

EXCAVATIONS AT MAGIOVINIUM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, 1978-80

DAVID S. NEAL

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Section 5 of 11: OTHER FINDS

EASY ON-LINE ACCESS TO FIGURES AND PLATES:

This report runs to a total of 137 printed pages, which makes it too large for publication on-line as a single digital file. The report has therefore been split into eleven separate sections. Each can be downloaded separately and saved locally.

The report contains 56 drawings ('figures') and 12 photographs ('plates'). For ease of access these have all been saved into a single file titled 'Magiovinium – figures and plates'. The reader should open (or download) this file when reading any of the report's 11 sections. Individual illustrations referenced in the text can then be found by searching for 'Figure XX' or 'Plate XX', where 'XX' is the number of the figure or plate you wish to view.

The full details for academic source references given in the text can be found in the 11th and last section of the report: 'A bibliography of Magiovinium'

Other Finds

One hundred and sixty finds are published, 117 from Site 17, 22 items found in the contractor's spoil heaps with the aid of metal detectors, and 21 from Site 18.

Most objects came from the numerous ditches and pits, many from unstratified contexts, but four—a brooch (No. 5), a bracelet with snake-head terminals (No. 25), a ring (No. 58) and a riveted bone comb (No. 98)— were from burials. Personal items included a selection of brooches, bracelets, finger-rings (two with intaglios), hair pins, ligulae and toilet tweezers; there were no complete sets. Of particular interest are two grooved and one crescentic pendant (Nos. 40-2); they are discussed in detail below. There are very few objects with obvious military associations, with the exception of a scabbard chape (No. 157, [Fig. 31](#)) and the pelta-shaped mount (No. 43).

Two iron objects indicate metalworking, namely an unfinished hammer adze (No. 104) and a knife (No. 109), both of which seem to have been discarded for use as scrap. Metalworking is confirmed elsewhere by furnaces, described in the main report (p. 14, [Fig. 11](#)).

Continued on the next page...

Other evidence includes a hoard of iron tools comprising two lugged axes, a chisel and a large spoon bit discovered in 1967 close to a hoard of denarii dating from the second century (Manning 1972. 235; Wilson 1968,192),

The number and range of identifiable iron objects is limited but there are several agricultural implements, for example a spud (No. 106), a spade shoe (No. 108) and a pruning hook (No. 110). Other tools include a fine woodworking gouge (No. 111), a drill bit (No. 115) and various knives. With the exception of a fragment of barb-spring padlock there is a marked absence of keys, and there are only a few items of harness equipment and hippo-sandals. The usual range of structural fittings were found but the fact that they do not occur in great numbers may suggest construction in a native rather than a Romanized style. In addition to the metalwork, building materials included limited quantities of roofing, hypocaust and box-flue tiles, the latter presumably discarded from the town. Fragments of window glass of second and fourth-century types were also recovered.

Without exception the fragments of glass from both sites are very small and in many cases abraded, with only six rim sherds in the entire collection. They are predominantly fragments of bottles lacking any material of quality apart from an amber vessel represented by a handle (AML 7711368) from Site 17. An enclosed bowl (AML 779014) with a thick rolled rim with traces of a handle, and the rim of a bowl in clear white metal (AML 779874) are also of interest (not illustrated).

Six glass beads were found, five in green and the sixth in dark blue metal. A counter in purple glass was the only other glass object. Details of these items are recorded in the site archive.

Apart from the grooved pendants, which are comparatively rare objects, the finds are typical of most Romano-British sites, the brooches indicating activity from the first to the fourth century, which is consistent with the coin evidence. With the obvious exception of items found with specific burials, the finds in general need not be associated with the

roadside development but may have been discarded from the town, the ditches being used as rubbish dumps. There are no concentrations of particular classes of object that might suggest trading, although, as already implied, smithing would have supplied a range of basic products. Products traded with the settlement include querns from Snettisham, Norfolk ([Fig. 30](#)).

The following abbreviations are used in the catalogue of finds: AML, Ancient Monuments Laboratory (No.); L, Layer (prefixed by Site No. 17 or 18); SL, Section Line; P, Plan; AS, Archive Sheet,

All objects are Roman and all dates are **AD**, except when otherwise stated. Measurements: except where otherwise indicated, the maximum length of each object is given.

The Roman Brooches by S, A. Butcher

A full descriptive catalogue will be found in the archive, together with Justine Bayley's notes on her technological study (AML Report No. 4298). Both are summarized here.

[Fig. 23](#)

Strip-bow Brooches

1. Brass. Hinged pin. The foot ends in a peg, to which is attached a separate knob (cf Wroxeter: Bushe-Fox 1916, 22, No. 2). First half of the first century, by analogy with others from southern Britain.
4.1 cm. AML 7711042. 17-L885, Pit 1442, ASI02/SL321
2. Brass/Gunmetal. The upper half of a Langton Down brooch, with cylinder to hold a spring (now missing). Probably similar to one from Wakerley (Butcher in Jackson and Ambrose 1978. 216, No. 1) belonging to a type common in the first half of the first century and widely distributed in the Roman provinces, although confined to the southern half of Britain.
3.8 cm, AML 7711196. 17-L999.
Unstratified, (See also No. 102, a strip-bow brooch of iron.)

Nauheim-derivative Brooches

3. Bronze. 4.2 cm, AML 779208. 17-L1.
4. Bronze, badly distorted. 4.7 cm. 17-L2381, Hut 2380 ([Fig. 7](#)), AS65/P56.

The type is common in southern Britain in the mid first century (e.g. Camulodunum, Hawkes and Hull 1947, 312, esp, Nos. 56 and 57 for comparison with 3 above).

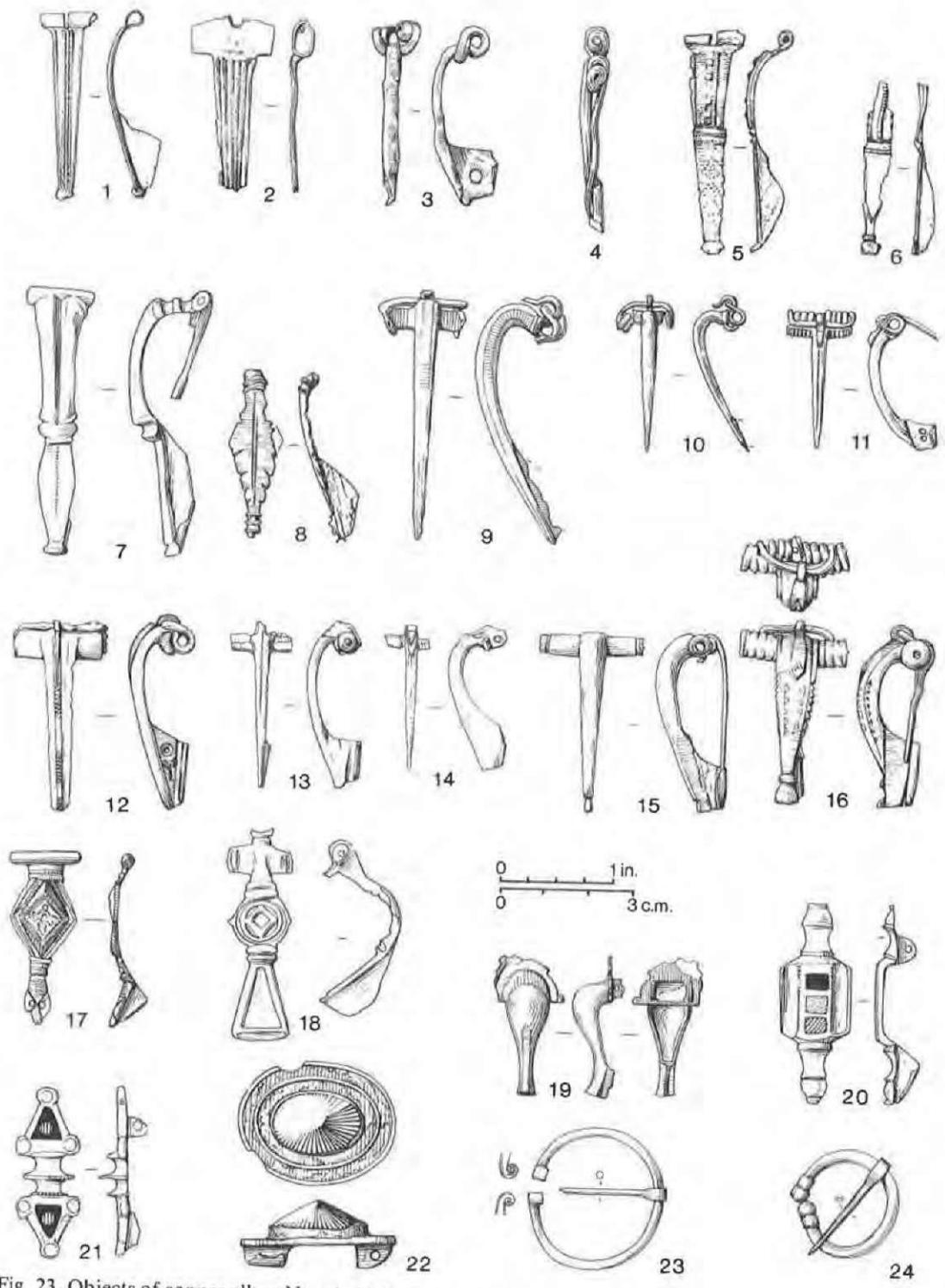


Fig. 23. Objects of copper alloy; Nos. 1–24, brooches. Scale 2:3.

Hod Hill Brooches

5. Brass/Gunmetal, with tinning on front. 5.1 cm. AML 7711176. L7-L1291, Ditch 889. AS107/SL387, 388.
6. 3.9 cm. AML 779890. 1S-L510. Pit 656, AS55/SL118.
7. 6.1 cm. Metal detector find.
8. Br a Si/Gun metal (cf. Richborough. Bushe-Fox 1949, 112, No. 23). 3.8 cm. AML 7711088, 17-L435, Gully 1120, AS87/190,

The Hod Hill series includes many different patterns but they share the rolled-over narrow tube for the bar holding the hinge. All the variations can be dated to the mid first century and are widespread on the continent as well as in southern Britain.

