Our aim is to improve the quality of life for all through cultural and sporting activities, support the pursuit of excellence, and champion the tourism, creative and leisure industries.
TREASURE ACT 1996
Presented to Parliament pursuant to section 12 of the Treasure Act 1996

Treasure Annual Report 2004
1 January – 31 December 2004
Contents

Foreword ................................................................. 3
Introduction .......................................................... 5
List of contributors .................................................. 8
Tables ........................................................................... 11
Distribution maps of Treasure cases ............................ 16

Catalogue

England

1. Artefacts
   A. Bronze Age .......................................................... 20
      (i) Gold artefacts .................................................. 20
      (ii) Multiple deposits .......................................... 25
   B. Iron Age ............................................................. 47
   C. Roman .................................................................. 49
      (i) Finger-rings .................................................... 49
      (ii) Jewellery ....................................................... 54
      (iii) Grave assemblages ....................................... 57
      (iv) Spoons ......................................................... 59
      (v) Other objects ................................................ 60
   D. Early Medieval .................................................... 62
      (i) Armrings and bracelets .................................... 62
      (ii) Brooches ....................................................... 64
      (iii) Finger-rings ................................................. 67
      (iv) Grave assemblages ....................................... 68
      (v) Hooked-tags ................................................ 72
      (vi) Ingots .......................................................... 74
      (vii) Mounts and fittings ...................................... 76
      (viii) Pendants .................................................... 79
      (ix) Pins ............................................................ 84
      (x) Strap-ends .................................................... 86
      (xi) Other objects ............................................... 89
   E. Medieval ........................................................... 94
      (i) Brooches ....................................................... 94
      (ii) Chapes ......................................................... 101
      (iii) Finger-rings ............................................... 101
      (iv) Mounts ....................................................... 114
      (v) Pendants .................................................... 114
      (vi) Spoons ....................................................... 116
      (vii) Other objects ............................................. 116
   F. Post-medieval .................................................... 118
      (i) Badges ........................................................ 118
      (ii) Buttons ....................................................... 118
      (iii) Bodkins ...................................................... 121
      (iv) Buckles ...................................................... 123
      (v) Dress fittings ............................................... 124
      (vi) Dress-hooks ............................................... 125
      (vii) Dress-pins ................................................ 132
      (viii) Finger-rings .............................................. 135
      (ix) Pendants .................................................... 141
      (x) Seal Matrices ............................................... 142
      (xi) Spoons ....................................................... 144
      (xii) Thimbles ................................................... 145
      (xiii) Other objects ............................................ 147
   G. 18th-20th centuries ........................................... 150
      (i) Finger-rings ............................................... 150
      (ii) Other objects ............................................... 156
   H. Undiagnostic ..................................................... 160
      (i) Unassigned ................................................ 160
      (ii) Undated ..................................................... 164

2. Coin finds
   A. Iron Age .......................................................... 168
   B. Roman ........................................................... 171
   C. Early Medieval .................................................. 184
   D. Medieval ........................................................ 185
   E. Post-medieval .................................................... 189
Northern Ireland
1. Artefacts ................................................................. 196

Wales
1. Artefacts
A. Bronze Age ............................................................. 198
B. Roman ..................................................................... 201
C. Early Medieval ....................................................... 202
D. Medieval ................................................................. 204
   (i) Brooches ........................................................... 204
   (ii) Finger-rings ....................................................... 205
   (ii) Other objects ................................................... 205
E. Post-medieval ......................................................... 206
   (i) Finger-rings ....................................................... 206
   (ii) Dress-hook ...................................................... 207
F. 18th–20th centuries .................................................... 208

References ................................................................. 209
Valuations ................................................................. 214
Index ........................................................................ 218
Illustrations ................................................................ 227

Note: all objects (other than Bronze Age hoards and coins) are illustrated at approximately twice life-size, except where otherwise stated.

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Foreword

This is the seventh Annual Report to Parliament on the operation of the Treasure Act 1996. Like its predecessors, it lists all the finds that were reported as potential Treasure to the British Museum, the National Museums & Galleries of Wales and the Environment and Heritage Service, Northern Ireland. This Report contains details of 506 new cases reported during 2004. Of these cases, 231 new Treasure finds have been, or are being, acquired by Museums across the country, while 206 have been disclaimed, 67 were deemed not to be Treasure and two cases are still to be determined.

The number of finds being reported as Treasure continues to increase rapidly: in 2001 there were 214 cases, while in 2004 the total stood at 506. This is largely due to the expansion of the Portable Antiquities Scheme in 2003, when 21 new Finds Liaison Officers were appointed across the country. Finds Liaison Officers play a crucial role in the effective operation of the Treasure Act, encouraging finders to report their finds and guiding them through the Treasure process. Since this point, there has been, on average, a 153 per cent increase in reported Treasure finds. In some areas, the increase has been as great as 1,186 per cent.

I would like to congratulate those finders who promptly report their finds in accordance with the Code of Practice on Responsible Metal Detecting. I am glad to record the results of their actions in this Report and to praise them for their enthusiasm for and commitment to the responsible practice of their hobby. 93 per cent of the finds in this Report were found by metal-detector users and I would like to acknowledge the role that the National Council for Metal Detecting has played, not only in disseminating advice and information to its members, but also in communicating the views and experiences of those members back to my Department.

I would also like to praise the contribution made by the staffs of the British Museum, of Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales and of the Ulster Museum. The Treasure process requires input from their curators, conservators, scientists and a central treasure registry, all of whom continue to achieve high standards of service despite an increased workload.

I am most grateful to the Treasure Valuation Committee for its provision of independent advice on the valuation of Treasure finds. I commend particularly the Chairman, Professor Norman Palmer CBE, for his dedication and am delighted to note that his services to art and law were recognised in the 2006 New Year's Honours List.

Professor Palmer, Dr Jack Ogden, Mr Trevor Austin, Mr Thomas Curtis, Dr Arthur MacGregor, and Ms May Sinclair, have continued to give freely and generously of their time and expertise.

The work of the Committee receives vital support from the panel of expert advisers from whom the Committee commissions provisional valuations: Mr Michael Sharp of Dix Noonan Webb, Mr James Ede of Charles Ede Ltd, Mr Tom Eden of Morton and Eden, Ms Elizabeth Mitchell of Sotheby’s, Ms Joanna van der Lande, Mr Peter Clayton of Seaby’s, Mr Richard Falkiner, Mr Peter Spencer, Mr Timothy Kent and Ms Charlotte Sayers. I would like to express my appreciation of their knowledge and advice.

Funding bodies play an essential role in supporting the acquisition of Treasure finds by museums, particularly the Art Fund, the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund, and the Headley Museums Treasure Acquisition Scheme (www.headleytreasures.org.uk), which operates in conjunction with the Purchase Grant Fund.

Since the period covered in this Report, there have been a number of initiatives to address the increased number of reported treasure finds.
In January 2006, my Department launched a new initiative to encourage finders and landowners to consider donating finds to museums, by giving certificates to all those who have waived their rights to a reward. It is very encouraging that in this Report interested parties have waived their rights to a reward in the case of 28 finds, a very substantial increase on the nine cases reported in the 2003 Annual Report.

The Coroners’ Service, which has always played a central role in the Treasure system, is about to undergo a period of general reform which is likely to have an effect on their handling of Treasure cases. In June 2006, the Department of Constitutional Affairs published a draft Coroners’ Bill which proposes the establishment of a single coroner to deal with all Treasure cases from England and Wales and proposes a number of other amendments to the Treasure Act. I am grateful to all the coroners for their work, and continue to appreciate the part played by Victor Round, H M Coroner for Worcestershire, and Secretary of the Coroners’ Society of England and Wales.

In April 2006, my Department issued a consultation paper on transferring a number of administrative responsibilities for Treasure for which it is currently responsible to the British Museum (both the consultation and the Department’s response to it are available online via http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Consultations ). We will ensure that there are adequate safeguards to avoid any conflict of interest between the British Museum’s role of administrator the system when at the same time it continues to acquire finds of Treasure. It is our belief that these proposals will improve both the delivery and the efficiency of the process and I hope to be able to take them forward later this year.

In addition, we are currently in the process of expanding the Treasure Valuation Committee by two additional members.

David Lammy
Minister for Culture
October 2006
Introduction

Proposed changes to the Treasure Act

Following a review of the coroners’ system in 2002, in June 2006 the Department for Constitutional Affairs published a draft Coroners’ Bill which contains proposals to make changes to the coroners’ system, including the handling of Treasure cases (available online at www.dca.gov.uk/legist/coroners_draft.pdf). The major change will be the introduction of a single coroner who will deal with all cases of Treasure from England and Wales (section 34). At the same time the draft bill contains a number of other amendments to the Treasure Act, some of which were proposed in the Review of the Treasure Act in 2002. These may be summarised as follows:

1. The widening of the duty to report to include anyone who comes into possession of an object which they have reason to believe is an unreported Treasure find;
2. The introduction of a duty to deliver a reported Treasure find to a person or location designated by the Secretary of State;
3. The exemption of the coroner from liability when dealing with Treasure finds when he has acted in accordance with the Code of Practice;
4. The removal of the need to hold an inquest if a find has been disclaimed; and
5. An amendment to the time limit within which a prosecution can be brought with regard to offences under the Treasure Act.

Increase in Treasure cases

This Annual Report, which includes details of 506 cases, compared with 427 in the 2003 report, reflects the continuing increase in Treasure cases which is the consequence of the expansion of the Portable Antiquities Scheme in 2003.
Acquisition of Treasure by museums

Two hundred and thirty-one new Treasure finds have been, or are being, acquired by museums, while 206 have been disclaimed, 67 were deemed not to be Treasure and two cases are still to be determined. Index B lists those museums that have acquired finds.

Between 2000 and 2004 museums have acquired more cases of Treasure as the overall numbers of finds reported as Treasure has increased. However, the proportion of finds acquired by museums in comparison with those disclaimed has remained remarkably constant:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Acquired</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Disclaimed</th>
<th>%</th>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>104</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>47</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As in previous years museums have received help to enable them to acquire Treasure from the Art Fund (7 cases: nos. 6, 35, 109, 114, 210, 421, 465), the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund (17 cases: nos. 6, 32, 104, 112, 114, 124, 136, 175, 196, 209, 222, 227, 298, 339, 433, 450, 465) and the Headley Museums Treasure Acquisition Fund (12 cases: nos. 32, 104, 112, 114, 175, 209, 222, 227, 298, 339, 450, 465).

Nevertheless raising the money to acquire finds remains a problem for some museums and it continues to be a matter of concern that in no fewer than 34 cases in this Report museums expressed initial interest in acquiring the find but then withdrew, in 27 instances after these finds had been valued by the Treasure Valuation Committee (TVC). (The British Museum was able to acquire six other finds where a regional museum had initially expressed interest but was unable in the event to raise the funding and is currently pursuing a seventh case.) These cases represent a disappointment for finders and landowners and a waste of resources on the part of coroners, the DCMS and the Treasure Valuation Committee and it is regrettable that the number is actually slightly higher than in the previous year.

Donations

In the last report I noted that there was a rising trend in donations and it is pleasing to note that the number of finds donated has continued to increase. In this Report there are eighteen cases where both the finder and landowner waived their claim to a reward and generously donated the find to a museum and a further ten cases where one of the interested parties waived their right to a share of the reward. In the 2003 Report nine cases were donated to museums, so this represents a very significant increase. In addition to this, in the case of 20 of the 25 finds made by archaeologists the landowners have also waived their rights to a reward so that the finds can be donated to museums and two more cases are at present undecided.

We hope that the Department's new initiative of encouraging donations by giving certificates to finders and landowners who waive their rights to rewards will increase these numbers further. At the same time the Department also wrote to those museums that acquire archaeological finds urging them to encourage donations by giving credit to finders and landowners when they exhibit objects for which they have waived their claim to a reward.
Abatement of rewards

One case is included in this Report where a reward was abated, a post-medieval thimble from Lydham, Shropshire. The finder had made his own repairs to a tear in the thimble’s rim using a non-museum grade material and silver paint. The Treasure Valuation Committee, with reference to paragraph 79 (viii) of *The Treasure Act Code of Practice*, recommended that the finder’s share be abated by 10%.

The Report also includes a record of two Iron Age gold coins of a new type, said to come from Climping, West Sussex, which were recovered from the trade and where no reward was payable. A hoard of Iron Age gold coins was found during a metal detecting rally at Climping in 2000. Eighteen coins were reported from that rally at the time, eight of which were from this hitherto unknown type, but there were reports that more coins were found which had not been reported (see *Treasure Annual Report* 2000, no. 228). The two coins listed below under catalogue no. 414, were being offered for sale in the trade as coming from Climping. Through the British Museum the coins were reported to the coroner who decided on the balance of probability that they came from the hoard and declared them to be Treasure. Since the finder was unknown, no finder’s reward could be paid, and the owners of the land where the metal detecting rally had taken place in 2000 did not wish to pursue a claim to a reward, so the two coins were passed on to the British Museum.

Unreported finds of potential Treasure

In the two previous reports concerns were raised about an increase in the number of unreported finds of potential Treasure appearing in trade, particularly on the Internet and this continues to be a problem. The Portable Antiquities and the Treasure Department of the British Museum have now concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with eBay whereby eBay will remove finds from their website if there are grounds for believing them to be potential Treasure. The Metropolitan Police will notify eBay of such cases on advice received from the British Museum.

English Heritage, in partnership with other national heritage agencies and museums in the United Kingdom and the Crown Dependencies has commissioned a study of nighthawks and nighthawking to obtain for the first time accurate statistics on the extent of the problem; Oxford Archaeology were successful in the tendering exercise and work started on the project in autumn 2006.

The Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, with funding from the DCMS, is working on a Cultural Property Advice website which will give advice on these issues.

Archaeological finds

This Report contains 25 finds made by professional archaeologists or by amateurs while under archaeological supervision, rather less than the last report’s figure of 31. As noted in the last report, more needs to be done in raising awareness of the Act among archaeologists, as only certain archaeological units regularly report Treasure finds.

Roger Bland

*Head of Department of Portable Antiquities and Treasure*

*British Museum*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution/Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Finds Liaison Officer, Gloucestershire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barry Ager</td>
<td>British Museum, Department of Prehistory and Europe</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Allen</td>
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<tr>
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Gareth Williams      British Museum, Department of Coins and Medals
Philip Wise          Colchester Museums Service
Sally Worrell        Finds Adviser, Portable Antiquities Scheme; University College London

Note on Treasure Analyses

Treasure analyses at the British Museum, Department of Conservation, Documentation and Science, are carried out by Susan La Niece and Antony Simpson, using non-destructive x-ray fluorescence spectrometry (XRF).

Treasure analyses at the National Museum of Wales, Department of Archaeology & Numismatics, are carried out by Mary Davis, using a scanning electron microscope with energy dispersive x-ray analysis (SEM EDX), with a low vacuum chamber where necessary.

The surfaces of the objects are often corroded, even when not visibly so. The analysis is mainly of the surface and, whilst adequate in the majority of cases to establish for the purposes of the Treasure Act whether an object contains more than 10 per cent of precious metal, the percentages quoted are approximate and may not be an accurate analysis of the whole object.

Gemstone identifications at the British Museum are undertaken by Janet Ambers, using a Raman microscope (Dilor LabRam equipped with a Nd:YAG green laser at 532 nm and a near infrared diode laser at 785 nm), and by standard gemmological techniques where appropriate.
Table 1. Analysis of finds listed in this Report by period and type of object

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objects</th>
<th>Acquired</th>
<th>Disclaimed</th>
<th>Not treasure</th>
<th>To be determined</th>
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<td>57</td>
<td>59</td>
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<td>18th-20th centuries</td>
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<td>Undiagnostic</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>177</strong></td>
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Table 4. Increase in reported cases of Treasure 1997-2003 and 2003-05

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<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Treasure cases 1997-2002</th>
<th>Average per year 1997-2002</th>
<th>Treasure cases 2003-5</th>
<th>Average per year 2003-5</th>
<th>Average increase (%)</th>
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<td><strong>510.30</strong></td>
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Distribution map of all English and Welsh Treasure finds in 2004
Maps showing Treasure finds by period
1. Artefacts

A. Bronze Age 20
B. Iron Age 47
C. Roman 49
D. Early Medieval 62
E. Medieval 94
F. Post-medieval 118
G. 18th-20th centuries 150
H. Undiagnostic 160
A. Bronze Age

(i) Gold artefacts

1. Cobham, Kent: Copper Age gold disc (2004 T431) (Fig. 1)

Date: About 2500 – 2000 BC
Finder: Mr R Richards
Date of discovery: November 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Sheet gold disc with double perforation placed slightly off-centre. Five roughly executed concentric grooves surround a central zone containing lightly punched dots which look fairly irregular; but for one more regular circle of dots surrounding the perforations. There are traces of another circle of dots closer to the edge. The grooves are perceptible as raised lines on the ‘reverse’, but the dots are barely discernible although this is the more polished side and the perforations have been made from this face. An apparent greater thickness of metal in the middle of the piece, taken with the mismatched decorative schema, may indicate that the disc is the product of two episodes of work, perhaps the melding of two separate items. The piece is somewhat crumpled and crimped at the edges. There is little recent damage apart from a very small tear near the outer edge, and two more (even smaller) close to a crumpled area at one edge.
Discussion: The object belongs to a class of ornament which is among the first metal objects found in the UK and Ireland and may be dated by association with Beaker pottery as above.
Dimensions and metal content: Diameter: 27-25.5 mm; weight: 1.31g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 88 per cent.
Disposition: British Museum.

2. Northfleet, Kent: Bronze Age gold bracelet fragment (2004 T326) (Fig. 2)

Date: About 1500 – 1400 BC
Finder: Mr J Williams
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A small fragment of gold, rather crudely worked, although some of the dents are likely to be damaged. One end is a narrow, twisty rod of round section, possibly an original terminal. This flares into a ‘tab’, the end of which is not certainly intact. It is therefore possible it continued as a longer ribbon. This tab is flat between gently convex sides which are thickened as beadings of triangular section.
Discussion: The uncertainty as to whether this piece is broken makes it difficult to be sure of its identification. However, its features do match those of a type of bracelet which occurs in just two Welsh hoards, from Capel Isaf, Dyfed, and Maesmelan Farm, Powys. The type, known as Capel Isaf, comprises a flat band strengthened by triangular-section beadings along either edge. At either terminal the band tapers quickly to a hooked tang, one of which is rod-like, the other a flatter strip; these two interlock to close the bracelet. The Northfleet fragment appears to have had a narrower band than the Welsh parallels, but its metal composition is similar with low copper content and between about nine and 16 per cent silver.
Making this identification does not necessarily offer definitive dating since the type is not associated with datable objects. The Capel Isaf hoard contains, in addition to two of this type, two more broad-band bracelets which are plainer in design, and a small fragment of twisted strip which is likely to be the terminal of another ornament (Savory 1977; Savory 1980, no. 302, 195 fig. 46, pl. VIII). The Maesmelan Farm hoard has a simple rectangular section penannular bracelet in association with one of Capel Isaf type (Green et al. 1983). The prevailing opinion is that these are of Bronze Age date and, if so, they are likely to date to before the middle of the Bronze Age (c. 1500/1400 BC), after which the copper content of the gold rises significantly. A mature Early Bronze Age or earliest Middle Bronze Age date is feasible and would tie in with a similar date for the Heyope ribbon torcs with similar terminals from a hoard in Powys.
Dimensions and metal content: Surviving length: 24.3 mm; max. width: 12.2 mm; diameter of rod: 2.2-3.2 mm; weight: 3.5g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 88 per cent.

Disposition: British Museum.

3. Lambourn, Berkshire: Two Middle Bronze Age armlets and three bracelets (2004 T348) (Fig. 3)

Date: 1300 – 1100 BC
Finder: Mr S Raynsford
Date of discovery: September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector. Subsequent geophysical survey and excavation of the findspot, funded by English Heritage and carried out by Oxford Archaeology, showed that the objects had been buried in a shallow feature, probably a pit.

Description: The two twisted arm/neck ornaments are coiled (either because they could more easily be buried, or because they were worn on the arms). They both have four-flange twisted bodies, and plain terminals which expand gently towards the ends. The terminals are doubled back; one is more slender than the other. These will be referred to as ‘armlets’, to distinguish them from the bracelets.

The bracelets are plain with unexpanded terminals and made from solid gold bar of roughly circular section. Two are relatively slender, the other is thicker. This last has terminals which almost meet; the other two have wider gaps.

Discussion: Associations of the two types of object represented in this hoard are well known. Both belong to well documented classes of ornament belonging to the Middle Bronze Age. This is reinforced by analyses, which accord well with other objects of this class and date.

Dimensions and metal contents:
1. The thicker armlet: Length of terminals from end to recurve: 58 and 59 mm; diameter of terminal ends: 8 mm (both); thickness of body at crests of flanges: 6.5 mm; weight 255.79g; gold content approximately 82 per cent.

2. The slender armlet: Length of terminals as above: 42 mm (both); diameter of terminal ends: 5 mm and 5.5 mm; thickness of body as above: 5 mm; weight 116.6g; gold content approximately 79 per cent.

3. The thickest bracelet: external diameter: 63-74.5 mm; thickness of bar: 6.5-7 mm; weight 101.3g; gold content approximately 82 per cent.

4. The slender bracelet (with the larger gap between terminals): external diameter: 64-78 mm; weight 67.0g; gold content approximately 82 per cent. thickness of bar: 5mm; width of gap: 11 mm.

5. The slender bracelet: External diameter: 61-78 mm; thickness of bar: 5 mm; width of gap: 8 mm; weight 58.6g; gold content approximately 82 per cent.

Note: Conservation for identification carried out by Dept. of Conservation, Documentation and Science, British Museum.

Disposition: West Berkshire Museum hopes to acquire.

G VARNDELL

4. Newchurch area, Isle of Wight: Middle Bronze Age composite ring (2004 T286) (Fig. 4)

Date: About 1300 – 1100 BC
Finder: Mr A Rowe
Date of discovery: July 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A very crumpled composite ring, comprising three elements which appear to be thin c-sectioned gold strips soldered together.

Discussion: This is a well-known Middle Bronze Age type, decorative in character.

Dimensions and metal content: Width of band: 9 mm; weight: 3.57g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 82 per cent.

Disposition: Isle of Wight Museum Service.

G VARNDELL
5. Roxby-cum-Risby, North Lincolnshire: Possible Bronze Age gold rod fragment (2004 T490) (Fig. 5)

Date: Possibly 1300 – 1100 BC  
Finder: Mr J Lockwood  
Date of discovery: September 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A contorted fragment of rod of triangular section; the faces are concave and the flanges formed at their junctions are therefore acute. A moderate double twist at a point where the rod is bent appears to be a deliberate feature, but elsewhere very slight twists are likely to be due to distortion. There are no cut-marks, nor any crushing at the breaks.

Discussion: In its fragmentary state it is difficult definitively to identify the Roxby-cum-Risby object. Twisting is a regular feature of Middle Bronze Age gold bar ornaments in Britain and Ireland, and in general this may offer the best context. Although most commonly of square section, such ornaments can occasionally have a triangular section (Eogan 1994, 53-7). Also unusual is the intermittent nature of the twisting, but very occasional parallels can be found. It is possible that intermittent twisting may in some cases indicate that an ornament had not been finished. The hoard from Cappeen, Co Cork, is particularly relevant to the Roxby-cum-Risby fragment in containing these two unusual features, albeit on separate objects: a fully twisted neckring of triangular section and an intermittently twisted bracelet, or rod, of square-section (Eogan 1994, 63 fig. 27A). This can be accepted as a probable fragment from a Bronze Age ornament, although not necessarily from a finished piece.

Dimensions and metal content: Max. dimension (in contorted state): 55 mm; approximate extended length: 200 mm; thickness: 2.5 – 3.1 mm; weight: 14.4g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 87 per cent.

Disposition: North Lincolnshire Museum.  

S P NEEDHAM

6. North East Norfolk: Middle Bronze Age gold wire with seven composite and two simple rings (2004 T81) (Fig. 6)

Date: About 1300 – 1100 BC  
Finder: Mr S Harris  
Date of discovery: January 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: Whilst beating for pheasants in a field.

Description: The find comprises a loop of thick gold wire of roughly circular cross-section, the ends overlapping. On to this are threaded nine rings, seven of which are of the type known as composite; two are simple rings. One of the latter (i) is a loop of gold wire with overlapping ends; the wire tapers from one end to the other. The other (ii) is a penannular ring of round-sectioned wire, the terminals close together. Of the composites: (iii) is a triple ring of three lightly C-sectioned strips probably soldered together. The terminals of one meet; the other two display a narrow gap. (iv) is a double ring consisting of two C-sectioned strips. The ring is penannular, i.e. the terminals do not meet. (v) is a double ring similar to the above. (vi) is a double ring similar to the above. (vii) is a slender double ring otherwise similar to the above. (viii) is a double ring of marked C-section otherwise similar to the above. (ix) is a triple ring similar to (iii) except that the gap is the same in all cases. The main loop has one thicker terminal which has a finished look. The wire tapers slightly towards the other end, which appears to have been broken off a longer length of wire in antiquity. It is possible that this is a re-used fragment of a bracelet. There is wear on the ridged insides of the composite rings, probably where these have rubbed against the main loop. There are two modern scrapes on the main loop.

Discussion: Composite rings have been found singly and associated with other gold personal ornaments. They may also be found linked together. In Britain they may be dated by association to the Middle Bronze Age. In common with some other Bronze Age ornament types they are found also in Ireland and France though they appear to be rarer in Ireland. At Stretham, Cambridgeshire six composite rings were found threaded onto a penannular bracelet; a twisted neck ornament and a bronze rapier were found in association.
Dimensions and metal contents: Main loop:
diameter of wire from 3.5 mm at the thicker end to
2.5 mm at thinner end. Max. diameter of loop: 34.5 mm.
Rings: max. diameters from 10.1-10.5mm; weight of
whole: 48.9g. Surface analysis conducted at the British
Museum indicated gold contents ranging from 76 to
86 per cent.
Disposition: Norwich Castle Museum, with funding
from The Art Fund, the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund
and a private donation in memory of Professor David

G VARNDELL

7. East Dean area, East Sussex:
Possible Bronze Age gold bracelet
fragment (2004 T59) (Fig. 7)

Date: About 1500 – 750 BC
Finder: Mr B Jordan
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a
metal-detector.
Description: Short length of rod originally of circular
section of about 5 mm diameter. Both ends have been
hammered, cut and finally torn. The hammer facets
taper back and almost meet in the middle. The
thinned blunter ends have steep 'cut' facets and are
partly rough-fractured. The undamaged parts of the
sides have slight longitudinal facets and fine striations
from the original finishing.
Discussion: Such a small and undiagnostic fragment
cannot be identified definitively. However, all the
features, including the mode of fragmentation and the
metal composition are consistent with this being part
of a Bronze Age bar bracelet. As such, it would belong
to the Middle or Late Bronze Age.
Dimensions and metal content: Length: 18.2 mm;
max. width: 6.0 mm; weight: 4.57g. Surface analysis
conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold
content of approximately 88 per cent.
Disposition: British Museum.

S P NEEDHAM

8. Takeley, Essex: Late Bronze Age
penannular ring (2004 T502) (Fig. 8)

Date: About 1020 – 750 BC
Finder: Mr B Reynolds
Date of discovery: December 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a
metal-detector.
Description: Penannular gold ring of subcircular
section, with decorative banding in yellow and paler
gold. The silver-rich stripes particularly have an etched
appearance.
Discussion: Penannular gold rings of this type are
assigned to the late Bronze Age.
Dimensions and analysis: Diameter: 18 mm; breadth:
6.2 mm; gap between terminals: 3.5 mm; weight:
14.35g. Analysis conducted at the British Museum
indicated a gold content of approximately 76 per cent,
and confirmed that the ring does not have a base
metal core.
Disposition: Saffron Walden Museum.

P R SEALEY AND C A MCDONALD

9. Havant, Hampshire: Late Bronze Age
penannular ring (2004 T295) (Fig. 9)

Date: About 1150 – 750 BC
Finder: Mr K McCarthy
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a
metal-detector.
Description: Small penannular ring comprising a plain
round to oval-sectioned hoop with flat terminals. The
interior of the hoop and the flat terminal surfaces are
less smooth and bright than the other surfaces.
Discussion: The object is a well-known Bronze Age
type, decorative in character.
Dimensions and analysis: Max. diameter: 14.5 mm;
thickness of hoop: 4.0 mm; internal diameter: 7.0 mm;
weight: 5.6g. Analysis conducted at the British
Museum indicated a gold content of approximately
82 per cent, and confirmed that the ring does not
have a base metal core.
Disposition: Hampshire Museums Service had hoped to acquire, but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

G VARNDELL

10. East Wight, Isle of Wight: Late Bronze Age penannular bracelet terminal (2004 T447) (Fig. 10)

Date: 1000 – 750 BC
Finder: Mr D Cole
Date of discovery: About 1992
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Terminal of a gold C-section penannular bracelet.
Dimensions: Length: 20 mm; width: 22 mm; thickness: 0.5 mm approx; weight: 3.53g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 67 per cent.
Disposition: Not Treasure; returned to finder.

F BASFORD

11. Gisburn, Lancashire: Two possible Bronze Age gold bracelets (2004 T317)

Date: Uncertain, possibly Late Bronze Age
Finder: Mr S Cocker
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description:
1. A complete penannular bracelet with a band of thin, C-section, thickest at the centre, and thinner, rounded and highly polished along the edges, with squared off terminals. Diameter: 78 x 67 mm; band width at terminals: 15.5 mm; weight: 47.3g.
2. A complete and highly polished penannular bracelet with band of near D-section, tapering towards either end then expands into oval, buffer-like terminals with flat ends. Diameter: 68.5 x 54 mm; weight: 53.1g.

Discussion: These two bracelets broadly conform to types known in the Late Bronze Age of Britain and north-west Europe, one (D-section) being more common than the other. Certain typological details and the composition of bracelet no. 1, however, cannot be matched among Bronze Age metalwork. Without cutting a section for full metallographic analysis, it is not possible to be more specific about its internal composition, but even the surface composition is highly unusual.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

S P NEEDHAM

12. East Norfolk: Late Bronze Age penannular ring (2004 T321) (Fig. 12)

Date: About 1150 – 750 BC
Finder: NAU Archaeology (formerly Norfolk Archaeological Unit)
Date of discovery: April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: Controlled archaeological investigation.
Description: A small penannular gold ring with decorative narrow banding in yellow and paler gold. The external surfaces are very worn.
Discussion: This is a well known Late Bronze Age type, decorative in character.
Dimensions and metal content: Max. diameter: 15 mm; internal diameter: 7 mm; breadth: 4 mm; weight: 3.24g. Scientific examination conducted at the British Museum confirmed a gold covering over a base-metal core.
Disposition: Norwich Castle Museum; purchased with a donation in memory of Professor David Quinn. Accession no. 2006.147.

G VARNDELL

13. Lavant, West Sussex: Late Bronze Age penannular ring (2004 T79) (Fig. 13)

Date: About 1150 – 750 BC
Finder: Mr P Mordle
Date of discovery: April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A penannular ring of roughly oval cross-section, the inner surface being flattened. The terminals are flat. The ring has alternate stripes of yellow and paler gold; this decorative banding has been considerably worn on each face and on the angles of the flattened inner surface. Examination of the surfaces of the terminals indicates that the piece probably comprises a gold wrapping over a core of different material; in such cases this is frequently copper alloy. The presence of a base metal core was subsequently confirmed in the laboratory.

Discussion: A well-known Late Bronze Age type, decorative in character. A similar ring was found in January 2002 not far away; see Treasure Annual Report 2002, no. 3.

Dimensions: Max. external diameter: 18 mm; max. thickness of hoop: 6 mm; weight: 9.61g.

Disposition: Chichester District Museum.

14. Burton Fleming area, East Riding of Yorkshire: Late Bronze Age penannular ring fragment (2004 T390) (Fig. 14)

Date: About 1150 – 750 BC
Finder: Mr G Parkin
Date of discovery: October 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Somewhat under half of a penannular ring, including one flat terminal. The hoop is thick and oval in cross-section. The ring comprises a gold covering over a base metal core; the covering has decorative stripes of yellow and paler gold. In common with other such ornaments the striped effect is very worn on the outer surfaces of the ring and clearer inside; however at some point in its history not determined, the interior appears to have been polished. The fracture is jagged.

Discussion: The object is a well-known Bronze Age type, decorative in character.

Dimensions: Thickness of hoop: 7 mm; breadth of hoop: 8 mm; weight: 5.11g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 72 per cent in the yellow stripes.

Disposition: East Riding Museums Service.

(ii) Multiple deposits

15. Newchurch, Isle of Wight: Middle Bronze Age base-metal scatter (2004 T423) (Fig. 15)

Date: About 1400 – 1250 BC
Finder: Mr S Little
Date of discovery: November 2004
Circumstances of discovery: Whilst searching with a metal-detector; no more than one foot deep. All three implements were found within plough-soil in an area defined by a two metre radius. No further archaeological material was noted.

Description: Three bronze implements, heavily corroded with severe surface pocking and attrition of some edges. Limited areas of mid-green patina survive.

1. Palstave: Corrosion-reduced flange crests and considerable loss at cutting edge. Gently flaring blade; no indication of a loop. Stop in form of shallow ledge between higher flanges which then converge to meet on blade top in shield-shaped rib. Blade below has medial ridge. Two short fine longitudinal ribs occur on the septum base next to the stop. Extant length: 152 mm; extant width of cutting edge: 38.5 mm; thickness of septum base: 9.3 mm; weight: 325g.

2. Looped palstave: Corrosion-reduced flange crests. The shallow stumps of a loop remain on one side. Butt-end of haft and cutting edge lost. Gently flaring blade. Decorative motif below stop is a medially split sunken shield. Four short but prominent ribs occur at the base of each septum next to the stop ridge. Extant length: 115.5 mm; extant width cutting edge: 39 mm; thickness of septum base: 8.0 mm; weight: 260g.

3. Socketed hammer: Corrosion attrition around mouth. Single mouth-moulding apparent; any finer ones precluded by poor condition. The sides taper gently from the mouth towards a rectangular, gently convex working end which shows traces of burring at edges. Socket tapers steadily but asymmetrically to small base. Intact patina shows dimpled surface and suggests no decoration was present. Length: 83.5 mm; mouth width: 31.5 mm; mouth breadth: 25.2 mm; socket depth: 52.5 mm; weight: 183g.

Discussion: The two palstaves, although of different types, are typical of Taunton metalworking in the region (c. 1400 – 1250 BC). No. 1 is of the regionally
distinctive Werrar type (Rowlands 1976, pp. 33-4), which is virtually confined to the Isle of Wight and adjacent coastlines. Socketed hammers first appear at this horizon and the Newchurch object conforms well to early examples. Given the close proximity of the three objects, there is good reason to believe that they were deposited together or at the same time. 

Disposition: Isle of Wight Museum Services had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; British Museum acquired.

16. Northwood area, Isle of Wight: Middle Bronze Age base-metal scatter (2004 T67) (Fig. 16)

Date: About 1300 – 1100 BC
Finder: Mr A Fisher
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: Controlled field-walking and metal-detector survey. The two palstaves were found approximately 1.5 m apart, at the interface between the plough soil and underlying clay.

Description:
1. Loop ped palstave cast in a bi-valve mould. Decoration on both sides of the blade beneath the curving stop-ridge is in the form of a shield combined with a central rib to form a ‘trident’ pattern. A casting seam is visible on the looped edge only.
2. Unloop ped palstave cast in a bi-valve mould. The implement was cast when the valves were not correctly aligned with each other as each half is slightly ‘off-set’ forming a distinct step along the full length of both sides. Decoration on both sides of the blade beneath the straight stop-ridge is in the form of a central longitudinal rib.

Dimensions: 1: Length: 151 mm, width: 38 mm, thickness: 28 mm; weight 322g. 2: Length: 169mm, width: 37 mm, thickness: 27mm; weight 362g.

Disposition: Disclaimed; to remain with the main site archive (Isle of Wight Museum Service).

17. Cirencester area, Gloucestershire: Bronze Age gold and base-metal scatter (2004 T416) (Figs. 17.1-6)

Date: About 1300 – 1100 BC
Finder: Mr S Taylor
Date of discovery: September and December 2004; February 2005
Circumstances of discovery: Most finds were made within a zone 25 x 10 metres in extent with just a few further away, up to 40 m. The full circumstances are dealt with in Gloucestershire County Council’s preliminary report (Barrett and Vallender 2005); in summary:
A) Thirty-five objects found before archaeological involvement (nos. 1-35), between 1 and 50 cm deep, the positions of twenty-one findspots marked with pegs and later surveyed in by GCC archaeologists.
B) Fifteen objects recovered during archaeological excavation of a 10 x 3 m trench (nos. 39, 41-42, 44-47, 50-55, 57-58).
C) One gold fragment (no. 52) was later found to belong to one of the initial discoveries (no. 31).
D) Following the excavation, a further two objects were recovered (nos. 37, 43); no positions were marked, but they were reported to come from the area of the main scatter.
E) The archaeologically monitored gridded metal-detector survey, covering a zone 70 x 30 m roughly centred on the excavated trench, recovered three finds relevant to the Bronze Age deposit (nos. 40, 48-49).
F) Three more objects were recovered by detecting, from an area about 40 m to the south of the main concentration, adjacent to a ploughed out field boundary on a NE-SW axis (nos. 36, 38, 56). Finally, object no. 59 was later submitted, the location unreported.

Description:
[Objects are gold unless otherwise stated]
1. Bronze awl or punch (fig. 17.1). Complete stout double-ended tool, both ends tapering to rather bullet-like tips. The shank section is round close to the ends, but mainly square with body angles locally faceted. Length: 40.1 mm; width: 4.9 x 4.5 mm; weight: 5.0g.
2. Bronze awl or tracer (fig. 17.1). Complete; slender rod mainly of square section, but becoming more round at pointed end. Maximum width lies closer to presumed butt end, which was likely wedge-shaped before patina loss locally. Length: 45.4 mm; width: 3.1 x 2.9 mm; weight: 1.6g.

3. Torc trumpet terminal fragment (fig. 17.3). Gradually expanding torc terminal of round section, the flattish end having a slightly dished centre. Other end bifacially cut then torn; associated bend is probably part of the original tight turn to the hoop. Length: 50.0 mm; diameter: 7.4 x 7.7 mm; weight: 14.5g.

4. Bar-twisted ornament fragment – torc or bracelet (fig. 17.1). Medium-thick bar of trilobate section, evenly twisted except close to one break where plain round section and bend suggest beginning of recurved terminal. Both ends torn. Length: 40 mm; unfurled length: 110 mm approx; diameter: 3.8 mm; weight: 11.2g.

5. Flange-twisted torc fragment (fig. 17.1). Piece of hoop of cruciform (‘four-flanged’) section. Roughly coiled (secondary), the tighter bends distorting otherwise neat twisting. Flange crests neatly flattened up to 0.7 mm wide. Both ends bifacially chopped. Coil diameter: 31 mm; unfurled length: 120 mm approx; bar diameter: 6 mm; weight: 17.7g.

