sided composite combs:

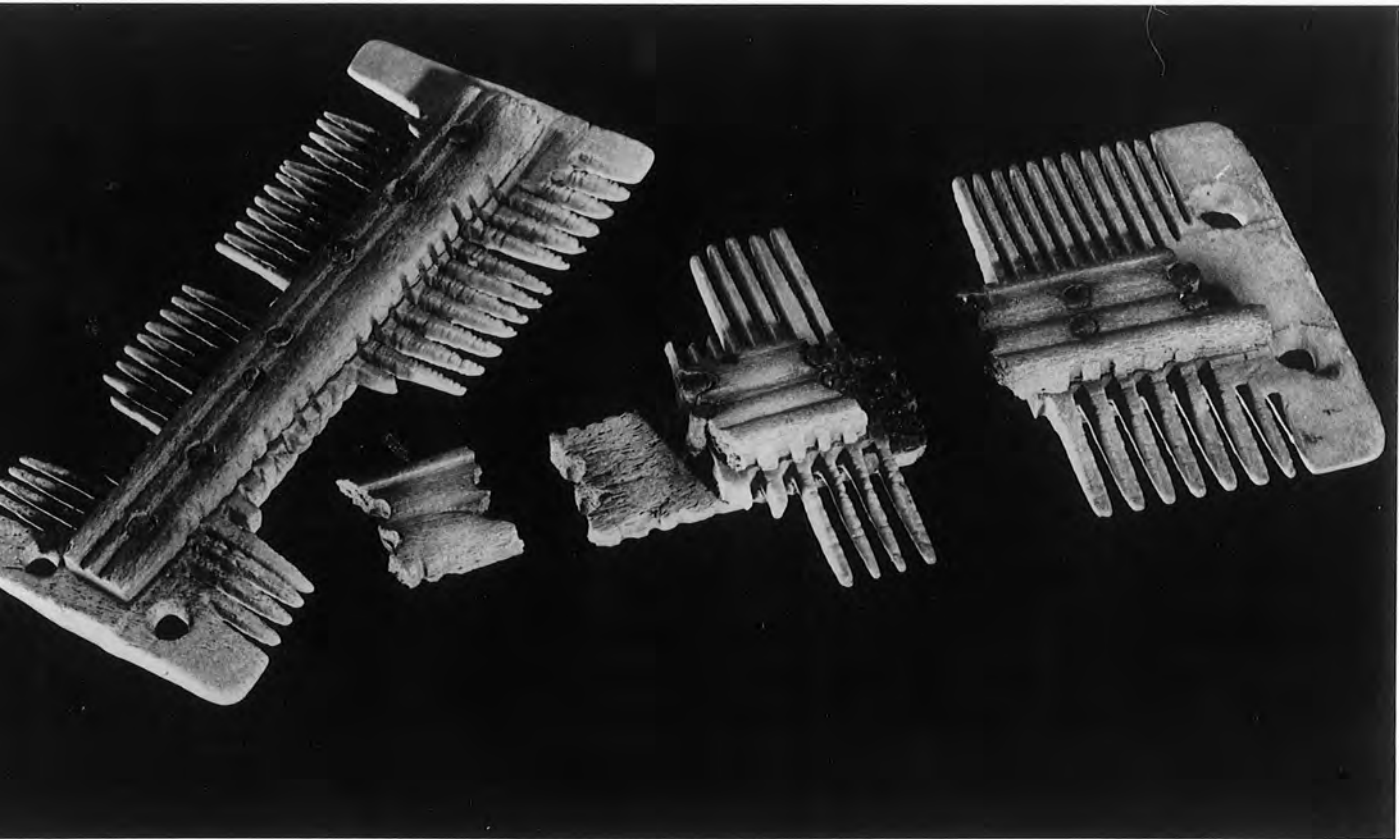
A. 8.8.14.