Colchester Brooches

9. Brass. 5.6 cm. AML 779004. 17-L1.
10. Brass. 3.6 cm. AML 779377. 17-L221, Stone surface 219, AS92/SL265.
11. Brass. 3.1 cm. AML 7711152, 17-L1265.

These brooches share the usual features of the Colchester brooch (cf. Hawkes and Hull 1947, 309): (he spring is made from the same strip of metal as the how and held by a hook turned back at the head, with a short plain crossbar. The type is common in south-eastern Britain in the first half of the first century.

Two-piece Colchester Brooches

12. Leaded gunmetal. 4.2 cm. AML 7711248. 17-L1468, Ditch 2128, AS109/SL395.
13. Leaded bronze. 3.8 cm. AML 7711 177. 17-L1315, AS109/5L396.
14. 3.3 cm. AML 7711915. I3-L548, Burial 536 {Fig. 21b}, AS52/SL108, A similar brooch, unnumbered fragment, drawing only seen.

in this very common type the spring is made separately and threaded through a lug at the back of (he head. From many examples, including those from Camulodunum (Hawkes and Hull 1947, 311, Type IV) it can be dated to the mid first century. The sub-type represented by No. 12, with decorated central rib and plain flanges, seems to be particularly common in the counties immediately north of London.

T-shaped Brooches

15. (Leaded) bronze. Hinged. One of the many derivatives of the Colchester type which are to be dated to the second half of the first century on typological grounds, 4,0cm. AML 779678, 17-L1009, Gully 1008, Area I. AS47/P38.
16. Leaded bronze. The spring is secured in the 'Polden Hill' manner and there is enamel decoration in small triangular cells on the how. The distribution of this type is distinctive: it is found in the south and west midlands, South Wales, Dorset and Somerset. There are outliers at Farley Heath (Surrey) and Holt (Clwyd). There is no secure context dating but typologically it could well go back to the later first century, 4.2 cm. AML 779677. 17-L1013, Ditch 1012, Area I

Plate-on-bow Brooches

17. (Leaded) gunmetal. Hinged pin. There is decayed enamel in the toothed cells in the lozenge-shaped plate. This type is well-known on the continent and probably

dates from the late first or early second centuries. 4.0 cm. Metal detector find.

18. Brass, Hinged pin. There would have been enamel decoration in both the central disc and the triangular field on i he foot. Similar brooches are found in central and northern Britain. One from the forum at Leicester must have been deposited after 130 (Butcher in Hebditch and Mellor 1973, 45-7) and the indications arc of a date in the second half of the second century 4.7 cm. Metal detector find.

Knee Brooch

19. Gunmetal. This form of the knee brooch is very common in military contexts on the Rhine-Danube frontier in the later second century (cf. Bohme 1972, Taf. 6 and 7, Riha 1979, Taf. 12) but Miss Bayley points out that this example has enamel and silver on the semicircular head-plate and possibly silver foils attached to the bow. These decorative elements are often found on knee brooches of British origin. The type occurs at Newstead {Curie 1911, 325. No, 30}, where it must belong to the Antonine occupation, and on other mainly military sites in Britain. 3.3 cm. AML 7711243. 17-L1351, over cobbled surface 1343. AS109/SL398.

Plate Brooches

20. Leaded gunmetal, An equal-ended brooch with hinged pin. There is a central rectangular panel with three cells for enamel: red in the outer ones. The main features of this brooch are easy to parallel at Nornour (Isles of Scilly, Hull 1968, Nos. 159-72) hut the Magiovinium brooch is larger and there are few exact parallels, Brooches from Augst (Riha 1979, No. 1643) and Besancon (Lerat 1956, No. 278) have a similar arrangement of rectangular cells, but both have additional lugs projecting from the side of the plate. However it appears that all these brooches are closely related so that the dated context of the Augst brooch (late first to early second centuries) is probably a reliable indication of the date of this one. The distribution of the general type is wide, including the Rhine-land and Pannonia as well as France and Switzerland. It is evidently a product of a continental workshop. 4.5 cm. Metal detector find.
21. Brass. A complex equal-ended brooch with hinged pin. There are fields of blue enamel in both triangular end-plates, each inset with one white glass spot. This technique does not seem to have been employed by British workshops and there arc parallel for this brooch at Augst (Riha 1979, 195, No, 1673, Taf. 64) and in Pannonia (Sellye 1939, Pl. XII, HI although both have flat centres. There is a close parallel from the temple site at Farley Heath, Surrey, in the British Museum (53. 4-19, 53). The Augst brooch was in a deposit dated late first to late second-century and it is not possible to suggest a closer dating for the Magiovinium brooch than the second century, 3.8 cm Metal detector find.

- 22, (Drawing only seen.) From the drawing [his appears to belong to a well-known class of disc brooch which bears a raised conical glass setting in the centre (here not I'd as being 'purplish'). Some are oval and others round, but there is no significant difference between the two groups.

Although a few arc known from the continent (Zugmantel: Böhme 1972, 43; Augst: Riha 1979, 88) they are much more numerous in Britain, where their distribution is mainly in the south and east, although there is a cluster on the Tyne-Solway frontier and outliers from Normour (Hull 1968, No. 237) and New Grange (O'Kelly 1977, 52, E56.976). Most have been found in fourth-century contexts, but one from Fishbourne was in a late third to early fourth-century deposit (Cunliffe 1971, 106, No. 43) while Zugmantel was abandoned c.260, 3.4 cm. AML 779887. 18-L492, Pit 491 (Fig. 19). AS56/SL120.

Penannular Brooches

- 23, (Leaded) gunmetal; pin brass. Penannular brooches with terminals flattened and rolled back over a plain wire ring have been found on sites dated to the first half of the first century (e.g. Hod Hill, Brailsford 1962, E8), but a number are known from fourth-century or later contexts (e.g. Nettleton, Wedlake 1982, 133, No. 78). 3.2cm. AML 7711300.
- 24, (Leaded) bronze/gun metal; pin bronze/gunmetal. This belongs to a class of brooch with variably knobbed or ribbed terminals; they appear in first-century contexts (e.g. Hod Hill, Brailsford 1962, E2) but as with the last type, seem to have a long life. 2.4cm. AML 771346.

Discussion

This group of brooches is perhaps too small to sustain generalization, but it is worth pointing out the noticeable absence of 'local types'. On settlement sites in Britain it is usual to find at least a few brooches which are linked by certain characteristics and which can be shown to originate in the region concerned. The group From Magiovinium is very mixed, as might be expected from its position on a major trunk road, and there seems to be a higher proportion of brooches with a continental origin than usual.

The date range of the group is normal for British sites: a preponderance of first-century types, a few from the second century and one or two which are probably later. This reflects the decline in the use of brooches rather than any local chronology.

Miscellaneous Objects of Copper Alloy

by Angela Wardle

Fig. 24

25. Heavy bracelet with snake-head terminals of fourth-century type. The closest parallel comes from Gadebridge, found in a fourth-century context (Neal 1974, No. 158, Fig. 60); see also Verulamium Theatre (Kenyon 1934, Fig. 12, No. 5), and Colchester (Crummy 1983,44, Fig. 45, 1710-12). Diam. 6.4 cm. AML 771404, 17-L2326, from Grave 2325 (Fig. 14). AS75/P113.
26. Fragment of bracelet with incised line decoration and a punched dot and circle motif, characteristic of fourth-century types. 3.8 cm. AML 7711104. 17-L10I, Ploughsoil, AS80/SL38.
27. Fragment of bracelet with incised chevron decoration. 5.2cm. AML 779003. 17-LI. Topsoil.
28. Bracelet terminal with incised horizontal lines and lattice decoration. 7.9cm. AML 7711180. 17-LI. topsoil.
29. Bracelet fragment with notched decoration at the edges and incised lines along the spine. At one end is part of a terminal which was pierced by a small hole. Fourth-century, as Lankhills Type E (Clarke 1979, 307, Fig. 37). 4.2 cm. AML 779885. 18-L492, fill of Pit 491 (Fig. 19). AS56/SL120.
30. Enamelled stud with a design of triangles in alternating orange and blue (J. Bayley, AML Report No. 4298). Diam. 2.2 cm. Unstratified. Metal detector find.
31. Decorative liting. Knob made of leaded bronze which originally had an Iron shank, Diam. 2cm. Metal detector find.
32. Terminal from a drop handle decorated in the form of a swan's head and neck. 5.3 cm. AML 779819. 18-L52. Topsoil from machining. AS54/SL114, 115.
33. Finger ring with a setting which contains a white substance, possibly decayed glass or enamel, or perhaps the remains of an adhesive that held a stone in place (J. Bayley, AML Report No. 4298). 2 cm. Metal detector find,
34. Hinged base of a circular seal box pierced by four holes, with traces of replaced threads inside (E. Crowfoot, AML Report No. 3023). 2.1 cm. AML 7711286. 17-L1403, Ditch 889.
35. Steelyard weight in the form of a female head with a full fleshy face, the hair parted and coiled back into a bun. It is not possible to ascribe the hairstyle to any particular period, nor to identify the figure as a goddess. 2.4 cm. Metal detector find (Mr Plasom).
36. Leather mount 4.6 cm. Metal detector find (Mr Foster),
37. Lion-headed stud with lead infill and iron pin. The object is cast with secondary working of the features. Such studs are frequently used on lock-plates of burial caskets as at Skeleton Green (Partridge 1981, 314 ff.), where this finely-worked type is found in late first-