6. Flange-twisted torc fragment (fig. 17.1). Piece of hoop of cruciform (‘four-flanged’) section. Flange crests flattened up to 0.7 mm wide. Fairly evenly twisted except where compressed at the two bifacially chopped ends. Length: 29.1 mm; bar diameter: 7.2 mm; weight: 6.1g.

7. Twisted-rod fragment with trumpet terminal (fig. 17.1). Irregular, secondary coil of fairly thin rod of trilobate section, twisted tightly and neatly. Becomes plain round-sectioned for last 32 mm, expanding very gradually to near flat end – i.e. a trumpet terminal. Stress fractures suggest terminal originally recurved relative to hoop. Broken end torn. Coil diameter: 34.5 mm; unfurled length: 250 mm approx; terminal diameter: 2.3 mm; hoop diameter: 1.7 mm; weight: 7.8g.

8. Twisted-rod fragment (fig. 17.1). Irregular, secondary coil of fairly thin rod of trilobate section, twisted tightly and neatly. Fine cracks along furrows. Both ends torn. Coil diameter: 20.0 mm; unfurled length: 115 mm approx; rod diameter 2.0 mm; weight: 4.2g.

9. Twisted-rod fragment (fig. 17.1). Irregular, loose coil (secondary) of thin rod of trilobate section, twisted tightly and neatly. Hairline cracks intermittently along furrows. Both ends twisted-and-torn. Max. dimension: 29.7 mm; unfurled length: 65 mm approx; rod diameter: 2.5 mm; weight: 3.7g.

10. Two twisted-rod fragments (fig. 17.1). Two roughly coiled and intertwined thin rod fragments of quadrilobate section with tight, neat twisting. All four breaks are torn. Coil diameter: 28.5 mm; unfurled lengths: 95 and 120 mm approx; rod diameters: 1.8 and 1.9 mm; weight: 7.0g.

11. Twisted-rod fragment (fig. 17.2). Roughly coiled as if to form a penannular ring, but both ends unifacially cut. Medium thick rod of quadrilobate section with very neat, tight twisting. Coil diameter: 22.5 mm; unfurled length: 55 mm approx; rod diameter 2.7 mm; weight: 4.2g.

12. Twisted-rod fragment (fig. 17.2). Bent rod fragment of quadrilobate section; twisting not as tight as associated fragments. One end bifacially cut, the other unifacially. Length: 30.2 mm; unfurled length: 33 mm approx; rod diameter: 2.2 mm; weight: 1.4g.

13. Twisted-rod fragment (fig. 17.2). Loose (secondary) coil of thin rod of trilobate section, tightly twisted. Both ends twisted-and-torn. Coil diameter: 27.5 mm; unfurled length: 110 mm approx; rod diameter: 1.8 mm; weight: 3.5g.

14. Doubled-strand coiled rod finger-ring (fig. 17.2). Complete and neatly coiled ring with one-and-a-half circuits of doubled, plain rod of round section. The doubled-strand was formed by squashing flat a single unbroken ring, the tight bends at either end then serving as the terminals of the coil. Well finished, just tiny facets in places. Ring diameter: 25.0 mm; uncoiled length: 115 mm aprox; rod diameter: 2.0 mm; weight: 11.5g.

15. Doubled-strand rod fragment (fig. 17.2). Rod of round section tightly doubled back to form terminal very similar to those on ring no. 14. Facets present around terminal. One rod end torn, the other unifacially cut. Length: 20.5 mm; unfurled length: 22 mm; rod diameter: 2.0 mm; weight: 2.1g.

16. Coiled rod ring fragment (fig. 17.2). Joins object no. 40 to make complete ring. Medium-thick rod of round section having a simple but neat terminal with side facets leading up to a flat sub-pentagonal end; other end torn. Fairly neatly coiled into slightly oval shape. Small lap-flaws in surface. Diameter: 25.5 mm; unfurled length: 105 mm approx; rod diameter: 2.9 mm; weight: 10.6g.
17. Rod ring fragment (fig. 17.2). Single extant coil of medium-thick rod of round section. The curve is fairly even and likely close to original. Both ends unifacially cut, then torn. Diameter: 22.7 mm; unfurled length: 55 mm approx; rod diameter: 2.9 mm; weight: 5.9g.

18. Coiled wire ring (fig. 17.2). Complete ring of round-section wire neatly coiled three-and-a-half times; each coil slightly offset to the next. Minimal tapering of rod with associated faceting close to either simple terminal. Diameter: 23.3 mm; unfurled length: 235 mm approx; rod diameter: 1.5 mm; weight: 7.1g.

19. Twisted-rod fragment with trumpet terminal (fig. 17.2). Wire fragment roughly bent double, one half being of round section and expanding very gradually to flat-ended terminal. Becomes trilobate in section, loosely twisted and contorted towards other end, which is torn. Tiny longitudinal groove in side of terminal derives from manufacture, not fully polished out. Max. dimension: 17.0 mm; unfurled length: 30 mm; rod diameter: 1.0 mm; terminal diameter: 1.9 mm; weight: 0.9g.

20. Three wire pieces (fig. 17.2). Roughly coiled and loosely intertwined, three wires of approximately round section with a little faceting. Fairly even in thickness, but each tapers slightly to one end. Two possible torn ends, others original. Slight longitudinal grooves could be from drawing process. Coil diameter: 18.9 mm; unfurled lengths: 32, 42, 65 mm approx; wire diameters: 0.7 – 1.0 mm; weight: 2.0g.

21. Double penannular ring (fig. 17.3). Complete ring comprising two rods side by side, presumably soldered together. Rods round in section with partial flattening on inner faces. Well finished, but tiny transverse nicks close to one terminal may be flaws of manufacture. Terminal ends are marginally convex from finishing. Diameter: 14.3 x 13.4 mm; total breadth: 6.0 mm; rod thickness: 2.9 mm; weight: 7.1g.

22. Double penannular ring (fig. 17.3). Complete ring comprising two rods side by side, presumably soldered together. Rods round in section except mostly flattened on inner faces. Terminal ends slightly convex and two of four bear residual clefts. Diameter: 14.5 x 13.5 mm; total breadth: 6.0 mm; rod thickness: 3.1 mm; weight: 7.4g.

23. Single penannular ring (fig. 17.3). Complete ring of near-round section with slight faceting all round associated with relatively coarse grinding striations. Latter also present on flattish terminal ends, while small folds and lipping have not been erased. Piece is probably essentially finished, but lacks the finer polish acquired during use. Diameter: 13.0 x 13.9 mm; breadth: 3.1 mm; thickness: 2.9 mm; weight: 3.2g.

24. Single penannular ring (fig. 17.3). Complete ring of round section rod tapering a little towards terminals. Latter roughly flattened at their ends with some faceting around a central cleft and external lipping. Rod also covered in diffuse facets and light striations. Diameter: 14.5 x 13.5 mm; breadth: 3.0 mm; thickness: 2.9 mm; weight: 3.4g.

25. Single penannular ring (fig. 17.3). Complete ring of thick rod of slightly oval section tapering a little towards the terminals. Ends of latter roughly flattened with facets extant; slight lipping at the edges has in part been folded back and burnished into the sides. Diffuse hammermarks run back from terminals on generally smoothed outer face. Diameter: 13.5 x 12.0 mm; breadth: 3.4 – 4.0 mm; thickness: 3.0 – 3.7 mm; weight: 5.0g.

26. Penannular ring fragment (fig. 17.3). Very thick rod of near-round section and tightly curved without sign of distortion; almost certainly therefore from a ring of about 22 mm external diameter. Both ends chopped – one unifacially, the other bifacially. Another deep cut notch just inside latter. Length: 5.2 mm; breadth: 6.4 mm; thickness: 6.6 mm; weight: 6.7g.

27. Rod fragment (fig. 17.3). Thick rod fragment of round section. Original surface with diffuse longitudinal facets. One end cut and torn, the other dented and torn. Length: 25.1 mm; rod diameter: 5.0 mm; weight: 7.3g.

28. Rod fragment (fig. 17.3). Thick rod fragment of round section. Two unusual patches of blackened surface with silvery outline (analysis shows them to be silver splashes). Both ends with unifacial chop and opposing shallow facet, the remaining tongue torn. Length: 24.8 mm; rod diameter: 4.6 mm; weight: 6.6g.

29. Rod fragment (fig. 17.3). Thick rod fragment of round section with slight S curve in profile – presumably not original. Most of intact surface with very diffuse dimpling. One end dented and torn, the other, bifacially chopped and torn. Length: 31.8 mm; rod diameter: 5.2 mm; weight: 9.8g.

30. Rod fragment (fig. 17.3). Tiny segment of round or oval section rod. Both ends unifacially chopped then torn. Length: 3.3 mm; breadth: 4.8 mm; thickness: 4.3 mm; weight: 0.5g.

31. Bar fragment – unfinished bar ornament? Joins no. 52 to make complete bar (fig. 17.3). Thickish fragment of near rectangular section, tapering slightly to one
end, which is a probable terminal. Narrow facet along one body angle and part of another. Faces covered with hammer-rippling, while two longitudinal grooves are residual from working. Terminal has asymmetric convex end, roughly faceted and with residual cleft not worked out. Break with unifacial chop. Length: 34.2 mm; width: 4.4 mm; breadth: 3.5 mm; weight: 6.9g.

32. Flattened flange-twisted torc fragment (fig. 17.3). Well flattened fragment unifacially cut through at both ends. Four laps of metal run systematically from the sides diagonally in towards the middle and betray original helically coiled four-flanged section. Both surfaces rippled with hammer facets. Length: 14.7 mm; width: 10.7 mm; thickness: 2.1 mm; weight: 2.6g.

33. Ribbon/flat fragment (fig. 17.3). Small trapezoidal piece of ribbon. Longer sides unbroken and slightly bowed, converging towards one end. Shorter edges bifacially cut then torn. Length: 11.5 mm; width: 5.8 mm; thickness: 1.3 mm; weight: 0.8g.

34. Ribbon/flat fragment (fig. 17.3). Contorted flattish piece, the two longer sides mutilated by hammer damage, but not cut or torn. Both ends unifacially cut. Length: 12.0 mm; width: 8.9 mm; thickness: 1.5 mm; weight: 1.8g.

35. Modified rod/bar fragment (fig. 17.3). Small fragment of bar, triangular in plan and sub-triangular in section, probably having been distorted. Unifacial chops at both ends converge and almost meet at one side. Length: 8.0 mm; width: 6.7 mm; thickness: 5.4 mm; weight: 1.3g.

36. Bronze spearhead fragment (fig. 17.4). Tip of a spearhead with lozenge section midrib, the socket end not being present. Cutting edges chipped in places; intact parts thin, but with rather rounded bevelling. Length: 34.8 mm; width: 17.2 mm; thickness: 7.5 mm; weight: 6.8g.

37. Bronze punch (fig. 17.4). Complete tool with shaft largely of crisp square section, one end tapering in profile to bluntness of wedge-like end, probably to be sunk into handle. From midway, body angles gradually flattened by tapered facets, eventually converting working end into round section; this tapers to rather blunt point. Light furrow along one face residual from forging of the shaft. Length: 75.0 mm; width butt: 6.4 mm; diameter working end: 2.0 mm; breadth: 4.3 mm; weight: 7.4g.

38. Twisted-rod fragment (fig. 17.4). Loose, irregular coil of trilobate section rod, neatly and tightly twisted. Flange crests smoothed from polish or wear. Torn at both ends. Coil diameter: 26.0 mm; unfurled length: 88 mm approx; rod diameter: 1.8 mm; weight: 2.7g.

39. Twisted-rod fragment (fig. 17.4). Slightly bent piece of rod of quadrilobate section. Well smoothed crests and grooves. Either end is torn with a punchmark alongside. Length: 17.8 mm; rod diameter: 2.2 mm; weight: 0.9g.

40. Coiled rod ring fragment (fig. 17.4). Joins object no. 16 to make complete ring. Medium-thick rod of round to oval section having a simple but neat flat-ended terminal with a tapered facet running back on one side; other end torn and bent relative to no. 16. Almost full circuit of a coil of slightly oval shape. Diameter: 24.2 x 22.5 mm; unfurled length: 60 mm approx; rod diameter: 3.0 mm; weight: 6.0g.

41. Plain rod fragment (fig. 17.5). Irregular coil (one-and-a-half turns) of round section rod with slight longitudinal faceting. One end torn, the other with unifacial cut. Coil diameter: 24.5 mm; unfurled length: 75 mm approx; rod diameter: 1.9 mm; weight: 3.1g.

42. Wire penannular ring fragment (fig. 17.4). Tightly and evenly curved stretch of round section wire, probably near original curvature (estimated diameter 12 mm approx). Slight longitudinal faceting. One end a flat-ended terminal with tiny cleft in middle; other end dented then torn. Length: 9.7 mm; rod diameter: 1.6 mm; weight: 0.4g.

43. Single penannular ring (fig. 17.4). Complete. Round section rod, well polished with diffuse longitudinal faceting. Terminals a little out of alignment – one bent inwards. Terminal ends both ground flat around a sizable central depression. Diameter: 14.7 x 13.9 mm; breadth: 3.5 mm; thickness: 3.5 mm; weight: 4.8g.

44. Single penannular ring (fig. 17.4). Complete, unfinished. Round section rod with obvious longitudinal faceting and striations, apparently not having received final surface finish. Terminal ends neatly flattened, one though still retaining slight depression. Diameter: 14.3 x 13.7 mm; breadth: 3.2 mm; thickness: 3.2 mm; weight: 3.5g.

45. Single penannular ring (fig. 17.4). Complete, unfinished? Round to oval section rod, tapering towards the terminals. Some strong longitudinal facets, others largely polished out. Terminal ends not neatly finished, slightly convex with residual cleft and traces of outer-edge lipping. Diameter: 12.9 x 11.9 mm; breadth: 2.1 – 2.6 mm; thickness: 1.6 – 2.5 mm; weight: 2.1g.
46. Rod fragment with terminal (fig. 17.5). Round section rod with flat-ended terminal expanded around half its circuit to give slightly oval shape. Most smoothed, but with remnant hammer facets and fine grinding marks. Two unusual pits in surface about 3 mm long and associated with patches of blackening (analysis shows to be splashed with silver). Broken end bifacially chopped then torn. Length: 28.4 mm; terminal diameter: 5.3 x 6.0 mm; rod diameter: 4.8 mm; weight: 7.9g.

47. Rod fragment (fig. 17.5). Medium-thick round section rod tightly turned through 180° – curvature neat, but minute pitting here suggests stress from bending. Smoothed with traces of facets. Both ends bifacially pinched with one steep chop, one shallow facet and centre torn. Length: 12.0 mm; unfurled length: 25 mm; width: 11.7 mm; rod diameter: 3.6 mm; weight: 4.0g.

48. Rod fragment (fig. 17.5). Slightly bent round section rod. Traces of facets and fine fissuring in otherwise well polished surface. Both ends bifacially pinched with one rounded dent and opposing shallow facet, the middle parts then torn. Length: 36.2 mm; rod diameter: 5.3 mm; weight: 11.0g.

49. Rod fragment (fig. 17.5). Round section rod, well smoothed though leaving traces of longitudinal facets. Both ends bifacially hammered into acute-profile, ragged edges, also resulting in lateral expansion. Length: 24.3 mm; rod diameter: 3.8 mm; weight: 3.3g.

50. Rod fragment (fig. 17.5). Highly smoothed round section rod. One end with steep cut and tear, other with steep cut and opposing shallow facet. Both ends bifacially hammered into acute-profile, ragged edges, also resulting in lateral expansion. Length: 23.1 mm; rod diameter: 3.8 mm; weight: 3.7g.

51. Rod fragment (fig. 17.5). Well smoothed round section rod. One end cut right through with single steep cut, the other similar but with final tongue torn. Length: 6.5 mm; rod diameter: 3.8 mm; weight: 0.9g.

52. Bar fragment – unfinished bar ornament? Joins no. 31 to make complete bar (fig. 17.5). Thickish rod of sub-rectangular section with narrow faceting of the body angles. Fairly neat shaping, but still covered with hammer ripples. One end crudely shaped by hammering to create convex ‘terminal’, but two large clefts not worked out. Other end bifacially chopped. Length: 33.6 mm; width: 4.5 mm; breadth: 3.6 mm; weight: 7.2g.

53. Bar fragment (fig. 17.5). Thin bar of sub-rectangular section – flat faces and bowed sides with longitudinal faceting. One end bifacially chopped, other unifacially then torn; both have a transverse ‘marking’ groove immediately inside cuts. Length: 15.5 mm; width: 4.8 mm; breadth: 2.3 mm; weight: 2.4g.

54. Bar fragment (fig. 17.5). Sub-rectangular bar with narrow facets along body angles. Hammer rippling of faces. Both ends chopped through almost completely with unifacial cut, remaining tongue torn; possible ‘marking’ groove alongside one. Length: 8.7 mm; width: 4.4 mm; breadth 3.2 mm; weight: 1.5g.

55. Ribbon fragment (fig. 17.5). Narrow strip of crisp rectangular section. Surfaces well smoothed. Both ends torn with slight bending. Length: 10.2 mm; width: 3.2 mm; thickness: 1.3 mm; weight: 0.6g.

56. Modified bar/ribbon fragment (fig. 17.4). Both ends thinned by oblique bifacial hammer facets which meet at the middle, hence possibly modifying section even here; bowed section of sides possibly original though. Thin tongues at ends torn. Length: 11.1 mm; width at centre: 3.7 mm; breadth centre: 2.7 mm; weight: 1.1g.

57. Ribbon fragment (fig. 17.5). Strip of near constant thickness with slightly wavy sides, perhaps caused by hammering of one face. Other face flat and smooth. Both ends cut unifacially and steeply, one a straight cut, the other convex in plan. Length: 7.2 mm; width: 6.6 mm; thickness: 1.0 – 1.3 mm; weight: 1.9g.

58. Sheet fragment – ?conical cover (fig. 17.5). Tightly folded and crumpled fragment of sheet. Several stretches of near convex edge are visible, probably all linking as single edge. Likely part of conical or spherical sheet cover for bead or button. Max. dimension: 12.1 mm; width: 3.8 mm; breadth: 2.7 mm; thickness of sheet: 0.1 mm; weight: 0.3g.

59. Bronze knife (fig. 17.6). Near rectangular tang with flattened sides and flat faces; no flanging except erratically on sloped shoulders. Rivet hole appears drilled. Below obtuse shoulders blade swells marginally before very gradual taper to tongue-shaped tip. Flattened midrib defined all round by bevel, the broad blade edges outside lightly hollowed and carrying diffuse hammer ripples and poorly aligned longitudinal striations. Much of cutting edge damaged by corrosion chipping. Length: 205 mm; width blade: 28.5 mm; thickness: 5.0 mm; weight: 118.9g.

Metal contents: Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated gold contents for the 54 precious metal objects of between 76 and 85 per cent.

Discussion: Including intertwined fragments (nos. 10a-b and 20a-c), the Cirencester area find has yielded 57 objects of gold and five of bronze. Total
weight of the gold is 261.3g and of the bronze 139.7g. Because most of the material is fragmentary, there is the possibility that some might be from the same object. Two joins have been recognised and taking into account possibly belonging fragments, having similar features and dimensions, a minimum of 38 different gold objects and five bronze implements can be suggested. They break down as follows (see table on page 32).

The very fragmentary nature of many of the objects also imposes limitations on full identification. Similar gauges of rod or bar can be used for finger-rings and bracelets, or for bracelets and neck ornaments, and even terminal forms may not be unique to one ornament category. Identifications therefore rely on finding good parallels in more complete form.

Flange-twisted torcs with classic 'trumpet' terminals (group 2) are certainly represented in the Cirencester area find. It is not impossible that other fragments belonged to neck ornaments. Some of the medium-thick rods (group 5, especially 47, 49-51) could perhaps have been neck-rings strung with beads; fragments of such seem to have been present in the lost Beerhackett hoard, Dorset (Anon 1850, fig. D) and the sheet-gold cover from Cirencester (no. 58) may represent one of the biconical attachments illustrated there.

The thickest round rods present at Cirencester, averaging 5 mm thick and including that with a flat barely expanded terminal (27-30, 46, 48) are more likely to come from simple penannular bracelets such as are known in a number of hoards of the Middle Bronze Age. Unfortunately their short extant lengths and distortion associated with fragmentation does not allow any useful assessment of curvature.

The plain rod fragments of finer dimensions, down to wire proportions, seem consistently to belong to coiled finger-rings, but these break down into three types in detail (group 4). Simple coiled rings of rod or wire are known in bronze in a few Middle Bronze Age contexts, but are not readily paralleled in gold in secure contexts. Likewise, the doubled-strand form is unusual, but the Beerhackett hoard contained similar ornaments both in plain rod and twisted rod (Anon 1850, figs B and C). They are described as being armlets, but were generally too small in diameter; it is perhaps more likely that they were coiled to form finger-rings, as now seen clearly at Cirencester. A single find from Llanwrthwl, Brecknockshire (Savory 1980, no. 304, 195 fig. 47; Taylor 1980, pl. 34c), is again made of doubled-strand thin rod, but as a finger-ring it only forms a single circuit with a gap (penannular). The Beerhackett hoard also thus presents a possible identity for some (but not all) of the twisted rod fragments in this hoard (group 3); their rod diameters are similar to the illustrated one from Beerhackett.

The final object likely to be from a finger-ring is that chopped in two (31 and 52). Although in unfinished state, its full length is only about 68 mm, so it would form a penannular ring of around 25 mm diameter unless significantly stretched in the final stages of manufacture.

At least one of the thin twisted rods (group 3 no. 7) cannot have come from the doubled-strand type of ornament, nor from a finger-ring. Although of delicate proportions, its intact terminal follows the 'trumpet' pattern normally encountered on torcs. If this was from a torc, it was extremely fine; the alternative is perhaps a bracelet or armlet in matching style and secured by linking the two recurved terminals together in a similar (but uncertain) fashion. Twisted rods or wires can also evidently be used in multiples to form ornaments; this has come to light with the fine bracelet in the Burton hoard, Wrexham, in which six twisted wires have been fused together and clamped with folded strips at either end (This volume, no. 485).

The main gold type remaining for discussion is the familiar penannular ring of the later Bronze Age. Although the function of these is much debated, they are very distinct in form from finger-rings, not least in their small internal diameters. As many as ten examples are present in the Cirencester area assemblage, eight of them being complete. Other than in having a round or near-round section and simple flattened terminals, they are not uniform. Six are single plain rods of modest thickness sometimes tapering towards the ends (23, 24, 25, 43, 44, 45), two are similar but of double rod (21-22), one is a much thicker single rod fragment (26) and the last is from a delicate wire example (42).

There are a number of factors which could link the deposit to gold-working. Most obvious is the high proportion of the objects which have been chopped, cut or torn into fragments. Normally this would be interpreted as evidence of preparation for recycling. Certainly, it would be advantageous to break up the larger ornaments in order to fit the metal pieces in a crucible. However, fragmentation is not confined to
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-type</th>
<th>Object nos.</th>
<th>No. pieces</th>
<th>Minimum no.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Bronze implements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awls/punches/tracers</td>
<td>1*/ 2*/ 37*</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tanged knife</td>
<td>59*</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spearhead</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Torcs: flange-twisted hoops of medium to large thickness, with trumpet terminals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terminal, plus four-flanged hoop frags</td>
<td>3, 5, 6, 32 (flattened)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thinner four-flanged hoop frag.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Thin twisted-rod ornaments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terminal, plus frags of trilobate-section hoop</td>
<td>7, 8, 13, 38</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terminal with trilobate-section hoop frag.</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trilobate-section hoop fragment</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quadrilobate-section hoop frags</td>
<td>10a, 10b/ 11/ 12, 39</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Finger-rings: plain rod, bar or wire</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doubled-strand coiled</td>
<td>14*/ 15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coiled rod</td>
<td>16=40*/ 17/ 41?</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coiled wire</td>
<td>18*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rectangular-section bar</td>
<td>31=52* unfinished</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terminal and hoop fragments</td>
<td>46, 28, 30?</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round section hoop fragments</td>
<td>27, 29, 48/ 47, 49, 50, 51</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rectangular-section hoop fragments</td>
<td>53/ 54</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Other plain-rod ornaments: medium thick to thick rods/bars</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double-rod rings</td>
<td>21*/ 22*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-rod rings</td>
<td>23*/ 24*/ 25*/43*/ 44* unfinished/ 45* unfinished</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small fragment</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire ring</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Penannular rings: rod or wire of round section</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double-rod rings</td>
<td>21*/ 22*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-rod rings</td>
<td>23*/ 24*/ 25*/43*/ 44* unfinished/ 45* unfinished</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small fragment</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire ring</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Sheet gold-work</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheet fragment, ?button/bead cover</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Miscellaneous</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modified bar fragments</td>
<td>35, 56</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ribbon/ flat fragments</td>
<td>33/ 34/ 55/ 57</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire pieces</td>
<td>20a, 20b, 20c</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key:
- = join
- , division between fragments potentially belonging to one object;
- / division between separate objects (as reconstructed where necessary)
those and the fact that similar treatment was received by objects that could easily have gone into a crucible intact or crushed suggests that the process of fragmentation also had a symbolic role. Similarly, the crushing flat of a small flange-twisted torc fragment (no. 32) would again be totally unnecessary simply for the purpose of melting it down.

Notwithstanding this qualification regarding the purpose of fragmentation, there is other evidence relating to metalworking in the form of unfinished pieces: two single-rod penannular rings (44, 45) and a bar probably destined for a finger-ring (31/52). Other penannular rings, notably nos. 23 and 25, may be essentially finished, but have not acquired any obvious use-wear and may therefore be newly manufactured at the time of deposition.

The five bronze implements from the find could be of importance in this context. Three can be described variously as awls, punches or tracers, any of which could have performed some role in applying dot and line decoration to gold. However, a conundrum is presented by the fact that these forms of decoration are not a feature of gold of the phase represented. The unusually large tanged knife would, on the other hand, be a very suitable implement for cutting up many of the gold artefacts. The spearhead tip cannot obviously be functionally related, but spearheads do occasionally occur in ornament-dominated hoards of the Middle Bronze Age.

Most closely datable in the near Cirencester find is the flange-twisted torc, a type seemingly in use only during the Penard phase, c. 1300 – 1150 BC. Given the fragmentary nature of the torcs, the possibility must be born in mind that deposition was later, but associations for the other types all allow a Penard date. What is recorded from the Beerhackett hoard sits comfortably at this horizon, and coiled finger-rings in bronze are if anything typical of slightly earlier, Taunton phase metalwork (14th century BC). All but one of the bronzes could be of Penard date but are not specific to this phase. The exception is no. 1, which has a high lead content not found before the succeeding Wilburton phase. In fact, this object need not be Bronze Age at all; it is not a classic Bronze Age awl form and heavily leaded bronze compositions are also known in the Roman period. Fieldwork on the site yielded a number of Roman pottery finds.

The dating of the varied penannular rings (group 6) does require some further elucidation. The type is conventionally dated to the Late Bronze Age, c. 1150 – 800/750 BC, but occurs in only a few associations of that date. Those examples have base-metal cores covered in gold sheet and can be punch-decorated. Gold-covered and other more intricate varieties (especially striped ones) probably are of full Late Bronze Age date, but it is possible that the simple plain solid rod versions with slightly tapering terminals seen at Cirencester began earlier. Single, double and triple penannular rings with flat to hollow backs are associated with Penard phase hoards at Stretham, Cambridgeshire, and Boyton, Suffolk (Eogan 1994, 56-7 figs. 21 and 22), while the rings associated with a twisted torc from Haxey, Lincolnshire, include two quadruple-rod penannulars and a coiled rod all with oval rod sections (Taylor 1980, pl. 39c). The Blinkbonny, Northumberland, group of interlocked rings includes three triple-rod penannulars and a single coil of rod – these are all round in section (ibid, pl. 34a).

A final association of particular relevance is the assemblage of 42 gold pieces from Fittleworth, West Sussex (Treasure Annual Report 1996-97, no.1; British Museum accession 1996 9-2 1-42). Not only does this have two complete penannular rings of solid rod (one single, one double), it also shares with Cirencester a number of other features: flange-twisted hoop fragments, a plain-rod coiled finger-ring, and a high frequency of chopped up segments of rod and bar; many round section rods of differing thicknesses, octagonal section bars and flat/ribbon fragments; terminals are consistently flat-ended and unexpanded. The Fittleworth hoard also includes two complete (and therefore certain) plain penannular bracelets and a fragment of an ingot.

Conclusion: Although some very unusual elements are present in the Cirencester area find, there is no reason to doubt that originally it was either a single deposit or a series of related deposits made over a short period. It would appear that material of very similar character, and even two joining pieces, may have been spread over a fairly large area. Plough-dispersal is certainly plausible to account for this, particularly since all of the well-recorded pieces came from the modern plough soil. The date of deposition would have been within the Penard phase or shortly after, c. 1300 – 1100 BC.

Disposition: The Corinium Museum, Cirencester hopes to acquire.
18. Thornham, Norfolk: Middle Bronze Age base-metal scatter (2004 T401) (Figs. 18.1, 18.2, 18.3)

**Date:** About 1275 – 1150 BC  
**Finder:** Mr M Tillman  
**Date of discovery:** September 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector. Four Bronze Age bronze implements were found during a metal-detecting rally; the three submitted (the fourth made by a different finder) were located at depths between 2.5 – 10 cm on cultivated land. They were found in an approximate line (the direction of ploughing) at intervals of about 8 m.

**Description:** Condition of the palstaves (1 and 2) is good, the socketed axe, less so.

1. Loop palstave: Patina intact over part of butt and much of flange crests (fig. 18.1); cutting edge and blade tips totally corrosion chipped. Flanges triangular; stop projects beyond a little and has convex-profiled underside. Stout trident-rib motif – the outer ribs slightly bowed and point of convergence low on blade; stem below is diffuse. Strong edge bevel with slight blade tip hollows. Hammer-dimpling on faces and sides. Extant length: 154 mm; extant cutting edge width: 51.7 mm; width of butt: 24.5 mm; thickness of septum base: 12 mm; weight 485.5g.

2. Loop palstave: Butt corner intact, an adjacent notch may be due to poor casting (fig. 18.2). Two flanges intact, two corrosion damaged. Stretch of cutting edge retains patina, but is rounded rather than sharp. Flanges convex-triangular in shape; stop projects beyond a little and has convex-profiled underside. Stout trident-rib motif – the outer ribs slightly bowed. Strong edge bevel, hammering having caused blade tip hollows; however, tips have then been neatly squared off in finishing. Some hammer rippling, especially on edge bevel. Extant length: 149.5 mm; cutting edge width: 47.8 mm; width of butt: 24.5 mm; thickness of septum base: 11.5 mm; weight 418.8g.

3. Socketed axe: Half of one face and of one side missing, possibly eaten away by corrosion (fig. 18.3). Cutting edge and blade tips totally corrosion chipped. Deep, flat mouth-moulding. Corroded lump on one side of moulding, 4 mm across, likely to be stump of a loop. Both faces and sides have convex profile, but they still meet at well defined body angles. Intact side shows light linear features parallel to fine central casting flash remnant. Inner edge of mouth top also carries thin casting flash. Diffuse edge bevel. Socket tapers steadily and asymmetrically to wedge-like end. Extant length: 111 mm; extant cutting edge width: 37.6 mm; socket depth: 79 mm; weight: 217.9g.

**Discussion:** The two palstaves are of the Transitional type typical of the Penard metalworking assemblage, c. 1275 – 1150 BC. The socketed axe is an early flat-collar form; it does not have the gracile proportions of the Taunton-Hademarschen axes and instead is entirely in keeping with Penard socketed axe styles. A good parallel may be found, for example, in the Wallington hoard, Northumberland (Burgess 1968, 13 fig. 9.14), now datable to the Penard phase (Needham 1990a).

The three reported bronzes can therefore be attributed to the same phase of the Bronze Age and could well have been deposited at the same time. Although well separated, their linear alignment admits the possibility that they were plough dispersed from close proximity to one another.

**Disposition:** Norwich Castle Museum; accession no. 2006.477.

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**Date:** About 1000 – 800 BC  
**Finder:** Mr G Dyer  
**Date of discovery:** Ingot fragments: pre-2003; axe fragment: 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.

**Description:** 18 fragments of copper alloy ingots, and one socketed axe fragment.

**Disposition:** Not Treasure; returned to finder.
20. Breage, Cornwall (1): Late Bronze Age base-metal hoard and scatter (2004 T71) (Figs. 20.1, 20.2)

Date: About 1000 – 800 BC
Finder: Mr S James
Date of discovery: November 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector. The sword fragment (3), knife fragment (4), fragment of socketed implement (5) and torc fragment (6) were found within the socketed axe (1). The ingot fragments and metal-working debris (7-24) were surrounding the axe. The fragment of socketed axe (2) was found approximately 20 m to the south-west of the main group of objects.

Description: The original surface is missing on some objects, although the sword (3), knife (4) and torc/bracelet fragments survive in very good condition. The ingot fragments generally have a red/brown or pale green/white surface patina.

1. Incomplete socketed axe, South-Welsh type (fig. 20.1). Single flat collar around an oval mouth. Part of one vertical rib on one face and a less pronounced rib at the edge of the face. The lower blade end and blade edge are missing and there is no sign of a loop although the original surface is missing from much of the sides. The mouth is chipped at one side. The break at the lower blade is roughly straight. Most of the original surface is missing and the surfaces are very abraded and pitted. Length: 70.1mm; mouth width: 38 mm; mouth breadth: 34.93 mm; weight: 143.2g.

2. Socketed axe, fragment (fig. 20.1). Part of mouth, one face and side. Single flat collar at mouth. The surfaces are very heavily abraded and very little original surface survives. Length: 34.55 mm; width: 19.43 mm; weight: 14.3 g.

3. Sword, Ewart Park type (fig. 20.1). Upper blade fragment. Both blade edges are intact. Well-defined edge bevel 4.9 mm from blade edge. Length: 17.55 mm; width: 34.65 mm; weight: 15.3 g.

4. Hog-backed knife, fragment (fig. 20.1). Parts of two sides, with blade edge intact. Length: 10.8 mm; width: 20.05 mm; thickness: 3.78 mm; weight: 2.1 g.

5. Socketed implement, fragment (fig. 20.1). Part of one face and one side. Length: 12.35 mm; weight: 3.2 g.

6. Fragment, cast copper-alloy torc or bracelet with diagonal ridges (fig. 20.1). Casting seam on internal surface. Roughly circular in section. Length: 36.8 mm; diameter: 6.9-7.5 mm; weight: 12.4 g.

7. Ingot, fragment; weight: 171.1 g.

8. Ingot, fragment. Plano-convex; weight: 264.3 g.


10. Ingot, fragment. Plano-convex; weight: 103.6 g.

11. Ingot, fragment; weight: 86.7 g.

12. Ingot, fragment; weight: 49.4 g.

13. Ingot, fragment. Red/brown, possibly iron; fractured; weight: 42.6 g.

14. Ingot, fragment. Flat, plate; weight: 18.2 g.

15. Ingot, fragment. Flat. Pale green/white surfaces; weight: 22.2 g.

16. Ingot, fragment. Plano-convex; weight: 42.5 g.

17. Ingot, fragment. Red/orange; weight: 84.3 g.


19. Metal-working debris, fragment. Seams of white metal, possibly lead; weight: 90.7 g.

20. Metal-working debris, fragment; weight: 3.7 g.

21. Metal-working debris. Red, with lead adhesion; weight: 8.6 g.

22. Metal-working debris. Probable high lead content; weight: 8.9 g.

23. Metal-working debris; weight: 15.7 g.

24. Metal-working debris; weight: 17.3 g.

Discussion: The group consists of 24 fragments from a minimum of two socketed axes of South-Welsh type, a sword, a hog-backed knife, a torc/neck ring or bracelet, twelve fragments of raw metal copper ingot and six fragments of metalworking debris. That all but one of the non-ingot and metal-working debris fragments had been inserted into the socketed axe is an interesting feature of the group. A considerable number of the ingot and metal-working debris fragments have red/brown surfaces, which is a feature of copper corrosion. Other fragments appear to contain lead or a similar white metal, primarily on the surfaces, although one fragment of metal-working debris appears to have a possible seam of white metal. One of the ingot fragments (13) appears to have a very high iron content; a feature which is not entirely surprising given the very late Bronze Age date of this material. The non-ingot fragments are all fragmentary and show signs of having been deliberately broken for inclusion as scrap metal. The presence of axe, sword, knife and ornament fragments, which may be interpreted as scrap, mixed with ingots of raw material, suggests that this is a founders’ hoard. All of these artefacts fall within the Ewart Park phase of the Late Bronze Age period and suggest a date of...
deposition towards the end of the period, around 1000–800 BC.

Disposition: Royal Cornwall Museum hopes to acquire.

S WORRELL


Date: About 1000 – 800 BC
Finder: Mr S James
Date of discovery: March 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal detector. The objects were found in the same location at a depth of approximately 30 cm from the surface, reportedly below some rocks with the sword fragment and one of the ingot fragments found on the same level and the socketed axe directly below.

Description: The metal objects generally bear textured corrosion products on variable dark to mid green patinas. Patches of the corrosion have lifted to reveal dusty light green surfaces.

1. Incomplete, small socketed axe (fig. 21.1). Upper body, mouth and blade end missing. Deep completely flat collar, at least 15.1mm deep. Narrow moulding, with three ribs, two of which are vertical and one slightly oblique, extending from it. Patches of bright green corrosion, pale green at break on upper body. Two areas on one side are cracked. Casting flashes neatly flattened, but visible on one side. Length: 57.2 mm; width: 27.2 mm; weight: 37.7g.

2. Sword, Carps Tongue type (fig. 21.1). Upper blade fragment. The blade tip, much of the blade wings and blade edges are missing. Heavy corrosion damage at the breaks on the blade. Diffuse hammer marks on mid-rib. Smooth green patina on both sides. Length: 137 mm; width: 29.9 mm; thickness: 8.4 mm; weight: 109.3g.

3. Sword, Ewart Park type (fig. 21.1). Blade fragment. The blade edges are missing through corrosion damage. Copper corrosion products on the heavily pitted surfaces. Length: 52 mm; width: 35.5 mm; thickness: 8.3 mm; weight: 55.3g.

4. Ingot. Edge fragment (fig. 21.2). Plano-convex; weight: 76g.

5. Ingot. Plate-like fragment (fig. 21.2); weight: 15.5g.

Discussion: This small hoard is composed of one incomplete socketed axe, one fragment of an Ewart Park sword, one fragment of a Carp’s Tongue sword and four ingot/raw metal fragments. The axe does not fall into an established type and although ribbed, it is not a South-Welsh type. It is a well-finished and rather delicate example which was possibly manufactured in the south-west. The axe and swords are all fragmentary and show signs of having been deliberately broken for inclusion as scrap metal. All of these artefacts fall within the Ewart Park phase of the Late Bronze Age period and suggest a date of deposition towards the end of the period, around 1000–800 BC.

