
138 Harkstead, Suffolk: Medieval gold finger ring**Date:** Late 15th century**Finder:** Mr A R Dunnett**Date of discovery:** 14 July 1999**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Description:** A gold finger ring with a stone set into a lozenge-shaped bezel. The stone may be glass and it may have been set at a later date.**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

139 Beeston with Bittering, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt finger ring fragment**Date:** 15th or 16th century**Finder:** Mr K Dickerson**Date of discovery:** December 1998**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Description:** Bezel from a silver-gilt finger ring representing two clasped hands.**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

140 Berwick Basset, Wiltshire: Medieval silver-gilt finger ring (Fig.140)**Date:** Late 15th or early 16th century**Finder:** Mr George Robert Horton**Date of discovery:** 6 October 1999**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Description:** A silver-gilt finger ring divided into bands of surface pattern consisting of three vertical, faceted panels on the bezel engraved with zig-zags in opposing directions. The shoulders have two horizontal bands decorated in a similar fashion and tapering in opposing directions. The back is plain. Diameter: 20 mm.**Note:** Metal analysis conducted at the British Museum established silver content at 95 per cent.**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 140) Berwick Basset

141 Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd, Denbighshire: Silver fede ring**Date:** Late medieval/early post-medieval**Finder:** Mr P Richardson**Date of discovery:** August 1999**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Description:** Silver-gilt fede ring. It is an uninscribed ring with clasped hands as a bezel (plain cuffs). Traces of gilding are visible around the knuckles and on the back of the clasped hands. Hoop of flattened D cross-section. Internal hoop diameter: 20 mm.**Disposition:** Awaiting inquest and valuation.

Denbighshire Heritage Service hopes to acquire the find.

M REDKNAP

142 Weybourne (2), Norfolk: Medieval gold finger ring**Date of discovery:** September 1999**Finder:** Mr J Morrison**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a

metal-detector

Disposition: Disclaimed; full report to appear next year.

NORFOLK MUSEUMS SERVICE

(ii) Brooches (chronological order)

143 Fillongley, Warwickshire: Two medieval silver brooches and one silver finger ring

Date: About 1220–30

Finders: Messrs Roy English and Robert Foster

Date of discovery: January–March 1997

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with metal-detectors.

Description:

Brooch 1: silver-gilt ring brooch; 13th century; frame decorated with two collets, now empty, and inscribed in Lombardic lettering + *ANEIS : LABELO AMI : MERSI : AVM*; pin with zig-zag decoration; external diameter: 37 mm; internal diameter: 23 mm.

Brooch 2: silver ring brooch with circular frame decorated by radiating strips of six applied drops of silver; these strips end in trefoil terminals projecting beyond the frame of the brooch; with a pin looped around the frame and decorated with two transverse mouldings; external diameter: 15 mm; internal diameter: 10 mm; weight: 1.32g; 98 per cent silver.

Ring: rectangular-sectioned hoop, 3 mm high on the back, increasing to 6 mm on the front; bezel decorated with three square panels with plain bands in between; side panels contain crosses against a cut-away background; central panel has a cross in the middle of three four-pointed designs; weight: 3.15g; 87 per cent silver.

Note: The brooches and ring were found in association with a hoard of 127 Short Cross pennies (*Treasure Report 1997–98*, no. 145) and were accidentally omitted from that report.

Disposition: Warwickshire Museum

Valuation: £1,500 (including the coins)

144 Durham City, County Durham: Medieval silver-gilt brooch (Fig. 144)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr Bolam and Mr P Rennoldson

Date of discovery: April 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with metal-detectors.

Description: An annular, silver-gilt brooch, decorated with an arrangement of four globular and four lozenge-shaped elements placed at equal distances around the ring. The lozenges are worked into four-petalled flowers, one of which is attached to the swivel of the pin. On the reverse is inscribed *AVE MARIA GRACIA PL[E]NA* ('Hail Mary full of grace'). The *E* of 'plena' has been cut through to create a recess for the attachment of the pin.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1997–98*, no. 73. Metal analysis conducted at Durham University established the silver content at 90 per cent.

