

collection of historical material relating to the County Palatine of Lancaster in one central depository can hardly be over-estimated; and the advantages to be gained by the owners in having them cleaned, catalogued, and repaired are patent. It is hoped therefore that still more owners of Lancashire documents, whether few or many, will see their way to depositing them in the County Record Office.

R. SHARPE FRANCE.

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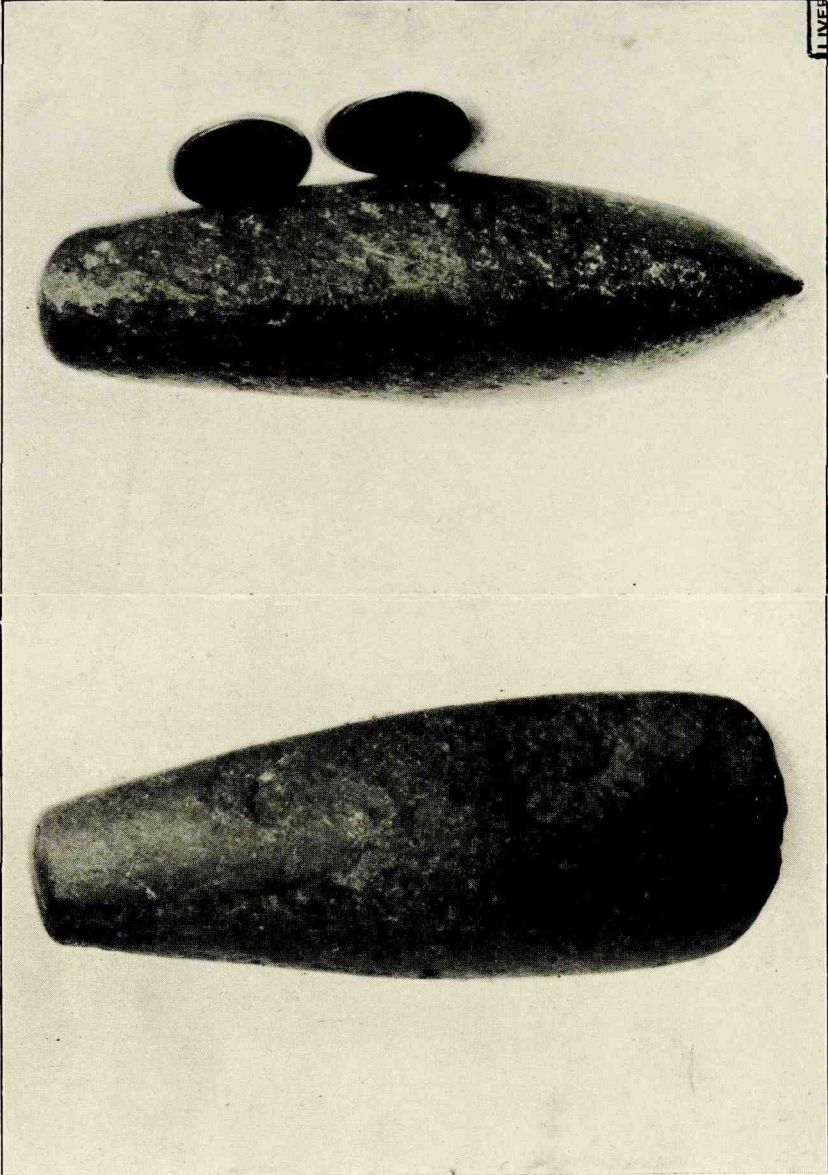
### NEOLITHIC AXE FOUND AT WHISTON, 1941.

NEOLITHIC relics in the south-west Lancashire area are far from abundant, and it is therefore the more desirable to place new finds on record.

The stone axe shown in the accompanying illustration was found in June, 1941, by Mr. S. Jones, of 157, Dragon Lane, Whiston, whilst excavating in his garden, and through the instrumentality of the present writer was deposited in the Liverpool Public Museum. It lay at a depth of about four feet. It is of Cumbrian greenstone, perhaps from a local glacial deposit, though more probably an importation. Its surface, originally ground and polished, is now considerably weathered, and has suffered slight damage at one side; on the whole, however, it may be considered a very good specimen. It is finely shaped, with a curved edge, slightly convex sides—which give it a rather unusual aspect of “fatness”—and a well-defined circular butt. It measures a little over  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length. The spot on which it was discovered lies approximately five miles north of the Mersey, on a southward slope some 200 feet above sea-level, which in early times bordered the marshy river-valley, and close to the ancient highway from Warrington to West Derby and Liverpool via Prescott.

The photographs were kindly taken by Mr. R. K. Perry of Liverpool Museum, when owing to evacuation professional photographers were unobtainable.

F. A. BAILEY.



STONE AXE FOUND AT WHISTON

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