Disposition: Royal Cornwall Museum hopes to acquire.

S WORRELL

22. East of Colchester, Essex: Late Bronze Age base-metal hoard and scatter (2004 T116) (Figs. 22.1, 22.2)

Date: About 1020 – 800 BC
Finder: Ms L Cook (1) and Mr B Purpura (2–67)
Date of discovery: March 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector; the hoard had been buried in an oval pit 60 cm long and 37 cm wide at the surface, with a maximum depth of 62 cm. The socketed axe fragment (1) was found 14 m away from the hoard.

Description: Nine bronze artefacts (fig. 22.1); the remaining items are complete or fragmentary copper ingots (fig. 21.1 & 2).

1. Socketed axe, blade fragment.

2. Complete South-eastern socketed axe (Schmidt and Burgess 1981, 212).

3. Complete South-eastern socketed axe.

4. Complete South-eastern socketed axe.

5. Complete South-eastern socketed axe, variant Shoebury (op. cit. 213–14).

6. Complete South-eastern socketed axe, variant Bilton (ibid. 214).

7. End-winged axe.

8–9. Socketed axe blade fragments.
13-67. Copper ingot fragments.

**Discussion:** South-eastern socketed axes are typical of the Ewart stage of the Late Bronze Age, c. 1020 – 800 BC. The condition of the socketed axe fragment (1) is identical to that of the axe fragments in the hoard. In the circumstances it seems reasonable to link the axe fragment with the main hoard.

**Disposition:** Colchester Museums.

23. Ebbsfleet, Kent: Two Late Bronze Age base-metal scatters (2004 T228) (Figs. 23.1, 23.2)

**Date:** About 800 – 700 BC

**Finder:** Wessex Archaeology

**Date of discovery:** 2004 – 2006

**Circumstances of discovery:** Controlled archaeological evaluation and excavation. Find A was concentrated within an area of 1 m², find B (25 m to the south) was concentrated within an area of 0.25 m² with additional outlying objects up to 4 m away.

**Description:**

A. (fig 23.1) Only one object, a socketed axe (1) was found in situ; three further objects (2-4) came from the associated spoil, and two objects (5-6) from the general area. A fragment of copper alloy from the subsoil, probably a waste piece bled from an ingot (7), may also be associated. Subsequent excavation produced seven further items derived from this hoard (nos. 8 – 14).

1. Socketed axe; length: 88 mm; width: 37 mm; depth: 32 mm; weight: 146g.
2. Socketed axe; length: 106 mm; width: 43 mm; depth: 40 mm; weight: 279g.
3. Socketed axe; length: 88 mm; width: 38 mm; depth: 33 mm; weight: 157g.
4. Lead object; length: 30 mm; width: 18 mm; depth: 19 mm; weight: 25g.
5. Copper alloy ‘anvil’; length: 26 mm; width: 16 mm; depth: 12 mm; weight: 10g.
6. Perforated lead object; length: 19 mm; width: 17 mm; weight: 4g.
7. Possible ingot fragment; weight: 10g.
8. Ingot fragment; weight: 1165g.
9. Ingot fragment; weight: 675g.

B. (fig. 23.2) It is very likely that other elements of this hoard remain unexcavated; it derived from the interface of the subsoil and a shallow, ‘midden deposit’.

1. Ingot fragment; weight: 313g.
2. Socketed chisel; length: 85 mm; width: 11 mm; depth: 9 mm; weight: 37g.
3. Socketed axe; length: 101 mm; width: 50 mm; depth: 31 mm; weight: 152g.
4. Socketed gouge; length: 93 mm; width: 22 mm; depth: 21 mm; weight: 67g.
5. Spearhead fragment; length: 40 mm; width: 39 mm; weight: 30g.
6. Spearhead fragment; length: 23 mm; width: 26 mm; weight: 11g.
7. Ingot fragment; weight: 23g.
8. Socketed axe; length: 116 mm; width: 56 mm; depth: 41 mm; weight: 365g.
9. Ingot fragment; weight: 50g.
10. Socketed axe fragment; length: 56 mm; width: 28 mm; weight: 30g.
11. Socketed axe; length: 113 mm; width: 49 mm; weight: 374g.
12. Ingot fragment; weight: 320g.
13. Ingot fragment; weight: 147g.
14. Socketed axe fragment; length: 33 mm; width: 26 mm; weight: 20g.
15. Ingot fragment; weight: 45g.
16. Ingot fragment; weight: 206g.
17. Ingot fragment; weight: 12g.
18. Ingot fragment; weight: 13g.

**Discussion:** The findspots of Late Bronze Age Hoards A and B provide some interesting information as to the nature of their original deposition. In both cases the hoards appear to overlie Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age features and deposits and thus may post-date the settlement in this area, although a date in the 8th century BC might fall at the beginning of the pottery sequence. Neither of the hoards appears to have been buried in pits, and the evidence is particularly clear in the case of Hoard B. Here, a concentration of objects was found together at the base of the subsoil, just above the interface with the natural, with further,
generally smaller elements scattered around with some overlying or in the surface of the 'midden deposit'. The inference might be that that they were placed on the ground surface (possibly in a bag) and perhaps covered with a small mound of soil, and have subsequently suffered some minor disturbance as a result of ploughing. The precise findspot of Hoard A is less clear in this respect, but again there is no indication of the objects having been buried in a pit. The significance of the lens of dark soil in which at least one of the axes (and probably all three) was found is uncertain; it may have been 'ploughed off' the top of a feature or represent an in situ deposit. The context of the 2005 excavation finds (seven further objects) would appear to support the latter suggestion. It may be relevant to note that the Ebbsfleet III hoard (comprising five objects) found in 1992 (Lawson 1995) lay within a 1m² area in a uniform mixture of Thanet Beds sand at a depth of approximately 0.8 m. No stratigraphy could be distinguished and, in particular, no pit in which they were buried, and more extensive stripping around the hoard revealed no further objects suggesting only very limited dispersal through ploughing.

The discovery of these two Late Bronze Age hoards represents a significant addition to the three previous finds at Ebbsfleet, including the major group of at least 190 objects found in 1893 (Ebbsfleet I) at Ebbsfleet Farm just to the north-west of the Site. It also adds to the marked concentration of 'Carp's Tongue' hoards already recovered from the Isle of Thanet and the former Wantsum Channel (Lawson 1995, 277). What may be particularly significant about the two most recent finds, apart from their context, is the apparent absence of any evidence for metalworking on the site. Despite careful searching no fragments of crucibles, moulds or bronze droplets were found; the hoards may represent founders' hoards, but no actual evidence of metalworking has so far been forthcoming.

A date range late in the Late Bronze Age, probably around the 8th century BC, is indicated by the poor quality casting, and the presence of more massive axes; the two hoards are indistinguishable in terms of date. The range of objects is well paralleled within south-east England (and indeed from the other side of the Channel), although some objects (notably the small 'anvil', and the chisel) are less common. Many of the Thanet hoards contain ingots and provide evidence for an efficient industry producing quantities of weapons and tools, but also recycling scrap metal, probably from both sides of the Channel.

Disposition: To be determined.

P ANDREWS AND A J LAWSON

24. Lenham, Kent: Late Bronze Age base-metal scatter (2004 T119) (Fig. 24.)

Date: About 1000 – 800 BC
Finder: Mrs G Davies (1-10, 12) and Mr G Gandon (11, 13)
Date of discovery: March 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector, at a depth of no more than 30 cm within the plough soil, within an area of approximately 20 m². No. 8, 9 and 10 were found together and may represent the approximate point of deposition of the hoard.

Description:
1. Ingot, plano-convex edge fragment; weight: 191.86g.
2. Ingot, fragment; weight: 99.65g.
3. Ingot, fragment; weight: 40.66g.
4. Ingot, plano-convex edge fragment; weight: 147.61g.
5. Ingot, possible plano-convex edge fragment; weight: 36.24g.
6. Ingot, fragment; weight: 29.54g.
7. Ingot, plano-convex edge fragment; thickness: 24.93 mm.
8. Ingot, plano-convex edge fragment; weight: 105.46g.
9. Ingot, fragment; weight: 26.86g.
10. Ingot, probable plano-convex edge fragment; thickness: 18.9 mm.
11. Ingot, probable plano-convex edge fragment; thickness: 13.86 mm.
12. Casting waste. Fragment of copper alloy slag or dross; thickness: 13.71 mm; weight: 53.49g.
13. Casting waste. Probable fragment of copper alloy casting waste or jet; thickness: 9.57 mm; weight: 5.26g.

Discussion: This assemblage is composed of eleven copper ingots and two fragments of copper alloy casting waste. Ingots of raw copper are a well-known feature of Late Bronze Age metalworker's hoards in
south-eastern England, where they are usually found in association with manufactured artefacts such as axe heads, swords and spearheads. Although these artefacts were found as a scatter, it is likely that they were deposited together as a hoard and were later dispersed by the action of the plough.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

A RICHARDSON

25. Ringlemere, Kent: Late Bronze Age gold and base-metal scatter (2004 T85 and 2004 T146) (Figs. 25.1, 25.2, 25.3)

Date: About 1000 – 800 BC
Finder: Mr C Bradshaw
Date of discovery: February-April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector. The objects were scattered over an area approximately 20 m across and lying 175 m to the south-south-east of the previous find of a gold cup.

Description:
1. Gold wire/rod (fig. 25.1). A piece of thick wire, or rod, of neat circular section except where chopped at either end. Here cutting or chiselling from opposite sides has given the ends a wedge-like profile. Length: 37.2 mm; diameter: 2.7 mm; weight: 3.27 g.
2. Socketed axe fragment (site id. 358) (fig. 25.2). Mouth intact, but blade and one face lacking. Class A socketed axe decorated with wing-rib design. The bases of the wings continue onto the sides as a slight horizontal moulding. Length: 69 mm; weight: 81.4 g.
3. Plate-like fragment (fig. 25.2). All edges broken; possibly part of an artefact. Max. dimension: 46.5 mm; weight: 23.2 g.
4. Tang fragment (fig. 25.2). Blunt ended rod of sub-trapezoid section; other end thins and expands towards a bifurcation, but the two ends are immediately broken. Length: 36.5 mm; weight: 9.4 g.
5. Ingot fragment (349); weight: 434.5 g.
6. Ingot edge fragment (351); weight: 286.9 g.
7. Ingot near-edge fragment (352); weight: 623.2 g.
8. Ingot edge fragment (353); weight: 325.1 g.
9. Ingot edge fragment (355); weight: 611.1 g.
10. Ingot edge fragment (356); weight: 566.2 g.
11. Ingot near-edge fragment (357); weight: 343.8 g.
12. Lump, craggy form; weight: 4.3 g.

Discussion: The socketed axe is the only securely datable object among the group, belonging to the Ewart stage of the Late Bronze Age, c. 1000 – 800 BC. However, all but one of the remaining copper-alloy objects would be entirely consistent with such a date; the ingot fragments are typical of the form frequently encountered in Late Bronze Age hoards, while the smaller lumps, which are prills or waste, can also be matched in some contemporary contexts. The gold rod is undiagnostic. Its composition is consistent with a Bronze Age date, but not necessarily exactly contemporary with the base metalwork. Its composition does not, however, match that of the Early Bronze Age gold cup found 150 m away. Of the base-metal objects, all but item no. 4 are most likely, but not certainly, to be a dispersed hoard of Late Bronze Age date. The gold wire is likely to be ancient and, indeed, Bronze Age. The final copper alloy object (4) has not been recognised but is most likely to belong to a later period.

Disposition: British Museum.

S P NEEDHAM

26. Tilmanstone, Kent: Late Bronze Age base-metal scatter (2004 T422) (Fig. 26)

Date: 1000 – 800 BC
Finders: Mr V Burrows and Mr J Walker (no. 1)
Date of discovery: October 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with metal-detectors; all of the artefacts were dispersed over a small area within the same field.

Description:
1. Socketed axe, South-East class A. Small axe, incomplete; two joining fragments with a recent break. Double mouth moulding. Casting flashes intact. Blade edge corrosion chipped and missing in places. Expanded blade, blade tip hollows developed. Ridge down the centre of the internal face. Length: 75.3 mm; width of blade: 40.5 mm; width of mouth: 35 mm; weight: 116.6 g.
2. Blade, fragment. Rectangular in plan. No blade edges survive and the surfaces are heavily pitted.
Bronze Age Artefacts

Length: 34.25 mm; width: 18.5 mm; Thickness: 4.7-5.6 mm; weight: 15.7g.
3. Bracelet, fragment. Undecorated. The section is circular at one end, becoming D-shaped at the other end. Length: 39 mm; depth: 5.4 mm; width: 5.6-6.3 mm; weight: 7.2g.
4. Rod, fragment. Roughly circular in section at one end and narrower and slightly flattened at the other end. Surfaces lightly pitted. Length: 59.15 mm; width: 5-6.4 mm; weight: 11.3g.
5. Rod, fragment. Oblong in section; length: 11.5 mm; weight: 11.5g.
6. Ingot, fragment. Plano-convex; weight: 545g.
7. Ingot, edge fragment. Plano-convex; weight: 217.9g.
8. Ingot, fragment. Plano-convex; weight: 182g.
9. Ingot, fragment. Probably plano-convex, flat lower surface, uneven upper surface; weight: 104.5g.
10. Ingot, fragment. Plano-convex; weight: 12.7g.
11. Ingot, fragment, small; weight: 7.2g.
12. Ingot, fragment, edge; weight: 72.2g.
13. Ingot, fragment, edge. Plano-convex, about 50 per cent present; weight: 1134.9g.
14. Ingot, fragment. Roughly triangular in plan, with a slightly rounded apex and the lower edge missing. All surfaces are relatively even and have an unusual dark red/purple patina. At the break, the internal structure is dense with no voids as are frequently apparent in ingots. Surface analysis confirmed the ingot was copper, with no precious metal content. Length: 68.3 mm; width: 14.65-50.2 mm; weight: 247.7g.
15. Ingot, fragment; weight: 26.9g.
16. Probable ingot, fragment. Rounded; weight: 19.6g.
17. Ingot, fragment; weight: 32.1g.
18. Melted lump; weight: 12.1g.
19. Melted lump; weight: 18.9g.
20. Melted lump, fragment. Flat, thin; weight: 7.4g.
21. Metal working waste, seven fragments of amorphous metal. Total weight: 29g.

Discussion: This group of 28 late Bronze Age bronze artefacts have presumably been dispersed through the action of the plough. All but three items (nos. 1-3) are raw metal, either ingot fragments or waste, which is not especially diagnostic. Quantities of raw metal are a well known feature of this particular period in south-eastern England, with more scattered examples elsewhere. No. 14 is a slightly unusual ingot fragment, both in form and general appearance. Non-destructive X-ray fluorescence analysis of the surface of this object revealed a composition of pure copper. Only the socketed axe (no. 1) can be closely dated to the late Bronze Age. It shows signs of having been deliberately broken for inclusion with the other objects as scrap metal. Bracelet fragments such as no.3 are known from other recently discovered late Bronze Age hoards in Kent, as in the hoard from Crundale, although their presence in hoards is not a particularly common phenomenon (Treasure Annual Report 2003, no. 15).

Disposition: Dover Museum.

27. Northrepps, Norfolk: Late Bronze Age base-metal group (2004 T400) (Figs. 27.1, 27.2)

Date: About 1000 – 800 BC
Finders: Mr T Starhuski (1); Dr N Stark (2)
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with metal-detectors.

Description:
1. Single looped socketed axe (fig 27.1). Moulding at sub-rectangular mouth, rectangular sectioned body widening to curved cutting edge, at least 46 mm wide. Internal: 29 x 29 mm.
2. Single looped socketed axe (fig 27.2). Moulding at sub-rectangular mouth, rectangular sectioned body widening to curved cutting edge at least 44 mm wide. Traces of four very worn ribs on one face. External: 42 x 42 mm.


28. North Tuddenham, Norfolk (addenda): Late Bronze Age base-metal group (2004 T441) (Figs. 28.1, 28.2, 28.3)

Date: About 1000 – 800 BC
Finder: Dr A Carter
Date of discovery: October 2004
Description:
1. Copper alloy spear head (fig 28.1). Leaf-shaped blade with bevelled edges. Rounded socket continuing smoothly as rounded central rib to the tip. Brown patina with patches of thick, orange ?iron deposit along the join between the mid rib and blade and inside the socket. Side holes on socket 6mm diameter. Slight damage on the edge of the blade. Part of the socket is squashed. External diameter of socket: 26 mm; length of blade: 90 mm; total length: 117 mm.
2. Sword, fragment (fig 28.2 & 3). Broken at both ends and bent. Bevelled edges. Brown patina with patches of green and very small patches of orange ?iron deposit. The blade edges are damaged and about half the original surface is roughened / missing. Length: 73 mm (unbent); width: 29- 35 mm; max. thickness: 9 mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

29. Northampton area, Northamptonshire: Late Bronze Age base-metal scatter (2004 T242) (Figs. 29.1 -7)

Date: About 1000 – 800 BC
Finder: Mr G Jane
Date of discovery: March 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector, the majority scattered within an area measuring approximately 10 x 8 m, and one axe was found beyond the main scatter. The findspot lies within the north-eastern confines of a Neolithic causewayed enclosure and close to the site of a later henge.
Description:
1. Socketed axe, South-eastern class A (Needham 1990b, 28-31) (fig. 29.1). Complete. Double mouth moulding. Sub-square mouth with rounded corners. Vestige of one casting jet stump. Casting flashes visible along much of the sides, although they have been removed at the blade end. Slightly expanded blade and fine horizontal striations on both faces close to blade edge. The blade edge is mostly intact, but there are vertical and diagonal scratches in places. Light pitting at the centre of one face during casting. Bronze colour on the lower blade. Length: 126.3 mm; width mouth: 38.2 mm; breadth mouth: 39.9 mm; weight: 347.1g.
2. Socketed axe, South-eastern class A (fig. 29.1).
Incomplete. Double mouth moulding, with lower moulding in low profile. Sub-square mouth with rounded corners, with uneven mouth top and large socket (32.8 x 32.5 mm). Casting flashes prominent, with two seams on one side caused by movement in the mould during casting and slightly off-centre seams on the other. Very expanded blade with developed blade tip hollows. Blade edge largely intact but with short nicks on the edge and a large chip removed from the edge. Diffuse hammer rippling on the lower blade end on one face. Length: 104.2 mm; width mouth: 42.7 mm; breadth mouth: 39.3 mm; width blade: 54 mm; breadth loop: 7.2-10 mm; weight: 282.3g.
3. Socketed axe, South-eastern class A (fig. 29.2). Complete. Double mouth moulding with lower moulding in low profile. Almost circular mouth. Casting flashes and vestiges of two casting jet stumps. Expanded blade, developed blade tip hollows. Horizontal and vertical striations and scratches on both faces. Blade edge intact, apart from two chips from the edge on one face. Length: 91.7 mm; width mouth: 39.5 mm; breadth mouth: 38 mm; width loop: 7-8.7 mm; weight: 200.3g.
4. Socketed axe, South-eastern class A (fig. 29.1).
Complete, small axe. Double mouth moulding with ill-defined lower moulding which is only visible above the loop on one side and on one face. Prominent casting flashes. Very expanded blade with well developed blade tip hollows. The blade edge is largely intact, is burred slightly in places and is chipped on one face. Hammer dents on the body and hammering and inward crushing at the centre of both faces at the mouth. Length: 78.6 mm; width blade: 43.9 mm width loop: 6.75-7.9 mm; weight: 170g.
5. Socketed axe, South-eastern class A (fig. 29.2).
Incomplete. Well-defined double mouth moulding. Casting seams visible, but regular and neat and removed from most of the loop. The break above the centre of the axe is straight. Single internal rib on either face. Hammer marks on mouth top. Length: 51.4 mm; width mouth: 40.3 mm; breadth mouth: 37.4 mm; width loop: 7.8 mm; weight: 117.4g.
6. Socketed axe, South-eastern (fig. 29.2). Incomplete. Well-defined double mouth moulding, two weak wing mouldings on either face, with a horizontal moulding extending from the lower edge of wing moulding to the side. The casting seams are removed below the
side moulding. Vestiges of two casting jet stumps hammerd flat. Straight break at lower blade end. Length: 85.65 mm; width mouth: 37.3 mm; breadth mouth: 38.9 mm; width loop: 7.1 mm; weight: 184.2g.

7. Socketed axe, South-eastern (fig. 29.2). Incomplete. Double mouth moulding, ill-defined lower moulding. Hour-glass moulding below the lower mouth moulding, with weak mouldings on one face. Upper and lower lines of the hour-glass moulding extend to both sides. Internal ribs on both faces. Straight break on lower blade end. Length: 77.9 mm; width mouth: 38.5 mm; breadth mouth: 37 mm; width loop: 7.1-9.35 mm; weight: 163.4g.

8. Socketed axe, South-eastern (fig. 29.2). Incomplete. Mouth, lower blade end and blade missing. Double mouth moulding, although only a section of the lower moulding is present on one side. The base of the socket has a ‘floor’ with a lenticular perforation, with a socket below. Hammer indentations on faces. Casting seams removed below the loop. Length: 63.25 mm; width loop: 9.45 mm; weight: 93.7g.

9. Socketed axe, South-eastern Class A2 (fig. 29.1). Complete. Double mouth moulding with neat bulbous upper moulding and circular pellet in the centre of either face just below the lower moulding. Prominent casting seams, removed from the lower half. Blade edge mostly intact, but some slight chipping. Slightly expanded and thinned blade on one face. Fine horizontal striations close to edge. Hammer dents and scratches on either face. Internal crack at mouth on one face due to inward crushing. Length: 96.8 mm; width mouth: 36.9 mm; breadth mouth (distorted): 27.75 mm; width loop: 5.25-7.25 mm; weight: 185.9g.

10. Socketed axe (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Part of mouth and one side only. Well-defined and neat triple mouth moulding, with bulbous upper moulding. Scar from loop extending from lower moulding. Well-finished. Marked golden colour on exterior. Length: 31.15 mm; weight: 18g.

11. Socketed axe, South-eastern Class A (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Part of mouth, loop, one side and one face only. Double mouth moulding. Crack at mouth on face and hammer dents on body. Length: 30 mm; width loop: 4.85-8.6 mm; weight: 27.7g.

12. Socketed axe, South-eastern Class A (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Part of mouth, one side and one face. Double mouth moulding. Vestige of one casting jet stump, hammered flat and slightly burred. Length: 43.5 mm; weight: 22.7g.

13. Socketed axe, South-eastern Class A (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Part of mouth, one face and side only. Double mouth moulding, upper moulding flat and deep. Mouth top hammered flat. Hammer dents on face at break. Length: 32.35 mm; weight: 22.9g.

14. Socketed axe, South-eastern (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Part of mouth and one side only. Double mouth moulding; well-defined bulbous upper moulding. Cracked and bent at upper moulding. Length: 23.75 mm; weight: 17.6g.

15. Socketed axe (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Part of mouth, one face and one side only. Double mouth moulding, poorly defined lower moulding. Hammer dents on flattened body and cracked at mouth. Length: 27.3 mm; weight: 14.8g.

16. Socketed axe, South-eastern (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Part of mouth, one face and side only. Double mouth moulding. Irregular surface on moulding and thin-walled body. Possible vestige of one casting jet stump. Length: 20.9 mm; weight: 8.3g.

17-17a. Socketed axe (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Parts of either face and side, but the face is missing from the base of the socket. Very expanded blade, well-defined blade tip hollows. Fine striations concentric with the cutting edge. The base of the socket is filled with lead and there is a fragment of copper alloy plate (no. 17b) placed within the socket and flush to the internal surface of one face and secured by the lead. Hammer indentations on the face. Blade edge intact and blunt, tips flattened. Length: 60.5 mm; width blade: 51 mm; weight: 91g.

18. Socketed axe (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Blade end. Very expanded blade, well-defined blade tip hollows. The blade end is mostly intact, but is considerably burred and flattened. Inward crushing of the socket at the break. Length: 41.4 mm; width blade: 55.5 mm; weight: 86.6g.

19. Socketed axe (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Blade end. Finish excellent leaving no trace of casting flashes. Light longitudinal scratches on both faces and light hammer indentations on one face close to the break. Occasional oblique nicks on blade edge. Below the base of the socket, the lower blade is solid and 30.5 mm in length. Length: 50.35 mm; width at break: 26 mm; breadth at break: 15.35 mm; width blade: 37.6 mm; weight: 78.6g.

20. Socketed axe (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Blade end. Blade expanded and thinned slightly. Blade edge intact and blunt. Casting flashes removed. The thickness of the walls of each side varies at the break (1.5-4.4 mm)
and there is a large chip removed from one side at the break. Below the base of the socket, the lower blade is solid and 30 mm in length. Possible trace of lead at the base of the socket. Length: 54 mm; width blade: 42.5 mm; width at break: 25.45 mm; breadth at break: 17.95 mm; weight: 89g.

21. Socketed axe (fig. 29.3). Fragment. Blade end. Blade edge missing. External surfaces pitted and oblique incised lines. Thin lenticular socket end. Below the base of the socket, the lower blade is solid and is 35 mm in length. Length: 42.8 mm; width at break: 26.6 mm; breadth at break: 15.35 mm; weight: 85.2g.

22. Socketed axe (fig. 29.3). Fragment, small axe. Blade end. Base of socket extends to blade edge. Horizontal striations close to blade edge on one face. Blade edge blunt and rounded. Inward crushing of body. Marked golden colour on exterior. Length: 29.25 mm; width blade: 34.45 mm; width at break: 27.6 mm; breadth blade: 11 mm; weight: 27.3g.

23. Socketed knife (fig. 29.4). Fragment. The socket has two circular perforations down the centre. Fluted blade, lenticular in section, edges intact. There are five closely-set transverse grooves on the socket on one side. At the mouth, the socket has been crushed and is cracked. Length: 56.85 mm; width mouth: 27.1 mm; breadth mouth: 10.4 mm; width socket/blade junction: 24.75 mm; width blade: 23 mm; thickness blade: 5.8 mm; length socket: 42.7 mm; weight: 42.3g.

24. Socketed knife (fig. 29.4). Incomplete. The socket is short measuring 31.5 mm. The socket has two circular perforations down the centre. Lenticular-sectioned blade, tapering strongly. Blade edges intact. Casting flashes prominent on the socket. Length: 57.3 mm; width mouth: 22.85 mm; breadth mouth: 14 mm; width socket/blade junction: 20.15 mm; width blade: 12.2 mm; thickness blade: 3.2 mm; weight: 23.5g.

25. Tanged knife (fig. 29.4). Blade end fragment. Fluted, with three facets on each face and lenticular in section. Rounded end, with fine horizontal striations at end. Flattened concave side flanges. Length: 25.6 mm; width: 18.3-18.9 mm; thickness: 3.9 mm; weight: 9.4g.

26. Socketed gouge (fig. 29.4). Complete. Deep collar, 24 mm long. Socket crushed and cracked at mouth and chip removed from opposing side. Hammer marks and indentations on both flattened sides. Length: 77.21 mm; length furrow: 52 mm; width furrow: 14.85 mm; weight: 6.8g.

27. Socketed gouge, Fragment, upper furrow (fig. 29.4). Straight cuts. Hammer marks and nicks on the face opposite the furrow. Length: 22.6 mm; diameter: 15.2-16.2 mm; weight: 14.3g.

28. Socketed hammer, incomplete (fig. 29.4). Casting seams are evident, but do not extend to the head. Bevelled working face; the longest diagonal plane is approx. 21.5 mm long and the shorter diagonal plane is 7.4mm long. Marked dull gold colour on exterior. Length: 48.5 mm; width: 22.6-27.2 mm; breadth: 19-24.5 mm; head width: 27 mm; head breadth: 25 mm; hammer end: 27.4 x 24.9 mm; weight: 156.7g.

29. Socketed mortising chisel (fig. 29.4). Incomplete. Five evenly-spaced well-defined mouth mouldings. Elegant curving mouldings on the shank. At the break the shank is 8.3 x 9.55 mm. Diameter of mouth: 18.5 mm; length: 76 mm; weight: 53g.

30. Sword, fragment (fig. 29.4). Ewart Park type. Finial, with trace of one circular perforation. The surfaces are uneven and as-cast and unfinished at the terminal end. Dull gold colour. Length: 34 mm; width: 17-39.9 mm; thickness: 6.5 mm; weight: 32.8g.

31. Sword, fragment (fig. 29.4). Carp’s Tongue type. The blade edges are mostly intact, although small notches are removed from each side. Defined edge bevels are approx. 4-5mm from the blade edge. Fine striations on the blade wings. Length: 40 mm; width: 35-37 mm; thickness: 8 mm; weight: 45.2g.

32. Sword, fragment (fig. 29.4). Carp’s Tongue type. Blade edges intact. Poorly defined edge bevels. Hammer marks on the mid-rib on both sides. Length: 31 mm; width: 35.8 mm; thickness: 9 mm; weight: 34.7g.

33. Sword, fragment (fig. 29.4). Carp’s Tongue type. Blade edges intact. Poorly defined edge bevels. Dull gold colour. Length: 36.8 mm; width: 34.5 mm; thickness: 8.6 mm; weight: 37.5g.

34. Spearhead, incomplete (fig. 29.5). Flame-shaped, blade edges intact. Ill-defined edge bevels. Fine longitudinal striations on blade wings. The mid-rib has a longitudinal groove along each side on both faces and which do not extend to the tip. Length: 103.3 mm; width break: 34.85 mm; breadth socket at break: 15.4 mm; max. thickness blade wings: 4.9 mm; weight: 95.4g.

35. Spearhead, incomplete (fig. 29.5). Flame-shaped. The blade edges are intact with well-defined edge bevels 4.45 mm from the blade edge. The spearhead is bent and the mid-rib is cracked at the bend. Length: 83.2 mm; width break: 24.8 mm; width socket at break: 14.6 mm; external max. thickness blade wings: 3 mm; weight: 61.2g.
36. Spearhead, fragment (fig. 29.5). Only part of the socket is intact. Dense decoration consists of six groups of close-set grooves from the socket mouth. After the fourth group there are three concentric bands of short horizontal strokes above the perforation followed by similar decoration above the perforation. This is followed by two groups of four close-set grooves with three concentric bands of short horizontal strokes above. At the break the socket is crushed. Length: 60 mm; diameter mouth: 25.25 mm; weight: 44.7g.

37. Spearhead, fragment (fig. 29.5). Part of one blade wing, trace of mid-rib. Blade edge intact, defined edge bevel 3 mm from edge. Gold colour. Length: 14.14 mm; width: 8.9 mm; thickness blade wing: 4.7 mm; weight: 1.5g.

38. Spearhead, fragment (fig. 29.5). Barbed spearhead. Only part of the socket is intact. Part of one perforation with vestige of barb to wing. Flattened and with hammer depressions close to the terminal end. Length: 62.85 mm; max. width: 27 mm; weight: 16.5g.

39. Bucket base-plate (fig. 29.5). Tabbed spaced rectangular variant. The plate is trapezoidal in plan with a tab with a rounded end. The plate has a panel defined by an outer groove on the three surviving sides. It is decorated with six broad, transverse grooves followed by five longitudinal grooves and then by parts of two transverse grooves at the break. The tab is 18 mm long and 24.6 mm wide. There is a trace of a rivet hole at the centre of the broken edge of the tab, for attachment of the plate to the vessel. The tab is moulded to the profile of the lower body of the bucket. A copper-alloy rivet with a circular head, 10.3 mm in diameter on the internal surface and with a burred roughly circular head on the external surface with a diameter of 6 mm. Sheet copper-alloy between the rivet and base-plate, presumably from the base of the bucket. 81.2 mm x 35.7 mm; thickness: 2.5-3.8 mm; weight: 74.7g.

40. Fragment, sheet copper-alloy (fig. 29.5). Undulating surface, cracked and folded. 16.1 x 15.6 mm; thickness: 0.22 mm; weight: 0.6g.

41. Fragment, sheet copper-alloy (fig. 29.5). Undulating surface, cracked and folded. 19.15 x 14.1 mm; thickness: 0.28-0.4 mm; weight: 0.4g.

42. Fragment, sheet copper-alloy (fig. 29.5). Trace of perforation. 16.58 x 13.4 mm; thickness: 0.66 mm; weight: 0.7g.

43. Fragment, indeterminate form (fig. 29.5). Slightly curved, possibly from a socketed axe. 21.15 x 8.95 mm; thickness: 3.15 mm; weight: 2.7g.

44. Casting jet, fragment (fig. 29.6). Vestiges of two feeders. Length: 25.37 mm; weight: 60.2g.

45. Casting jet (fig. 29.6). Twin feeder. Length: 26.53 mm; width: 34.06 mm; weight: 56.4g.

46. Ingot, complete (fig. 29.6). Plano-convex. Diameter: 122.7-131.6 mm; thickness: 32.5 mm; weight: 1858.6g.

47. Ingot, edge fragment (fig. 29.7). Plano-convex; weight: 465.5g.

48. Ingot, edge fragment (fig. 29.7). Plano-convex; weight: 416g.

49. Ingot, edge fragment (fig. 29.7). Plano-convex; weight: 222.5g.

50. Ingot, fragment (fig. 29.7). Plano-convex; weight: 400g.

51. Ingot, fragment (fig. 29.7). Plano-convex. Weight: 105g.

52. Ingot, fragment (fig. 29.7). Probably plano-convex, but of even thickness. Weight: 199g.

53. Ingot, fragment (fig. 29.7). Probably plano-convex, but of even thickness. Weight: 100g.

54. Ingot, fragment (fig. 29.7). Plano-convex. Weight: 155g.

55. Ingot, fragment. (very thin) (fig. 29.7). Weight: 46.5g.

Discussion: This group of 56 artefacts represents a diverse and extensive range of artefact types. All the artefacts date from the Ewart Park phase of the Late Bronze Age (1000 – 800 BC). The artefacts were found scattered over a small area and were probably dispersed due to the actions of the plough. The majority of the artefacts are types which commonly occur in late Bronze Age hoards in south-eastern Britain. There are seven complete, 10 incomplete and seven fragments of socketed axes representing a minimum of at least 16 axes; the majority of which are of south-eastern type (1-22). In addition, there are two socketed knives (23-24), one tanged knife (25), two socketed gouges (26-27), one fragment of an Ewart Park sword (no. 30), three fragments of Carp’s Tongue swords (31-33), four spearhead fragments (34-37), two casting jets (44-45), one complete ingot (46) and nine fragments of ingot (47-55).
There are also a number of artefacts which are more unusual in British hoards of this period. These include the socketed hammer (28), mortising chisel (29), tanged spearhead (38), bucket base-plate (39) and vessel fragments (40-42). The bucket base-plate is similar to the base-plate recently found at Barley, Herts (Treasure Annual Report 2003, no. 16). A complete bucket base with four base-plates and a portion of the bronze vessel was found at Little Houghton, Northamptonshire (Needham 1996). The socketed axe filled with lead (17) and the axe whose socket extension is also likely to have been filled with lead (8 and 21) are unusual examples. Similar treatment has been noted on a fragment of a small socketed axe in the hoard from Ellesborough, Bucks (Farley 1979, 145 no. 4 fig. 7) and two examples were noted in the recently discovered hoard from Crundale, Kent (Treasure Annual Report 2003, no. 15). No. 17 is also interesting in that a fragment of copper alloy was also placed in the socket, presumably at the same time as the lead. The small socketed axes represented by the lower blade fragments (19-22) are generally well finished, thin-walled examples which in some instances have blunt blade edges which show little sign of wear.

Although a considerable quantity of the artefacts are not fragmented, many artefacts show signs of heavy wear and breakage for inclusion as scrap metal and it is likely that they were collected with other surplus bronze to form a metal resource for recycling. The presence of tools, weapons, metal-working debris and ingots of raw material suggest that this is a founder’s hoard. Late Bronze Age metalwork finds are not especially common in Northamptonshire and this group constitutes an important addition to our knowledge of the late Bronze Age period in central Britain.

**Disposition:** Northampton Museum hopes to acquire.

S WORRELL

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

**Description:**

1. A two-edged blade fragment, probably from a sword, severely bent in an arch to about 70 degrees from vertical (fig. 30.1). Both of the cutting edges are lost due to corrosion but despite the corrosion it can be seen that the blade is slightly waisted longitudinally. It has a bi-convex lenticular cross-section with very slight concave channels. Fine longitudinal sharpening/cleaning striations can also be seen close to the former blade edges. Both of the end breaks are recent, there are no obvious hammer breakage marks and although the bending of the blade is considerable there are no obvious stress marks. The fragment is patinated a dark brown, apart from areas of pale green surface corrosion (mainly on the edges). Length: 45 mm; max. width: 27 mm; max. thickness: 7 mm; weight: 53.59g.

2. A large copper (?) fragment from a circular plano-convex ingot (fig. 30.2). It has an irregular rounded surface with numerous gaseous casting voids. There are considerable areas of medium brown iron like residue on some surfaces, possibly iron pan or metallic residue from smelting. Elsewhere this fragment has a medium to dark brown patina with small areas of pale green surface corrosion. Estimated original diameter: 250 mm; Length: 90 mm; width: 50 mm; thickness: 33 mm; weight: 285.91g.

3. A medium copper (?) fragment from a circular plano-convex ingot, very similar to the fragment described above (fig. 30.2). Estimated diameter: 200 mm; length: 67 mm; width: 40 mm; thickness: 24 mm; weight: 164.07g.

4. A small copper (?) fragment, probably from a circular plano-convex ingot, as above (fig. 30.2). Length: 35 mm; width: 23 mm; thickness: 15 mm; weight: 41.06g.

5. A copper (?) fragment, probably from a circular plano-convex ingot, as above (fig. 30.2). Length: 39 mm; width: 20 mm; thickness: 12 mm; weight: 31.81g.

**Discussion:** These five fragmentary objects are possibly part of a late Bronze Age Ewart Park phase hoard.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

C PENDLETON AND F MINTER

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30. Nettlestead, Suffolk: Late Bronze Age base-metal group (2004 T470) (Figs. 30.1, 30.2)

**Date:** About 1000 – 800 BC

**Finder:** Mr J Armes

**Date of discovery:** 2004
31. Woodbridge area, Suffolk: Late Bronze Age base-metal scatter (2004 T202) (Figs. 31.1, 31.2)

**Date:** About 1200 – 800 BC  
**Finder:** Mrs H Sander (1) and Lady V Kemball (2)  
**Date of discovery:** April 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector; about 50 m apart.