Disposition: Durham University Museums

Valuation: £1,000

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 144) Durham City

145 Mid-Norfolk (1): Medieval silver-gilt brooch

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mrs Monique Slaven

Date of discovery: Early 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: An annular, silver-gilt brooch twisted into cables and decorated with beading.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

146 Caldicot (2), Monmouthshire: Medieval silver brooch

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr B Stephenson

Date of discovery: September 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Silver annular brooch; cast decoration on front face of chevrons with fine pellets between.

Frame of flattened D cross-section. Plain flat back.

Pin plain silver wire, bent around restriction in frame.

External frame diameter: 19 mm.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1997-98*, no. 64.

Disposition: National Museums & Galleries of Wales

Valuation: £840 (as group with finger rings: see no. 105)

M REDKNAP

147 Chilham, Kent: Medieval silver-gilt brooch

Date: 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr D Villanueva

Date of discovery: Early 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt, annular brooch engraved with the letters *X IESVS* interspersed with areas of cross-hatching. Diameter: 19 mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

148 Booton, Norfolk: Medieval silver brooch

Date: 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr A Woods

Date of discovery: June 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: An annular, silver brooch with relief decoration in the form of lozenges filled with roundels. The pin is also decorated with roundels at the edge of its loop. The surface is worn.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

149 Oxborough (3), Norfolk: Medieval silver brooch fragment

Date: 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr Adam Oliver

Date of discovery: September 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Fragment of an annular silver brooch, the letters *E* and *M* surviving from an inscription which may have read *Ave Maria* ('Hail Mary'). It measures 9 mm x 4 mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

150 Tadwell, Bath and North East Somerset: Medieval silver-gilt brooch fragments (Fig. 150)

Date: 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr David Horsbrugh

Date of discovery: 14 September 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Four fragments of an annular, silver-gilt brooch. The frame is silver and decorated with gilded rosettes of alternately large and small sizes. Much of the pin is missing. Reconstructed diameter: 35 mm.

Disposition: Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery hopes to acquire.

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 150) Tadwell



(fig. 151) Astwick

151 Astwick, Bedfordshire: Medieval silver-gilt brooch
(Fig. 151)

Date: Late 13th or early 14th century

Finder: Mr H Cross

Date of discovery: June 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt brooch, now broken into three pieces, one element being the complete pin. The brooch was originally annular, its ring consisting of alternate arrangements of straight and twisted wire separated by lozenge-shaped mounts. The mounts are decorated with punched lines and crosses. Much of the gilding is lost apart from in the deepest recesses of the design. Length of pin: 51mm (an indication of the original diameter of the brooch).

Disposition: Awaiting inquest; the British Museum hopes to acquire.

Valuation: To be determined.

J P ROBINSON

152 Spixworth (1), Norfolk: Medieval silver brooch

Date: 13th to 15th century

Finder: Mr A Womack

Date of discovery: Late 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: An annular, silver brooch decorated with tiny pellets and twisted to resemble a cable. Diameter: 19 mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

153 Quidenham, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt brooch fragment

Date: 13th to 15th century

Finder: Mr E Crick

Date of discovery: May 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A fragment of an annular, silver-gilt brooch. Approximately one-quarter of the frame survives, decorated with pellets and filigree.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

154 Foxholes, East Yorkshire: Medieval silver-gilt brooch

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mr Charles Pelham

Date of discovery: 1995

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver brooch of sexfoil shape with trefoil terminals. Dimensions: 16 mm x 16 mm.

Note: Found prior to the Treasure Act 1996, the brooch was considered not to qualify as Treasure under the terms of Treasure Trove and the coroner was informed accordingly.

Disposition: Awaiting coroner's decision.

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 155) Mid-Norfolk

155 Mid-Norfolk (2): Medieval silver-gilt brooch (Fig. 155)

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mrs M Slaven

Date of discovery: April 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt, annular brooch of diminutive size, terminating in two clasped hands. Four bosses are arranged at equal intervals around the frame, two are engraved with saltire crosses, one narrows to form a pin (largely lost) and the other

terminates in the clasped hands. The size of the brooch is its most distinctive feature and raises questions about its use. Diameter: 8 mm; width: extending to 15 mm when the projection of the hands is included.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1997–98*, no. 89.

Metal analysis conducted at the British Museum established the silver content at 98 per cent.