B. 8.8.17.

C. 8.8.19.



A



B

Plate 37A, B. Double-sided composite combs

A. 8.9.1.

B. 8.9.20, 8.9.21.

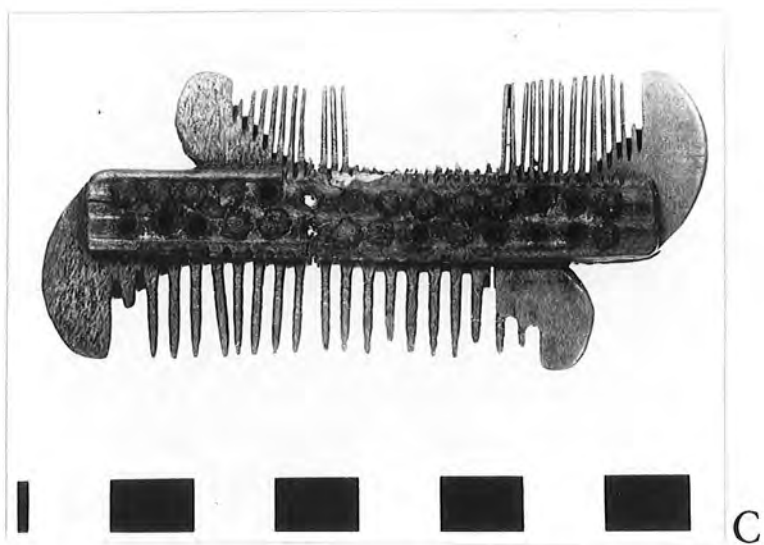
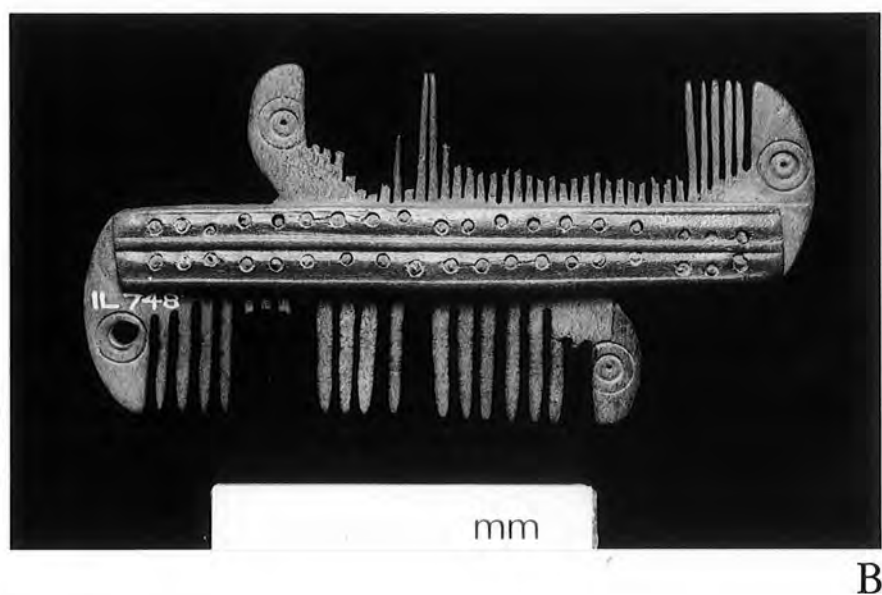
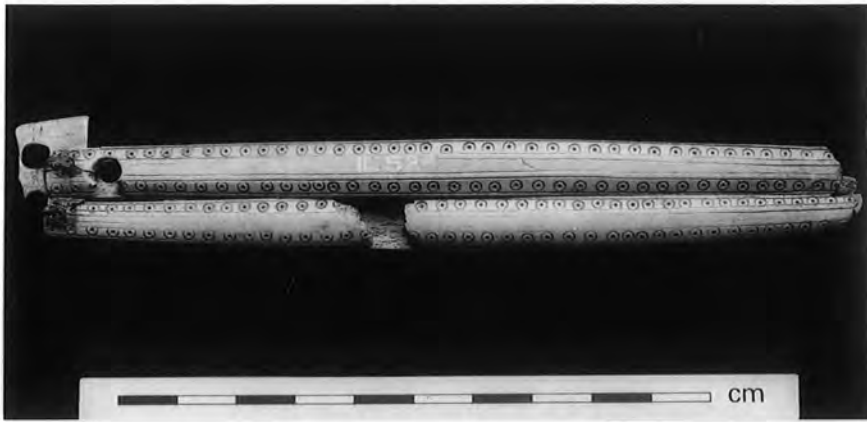
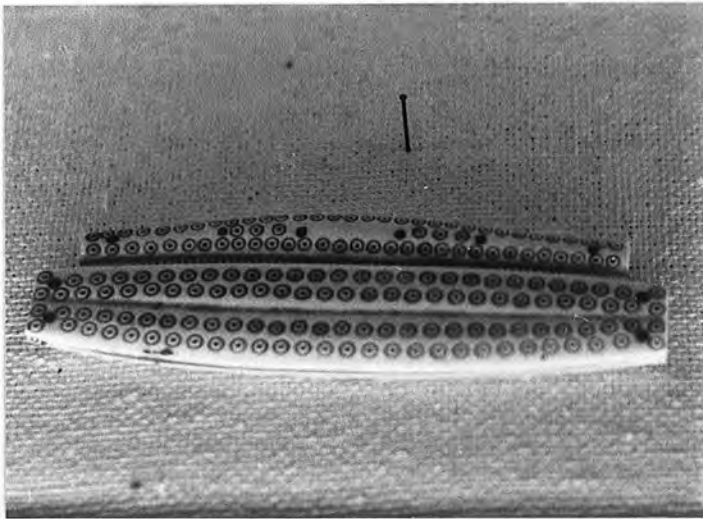