**Description:**
1. The copper-alloy blade and a small fragment of the ‘tang’ of a late Bronze Age leather-working knife (fig. 31.1) (previously these objects were considered to be chisels). The blade is triangular in shape, with slightly convex sides. There are some sharpening striations visible on the better preserved area of the blade edge. The ‘tang’ has an oval cross-section and is mostly missing due to an old break, now worn. Surviving length: 36 mm; width: 5.2 mm at the tang, 28 mm at the blade end.
2. An incomplete late Bronze Age socketed knife (fig. 31.2). Only a fragment of the blade and the short waisted socketed hilt of this knife now survive, the rest of the blade is missing due to an old break, now worn. The socket is oval in cross-section and has two parallel circular rivet holes through both faces. There is also a small crack and perforation through one of the squared sides of the socketed hilt, this is due to damage. The knife is patinated a dark brown/green. Surviving length: 42 mm; width: 23.4 mm; thickness: 13.5 mm.

**Discussion:**
1. This knife dates from LBA2 (about 1200-1000 BC) or LBA3 (about 1000 – 800 BC). It is possible that the incomplete tang was originally collared and similar to, for example, one from Mildenhall (O’Connor 1980, list 131, 30 and Pendleton 1999, fig 67.295). O’Connor listed 37 British examples and 3 from north-east France in 1980.
2. Double-edged socketed knives usually date to LBA 3 (Ewart Park phase c. 1000 – 800 BC) in Britain, Ireland and North West France. Several other examples are known from hoards in Suffolk, for example the Thorndon and Foxhall hoards each contained double-edged socketed knives.

These items could be part of a dispersed Late Bronze Age founder’s hoard: however fragments of these objects might alternatively be expected among occupation debris. The distance between their findspots and the lack of other similar material in the area also add to the probability that these finds did not originate from the same context.

**Disposition:** Not Treasure; returned to finder.

C PENDLETON, F MINTER AND S P NEEDHAM
B. Iron Age

Isle of Wight: Iron Age coins and associated ingots and pottery (2004 T131)
See no. 421 below

32. Attleborough area, Norfolk: Iron Age horse harness (2004 T301) (Figs. 32.1, 32.2, 32.3)

Date: About AD 1 – 70
Finder: Mr B Anderson
Date of discovery: July 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description:
1. Large, complete platform decorated terret (rein ring) (fig. 32.1). The terret is well preserved and is decorated with three circular disc-like platforms, one on each side and one at the top. Each platform is decorated with a simple, geometric flower design in blue and yellow glass ‘enamel’ and there is more glass enamel decoration around the main body of the terret.
2. Lipped terret (rein ring) with three decorative projections or mouldings around the ring, one on each side and one on top (fig. 32.2).
3. Horse-harness mount fragment of a type similar to those found in the Polden Hills hoard and from the Santon hoard, Snettisham and Holme Hale. This example has lobed decoration, which is outlined with a faint incised line. The lobed decoration is also picked out with cells filled with red enamel (fig. 32.3).

Discussion: Hoards and single finds of the metal parts from the horse harness from Later Iron Age chariots/horse drawn vehicles are well known from Norfolk and other parts of Britain. They may comprise rein rings or terrets, horse bits, strap unions, linch pins and decorative plaques. Similar hoards from Norfolk have been found at Saham Toney and form parts of larger hoards from Santon Downham and Westhall (north Suffolk). Most of these hoards of chariot harness date to the 1st century AD and many certainly were deposited after the Roman Conquest in AD 43 and some may date to after the Boudican revolt of AD 60/61. The multicoloured ‘enamel’ on one of the terrets in this hoard might suggest a post-conquest date for this piece, but it is not yet proven that multicoloured ‘enamel’ was only used after AD 43. The metal analysis on all three objects shows they were made of bronze and not of brass. Brass is characteristically used for Roman period objects and was not used in the Iron Age. No other clearly Roman objects were found with these objects. The evidence suggests this hoard may have been deposited some time between AD 1 and AD 75.

Metal Content: Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum identified the alloys of all three objects as leaded bronze. Traces of less than 1 per cent zinc were detected, indicating that all three objects are made from bronze and not from brass.

Disposition: Norwich Castle Museum; with funding from the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund, the Headley Museums Treasure Acquisition Scheme and the Friends of Norwich Museums. Accession no. 2006.349.

J D HILL AND N HUTCHESON

33. Heacham, Norfolk: Iron Age ingot fragment and bun-shaped ingot (2004 T248) (Figs. 33.1, 33.2)

Date: Possibly Iron Age
Finder: Mr S Brown
Date of discovery: June 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Two objects found while metal detecting in the area near Snettisham and Sedgeford, an area well known for discoveries of Iron Age gold and silver torcs, coins, other objects and metalworking debris.
1. Fragment cut from a sub-triangular ingot or bar (fig. 33.1).
2. Irregular plano-convex ‘bun-shaped’ ingot (fig. 33.2).

Discussion: Object 1 is similar to several fragments from bar ingots from hoards at Ken Hill, Snettisham that are of an Iron Age date. There is no direct parallel for the bun-shaped copper alloy ingot, but an Iron Age or Roman date is likely.
Dimensions and metal content: (1) 16 x 10 mm; weight: 11.42g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 95 per cent. (2) Diameter: 24 mm; height: 11 mm; weight 27.03g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a metal content of leaded bronze.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

34. Saham Toney, Norfolk: Iron Age silver-gilt brooch (2004 T167) (Fig. 34.1, 34.2)

Date: About 20 BC – AD 70
Finder: Mr P Rilings
Date of discovery: April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A Late Iron Age silver-gilt brooch, slightly bent and missing its spring and pin. The strip shaped back of the bow is divided into three zones running length wise down the back. Both outer zones are gilded, leaving the silver from which the brooch is made exposed in the centre zone. The wings of the brooch over the missing spring are divided into two zones. The inner most zones close to the back are both gilded.

Discussion: The brooch appears to be a hybrid with features closely related to both ‘Colchester one piece’ brooches and ‘Langton Down’ brooches. The flat backed bow divided lengthwise into decorative zones is characteristic of many ‘Langton Down’ brooches, as is the division of the protecting ‘wings’ over the spring into different decorative zones. This feature is known from some ‘Colchester one piece brooches’, although such brooches usually have a narrower back to the bow. The hook projecting from the front of the head of the brooch, out in front of the where the spring would be attached is a characteristic feature of ‘Colchester one piece brooches’. These features would suggest that this brooch was made some time from c. 20/10 BC up to c. AD 40–70. While silver La Tène III brooches of the 1st century BC are known from southern Britain, silver ‘Colchester one piece’ and ‘Langton Down’ brooches of the early/middle 1st century AD appear to be very unusual, although silver and gold versions of ‘Birdlip’ type brooches are known from this date.

Dimensions: Length: 37 mm; width at head: 13 mm; catch plate length: 17 mm.
Disposition: British Museum.

35. Sedgeford area, Norfolk: Iron Age terminal from the Sedgeford torc (2004 T157) (Figs. 34.1, 35.2)

Date: 2nd or early 1st century BC
Finder: Dr S Hammond, for the Sedgeford Historical and Archaeological Research Project
Date of discovery: April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: Controlled archaeological metal detecting survey.

Description: When the ‘Sedgeford Torc’ was originally found in 1965, one of the two terminals was missing. This discovery is almost certainly the missing terminal, as it is identical in size and design to the earlier discovery. Equally, the sheared ends of the wires of the ropes matched perfectly the broken ends of those on the torc discovered previously.

Like the ‘Great Torc’ from Ken Hill, Snettisham, the ‘Sedgeford Torc’ is made from twisted gold wire ‘ropes’ that were fixed to hollow ring shaped terminals decorated with raised La Tène (so-called ‘Early Celtic Art’) design. This torc is made from an alloy of gold and silver. The body of the torc is made from 8 ‘ropes’ each made three threads of twisted wires, themselves twisted together in the opposite direction. The terminal is made from a lost wax casting which a raised decoration of trumpet swirls and pellets. The front of the collar is decorated with 11 pellets each with three impressions against a background of ‘basket weave’ work. Basket weave is also used to highlight several of the voids created by the raised trumpet swirls on the main body of the terminals.

The break in the coiled ropes so close to the collar of the hollow terminal allows how the terminal was fixed to the coiled ropes to be clearly seen inside the collar. It would appear that the terminals were cast on to the end of the coiled ropes, which have partially melted. A particular feature of this terminal is a bar of metal passing through the collar of the terminal and the end of the coil wire ropes. The bar was clearly inserted after the terminal had been cast on the body of the torc. The function of this very difficult operation is
difficult to ascertain, but there are similar bars inserted through the other terminal of this torc. These include one through the collar.

**Discussion:** There is no direct dating evidence for this object. Other twisted rope torcs from Norfolk are suggested to date from the 2nd and early 1st centuries BC.

**Disposition:** British Museum, with funding from The Art Fund.

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36. Cardeston, Shropshire: Two possible Iron Age gold droplets (2004 T408) (Fig. 36)

**Date:** Ancient, possibly Iron Age

**Finder:** Mr P Morris

**Date of discovery:** February 2004

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

**Description:** Two small, irregular sub-rounded droplets.

**Discussion:** The two droplets were submitted to the British Museum because they looked similar to other droplets of gold found in the area of Snettisham and Sedgeford in Norfolk which might be connected with gold working in the Iron Age. Surface analysis suggests the proportions of gold, silver and other metals in these droplets is similar to the metal content of Iron Age gold objects, but without other dateable material, the metal contents of the droplets on their own is not sufficient evidence to firmly give these droplets an Iron Age date.

**Dimensions and metal content:** (1) 14 x 7 mm; weight: 4.43g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 67 per cent. (2) 9 x 5 mm; weight: 1.97g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 68 per cent.

**Disposition:** Shrewsbury Museums Service.

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37. Good Easter, Essex: Roman silver finger-ring (2004 T464) (Figs. 37.1, 37.2)

**Date:** Second half of 1st century or early 2nd century AD

**Date of discovery:** November 2004

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

**Description:** Incomplete silver, Roman finger-ring, an example of Henig type II (Henig 1978, p. 35). The hoop has a D-shaped section and expands from its narrowest point to a broad bezel. The hoop is also split at its narrowest point and to one side as it begins to expand, but has not come apart. The splits are fairly ‘fresh’ suggesting that damage was recent, probably due to the plough. The patina of the ring is a dark grey, with the inner surfaces of the bezel clearly showing as silver. The intaglio that was once set in the ring is entirely missing.

**Dimensions:** External diameter: 24.7 mm; weight: 7.50g.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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38. Cublington, Buckinghamshire: Roman silver finger-ring (2004 T74) (Figs. 38.1, 38.2)

**Date:** Late 1st or 2nd century AD

**Finder:** Mr M East

**Date of discovery:** February 2004

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

**Description:** A Roman silver finger-ring, slightly flattened plain oval hoop, widening at the top for an oval setting; the original stone is missing.

**Discussion:** The type is similar to a number of examples in the Snettisham jeweller’s hoard (Johns 1997).

**Disposition:** Buckinghamshire County Museum.

Date: Late 1st or 2nd century AD
Finder: Mr D Watson
Date of discovery: January 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Fragment of a Roman silver finger-ring, flattened plain oval hoop, widening at top for an oval setting, now missing. The whole of the bottom part of the hoop has broken away.
Discussion: Similar to examples in the Snettisham jeweller’s hoard (Johns 1997, nos. 203, 236).
Dimensions: Internal diameter: 19.2 mm; External diameter: 24.8 mm; weight: 7.87g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

40. West Firsby, Lincolnshire: Roman gold finger-ring (2004 T487) (Figs. 40.1, 40.2)

Date: Possibly 1st or 2nd century AD
Finder: Ms L Allen
Date of discovery: July 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A gold finger-ring, constructed of five pieces of alternating plain and beaded wire hammered together to form a simple rounded hoop. The ring is bent, squashed and heavily worn, and there are gaps where parts of the wire fail to meet.
Dimensions and metal content: External diameter: 18.0 mm; weight: 2.2g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 72 per cent.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

41. Godstone, Surrey: Roman silver finger-ring fragment (2004 T368) (Figs. 41.1, 41.2)

Date: 1st or 2nd century AD
Finder: Mr D Hunt
Date of discovery: October 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A silver finger-ring, lacking the bottom of the hoop. A flattened oval profile with oval setting (stone now missing), and moulded decoration on the shoulders.
Dimensions: External diameter: 20.5 mm; weight: 5.4g.
Disposition: Guildford Museum.

42. Bedale, North Yorkshire: Roman gold finger-ring with garnet setting (2004 T482) (Figs. 42.1, 42.2)

Date: 1st or 2nd century AD
Finder: Mr M Ainsley
Date of discovery: September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A gold finger-ring set with a conical garnet. The hoop is hollow cast, oval in profile, and expands smoothly to the flattened bezel. There is a small tear on the top of one of the shoulders and a slight circular dent. The hoop is extremely narrow, so must have been made either for a child or a very petite woman.
Dimensions: External diameter: 14.0 x 11.5 mm; internal: 8.5 x 6.1 mm; weight: 2.58g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 96 per cent.
Disposition: Yorkshire Museum hopes to acquire.
43. Hunsdon, Hertfordshire: Roman silver finger-ring with intaglio (2004 T174) (Figs. 43.1, 43.2)

Date: 2nd century AD  
Finder: Mr A Palmer  
Date of discovery: August 2003  
Circumstances of discovery: Picked up from the surface of plough soil.  

Description: A Roman silver finger-ring with engraved carnelian intaglio. The heavy, plain, tapered, D-shaped hoop has flattened shoulders and a swollen bezel, which is set with a raised oval carnelian engraved with the image of a cockerel facing left, towards an ear of corn.  

Discussion: The ring is Henig Type II (Henig 1978), and the carnelian intaglio with its cockerel motif may be compared to examples from Snettisham (Johns 1997, nos. 203, 263).  

Dimensions: External width: 26 mm; internal: 17.6 x 14.2 mm; weight: 14.28g.  
Disposition: Ware Museum.

R JACKSON

44. Yelverton, Norfolk: Roman silver finger-ring fragment (2004 T287) (Fig. 44)

Date: 2nd century AD  
Finder: Mr A Green  
Date of discovery: July 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  

Description: Fragment of a silver finger-ring, comprising a snake-headed terminal from a snake-ring, very similar to examples from the Snettisham jeweller’s hoard (Johns 1997).  

Discussion: The ring is of type Bii; see Johns (1997) 36, fig 9.  

Dimensions: Width of bezel: 14.1 mm.  
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

S J ASHLEY

45. Quenington, Gloucestershire: Roman silver finger-ring (2004 T75) (Figs. 45.1, 45.2)

Date: 2nd or 3rd century AD  
Finder: Mr J Whitehouse  
Date of discovery: February 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  

Description: A Roman silver finger-ring, plain oval hoop, broken and dented at the bottom. The flattened slightly swollen bezel widens to accommodate an oval pinky-red carnelian intaglio. The motif appears to be a very stylised pair of clasped hands (dextrarum iunctio). The wrists and palms are represented by a simple thick line with blocks at each end, and the fingers and thumbs by lightly incised lines.  

Discussion: The ring is Guiraud type 2e (Guiraud 1989).  

Dimensions and metal content: Internal diameter: 17.9 mm; external diameter: 21.0 mm; weight: 3.77g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 93 per cent and confirmed the gemstone as carnelian.  

Disposition: Corinium Museum, Cirencester.

R HOBBS

46. Headbourne Worthy, Hampshire: Roman silver finger-ring fragment (2004 T41) (Fig. 46)

Date: 2nd or 3rd century AD  
Finder: Mr J De Montfalcon  
Date of discovery: January 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  

Description: A fragment of Roman silver finger-ring, a wide plain hoop set with an undecorated circular orangey-pink carnelian. Most of the hoop is missing.  

Dimensions: Width of bezel: 14.1 mm.  
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

R HOBBS
47. Eastbourne area, East Sussex:  
Roman silver finger-ring fragment  
(2004 T160) (Fig. 47)

**Date:** 2nd or 3rd century AD  
**Finder:** Mr G Washington  
**Date of discovery:** October 2001  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A fragmentary Roman silver finger-ring. Rather less than half the ring survives, broken across the bezel and the hoop. It is Henig Type II/III (Henig 1978). The broad oval bezel, with deep empty setting, has a simple incised and dot-punched border, and the lightly-channelled margins of the tapered hoop are similarly ornamented with a line of punched dots. The object has been polished, effectively removing any traces of wear that might have existed.  
**Dimensions:** Bezel width: 14.4 mm; weight: 3.51g.  
**Disposition:** Towner Art Gallery and Museum, Eastbourne had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

R JACKSON

48. Hibaldstow, North Lincolnshire:  
Roman gold finger-ring (2004 T65)  
(Figs. 48.1, 48.2)

**Date:** 3rd century AD  
**Finder:** Mr W Sargeant  
**Date of discovery:** February 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A Roman gold finger-ring, keeled type, with box setting. The hoop has been crushed, but generally the ring is in good condition and not greatly worn. The undecorated hoop is square in section; the triangular shoulders have faint traces of incised decoration and the thin rectangular bezel is seemingly undecorated. The silver appears to be very brittle with copper leached to the surface, and the fabric is in poor condition.  
**Discussion:** The ring is Guiraud type 2h (Guiraud 1989).  
**Dimensions:** Internal diameter: 18 mm; external diameter: 22 mm; weight: 4.18g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 91 per cent, and confirmed the setting as glass.  
**Disposition:** North Lincolnshire Museum.

R HOBBS

49. Mildenhall area, Suffolk:  
Roman silver finger-ring (2004 T35)  
(Figs. 49.1, 49.2)

**Date:** 3rd century AD  
**Finder:** Mr B Hobbs  
**Date of discovery:** November 2003  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A Roman silver finger-ring, keeled type. The hoop is square in section; the triangular shoulders have faint traces of incised decoration and the thin rectangular bezel is seemingly undecorated. The silver appears to be very brittle with copper leached to the surface, and the fabric is in poor condition.  
**Discussion:** The ring is Guiraud type 3f (Guiraud 1989).  
**Dimensions:** Internal diameter: 17 mm; external diameter: 23.1 mm; weight: 3.77g.  
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

R HOBBS

50. Great Dunham, Norfolk:  
Roman silver finger-ring fragment  
(2004 T1) (Fig. 50)

**Date:** 3rd or 4th century AD  
**Finder:** Mr M de Bootman  
**Date of discovery:** Autumn 2003  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A Romano-British finger-ring of silver sheet, half of the hoop missing. The flat sub-rectangular bezel, now distorted, has converging engraved lines which follow the shape of the
shoulders. The roughly circular scar on the bezel suggests that a separate collet was once soldered thereto. Two punched dots are visible on one shoulder.

**Dimensions:** Bezel: 11 x 13 mm; weight: 1.63g.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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### 51. Great Witchingham, Norfolk: Roman gold finger-ring (2004 T374) (Fig. 51)

**Date:** 3rd or 4th century AD

**Finder:** Mr D Maranhans

**Date of discovery:** September 2004

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

**Description:** A gold finger-ring, now distorted. The band is flat, comprising six slightly irregular lozenges, each 6 mm wide at each maximum. It is impossible to tell whether the ring was originally spherical or hexagonal. On the outside at each constriction is a slight pyramid shaped rise; the internal surface is rough or unfinished.

**Discussion:** For similar examples, although all octagonal and none made of gold, see Waugh and Goodburn (1972), p. 119, no.27; Crummy (1983), fig. 52, no.1788 and Goodburn et al. (1984), fig.10, no. 62.

**Dimensions:** Internal diameter: 17-18.5 mm; weight: 1.81g.

**Disposition:** British Museum; registration no. P&E 2005,1020.1.

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### 52. Barton Bendish, Norfolk:

#### Roman gold finger-ring (2004 T442) (Figs. 52.1, 52.2)

**Date:** 4th century AD

**Finder:** Mr S Brown

**Date of discovery:** October 2004

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

**Description:** A complete, but damaged and distorted, Roman gold filigree finger-ring. The hoop and shoulders are formed from a pair of twisted wires on a narrow backing strip. The shoulders are in-filled with wire spirals, each with a small globule at the centre, and there are clusters of three or four globules in the spaces between the spirals. There are six spirals on one shoulder (in two vertical rows of three) and five on the other (in two vertical rows, one of three and the other of two, presumably missing the third spiral). A twisted wire collar surrounds the circular bezel, which contains a round, low-domed, translucent green glass gem, now cracked and spalled, in a rubbed-over setting.

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### 53. East of Colchester, Essex:

#### Roman gold filigree finger-ring (2004 T356) (Fig. 53)

**Date:** Late 4th century AD

**Finder:** Mr C Henderson

**Date of discovery:** September 2004

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

**Description:** A complete, but damaged and distorted, Roman gold filigree finger-ring. The hoop and shoulders are formed from a pair of twisted wires on a narrow backing strip. The shoulders are in-filled with wire spirals, each with a small globule at the centre, and there are clusters of three or four globules in the spaces between the spirals. There are six spirals on one shoulder (in two vertical rows of three) and five on the other (in two vertical rows, one of three and the other of two, presumably missing the third spiral). A twisted wire collar surrounds the circular bezel, which contains a round, low-domed, translucent green glass gem, now cracked and spalled, in a rubbed-over setting.
Discussion: For the ring type see, for example, Johns and Potter (1983).

Dimensions: Internal diameter: 20 x 4 mm (distorted); weight: 4.35g.

Disposition: Colchester Museums.

L POOLEY AND R JACKSON

54. Great Walsingham, Norfolk: Roman silver finger-ring fragment (2004 T148)

Date: 1st – 4th centuries AD
Finder: Mr D Fox
Date of discovery: December 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A silver finger-ring fragment, badly cracked across the approximate centre. The flat, undecorated sub-rectangular bezel is defined by a transverse groove at both ends. There is one ancient and one recent break across the shoulders.
Dimensions: Bezel: 20 x 10 mm; weight: 1.33g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

A ROGERSON

(ii) Jewellery

55. Lichfield, Staffordshire: Possible Roman gold bracelet fragment (2004 T491) (Fig. 55)

Date: Possibly 1st century AD
Finder: Mr S Wood
Date of discovery: December 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A gold strip bracelet fragment with square-end terminal, bent, distorted, and broken at the other end. One side is plain and undecorated, although faint impressions of the outer side decoration remain. The decorated side has a raised outer border, and a plain raised central line which divides the bracelet into two decorative zones. Each of these contains two rows of cable decoration in tight, neat rows, which was made using an ‘S’ shaped punch (this is only clear under magnification). At the end which is most damaged, there is heavy wear, including nicks and striations which probably occurred after burial; the intact end is not heavily worn.
Discussion: This fragment might be the first example in gold of what have been termed ‘wide cuff bracelets’ (Cool 1983). Examples in copper alloy have been found at a number of Romano-British sites, principally in the south of Britain, including Verulamium (Frere 1972, fig. 32, nos. 30-31), and Colchester (Hawkes and Hull 1947, plate C, no. 29). A fuller discussion of these bracelets and their significance has recently been published (Crummy 2005). However, the width of the bracelet is far narrower than any of the base metal examples so far known, which are usually between 12 and 20 mm in width. This object is also unusual in that it does not have any transverse decoration at the terminal end, which seems to be a common characteristic of this bracelet type. Finally, as most examples are made of base metal, it is far from clear if this item should be placed into this artefact class. Thus for the time being it is best to reserve judgement on the precise dating of this piece.
Dimensions and metal content: Length: 106 mm; width: 7 mm; weight: 6.64g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 80 per cent.
Disposition: Potteries Museum and Art Gallery.

R HOBBS

56. Hadham, Hertfordshire: Roman silver-gilt plate brooch (2004 T175) (Fig. 56)

Date: 1st or 2nd century AD
Finder: Ms C Baigent
Date of discovery: August 2001
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A Roman silver-gilt lugged lozengiform plate brooch of unusual composite construction. The decorative front plate has repoussé ornament comprising a petalled motif within a beaded border.
Traces of gilding remain, especially near the centre. It was secured to the plain back-plate by small dome-headed rivets at the centre and in the four projecting lugs (those at top and bottom now lacking). The catch-plate and hinged pin assembly, now broken at both ends, is held by the central rivet and, probably, by the missing rivets at top and bottom of the lozenge.

**Dimensions:** Width: 26.5 mm; surviving height: 27.5 mm; weight: 4.76g.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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57. **Bungay area, Suffolk:**

**Roman silver-gilt brooch**

(2004 T177) (Fig. 57)

**Date:** Late-1st or early 2nd century AD

**Finder:** Mrs F Crickmore

**Date of discovery:** March 2004

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

**Description:** A fragment of a silver-gilt sprung bow brooch, of Polden Hill type, comprising the wings, top of the bow and part of the covered spring. The side-wings, of semi-circular cross-section, have three milled ribs with intervening cavetto mouldings. At the back only the very stub of the rearward hook survives, together with eight turns of the spring and a fragment of the chord. On the D-sectioned bow two lines of a fine, lightly-recessed, wavy line motif, which starts at each side of the head, converge to form a single decorative mid-rib. All of the mouldings show signs of wear. Gilding remains in the cavetto mouldings and on the mid-rib.

**Dimensions:** Width: 25 mm; height: 17 mm; weight: 4.1g.

**Disposition:** British Museum; registration no. P&E 2005.0405.1.

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58. **North Ormsby, Lincolnshire:**

**Roman silver trumpet brooch fragment**

(2004 T252) (Figs. 58.1, 58.2)

**Date:** Early-2nd century AD

**Finder:** Mr M Steer

**Date of discovery:** June 2004

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

**Description:** Fragment of Roman silver trumpet brooch, of Collingwood’s group R (ii) (Hattatt 1982, no. 80). The top of the head consists of a thick oval hoop decorated with incised lines, sat on top of a thick decorative rectangular plate, with further decoration of lateral ribs. The whole scheme is unusually finely detailed. The bow has a fully developed ancanthus flower extending all the way around the bow with a total of 8 ‘leaves’, set between two lateral ribs. The rest of the brooch is missing, with a break below the ancanthus flower on the bow. The pin is also missing. The brooch has been heavily cleaned since excavation.

**Discussion:** There are also strong parallels with the brooches in the Backworth hoard (Johns 1996 pp. 211-3).

**Dimensions:** Max. width: 17.1 mm; surviving length: 36.5 mm; weight: 12.62g. Surface analysis carried out at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 97 per cent.

**Disposition:** The Collection, Lincoln.

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**Shenstone, Staffordshire:**

**Roman silver coins and a Roman copper-alloy brooch**

(2004 T104)

See no. 431 below

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**Church Minshull, Cheshire:**

**Fifty-eight Roman silver denarii and trumpet brooch fragments**

(2004 T311)

See no. 433 below
59. Stowmarket area, Suffolk: Roman gold ear-ring (2004 T458) (Fig. 59)

Date: Probably 2nd or 3rd century AD
Finder: Mr C Wilding
Date of discovery: November 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A Roman gold ear-ring of rectangular form, distorted and lacking its hook. It comprises two plates joined at the margins. The front face is embossed with a decorative swag border with tiny circular indentations. There is likely to have been a central setting in this face but this is no longer clear due to the central torn hole through both plates marking the former point of attachment of the hook.
Discussion: The ear-ring is most likely to be of Allason-Jones Type 11 (Allason-Jones 1989, p. 8). A similar example from near Sudbury can be seen in Treasure Annual Report 2003, no. 65.
Dimensions: 12.2mm x 12.4mm; thickness: 0.6 mm; weight: 0.50g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

60. Barmby Moor, East Riding of Yorkshire: Two Roman ear-rings (2004 T189) (Figs. 60.1, 60.2)

Date: (A) 2nd or 3rd century AD; (B) probably 3rd or 4th century AD
Finder: Mr P Birkett
Date of discovery: January 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Two Roman gold ear-rings, one (A) a hook ear-ring, the other (B) a hoop ear-ring.
A) Gold ear-ring of disc, bar and pendant type, its hook slightly distorted, the disc dented and damaged at one side, and one of the two pendants lacking (fig. 60.1). The embossed disc and double-ridged trapezoidal crossbar are fastened to an integral plain back-plate. The disc conceals the lower part of the hook, which is fastened to its back-plate. Similarly, the fastening of the two pendant hooks at the lower part of the back-plate is concealed behind the crossbar. The surviving pendant, undoubtedly originally one of a matching pair, is tear-shaped with a simple embossed front-plate on a plain backing sheet, to the top of which is secured a small circular loop. The plain wire hook terminates in an offset ‘droplet’, presumably a functional feature designed for comfort and security. For parallels see, for example Davidson and Oliver (1984), 97 – 100, esp. nos. 92 – 93; also, Ruseva-Slokoska (1991), 127 – 128, especially no. 60, from Saparevo.
B) Gold hoop ear-ring, intact, but slightly distorted in places (fig. 60.2). The hoop, a slender twisted wire, has a simple, lightly-hooked end, which is held in the eye of a small, plain wire loop, in a ‘hook-and-eye’ arrangement. The ear-ring is elaborately ornamented with filigree wire and granulation. Central to the design is a line of three slender cones formed from tightly-coiled wire, with a tiny granule at their apex. Flanking the cones is a pair of embossed circular discs, edged with a continuous border of granules, and with a central granule within a symmetrical triangular arrangement of three further granules. The point of attachment of the hoop to one of the discs is elaborated with an inverted cone of coiled wire festooned at the broad end with a cluster of granules, rather in the manner of a cornucopia. The backing plate for the discs and cones is strengthened by gold wire strips and rods and single granules at the centre of each disc.
Dimensions and metal content: (A) Max. height: 47.8 mm; weight: 2.88g. (B) Max. height: 26.1 mm; weight: 2.13g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content for the pendant of (A) of approximately 84 per cent and for (B) of approximately 82 per cent.
Disposition: Hull and East Riding Museum.
61. West Firsby, Lincolnshire: Roman silver brooch fragment (2004 T488) (Fig. 61)

Date: Late-3rd or early 4th century AD  
Finder: Mr C Bayston  
Date of discovery: July 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A silver crossbow brooch, broken and somewhat distorted, with only the bow and part of the head intact. The bow is ovular in profile, trapezoidal in section, and is decorated with a single lengthwise groove. On the head is a conical shaped knob with flat disc below. Part of one of the arms is intact, but the end knob is broken away, whilst the other arm, the foot and pin are all missing.  
Discussion: The brooch is of Keller Type 2 (Keller 1971).  
Dimensions: Surviving length: 35.5 mm; height: 15.8 mm; weight: 11.7 g.  
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

R Hobbs

62. Upper Stondon, Bedfordshire: Roman silver bracelet (2004 T102) (Fig. 62)

Date: 1st – 4th centuries AD.  
Finder: Mr A Arnold  
Date of discovery: August 2003  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A distorted Roman silver open-ended bracelet. The cross-section of the hoop varies between circular and oval. The terminals are lightly trumpet-shaped, solid and plain, with a quite rudimentarily finished flat end.  
Discussion: Roman examples of this type of bracelet, some with incised decoration, are known in gold, silver and copper alloy.  
Dimensions and metal content: External: 68 x 61 mm; weight: 12.73 g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 93 per cent.  
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

R Jackson

(iii) Grave assemblages

63. Colchester, Essex: Roman grave assemblage (2004 T399)

Date: 4th Century AD  
Finder: Colchester Archaeological Trust  
Date of discovery: August 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: Controlled archaeological excavation.  
Description:  
1. Silver ring. Diameter: 11.5 mm; weight: 0.42 g.  
2. Silver lunula pendant. Length: 27 mm; width: 22.5 mm; weight: 3.36 g.  
3. Jet figurine of a standing bear. Length: 35 mm; height: 19 mm.  
4. Possible ivory finger-ring fragments. Diameter: 25 mm.  
5. Two complete melon beads of turquoise frit, one with small silver ring fragment in close association. Diameters: 13 mm and 14.5 mm.  
6. Silver finger-ring with a red stone intaglio of a stag (N Crummy). Diameter: 19.5 mm; intaglio length: 8 mm.  
7. Cobalt blue annular glass bead with white marvered zigzag trail, with small copper-alloy ring and iron fragments in close association. Diameter: 15-17 mm.  
8. Five copper-alloy coins, two 2nd century, three late 3rd century; all worn.  
9. Rhenish ware beaker. The letters BIBE (Latin for ‘drink’), with large circles in between, are painted around the middle of the beaker with a border above and below, all in a white slip. Height: 99 mm.  
10. Nene Valley ware beaker. It is decorated with large circles surrounded by swirling lines painted across the middle of the beaker with a border above and below. All decoration is in a white slip. Height: 104 mm.  
11. 882 pottery jar with small fragment of rim missing. Height: 120 mm.  
12. Grey ware indented beaker with approximately half of the rim missing. Height: 160 mm.  
Discussion: Found in an infant cremation on the Garrison Urban Village site (2004.96, Area C2, F166). Both inhumations and cremations were found in the same area, with most of the burials dating to the late Roman period. Colchester Archaeological Trust publication in preparation.
Disposition: Disclaimed; to remain with the main site archive (Colchester Museums).

L POOLEY AND N CRUMMY

64. Lankhills, Winchester, Hampshire: Two Roman grave assemblages (2004 T113) (Figs. 64.1-4)

Date: 2nd half of the 4th century AD
Finder: Oxford Archaeology
Date of discovery: January and March 2004
Circumstances of discovery: Controlled archaeological excavation prior to redevelopment of a well-known late Roman cemetery, the recent work uncovering a further 344 graves.

Description:
A) Group 1355: the extended inhumation of a sub-adult, sex undetermined, orientated west-east. A coffin (1076) was indicated by a stain and 13 iron nails.
1. Silver buckle pin (SF3031), quite crudely made (fig, 64.1). The pin is roughly cruciform in plan view, with a simple ring for the hinge bar, then a wider section with three transverse ridges, contiguous with an even wider cross arm. The latter and the junction with the pin immediately below is decorated with simple punched dots. The pin is half-round in section and appears to show some signs of wear. No exact parallels for the form of the pin have been identified at present, though a pin with a crossbar is illustrated by Swift (2000, p. 194, fig. 237), but the typological scheme is not based on the characteristics of the pin (Swift 2000, p. 187). The pin was located beside the teeth on the right side of the skull; this position, and the absence of the rest of the buckle, have led to the suggestion that the pin might have been re-used as a pendant and, more speculatively, that its roughly cruciform shape was significant in this reuse. Max. dimensions: 28 x 17.5 x 5 mm.
2. Six very small and poorly-preserved iron fragments of fine wire, possibly from a pin but no head is evident. These were located beside the buckle pin by the right side of the neck. Lengths ranging: 6 – 14 mm.
3. A composite, double-sided bone comb, fragmentary and in very poor condition, located close to the left foot.

B) Group 1846: the extended inhumation of an adult, sex undetermined, orientated west-east. A coffin (1849) was indicated by a stain and 13 iron nails.
1. A complete silver buckle with an oval plate fastened with three rivets and a D-shaped loop (SF4261), very similar to no. 27 from the 1960s excavations (Clarke 1979; pp. 270-272, fig. 34) but slightly smaller (fig, 64.2). The buckle was located between the femurs. Dimensions of the buckle plate: 27 x 20 mm.
2. An almost complete amphora-shaped silver strap end (SF4244), with a simple knob at the base of the amphora, and handles, of pelta form, which are similar to those on no. 489 from the 1960s excavations (Clarke 1979, p. 280, fig. 36), but more carefully done (fig. 64.2). The handles are particularly fine and the definition of the ‘upper’ part of the ‘amphora’ more precise than in the examples illustrated by Simpson (1976, p. 199, fig. 4). The upper outer half of one of the handles is missing and the strap end was located between the legs just below the knees, suggesting that the belt was not worn but was laid between the legs at the time of burial. Length: 46.5 mm, max. width: 19.5 mm.
3. A substantial gilded copper alloy crossbow brooch, complete except for the rear terminal knob (fig. 64.3). It was located on the right shoulder with the foot pointing upwards in the approved manner, suggesting that it was worn at the time of burial. Fragments of mineralised textile adhere to the back of the crossarm. Surviving length: 76 mm; max. width: 67 mm.
4. A pair of similar, but not identical, copper alloy rivet spurs (fig, 64.4). Both are quite small, with three circular rivet plates with rivets (some missing) for attachment to the boot, rather than the more normal two. Fragments of preserved leather were also associated, and both objects were positioned beside the right leg, one at the ankle and one at the knee. This suggests that the riding boots, with spurs attached, were placed end to end beside the deceased inside the coffin. Max. lengths: 75 and 63 mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; to remain with the main site archive (Winchester Museums Service).
65. Lant Street, Southwark, London: Two Roman gold ear-rings (2004 T440) (Fig. 65)

**Date:** 4th Century AD  
**Finder:** AOC Archaeology  
**Date of discovery:** Winter 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** Controlled archaeological excavation.  
**Description:** 1. Gold slip-knot ear-ring; complete; from the fill of grave cut 5. 2. Gold slip-knot ear-ring; complete; from the fill of grave cut 14. The ear-rings are of Allason-Jones type 3 (Allason-Jones 1989). Burials five and 14, positioned side by side, both contained a single gold ear-ring. It is likely they were both originally deposited in Burial 14, where the ear-ring was recovered in its original position on the skull; the ear-ring from Burial five was found near the knee of the body.  
**Discussion:** Burial 14 contained the body of a young female adult. Besides the ear-rings, associated finds include a pair of hobnail shoes; one set of hobnails survives in a virtually complete state, with the x-ray showing the sole of a shoe approximating a modern size four or five. Near the pelvis of the body was placed a complete pottery vessel in black burnished ware, and with an incised Chi-Rho sign on the base. A similar vessel was found at the Rouen Cathedral Cour de Macon site in France and comes from a horizon dated to c. AD 390-410. The Chi-Ro symbol was associated with early Christian practices.  
**Dimensions:** (1) Diameter: 15 mm. (2) Diameter: 14 mm.  
**Disposition:** To be disclaimed, to remain with the main site archive (Museum of London).

M GAIMSTER


**Date:** 4th century AD  
**Finder:** Wessex Archaeology  
**Date of discovery:** August 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** Controlled archaeological excavation of a Late Romano-British enclosed cemetery (site code: 56240).  
**Description:** A grave (5119) containing the coffined remains of a 25–30 year old woman. Placed at her feet, within the coffin, was a well-preserved ornate jewellery box, constructed of yew with copper-alloy and iron fittings. This box held many items including copper-alloy bracelets, bone bracelets with copper-alloy sleeving, a bone comb, a brooch and the remains of at least one necklace consisting of two copper alloy clasps and in excess of 180 beads, made variously of amber, glass, and coral. Three silver finger-rings were threaded onto one of the copper-alloy bracelets. Elsewhere within the grave, a fine silver pin, possibly a hairpin, was found in two pieces near the head and another bone/ivory bracelet was worn on the lower left arm. Three copper-alloy coins were also recovered, two of which could be dated to Constans (AD 341-348).  
**Discussion:** The silver pin and many of the other finds are paralleled in late 4th century AD graves at Lankhills and Poundbury. The brooch seems to be of a trumpet-headed type, generally dated to the Flavian-Trajanic period, and it may therefore have been an heirloom at the time of deposition.  
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; to remain with the main site archive (Salisbury Museum).