Disposition: Swaffham Museum

Valuation: £200

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

156 Oxborough (4), Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt brooch fragment

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mr M Carlile

Date of discovery: 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Fragment from an annular, silver-gilt brooch. One tall collet survives indicating that the brooch would have been decorated with collets placed intermittently. The brooch was also decorated with foliate ornamentation, fragments of which survive. Length: 19 mm; height of collet: 12 mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

157 Wiveton, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt brooch pin

Date: Medieval

Finder: Mr John Golden

Date of discovery: February 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt pin from a brooch, its loop missing but decorated with a moulding at the junction of the shaft and the point where the loop would have been. It is likely to be of medieval date, but lacks any firm diagnostic features.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

158 Beachamwell (2), Norfolk: Medieval silver brooch**Date of discovery:** March 1999**Finder:** Mr C Matthews**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Disposition:** To be determined; full report to appear next year.NORFOLK MUSEUMS SERVICE

159 Brockdish, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt annular brooch frame**Date of discovery:** November–December 1998**Finder:** Ms K Whitelock**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector**Disposition:** Disclaimed; full report to appear next year.NORFOLK MUSEUMS SERVICE

160 Morley (1), Norfolk: Medieval silver annular brooch**Date of discovery:** February 1999**Finder:** Mr W Brooker**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Disposition:** Disclaimed; full report to appear next year.NORFOLK MUSEUMS SERVICE

(iii) Belt fittings and strap-ends (chronological order)

161. Kings Lynn, Norfolk: Medieval silver belt-fitting**Date:** 13th or 14th century**Finder:** Mrs Monique Slaven**Date of discovery:** Early 1999**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Description:** A silver bar-mount from a belt, of

tapering form with perforated, rounded terminals.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON



(fig. 162) South Kyme

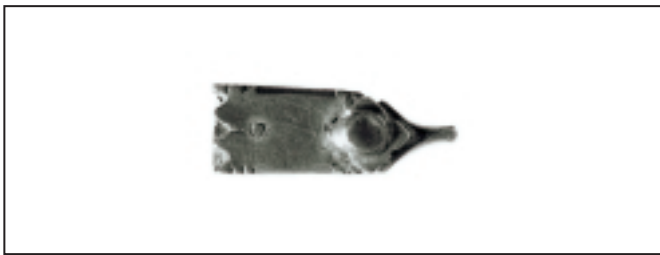
162 South Kyme (2), Lincolnshire: One medieval strap-end and one silver pin (Fig. 162)**Date:** 14th century strap-end; pin of indeterminate age**Finder:** Mr David J Duffy**Date of discovery:** 29 July 1998**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Description:** Of the two items submitted to the British Museum for examination, neither qualified as treasure. The pin was of indeterminate age but may once have been part of a shoe buckle from the 18th century.

The strap-end is made of copper-alloy and consists of two tongue-shaped plates with a knop terminal. One original rivet remains. The top plate is incised with four pairs of parallel lines, two above and two below an irregular, niche-shaped, centrally placed aperture. Visible through this aperture is a silver coloured inlay. It was the presence of this inlay that prompted the finder to declare the find under the terms of the Treasure Act. Analysis at the British Museum revealed it to be not silver, but mica. The use of mica is known in some metalwork from the Anglo-Saxon period but is not usually found in pieces as late as this example. Strap-ends at the British Museum of similar age and construction were analysed for mica but none was present. Length: 54 mm; width: 14 mm.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1997–98*, no. 97.

Disposition: Found not to qualify as Treasure; the silver pin was returned to the finder who consulted the landowner and generously donated the strap-end to the British Museum for further study (MME 1999,3-2,1).

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 163) Bromham

163 Bromham, Wiltshire: Medieval silver strap-end (Fig. 163)

Date: 15th century

Finder: Mr Lloyd Alexander Earley

Date of discovery: 18 September 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver strap-end with a cavity at one end, tapering into a broken point at the other. It is decorated with a four-petalled flower at the tapered end. An original rivet for the attachment of the strap survives. Length: 30 mm; width: 11 mm.

Disposition: Devizes Museum hopes to acquire; find awaiting inquest.

J P ROBINSON

(iv) Seal matrices (chronological order)

164 Newball, Lincolnshire: Medieval silver seal matrix (Fig. 164)

Date: Early 13th century

Finder: Mr Peter Marshall

Date of discovery: 11 October 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A circular, silver seal matrix with a suspension loop at the back. In the centre is a single fleur-de-lys. The surrounding legend reads: *S' PETRI FILI WILI DE NEVBEL* ('seal of Peter FitzWilliam of Newball'). Diameter: 31mm.