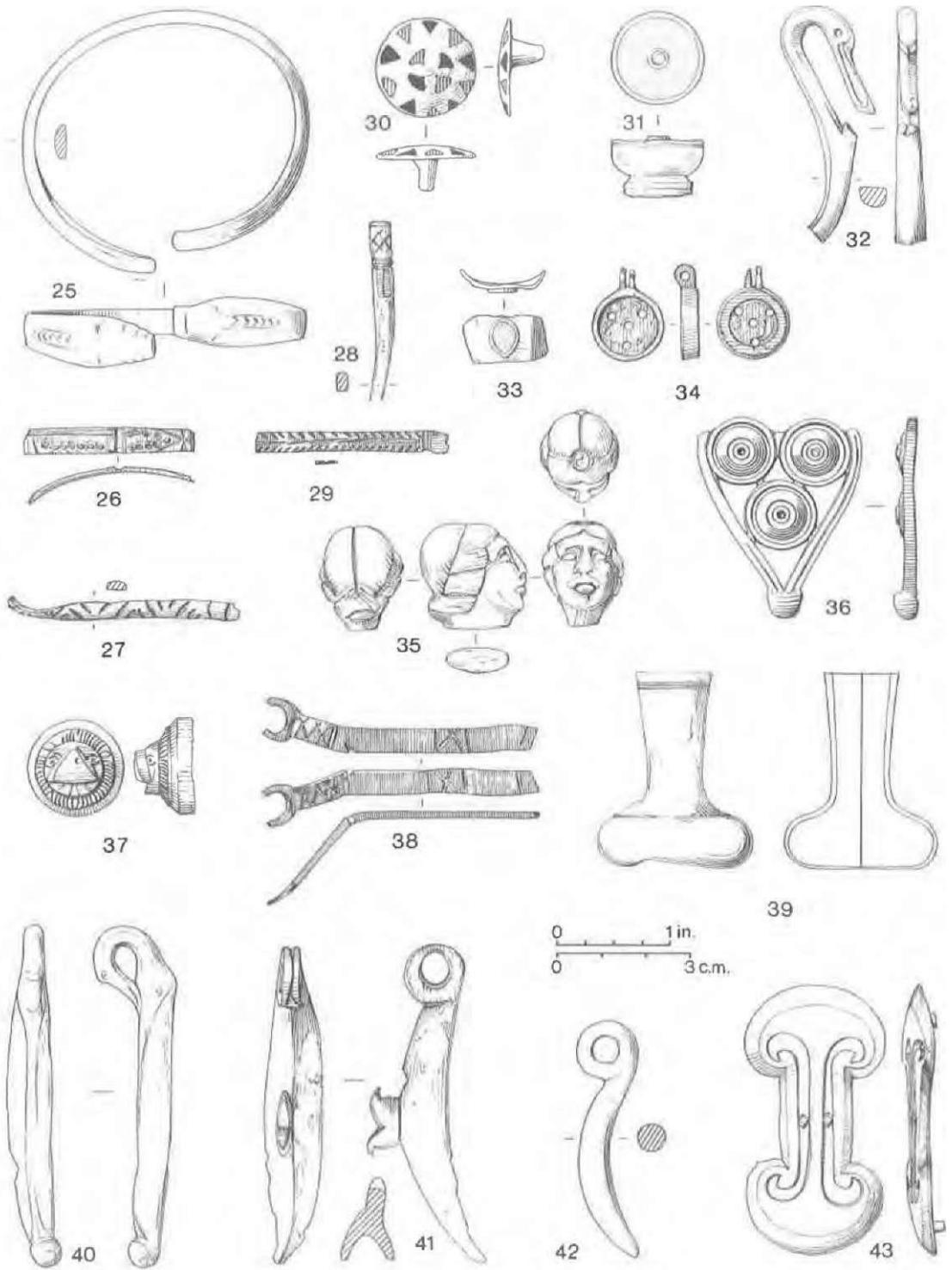


Fig. 24. Objects of copper alloy; Nos. 25–43, miscellaneous finds. Scale 2:3.

century contexts,

Diam. 2.2 cm, AML 7711306. I7-LI351, eastern area of site over cobbles 1343. ASI01/SL306.

38. Balance from a steelyard. Bronze strip, terminating in a loop with incised 7 numbers X and XXX on both sides; cf. example from Jewry Wail, Leicester (Kenyon 1948, 259, Fig. 87, No. 4).
6.1 cm. AML 7711080, I7-L965. Sealed below orange sand levelling (Phase 6); not later than C.IKO.
39. Phial with flat round base and slender neck decorated with horizontal lines.
4.2 cm. AML 7711369, 17-L1826, Gully 1827. ASI02/SL343.

The following three items belong to a group of objects usually described as pendants or amulets, which have been found on many Romano-British sites, apparently confined to southern Britain. They were first discussed by R. A. Smith (1918, 54 ff.), who suggested that their shape was derived from an item of horse harness, the *caeves* son or barnacles, hence the term 'barnacle pendant' which is sometimes used, as for example for the objects from a late second/early third-century burial from Chichester (Down and Rule 1971, Fig. 5. 18, No. 228 v and w). There is however no further evidence to support this explanation, which now seems untenable.

The pendants are usually crescent-shaped with a grooved or hollow back, V or U-shaped in section. The suspension loop is either at one end or at the central (exterior) point of the curve. Some of the latter type have enamelled decoration, often with simple knobbed or more elaborate bull-headed terminals (Smith 1918, Fig. 13, 14 from South Ferriby and Colchester; Cunliffe 1968, Richborough, Pl. XXXIX, No. 143; Icklingham, Suffolk, BM Reg. No. 1957 10-3, 6), Pendants of the first type frequently also have knobbed, possibly phallic terminals, as on examples from Colchester and Wyllye Camp, Wiltshire (Smith 1918, Fig. 8, 9), and some have a suspension loop that is apparently decorated with a stylized bird's head, as an example from Lydney Park (Wheeler and Wheeler 1932, Fig. 18, 65; cf. No. 40 below),

The other, possibly related form is a simple solid crescent (as No. 42 below), a shape which has a long tradition of amuletic significance.

The two types of pendant, the solid and the grooved, have occasionally been found together, apparently as 'sets', and their purpose has been a matter of some discussion. In a recent article concerning a group of grooved pendants from East Anglia, Robert Trett mentions the theory, originally put forward by Ian Stead and Valery Rigby, that they may have been 'cosmetic' grinders, the solid and grooved components being used as pestle and mortar respectively for grinding cosmetics or perhaps medicaments (Trett 1983, 220). Grooved 'pendants' are at present being studied as a group by Ralph Jackson of the British Museum, who interprets them as grinders, and it is hoped that his researches will clarify matters (Jackson 1985, 165-92).

Whatever their practical function, if any, the decoration found on many of the pendants must have some symbolic significance, the frequency of hull's heads perhaps indicating a connection with virility and fertility, as suggested by Mr

Trett. One of the two grooved pendants from Magiovinium has a bird's head terminal, the other a stylized bird as decoration at the mid-point of the crescent. Aquatic birds, particularly ducks and swans, appear frequently in Celtic art and may have had some religious or cult significance as in Gaul, where they were connected with the sun and with healing (Green 1976, 12, 133). The fact that the pendants are found only in southern Britain may indicate some localized cult significance.

A general observation is (that there appears to be no element of mass production for these objects; all examples, although sharing a basic form and many decorative features, are individual pieces. Few pendants are securely dated; exceptions include the two examples from Chichester already mentioned and one from the Gosbecks site at Colchester (Dunnett 1971, 45), all from second-century contexts, as is No. 41 below,

I am grateful to Mr Jackson for drawing my attention to Mi Trett's article and for discussion about the function of these objects.

40. Swan-headed grooved pendant, or amulet, the suspension loop formed by the bird's head and neck, with a possibly phallic terminal at the lower end. The object is V-shaped in section with a hollow back, which is slightly asymmetrical but shows no obvious wear marks. The closest parallels for the swan's head are on the pendants from Lydney Park (Wheeler and Wheeler 1932, Fig. 18, 65) and Gosbecks, Colchester (Dunnett 1971, 45, Fig. 6, 1) dated to the mid second century. but on both it appears in a very stylized form. An example from a second-century pit at Richborough (Cunliffe 1968, Pl. XXXIX, No. 142), which may also represent a stylized bird's head, has a possibly phallic terminal. The large grooved pendant from Hockwold, which is of the type with a central loop, has one bull's head and one more naturalistic bird's head terminal, probably a duck (Trett 1983. Pl. 1. 219; BM Reg. No. P 1977,43, 1).
7.6 cm. Metal detector find.

41. Crescent-shaped grooved pendant, with a hollow back, a suspension ring at one end and a 7 stylized bird, probably a duck, on the front. This is a typical crescent form of the class of object discussed above, although the presence of a bird as decoration in this position is at present unparalleled.
7.1 cm, AML 7711270, 17-L1493. fill of Ditch 2128 (Fig. 4), Phase 4 early second-century context. ASI09/SL395

42. Crescent-shaped pendant or amulet, circular in section with a suspension ring at one end. The type appears to be related to the 'grooved pendants' (see above).
5.3 cm. Metal detector find.

43. Leather mount in the form of two opposed and linked peltas. Two openwork strips along the spine curve into the lobes of peltas reflecting the general shape of the piece. Probably military. A fragment of a pelta-shaped mount from Colchester is dated to the second/third century (Crummy 1983, 136, No. 4237).
6.0 cm. AML 779985. I8-L647, fill of Pit 646. AS6, 18.