A MANNING AND R SEAGER SMITH

(iv) Spoons

67. Shouldham, Norfolk: Roman silver spoon fragment (2004 T188) (Fig. 67)

**Date:** Late 1st or 2nd century AD  
**Finder:** Mr M Coggles  
**Date of discovery:** April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: An incomplete silver spoon, the proximal end of the handle and part of the edge of the slightly distorted bowl are missing. The handle is round in section, widening in diameter slightly to the junction just above the base of a round bowl, decorated on the inside with an engraved line which closely follows the circumference.

Discussion: The spoon is of Colchester 1983, Type 1 (Crummy 1983, p. 69).

Dimensions: Diameter of bowl: 28 mm; depth: 6 mm; surviving length: 61 mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

A ROGERSON

68. Baldock, Hertfordshire: Roman silver spoon (2004 T269) (Fig. 68)

Date: 3rd or 4th century AD
Finder: Mr R Barnard
Date of discovery: April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A Roman silver spoon with bent handle and broken and damaged bowl. The short, plain, tapered rod handle was seemingly broken and re-pointed in antiquity. There is a simple offset at the junction with the oval bowl, the distal end of which is broken short of the point of its maximum width. An inscription is very lightly incised along the central axis of the inner face of the bowl and truncated at its fractured edge. Starting at the end adjacent to the handle offset are the Latin letters MODE(or I)SIIAN(or NA) – perhaps the cognomen Modestianus or Modestinus. The underside of the bowl is lightly corroded in areas and gouged, probably as a result of recent agricultural damage.

Dimensions: Length: 103.5 mm; length of handle: 70 mm; weight: 8.9g.

Disposition: British Museum.

R JACKSON

69. Howe, Norfolk: Roman silver spoon fragment (2004 T28) (Fig. 69)

Date: 1st – 4th centuries AD
Finder: Mr C Pears
Date of discovery: October 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Romano-British silver spoon fragment, with a flattened, possibly rounded bowl, but no surviving original edge. The stem tapers, springing from base of the bowl, and is broken and bent, with the terminal missing.

Dimensions: Min. length: 77 mm; weight: 4.41g.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

S J ASHLEY AND R HOBBS

(v) Other objects

70. Ashwell, Hertfordshire: Roman Copper alloy mount (2004 T410) (Fig. 70)

Date: Probably 1st – 4th Centuries AD
Finder: Mr A Arnold
Date of discovery: November 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A cast pelta-shaped mount, seemingly of copper alloy, with traces of white metal.

Dimensions and metal content: Width: 34.3 mm; max. thickness: 6.2 mm; weight: 19g.
Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum confirmed the object as bronze and the white metal coating as tin, with some lead.

Disposition: Not Treasure; returned to finder.

R JACKSON
71. Torksey area, Lincolnshire: Possible Roman gold inscribed plaque (2004 T66) (Fig. 71)

Date: Probably 1st – 4th centuries AD  
Finder: Mrs S Austin  
Date of discovery: December 2003  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A folded, crushed and crumpled fragment of very thin gold sheet or foil. It is difficult to identify definite original edges, but it appears to be a comparatively narrow incomplete strip. On the largest surviving visible, relatively un-crumpled, roughly rectangular part of the sheet there appear to be three or four lines of lettering, about 1 mm in height, and possibly in Latin.

‘Unrolling’ of the fragment revealed that it comprised part of a rectangular sheet, of uncertain original dimensions, preserving one long original edge and one short edge. The presence of lettering was confirmed, and subsequent examination by Dr Roger Tomlin (Wolfson College, Oxford) demonstrated that the fragment preserves the beginning (or ending) five or so characters of about twelve lines of a currently indecipherable, probably Latin, text.

Discussion: The object may have been an inscribed amulet.

Dimensions and metal content: As found: 18 x 20 mm approx; unrolled: 59.3 x 23.3 mm; weight: 1.31 g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 92 per cent.

Note: Conservation for identification carried out by Dept. of Conservation, Documentation and Science, British Museum.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

R JACKSON

72. Paulerspury, Northamptonshire: Roman silver mount (2004 T82) (Fig. 72)

Date: Probably 1st – 4th Centuries AD  
Finder: Mr R Kings  
Date of discovery: November 2003  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A small peltate silver mount. The simply moulded outer face is worn. The unworn inner face preserves two rivets, one retaining a tiny circular silver washer. The very short rivets indicate that the mount was secured to something very thin, perhaps to a thin-walled vessel.

Dimensions and metal content: 15.3 x 11.5 mm; washer diameter: 0.55 mm approx; weight: 1.6g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 95 per cent.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

R JACKSON

Hoxne, Suffolk (addenda): Five Roman coins and a silver fragment (2004 T396)

See no. 455 below

R JACKSON
D. Early Medieval

(i) Armrings and bracelets

73. Newchurch, Isle of Wight:
   Early Anglo-Saxon silver armlet
   (2004 T55) (Figs. 73.1, 73.2)

   **Date:** 6th century
   **Finder:** Mr P Beeney
   **Date of discovery:** January 2004
   **Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.
   **Description:** The armlet is broken in two and distorted, but is otherwise complete. It consists of a strip which tapers from the centre to its two rounded ends and would originally have been coiled in a spiral. On the front the edges are decorated with punched chevrons pointing outwards, except in the central area where there is a double row of chevrons placed base to base either side of the mid-line.
   **Discussion:** This type of punch-decorated, spiral armlet is known from excavated early Anglo-Saxon female burials, mainly in East Anglia and the Midlands, such as a silver pair from Kenninghall, Norfolk, in the British Museum’s collection, also with punched borders, although of pellet-in-triangle motifs (registration nos. 83,7-2,20-21). Armlets of this type can be dated by associated finds to the above date (Sherlock and Welch 1992).
   **Dimensions:** Overall length, if straightened: 330 mm; max. width: 12.5 mm; thickness: 1.0mm; weight: 24.49g. Surface metal analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 70 per cent.
   **Disposition:** Isle of Wight Museum Service.

74. Woodbridge area, Suffolk:
   Late Anglo-Saxon gold and niello fragment (2004 T136) (Fig. 74)

   **Date:** 9th century
   **Finder:** Mr P Hammond
   **Date of discovery:** March 2004
   **Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.
   **Description:** The fragment is in the form of a rectangular bar, broken at one end and hammered flat at the other. It is decorated with alternating yellow and pale gold overlays with double rows of irregular lozenges of black niello on the top and sides. The top and sides have been hammered, which has burred the edges underneath. It is uncertain what the fragment may be from, but it is possibly from a bracelet.
   **Discussion:** Jewellery and other fine metalwork in gold decorated with niello are typical of the late Anglo-Saxon period, particularly of the above date.
   **Dimensions:** Length: 16 mm; width: 9 mm; thickness: 5 mm; weight: 4.28g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 60 per cent at the surface and 38 per cent in the body.
   **Disposition:** Ipswich Museum.

75. Huxley, Cheshire: Hoard of Viking silver bracelets (2004 T453) (Fig. 75)

   **Date:** Late 9th or 10th century
   **Finder:** Mr S Reynoldson
   **Date of discovery:** November 2004
   **Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.
   **Description:** The hoard consists of 22 pieces of silver, comprising 20 flattened bracelets, one silver ingot and one decorated, twisted silver bar from a spiral bracelet. There are also numerous fragments of decayed lead sheet found around the silver pieces, most probably from a lead wrapping or container in which the hoard would have been buried.
The flattened bracelets are of penannular form and made of broad, thick silver strips, mostly tapering to squared-off ends, but one or two are more or less parallel-sided. They have all been folded roughly in half and flattened, but are complete except for four which have a little missing from one end. Four of the bracelets are plain and the other sixteen are decorated with punch-work, all in varying patterns. But there is a degree of similarity, as thirteen have saltire or star patterns in the mostly expanded, central areas and five of these also have saltires at the ends. The bands on either side of the centres mostly show close, transverse rows of punch-work, except for one where the rows are arranged in chevrons and another where the punches are in lozenge-shaped groups.

The bracelets with flat, punch-decorated bands belong to a well-known Hiberno-Scandinavian type found distributed in areas around both sides of the Irish Sea and produced in Ireland during the second half of the 9th and first half of the 10th centuries. There are many cut-up fragments of such bracelets in the famous Viking silver hoard from Cuerdale, Lancashire, deposited around AD 905 (Graham-Campbell 1980, p. 64, no. 234, pl. 234).

The twisted bar (no. 21), which would originally have formed a penannular or slightly coiled bracelet, is square in section, tapering a little to squared-off ends, and is now twisted into a rough figure-of-eight loop. It is decorated on two adjacent sides with closely punched, arrow-head shapes, alternately placed to create a median zigzag pattern. The Cuerdale Hoard includes a few punch-decorated hacksilver fragments which may have been cut from bracelets of similar type and a general comparison may be drawn with a square-section silver bracelet with tapered ends from Hejdeby, on the Swedish island of Gotland (Stenberger 1958, pl. 45). Fully spiral bracelets of square section, mainly plain, but also decorated with punch-work, are more typical of Scandinavian Viking silver hoards, including many from Gotland; they are frequently partly uncoiled and flattened (ibid. pls. 22, 1-2; 32, 2-4; 136, 10, etc.). The example from Huxley may therefore represent an Insular version of Scandinavian derivation.

The ingot (no. 22) is a short bar of rounded, trapezoidal section, with round ends, near one of which an irregular lump is fused to one face. There are two nicked testing marks on the surface. The basic form is typical of Viking examples found both singly and in hoards in Scandinavia and on the Continent, as well as in the British Isles.

**Discussion:** It is possible that there is a historical connection between the Huxley and Cuerdale hoards, for example that they are either contemporary booty, or separate parts of a war chest belonging to the Vikings driven from Dublin by the Irish to settle in the Wirral, Lancashire and Cumbria at the beginning of the 10th century. The hoards would probably have been buried for safe-keeping in this troubled period and it is likely the Huxley hoard was intended for use as bullion, either in trade or commercial transactions, or as payment for military service, the value of the silver being measured by its weight.

**Dimensions and metal content:** Lengths: (1) 116 mm (2) 113 mm; (3) 112 mm; (4) 98 mm; (5) 99 mm; (6) 103 mm; (7) 112 mm; (8) 99 mm; (9) 91 mm; (10) 90 mm; (11) 103 mm; (12) 107 mm; (13) 100 mm; (14) 87 mm; (15) 113 mm; (16) 97 mm; (17) 84 mm; (18) 94 mm; (19) 87 mm; (20) 95 mm; (21) twisted bar, folded length: 110 mm; (22) ingot length: 49 mm.

Surface analysis of a representative selection of the items (nos. 1, 6, 17, 21, 22) conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 96-98 per cent. Total weight of the silver items: 1.41 kg.

**Disposition:** National Museums Liverpool hopes to acquire.

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**76. York area: Viking gold armring (2004 T203) (Fig. 76)**

**Date:** Late 9th or 10th century

**Finder:** Mr Ingle

**Date of discovery:** Uncertain, before 1997

**Circumstances of discovery:** During construction work; reported after his father’s death by the finders’ son, Mr D Ingle.

**Description:** The ring has been cut through and partly straightened into a curved L-shape, but is otherwise complete. It is made of two thick, round rods with beaded wires between them, twisted into a cable and tapering to the ends. The original ends (now together
at one end of the cable because of the cut) are joined to a plain, polyhedral knob and are closely bound with plain wires on either side of it. The beaded wires of the cable show girth grooves round many of the ‘beads’, which were caused in manufacture. There is a deep cut in one side of the ring towards one end and a few small dents at other points along its length.

**Discussion**: The armring can be compared in its cable combining thick, plain rods and thin, beaded wires with an example of the Viking period from Wipholm, Germany, while the knob joining the ends bound with wires is similar to other Viking gold armrings from Dublin, Hornelund, Denmark, and Goodrington, Devon (Graham-Campbell 1980, pp. 61-2, pls. 220-23).

**Dimensions**:

- Length: 260 mm
- Diameter: 15 mm at centre and 6 mm at ends
- Weight: 324.6g

**Description**:

- Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 95 per cent.

**Disposition**: Yorkshire Museum.

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**77. Barmby Moor, East Riding of Yorkshire: Viking silver bracelet fragment (2004 T270) (Fig. 77)**

**Date**: Late 9th or 10th century

**Finder**: Mr A Foster

**Date of discovery**: June 2004

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

**Description**:

- The find consists of a slightly buckled, tapering strip broken at both ends. It is decorated for most of its length with transverse rows of punched dog-tooth ornament and, at the wider end, with two rows of apex-to-apex triangles with a single raised pellet in each triangle. The back is plain except for a lightly incised geometric motif at the wider end.

**Discussion**:

- This type of bracelet is a Viking form which can be broadly dated by comparison, for example, with those found in the hoard from Skaill, Orkney, deposited around AD 950 (Graham-Campbell 1980, p. 64, pl. 235). They are particularly common in Scottish silver hoards of the period.

**Dimensions and metal content**:

- Length: 49 mm
- Max. cross-section: 7 mm
- Weight: 11.76g

**Description**:

- Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 72 per cent.

**Disposition**: Yorkshire Museum.

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**(ii) Brooches**

**78. North Yorkshire area: Viking silver bracelet fragment (2004 T272) (Fig. 78)**

**Date**: 10th or 11th century

**Date of discovery**: December 2003

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

**Description**:

- The find constitutes about one third of a broken bracelet of penannular type and consists of a plain, curved tapering from the break to a blunt end.

**Discussion**:

- This type of bracelet is a Viking form which can be broadly dated by comparison, for example, with those found in the hoard from Skaill, Orkney, deposited around AD 950 (Graham-Campbell 1980, p. 64, pl. 235). They are particularly common in Scottish silver hoards of the period.

**Dimensions and metal content**:

- Length: 44 mm
- Max. width: 10 mm
- Weight: 5.19g

**Description**:

- Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 97 per cent.

**Disposition**: Yorkshire Museum had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

**79. East Kent: Early Anglo-Saxon silver-gilt square-headed brooch fragment (2004 T186a) (Fig. 79)**

**Date**: 6th century

**Finder**: Mr G Marsh

**Date of discovery**: 1987

**Circumstances of discovery**: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: The head and bow of the brooch, inlaid with garnets, remain. The front of the head-plate is all-over gilded and poorly decorated with atypical ornament within a border made from cast impressions of a small square stamp. This is separated from the decorated field by a single incised groove. The head plate carries four raised cells, two are petal-shaped and are typically placed in the upper corners. The other two are circular and are placed in the middle of the head-plate towards its junction with the bow; all contain a single plate garnet. The four cells are linked to each other by pairs of incised lines and incised lines drop from the circular cells to the lower edge of the head-plate. The inner of these lines link up with the inner edges of two bands filled with cast billeting between incised lines that meander along the bow past a fifth raised cell, now empty. A degenerate crouched zoomorph with billeting defining its head lies between the petal-shaped cells. All the incised lines carry the chatter marks of the engraving tool. The back is plain and carries two pierced lugs for the attachment of a pin (missing).

Discussion: The square-headed brooch is one of the more common brooch types of the early Anglo-Saxon period with a distribution that is largely concentrated in south-east England, particularly Kent. This example, however, falls well outside the norm in the all over gilding of the head-plate and its decoration, which is both degenerate and atypical. The fashion for square-headed brooches runs throughout the 6th century.

Dimensions: Length: 40 mm.

Disposition: Not Treasure; returned to finder.

81. Bunwell, Norfolk: Early Anglo-Saxon silver possible decorated brooch fragment (2004 T282)

Date: 6th or early 7th century
Finder: Mr P Day
Date of discovery: May 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Small fragment of silver without any original edges, decorated with chip-carved Style I animal ornament on one face. One straight moulding is probably part of the frame of a panel; probably part of a brooch.

Dimensions: 10.5 x 8.5 x 2.5 mm; weight: 1.12g.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

A C EVANS
82. Heckington, Lincolnshire: Two conjoining Anglo-Saxon silver openwork disc brooch fragments (2004 T162) (Figs. 82.1, 82.2)

Date: Late 9th century  
Finder: Mr D Panton  
Date of discovery: (A) September 2003 and (B) November 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: The disc brooch, when complete, would have had a diameter of around 46 mm. Within a circular shape in a beaded border, the pattern cut out is that of an equalled-arm cross with double cusped expanded arms. The cut-out ‘armpits’ would have been embellished by an additional pattern, of which only a volute on the left-hand side of fragment (A) survives. Fragment (A) (fig. 82.1) corresponds to the expanded arm of the cross, and is decorated with vegetation motifs at the attenuated spandrels, and with an animal with a flat, squarish snout and open mouth biting at interlaced limbs and tendrils, in typical Trewhiddle style, on the main narrow panel on the arm. The style is named after a hoard concealed in Trewhiddle, Cornwall, late in the 9th century, which comprised several pieces so decorated. It is mainly characterised by ‘nicks’ in the contour of the motifs, be they plants or animals, suggestive of volume. As the nicks would have been filled with black niello, they would have added contrast and vivacity to the design. In the centre of the splaying of the arm of fragment (A) is the sheared-off remain of a silver rivet for an ornamental boss. On the under side of fragment (B) (fig. 82.2), also decorated with a similar Trewhiddle style beast, one can see part of the attachment plate, secured by means of a central boss attached through a rivet and an ‘empty’ rivet corresponding to that of fragment (A). By analogy with other surviving brooches of the period, in addition to the central one, one can postulate the existence of four bosses at each arm, suggesting the Five Wounds of Christ. Three of the bosses, aligned, would have been functional, and secured the pin attachment plate for the brooch; the other two would have been decorative.

Discussion: The appearance of the brooch would have been not too dissimilar to that of the brooch found at Beeston Tor Cave, Staffordshire, which is illustrated in Webster and Backhouse (1991), pp. 269-70, no. 245a. Another interesting comparison comes with the brooch from Elmsett (West 1998, fig. 24.6).  
Dimensions: (A): length: 18 mm; width: 21 mm; weight: 1.5g. (B): length: 28 mm; width: 6 mm; weight: 2.8g.  
Disposition: British Museum.  

A GANNON

83. Arlington, East Sussex: Late Saxon silver-gilt bird-shaped brooch fragment (2004 T379) (Fig. 83)

Date: Late 10th century  
Finder: Mr A Briscoe  
Date of discovery: 1998  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: The brooch would have been in the shape of a bird carrying a cross on its back: only the cross, the head and part of the bird’s body and wing remain. The cross is of Greek shape, decorated with a further cross gauged on its surface. The head of the bird is large, with an almond-shaped eye and hollowed round for a pupil, probably originally decorated with glass. The curved beak, nicely detailed, is that of a predator. The body is plain, but the wing shows horizontal ‘feathers’ and some indistinct patterning on the differentiated round joint.  
Discussion: Brooches in the shape of birds are fairly common Scandinavian finds (Pedersen 2001, pp. 19-66), and examples have been found in Germany, France and England (ibid. figs. 19-22, and see Gannon 2003, pp. 114-5). Some are just in the shape of birds; others carry crosses, rosettes or small fledglings. Whilst some of them can be understood to follow in the tradition of bird-shaped Germanic ornaments, the addition of Christian symbols makes their apotropaic and devotional character plain. The beak of our bird could identify it either as a dove, symbol of the Holy Spirit, or as an eagle, symbolic of the Resurrection.
(iii) Finger-rings

84. Thurnham, Kent: Anglo-Saxon silver finger-ring (2004 T299) (Fig. 84)

Date: 6th century
Finder: Mr J Darvill
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: The hoop is made of silver wire with a rounded section and the bezel made by twisting the ends of the hoop into a flattened spiral and wrapping the ends around the shoulders.

Discussion: This ring belongs to a group of silver slip-knot rings which were in use in the early Anglo-Saxon period. It may be compared to similar rings, also made in silver, particularly examples from Chatham Lines, Kent and St Albans, Hertfordshire (MacGregor and Bolick 1993, cat. nos. 27.18 and 27.19).

Dimensions: Diameter: 24 mm; width of bezel: 10 mm.
Disposition: Maidstone Museum.

85. Wincanton area, Somerset: Late Anglo-Saxon gold finger-ring (2004 T290) (Fig. 85)

Date: 9th century
Finder: Mr B Benjafield
Date of discovery: November 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: The loop, which is badly bent, is a thin round-sectioned band, flattened and widening towards the bezel. On the shoulder there is a decoration of minute dots, emphasizing the triangular shape obtained, subdivided into three small triangular fields. The bezel of the ring is round, slightly bent at the lower edge, 1 cm in diameter. The bezel has a double frame: around a plain frame there is a scalloped border, which originally would have been set off by niello. A comparison for this treatment can seen on the ring of Alhstan, 9th century bishop of Sherborne, now in the Victoria and Albert Museum. Within the plain frame is a standing and backward-looking image of the Agnus Dei. The Lamb is nimbed, and there are three notches on the halo that, when filled with niello, would have brought to the fore the cross inscribed in it. The body of the animal displays notches and marks that are consistent with the so-called Trewhiddle style, and notice in particular the treatment of the tail, a continuation of the ‘frame’ of the back of the animal. To the left of the animal there is a motif, probably representing the palm of Victory.

Discussion: A well-known and much more impressive ring with the Agnus Dei is that of Queen Æthelwith, who married Burgred of Mercia around 853 (see Webster and Backhouse 1991, no. 244), but a simpler one, which compares well with the present one, was found at ‘Southend’ and shown at the British Museum a few years ago. In both instances the Lamb is haloed and faces forward.

Weight: 1.8g.
Disposition: Somerset County Museum Service.

86. Beachamwell, Norfolk: Viking gold finger-ring (2004 T267) (Figs. 86.1, 86.2)

Date: 9th or 10th century
Finder: Mr S Brown
Date of discovery: July 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: The ring consists of an ovoid strip tapering to narrow ends which would originally have
been wound round each other, but are now broken off. It has been crushed and distorted into an S-shape, possibly by agricultural activity, and one edge has been bent over slightly. The two edges and a median line across the front are decorated with closely punched, apex-to-apex triangles, which merge at the shoulders, while the spaces in between are haphazardly punched with triple-pelleted triangles which often overlap.

Discussion: Both the form of the ring and the decoration are typical of Viking jewellery of the 9th-10th centuries AD found in Scandinavian graves and silver hoards, e.g. from Tarup, Denmark and Gotland, Sweden (Skovmand, 1942, fig. 19; Thunmark-Nylén, 1998, pl. 143, 23-28). A punch-decorated gold ring of broadly similar form was found at Thetford in 1905 (Rogerson and Dallas 1984, p. 68, fig. 110, 12).

Dimensions and metal content: Weight: 1.78g. Surface metal analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate gold content of 64 per cent.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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87. Tibenham, Norfolk: Viking-period silver ring (2004 T5) (Fig. 87)

Date: Mid-10th to around the mid-11th century
Finder: Mr P Day
Date of discovery: October 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A finger-ring or ear-ring, the ring is penannular in shape, with an almost circular section tapering from 6 mm to less than 1 mm in diameter.

Discussion: This piece is very similar in size and form to a gold piece found near the Fishergate site in York and identified as an ear-ring (Rogers 1993, no. 1373 and 1495, fig. 670(b), no. 5789), and a copper-alloy example from Thetford (Rogerson and Dallas 1984, p. 69, fig. 110 no.21). This example appears too inflexible to have functioned as an ear-ring.

There is a larger silver example from Ireland, without a findspot (diameter about 3-4 cm), in the Pitt Rivers Museum, accession no. 1884.78.53 (see www.prm.ox.ac.uk). There are also two lightly faceted silver (finger-) rings with pointed ends in the Klein-Roscharden Hoard from Lower Saxony, deposited after 1005/10, and with a diameter very similar to Tibenham. The silver ones are said to be widely distributed in Europe (and so not strictly speaking just Viking) and dating from the mid-10th to around the mid-11th century (Waurick 1992, pp. 110-111). There are examples in gold, also from Germany, of broadly late 10th – early 12th-century date, for example from Alt Lübeck (ibid. p. 442).

Dimensions: Internal diameter: 17.5-20 mm; external diameter: 24-26 mm; weight: 7.53g.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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(iv) Grave assemblages

88. West Wight, Isle of Wight: Anglo-Saxon grave assemblages (2004 T187) (Figs. 88.1 – 19)

Date: Late 5th or 6th Century
Finder: Mr S Thompson
Date of discovery: May – November 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector, the position of each find recorded by the finds liaison officer using Global Positioning Systems.

Description: The finds derive from possibly eight or nine ploughed-out, shallow graves at one site and were all found fairly close together. Except for find no. 69, however, which comprises the artefacts from a single male grave, there was no visible sign of the grave cuts which appear, along with the exact contextual associations of most of the objects, to have been destroyed by agricultural activity.

Precious metal finds: Surface metal analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated the approximate precious metal contents given in the entries for these items.
A. Gilded silver square-headed brooch (disc-on-bow type) in three pieces, missing a decorative disc; overall length: 90 mm approx; 95 per cent silver (fig. 88.1). The head-plate has a shattered square garnet set in one corner and traces of a nielloed zigzag border, while in the centre is a disc of white paste flanked by empty triangular settings and animal motifs. In the centre of the foot-plate is a lozenge-shaped garnet, and in the separate tongue-shaped terminal is a small garnet disc. The brooch forms a matching pair with item B and therefore most probably derives from the same female grave. It dates from the mid-6th century and may be compared with other examples of the type from Buckland, Dover, and Howletts, Kent (Evison, 1987, pl. 6a; Åberg 1926, fig. 145; Leigh 1980).

B. Gilded square-headed brooch (disc-on-bow type) in five pieces; overall length: 92 mm approx; width: 38 mm (of head-plate); 96 per cent silver (fig. 88.2). The design is the same as on brooch A above, indicating it is most probably from the same grave.

C. Silver sword-pommel (fig. 88.3) of ‘cocked-hat’ form from a ring-sword, with traces of gilding. A separate grooved silver hook and ring derive from the hilt of the same sword and the end of the hook fits into a central depression at one end of the pommel. The pommel has flat, tongue-shaped ridges; a diagonal cross is incised on top; length: 45 mm; 92 per cent silver; height of hook: 25 mm; 96 per cent silver; diameter of ring: 16 mm; 95 per cent silver. The pommel and ring are typical of Menghin’s 6th-century, mainly Kentish, Bifrons-Gilton group (Menghin 1983, pp. 312-315, Karte 2).

D. Silver fragment from the foot-plate of a smaller version of the mid-6th century Kentish square-headed brooch (Leigh’s Series II), decorated with an animal or bird head above a roundel and raised central lozenge; length: 21 mm; 99 per cent silver (fig. 88.4). A central lozenge appears also on brooches from Bifrons, Stodmarsh, and Richborough, Kent (Åberg 1926, figs. 138-140).

E. Silver fragment of the head-plate of a 6th-century miniature square-headed brooch; length: 14 mm; 99 per cent silver (fig 88.5).

F. Silver-overlaid, copper-alloy basal end of a buckle tongue; length: 13 mm; 96 per cent silver. Uncommon 6th-century Anglo-Saxon type, usually associated with decorative rectangular buckle-plates like ix below.

G. Silver lozenge-shaped fitting or pendant with bevelled edges and a collared, ovoid terminal at one end; the other end is broken off making it difficult to identify precisely; length: 31 mm; 97 per cent silver. Probably early post-medieval.

H. Silver fragment from the corner of a square-headed brooch of Kentish 6th-century type, with a nielloed border and traces of gilding; length: 18 mm; 99 per cent silver.

J. Silver-gilt fragment, possibly from the bow of a square-headed brooch; length: 11 mm; 87 per cent silver.

K. Gold belt mount (fig. 88.6); square, but distorted by damage, with remains of a frame of oblong cloisonné garnets enclosing a green glass cross-shaped inlay with rounded arms; width: 19 mm; 73 per cent gold. The mount is probably from the sword grave (see vii below). It is a late-5th/early-6th century ‘import’ from the Continent, where quatrefoil settings and rectangular garnets occur on a range of inlaid gold jewellery, belt and sword fittings, such as a sword scabbard mouthpiece from the grave of a Frankish warrior at Planig, Germany, or a buckle of Visigothic origin from Bulles (Oise), grave 747, France (Wieczorek et al. 1996, fig. 317; and Vallet et al. 1986, fig. 135).

L. Silver sword pommel of Menghin’s late-5th/6th-century ‘Brighthampton – Ciply’ type, in the form of an elongated pyramid with a round lug at each corner; length: 42 mm; width: 17 mm; height: 13 mm; 85 per cent silver (Menghin 1983, pp. 309-311, Karte 2). The pommel was found in the topsoil above a shallow grave (see vii below), which contained a gold belt mount (K, above) and a sword, and it is most likely from the hilt of the latter.

M. Silver fragment from the head-plate of a small square-headed brooch, part of the bow with a decorated panel on either side of a worn line of interlocking triangles that were originally nielloed; length: 16 mm; 97 per cent silver. The short, vertical billets above the end of the bow are similar to the borders of the brooches from Finglesham D3 and Bifrons, grave 41, Kent, indicating a date of around AD 480-520 (Haseloff, 1981, pls. 2 and 18-19).

N. Silver fragment of a buckle-loop (fig 88.7); length: 17 mm; 99 per cent silver. 6th-century Anglo-Saxon type.
Probable associated non-precious metal finds:

(i) Two gilded, copper-alloy, joining fragments of a saucer brooch decorated with Style I animal motifs; lengths: 45 mm and 31 mm (fig. 88.8).

(ii) A copper-alloy hooked mount from a hanging bowl with a triple-grooved chevron at the join between the plain, almond-shaped plate and the hook, which terminates in a bird or animal head (fig. 88.9); length: 63 mm; width: 28 mm. (iib) another hooked mount from the same bowl, but less complete (fig. 88.10 & 11); length: 55 mm. (iic) a fragment of bronze sheet, probably from the body of the bowl (fig 88.12); length: 33 mm. These bowls are thought to have been made in Celtic areas of Britain mainly in the 6th/early 7th century and one with similar mounts was found at Chessell Down in the 19th-century excavation (Brenan 1991, pp. 200-201, pls. 16a-b).

(iii) A flat, copper-alloy fragment of a belt-fitting or jewellery, inlaid with curved silver wires in the immediately post-Roman, 5th-century, Quoit Brooch Style (Suzuki 2000) (fig 88.13); length: 18 mm.

(iv) A fragment of a copper-alloy miniature square-headed brooch decorated with a row of five pellets; length: 24 mm surviving. It belongs to a type found dating to the early to mid 6th century and may be compared with gilded silver examples from the Chessell Down cemetery (Arnold 1982, fig. 25, 12-13; pl. 7b; Åberg 1926, figs. 131-4).

(v) A gilded copper-alloy button brooch of Avent and Evison’s late 5th/early 6th-century, southern English type Bi, with a face-mask enclosed by two circular ridges, similar to one from the Chessell Down cemetery (Avent and Evison 1982, pp. 106-7, pl. 15: 10.4); diameter: 18 mm.

(vi) A gilded copper-alloy section from the mouth-band of a sword scabbard of Menghin’s mainly Anglo-Saxon Kempston-Mitcham type dating from c. 500 to the 6th century, decorated with horizontal ridges (Menghin 1983, pp. 336-7, Karte 12); Surviving length: 49 mm; surviving width: 15 mm. It probably derives from the sword in the grave no. 69 (see vii below).

(vii) The contents, all in a very poor condition, from a single male grave (no. 69) comprising: a heavily corroded iron sword missing the hilt, with pattern-welding in four strips and a scabbard mouthpiece plate visible in x-radiographs, length: 820 mm approx; a very corroded iron shield boss, diameter: 190 mm approx; height: 90 mm; a copper-alloy buckle-loop, possibly from the sword belt, width: 27 mm; the copper-alloy remains of a hanging bowl with parts of two of the bird-shaped escutcheons surviving, similar to iia-b; a fragmentary iron vessel; and the remains of a clear, fluted glass vessel.

(viii) A copper-alloy object consisting of a circular plate with remains of a silver foil appliquéd joining a lozenge-shaped plate (fig. 88.14); length: 70 mm; diameter of disc: 40 mm.

(ix) Rectangular, copper-alloy, buckle-plate with traces of gilding and a rectangular garnet (fig. 88.15); length: 35 mm; width: 29 mm (possibly belongs with F, or one of the buckles below). The panel is decorated with two animals in Salin’s Style I. This is a Kentish type of buckle dating to the earlier 6th century. Complete buckles with similar plates have been found at Lyminge, Kent, and Mucking, Essex (Marzinzik 2003, pls. 84, 8 and 85, 3).

Also (figs. 88.14, 16, 17, 18): one copper-alloy buckle-loop with a tongue with a shield-shaped basal plate; thirteen D-shaped copper-alloy buckle-loops; six D-shaped high-tin bronze buckle-loops; five copper-alloy buckle-tongues; and four high-tin bronze buckle-tongues. These are all of typical early Anglo-Saxon types (Marzinzik 2003). One fragmentary copper-alloy bracelet of circular section (in three pieces); one curved, copper-alloy fragment of rod with a ‘spur’ at one end; one gilded copper-alloy fragment with a circular garnet setting, probably from the sword grave, find no. 69 (see vii above), width: 15 mm. One copper-alloy strap-end(?) of tapering strip, length: 41 mm; one copper-alloy lozenge-shaped fragment, length: 25 mm; one copper-alloy fragment of flat sheet (from a brooch?), tinned on one side, length: 37 mm; one copper-alloy fragment, probably a foot from a medieval tripod jug, length: 36 mm; two copper-alloy rings of round section, diameters: 29 mm and 25 mm; two copper-alloy fragments, possibly from brooches. Part of a copper-alloy disc mount, width: 28 mm surviving; one flat, curved fragment of gilded copper alloy of uncertain date; and one large, faceted rock-crystal bead, diameter: 37 mm (max).

Discussion: All of the precious metal items are Anglo-Saxon and date to the 6th century AD, except for two items noted above: the inlaid square mount (K), which is of the late 5th/early 6th century and probably imported from Merovingian France; and the silver lozenge-shaped fitting probably of post-medieval date (G).
Most of the non-precious metal items and the crystal bead are also Anglo-Saxon and of the same date, except for the 5th century fragment (iii); the Celtic hanging bowl (see vii) and the other two hanging bowl mounts and fragment (iia-c), probably all 6th century; and the medieval jug foot, which is possibly 14th century in date.

Note: a further fourteen objects from the same site found late in 2005 have since been reported as potential Treasure (2006 T62).

Disposition: Isle of Wight Museum Service had hoped to acquire, but subsequently withdrew; British Museum, registration no. P&E 2006,3-5,1 – 64.


Date: 1st half of the 7th century AD
Finder: Museum of London Archaeological Service
Date of discovery: October 2003
Circumstances of discovery: Controlled archaeological excavation.

Description: A rich Anglo-Saxon princely burial from a known Anglo-Saxon cemetery site. The burial consisted of a wood-lined chamber, 4 m square and 1.4 m deep, with a mound raised over it. Although no bones survived, the personal possessions and fragments of tooth enamel showed that the body had been placed with the feet to the east, in a coffin with iron fittings, the grave goods carefully placed or hung on the walls of the chamber.

Precious metal finds: A gold belt buckle with a hollow triangular buckle plate which could have functioned as a reliquary; 2 gold foil Latin crosses found in the head area and possibly originally placed over the eyes; traces of gold braid, possibly from the edging of a tunic; 2 gold coins from the chest and waist area; and a silver inscribed Byzantine spoon in a box with other personal possessions.

Associated finds: Over a hundred other items were recovered including personal equipment and possessions, such as four copper-alloy vessels still hanging on hooks on the chamber walls, weapons and regalia, and a lyre and gaming pieces.

Discussion: The burial is clearly of a high ranking male, and is interpreted as the final resting place of a Saxon king. The crosses, possible use of a copper alloy flagon and ‘Coptic’ bowl in the ritual washing of hands and feet, the spoon which could have been a baptismal gift, for use during communion, and the relative simplicity of the personal dress fittings suggest the man was a Christian at death; historical sources provide clues to his identity, one possibility being Sabert, a Christian King of the East Saxons who died in AD 616. (Museum of London Archaeological Service 2004).

Disposition: Disclaimed; to remain with the site archive (Southend Museum).

90. Cumwhitton, Cumbria: Viking grave assemblage (2004 T255) (Figs. 90.1, 90.2)

Date: Late 9th or early 10th century
Finder: Mr P Adams and Oxford Archaeology North
Date of discovery: July 2004
Circumstances of discovery: Controlled archaeological excavation, following initial detector finds.

Description:
1. A finger-ring consisting of a strip forming a plain, lozenge-shaped bezel with tapered shoulders and the ends twisted round each other (find no. 798) (fig, 90.1). This form of ring is typical of the Viking period and imitates contemporary silver bracelets, one of which was found in a hoard deposited around AD 850-950 found at Hørdum, Denmark (Skovmand 1942, fig, 2c). A comparable punch-decorated ring from Fyrkat, Denmark, is illustrated by Graham-Campbell (1980, no. 219, pl. 219) and there is also a punch-decorated gold ring from Thetford (Rogerson and Dallas, 1984, fig. 110, 12).
2. A ring consisting of a plain wire with its ends twisted round each other (find no. 803) (fig. 90.1).
Simple knotted wire rings of this type are frequently found strung onto Viking bracelets dating to the late 9th and 10th centuries, e.g. from Gotland, Sweden (Stenberger 1958, pls. 176, 4; 181, 5; 186, 11-12). Ten such rings were suspended on a bracelet from Välse, Denmark and a ring of narrow strip rather than wire is on another from the great hoard of Viking silver found at Cuerdale, Lancashire, which was deposited around AD 905 (Hawkins 1847, fig. 54).
3. A small ring of the same form as no. 2. (find no. 804) (fig. 90.1). Such rings were often used to link items of jewellery, e.g. to hang strings of beads, etc, between a pair of brooches. A similar, though smaller, silver wire ring was found in grave 4 at the Viking cemetery of Fyrkat, Denmark, where it is suggested it may have served to suspend a pendant (Roesdahl 1977, fig. 139b).
The finds associated in the same grave at Cumwhitton as the rings comprise 7 glass beads, an iron sword, a knife, 2 iron objects, a stone object (possibly a whetstone) and 3 flints (fig. 90.2).
Dimensions and metal content: (1) max. diameter: 25 mm; max. height of bezel: 11 mm. (2) max. diameter: 32 mm. (3) max. diameter, 13 mm. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 97 per cent.
Disposition: Tullie House Museum, Carlisle hopes to acquire.