Note: Metal analysis conducted at the British Museum established silver content at 97 per cent against a weight of 15.38g.

Disposition: Lincoln City and County Museum

Valuation: £1,200

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 164) Newball

165 Thwaite (1), Suffolk: Three medieval lead seal matrices

Date: Early 13th century

Finder: Messrs A C Slinn and M D Seager

Date of discovery: 20-26 August 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with metal-detectors.

Description:

1. A pointed oval seal matrix with a motif of an eight-pointed star and a crescent. On the reverse is a suspension loop. Its legend reads *S' ALICIE LE BUTO* -- for 'seal of Alice' followed by the surname which is not entirely legible. Length: 31mm; width: 17 mm.
2. A circular seal matrix with the motif of a fleur-de-lys and has the legend *SIGILL RO (B?)*. The remainder is not legible but it is likely to have originally read 'Roberti' for Robert. Diameter: 28 mm.

3. A circular seal matrix of particular interest because it is double-sided. It has a suspension loop at the top. The positive, moulded face has an eight-petalled flower and reads *AVE MARIA*, probably to be followed by *GRACIA* but this is no longer legible. The negative side, which would have made a seal impression, has a motif constructed of four strong, diagonal incisions separating four sprigs of foliage. The legend reads *SIGILL SEVALLI* ----- . Again, this is not entirely legible, but would have been followed by a surname. Length with suspension loop: 38 mm.

Note: The seal matrices are associated with a find of 22 silver coins (below no. 340). See *Treasure Annual Report 1997-98*, no. 174.

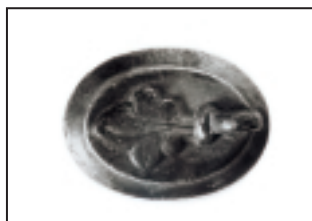
Disposition: British Museum (MME 2000, 9-11, 1-3)

Valuation: £150

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 166.1) Tarrant Valley



(fig. 166.2)

166 Tarrant Valley, Dorset: Medieval silver seal matrix (Figs. 166.1 -2)

Date: Late 13th century

Finder: Mr Rex Burton

Date of discovery: 13 November 1999

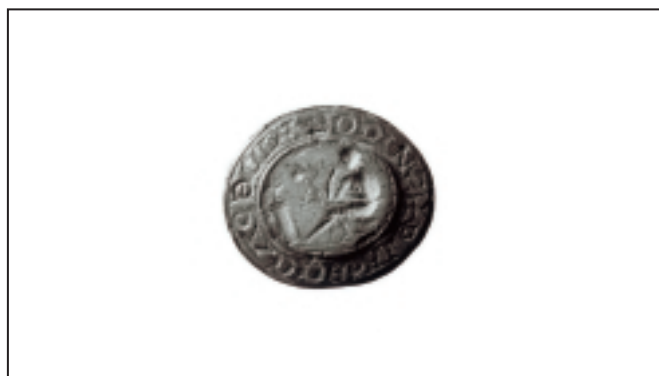
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: An oval silver seal matrix inscribed with the legend *IESVS EST AMOR MEVS* ('Jesus is my love'). It has a suspension loop at the back which terminates in a stylised fleur-de-lys in low relief. It has lost its central stone but is of a type usually set with classical intaglios. (See the find from Wallingford, Oxfordshire, no. 167). Length: 27 mm; width: 20 mm.

Disposition: Dorset County Museum hopes to acquire.

Valuation: To be determined.

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 167) Wallingford

167 Wallingford, Oxfordshire: Medieval silver seal matrix (Fig. 167)

Date: Late 13th century

Finder: Mr M J Absolom

Date of discovery: 10 January 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: An oval, silver seal matrix set with a glass intaglio which is Roman and likely to date from the 1st or 2nd century AD. The intaglio depicts a satyr seated before an altar. The legend of the matrix reads *S' NICOLAI DE PADDEHALE* (meaning 'seal of Nicholas Paddehall'). Length: 24 mm; width: 21 mm.

Note: Metal analysis conducted at the British Museum established the silver content at 98 per cent. The intaglio was considered likely to be glass due to its crazed surface and the fact that the figures appear to be moulded rather than engraved. Destructive analysis would have to be undertaken to be certain of its composition.