[Fig. 25](#)

44. Ferrule made from cast copper alloy, pierced by opposing rive! holes presumably to secure a wooden rod.
13,3 an, AML 779005. 17-L1. Topsoil
45. Circular handle with a central hole, possibly from a mirror or more probably a skillet as from Broxtowe, Nottingham (Oswald 1939, 69, No. 5, Pl. lxxxvli) and Gloucester (Webster 1958, 79. No. 91, Pl. IXB). Skillets are often found in military contexts dating from the first and second centuries.
4.4 cm. AML 7711063- 17-L247, orange sand levelling Phase 6, late second century. AS93/SL265.
46. Fragment of a toilet knife, possibly of the folding type, with trace of an iron blade,
1.9cm. AML 779332.17-L22.7.AS93/SL265.
47. Lower pan of a handle from a jug or flagon decorated with a cloaked female bust, placed between a pair of leaves, at the base. The facial features are unformed but the hair is parted and coiled back with locks falling on either side. This was a common form of decoration on bronze flagons; cf. one from a late first-century pit at Newstead (Curlie 1911, Pl, LVI) possibly depicting Medusa, and Gaulish Antonine examples from Richborough (Cunliffe 196S, Pl, LIX. Nos. 189. 190),
8 cm. Metal detector find.
48. Triangular strip, perhaps used as inlay, with punched circles along the edges, broken at the narrow end.
1.65 cm. Metal detector find.
49. Crescent-shaped sheet, 'dished' in form with a 'rectangular' area with a rivet hole at one end. Purpose uncertain—it is too small for a cheek piece.
6.3 cm. AML 779447. 17-L240. AS93/SL265.
50. Possible cart or carriage fitting (with the same function as a terret). Cast splayed plate with a hooked end terminating in a knob. The other end is circular and has a rivet hole.
9.8 cm. AML 7711023. 17-L530, fill of Pit 529. AS92/SL243.
51. Fragmentary spoon or possibly a cosmetic implement with notched decoration on the handle.
7.4 cm. AML 7711324. I7-L1806. clearance layer over Ditch 1802, ASI04/S1.369.
52. Dome-headed stud or nail.
2.9 cm. AML 779103, 17-L155, Hearth 1898 AS64/P55; 80/SL46.
Further examples, not illustrated:
2.3 cm. AML 779378. 17-L227.
2.4 cm. AML 779552. 17-1,501, 1.2 cm. AML 7711029, 17-LI034.
53. Stud with flat round head.
2.9 cm, AML 7711 170. I7-L988. A593/SL26J.
54. Leather fitting, probably from a bell. Possibly military. The metal has been identified by Miss J. Bayley as brass, with slight traces of silver on the front,
3.4 cm. Metal detector find.
55. Seal-box lid with incised decoration around the edge (see also No. 34).
1.5 cm. AML7711240. 17-L1455.
56. Pin coiled at the upper end into a Hat head.
1.8 cm. AML 7711163. 17-L1274, fill of Gully 1261, Area 1. ASI06/SL383.

57. Finger ring made from two twisted strands, of wire. 2J cm, AML 779130. I7-L16, Plough furrow,
58. Octagonal ring with incised linear decoration.
Diam. 2 cm. AML 771128. 17-L400. Burial 335 (Inhumation), AS57/P48,
59. Ring.
Diam. 2 cm. Metal detector find (Mr M. Simmons).
60. Heavy ring, probably from harness equipment.
Diam, 2 cm. AML 779551. 17-L501. AS93/S1.243.
61. Binding, sheet bronze bent horizontally.
(0.7 cm. AML 7711039. I7-L247, orange sand levelling, Phase 6. AS93/SL265.

[Fig. 26](#)

62. Pin with flattened round head.
10.6 cm. AML 779450. 17-L690.
Further examples, not Illustrated:
2.6 cm. AML 779009. 17-L1.
1.7 cm. AML 779541. 17-L501.
63. Pin with flattened round head and groove and cordon decoration.
6.8 cm. Site 17. Unstratified.
64. Round-headed pin with a cordon below. There are traces of replaced textile on the shaft (E. Crowfoot, AML Report No. 3023),
9.4 cm. AML 779790. 18-L204. Pit 163 (Fig. 19), Phase7, AS53/SL1S2, 113, Similar examples, not Illustrated:
6.2 cm. AML 779000. 17-L1.
3.7 cm. AML 779532. 17-L697.
65. Round-headed pin with groove and cordon decoration. There are traces of replaced textile along the shaft. Miss E. Crowfoot reports 'Z spun, probably tabby weave, fine' (AML Report No. 3023).
AML 779943 18-L461. AS55/SL117, 118. Similar examples, not illustrated:
8.3 cm. AML 779539. 17-L501.
3.0cm. AML 7711044. 17-L945.
66. Round-headed pin with cordon decoration.
8.7 cm, AML 779649 17-L848-L 1353, ASI01/SL306,
67. Pin with triangular head.
3.2 cm. AML 779716. 18-149, fill of Gully 48. AS48/SL5.
68. Pin with a biconical head, decorated in the form of a stylized lion mask. Pins of this shape are common, cf. Skeleton Green (Partridge 1981, No. 18, Fig. 55), Chichester (Down 1978, No. 103, Fig. 10. 38) and Verulamium (Frere 1984, 43, No. 135b) where it is dated no later than 135, but these examples are decorated with incised triangles. The Magiovinium example more obviously represents a lion-head.
8.8 cm. AML 779249, 17-L101. Ploughsoil,
69. Small pin with conical head and grooved decoration 3.2 cm. AML 779758. 18-L100. Topsoil (Fig. 20, Section 115) AS54/SLI15.
70. Ligula with clipped scoop and grooved decoration on the shaft,
9.0 cm. AML 779635. 17-1,540, fill of Gully 2294, Phase 6. AS93/SL265.
71. Ligula with flat angled scoop and broken shaft, 4,8cm. AML779082. 17-L1. Topsoil.

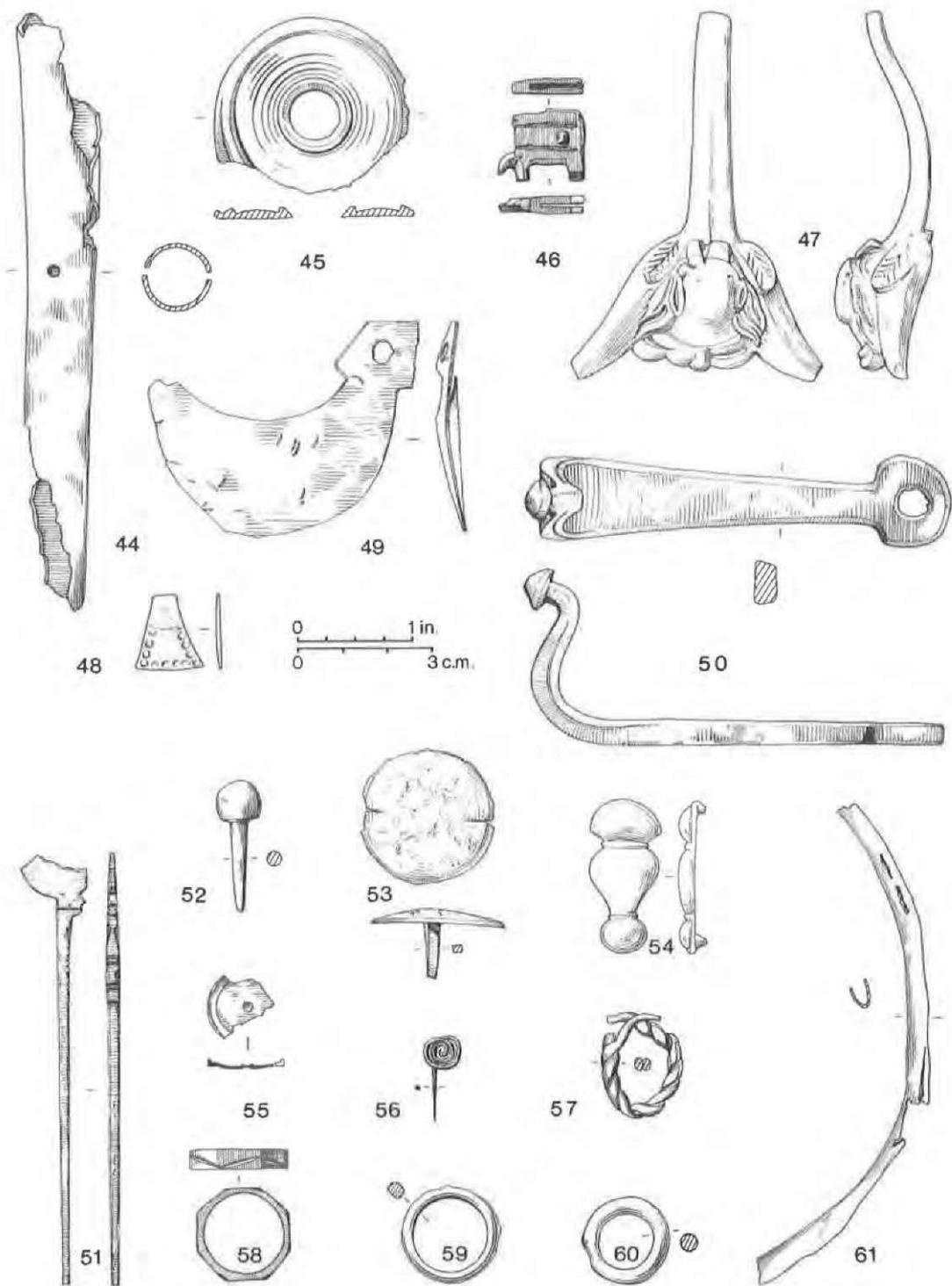


Fig. 25. Objects of copper alloy; Nos. 44-61, miscellaneous finds. Scale 2:3.

