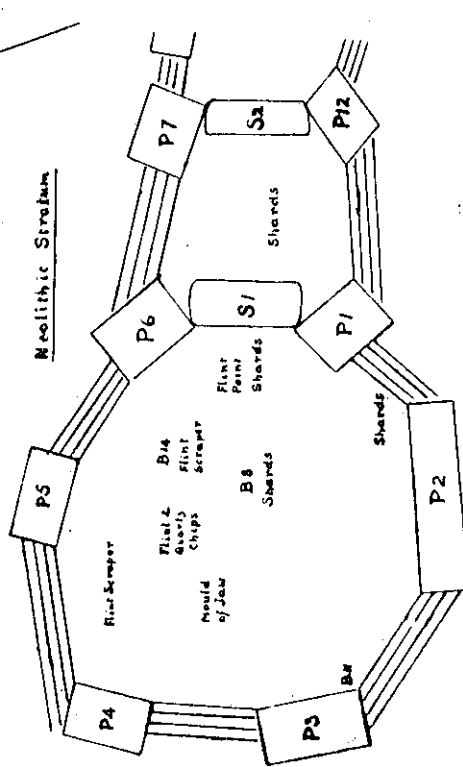
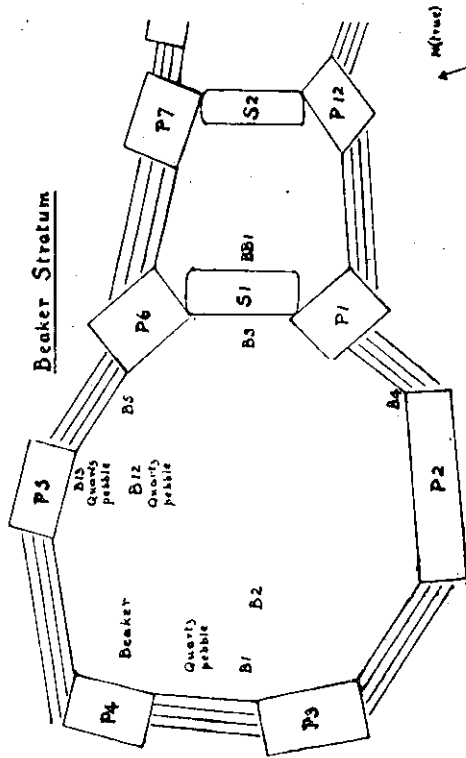


Excavation Plans of Chamber & Antechamber

(for details of some deposits, B1/B2, etc. see App. I)



of Science and Technology for a chemical report on certain bones; to Dr H. H. Thomas of the Geological Survey for the report on the pumice; to Dr H. O'Neill Hencken of Harvard for information about other finds of pumice in megalithic tombs; to Mr Stuart Piggott for drawings of the neolithic bowls and for other assistance; to Mr W. L. Coats of Glasgow for two photographs of the chamber, one of which is here reproduced; and finally to Professor V. G. Childe and Mr W. J. Hemp for their very valuable assistance on many points arising in the preparation of this paper.

Sir Reginald Macléod of Macleod has approved of the pottery being preserved in the National Museum of Antiquities at Edinburgh.

#### APPENDIX I.

REPORT ON BONE FRAGMENTS. BY M. L. TILDESLEY, Curator of Human Osteological Section, Royal College of Surgeons' Museum.

##### NEOLITHIC LEVEL.

*Site B. 8.*—Four fragments comprising left half of mandible; no teeth lost pre-mortem, all three molars up and all worn. Middle-aged individual, probably male.

*Site B. 11.*—The bone fragments include a fragment of the upper end of the cannon bone of a young ruminant, probably a calf. Fragment of scapula of a young animal—could be a calf, but fragment too imperfect to determine. Head of humerus of bird, probably a water-fowl. Skull fragments which cannot be identified, but probably not human.

*Site 14.*—Burnt fragment of the lower end of a cannon bone of sheep or goat.

##### BEAKER LEVEL.

*Site B. 2.*—Fragments of the skeleton of a young man, including parts of skull, thigh bone, upper arm bone, rib.

*Site B. 1.*—Fragments of human long bones only, the identifiable fragments being from the legs.

Bones from Sites 1 and 2 may belong to the same individual.

*Site B. 12.*—Parts of human leg bones. Also heel bone and fragment of pelvis. Tibia platycnemis; individual adult, probably male.

*Site B. 13.*—Fragments of skull and one fragment each of humerus and radius. The skull was that of a broad-headed individual, aged c. 30-35, probably male.

*Site B.5.*—Parts of thigh bone and upper arm bone and many small unidentifiable fragments. Femur platymeric.

Bones from sites B.12, B.13, and B.5 may all belong to one individual.

*Site B.3.*—Skull fragments of young adult individual, together with the enamel crown of four upper molars, viz. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd molar on right, and 3rd molar on left.

*Site B.4.*—Twenty-one teeth—including all twelve molars—of a young adult aged *c.* 18–20. Only the enamel crowns remain in many cases, but a root of one 3rd molar remains apparently intact, and still somewhat open, showing that this tooth was not completely up.

*Site BB.1.*—Some fragments of very much decayed bone with chalky deposit on outside.

#### APPENDIX II.

REPORT ON PUMICE. By HERBERT H. THOMAS, Sc.D., F.R.S.,  
Petrographer to the Geological Survey.

I have examined the sections and specimens of your material from Skye and find that it is definitely a pumice of basaltic character, and all of the same type.

It consists of a brownish glass with abundant vesicular cavities. The glass contains microlites of greenish augite and feldspar, and there are occasional small rounded phenocrysts of basic plagioclase. These facts, and the general character of the glass (low refractive index) indicate without question that it is not an artificial slag but a basic volcanic product. As such, its presence is of great interest as it seems to indicate a volcanic eruption of considerable magnitude at or about the period of the site.

As to the source, it is probable that volcanoes were erupting basic material in the Mediterranean, Iceland, and the West Indies, but the character of the pumice is quite different from that of the Mediterranean volcanoes of Stromboli, Vesuvius, and Etna. Of the other seaboard sources Iceland is the less likely, because a southerly drift from

<sup>1</sup> Dr H. L. Riley, A.R.C.S., D.I.C., D.Sc., Lecturer in Chemistry, Imperial College of Science and Technology, reports as follows on this chalky deposit:—

"The white deposit on the bones from Skye contains alumina and phosphoric acid together with small quantities of ferric oxide, silica, water-soluble sulphate, chloride, and organic matter. It is probably a basic aluminium phosphate which has been formed by the slow interaction of the calcium phosphate of the bone with aluminium silicate present in the soil in which the bones were buried. This latter could be present either as clay or as kaolinised feldspar from the granite. Fossilised bones have been reported to contain ferric phosphate, which had probably been formed in a similar manner."

Icelandic waters is contrary to the known direction of currents, whereas a drift from the West Indies would be in accordance with what we know takes place. I therefore incline to the view that the pumice is of West Indian origin, and that your site may be contemporaneous with some great paroxysmal eruption in that region, during which much pumiceous material was ejected into the sea and carried eastwards by the prevailing winds and currents.