Plate 38A-C Double-sided composite combs  
 A. 8.9.6.  
 B. 8.9.9.  
 C. Parallel from Schleswig Excavations  
 (photo. per I. Ulbricht)



A



B

Plate 39A,B Comb cases

A. 8. 10. 1.

B. Similar example from Sigtuna, Sweden  
(Statens Historiska Museum, Stockholm)





A



B

Plate 40A, B Wheelturned pottery  
A, B. 10.2.5.



A



B

Plate 41A, B Complete grass tempered vessels  
A. 11.1.1.  
B. 11.1.2.



A

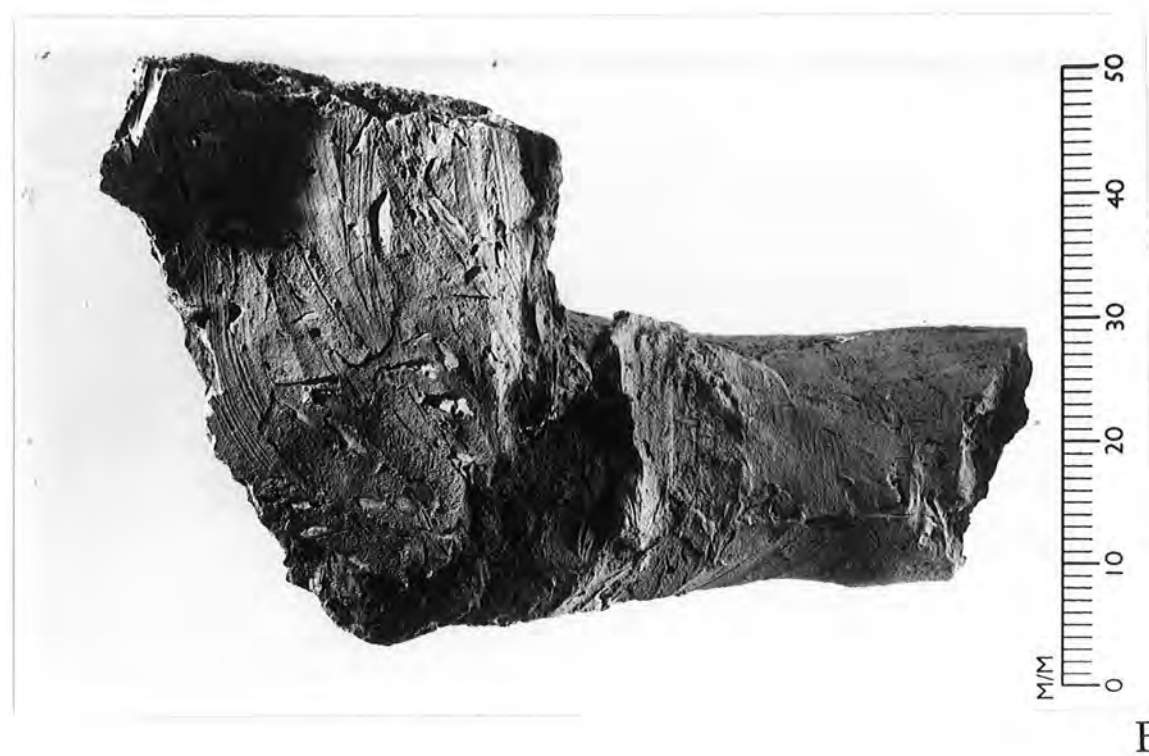


B

Plate 42A, B Grass tempered handles  
A. 11.2.10, underside  
B. Robertshaven, HR1345.