Disposition: Awaiting inquest; Oxfordshire Museums Service hopes to acquire this find.

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 168) Hamstall Ridware

168 Hamstall Ridware, Staffordshire: Medieval silver seal matrix
(Fig. 168)

Date: Late 13th or early 14th century

Finder: Mr M J B Hicks

Date of discovery: 11 April 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A circular, silver seal matrix with a hexagonal handle terminating in a trefoil. The design is armorial and is accompanied by an inscription which reads *SIGILLVM WALTERI DE THORNTON* ('seal of Walter Thornton'). Diameter: 24 mm; height: 33 mm; weight: 22g.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1997–98*, no. 79.

Disposition: The Potteries Museum, Stoke on Trent

Valuation: £3,000

J P ROBINSON

169 Kirk Deighton, North Yorkshire: Medieval silver seal matrix

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mr K Jackson

Date of discovery: Spring 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver seal matrix with the heraldic device of three water-bougets (a vessel for carrying water consisting of two leather sacks with a wooden cross-piece to place over the shoulders). These arms were identified by the finder as likely to belong to the Roos family of Igmanthorpe.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1997–98*, no. 81.

Metal analysis conducted at the British Museum established silver content at 93.9 per cent.

Disposition: Harrogate Museums and Art Gallery Service, Yorkshire

Valuation: £625

J P ROBINSON

170 Aberavon, Port Talbot: Medieval silver seal matrix
(Fig. 170)

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mrs A Malin

Date of discovery: Easter 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Silver seal matrix, oval, 44 x 28.5 mm, weight 32.46g. Beneath an elaborate gothic-type canopy, the Blessed Virgin Mary, crowned; in the canopy base, within a decorated, round arch (perhaps the Abbey church), the cowled abbot with tonsure (half-length), in prayer to front, holding an ornate pastoral staff. Cabled borders to legend, which appears to read *Sigillu Willme abbatis de nath*, with sprigs, in early black-letter script.

Note: William of St Donats was Abbot of Neath from 1326 until at least 1341. There are, however, gaps in the roll call of abbots presiding over the community at Neath during the 14th century, and the matrix may be that of a later unrecorded abbot.

Disposition: National Museums & Galleries of Wales

Valuation: £6,000

M REDKNAP



(fig. 170) Aberavon

 (v) Pendant crosses (chronological order)

171 Detling (near), Kent: Medieval silver cross pendant

Date: Early 13th century**Finder:** Mr B Petit**Date of discovery:** September 1999**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Description:** A silver pendant in the form of an equal-armed cross with knobbed terminals and a central disc with a nielloed geometric design. Height: 27 mm; weight: 5.2g. Analysis of the metal at the British Museum established a silver content of approximately 99 per cent.**Discussion:** Preliminary research shows that the pendant belongs to a Byzantine-inspired type found mainly in Finland and the region to the east of the Gulf of Finland. It may have been made in Karelia. Two

good parallels, also with knobbed arms and a central disc (and one not so good, with a central octagonal plate) are suspended on a ring and chain from a medieval grave at Suotniemi, Käkisalme, Finland, illustrated in the exhibition catalogue, E Roesdahl and D M Wilson (eds), *From Viking to Crusader* (Nordic Council of Ministers, 1992), no. 495. The occurrence of an example in Kent is possibly explicable by medieval Scandinavian trade and ecclesiastical contacts.

Disposition: Maidstone Museum and Art Gallery had hoped to acquire the find but has since withdrawn its interest; returned to finder.**Valuation:** £1,050

B AGER



(fig. 172) Beachamwell

 172 Beachamwell (3), Norfolk: Medieval silver cross pendant (Fig. 172)
Date: 13th century**Finder:** Mr S Brown**Date of discovery:** November 1999**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.**Description:** A silver cross pendant, of almost equal-armed proportions with a suspension loop at the top. Letters are inscribed on each arm and in the centre as follows: *I* at the top of the cross; *S* in the centre; *V* on

the left arm; *E* on the right arm and *S* at the bottom. Together they spell *IESVS* for 'Jesus'. Length: 27 mm with suspension loop; (20 mm without suspension loop); width: 18 mm.

Note: Metal analysis conducted at the British Museum established silver content at 97 per cent against a weight of 3.7g.