(v) Hooked-tags

91. Whinburgh, Norfolk: Middle-Late Anglo-Saxon silver hooked-tag (2004 T68)

Date: 8th to 11th century
Finder: Mr S Dunthorne
Date of discovery: December 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A hooked-tag with a round plate and two attachment holes. On the front of the plate an engraved line forms an incomplete circle 1 mm from the edge, there being a 2 mm wide gap below the springing of the hook.
Dimensions: Length: 12 mm; width: 10 mm; weight: 0.30g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

92. Sutton on the Forest, North Yorkshire: Anglo-Saxon silver hooked-tag (2004 T50) (Fig. 92)

Date: 8th or 9th century
Finder: Mr R Sykes
Date of discovery: November 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A silver hooked-tag of broken kite shape, with a single piercing for attachment to a garment. Its kite-shaped form is broken by two foliate devices below which the edges run straight to the narrow hook. All the features of the tag are outlined with a heavy groove, which is filled with niello.
Discussion: Hooked-tags were adopted as a form of dress fastening in the 7th century and continue in use into the late medieval period. Like strap ends they were used for fastening a variety of dress articles, including garters. The Sutton on the Forest tag is unusual in its shape, ornament and single piercing. Regional variations are however common and hooked-tags that are generically similar to this example have been found for example at Meols, Wirral (Pestell and Ulmschneider 2003, pp. 66-7, fig. 6.1) and Ipswich, Suffolk (West 1998, fig. 97.1, 2, 4). Hooked-tags with a single hole for attachment have been found at for example Coddenham, Suffolk, where they are dated as above (West 1998, p. 23 and figs. 22, 26, 28 and 31).
Dimensions: Length: 19 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

A C EVANS
93. West Wratting, Cambridgeshire: Anglo-Saxon silver hooked-tag (2004 T263) (Fig. 93)

**Date:** Late 8th or 9th century  
**Finder:** Mr B Eeles  
**Date of discovery:** June 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** The plate of the tag is an elongated triangle, with two perforations at the wider end for attachment, whose areas are circumscribed by an incised line. A continuous incised line also runs around the perimeter of the field: at the side of the tag the spaces have been filled with a simple decoration of incised lines, forming a ladder-like pattern, whilst the area at the top is left plain. From the narrow end of the tag, reinforced by an animal mask, departs the long tapering hook.  
**Discussion:** Hooked-tags are a class of later 8th and 9th century all-purpose fastening used to secure clothing and purses.  
**Dimensions:** Length: 34 mm; width: 12.35 mm; weight: 1.64g.  
**Disposition:** Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Cambridge had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

94. Tarrant Hinton, Dorset: Anglo-Saxon silver hooked-tag (2004 T245) (Fig. 94)

**Date:** 9th century  
**Finder:** Mr J Hinchcliffe  
**Date of discovery:** June 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** The sub-triangular plate has three pierced attachment lugs at the broad end (producing a scalloped-effect) and it tapers to a form a hook, rounded in cross section, and broken off at the end. As customary in the decoration of such pieces, the main field is subdivided, here in three portions by a pair of plain bands, departing form the central piercing on a dotted stem. However, the main decoration on the field is not interrupted by these, and it consists of an elegant vegetation motif. From what might be interpreted as a vase at the narrowest end of the field depart a central bud, turgid and pointed, and two long leaves, which intercept the bands and curl and form volutes in the two side fields. The surface of the leaves and of the bud, as well as the thin borders flanking the triangular body of the tag, are covered in minute pecked incisions. The background of the design is incised and scored, presumably to provide a secure base for a niello filling, but nothing of it survives.  
**Dimensions:** Length: 30 mm; max. width: 13.5 mm; weight: 1.4g.  
**Disposition:** Dorset County Museum.

95. Brabourne, Kent: Anglo-Saxon silver hooked-tag (2004 T327) (Fig. 95)

**Date:** 9th or 10th century  
**Finder:** Mr A Bewick  
**Date of discovery:** September 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** The hooked-tag consists of a round head decorated with a circle within which is a Greek cross with splayed arms, each further embellished by two lines. All these incisions are inlaid with niello. Two attachment holes are placed within the top arms of the cross.  
**Discussion:** Hooked-tags are a class of later 8th and 9th and 10th century all-purpose fastening used to secure clothing and purses.  
**Dimensions:** Length: 23 mm; weight: 1.00g.  
**Disposition:** British Museum.
96. Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire:  
Anglo-Viking silver hooked-tag  
(2004 T351) (Fig. 96)

**Date:** Late 10th or 11th century  
**Finder:** Mrs P Walters  
**Date of discovery:** September 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.

**Description:** The hooked-tag consists of a squat ovoid head decorated with an incised pattern, which originally would have been inlaid with niello. Two attachment holes are placed close together at the top of the head. At the lower end of the piece, which narrows sharply in width to curve into the hook, the hook itself is strengthened by means of a thickening of the metal, resembling the zoomorphic profile usually seen on strap-ends of the time.

**Discussion:** The incised decoration belongs to the Ringerike style, reminiscent of the abstract shell-spiral ornament seen on the Sutton, Isle of Ely Brooch (BM 1951, 11-1,1).

**Dimensions:** Length: 20 mm; max. width: 7 mm; weight: 0.6g.

**Disposition:** British Museum had hoped to acquire, but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

97. Mid-Norfolk: Late Anglo-Saxon/Viking period silver ingot (2004 T151)

**Date:** 9th or 10th Century  
**Finder:** Mrs M Slaven  
**Date of discovery:** March 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.

**Description:** The ingot is rectangular in section, with hammer marks on all four long faces. One angle between the two long sides is chamfered, and the flat, oval centres of both ends are themselves hammer marks.

**Discussion:** The weight is slightly over one tenth of the 25g / 26g unit of measurement suggested for the Viking period weights (Blackburn and Rogerson, 1993) and slightly under 1 ounce.

**Dimensions:** Length: 14 mm; width and thickness: 5 x 5 mm at one end, 6 x 3 mm at the other; weight: 2.61g.

**Disposition:** Swaffham Museum.

98. Seething, Norfolk: Two Viking silver ingot fragments (2004 T414) (Fig. 98)

**Date:** 9th or 10th Century  
**Finder:** Mr S Dunthorne  
**Date of discovery:** Before October 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal detector.

**Description:**
1. An irregular ingot approximately D-shaped in section, with both ends chopped obliquely, one end imperfectly and subsequently snapped, two hammer marks on the flat face, many pecked marks on the convex face, and a small cut-mark on the edge. This is not far short of one-third of the Viking-period unit of 25g-26g.
2. Ovoid section with two flattish faces, which has solidified molten, one end imperfectly chopped and snapped before heating.

**Dimensions:** (1) Section: 8.5 mm x 6 mm; length: 20 mm; weight: 7.98g. (2) Section: 9 x 6 mm approx; length: 17 mm; weight: 6.59g.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

99. Scole, Norfolk: Anglo-Saxon gold ingot fragment (2004 T433) (Fig. 99)

**Date:** 9th to 11th centuries  
**Finder:** Mr M Noble  
**Date of discovery:** August 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Fragment of a gold ingot, one end rounded and thick, the other broken away jaggedly and transversely. The two broad surfaces are flat and smooth except adjacent to the break where a rounded hammer mark of the full width is visible on both. The edge, convex and less smooth, contains cracks and fissures, some of which may be the result of post-depositional damage.

Discussion: The weight suggests \( \frac{1}{4} \) eyrir (1 eyrir \( \approx 25 - 26 \) g). A late Saxon copper alloy ingot was found in this field during 2003.

Dimensions: Length: 18 mm; width: 15 mm; weight: 6.43 g.


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100. Horton Kirby, Kent: Viking or Anglo-Scandinavian period silver ingot (2004 T224) (Fig. 100)

Date: Late 9th or 10th century
Finder: Mr G Burr
Date of discovery: January 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: The ingot is of elongated ovoid shape with a flattened oval section. The upper surface is more or less smooth, with a series of striations at one end and a deeper scratch. The underside is rough and pitted from casting in an open mould, which would have been simply made in sand or earth.

Discussion: The form of the ingot is typical of the Viking/Anglo-Scandinavian period in England. Its weight falls within the lower range of its type. Similar examples occur in the well-known Viking silver hoards from Cuerdale, Lancashire, deposited around AD 905, and Chester, deposited around 970 (Webster 1953, pp. 22-32). Such ingots could have been used as bullion in payments or trade transactions, as well as a source of metal for jewellery making.

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Dimensions and metal content: Length: 26 mm; max. width: 11 mm; thickness: 5 mm; weight 9.74 g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 96 per cent.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

101. Barmby Moor, East Riding of Yorkshire: Viking silver ingot fragment (2004 T471) (Fig. 101)

Date: Late 9th or 10th century
Finder: Mr D Daly and Mr A Gee
Date of discovery: November 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: The fragment has been cut, possibly with a chisel, from one end of a cigar-shaped ingot of rounded trapezoidal section. It would have been cast in a simple, open-topped mould cut in stone or drawn in the earth, and there is a slight lip along one edge where the metal has overflowed the mould. There are three parallel, transverse incisions in the top next to the cut and what appear to be three worn nicks, or testing marks, in the top edges; there are also scratch marks underneath.

Discussion: The general form, as well as the cut marks, indicate that the ingot fragment is comparable with numerous examples of the Viking period, such as the famous hoard from Cuerdale, Lancashire, deposited around AD 905. Such ingots would have been used mainly as bullion for payments and trading and also cut up for recasting as jewellery.

Dimensions: Length: 25 mm; width: 16.3 mm; weight: 23.11 g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 99 per cent.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.
102. Stillington, North Yorkshire: Viking silver ingot fragment (2004 T484) (Fig. 102)

Date: Late 9th or 10th century
Finder: Mr D Chapman
Date of discovery: Before October 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: The fragment has been cut, possibly with a chisel, from one end of a blunt-ended, bar-shaped ingot of rounded trapezoidal section. It would have been cast in a simple, open-topped mould cut in soft stone, or possibly drawn in the earth. There appear to be a few worn nicks, or testing marks, made probably with the point of a knife in one of the top edges; there are also scratch marks on the surfaces.
Discussion: The general form, as well as the nicking, indicates that the ingot fragment is comparable with numerous examples of the Viking period, such as the famous hoard from Cuerdale, Lancashire, deposited around AD 905. Such ingots would have been used mainly as bullion for payments and trading and also cut up for recasting as jewellery.
Dimensions and metal content: Length: 20 mm; width: 11 mm; weight: 17.14g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 91 per cent.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

103. Ash, Kent: Anglo-Saxon parcel-gilt silver belt mount (2004 T130) (Fig. 103)

Date: 6th century
Finder: Mr I Redfern
Date of discovery: Before April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: The mount is rectangular, hollow-backed and stepped down at each end to broken flanges for attachment rivets. It would originally have formed part of a set of early Anglo-Saxon mounts and a buckle for a belt, e.g. a buckle from Bifrons, Kent (Åberg 1926, fig. 213). The front panel is divided into four main fields by slightly raised strapwork consisting of an arc across each corner linked by two interlaced, V-shaped loops. The two larger fields contain very stylised animal motifs in Salin’s Style I, while the two smaller ones at the ends have rows of ribbing; there is a small triangular pyramid in each corner. The decorated fields, sides and flanges are gilded and there are corroded traces of borders of nielloed interlocking triangles on the strapwork. A small patch of the patina has been scratched away underneath to reveal the metal. The mount can be dated to the 6th century AD by its form and style of decoration.
Dimensions and metal content: Surviving length: 29 mm; width: 19 mm; thickness: 4 mm; weight: 7.64g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 53 per cent; it was mercury-gilded.
Disposition: Dover Museum had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

104. Lidlington, Bedfordshire: Anglo-Saxon gilt-bronze pyramidal scabbard fitting (2004 T409) (Fig. 104)

Date: Early 7th century
Finder: Mr A Latham
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: The mount is in the form of a truncated pyramid and is made of copper alloy which is heavily gilded both on the display surface and on the underside. The gilding is particularly worn on each corner. Each of the four faces is set with a panel of gold cellwork which is inlaid in a matching pattern with three stepped garnets. The apex of the mount contains a single cell which is filled with waffle
patterned foil – the garnet which would have been seated over this foil is missing. The mount is hollow and a bar, beneath which a strap would have been threaded, runs across the opening.

**Discussion:** Pyramidal fittings were functional and were attached to the suspension straps of a sword or seax scabbard where they tightened the scabbard suspension loop. Anglo-Saxon pyramidal mounts are concentrated in southern and eastern England, and are generally made of silver or copper alloy and almost invariably the top of the mount is inlaid with a small square-cut garnet.

Within the Anglo-Saxon corpus is a small group made in gold or gold sheet over copper alloy and inlaid with either cloisonné garnet or, rarely, glass (compare with a copper-alloy mount from Sutton Hoo mound 17 inlaid with poor blueish/green glass). The Lidlington example is an addition to this high-status group. The cell-work is simple and bold, using three well-cut, double stepped garnets to fill each panel in a design that is found in simpler form on plated disc brooches, for example from Faversham, Kent (Avent 1975, cat. nos. 155, 160).

**Dimensions:** Width: 14 mm.

**Disposition:** Bedford Museum, with funding from the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund, and the Headley Museums Treasure Acquisition Scheme.

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106. Eye area, Suffolk: Early Medieval continental enamelled gold mount (2004 T141) (Fig. 106)

**Date:** 8th century

**Finder:** Mr J Hunt and Mr A Slinn

**Date of discovery:** March 2003

**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with metal-detectors.

**Description:** On a gold base is soldered a round box which holds in its field the enamelled decoration. The seam is covered by a filigree wire. The design is achieved by means of large cloisonné cells made up of continuous ribbons of thin gold sheet, which hold the enamel. The visible upper surface of the cloisonné walls, economically, draws the design itself. This shows a male frontal bust (head and neck), with large almond eyes and nose formed by one continuous strip curled on itself, a small mouth and possibly a moustache above. The hair is wavy. At the side of the bust two motifs, probably intended to represent vegetation, are made with a strip curled at the top. The enamel is not well preserved, and large areas of the base to which it was applied are visible, but on the neck, part of the face and in the ‘buds’ the original whitish colour is still to be seen. The hair appears bluish, and the field greenish-black. The right eye is
totally empty. At the back of the object there are strips, suggesting the object was soldered as a mount.

**Discussion:** A number of enamelled brooches and mounts survive, both from the continent and England. The most famous are the Castellani brooch, in the British Museum (Haseloff 1990, p. 44, fig.18), and related pieces, such as the ear-rings from Senise, and a brooch now in Baltimore (Haseloff 1990, figs. 16 and 17). These jewels date from the 7th-century, and were used as a comparison by Vierk (1978, pp. 530-1) for putting in context two pendants embroidered on the chemise of Bathilde. It is interesting to notice on these vegetation motifs ending in round buds (Vierk 1978, fig. 5) like the ones here. Whilst the Castellani brooch school production, and its evolution, as seen in the work for the 9th-century gold altar of St Ambrose in Milan, is characterised by very large, languid almond-shaped eyes that extend to touch the edge of the face, with discrete fields for the pupils, more provincial schools simplify the eyes into loops (compare with the fibulae from Enger and Seeland in Haseloff (1990) figs. 94 and 95, dated to the 8th century). This piece, however, whilst attempting to retain a refined, elongated eye shape, achieves rather a cross-eye effect. Whereas the Alfred Jewel, in the Ashmolean Museum (Webster and Backhouse 1991, no. 260), of the late 9th century, can be firmly attributed to a developing Anglo-Saxon tradition of enamelwork, yet remains unique in its representation of a figure, one would hesitate to attribute this mount to an Anglo-Saxon workshop. Interestingly, both show a pensive, elongated face, and both seem to have problems resolving the space between nose and chin; also, they are both flanked by vegetation motifs. The shape of the nose on this piece is distinctive. The best parallels to this mount are certainly to be found on the continent, amongst a number of more or less refined brooches showing ‘saints’ (see Haseloff 1990, figs. 68-82). It is therefore likely to be an imported prestige object, datable to the end of the 8th century, to be used as a mount on jewellery or, more probably, on some liturgical object.

**Dimensions and metal content:** Diameter: 15 mm; thickness: 3 mm; weight: 2.5g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 89 per cent.

**Disposition:** Ipswich Museum had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; British Museum.

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107. Cliffe, Kent: Late Anglo-Saxon silver and gilt fitting (2004 T223) (Figs. 107.1, 107.2)

**Date:** 9th century

**Finder:** Mr C Beever

**Date of discovery:** July 2002

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

**Description:** A hollow, ovoid-shaped fitting made of silver with incised decorations highlighted in gold leaf and niello. On the inside there is a 20 mm long chamfered pin, now bent, which runs between the narrow sides and is held in place by two rivets, set in a broad rim. It probably functioned as a cap covering the end of a wooden implement or handle.

The decoration is directional. On the top of the object, seen from the broader base of the ovoid, there is a stylised vase on a square base from which sprout three main elongated leaves. Within these, as well as on the body of the vase, there is a further incision line following the contour. Additional leaves and five round buds, some with added minute punched spots, complete the tree-of-life design. Four bunches of leaves also decorate the sides of the object, but on these only little remains of the original gold highlights and niello filling.

**Discussion:** The elegant and restrained simplicity of the design appears rather sparse, but the contrast between silver, black niello and gold would have made it far more dramatic. The foliate decoration recalls that of the hooked-tag illustrated in Webster and Backhouse (1991), no. 199, and other artefacts inspired by a renewed interest in classical motifs, combined with native aesthetics, as seen in the so-called Trewhiddle Style.

**Dimensions:** 30 x 20 mm; depth: 9 mm; weight: 11.4g.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.
108. North Yorkshire area: Late Anglo-Saxon gold fragment (2004 T292) (Fig. 108)

**Date:** Late 9th or early 10th century  
**Finder:** Mr G Bambrook  
**Date of discovery:** July 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.

**Description:** The shape of the fragment suggests that the original object was cut as a cruciform pattern from a circular plate in order to give a splayed out cross with empty rounded armpits (for a similar shape, see the Beeston Tor Cave brooch, deposited c. 875 in Webster and Backhouse (1991), no. 245a). The cross-shape was decorated with gold rather coarse filigree, which also provides a frame around the cross shape, and granules. The filigree decoration is of two volutes, asymmetrical, and the granules are used as space fillers. The object is slightly bent at one corner and the filigree border lost.

**Discussion:** This kind of decoration is typical of the late 9th and early 10th centuries (see for instance the roundels in the Lilla Howe hoard, Webster and Backhouse (1991), no. 249a). The cross might have been used as a mount.

**Dimensions:** Height: 7 mm; width: 15 mm; weight 1.1g;  
**Disposition:** Yorkshire Museum hopes to acquire.

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109. Holt area, Norfolk: Anglo-Saxon gold bracteate (2004 T297) (Fig. 109)

**Date:** Late 5th or early 6th century  
**Finder:** Mr D O’Neill  
**Date of discovery:** June 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.

**Description:** A gold bracteate disc pendant of type ‘B’ with repoussé decoration of a sword-wielding male figure facing right and engaged in combat with a beak-headed quadruped, with his left hand raised against (grasping, or being bitten by?) its jaws. His raised right hand clasps a sword behind his head and his hair is indicated by vertical ribbing, giving the impression of a helmet. There are four runes above his left hand, the central two of which are damaged making reading problematic. There is a further beak-headed quadruped behind and below the warrior’s sword arm and behind his right leg. The repoussé decoration is set within a border of outward-pointing, double chevron stamps with an annulet at the point of each, within an outer border of square stamps each with a counter-relief saltire. There is a damaged and partly detached, separate, twisted gold wire round the outer edge of the disc, partly flattened and broken at the upper part, where the suspension loop is missing.

**Discussion:** The central decoration is an almost identical mirror image of that found on a bracteate (without runes) of unknown findspot, but bought in Hamburg and one of seven identically die-matched examples (presumably from a single hoard) catalogued in Hauck et al. (1985), pls. 87-8.

**Dimensions and metal content:** Diameter: 44 mm; weight: 6.93g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 83 per cent.

**Disposition:** Norwich Castle Museum, with funding from the Friends of Norwich Museums and the Art Fund. Accession no. 2005.756.

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110. Runhall, Norfolk: Late Roman or Anglo-Saxon gold coin pendant (2004 T394) (Figs. 110.1, 110.2)

**Date:** Late 5th to early 7th century  
**Finder:** Mr R Jenkins  
**Date of discovery:** October 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A gold solidus of the emperor Honorius (393-423) with suspension loop of the same material soldered to the edge of the coin at the 12 o'clock position on the obverse. The loop is of flat cross-section with slightly raised borders. It is still attached to the obverse but has become unfastened from the reverse and is now twisted and somewhat flattened.

Discussion: The loop appears to be Anglo-Saxon rather than Roman in style and the re-use of late Roman gold coins is typical of Anglo-Saxon jewellery up to and including the early 7th-century.

Obv: DNHONORIVSPF AVG, Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust right.
Rev: VICTORI AVGVG[Z], Emperor standing right holding labarum and victory, captive at feet.
S/M//COMOB.

Mint of `Sirmium', AD 395-7, RIC X, p. 239, 2.


Disposition: Norwich Castle Museum; accession no. 2006.146.

A MARSDEN AND G WILLIAMS

111. Bridlington area, East Riding of Yorkshire: Early Anglo-Saxon gold bracteate pendant (2004 T436) (Figs. 111.1, 111.2)

Date: Late 5th to mid 6th century AD
Finder: Mr P Peers
Date of discovery: November 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal detector.
Description: The bracteate consists of a disc of gold sheet which has been folded in two places and a little along one side. The suspension loop has been torn off taking a small segment of the edge with it. The main decoration is in repoussé, showing a man's head facing right above a stylised horse, all surrounded by a ring of pellets and a double groove. A bird's head projects at the front of the man's hair and a scroll at the back. The border is decorated with a row of punched, triangular motifs and the edge is rolled back on itself and tooled, giving the impression of beaded wire.

Discussion: The bracteate is a type of pendant (type 'C'), which was widespread in northern Germanic Europe in the above period. Close parallels to the design are illustrated by other examples from Skåne and Grumpan, Sweden, and Dokkum (?), Netherlands (Hauck et al. 1985, pls. 110: 327a, 78: 64a and 50: 46a). There are two related, fragmentary English parallels, but in bronze, from an early Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Morning Thorpe, Norfolk (ibid, pls. 93-4: 306).

Dimensions and metal content: Diameter: 36 mm; weight: 4.99g. Surface metal analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content approximately of 85 per cent.

Disposition: East Riding Museums Service.

112. Denton, Kent: Anglo-Saxon gold bracteate (2004 T154) (Fig. 112)

Date: Early to mid 6th century
Finder: Mr D Villanueva
Date of discovery: April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: The bracteate consists of a gold sheet disc with a worn rim of milled wire soldered to the edge and repoussé zoomorphic decoration. A suspension loop of ribbed strip is folded round the rim and passes through a rough slot at the top of the disc. The decoration consists of four radiating loops with median grooves and a figure-of-three motif on the right. The two lower loops end in feet with single claws and the loop at the top is in the form of a reversed 'C', apparently representing the head, neck and legs of a disintegrated animal design.

Discussion: Gold bracteates originate in Scandinavia in the 5th and 6th centuries, where the main types of this period have been designated A – D according to their designs. Some thirty or more bracteates have also been found in England, both in Anglo-Saxon graves and as single finds (e.g. Åberg 1926, figs. 181-4). The main distribution is in the early cemeteries of eastern Kent, where all finds are of the early to mid-6th-century type D, to which the one from Denton
belongs. A number of them, like Denton, were probably local imitations of the Scandinavian ones rather than imports, since their basic design is more devolved.

**Dimensions and metal content:** Diameter excluding loop: 21.5 mm; weight: 2.58g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 89 per cent.

**Disposition:** Canterbury Museum, with funding from the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund, and the Headley Museums Treasure Acquisition Scheme.

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**113. Old Buckenham, Norfolk: Early Medieval coin pendant (2004 T129) (Fig. 113)**

**Date:** Late 6th or 7th century  
**Finder:** Mr A Roberts  
**Date of discovery:** 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** The object is a gold-plated imitation of a Merovingian solidus from the mint of Marseilles, probably from the very late sixth or seventh century, which has been pierced for suspension, and subsequently broken. The obverse shows a crude diademed bust, facing to the right. There are traces of lettering in the field in front of the bust but only the edges of the letters are visible, as the letters were mostly beyond the break line. The design is very similar to a coin in the Fitzwilliam Museum, attributed to Sigebert III (639-56), also pierced for suspension (Grierson and Blackburn 1986, no. 406). The reverse has a typical cross on globe design with the letters M and trace of A in field (goes across break-line) for Massilia, and possibly an ‘A’ in the inscription underneath cross, although this is too worn to be properly legible.  
**Discussion:** The original nature of the object is uncertain. Coins in this period were often re-used as pendants, but imitation coins were sometimes created specifically for use in jewellery. Since this is an imitation rather than an official issue, it is not certain whether it should be considered as an imitation coin which was subsequently used as jewellery, or an item which was always intended to be jewellery.

**Weight:** 1.8g.  
**Disposition:** Norwich Castle Museum, accession no. 2006. 586; with generous funding from Mr M de Bootman, and the landowner who waived his share of the reward.

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**114. West Shropshire: Anglo-Saxon gold and garnet pendant (2004 T452) (Fig. 114)**

**Date:** First half of 7th century  
**Finder:** Mr G Jones and Mrs G Jones  
**Date of discovery:** November 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with metal-detectors.  
**Description:** The pendant is composed of a well-polished cabochon garnet/glass, surrounded by a border of small rectangular cloisonné garnets set over waffle patterned gold foil. Each is cut with a single notch and set to form an interlocking frieze. The cellwork is soldered to a thin oval back-plate which is dished beneath the central cabochon. Impressions of the cloisonné cellwork are clearly visible around this. The cloisonné frieze is enclosed in a deep collar which is heavily worn in places. It is made up of an outer and inner strand of finely beaded wire enclosing a strand of twisted beaded wire of the same weight and a single strand of heavier-weight wire, also beaded. The tubular suspension loop is worn and made from strands of Z- and S-twisted wire soldered to gold sheet. Its junction with the frame of the pendant is hidden by a single strand of beaded wire of the same weight as the outer and inner strands on the frame.  
**Discussion:** This pendant belongs to a well known group of necklace components, all made in similar style, which came into fashion in the 7th century. It may originally have been strung with other pendants on a high-status necklace, similar to the necklace from Desborough, Northamptonshire. This was strung with eight cabochon garnet pendants of varying shapes and sizes alternating with gold bullae and separated by gold wire spacer beads (Webster and Backhouse 1991, p. 28).
This pendant is best compared to one found at Milton, Kent, which has a large oval cabochon garnet surrounded by a border of cloisonné garnets and blue glass, with millefiori inlays at the cardinal points (Arrhenius 1985, fig. 196). The loop is made from twisted filigree wire and also has a strand of beaded filigree wire hiding the join between it and the body of the pendant.

**Dimensions:** Height: 34 mm; width: 25 mm; weight: 11.65g.

**Disposition:** Shropshire County Museum Service, with funding from The Art Fund, the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund, the Headley Treasure Acquisition Scheme and the Friends of Ludlow Museum.

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115. Hammerwich, Staffordshire:
Anglo-Saxon gold necklace pendant (2004 T324) (Fig. 115)

**Date:** 7th century

**Finder:** Mr J Wall

**Date of discovery:** August 2004

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

**Description:** Gold necklace pendant inlaid with a garnet. The pendant is composed of a thin squared back-plate with rounded corners whose contours are closely followed by a frame of heavy beaded wire. This surrounds a square collet made from a strip of gold whose ends overlap beneath/below the suspension loop. The cell holds a square-cut plate garnet whose surface is slightly damaged. The garnet appears to be set over decayed silver foil. The ribbed suspension loop is poorly cut to a point to the back where it is soldered to the back plate. The front of the loop is displaced from its original point of fixing, the back is plain.

**Discussion:** The Hammerwich pendant belongs to a rapidly expanding group of necklace elements, all made in similar style, which came into fashion in the 7th century. It may originally have been strung with other pendants on a high-status necklace, similar to the necklace from Desborough, Northamptonshire (see previous entry, discussion section).

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The shape of the pendant and the cut of the stone are however unusual: generally such pendants contain cabochon or faceted stones in a variety of shapes in which irregular ovals predominate. However, a recent find of a rectangular pendant containing a plate garnet comes from Stainton, Middlesborough (Treasure Annual Report 2002, no. 42), while the Desborough necklace (above) has a single square pendant, but with a faceted stone. Another find from Sharnford, Leicestershire (Treasure Annual Report 2003 no. 93) contains a part of a cabochon garnet bar in a dog-tooth setting, suggesting that goldsmiths in the 7th century mounted a variety of garnet cuts and shapes for necklace pendants without recutting or polishing.

**Dimensions:** Height: 13.5 mm; width: 12 mm.

**Disposition:** Potteries Museum and Art Gallery.

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116. Eye area, Suffolk: Anglo-Saxon gold disc pendant (2004 T193) (Fig. 116)

**Date:** 7th century

**Finder:** Mr J French

**Date of discovery:** April 2004

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

**Description:** The pendant is crumpled, with a bad tear to the right of the loop and an empty central setting. A loose glass cabochon was found associated with it. The face is edged with a single strand of beaded filigree wire and is divided into two registers similarly beaded. Each register is divided into four by a broad cruciform motif springing from the central setting, with simple arcaded terminals, again formed from beaded filigree wire. The four fields of the outer register are filled by pairs of tightly coiled S-scrolls in beaded wire. These are balanced by pairs of figure-of-eight motifs in the inner register, unusually made from a double strand of plain wire. The empty central cell for a prominent setting is surrounded by a beaded wire collar – the loose setting found associated with the pendant is too small to entirely fill the cell, suggesting that it was perhaps originally set in a calcitic collar. The loop, placed above the uppermost arm of the cruciform divider, is made from a narrow strip of ribbed gold sheet. This is neatly cut to a curve
on the back of the pendant and would have been soldered to it. It shows some signs of wear.

**Discussion:** The pendant belongs to a type that is widespread in the second half of the 7th century and it would originally have formed part of a high-status necklace (compare with the early 7th century necklace from Sarre, Kent, mounted with gold solidi: Webster and Backhouse 1991, cat. no. 31). Many pendants are decorated with cruciform elements, S- and figure-of-eight scrolls: the Bosshall assemblage (Webster and Backhouse 1991, cat. no. 33b) offers good parallels for the decoration of the Eye pendant.

**Dimensions and metal content:** Diameter: 30 mm. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 55 per cent, and confirmed the setting as glass.

**Disposition:** Ipswich Museum had hoped to acquire, but subsequently withdrew; British Museum.

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117. Thirkleby, North Yorkshire:
Anglo-Saxon gold 'bead' or pendant loop fragment (2004 T496)
(Figs. 117.1, 117.2)

**Date:** First half of 7th century

**Finder:** Mrs C Clarke

**Date of discovery:** September 2004

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

**Description:** The fragment shows no sign of wear and no sign of solder and may be one end of a biconical bead or pendant. It is made of sheet gold and decorated with seven horizontal panels separated by two strands of wire, S- and Z-twisted to form a tight herringbone pattern. Each panel is filled with beaded filigree wire scrolls panels soldered to the gold sheet so that they just touch each other. The surviving end is edged with a collar of plain wire.

**Discussion:** The bead is unusual in its surface decoration although it belongs to a well-known group of necklace spacer beads, made in similar style, which came into fashion in the early-7th century. Generally, such beads are made of twisted gold wire soldered to a gold sheet base, such as the bead from Rowington, Warwickshire (Treasure Annual Report 2001, no. 74) and are used as spacers between garnet pendants or gold 'bullae' (compare with the necklace from Desborough, Northamptonshire; Webster and Backhouse 1991, cat. no. 13). More rarely, they are decorated with filigree wire motifs like this example.

**Dimensions and metal content:** Length: 10 mm. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 83 per cent.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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(Fig. 118)

**Date:** Late-9th or early-10th century

**Finder:** Mr G Bambrook

**Date of discovery:** July 2004

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

**Description:** The cross is cut from a sheet of gold. One of the arms is perforated quite near the edge, most probably to allow its use as a pendant. It is of Greek form, with expanding arms of equal length, and the armpits are rounded. It is totally plain and undecorated on both sides, and slightly convex on the 'good side' (the back shows some displaced metal near the cut hole). Its general look suggests an Anglo-Saxon milieu.

**Discussion:** The nearest parallel to the shape is found on the coinage of the first half of the 8th century, the so-called sceattas. On several series of this coinage (see for instance Metcalf (1993-4), vol. 3, Series H and 'Celtic Cross' type) a comparable cross is reproduced, with characteristically rounded armpits in which nestle rosettes of pellets, although the cross shape is sometimes decorated.

The cross is difficult to date exactly. Its total plainness, not in itself unusual in an Anglo-Saxon context, might point to a plain Christian symbol (the piece does show signs of wear, so probably not just made to accompany a burial, but to be worn). There are similar plain crosses found on the Continent (see Bierbrauer...
2003, p. 434, fig. 27.3: 4). On the other hand, it is conceivable that the cross as we see it is actually an unfinished piece, and that it would have formed the base for additional decoration in filigree. It is interesting to consider fragment no. 108, (this volume) found in its vicinity as a comparison, which would suggest the date range above.

**Dimensions:** 18 x 18 mm; weight: 1.7g.
**Disposition:** Yorkshire Museum hopes to acquire.

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**Pins**

119. Low Santon, North Lincolnshire: Anglo-Saxon silver-gilt disc-headed pin (2004 T171) (Fig. 119)

**Date:** Late-7th or 8th century
**Finder:** Mr R Barron
**Date of discovery:** April 2004
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.
**Description:** The expanded disc head, which has one ragged edge, supports a setting composed of a gilded/gold collet containing a red glass cabochon within a broad collar. This is made up of an inner strand of beaded wire surrounding the central cell which is flanked by three strands of S- and Z-twisted wire. The pin shank is stout, marginally hipped and slightly bent. The back is plain with a central piercing presumably to attach the setting with a rivet seated beneath the glass cabochon.

**Discussion:** Anglo-Saxon pins were used generally as dress fasteners and are made in many different designs. The form of this particular pin is rare. The applied setting is more typical of the plated and composite disc brooches of the late 6th and 7th centuries (such as Avent 1975, cat. nos. 156 and 174 from Teynham and Priory Hill, Dover, Kent), although the wide filigree collar is unusual as is the glass cabochon. Superficially, the pin can be compared most closely to a silver disc-headed pin found in grave 155 in the Buckland cemetery, Dover (Evison 1987, fig. 60, 155/1, discussion p. 83), but the glass setting, the wide filigree wire collar and the hipped shank may suggest a date late in the 7th or the 8th century.

**Dimensions and metal content:** Length: 55.5 mm; width of head: 12 mm. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 81 per cent, and confirmed the setting as glass.
**Disposition:** North Lincolnshire Museum.

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120. Deerhurst, Gloucestershire: Anglo-Saxon silver pin fragment (2004 T412) (Fig. 120)

**Date:** 8th century
**Finder:** Mr M Goodall
**Date of discovery:** May 2004
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.
**Description:** The pin shaft is broken off, probably where it was originally bent. The shaft is connected to the head by a simple ring collar. The head of the pin is a plain faceted cube head.

**Discussion:** A parallel for this type of head is illustrated in Leahy (2000), fig. 6.4, no. 4.

**Dimensions:** Length: 13 mm; length of shaft: 7 mm; width of head: 5 mm; weight: 1.7 g.
**Disposition:** Gloucester City Museum hopes to acquire.

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121. Darenth, Kent: Anglo-Saxon gold pin-head (2004 T320) (Fig. 121)

**Date:** 8th century
**Finder:** Mr C Franklin
**Date of discovery:** August 2004
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.
**Description:** The pin head would have been globular, but it is now flattened; the shaft is missing, and there is some damage at its shearing point. The globular head is decorated with filigree: a median band of larger pellets would have divided the field in two; each half was then decorated with four spirals of fine filigree, coiled round a central pellet (not all of them
surviving). The design at the top of the head was further embellished by four lobes (containing two pellets each) converging in a cruciform pattern. This is now visible on one side of the flattened pin head.

**Discussion:** Pins are common finds in Anglo-Saxon England, as their use, for fastening clothes or pinning hair and veils, was widespread.

**Dimensions:** Diameter: 12 mm approx; weight: 1.6g.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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**122. Heckingham, Norfolk: Anglo-Saxon silver pin fragment (2004 T443)**

**Date:** 8th century  
**Finder:** Mr K Woodhouse  
**Date of discovery:** November 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** Fragment of a Middle Saxon silver pin, with a faceted rectangular prism head. The facets (5 x 6 mm) are decorated with an inner frame inlaid with niello; the base slopes towards a collar, connected to shank which is now broken.  
**Dimensions:** Min. length: 15 mm.  
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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**123. Offley, Hertfordshire: Anglo-Saxon silver pin head (2004 T103) (Fig. 123)**

**Date:** 8th or 9th century  
**Finder:** Mr H Cross  
**Date of discovery:** November 2003  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** The head is polyhedral in shape, with seven slightly concave sides, and a larger flatter end, probably squashed.  
**Discussion:** Pins are commonly found in Anglo-Saxon contexts; originally the pin head would have been soldered onto a shaft, to fasten clothes or veils. (Leahy 2000).  
**Dimensions:** Diameter: 7 mm; weight: 2.00g.  
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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**124. Whissonsett, Norfolk: Anglo-Saxon silver pin head (2004 T180) (Figs. 124.1, 124.2)**

**Date:** 8th or 9th century  
**Finder:** Mr G Linton  
**Date of discovery:** September 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** Large silver gilt ball-headed pin, decorated with four S-shaped double spirals set between four prominent bosses, with a further boss on the top of the pin. Each boss or setting has around it spiral filigree wire between further strands of spiral wire with spiral running in the other direction. Three of the four bosses around the side retain a flat cut disc of red glass in their setting. The boss on the top of the pin retains a damaged clear rock crystal cabochon. The short collar of the pin springs from within a small boss comprising spiral filigree wire between further strands of spiral wire with the spiral running in the other direction, and has a slightly larger spiral of wire at the junction with the pin shaft. The collar appears to be fitted over the shaft of the pin, which bent and broken below a slight transverse double collar.  
**Discussion:** Spiral wire decoration and the use of bosses set with glass appear to indicate an 8th or possibly 9th century date for this example.  
**Dimensions and metal content:** Diameter: 20 mm. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate silver content of 98 per cent. The clear stone was confirmed as rock crystal, the red stones as glass.  
**Disposition:** Norwich Castle Museum; with funding from the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund and the Friends of Norwich Museums. Accession no. 2005.722.

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S J ASHLEY AND A GANNON

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S J ASHLEY
125. Stoke-by-Clare, Suffolk: Anglo-Saxon pin fragment (2004 T421) (Fig. 125)

Date: 8th to mid-9th century  
Finder: Mr P Carter  
Date of discovery: September 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: The head is a solid cube with its corners faceted/cut off. The upper face of the head is decorated with a central ring and dot motif and has five circular indentations around its edges. The surviving fragment of shaft is circular in cross-section, with no collar.  
Discussion: Pins with faceted heads, such as this example are believed to be 8th or 9th century in date. It is similar to a silver pin from Baylham, Suffolk (Treasure Annual Report 2003, no. 105).  
Dimensions: Length: 5.5 mm; width: 5.5 mm; weight: 1.49g.  
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.  