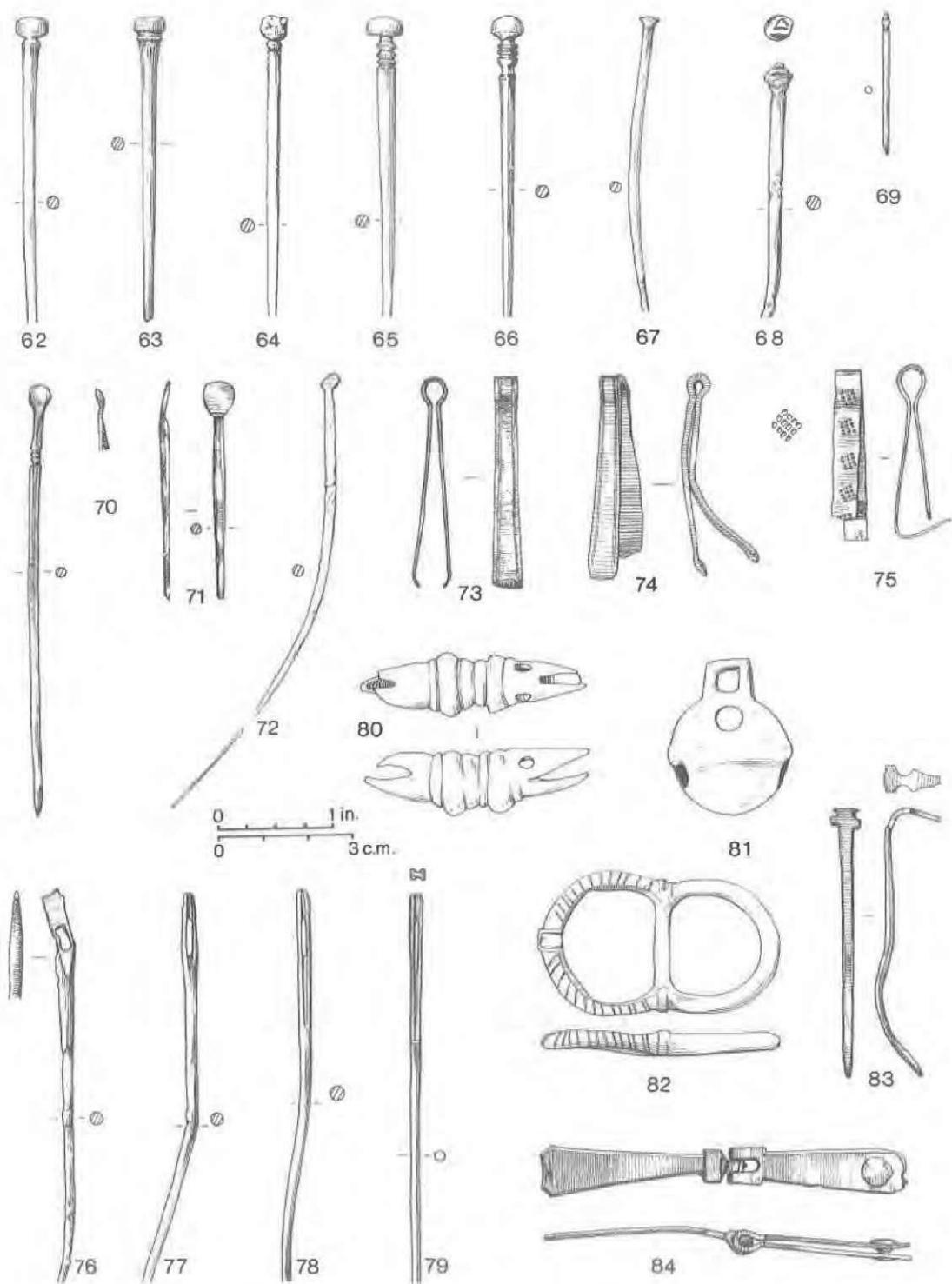


Fig. 26. Objects of copper alloy; Nos. 62-84, miscellaneous finds. Scale 2:3.

- Another example, not illustrated:
3.9 cm. AML 7711298, 17-L1542.
72. Ligula with trace of a flat scoop.
to.4 cm. AML 7711184. 17-L997. Unstratified.
Other examples, not illustrated, all with fragmentary scoops:
8.2cm. AML779357. 17-L221.
10.0cm, AML 7711062. 17-L965.
10.4 cm. AML 779734. 18-L113.
 73. Tweezers with incised linear decoration along the edges.
4.7 cm. AML 779442. 17-L889, stone surface (path)
696 (Fig. 6). AS94/SL258.
 74. Tweezers with incised linear decoration.
4.6 cm, 17-L2368, fill of 2367, part of Pit 2426 (Fig. 7).
AS66.
 75. Tweezers decorated with stamped squares set lozenge-
wise, each formed from twelve dots arranged in rows of
four by three.
3.8 cm. AML 779006. 17-L1.
Similar but undecorated: 4.8cm, AML77955. 17-L501.
 76. Needle with flattened head and large rectangular eye.
11.9 cm. AML 77944S, 17-L697(= L650), orange sand
levelling, Phase 6 (Fig. 6). AS95/SL258.
Another example, not illustrated:
6.9 cm. AML 779546. 17-L501.
 77. Needle.
11.1 cm. AML 779057, 17-L1. Topsoil.
 78. Needle.
10.6 cm. AML 779229. 17-L1. Topsoil.
 79. Needle with elongated head and a groove above the
eye. 10.8 cm. AML 77951 1. 17-L585, Ditch 765.
AS88/SL176.
Similar examples, not illustrated; 5.9 cm. AML
779347. 17-L360 (Pit 280).
7.1 cm. AML 779506. 17-L339.
6.6 cm. AML 779533. 17-L641 (Fig. 6).
 80. Unusual cast fitting with five central mouldings and
fish or dragon-head terminals. It is likely that a cord or
thong passed through it, perhaps being secured by the
'mouths' which may have acted as grips. Date uncertain.
According to J. Cherry of the British Museum, if
medieval it is thirteenth or fourteenth-century, but no
parallels are known and a Roman date cannot be
excluded. 5 cm. Metal detector find (Mr Plasom).
 81. Harness bell with iron pea. Medieval.
3.5 cm, Metal detector find,
 82. Buckle with scored decoration on one loop, probably
medieval.
5.2 cm. AML 779827. 18-L339. machined topsoil.
 83. Pin or bracelet terminal with widened decorated end.
Medieval or post-medieval.
6,0cm. AML779098. 17-L1. Topsoil.
 84. Hinged fitting, possibly from harness. Probably
medieval or post-medieval.
8.1 cm. AML 779012-13. 17-L1. Topsoil.
 86. Pin with conical head and oblique incised decoration.
4.5 cm. AML 779563. 17-L583, Gully 766, Area 2.
AS88/SL176.
 87. Rough pin or peg with flat rectangular head. 4.9cm.
AML779046. 17-L1. Topsoil.
 88. Pin with conical head decorated with grooves and
cordon. Crummy Type 2.
5.8 cm. AML 779566. 17-L639. AS94/SL295.
 89. Needle.
9.5 cm. AML 779060. 17-L1. Topsoil.
Another example, broken at both ends:
6.8 cm. AML 779506. 17-L240.
 90. Needle with flattened head for coarse sewing, perhaps
rush work.
6.8 cm. AML 779674. 17-L530. Pit 529. AS92/SL243.
 91. Awl.
8.7 cm. 17-L 1655, from 1654 furnace. AS102/SL334,
 92. Handle made from bone cut at both ends.
7.4 cm. AML 779565. 17-L591, Gully 766, Area 2.
AS86/SL162.
A similar handle and an antler example, noL
illustrated: 6cm. AML 779567. 17-L227. 12.1 cm.
AML 779564. 17-L501.
 93. Dice.
1.4 cm. AML 7711211. 17-L1356, Loam over furnace
2300, Area 1 (Fig. 11).
 94. Lozenge-shaped inlay decorated with an incised dot
and circle motif.
95.7 cm. 17. Unstratified.
 95. Lozenge-shaped inlay.
4.1 cm. AML 779186. 17-L1. Topsoil.
 96. Counter with a small hole in the centre of one side.
Diam. 1.5 cm, AML 779427. 17-L27, spread over stone
surface 100.
 97. Counter.
2.2 cm. AML779056. 17-L1. Topsoil.
 98. Riveted comb, double-sided with finely cut teeth on
one side and wider spaced teeth on the other. The
illustration shows a reconstruction of the four
fragments, which do not join. The comb is a type
found in the late fourth to fifth century (e.g. Col-
chester, Crummy 1983, 55 ff.),
AML 7711281. 17-L1511, Burial 1519 (Fig. 18).
 99. Tusk with rivet hole worked at the pointed end.
Possibly a crescent amulet (see No. 42).
10.6 cm. 17-L501. AS93/SL265.
 100. Knife with bone handle, decorated with incised lines,
and an iron blade
4 1 cm. AMI. 779986. 18-L508, Ditch S04, AS6, 18.
 - 101 Folding knife, with bone handle, part of the bronze
binding and an iron rivet remaining The handle has a
ring for suspension and is decorated with turned cor-
dons ,
6.3 cm AML 779184. 17-L1, Topsoil.

Objects of Bone

85. Pin with faceted conical head with groove and cordon
decoration. Crummy Type 2 (Crummy 1983, 21).
9.6cm. AML 7711043. 17-L881, orange sand levelling,
Phase 6 (Fig. 6). AS99/SL258.