Disposition: The British Museum hopes to acquire.

Valuation: To be determined.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

173 West Rudham (2), Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt cross pendant

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mr A Mears

Date of discovery: July 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt cross pendant, missing one arm. It is of cylindrical construction and has a suspension loop. The surviving arms have collars at the ends, decorated with engraved crescents. On the ends of the two surviving exposed arms (the third being obscured by the suspension loop) are the letters *A* and *L*. The missing arm may have been engraved with the letter *G* to make *AGLA* signifying *Atha Gebri Lielan Adonai*, usually interpreted as 'Thou art mighty forever, O Lord.' (See medieval silver finger ring found at Fifield Bavant, Wiltshire, no. 118 above). Length with suspension loop: 32 mm; width: 13 mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

174 Coundon, West Midlands: Medieval gold pendant (Figs. 174.1-2)

Date: Late 15th or early 16th century

Finder: Mr R Chester

Date of discovery: 28 July 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A rectangular, gold pendant with a suspension loop at the top and three projecting pins at three of the corners. The fourth pin has been pushed inside the pendant. One side is crudely engraved with the head of Christ and the other with a half-length image of Christ as the Man of Sorrows. The pins are likely to have been designed to hold pearls which have perished in the ground. Dimensions: 10 x 12 mm.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1997-98*, no. 69.

Metal analysis conducted at the British Museum established the gold content at 83 per cent gold.

Disposition: Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry

Valuation: £4,000

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 174.1) Coundon



(fig. 174.2)

175 Ashwellthorpe, Norfolk: Medieval silver cross-shaped pendant

Date of discovery: June 1998

Finder: Mrs J Worton

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Disposition: Disclaimed; full report to appear next year.

NORFOLK MUSEUMS SERVICE

(vi) Reliquary cross

176 Thwaite (2), Suffolk: Medieval silver-gilt lid from a reliquary cross (Fig. 176)

Date: Late 11th century

Finder: Mr M Seager

Date of discovery: April 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt lid from a reliquary cross engraved with a figure of the crucified Christ. Christ has a halo and wears a knee length tunic. Above Christ's head is engraved the hand of God. The engraving was originally inlaid with niello of which traces remain. When complete, the reliquary would have been hinged at the top and clasped at the bottom. The suspension loop, hinge and clasp are broken. Although Scandinavian in origin, the design of cross-reliquaries such as this one is influenced by Byzantine prototypes. A richer example in gold, known as the Orø Cross, in the National Museum, Copenhagen, has, on the reverse, an image of the Virgin Mary with the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove and the figures of saints on each arm of the cross. This may give some impression of how the reverse of this find might once have looked. Length: 77 mm; width: 45.5 mm.

Note: Metal analysis conducted at the British Museum established silver content at 53 per cent.

Disposition: British Museum (MME 2000, 9-10, 1)

Valuation: £1,500

J P ROBINSON



(fig. 176) Thwaite

(vii) Other objects

177 Buntingford area, Hertfordshire: Medieval silver-gilt figure (Figs. 177.1-2)

Date: Late 13th or early 14th century

Finder: Mr D Lambert

Date of discovery: January 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt figure of a saint, or, more probably, an Old Testament character or a prophet. The figure wears a hooded tunic which is belted and has slits revealing the legs. The lining is decorated with cross-hatching and gilding is applied selectively to the drapery and the beard. The face, neck, hands and legs are ungolded. The identity of the figure is uncertain since any iconographic symbol that may have existed is now lost, along with the right hand. Stylistic similarities with English illuminated manuscripts suggest that it probably dates to the late 13th or early 14th century. It is likely to have been fixed at the feet (now lost) to a shrine, casket or piece of statuary and secured by the small loop that is attached to its back. Height 46 mm.

Note: Metal analysis conducted at the British Museum established the silver content at 97 per cent against a weight of 22.05g.

Disposition: British Museum (MME 2000, 11-1, 1)

Valuation: £50,000

J P ROBINSON

178 Trowbridge, Wiltshire: Gold ingot

Date: Post-Roman to pre-modern

Finder: Mr A Lee

Date of discovery: 22 November 1998

Circumstances of discovery: Found on the bed of Lambrook stream.

Description: A bun-shaped, gold ingot, likely to have been associated in some way with gold working. The



(fig. 177.1) Buntingford area



(fig. 177.2)