126. Bury St Edmunds area, Suffolk: Anglo-Saxon silver pin fragment (2004 T98) (Fig. 126)

Date: 9th or early-10th century  
Finder: Mrs L White  
Date of discovery: February 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: The pin fragment is made up of a polyhedral shaped head and the upper part of the shaft. The lower portion of the shaft is missing and the part adjacent to the break point is bent at 90 degrees from the rest of the shaft. The polyhedral shaped head to the pin has 13 faces, the main facet on each side and on top being diamond shaped. Within each diamond facet there is a simple geometric design in niello (black silver sulphide). This design motif is of a ‘St Andrew’s- type cross within a border. Below the head a small collar sits on top of the shaft.  
Discussion: The geometric design is, in a way, a miniature of the Trewhiddle pin (an old find from a well-known and securely dated late Anglo-Saxon period deposit). Such an item was probably used to adorn the dress or hair of a relatively wealthy late-Saxon individual.  
Dimensions: Length: 26 mm; width across head: 5.5 mm; width of shaft: 2 mm.  
Disposition: Moyse’s Hall Museum, Bury St Edmunds.  

127. Pirton, Hertfordshire: Early Medieval lead globule (2004 T411) (Fig. 127)

Date: Probably Early Medieval  
Finder: Mr A Phillips  
Date of discovery: January 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: Irregular shape, two ‘facets’ clearly marked with a ring. Probably a polyhedral head of an Anglo-Saxon pin, or a Viking weight.  
Dimensions and metal content: Diameter: 8 mm approx; weight: 3.54g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a main component of lead; no precious metal could be detected.  
Disposition: Not Treasure; returned to finder.  

128. Firle, East Sussex: Anglo-Saxon silver strap-end (2004 T384) (Fig. 128)

Date: Late 8th or early-9th century  
Finder: Mr A Briscoe  
Date of discovery: August 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: The strap end is small but quite substantial and well-balanced. The central panel is sub-triangular in shape, thickening in height but...
tapering in width towards the zoomorphic head, which is separated from it by a plain collar band. The field of the central panel is decorated by a V-shaped groove departing from the centre of the collar band and ending just below the rivets in two tiny wedge shapes, probably intended to be zoomorphic. In these 'heads' and in the top end of the grooves is inlaid a silver strip that would have contrasted with the rest of the plate. At the split end two rivets are still in position. Between the grooves and the edge of the field and curling around and above the rivets are two snake-like creatures confronting each other with raptors' beaks and lentoid eyes.

The zoomorphic end of the object is beautifully formed and gives the impression of portraying the head of a puppy seal rather than one of the more usual canine creatures that are usually found. Apart from the roundness of the features, there are neither the ears nor the grooves that are customary detailed in these heads. The round eyes would have been set with stone or paste, and possibly the remains of an inset is still in the right socket.

Discussion: Strap-ends are fairly common finds, as they were widely used. Stylistically, and on account of its small size, it fits within the above date.

Dimensions and metal content: 27 x 7 mm; weight: 3.7g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 98 per cent.

Disposition: Barbican House Museum, Lewes had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; British Museum.

129. Langley, Kent: Anglo-Saxon silver strap-end fragment (2004 T229) (Fig. 129)

Date: 9th century
Finder: Mr T Reader
Date of discovery: May 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A fragment of a silver zoomorphic Anglo-Saxon strap-end with gold wire inlay. The fragment formed the original lower end of the strap-end; on the back of the piece there is one of the original rivets that would have fixed it perhaps to a leather belt. As usual, the strap-end terminates in an animal head seen from above. The head is elongated, with deeply engraved lines defining the shape of the muzzle. Traces of niello are visible in the grooves. The nostril areas are separated by two incised lines and the eye areas are large and lentoid-shaped. The eyes themselves are two black niello dots. Two incised lines fill the forehead field. The ears are triangular but set in circles: their original field also shows traces of niello; between them a raised elongated lobe pointing upwards, also defined by niello. The remaining fragment of the central field was divided in field by deeply incised lines, also filled with niello. Only part of the decoration that would have filled these fields is now visible: the remaining details are too small to interpret, but their sinuous line and nicked details are typical of the so-called Trewiddle style. The design appears to have been symmetrical in both field, and it would have stood out on a black background niello. It may have been zoomorphic.

Discussion: For similar strap-ends with Trewiddle-style decoration, see Webster and Backhouse (1991), nos. 191-94. Strap-ends are fairly common finds, as they were widely used.

Dimensions: Length: 24 mm; width: 14 mm; weight: 3.6g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

130. Northbourne, Kent: Anglo-Saxon silver strap-end fragment (2004 T84) (Fig. 130)

Date: 9th century
Finder: Mr I Redfern
Date of discovery: About March 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A fragment of a silver zoomorphic Anglo-Saxon strap-end with gold wire inlay. The fragment formed the original lower end of the strap-end; on the back of the piece there is one of the original rivets that would have fixed it perhaps to a leather belt. As usual, the strap-end terminates in an animal head seen from above. The head on this is quite realistic, and has large bulbous lentoid eyes and protruding nostrils; its pointed ears are set in a circle. As the
general proportions of the head are rather squat, the
general impression is of a rather tame creature. In a
recess on the forehead, a length of gold wire forms a
triangular shape (pointed and elongated at the lower end) into which a shorter length of gold wire forms
a miniature snake, curled up and with its beaked head
downwards. The eye is suggested with a depression
and consequent slight spreading of the metal in a
lentoid shape. The strap-end is further embellished
by a roundel between the ears, and there is some
hatching.

**Dimensions:** Length: 20 mm; width: 18 mm;
weight: 0.30g.

**Disposition:** Dover Museum had hoped to acquire,
but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

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### 131. Fincham, Norfolk: Mid-Late Anglo-Saxon silver strap-end fragment (2004 T350)

**Date:** 9th century

**Finder:** Mr C Sproule

**Date of discovery:** August 2004

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

**Description:** The fragment has twin rivet-holes
through split double-notched attachment-end, and is
decorated with contorted Trewhiddle-style animal on
an inlaid niello field, the head with an open mouth.
The forelegs and traces of interlace cross the break;
iccised lines form beaded border on both sides, the
lower part is missing.

**Discussion:** The strap-end is Thomas’s Class A, Type 1.
(Thomas 2004). It can be compared to the strap-end
from Kent in *Treasure Annual Report* 2001, no. 52.

**Dimensions:** Length: 20 mm; width: 18 mm;
weight: 0.30g.

**Disposition:** Dover Museum had hoped to acquire,
but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

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### 132. Ellesmere, Shropshire: Anglo-Saxon silver strap-end fragment (2004 T492) (Fig. 132)

**Date:** 9th century

**Finder:** Mr D Bell

**Date of discovery:** October 2003

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

**Description:** The strap-end is broken at the split end,
hence no rivet holes are now present. What survives is
the terminal part, which, as customary, terminates
with an animal head, which, although now worn,
carried detailed eyes and muzzle. The animal ears are
oval and flatly incised, and almost part of the main
decoration of the main field. The decoration of the
main field consists of a Trewhiddle-style backward-
looking animal with interlace.

**Discussion:** This type of decoration, which would have
stood out on the black niello background that
originally filled the incised lines, is characteristic of the
above date. For similar strap-ends with Trewhiddle-
style decoration, see Webster and Backhouse (1991),
nos. 191-94.

**Dimensions:** Length: 26 mm; max width: 9 mm;
weight: 1.7g.

**Disposition:** Shropshire County Museum Service.

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### 133. Kingsclere, Hampshire: Anglo-Saxon silver strap-end (2004 T127) (Fig. 133)

**Date:** 9th or 10th century

**Finder:** Mr D Grubb

**Date of discovery:** February 2004

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

**Description:** The strap-end is of Thomas’ Type A
(Thomas 2004) and, typically for the type, has a
zoomorphic design on the front face depicting a beast
with the snout at the terminal. The strap end has a
rectangular section; the sides are convex and both
ends are straight. The strap was housed within a short,
V-shaped slit and secured by two dome-headed rivets, which are still in place. The decoration on the face is incised with a cross at the snout. The eyes are crudely incised onto two irregular raised ovals. The panel comprises of a raised and incised repeating heart-shaped motif, around a recessed panel containing niello, which survives in a small area near the attachment edge. The rear is plain and possibly has a patch of mineralised leather strap on the surface.

**Dimensions:** Length: 42.5 mm; max. width: 13.5 mm; weight: 14.6g.

**Disposition:** Hampshire Museums Service.

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**(xi) Other objects**

**134. Childswickham, Worcestershire:**
Anglo-Saxon silver-gilt roundel (2004 T163) (Fig. 134)

**Date:** Probably 6th century

**Finder:** Mr D Crawford for Worcestershire County Historic Environment and Archaeology Service

**Date of discovery:** August 2001

**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector in conjunction with controlled archaeological excavation.

**Description:** Silver-gilt roundel decorated with five ‘chip-carved’ spirals and a single triquetra knot. Four of the spirals are linked as pairs sharing a common stem above a triquetra knot, the fifth balances the design. The roundel is light with a piercing at the centre, probably for the seating of a stud. Three other, smaller, drilled holes, which are secondary, pierce the disc towards the border, while a fourth, and probably tertiary, piercing is placed in the interior. The back is plain.

**Discussion:** The roundel, which is decorated in a style that is unusual on Anglo-Saxon metalwork, may originally have been an inlay on a high-quality box. The use of spiral ornament, particularly running or linked spirals, is relatively common in 5th century Anglo-Saxon contexts, particularly on saucer brooches (MacGregor and Bolick 1993, p. 42ff.). The spiral is also widely used on the continent on 5th and 6th century chip-carved buckles and brooches again as an integral part of an S- or a C-scroll (eg. a silver-gilt buckle from Ejsbol, Jutland, Webster and Brown (1997, pl. 13). Spiral ornament, usually in conjunction with trumpet-headed terminals, is also commonly found on Irish and Northumbrian manuscripts and metalwork, particularly on the decorative escutcheons of hanging-bowls which occur widely in Anglo-Saxon contexts from the late-6th century continuing throughout the 7th century (Brennan 1991). Spiral ornament in the form of elaborate C-scrolls occurs in conjunction with interlace motifs on the later 7th century satchel mount from Swallowcliffe Down, Wiltshire (Speake 1989, esp. fig. 59), which Speake has suggested may reflect mutual influences between Anglo-Saxon England and Celtic Ireland. However, the chip-carved style of this roundel together with the form of the spiral ornament and the knot motif suggests Anglo-Saxon rather than Celtic manufacture.

**Dimensions:** Diameter: 22 mm; weight: 1.86g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 81 per cent, and the application of mercury gilding.

**Disposition:** Worcestershire County Museum hopes to acquire.

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**135. Letheringsett with Glandford, Norfolk:**
Two Anglo-Saxon buckles and associated objects (2004 T246)

**Date:** Late 6th or 7th century

**Finder:** NAU Archaeology (formerly Norfolk Archaeological Unit)

**Date of discovery:** April 2004

**Circumstances of discovery:** Controlled archaeological excavation following initial detector finds.

**Description:** Two buckles, both with silver loop and silver plate and pin. The first buckle is complete apart from a small edge of the plate that is missing (fig, 135.1). Oval loop and rectangular, off-set plate with three rivets arranged along the rear plate edge. The plate is decorated with three groups of grooves – running along the edges and middle. The second buckle very similar, but damaged (fig, 135.2). Large parts of the plate and underplate are missing, but one rivet hole is still visible, indicating that here, too,
several rivets were arranged along the rear edge of the plate. As opposed to the other buckle, this one does not have a raised square on the tongue base.

**Discussion:** Both pieces are very typical of a group of small late-6th to 7th century buckles with rectangular plate with rivets, usually three in number, along the rear edge (Marzinik 2003, Type II.24a). These buckles are widespread and two nearby examples, with incised decoration, were found at Thornham, Norfolk (Marzinik 2003, pl. 137). Silver is not a common material among this type, but does occur, for instance, at Polhill, Kent, grave 28 (*ibid*). The associated angle-backed knife and the spear head, that appears to be of Swanton Type C2 or C3 (Swanton 1974), are in keeping with the suggested dating.

**Associated finds:** Remains of a copper alloy and iron bucket (fragments of the hoops and handles); a near complete Frankish pottery jar ... and rivets; an iron spear head, the tip and part of the socket missing; a fragment of a copper alloy ferrule and wood.

For further publication see Penn and Whitmore (forthcoming).

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; the site archive transferred to Glandford Shell Museum, Glandford.

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136. Doncaster area, South Yorkshire:
Anglo-Saxon silver-gilt buckle fragments (2004 T313) (Fig. 136)

**Date:** Early-7th century

**Finder:** Mr P Fletcher

**Date of discovery:** August 2004

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

**Description:**

1. The toe and part of the frame of a silver-gilt triangular buckle or counter-plate. The rounded toe still contains the large dome-headed rivet that originally held the front- and back-plates together on a leather belt. The rivet is seated on a thin washer of sheet gold to which is soldered a beaded twisted wire collar. The remains of the frame, channelled to hold either twisted wire or an inserted panel of stamped impressions, survive.

2. Tongue shield and part of tongue, inlaid with cloisonné garnet cellwork. Notched trapezoidal tongue shield of silver inlaid with a gold tray filled with cloisonné garnet cell-work. On the back, the tang that originally attached the tongue to the buckle, survives. The garnet cell work is complete, but largely covered with residual mud. It is not therefore possible to identify the type of foil behind the garnet.

**Discussion:** The buckle toe (1) belongs to a series of triangular buckles that came into use in the last quarter of the sixth century, following continental fashion. They have a wide currency throughout the first half of the 7th century and are made in a variety of materials, the finer in silver, silver-gilt or gold. These are frequently inlaid with panels of decorated gold foil (Speake 1980, plates 6-8). The damaged condition of this fragment makes it impossible to estimate its original level of finish.

The tongue shield (2) is inlaid with a design in cloisonné cellwork that is commonly found on a variety of objects in the early-7th century. The ornament is based on the use of a single stepped cell flanked by two curved interlocking garnets that together form a dominant motif commonly seen on, for example, the plated disc brooch series (Avent 1975, especially pl. 55, class 3 plated disc brooches from Faversham, Kent). The tongue plate can be compared to one on a silver-gilt buckle from Gilton Ash, Kent (Speake 1980, pl. 9g). This, however, has a rectangular plate decorated with cloisonné garnets and gold filigree panels.

The two fragments may not belong to a single buckle – generally speaking, the tongue plates of the triangular buckle series are shaped in the form of a fiddle or mushroom, whereas buckles with shouldered trapezoidal tongue-plates are rectangular in form (Speake 1980, pls. 6-9).

**Note:** Conservation for identification carried out by Dept. of Conservation, Documentation and Science, British Museum.

**Dimensions:** (1) Length: 24 mm; (2) width: 25 mm.

**Disposition:** Doncaster Museum, with funding from the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund.

A C EVANS
137. North Yorkshire area: Closely associated group of Viking-period and Late Saxon objects and coins (2004 T13) (Figs. 137.1 – 15)

Date: Last quarter of the 9th century
Finder: Mr M Ainsley and Mr G Bambrook
Date of discovery: December 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with metal-detectors.

Description: Surface metal analyses conducted at the British Museum indicated the precious metal contents noted for each object below.

1. Gold. Gilded and gold circular stud with blue glass cabochon setting, fixed with two rivets to a fragment of a copper-alloy backing plate sheet (fig. 137.1); diameter: 10 mm; gold content of the lower edge of the setting approximately 51 per cent. The stud is late Anglo-Saxon, 8th-9th century in date, and may be from a piece of jewellery, a bronze vessel or, perhaps, a book-cover.

2. Silver. The silver component of the hoard comprises one silver ingot, four ingot droplets (only two of which contain more than 10 per cent silver), and six pieces of hack silver (fig. 137.2).
   i) The ingot has been cast in a simple open mould and then hammered fairly smooth on top and bottom.
   ii) The four larger pieces of hack silver comprise: a roughly cast and hammered fragment; a curved fragment of a square-sectioned bar; one end cut from an ingot; and a section of strip.
   iii) There are also two very small fragments of silver; widths approx. 5 mm. The two silver droplets are roughly plano-convex. The other two droplets are of leaded bronze and lead-tin alloy respectively. An associated copper-alloy ingot is described below (4i).

3. Coins. Of the 10 coins (figs 137.8 – 17), nine coins are of late-9th century date. Seven were in the name of Burgred, king of Mercia (852-74), and two in the name of Alfred, king of Wessex (871-99). All nine are of the so-called 'lunette' type, issued jointly as part of a monetary and political alliance between the two kings between 871 and 874. The presence of examples of what are either variants of the rare sub-class e (North 427), or an entirely new sub-class, suggests a *terminus post quem* for the coin assemblage of 874, very close to the end of the circulation period of this coinage type. However, since the coins were found outside the area of controlled coinage circulation south of the Humber, it is not possible to make any assumptions concerning the precise dating of the hoard beyond the *tpq* of 874, although in the absence of any of the coins of Viking Northumbria, it is probably reasonable to assume a deposition date in the final quarter of the 9th century.

The tenth coin is a fragment of an Islamic silver dirham of the Ummayyad dynasty, of the reformed coinage (AH79-132/ AD 690-749). Fragmentary Islamic coins are typical within Viking hoards of the late-9th and early-tenth centuries from Britain, as well as from productive sites linked with Viking activity. These coins are often in fragmentary condition and should be regarded as hack-silver rather than as coins per se.

Three of the Anglo-Saxon coins have been pierced centrally, although it is uncertain whether this was for use as mounts on weights, or as pendants or dress ornaments, or as mounts on some other kind of ornament. One of these is also badly chipped. Another coin is only fragmentary. This again suggests secondary usage of the coins as silver bullion rather than use in a controlled monetary system, and it is likely that the whole coin assemblage should be considered simply as bullion, especially when taken with the presence of weights and hack silver.

1 x silver penny of Alfred of Wessex (871-99), Lunette type, sub-type a, moneyer probably Heremod (figs 137.8).

1 x silver penny of Alfred of Wessex (871-99), Lunette type, sub-type b (North 626), moneyer Cuthwulf (figs 137.9).

4 x silver pennies of Burgred of Mercia (852-74), Lunette type, sub-type a (North 423), moneyers Cenred, Cynehelm, Dudwine, Eadulf (figs 137.10-13).
3 x silver pennies of Burgred of Mercia (852-74), Lunette type, sub-type e (North 427) variant, moneyers Beagstan, Bereah, Tata. All pierced centrally (figs 137.14 – 16).

1 x silver dirham of the Ummayyad dynasty (AH 411-132/AD 661-750), of the reformed coinage (AH 791-132/AD 690-749), mint uncertain, date of issue uncertain (___2). Only a small fragment of the coin survives (fig. 137.17).

4. Copper-alloy objects
   i) A hammered, bronze ingot is closely associated with the silver items above (fig. 137.2).
   ii) A gilded copper-alloy mount; decorated with chip-carved rosettes, etc, and of late Saxon derivation, 8th or early 9th century in date (fig. 137.3).
   iii) Copper-alloy ringed pin with a ring hinged through a closed loop at the top (fig. 137.4). The pin is an example of the plain ringed type of dress fastener, adopted from the Irish by the Scandinavians in the British Isles and typical of the 9th – 10th centuries especially.
   iv) Copper-alloy part of a folding balance (fig. 137.5), consisting of the central section of the beam with pointer, the hanging arm hinged to the base of the pointer by a rivet, and a knotted wire ring passing through the looped top of the arm; height excluding ring: 43 mm; remaining width of beam: 27 mm. One end of the beam section is pierced by a rivet hole for hinging a missing long arm and the other end is broken to a similar length, the resulting T-shape suggesting that perhaps the balance had been reused as a Thor’s hammer pendant. Complete examples of folding balances are well known from Scandinavian Viking-period contexts (Graham-Campbell 1980, p. 88, no. 306).
   v) Four polyhedral weights (fig. 137.5). The form is typical of the Viking period and other English finds are recorded, e.g. from Torksey, Lincs (Blackburn 2002 pp. 95-98).

5. Lead. Four circular weights (fig. 137.5), typical of the Viking/Anglo-Scandinavian period in the British Isles and Scandinavia (compare plain and decorated weights in Graham-Campbell 1980 pp. 88-9, nos. 306-8).

6. Ironwork: A (diagnostic pieces)
   i) Three pieces from the hilt of a sword (fig. 137.6); the pommel is of trilobate form with no evidence of inlays; the guard has a slot for the tang. The pommel and guard are typical of Petersen’s late Anglo-Saxon L-type, of the mid-late 9th century.
   ii) Four pieces of a second sword (fig. 137.6); the pommel is of trilobate form. The blade (in three pieces) is very corroded, but shows evidence of the pattern-welding technique. The pommel is a very simple version of Petersen’s late Anglo-Saxon L-type, of the same date as the sword-hilt above. The sword was found with a whetstone (see below).
   iii) Tongue-shaped strap-end of Thomas’s class E, type 3 (fig. 137.7). This form is found in Anglo-Scandinavian areas and is of the late 9th and 10th centuries (Thomas 2004, fig. 4, 28).
   iv) Clench rivet with square rove (fig. 137.7). This type of rivet was used by Viking-period carpenters to fasten overlapping planks for a variety of purposes.

7. Ironwork: B (remainder). The remaining ironwork consists largely of nails and fragmentary fittings, which were found round or close to the precious metal items above. The precise association is uncertain, however. Much is probably more or less contemporary with the hoard, but there are a few objects which are modern and so clearly intrusive.

8. Stone. Whetstone found with sword above (fig. 137.6); length: 110 mm; width: 18 mm.

Discussion: Although the context of the hoard is uncertain, pending further archaeological investigation of what can be identified as a large ‘productive site’, a couple of suggestions may be made on the basis of the finds. First, the hoard could have been deposited as a discrete group of precious and non-precious metal items, representing perhaps a merchant’s stock in trade. Alternatively, the swords, whetstone and items of male costume jewellery (the ringed pin, strap-end and buckle, and perhaps the balance re-used as a Thor’s hammer pendant), together with the clench rivet putatively from a coffin, make it conceivable that the hoard may have been associated with a man’s burial, either contemporary with it, or added later. However, acidic soil conditions may have destroyed any obvious trace of bones.
The hoard can be dated to the last quarter of the 9th century AD on the basis of the dates of the minting of the coins. The typological dating of the main associated objects is consistent with this, the objects were found in a confined area, and the combination of material is certainly plausible as a single assemblage, with the exception of a few more modern items. A full description and discussion of the hoard will be published together with other finds from the site, and with the results of the investigation of the site by the York Archaeological Trust.

Disposition: Yorkshire Museum had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; British Museum hopes to acquire.

B AGER AND G WILLIAMS

138. Birch, Essex: Copper-alloy fragment with silver sheet decoration (2004 T474) (Fig. 138)

Date: 10th century
Finder: Mr M Rogers
Date of discovery: 1999
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Fragment of a once circular, copper-alloy openwork object with a flanged edge to its reverse. The object is now sub-triangular in plan. It is decorated on the front with silver sheet representing a dog-like animal, possibly in the Jellinge style. There is beaded silver sheet around the edge of what was once an openwork perforation. The copper-alloy portion of the object is abraded with little of the original surface remaining. It now has a bright, mid green patina.
Dimensions: Length: 21.3 mm; thickness: 3.8 mm; weight: 5.16g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

C A MCDONALD

139. Narborough, Norfolk: Viking silver ring (2004 T501) (Fig. 139)

Date: 9th to 11th centuries
Finder: Mr J Coggles
Date of discovery: November 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: The ring is thicker on one side than the other and has a rounded, faceted section. It is decorated round the girth with a row of punched dots, except on the thinner side where they are missing for about a quarter of the circumference, apparently because of heavy wear at this point. The upper and lower faces of the ring have been repeatedly nicked with the point of a knife in antiquity to test the metal, which has roughened the surface.
Discussion: The ring is too small to be worn on the finger and its purpose is uncertain, although the wear suggests it could have been a suspension or connecting link for straps of some kind. In the Viking period, when silver was used as bullion in trade and commercial transactions, the surfaces of silver objects, particularly ingots, coins and sometimes cut-up pieces of jewellery, were occasionally nicked with a knife to test that they were not plated. This feature of the ring therefore strongly suggests that it was used as part of a bullion payment in the Viking period. Further, a plain silver ring of very similar size, also showing comparable signs of heavy wear, was found in the 11th-century hoard of Viking gold and silver jewellery from Malmesmyr, Gotland, Sweden (Stenberger 1947, pl. 262: 7). In view of the scarcity of parallels, however, it is possible that the Narborough ring dates from an earlier period and was simply reused as bullion once its silver content had been established, which would account for the multiple testing.
Dimensions: External diameter: 17.5 – 18.5 mm; internal diameter: 9 – 10 mm; weight: 6.04g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 82 per cent.
Disposition: British Museum had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

B AGER
E. Medieval

(i) Brooches

140. Tretire, Herefordshire: Medieval silver brooch (2004 T95) (Fig. 140)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mr J Bray
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval, oval brooch with a slightly domed profile. It is made of sheet metal and is plain apart from three grooves incised either side of the pin.
Dimensions: 23 x 27 mm.
Disposition: Hereford Museum and Art Gallery.

141. Brading, Isle of Wight: Medieval gilded coin brooch (2004 T54) (Figs. 141.1, 141.2)

Date: About 1280
Finder: Mr T Winch
Date of discovery: August 2000
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Incomplete silver penny of Edward I, Class 3 (1280-1), London.
The coin has been modified to form a brooch. The top part of the coin is broken and missing. The legend is perforated with three roughly circular holes, about 1 mm in diameter. A fourth and similar incomplete hole is at the edge of the coin.
Discussion: The holes are for rivets that would have held a hinged pin and catch-plate. The reverse side of the brooch was the front as this side is gilded.
Dimensions and metal content: Diameter 20 mm; weight: 0.91g. Coins of this date and type contain 92.5 per cent of silver.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

142. Southfleet, Kent: Medieval silver circular brooch (2004 T86) (Fig. 142)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mr G Burr
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval, circular brooch, plain except for the raised collar on the pin, which is ornamented with punched decoration. The pin has been flattened at its end in order to rest on the frame of the brooch.
Dimensions: Diameter: 19 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

143. Covehithe, Suffolk: Medieval silver circular brooch (2004 T137) (Fig. 143)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mr R Allen
Date of discovery: March 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval brooch of circular shape. It is decorated with a recurrent motif of double zigzags. The pin is missing and some damage has occurred at about the point where the pin should meet the frame of the brooch.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

144. Debenham area, Suffolk: Medieval silver circular brooch (2004 T140) (Fig. 144)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mr M Ratford
Date of discovery: March 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
**Description:** A medieval brooch of circular shape with a domed profile, made of silver sheet metal.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

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**145. Mildenhall area, Suffolk:**

**Medieval silver-gilt annular brooch (2004 T176) (Fig. 145)**

**Date:** 13th century

**Finder:** Mr J Brown

**Date of discovery:** March 2004

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

**Description:** A medieval silver-gilt annular brooch, the ring formed of four animal or dragon heads. The loop for the pin attachment is gripped by two of the animals; the pin-rest is gripped by the other two. The brooch is set with two garnets at the upper and lower points of the ring, between each pair of animals. The pin survives. The gilding is slightly worn.

**Discussion:** The brooch is similar to another previously found in Suffolk (Stowmarket area), but slightly larger (see *Treasure Annual Report 2001*, no. 82).

**Dimensions and metal content:** Diameter: 20 mm; Length of pin: 20 mm; weight: 2.22g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 98 per cent, and confirmed the red stones as garnets.

**Disposition:** Moyse's Hall Museum, Bury St Edmunds had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

B NENK

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**146. East Dean Area, East Sussex:**

**Medieval silver-gilt brooch (2004 T57) (Fig. 146)**

**Date:** 13th century

**Finder:** Mr K Rericha

**Date of discovery:** February 2004

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

**Description:** A medieval brooch of square shape, decorated along each length with centrally placed bosses and a boss at each corner. The pin is accommodated in one corner and the pin attachment is fashioned to conform to the decorative scheme.

**Dimensions:** 12 x 12 mm.

**Disposition:** Towner Art Gallery and Museum, Eastbourne.

J P ROBINSON

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**147. Firle, East Sussex:**

**Medieval silver-gilt miniature brooch (2004 T275) (Fig. 147)**

**Date:** 13th century

**Finder:** Mr T Head

**Date of discovery:** Spring 2003

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

**Description:** A medieval miniature brooch, decorated with a juxtaposed arrangement of four crescents and four circles.

**Dimensions:** Diameter: 13 mm

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

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**148. Firle, East Sussex:**

**Medieval silver-gilt annular brooch (2004 T234) (Fig. 148)**

**Date:** Probably 13th century

**Finder:** Mr T Head

**Date of discovery:** April 2004

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

**Description:** A medieval silver-gilt annular brooch, the ring decorated with a raised filigree design of foliage. The back of the ring is formed from a separate section, into which the decorated section has been set. The pin survives, although the end is broken, and is attached to the brooch through a hole pierced through the ring.
96

Medieval Artefacts

Dimensions: Diameter: 28 mm.
Disposition: Barbican House Museum, Lewes had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

149. Firle, East Sussex: Medieval silver circular brooch (2004 T382) (Fig. 149)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mr P Lee
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval circular brooch, the hoop of which is flattened, though distorted, and plain. The pin, likewise, lacks any decoration and extends slightly beyond the frame of the brooch.
Dimensions: Diameter: 24 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

150. Climping, West Sussex: Medieval silver brooch pin (2004 T158) (Fig. 150)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mr M Williams
Date of discovery: 2002
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval pin from a brooch of roughly square section, and tapering to a point. The attachment that would have fixed it to the frame of the brooch (probably a loop) is broken. A single groove creates two ridges forming a collar on the wide end of the pin close to the break.
Dimensions: Length: 37.4 mm.
Disposition: Littlehampton Museum.

151. Carisbrooke area, Isle of Wight: Medieval silver annular brooch (2004 T34) (Fig. 151)

Date: 13th or 14th century
Finder: Mr R Oatley
Date of discovery: January 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A small complete oval-shaped, silver annular brooch, the frame to one side of the pin is of twisted cable pattern. Within each twist is a line of closely related granulations. There is a constriction for the tapering pin which is round in cross-section. At the juncture of the pin shaft and loop is a small transverse collar decorated with similar granulations to those within the twisted cable decoration.
Discussion: Comparable finds with twisted cable decoration have been published in previous Treasure Annual Reports, and a brooch of similar appearance but made of copper has been found at Billingsgate, London (Egan and Pritchard 1991, p. 249, no. 1310).
Dimensions: Length: 23 mm; weight: 2.58g.
Disposition: Isle of Wight Museum Service.

152. Brookland, Kent: Medieval silver annular brooch (2004 T260) (Fig. 152)

Date: Probably 13th or 14th century
Finder: Mr P Welch
Date of discovery: July 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval silver annular brooch, now broken and distorted. The brooch is formed of wire of square section, twisted to form a cable design, and with a row of granulations along each side. The brooch has broken at the restriction which would have held the pin.
Discussion: For a similar find, see Treasure Annual Report 2000, no. 134.
153. Gilmorton, Leicestershire:  
Medieval silver-gilt annular brooch (2004 T434) (Fig. 153)

Date: 13th century  
Finder: Mr K Hughes  
Date of discovery: September 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: An annular brooch of gilded silver, with moulded decoration comprising four small oval settings with (originally) a cabochon style, oval pink stone, probably a garnet, in each bezel. Now two adjacent stones are missing. Each setting is linked by an oval 'bead' flanked by two small collars. The oval 'beads' are decorated with finely incised, square cross-hatching. The outside edges of the settings may also be decorated with faint incisions but they are all worn and there is no discernible pattern. Two opposing 'beads' are cast to hold the brooch pin. One has a triangular depression in the upper surface for the tip of the pin to rest, and the other contains the hinge pin. Most of the gilding has rubbed off, especially from the smooth surfaces on the outside edges of the settings and the underside of the brooch.  
Dimensions: External diameter: 18 mm; internal diameter: 11 mm; weight: 2.8g.  
Disposition: Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services.

154. Skendleby, Lincolnshire: Medieval silver brooch (2004 T170) (Fig. 154)

Date: 13th or early 14th century  
Finder: Mr E Mackrill  
Date of discovery: September 2002  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A medieval brooch, originally circular but much distorted. It is made of twisted wire decorated with pellets within each twist.  
Dimensions: Diameter: 16 mm approx.  
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

155. Sporle with Palgrave, Norfolk:  
Medieval silver annular brooch (2004 T150) (Fig. 155)

Date: 13th or 14th century  
Finder: Mrs M Slaven  
Date of discovery: March 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A very delicate, composite silver annular brooch with central bar. Two pins looped through a round perforation in the centre of the bar face in opposite directions. The bar expands in curves to meet the hoop to produce pointed oval openings on either side. Separate raised ribs are attached, presumably by solder, to the front edges of the bar. They, the recessed areas in between them and the inner edge of the hoop are decorated with filigree pellets. The hoop has a butt-join, clearly visible at one end of the bar. A separate ring is attached to the rear of the hoop. Both flattened D-sectioned pins have a transverse rib near the loop and are moulded on the underside near the tip. The tip of one pin is missing.  
Discussion: The way in which the object was used is intriguing and far from clear. Perhaps it was attached to two slender straps or ribbons.  
Dimensions: Minimum diameter: 16 mm; thickness: 1 mm; weight: 1.37g.  
Disposition: Swaffham Museum.
156. Watton area, Norfolk:  
**Medieval silver annular brooch (2004 T200)** (Fig. 156)

**Date:** 13th or 14th century  
**Finder:** Mr M Chapman  
**Date of discovery:** May 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A silver annular brooch; a round-sectioned wire hoop with four evenly spaced, flat, square gilt plates soldered onto the front. Each is decorated in counter relief with a cast octofoil. The ends of the hoop are carefully butt-jointed beneath one of the plates, and the round sectioned pin is encircled by an integral collar adjacent to the loop. It is parallel sided, before tapering abruptly to a point, beneath which is a rounded notch to fit over the hoop.  
**Discussion:** A pewter brooch with quatrefoil plates was found in a context of about 1270 – 1350 in London (Egan and Pritchard 1991, fig. 163, no. 1327). A silver brooch with similar plates but a much larger and partly twisted hoop is reported in *Treasure Annual Report* 1998 – 1999, no. 150.  
**Dimensions:** Diameter: 20 mm; pin length: 22 mm; weight: 2.21g.  
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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157. Langford, Nottinghamshire:  
**Medieval silver annular brooch (2004 T142)** (Fig. 157)

**Date:** Probably 13th or early 14th century  
**Finder:** Mrs M Isaacs  
**Date of discovery:** February 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A medieval silver-gilt annular brooch, of quadrilobe form, with right-angled points in the outer angles. On one side, the Lombardic inscription:  
*IHEUS . NAZARENV[S.] REX IUEDORUM*  
(Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews) runs around the four lobes, emphasising the quadrilobe form of the brooch. A six-petalled flower is engraved in each point. On the reverse, the figure of a bird is engraved in each lobe; the angles, which are engraved with foliate decoration, are engraved to appear superimposed on the lobes, emphasising the square form of the brooch. A constriction on one of the lobes holds the pin, which has a narrow collar. Traces of red enamel survive in the engraved areas. The gilding is worn, and survives mainly on the outer edge of the brooch. There are cracks in the surface of the frame.  
**Dimensions:** Max. width: 24 mm.  
**Disposition:** British Museum.

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158. Cholsey, Oxfordshire:  
**Medieval silver circular brooch (2004 T342)** (Fig. 158)

**Date:** Late 13th or early 14th century  
**Finder:** Mr K Marshall  
**Date of discovery:** August 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A circular brooch the frame of which is a simple hoop decorated with numerous granulations and cabling. Two pins project from a central, openwork construction which tapers towards the middle. A copper coloured tarnish on part of the brooch’s surface may indicate that it was originally gilded.  
**Dimensions:** Diameter: 20 mm.  
**Disposition:** Oxfordshire Museums Service hopes to acquire.

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159. Houghton, West Sussex:  
**Medieval silver-gilt annular brooch fragment (2004 T48)** (Fig. 159)

**Date:** Probably 13th or early 14th century  
**Finder:** Mr F Kurzeja  
**Date of discovery:** 1998  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: The brooch is in the form of either a square, now misshapen, or a polygon (possibly a pentagon). Only one complete side survives, and parts of two adjoining sides. The frame bears an inscription on each side. One side reads: [IESU NAZAR]ENUS/REX IUD/EO[RUM], and the other [CASP]AR/MELC[HI]OR/BALTA[ZAR]. Single discs at each of the two surviving corners are engraved on both sides with what may be animals or grotesques, and possibly the figure of an angel, but wear makes identification difficult. A fragmentary quatrilobe survives in one of the inner corners. The surface is worn and only traces of gilding survive.

Discussion: The names of the Magi were considered to have magical or prophylactic properties and were believed to protect the wearer from various forms of sickness, including epilepsy and fever, and from misfortune. Such words of power were thought to have a cumulative effect, and were often combined with other magical inscriptions, in this case, the titulus of the Cross.

Dimensions: Width: 39 mm.

Disposition: Arundel Museum had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

161. Birdbrook, Essex: Medieval silver-gilt brooch (2004 T31) (Fig. 161)

Date: 14th century
Finder: Mr B Lenahan
Date of discovery: December 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval brooch, the front stamped with an inscription, in a sunken field between two bands, which is largely abraded and illegible. The reverse is decorated with crudely fashioned lozenges.
Dimensions: Diameter: 19 mm.
Disposition: Braintree District Museum.

162. Shorwell, Isle of Wight: Medieval silver annular brooch (2004 T445) (Fig. 162)

Date: 14th century
Finder: Mr J Williams
Date of discovery: October 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval brooch in the form a quatrefoil; the frame measures 3 mm in width at the back and narrows to 1 mm in width at the front, creating an exaggerated impression of depth. The pin is missing.
Dimensions: 22 x 22 mm; height: 3 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.
163. East Walton, Norfolk: Medieval silver annular brooch (2004 T152)

Date: 14th century
Finder: Mr S Brown
Date of discovery: April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal detector.
Description: A medieval silver annular brooch, circular, but now distorted to an oval. The hoop, probably stamped out of a larger sheet, is bevelled or angled and pierced by circular hole for the pin. Both edges are sharp, the outer slightly thickened, the inner ribbed on the front and hollowed on the reverse. The pin is of sub-triangular section and appears to have made from drawn wire, the tip cut to a point.
Dimensions: Original diameter: 24 mm approx; width of hoop: 6 mm; weight: 2.20g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

A ROGERSON

165. Grendon Underwood, Buckinghamshire: Medieval silver annular brooch (2004 T194) (Fig. 165)

Date: Probably 14th or 15th century
Finder: Mr P Elborn
Date of discovery: April 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval silver annular brooch. The plain silver frame, which is slightly misshapen, is of convex cross-section, with ridged edges. The frame is pierced with a semi-circular hole to take the pin. The pin is plain and of semi-circular cross-section.
Dimensions: Width: 26 – 28 mm; pin length: 22 mm.
Disposition: Buckinghamshire County Museum, with funding from the Friends of Buckinghamshire County Museum.