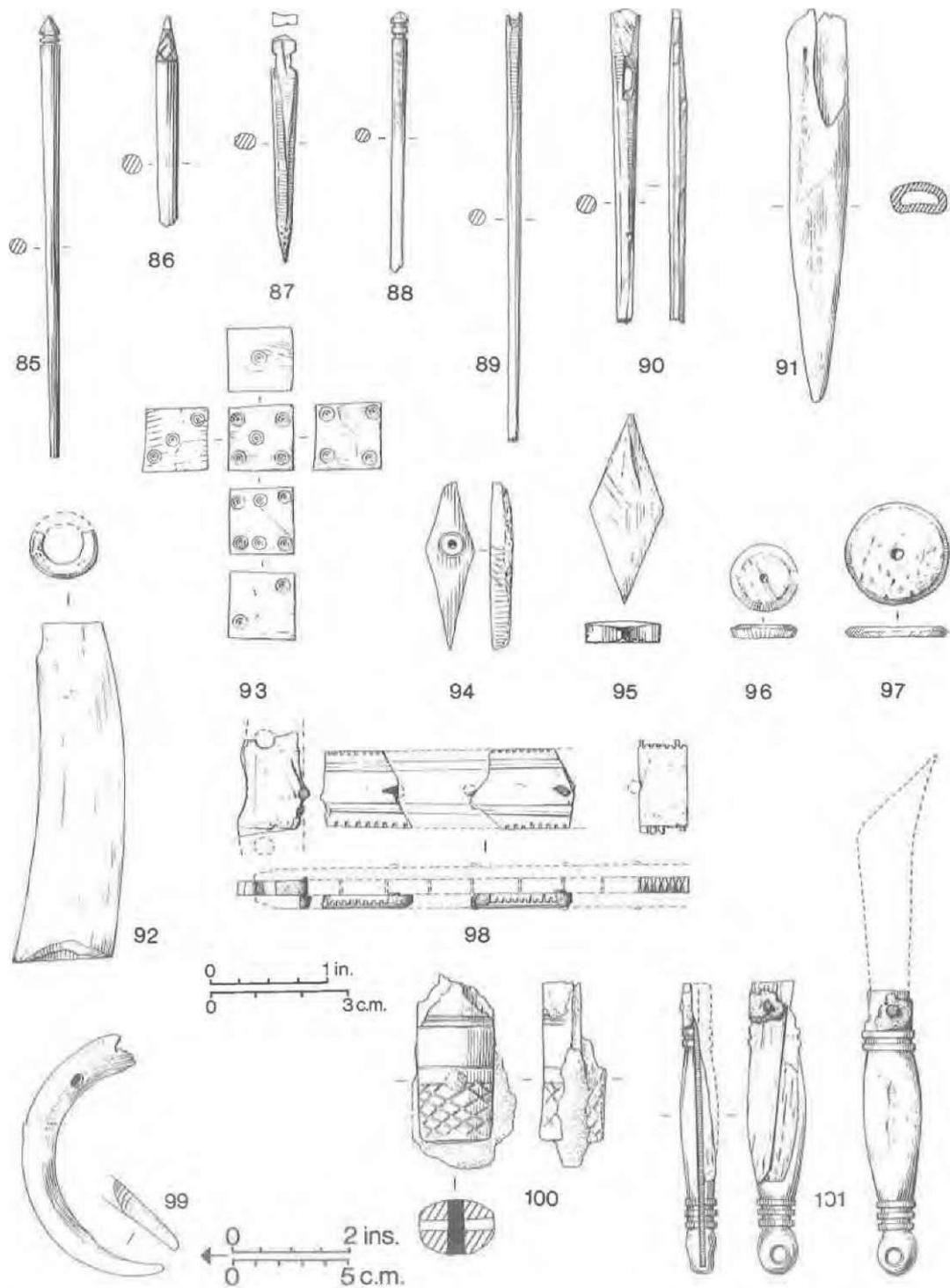


Fig. 27. Objects of bone; Nos. 85-101, miscellaneous finds. Scale 2:3.

Objects of Iron

Fig. 28

102. Upper half of a strip-bow brooch with a hinged pin. A southern British type, dating to the first century. 5.2 cm. AML7711162. 17-LI254. AS107/SL388.
103. One half of a bridle bit connected to a fragment of harness ring, 12.2 cm. AML 779580. 17-L501. AS93/SL265. (For other items of horse equipment see Nos. 121, 134, 135).
104. Unfinished ?hammer-adze. Professor R. F. Tylecote reports: 'This seems to be a square-sectioned bar, flattened for half its length as though it were being shaped into an adze head. A piece was cut from the corner of the thinner section where it joins the thicker and found to be predominantly coarse-grained ferrite with a little lamellar pearlite at one end with a good deal of slag. The ferritic regions are very free from slag and have a hardness of 135 HV indicating a low phosphorus content' (AML Report No. 2762). 19 cm. AML 779787. 18-L224, Quarry 203 ([Fig. 19](#)). AS53/SL112.
105. Narrow flat blade with a socketed handle. Two fragments. 11 cm, 9 cm. AML 779596. 17-L718, part of 778. AS88/SL176.
106. Spud with a wide blade and a socket through which is a rivet hole for attachment to a wooden handle. Such tools may have been used for weeding (Rees 1979, 330), cf. example from Lakenheath (ibid., 392, Fig. 131. BM 82 2-6 6). 20.5 cm. AML 7711494. 17-L1501, Ditch 1501, Area 1.
107. Ladle, the handle and part of the bowl remaining. 14.5 cm. AML 779739. 18-L86, Ditch terminal 85, AS49/SL50.
108. Spade shoe, probably with square mouth as Manning Type 2a (Manning 1970). One grooved arm survives, with the side of the blade below. It is not possible to state whether the mouth was also grooved or solid. See Rees (1979, 376, Fig. 117) for examples from Owmbly, Lincs and Caistor (Norwich). 17 cm. AML 771041. 17-L530, Pit 529. AS92/SL243. Another fragment of U-shaped binding from a shovel blade, not illustrated: 10.6 cm. AML 779342. 17-L227.
109. Fragment of large knife or cleaver with socketed handle. The back of the blade is greatly thickened, but much corroded. The end has been bent over and broken and the socket hammered flat: it appears to have been used as scrap. 18.4 cm. AML 779562, 17-L736, Gully 781, circular house ([Fig. 9](#)). AS88/SLI74.)
110. Pruning hook, with socketed handle. 12cm. AML 7711295. 17-L1661, Area 1.
111. Gouge. Small woodworking gouge, the end showing signs of hammering. 11.7 cm. AML 7711054. 17-L946, Pit 2297 (postdates Phase 6). AS83/SL217,
112. Ferrule. Conical ferrule with a split socket for attachment to a wooden staff, cf, Carrawburgh (Manning

1976, No. 24, Fig. 13).
10.3 cm. AML 779951. 18-L556, Pit 555.
AS57/SL123. Another example, only the point surviving;
6.4 cm. AML 771 1053, 17-L951.

113. A straight square-sectioned shaft with an expanded flattened terminal similar to one from Rudston, there described as a spit (Stead 1980, No. 94). 29 cm. AML 779667. 17-L922, Pit 921. AS36/P27; 90/SL222.

Fig. 29

114. Fitting, Tang with a widened head with a square rivet hole. 10,7 cm. AML 7711179. 17-L988, Area 1. AS93/SL265.
115. Drill bit. For a comparable example from Niederbieber see Gailzsch (1980, No. 231, Taf. 47). 12.5 cm, 17-L2379, Ditch 2346 ([Fig. 8](#)). AS65/P56.
116. Stylus with moulded decoration above the point and grooves below the eraser, 10.6cm. AML779849, 18-L350, Pit 374. AS56/SL122.
117. Knife blade with cutler's mark. Probably medieval. 8.4 cm. AML 779070. 17-L1. Topsoil.
118. Tilting. Pierced spike. 6 cm. AML 779329. 17-L227. AS93/SL265.
119. Ring hook. 10.5 cm. AML 979114. 17-L197, on edge of ditch, area 2. AS 86/SL150.
120. Ring hook, 9,6 cm, AML 779589. 17-L101. Ploughsoil..
121. Possibly a link from a two-link snaffle bit. 6.3 cm. AML 7711401. 17-L6S9, stone surface 660. ASM/SL233.
122. Fragment of spring from a barb-spring barrel padlock. For a complete example see Shakenoak II (Brodrigg *et al.* 197, 121, Fig, 51, No. 93). 11.6 cm. AML 779767. 18-L190, Pit 163 ([Fig. 19](#)). AS56/SLU9.
123. Bucket mount, iron handle strap with fragment of copper alloy hoop. 7 cm. AML 779386. 17-L227, Area 1. AS93/SL265.
124. Strap with hooked terminal, probably a bucket side-mount. 5.5 cm, AML 7711057. 17-L946, Pit 2297, Area 1, AS83/SL217.
125. Bucket side-mount. 9.6 cm. AML 779538. 17-L803 ([Fig. 5](#)) L612, Area 1. ASI07/SL388.
126. Strap with pierced terminal. 7.5 cm, AML 779435. 17-L199. Ditch 2180. Area 2. AS57/SL186,
127. Fitting. Square-sectioned loop with flat, expanded, pierced terminals. 4 cm. AML 7711269. 17-L1403, Ditch 889. AS107/SL388.
128. Strap with rivet. 6.7 cm. AML 779638. 17-L501. AS93/SL265.
129. Linked fastening, 6.2 cm. AML 779439. 17-L27, Area 1. spread.
130. Ferrule. Diam. 3.8 cm. AML 779227. 17-L35, general

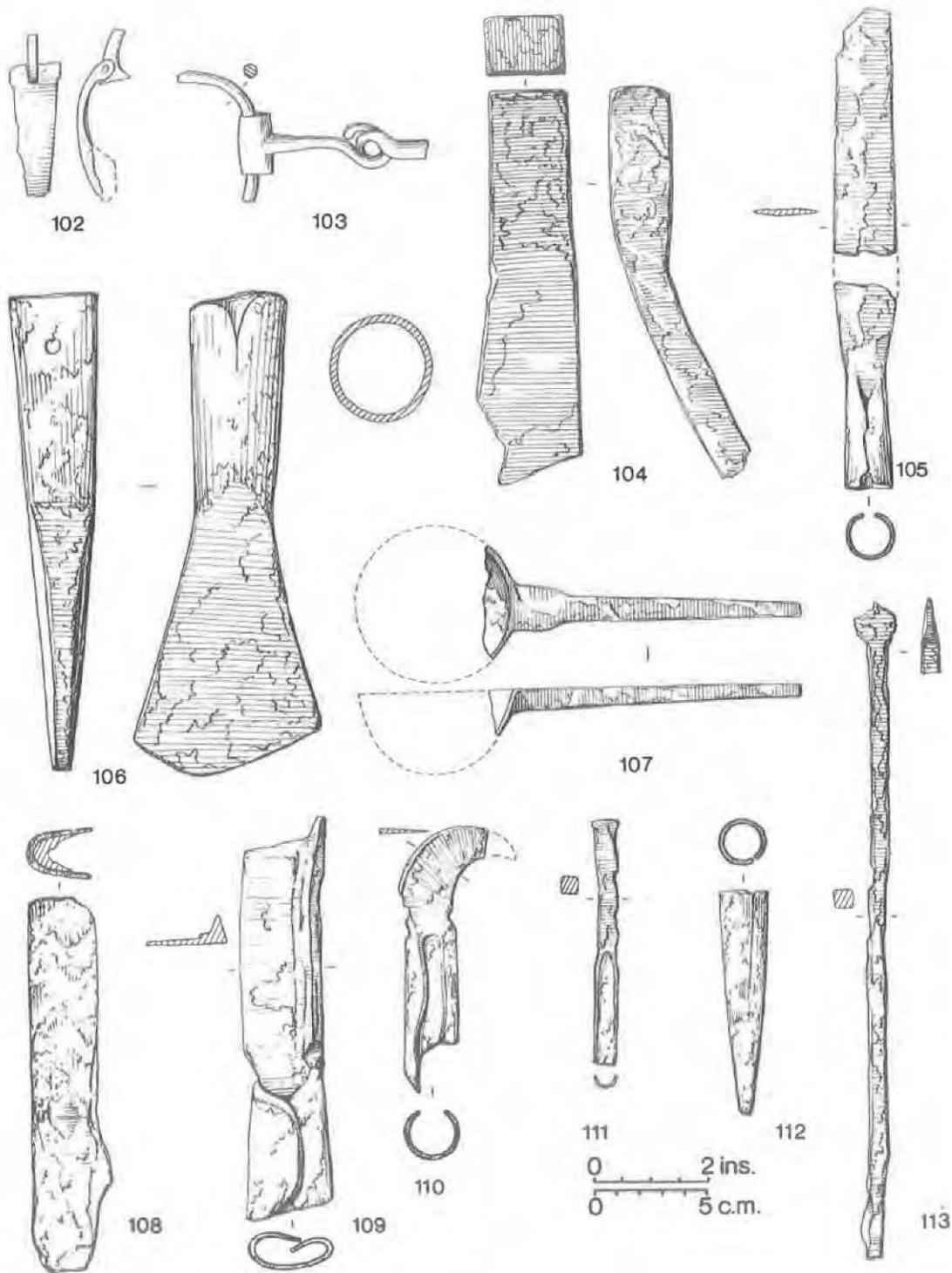


Fig. 28. Objects of iron; Nos. 102-113, miscellaneous finds. Scale 1:3.