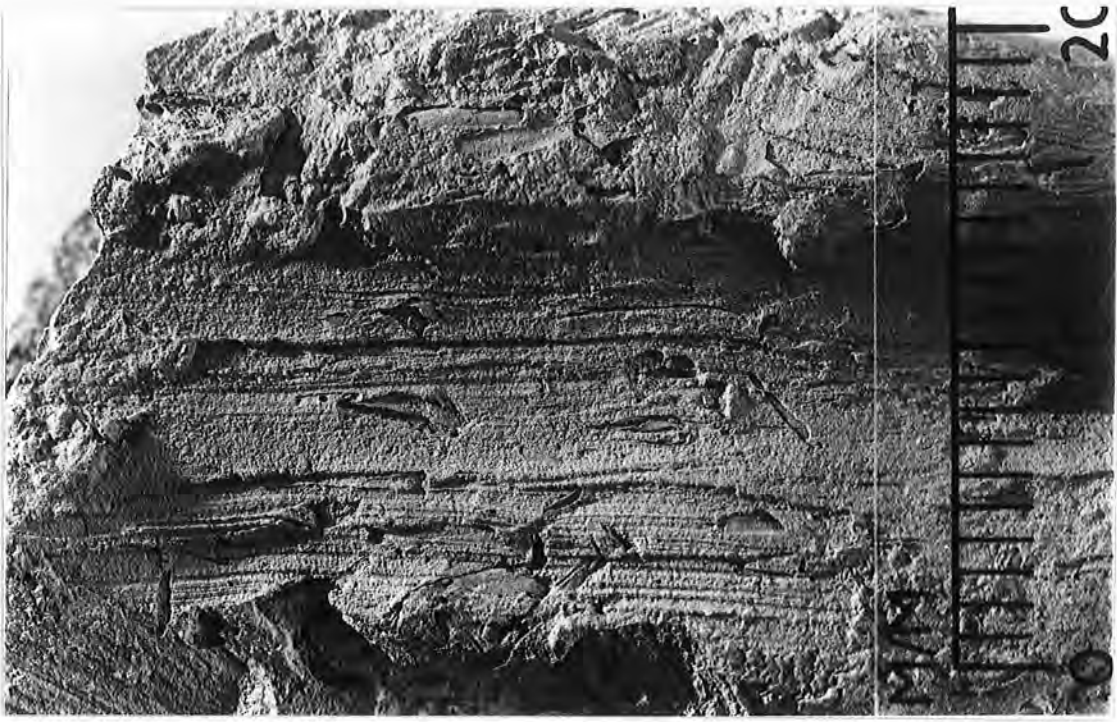


A



B

Plate 43A, B Grass tempered handle from Bucholly Castle, Caithness.

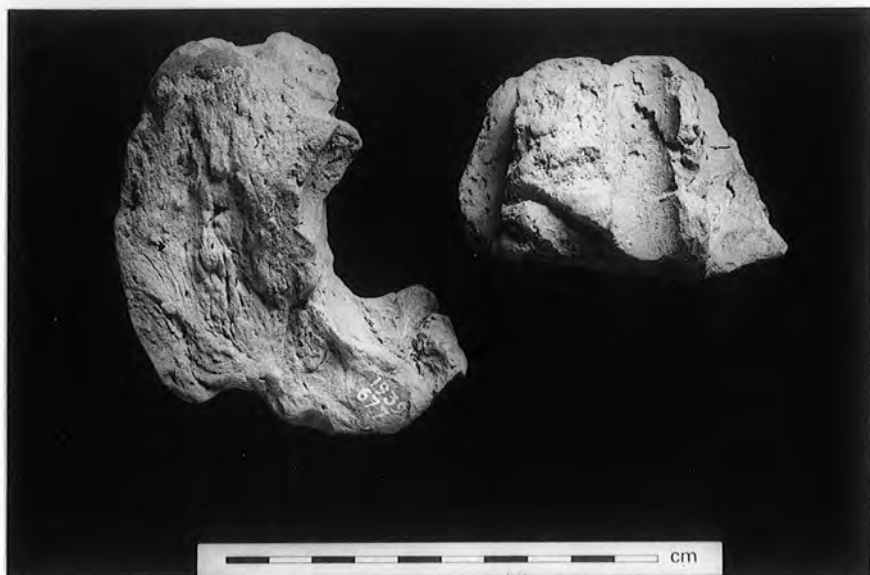


A



B

Plate 44A, B Details of grass tempered fabric (handle plate 43)



A



B

Plate 45A, B Daub fragments  
A. 13.3.2/3.  
B. 13.3.5.