B NENK

164. Damlands, North Yorkshire: Medieval silver-gilt brooch (2004 T97) (Fig. 164)

Date: 14th century
Finder: Mr P Williams
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval brooch of lozenge shape. Each angle terminates in a concave, circular, gilded knop. A semi-spherical gilded blob is placed along two lengths of the lozenge and two apertures are placed in the same position on the other half of the brooch. The latter may be for the suspension of chains, now lost. The pin is also missing.
Weight and metal content: Weight: 3.37g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 98 per cent.
Disposition: Yorkshire Museum had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

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166. Godmersham, Kent: Medieval silver annular brooch (2004 T69) (Fig. 166)

Date: Probably 14th or 15th century
Finder: Mr D Butcher
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: Whilst searching with a metal detector.
Description: A medieval silver annular brooch, the hoop is of faceted section, but otherwise plain, with a raised and thickened ridge on either side of the constriction for the pin, which survives.
Dimensions: Diameter: 24 mm; Length of pin: 22 mm.
Disposition: Canterbury Museum.

B NENK
(ii) Chapes


Date: 15th century
Finder: Mr J Lumsden
Date of discovery: May 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Incomplete silver dagger chape, sub-rectangular in plan, hollow and has a domed end, now damaged. It is formed from a thin sheet of silver that is curled around upon it self and when complete, would have joined with a seam. The chape has subsequently split at the point of the seam. The sheet metal is extremely thin and has been damaged along its top edge, where it has a diagonal break, where some of the chape has been torn off.
Dimensions: Length: 27 mm; width: 12 mm; weight: 0.99g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

C A MCDONALD

168. Poulton, Gloucestershire: Medieval silver-gilt chape (2004 T276) (Fig. 168)

Date: 15th century
Finder: Mr I James
Date of discovery: October 1999
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval chape, it is very badly damaged but is decorated on one side with five semi-spherical bosses.
Dimensions: Length: 33 mm; width: 24 mm.
Disposition: Corinium Museum, Cirencester.

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(iii) Finger-rings

169. Houghton, West Sussex: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T121) (Fig. 169.1, 169.2)

Date: 12th century
Finder: Mr M Rae
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval finger-ring set with a garnet in a rectangular bezel. The bezel is decorated with small, circular punches around the stone and at the junction with the hoop. The shoulders bear three crosses on one side, with the remains of a fourth still visible, and one cross on the other, where the gold is more abraded and the shallowness of the engraving has resulted in the loss of detail. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum confirmed the stone as a garnet.
Disposition: Arundel Museum had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

170. Tysoe, Warwickshire: Medieval silver finger-ring (2004 T494) (Fig. 170)

Date: 12th century
Finder: Mr D Garland
Date of discovery: Autumn 2002
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval silver finger-ring with a thin D-shaped hoop. The wide bezel is divided into three sub-rectangular fields, each with niello decoration, which are separated by engraved areas. Some areas of the niello are now missing.
Dimensions: Diameter: 21 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

B NENK
171. Newark area, Nottinghamshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T472) (Figs. 171.1, 171.2)

Date: 12th or 13th century  
Finder: Mrs P Severn  
Date of discovery: November 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A medieval finger-ring with a thin hoop and a small, square-shaped bezel set with a roughly square blue stone (probably a sapphire).  
Dimensions: Diameter: 22 mm; length including bezel: 25 mm.  
Disposition: Newark and Sherwood Museum Service had hoped to acquire, but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

172. Condover, Shropshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T495) (Figs. 172.1, 172.2)

Date: Late 12th or early 13th century  
Finder: Mr J Martin  
Date of discovery: October 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A gold medieval finger-ring consisting of a simple undecorated wire hoop and a small sub-rectangular bezel. The hoop, which is misshapen and elongated into an irregular oval, has a D-shaped cross section. The bezel is designed to contain a stone which is now lost. It is decorated with a single incised transverse band that covers three of the four sides. The edges of the bezel have been damaged (torn) where the stone would have been set.  
Dimensions: Internal diameter: 18 – 19 mm; weight: 1.90g.  
Disposition: Shrewsbury Museums Service.

173. Eye area, Suffolk: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T133) (Figs. 173.1, 173.2)

Date: 12th or early 13th century  
Finder: Mr M Weale  
Date of discovery: March 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A medieval finger-ring set with a green stone (probably glass). The ring is of very slender proportions with a small, rectangular, sub-pyramidal bezel. At the point where the bezel meets the shoulders of the ring, there is a small band of ridged decoration.  
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

174. Climping, West Sussex: Medieval silver finger-ring fragment (2004 T232) (Fig. 174)

Date: 12th or early 13th century  
Finder: Mr M Osborne  
Date of discovery: 2001  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A fragment of a medieval silver finger-ring, the surviving part of the bezel consists of a rectangular field decorated with a nielloed cross-pattern. Part of the thin, tapering hoop survives, and is decorated at the shoulder with the head of a dragon or animal, with traces of niello in the eyes. One edge of the hoop between the bezel and the dragon is engraved with ridges. The ring has a crack at the side of the bezel.  
Discussion: The ring is comparable to one from the Lark Hill hoard, found near Worcester in 1854, and now in the British Museum. The hoard is dated to 1173-4 (Zarnecki et al. 1984, cat. 320e).  
Dimensions: Max. length: 17.5 mm; max. width: 4.5 mm.  
Disposition: Littlehampton Museum.
175. Wendover, Buckinghamshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T377) (Figs. 175.1, 175.2)

Date: Probably 13th century  
Finder: Mr O Norman  
Date of discovery: October 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A medieval gold finger-ring, with a circular bezel set with a purple stone. The wire hoop is undecorated and of circular section.  
Dimensions and metal content: Diameter: 19 mm; weight: 1.26g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a gold content of approximately 78 per cent, and confirmed the stone as garnet.  
Disposition: Buckinghamshire County Museum, with funding from the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund, the Headley Treasure Acquisition Scheme and the Friends of Buckinghamshire County Museum.  

178. Brookland, Kent: Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring (2004 T259) (Fig. 178)

Date: 13th century  
Finder: Ms S Maloney and Mr P Welch  
Date of discovery: July 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A medieval finger-ring of stirrup shape. Its shoulders are decorated with a four-petalled flower and a cross. It has a pointed bezel which was not designed to carry a stone. The ring is broken and badly defaced.  
Dimensions: Length: 32 mm; width: 18 mm.  
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.  

176. Owslebury, Hampshire: Medieval silver finger-ring (2004 T89) (Figs. 176.1, 176.2)

Date: 13th century  
Finder: Mr O Emmans  
Date of discovery: February 2004  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.  
Description: A medieval finger-ring, very much distorted. It is inscribed with the letters: + A U E M A R I A G R A T I A P L E N for 'Ave Maria Gracia Plena' ('Hail Mary full of grace'), the phrase used in salutation to the Virgin Mary by the archangel Gabriel at the time of the Annunciation.  
Dimensions: 30 x 16 mm  
Disposition: Winchester Museums Service.  

177. Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T209) (Fig. 177)

Date: 13th century  
Finder: Mr D Watson  
Date of discovery: June 1990  
Circumstances of discovery: Whilst excavating a trout farm pond.  
Description: A medieval ring of stirrup shape missing a fragment from its hoop and much distorted. The bezel has a setting for a stone which is missing.  
Dimensions: Max. width: 19 mm.  
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.  

179. Barton Bendish, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring fragment (2004 T2)

Date: 13th century  
Finder: Mr S Brown  
Date of discovery: November 2003  
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Fragment of silver-gilt finger-ring with twin conical empty bezels between low, brambled shoulder bosses. The flattened D-section hoop is broken way beyond the bosses, the better surviving end being distorted, so that the original diameter cannot be estimated.

Weight: 0.97g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

180. Norwich, Norfolk: Medieval silver finger-ring (2004 T182) (Fig. 180)

Date: 13th century
Finder: NAU Archaeology (formerly Norfolk Archaeological Unit)
Date of discovery: July 2003
Circumstances of discovery: Controlled archaeological excavation.
Description: Medieval silver finger-ring, broken and slightly distorted. D-sectioned band expanded for bezel holding a purple glass pellet or amethyst.
Discussion: Very similar to a copper-alloy example in Jobbins (1990, p. 24, fig. 176, no. 2082).
Dimensions: External diameter: 21 mm approx; weight: 1.35g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; to remain with the main site archive (Norwich Castle Museum).

181. Thornham, Norfolk: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T376) (Fig. 181)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mrs M Cross
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Gold medieval stirrup finger-ring, set with a sapphire in a circular bezel. The hoop of the ring is broken and splayed apart.
Weight: 2.97g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

182. Weston-super-Mare area, Somerset: Medieval silver finger-ring (2004 T63) (Figs. 182.1, 182.2)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mrs L Stanley
Date of discovery: September 1999
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval ring formed of a simple band, broken and is distorted. It is inscribed with letters which are indecipherable, and may have magical significance. They read as follows:
++ N N * A N V * I N
Dimensions: Max. width: 22 mm; height: 6 mm.
Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 97 per cent.
Disposition: North Somerset Museum.

183. Ilam, Staffordshire: Medieval silver finger-ring (2004 T323) (Figs. 183.1, 183.2)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mr K Blackburn
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval finger-ring formed of a thin, flat band which widens towards the bezel into the shape of two dragons’ heads with bulbous eyes and large, pointed ears. There follows, between the dragons’ heads and the bezel, an area of double banded decoration arranged asymmetrically, one plain and one cabled. The bezel is roughly square, inlaid with niello and decorated with a cross.
Disposition: Potteries Museum and Art Gallery hopes to acquire.
184. Debenham area, Suffolk: Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring (2004 T250) (Figs. 184.1, 184.2)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mr J Hunt
Date of discovery: June 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval finger-ring of stirrup shape, the bezel is decorated with a rectangular setting from which the stone is lost.
Dimensions: Diameter: 21 – 23 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

185. Chippenham area, Wiltshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T214) (Figs. 185.1, 185.2)

Date: 13th century
Finder: Mr C Chandler
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval finger-ring formed of a flat band, inscribed with the words: Ave Maria Gracia Plena ('Hail Mary full of Grace') taken from the archangel Gabriel’s salutation to the Virgin Mary.
Dimensions: Diameter: 20 mm; height: 3 mm.
Disposition: Chippenham Museum had hoped to acquire, but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

186. Tadley, Hampshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T15) (Figs. 186.1, 186.2)

Date: Late 13th or early 14th century
Finder: Mr T McKenna
Date of discovery: December 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval finger-ring with a slender hoop, highly decorated with many facets creating lozenge shaped fields into which crosses have been engraved. Between each facetted lozenge are two vertical bands. The hoop is joined at the bezel by two degenerate dragon’s heads which bear a blue stone.
Metal content: Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a high silver-gold alloy, and confirmed the stone as a sapphire.
Disposition: Hampshire Museums Service.

187. Worldham, Hampshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T304) (Fig. 187)

Date: 13th or 14th century
Finder: Mr S Blencoe
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Gold stirrup-shaped finger-ring with a pointed bezel with a turquoise setting. The hoop is badly bent.
Discussion: The ring is similar to examples in Egan and Pritchard (1991, nos. 1608 and 1609) and examples of this type have been dated as above.
Dimensions: Length: 28.5 mm; width: 16.5 mm; weight: 3.2g.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

188. Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk: Medieval silver finger-ring fragment (2004 T24)

Date: 13th to 15th century
Finder: Ms J Harrell
Date of discovery: November 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Fragment (less than a quarter) of silver finger-ring, broken across bezel comprising at least three cast, linked, parcel gilt ovals with engraved linear and pecked decoration.

Dimensions: Internal diameter: 20 mm approx; width of band: 6 mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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189. Tarrant Launceston, Dorset: Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring fragment (2004 T357) (Fig. 189)

Date: Probably 14th century
Finder: Mr M Hann
Date of discovery: September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval silver-gilt finger-ring bezel attached to a fragment of the hoop. The bezel is formed of a quatrilohe with cross-hatched decoration, with small projecting knops, one of which has broken off. The centre is set with a quatrefoil, also with cross-hatched decoration, surmounted by a small lozenge in high relief and decorated with an engraved X-shaped cross. The gilding is now worn.

Dimensions: Max. width: 14mm; width of hoop: 5mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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190. Exbury and Lepe, Hampshire: Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring (2004 T307) (Fig. 190)

Date: 14th century
Finder: Mr R Cooper
Date of discovery: August 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Silver stirrup-shaped finger-ring with a slender hoop rising to a pointed bezel terminating in a small, semi-spherical boss.

Discussion: The ring is similar to examples in Egan and Pritchard (1991, p. 326, nos. 1608 and 1609).

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191. North Owersby, Lincolnshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T489) (Figs. 191.1, 191.2)

Date: 14th century
Finder: Mr A Hydes
Date of discovery: September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval finger-ring with a slender hoop and a bezel in the form of four folded back petals and set with a turquoise. Each of the petals is engraved with a curvilinear design and the shoulders of the ring are incised with two sets of diagonal lines. The engraved decoration is very much worn.

Dimensions: Diameter: 18 mm; length including bezel: 23 mm.

Disposition: North Lincolnshire Museum had hoped to acquire but later withdrew; returned to finder.

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192. Rushall, Wiltshire: Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring (2004 T336) (Fig. 192)

Date: 14th century
Finder: Mr M Hiscock
Date of discovery: Before September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval finger-ring in the form of a flat band decorated with two dragons’ heads which support a square shaped bezel. The bezel is engraved with an elaborate star motif. On each shoulder is a square projection engraved with a cross. The ring is much worn and slightly distorted and the vast majority of its gilding is lost.

Disposition: Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes.
193. St Mary in the Marsh, Kent: Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring (2004 T328) (Fig. 193)

Date: 14th or 15th century
Finder: Mr B Nutbrown
Date of discovery: September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A fragment of a medieval silver-gilt finger-ring. The bezel was probably originally oval or rectangular in shape, and is decorated with an engraved cross-hatch design. The hoop is triangular in section, and each outer surface is engraved with incised lines at the shoulder, and traces of fragmentary letters, suggesting that the ring originally bore an inscription around the hoop.
Dimensions: Max. length: 18 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

194. Chilton Trinity, Somerset: Medieval silver finger-ring (2004 T437) (Fig. 194)

Date: Late-14th or 15th century
Finder: Mr T Philips
Date of discovery: September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval silver finger-ring, the hoop engraved with a black-letter inscription, the meaning of which is unclear. The inscription begins with a cross, and is divided by two flowers and two five-pointed stars, evenly spaced and alternating. Some of the letters terminate in foliate sprigs.
Dimensions: Max. diameter: 22 mm; width: 5 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

195. Dundridge, Hampshire: Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring (2004 T391) (Fig. 195)

Date: 14th to 16th centuries
Finder: Mr W Weights
Date of discovery: September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval silver-gilt finger-ring, now worn. The bezel represents two clasped hands, and incised lines on the shoulders probably represent cuffs. The ring was originally gilt, but the gilding now survives only in the incised lines of the decoration. The D-shaped hoop is cracked.
Dimensions: Diameter: 24 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

196. Tickhill, Doncaster: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T16) (Fig. 196)

Date: 15th century
Finder: Mr P Leech
Date of discovery: July 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval finger-ring in the form of a simple band, the exterior of which is engraved with the phrase: *I heit ye trim*. Each word is separated by a flower.
Discussion: The meaning of the phrase is not entirely clear. It can be literally interpreted as ‘I call thee trim’. ‘Trim’ has the connotation of ‘well made’ or ‘elegant’ in the medieval period.
Dimensions: Diameter: 19 mm.
Disposition: Doncaster Museum, with funding from the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund.
197. Great Tey, Essex: Medieval silver iconographic finger-ring (2004 T106) (Fig. 197)

**Date:** 15th century  
**Finder:** Mr D Brooks  
**Date of discovery:** December 2003  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** The finger-ring is now slightly distorted; the bezel is decorated with the crudely engraved image of a figure with a tau-shaped cross on the right shoulder. The figure was probably intended to represent St Anthony the Abbot. The hoop is facetted, and the shoulders of the ring and the first facet on either side are engraved with foliate decoration.  
**Discussion:** The tau cross was one of the symbols of St Anthony, who was thought to protect against the disease known as divine fire, or St Anthony’s fire, the medieval name for ergot poisoning. Ergot is a fungus which develops on grain, notably rye, causing nerve paralysis, cramps and the muscular contractions often known as St Vitus’s dance. The ring would probably have been considered to offer protection against this disease (Ward et al. 1981, cat. 177, 192).  
**Dimensions and metal content:** Diameter: 22 – 27 mm; weight: 4.9 g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 95 per cent, and suggested that it may originally have been gilded.  
**Disposition:** Colchester Museums.

198. Broadlands, Hampshire: Medieval silver iconographic finger-ring (2004 T505) (Figs. 198.1, 198.2)

**Date:** 15th century  
**Finder:** Mr V Deeprose  
**Date of discovery:** October 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A medieval silver iconographic finger-ring, the bezel divided into two facets each bearing the crudely engraved figure of a saint. The left side bears a female figure, possibly the Virgin, the right side a bearded male figure. The shoulders of the hoop are engraved with flowers and foliage. The back of the hoop is engraved with diagonal lines, perhaps to give the impression of a twisted hoop. The ring is distorted and cracked at several points.  
**Dimensions:** Max. diameter: 28 mm.  
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

199. King’s Somborne, Hampshire: Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring fragment (2004 T87) (Fig. 199)

**Date:** Probably 15th century  
**Finder:** Mr R Cranham  
**Date of discovery:** February 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A fragment of a medieval silver-gilt finger-ring, the surviving part of the hoop formed of two clasped hands. A ridged shoulder survives to one side, possibly representing a cuff.  
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

200. Old Romney, Kent: Medieval silver-gilt iconographic finger-ring (2004 T14) (Figs. 200.1, 200.2)

**Date:** Probably 15th century  
**Finder:** Mrs C Allen  
**Date of discovery:** January 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A medieval silver-gilt finger-ring, of iconographic type. The surface is worn, and little gilding now survives. The ridged bezel is engraved with a figure on each of the two facets, probably representing the Annunciation: the Angel of the
Annunciation (left), and the Virgin (right). The shoulders are engraved with sprigs of foliage, and the back of the hoop is decorated with a row of beading, now worn.

**Dimensions:** Diameter: 23 mm.
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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**201. Sapcote, Leicestershire:**
*Medieval silver finger-ring (2004 T96) (Fig. 201)*

**Date:** Probably 15th century  
**Finder:** Mr C Hemus  
**Date of discovery:** February 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A medieval silver finger-ring, the bezel formed of two clasped hands. The shoulders of the ring represent cuffs. The hoop is of D-shaped section.  
**Dimensions:** Diameter: 24 mm.  
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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**202. Claxby, Lincolnshire:**
*Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T64) (Fig. 202)*

**Date:** 15th century  
**Finder:** Mr D Holland  
**Date of discovery:** December 2003  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A medieval finger-ring in the form of a flat band; the exterior and interior surfaces are both engraved with an inscription in French which reads as follows:  
Exterior: *ne vieil autre* ('not wanting another')  
Interior: *+ cest don damy* ('it is a gift from a friend'). Each word of the inscription is separated by flowers. The ring is slightly distorted into an oval shape and part of the engraving of the interior appears to have been rubbed away.  
**Dimensions:** Max. diameter: 17 mm; height: 4 mm.  
**Disposition:** The Collection, Lincoln had hoped to acquire but subsequently withdrew; returned to finder.

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**203. Heckington Area, Lincolnshire:**
*Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T366) (Fig. 203)*

**Date:** 15th century  
**Finder:** Mr R Hilliard  
**Date of discovery:** August 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A medieval finger-ring formed of a flat band engraved with two scrolls among flowers. The scrolls are engraved with the words:  
*Bone Dpar* (bon départ).  
**Discussion:** This ring probably served as a farewell gift between two lovers, the sentiment in modern terms being 'bon voyage'. It would originally have been enamelled.  
**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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**204. Hevingham, Norfolk:**
*Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T444) (Figs. 204.1, 204.2)*

**Date:** 15th century  
**Finder:** Mr A Matthewson  
**Date of discovery:** November 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A gold finger-ring with a D-sectioned band widening to a bezel set with a lozengiform dark blue stone (possibly an amethyst, or more probably a sapphire, a band with an internal bulge beneath the setting), between two incised triangular panels, both containing a possible thistle with an obliquely cross-hatched head set between rather spiky leaves on a central stem, on a cross-hatched field.
**Dimensions:** Internal diameter: 17 mm; width of band: 3 mm; weight: 1.68g.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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**205. Runton, Norfolk: Medieval silver finger-ring (2004 T118) (Fig. 205)**

**Date:** 15th century

**Finder:** Mr D Oliver

**Date of discovery:** February 2004

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

**Description:** A medieval silver finger-ring, with a flat sectioned band, cut and crudely bent and unfolded, with an engraved black letter inscription:

**BALTASAR + CASPER + MELCHIOR**

The band is cut between the R and the B, the ends do not join and there may be a missing cross; the crosses are patonce.

**Discussion:** The style of lettering falls within the above date (Kingsford 1929).

**Dimensions:** Minimum diameter: 21 mm.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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**206. Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk: Five Medieval coins and two finger-rings (2004 T319) (Fig. 206)**

**Date:** 1450 – 1460

**Finder:** Mr N Donmall

**Date of discovery:** August and December 2004

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

**Description:**

**Coins:** Henry VI (first reign, 1422-60)

1-2. Gold noble (2 fragments), Pine cone Mascle issue (1430-4), London (North 1417), 3.54g

2. Fragment of a gold noble, Pine cone Mascle issue (1430-1434) London

3. Gold half-noble, Annulet issue (1422-7), London (North 1417), 3.38g

4. Silver groat, Pine cone Mascle issue (1430-4), Calais (North 1461), 2.79g

5. Silver groat, Leaf Pellet issue (1445-54), London (North 1503)

**Rings:**

1. Gold signet ring, circular bezel deeply and finely engraved with a heraldic antelope on a grassy knoll with a vertical frond to dexter, above which are six openwork cusped arches within upper half of cable border. There is a very worn, engraved floral panel on both shoulders and oblique bands of beading around remainder of hoop. The panels of floral decoration are similar to those on a signet ring illustrated in Taylor and Scarisbrick (1978, no.336).

2. Gold finger-ring, segmented D-sectioned hoop with eight transverse ribs with engraved oblique lines, between an apparently random arrangement of eight slender jar-shaped mouldings, some with bases opposed and some not.

**Dimensions:** (1) Internal diameter: 16 mm; bezel diameter: 11 mm. (2) Internal diameter: 17 mm.

**Discussion:** The coins all belong to the reign of Henry VI, together having a face value when deposited of 10 shillings, plus two silver groats, with a combined value of eightpence: thus a total worth of 10s.8d. This was probably something like £200-300 in modern terms. The coins are high-value denominations and they form a distinct group.

Although late medieval finds combining coins and jewellery are not common, they do seem to occur on occasion in the 15th century: an example is a hoard from Huntington in Cheshire found in the 1980s: 42 coins (one gold and the rest silver, with a face value of just under 10 shillings, the latest datable to the 1430s) and one silver ring, a group comparable in scale and worth to the current find.

Based on the latest coin present, the deposit date would seem to be in or relatively soon after the 1450s, i.e. at the time when the Wars of the Roses were beginning in England. The range of coins present is consistent with this, since there was relatively little gold struck after the 1420s and the issues of silver at the same time was also at a temporary peak, so coins from early in the reign (such as nos. 1-4) continued to dominate hoards from the mid-century.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.
207. Lewes area, East Sussex: Four Medieval gold posy rings (2004 T385a and b, 2004 T429, 2004 T430) (Figs. 207.1, 207.2, 207.3)

**Date:** 15th century  
**Finder:** Mr W Piggott (1 and 2), Mr C Chapman (3) and Mr N Smyth (4)  
**Date of discovery:** September and November 2004  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with metal-detectors.  
**Description:** A find of four medieval finger-rings, all are fashioned in the closely similar form of a flattened band, three with a slightly concave profile (2, 3 and 4). Each is engraved with flowers and leaves and carries an amatory inscription:

1. (Fig. 207.1) This ring is slightly distorted, with two inscriptions:
   - **exterior:** *mon cuer entier* (‘my whole heart’)  
   - **interior:** *mon est desr* (‘is my desire’)

   The latter inscription is puzzling because of the confusing word order. ‘Est mon desr’ would be more logical, assuming ‘desr’ to be an abbreviation of ‘desir’.

2. (Fig. 207.1) This ring carries one inscription on its external face, which reads:
   - **mon cuer entier** (‘my whole heart’)  

   The repetition of the legend, combined with their respective sizes, may suggest that the two rings were originally a pair designed for a man and a woman.

3. (Fig. 207.2) This ring has the following inscription:
   - **nul IB bien**

   Again, this is puzzling. ‘Nul ce bien’ is a commonplace inscription meaning ‘none so good/ none this good’. The phrase seems to have been personalized either with a monogram or with the initials of two lovers – ‘I B’. It is probably intended to mean something along the lines of ‘none so good as I B or I and B together’.

4. (Fig. 207.3) This ring is badly distorted, with an inscription that reads:
   - **+ amer et servir** (‘to love and to serve’).

**Dimensions:**  
- (1) Diameter: 18 mm; height: 4 mm.  
- (2) Diameter: 22 mm; height: 6 mm.  
- (3) Diameter: 17 mm; height: 4 mm.  
- (4) Distorted length: 24 m; height: 5 mm.

**Discussion:** The four rings were found in close proximity; two together (1 and 2) and two in the same spot at a later time (3 and 4). Given their similarities, they are likely to be associated finds. The absence of any coins in the vicinity of the finds would seem to rule out the concealment of a hoard and the rings probably represent a multiple, casual loss.  
**Disposition:** Barbican House Museum, Lewes hopes to acquire.

208. Purton, Wiltshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (2004 T143) (Fig. 208)

**Date:** Probably 15th century  
**Finder:** Mr M Gillett  
**Date of discovery:** March 2003  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A medieval gold finger-ring, now misshapen. The hoop is rounded on the outer side, and is engraved with a geometric and foliate design, which is now worn. The interior is engraved with the legend: **TOUT MA VIE** (All my life).  
**Discussion:** The ring was probably a marriage ring.  
**Dimensions:** Diameter: 16 – 22 mm; width: 5 mm.  
**Disposition:** Wiltshire Heritage Museum.


**Date:** Late 15th or early 16th century  
**Finder:** Mr J Hinchcliffe  
**Date of discovery:** December 2003  
**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.  
**Description:** A medieval finger-ring, the hoop decorated with deeply grooved, twisted bands, within which are engraved the stems of flowers at each shoulder. The bezel is a flamboyant octagonal shape which is engraved with a merchant’s mark.
Dimensions: Diameter: 25 mm.
Disposition: Dorset County Museum, with funding from the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund, and the Headley Museums Treasure Acquisition Scheme.


Date: Late 15th early 16th century
Finder: Mr J Brien
Date of discovery: May 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Complete devotional iconographic finger-ring with five integrally cast bezels. These are circular in shape and each is separated by an oval bead, which has a scale decoration. Each of the bezels is engraved with symbols representing the Passion of Christ: 1) Three dice, symbolising the division of Christ's robe, 2) Cross and hammer and nails, 3) Pincers and flail, 4) Pillar and spear, 5) The Sacred Heart. There is a strong probability that the bezels were originally enamelled.
Discussion: Whilst the ring falls into a recognised category of devotional rings and is probably a decade ring for use in prayer (the number of bezels and beads add up to ten), an exact comparison could not be found. The closest parallel is an example in silver-gilt, dated to the 15th century in Mills (1999); NM124, p. 50.

Disposition: Not Treasure; returned to finder.

211. East Kent: Medieval silver-gilt fingerring (2004 T186c) (Fig. 211)

Date: Late 15th or early 16th century
Finder: Mr G Marsh
Date of discovery: April 1988
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal detector.

Description: A late medieval silver-gilt ring, the hoop of which is decorated with engraved lozenges and half-lozenges creating a criss-cross effect. The spaces are decorated with sub foliate motifs. Gilding remains only in the deepest recesses of the design.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.
214. Lewes area, East Sussex: Medieval iconographic finger-ring (2004 T386) (Fig. 214)

Date: 15th or early 16th century
Finder: Mr S Cook
Date of discovery: July 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval silver-gilt finger-ring, with ridged bezel and shoulders, engraved with incised lines and sprigs. The hoop is of triangular section. The gilding is worn.
Discussion: This type of ring is usually known as iconographic, and commonly features religious imagery, but is also found, as in this case, with simple geometric or floral decoration (see Treasure Annual Report 2000, nos. 111-112).
Dimensions: Max. internal diameter: 20mm.
Disposition: Barbican House Museum, Lewes had hoped to acquire, but subsequently withdrew; returned to landowner.


Date: 15th or early 16th century
Finder: Mr A Hawkins
Date of discovery: June 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval ring, the shoulders of which are decorated with flowers and foliage. The rectangular bezel has an indentation on each of its four sides suggestive of petals. Its stone, however, is now missing.
Dimensions: Diameter: 18 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

(iv) Mounts

216. Churcham, Gloucestershire: Medieval silver-gilt bar-mount (2004 T45) (Fig. 216)

Date: 12th to early 15th centuries
Finder: Mr D Jones
Date of discovery: July 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Silver-gilt bar-mount from a belt or strap; the mount has central and end lobes and is missing one end lobe, which has broken around the perforation. The bar has a D-shaped section and the bar and end lobes are plain. The larger central lobe is decorated with incised diagonal lines around irregularly placed punched circular pellets.
Discussion: The mount can be paralleled with a number of excavated examples from London (Egan 1991, pp. 213-4, nos. 1157-58) and elsewhere. This form of bar-mount was relatively long-lived and dates from the late 12th century through to the early 15th century (Egan and Pritchard 1991, p. 13).
Dimensions: Surviving length: 21 mm; weight: 1.2g.
Disposition: Dean Heritage Centre hopes to acquire.

217. Emneth, Norfolk: Medieval silver mount (2004 T279) (Fig. 217)

Date: Late 14th or 15th century
Finder: Mr M Carlile
Date of discovery: July 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Silver mount in the shape of a disc with nicely engraved black letter inscription: IhC, within border and on field of engraved oblique lines, remains of broken rim and possible traces of solder on reverse.
Discussion: IhC is a variant of IHS, the first three letters of the name Jesus in Greek. See Treasure Annual Report 2001, no. 114 for a similar example.
218. Chideock, Dorset: Medieval silver belt mount (2004 T451) (Fig. 218)

**Date:** 15th century

**Finder:** Mr H Weller

**Date of discovery:** September 2004

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

**Description:** A medieval belt mount formed from a flat plate of roughly semi-circular shape. The outer frame of the mount is corrugated and a circular aperture has been cut into the centre. Three shallow, concave collets decorate the base, two of them concealing the attachment of rivets which survive on the reverse holding a fragment of textile in place.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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220. Old Romney, Kent: Medieval silver cross pendant (2004 T361) (Fig. 220)

**Date:** Probably 13th or 14th century

**Finder:** Mr N Allen

**Date of discovery:** August 2004

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

**Description:** A silver cross pendant, now slightly distorted, with a broken suspension loop. The solid arms are oval in section. The central disc is inscribed on one side with a single letter, either N, M or R, and the other with an engraved cross-hatched or lozenge pattern.

**Dimensions:** Max. height: 50 mm; width: 49 mm.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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219. Little Witchingham, Norfolk: Medieval silver cross pendant (2004 T373) (Figs. 219.1, 219.2)

**Date:** 13th century

**Finder:** Mr B Jordan

**Date of discovery:** August 2004

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

**Description:** A silver cross shaped pendant, the central square has an engraved border on both sides surrounding *Ihc* (short for Jesus Hominum Salvator with the ‘S’ represented by a ‘C’) on one side and *XR* (which might stand for Christus Rex (Christ the King) on the reverse. There are traces of niello in the letters. The two side and bottom arms are barrel shaped in section and increase in size to where they join the central square. The top projection extends 3 mm before the remains of a broken suspension loop.

**Disposition:** Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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221. Mundham, Norfolk: Medieval silver cross pendant (2004 T497) (Fig. 221)

**Date:** 13th or 14th century

**Finder:** Mr N Donmall

**Date of discovery:** Before December 2004

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

**Description:** Medieval silver patée cross with traces of gilding. One arm of the cross is broken about half way (although this arm is thinner than the others and may have been longer), the opposite arm is broken or damaged at the end, possibly where a missing suspension loop was attached. An engraved line on both sides creates a border around the cross, within which are closely spaced irregular diagonal engraved lines. On one side in the centre of the cross is an engraved angular quatrefoil with slight indentations in each section and a tiny central square.
Dimensions: 16.5 x 15 mm approx; thickness: 1 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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222. Holt area, Norfolk: Medieval silver ring and pendant fragment (2004 T293b) (Fig. 222)

Date: Probably 14th or 15th century
Finder: Mr C Hudson and Mrs S Hudson
Date of discovery: January 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Silver-gilt suspension ring and possible pendant, the gilding now worn. The ring is of rectangular section and is decorated with a double row of punching. The pendant is broken, making the original shape uncertain. The top of the pendant forms an integral loop attaching it to the ring. The function is uncertain, but it may have formed part of a larger pendant or chain.
Dimensions: Diameter of ring: 22 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

S J ASHLEY AND B NENK

223. Bury St Edmunds area, Suffolk: Medieval silver-gilt hexagonal pendant (2004 T101) (Fig. 223)

Date: Late 15th or early 16th century
Finder: Mrs L White
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A silver-gilt, hexagonal pendant, each alternate facet is decorated with a tear in relief and a concave boss. The shape tapers outwards and terminates at its closed end in a small knop. The open end has one surviving hole for attachment to fabric; the other is lost through damage.
Discussion: The pendant may have formed the terminal of a lady’s girdle. It relates to two objects in the British Museum collection, one (1984,11-1,1) also decorated with tears, found near King’s Lynn, and the other (2005,6-1,1) of similar construction, found near Bury St Edmunds (Treasure Annual Report 2003, no. 215) but decorated with fleurs-de-lys.
Dimensions: Minimum length: 121 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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224. Felmingham, Norfolk: Medieval silver spoon (2004 T25) (Fig. 224)

Date: 14th or 15th century
Finder: Mr C Thorpe
Date of discovery: November 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Incomplete silver spoon; part of the oval bowl remains, with a short triangular rat tail, a hexagonally faceted stem, a fully-round collar and an elongated acorn knop with incised hatching.
Discussion: For a similar spoon see Emery (1976), p. 88, fig.47, left hand example.
Dimensions: Minimum length: 121 mm.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

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225. Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex: Medieval silver spoon (2004 T289) (Fig. 225)

Date: 15th century
Finder: Mr J Lynas
Date of discovery: July 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: An incomplete medieval spoon, the stem of which is bent and terminates in a diamond point. The bowl is broken but bears two marks. On the front is a maker’s mark and on the back the single letter ‘R’ which may represent the maker or may be an owner’s mark.
Dimensions: Length: 120 mm approx.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

(vii) Other objects

226. East Ewell, Surrey: Medieval silver terminal (2004 T380) (Fig. 226)

Date: 12th century
Finder: Mr J Boyd
Date of discovery: September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval terminal in the form of a short, tapering, circular shaft with a polyhedral head. Each facet of the head is engraved with a simple design enhanced with a niello inlay. The shaft is pierced at its base where an internal pin is held in place. This clearly acted as a form of attachment either for a leather strap or a length of textile, suggesting that the terminal is a type of strap-end. The pin might also have secured the terminal to a thin rod possibly serving as a pointer.
Discussion: A similar find from Rendham, Suffolk, without any discernible means of attachment, was published in the Treasure Annual Report 2001, no.120.
Disposition: Bourne Hall Museum, Epsom.

227. Gringley on the Hill, Nottinghamshire: Medieval silver seal-matrix (2004 T78) (Fig. 227)

Date: 13th or early-14th century
Finder: Mr G Flint
Date of discovery: February 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval circular silver seal-matrix. The design is armorial, and the legend, engraved in Lombardic script, reads:
* S’ SECRETI . constancie. (‘The secret [or personal] seal of Constance’). On the back a handle with a hexagonal collar terminates in a suspension loop. Scratches on the reverse in the form of a cross may have been made to indicate the top of the design during use.
Discussion: The legend indicates that the seal was used as a private, as opposed to an official, seal. Two silver seals in the collections of the British Museum with similar inscriptions are set with antique intaglios; bronze seals have other inscriptions enjoining secrecy, such as PRIVE SV (‘privé suis’, ‘I am private’). See Tonnochy (1952), cat. 696-703.
Dimensions: Diameter: 20.5 mm; height: 15 mm.
Disposition: Bassetlaw Museum, Retford, with funding from the V&A/MLA Purchase Grant Fund, and the Headley Museums Treasure Acquisition Scheme.

228. Hedon, East Riding of Yorkshire: Medieval silver-gilt key (2004 T449) (Fig. 228)

Date: 14th or 15th century
Finder: Mr D Everingham
Date of discovery: August 2003
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: A medieval, miniature key. The terminal is shaped into an open trefoil. It is likely to have been used for a casket or a book cover.
Dimensions: Length: 20 mm.
Disposition: Hedon Museum.

229. Takeley, Essex: Medieval silver-gilt pilgrim-badge fragment (2004 T455) (Fig. 229)

Date: Probably 15th century
Finder: Mr B Humphreys
Date of discovery: September 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Incomplete silver-gilt pilgrim badge. This object has a flat reverse and moulded, domed front. James Robinson comments that it depicts St George on horseback advancing right. The saint’s arm appears to be raised; he probably originally wielded a sword or lance. The horse stands on the recumbent figure of the dragon. The stitching loop is missing from the reverse. This would have been used to attach the item to a hat or other garment. The gilt is mostly worn off to front and back.

Discussion: A similar style badge, though portraying a standing saint, can be seen in The Treasure Annual Report 2000, number 154.

Dimensions: 14 x 12 mm; thickness: 3 mm; weight: 1.08 g.

Disposition: Saffron Walden Museum.

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230. Covehithe, Suffolk: Two Medieval silver badge or dress-hook fragments (2004 T135) (Fig. 230)

Date: 15th century
Finder: Mr R Allen
Date of discovery: March 2004
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.
Description: Two fragments of a small silver badge or dress-hook, one in the form of a shell, the other a hook or tab. It may be a medieval pilgrim souvenir, although it is difficult to be certain due to the fragmentary nature. The surface of the silver is extensively corroded.
Discussion: The majority of medieval pilgrim badges were mass-produced in lead-alloy, but silver was increasingly used during the 15th century.
Dimensions and metal content: Length of shell: 10 mm; length of hook: 7 mm; weight: 0.51 g. Surface analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated a silver content of approximately 98 per cent.
Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.