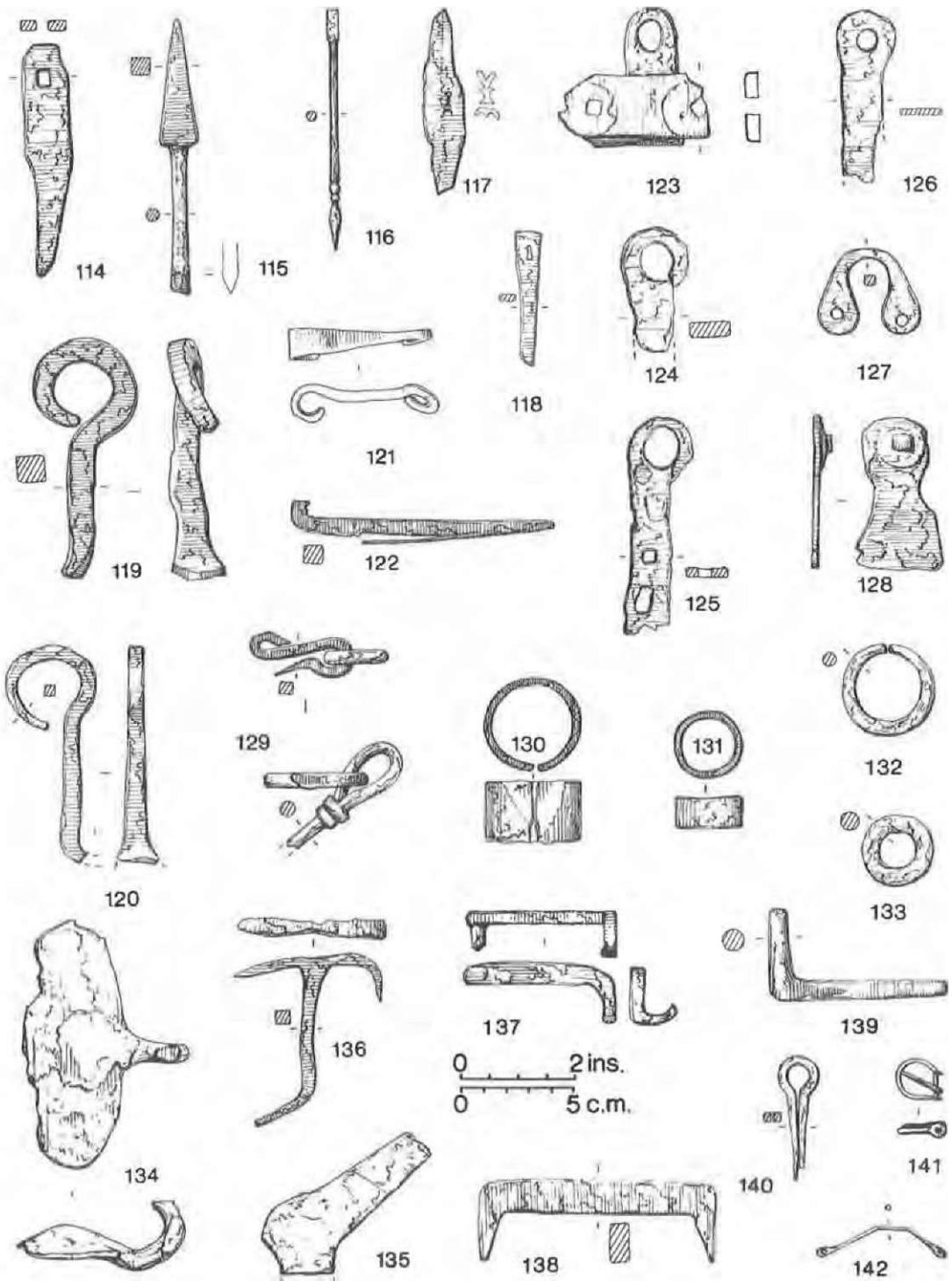


Fig. 29. Objects of iron; Nos. 114-142, miscellaneous finds. Scale 1:3.

- clearance around furnace 818, AS83/SL99.
131. Ferrule.
Diam. 3.2 cm. AML 779597. 17-L718. AS88/SLJ76.
 132. Split ring,
Diam. 4 cm. AML. 779945. 18-L556, Pit 55 (Fig. 19), AS57/SL123, 124.
 133. Ring.
Diam. 3.1 cm, AML 779283. 17-L196, depression on edge of Ditch 799. AS86/SLC50.
Similar examples, not illustrated:
Diam. 5.2 cm. AML 7711038. 17-L247.
Diam. 3.3 cm. AML 7711118. 17-L530.
 134. Hipposandal heel, part of the sole and rear hook.
11.3 cm. AML 779530. 17-L227. AS93/SL265.
 135. Hipposandal wing.
8.5 cm, AML 779406, 17-L199, Ditch 2180, Area 2, AS87/SH86.
A similar fragment:
8.7cm. AML 779634. 17-L827,
 136. T-staple, Such clamps were used to hold tiles in place.
8 cm. AML 779658. 17-L912, Pit complex 911, Area 1, AS90/SL221.
 137. Joiner's dog.
7.8 cm. AML 779768, 18-L128 (Fig. 20). AS53/SLI2. 113.
 138. Joiner's dog,
10.5 cm. AML 779293. 17-L302, Ditch 756, Area 2. AS84/SL113.
Another example:
6 cm. AML 7711301. 17-L1344.
 139. L-shaped hinge staple.
8.5 cm. AML 779899. 18-L505. Pit 491 (Fig. 19). AS 56/SL120.
 140. Split spiked loop.
5.5 cm. AML 779104. 17-L1. Topsoil.
 141. Buckle. Medieval.
Max. diam. 2.3 cm. AML 779547. 17-L501. AS93/SL265,
 142. Rod with splayed riveted terminals.
5.8 cm. AML 7711358. 17-L1940, Area 1. AS100/SL291.

Objects of Stone

(Identification by F. W. Anderson:
AML Report No. 2739)

Fig. 30

143. Quern. Coarse grit without pebbles. Possibly Millstone Grit but more probably quern stone from Snettisham, Norfolk, perhaps transported down the River Ouse.
Diam. 35.6 cm. AML 77H381. 17-L1343, stone surface (Fig. 5). AS99/SL258.
144. Quern, Hertfordshire Puddingstone. An Eocene conglomerate of flint pebbles in a siliceous matrix found near the base of the Woolwich and Reading Beds.
Diam. 30.4 cm. AML 779340. 17-L534, Pit 533, Area 1. AS83/SL204.
145. Rotary quern.
Diam. 28.8 cm. AML 7711409, 17-L1343, stone

- surface (Fig. 5), AS99/SL258.
146. Quern. Coarse pebbly grit, probably Snettisham.
Diam. 34.5 cm. AML 7711194. 17-L1276, fill of furnace 1243 (Fig. 11). ASI00/SL281.
 147. Quern. Coarse pebbly grit, probably Snettisham.
Diam. 38.5 cm. AML 779323. 17-L546, Pit 545, Area 1, ASB3/SL205,
 148. Quern. Probably Snettisham.
Diam. 33 cm. AML 779420. 17-L101. Ploughsoil.
 149. Quern. Probably Snettisham.
Diam. 35 cm. AML 779032. 17-L1, Topsoil.
 150. Quern. Probably Snettisham.
Diam. 38.5 cm. AML 77M361. 17-L2021, Ditch 2280, Area 1. AS27/P18,
 151. Mortar. Brown sandstone, probably Millstone Grit,
20,8 cm. AML 779369. 17-L291, Gully 290, Area 2. AS80/SL48,

Miscellaneous Finds

152. Shale spindle whorl.
Diam. 3.9 cm. AML 779848, 18-L379. Topsoil in area of Pit 491 (Fig. 19).
153. Shale bracelet; one of two fragments, triangular in section.
3.8, 2.3 cm. AML 7711495 17-L1501, Ditch, Area 1,
154. Tile, apparently trimmed to make a lid.
18cm. AML 779976. 18-L497, Gully 506. AS55/SL118.
155. Ball of fired clay, possibly a sling shot,
Diam. 2.1 cm. AML 7711036. 17X530. AS92/SL243.

The following bronze objects were discovered after the processing of the other small finds:

Fig. 31

156. Brooch, Head-stud brooch, with red enamel in the circular stud and in design of lozenges and triangles on the bow. A hook on the head indicates that it had a spring and not a hinge. The type is not securely dated but an early second-century date is probable. 5 cm. Metal detector find.
157. Scabbard chape, incomplete, but similar to examples from Richborough (Cunliffe 1968, 93, Pl. XXXIV, No. 92) and Wroxeter (Atkinson 1942, 209, Pl. 481, No. 1), the latter dated to the mid second century Swords with fittings which included a chape were found at Canterbury (Goodburn 1978, 471, Fig. 20). 5.2 cm.

The Intaglios

by Dr M. Henig

158. Glass paste with Sight blue upper surface on dark ground. Oval with flat upper surface 11 x 10 x 1.5 cm. 'Gem' slightly decayed, chip on left side. AML 7711296. 17-L1356, Loam over area of furnace 2300, Area 1 (Fig. 11).
The *device* is an Indian parrot: *Psittacus torquatus*, identified by a prominent ring around its neck, an up-turned tail and slightly hooked beak. It stands upon a branch. The bird was a common pet and also associated with Dionysos-Bacchus who was believed

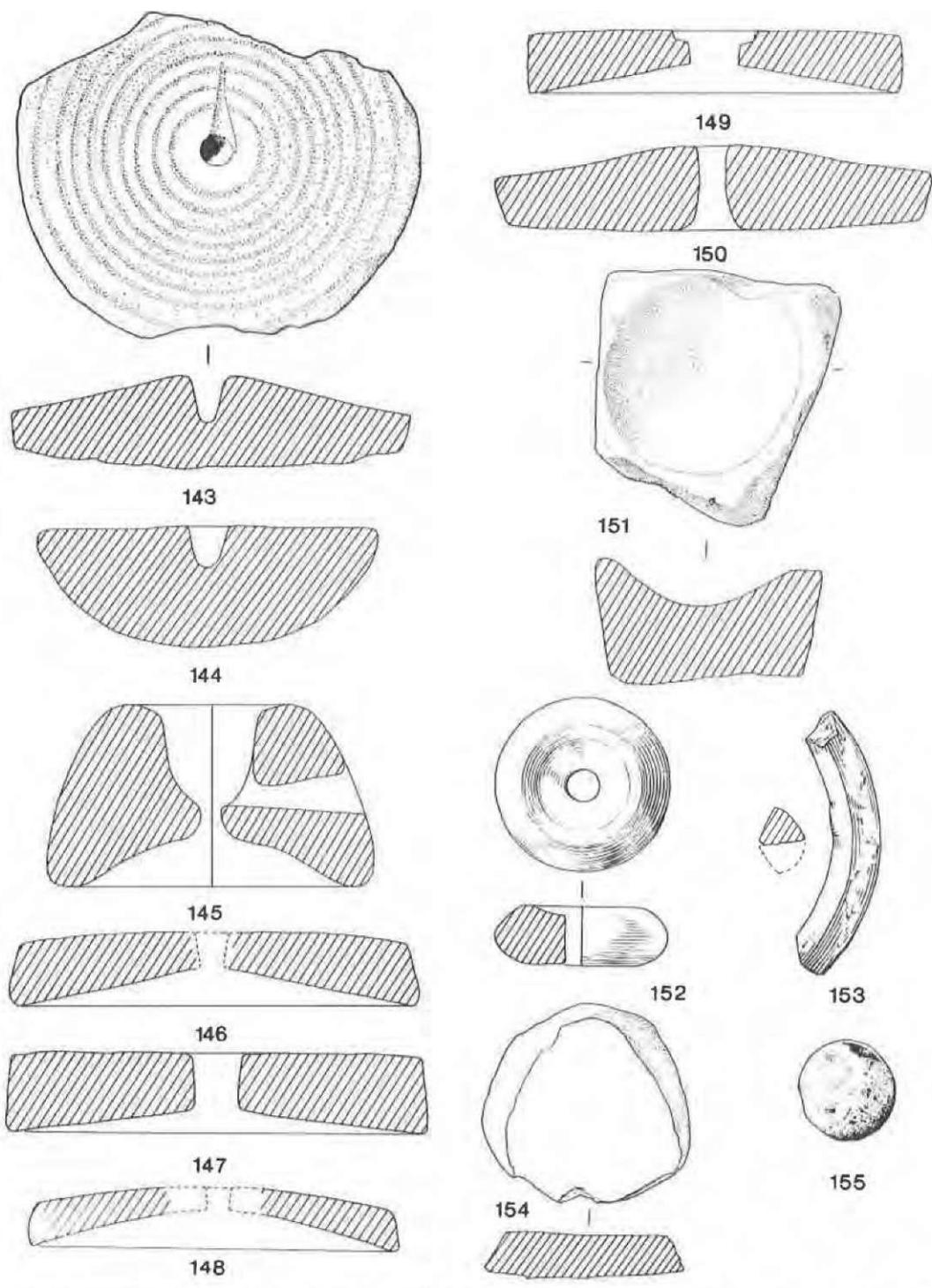


Fig. 30. Objects of stone, Nos. 143–153 and fired clay, Nos. 154–155. Scales: Nos. 143–151, 154, 1:6. Nos. 152, 153, 155, 2:3.

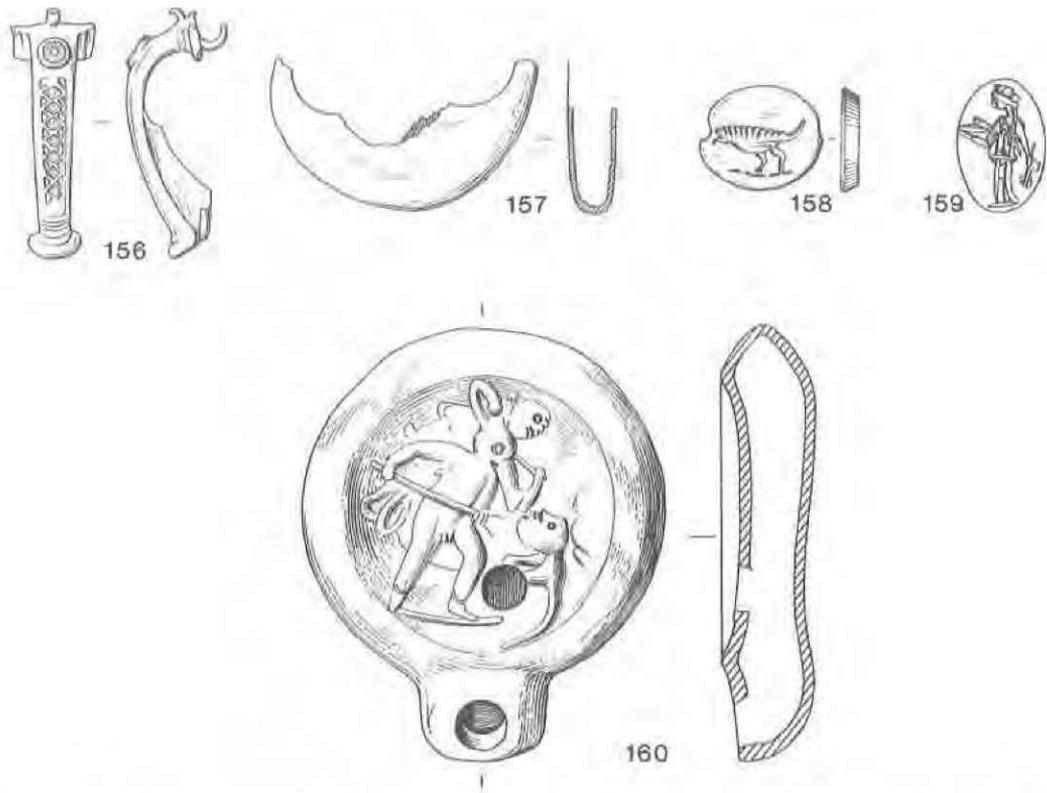


Fig. 31. Objects of copper alloy (metal detector finds), Nos. 156–157; glass intaglios, Nos. 158–159; fired clay lamp, No. 160. Scales: Nos. 156–157, 160, 2:3; Nos. 158–159, 3:2.

to have made a triumphal progress through India (Toynbee 1973, 247-9, 281).

There are a number of representations of parrots on intaglios from Britain, the closest parallel being a paste from the Walbrook. London set in a bronze ring dating, in all probability, no later than the early Flavian age (Henig 1978, 269, No. 686, Pls. XXI and XLIX).

The device, which is neatly executed in the classicizing style (cf. Maaskant-Kleibrink 1978, 205, No. 462, probably also a parrot, with similar bold modelling of form and fine detailings), was impressed by means of a stamp onto viscous glass, within a mould (Czurda-Ruth 1979, 171-7, esp. fig. on p. 175). Such moulded glass gems were very common in the later Republic and Early Empire especially in the period 50 BC-AD 50 when the practice of wearing signet rings became ever more widespread throughout the Roman world, even among the poorer classes of society.

159. Iron signet ring, hoop incomplete, expanding towards bezel. It contains a cornelian intaglio, oval in shape with a slightly convex upper surface (13 x 10mm). Metal detector find (Mr Plasom). Topsoil from roadworks at Galley Lane roundabout, June 1980.

The device portrays *Ceres* dressed in a long chiton, holding two ears of corn in one hand and a dish of fruit in the other. *Ceres* is commonly found on gems and is also shown on

coins from the late first century and through the second century where she is identified as *Fides Publico* (Zwierlein-Diehl 1979, 219-20, Nos. 1582-5). The type has a male equivalent identified as *Bonus Eventus* and the two occur together on a gem in the British Museum. Following Cornelius Vermeule, I have suggested that the two figures were adapted from a statue group by Praxiteles, known to have been in Rome during the Imperial period (Henig 1974, 71-3). Amongst the fairly numerous British finds of gems showing *Ceres* there is only one other example from Buckinghamshire, a cornelian in a silver ring from Dunsmore (Henig 1978, No. 261; see also *ibid.*, 217-19, Nos. 259-74; 291, No. 49; 304 f., Nos. 134-7).

The intaglio is only the fourth known from the site of Magiovinium. The ring type (Henig Type III) is typical of the first half of the second century; the dating of the coins and of other intaglios showing *Ceres*, where known, also serves to confirm this impression, and the gem is a splendid indication of mid Imperial peace and prosperity. Stylistically the stone can be compared with an example now in the Hague which shows the same simplified modelling and stylized physiognomy, ascribed to the chin-mouth-nose style of the second century (Maaskant-Kleibrink 1978, 298, No. 861).

Lamp

160. Lamp.

8.3 cm. Unstratified. The lamp, which was apparently found on the site of Magiovinium after the completion of the excavations, has been identified by Donald Bailey of the British Museum as being of eastern manufacture, probably from the Tarsus area of northern Syria, it is likely that it depicts Meleager slaying the Calydonian boar, although there are no exact parallels for the design, and it probably dates from the second or third century. Complete lamps of eastern provenance are extremely rare finds on Romano-British sites and it is most unlikely that this example was an ancient import.

This article continues in Section 6: The Coarse Pottery