

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

A NINTH-CENTURY STRAP-END FROM POSTLING

A strap-end (Plate I, Fig. 1) was found by Mr. C. Amos in digging trenches for the post-office building at Postling, near Stowting, Kent, in 1960, and through the good offices of Mr. Frank Jenkins it was presented to the Royal Museum, Canterbury. It is of bronze and 5.3 cm. long. The shape is a slender strip with outward curving sides, the broader end being split to receive a thin strap to be fastened inside it by a pair of rivets through the two holes now broken away at the edges. The narrower end thickens and takes the form of a plastic animal head with square snout, bulging eyes and an almond shape on the forehead below long oval ears. Crescent shapes appear near the rivet holes, and

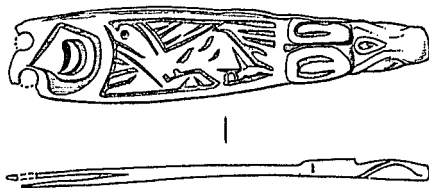
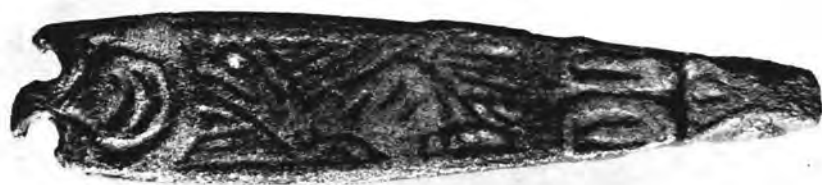


FIG. 1. Strap-end from Postling.

the centre panel is devoted to an animal portrait. The work in both these areas is sketchy and crude and consists of incisions, mostly in straight lines, leaving the reserved flat surface to form the design. The head of the animal has a blunt snout pointing upwards, a slit mouth, a deep circular eye over which the forehead contour rises, and a long straight ear springs from the back of the neck and lies forward close to the head. The hind quarters rise in a hump and there are three short slashes on the body. The tail falls straight down to a T terminal. The feet are represented by a two-digit shape under the belly and a similar one below the head.

This belongs to the group of strap-ends of which some may be securely dated to the ninth century by means of association with coin hoards.¹ The slender shape with blunt-nosed animal terminal with oval ears is the type found with the Sevington, Wilts., hoard,

¹ D. M. Wilson and C. E. Blunt, 'The Trewiddle Hoard', *Archaeologia*, xcvi (1961), 120-22; see also D. M. Wilson, *Anglo-Saxon Ornamental Metalwork 700-1100* (1964), 27-29, 99-116.



Strap-end from Postling.

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dated to before A.D. 850,² rather than those of the other coin-dated groups, i.e. Cuerdale, Lancs.,³ of the early tenth century, which is broader and with a stylized animal head terminal not in relief, or Trehiddle, Cornwall,⁴ c. A.D. 875, where they are shorter, rounder and with a pointed terminal, and Talnotrie, Kirkcudbrightshire,⁵ c. A.D. 875 which has the same broad, pointed type with comma-shaped ears on the animal head. The exact Postling form is not common, but two slender tags with animal head terminals in relief were found at Youlgreave, Derbyshire.⁶

The most frequent pattern by the rivet holes is a trilobed palmette, as on most of the tags at Whitby,⁷ but here it has been simplified to a single fan shape, the edge being emphasized by a bordering crescent. The creature in the panel is similar to the kind of Trehiddle animals which have a rounded contour over the eye and a squared snout. The spread forefoot of one of the Trehiddle animals⁸ may explain the fore and aft effect of the forefoot on the Postling tag. The heads of one of the animals on the oval bezel of the Whitby ring⁹ is even nearer, with its square snout and slit mouth, rounded forehead and rectilinear ear, and the heads of the two creatures on a tag from York¹⁰ are also similar. The crude, straight line incision technique at Postling is unusual and only occurs elsewhere on strap-ends at Stevenston Sands, Ardeer, Ayrshire¹¹ where one was found of the shorter, pointed form with a backward glancing animal. The Stevenston and Postling animals lack the finish of speckling or nicked contours evident on the Trehiddle creatures, but must nevertheless belong to the same period.

V. I. EVISON

ANGLO-SAXON GRAVE, DOVER

A single Anglo-Saxon grave was found in the topsoil during the building of a small garage at High Meadows, Dover, in July 1956. This is on waste land on the right bank of the Dour, immediately south-west of London Road and the adjacent railway tunnel, between Edred Road and Union Road. The ground was searched to chalk level

² J. D. A. Thompson, *Inventory of British Coin Hoards*, A.D. 600-1500 (1956), 122-23; Wilson, *op. cit.*, 167-71, pl. XXX, 71-5.

³ Thompson, *op. cit.*, 39-42; Wilson, *op. cit.*, 128-29, pl. XVII, 13.

⁴ Wilson and Blunt, *op. cit.*, pl. XXIII, c.

⁵ Thompson, *op. cit.*, 132; *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scotland*, xlvii (1912), 12; Wilson, *op. cit.*, pl. IV, d.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pl. XLII, 136-37.

⁷ *Archæologia*, lxxxix (1943), fig. 11; 1, 4, 7, 9, 10 and 14.

⁸ Wilson, *op. cit.*, fig. 41, 5.

⁹ *Ibid.*, fig. 45.

¹⁰ *Archæologia*, xvii, fig. 10, 2.

¹¹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scotland*, lxxvii (1932-33), 31, fig. 5, 1.

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for about 10 ft. round this grave, but no other burials were found. The contents of the grave, now kept in Dover Museum, are:

1. Bronze ring, diam. 2·9 cm. (Fig. 2, A).¹
2. Barrel-shaped red glass bead with white inclusions (Fig. 2, B).
3. Gold disc pendant with fluted loop, much worn. A flat garnet disc in a gold collar, within a frame of one row of beaded filigree between two twisted wires, forms the centre of four arms of a cross ornament by S-shaped twisted wires. The border of the pendant is in beaded filigree (Fig. 2, C).²

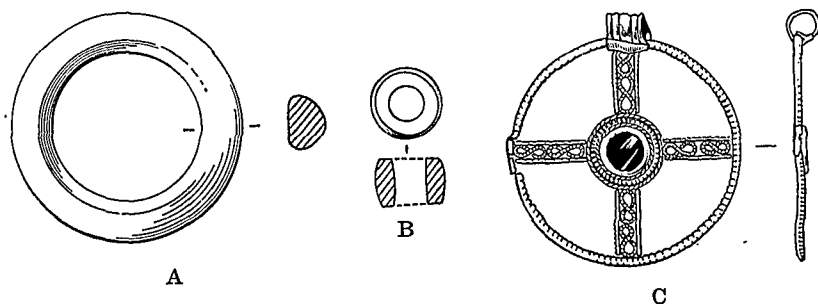


FIG. 2. Objects from Dover.

The grave is that of Christian Anglo-Saxon woman of the late seventh century.

The find is referred to by A. Meaney,³ who suggests that the grave might be an outlier of the cemetery located in 1883 and 1889 on Priory Hill. It is not possible to be certain on this point, as the precise spots of the earlier finds do not appear to be recorded.

V. I. EVISON

CHILLENDEEN CHALKWELL

IN mid-November 1966 a subsidence occurred in a field (N.G.R. TR269541) near the Post Mill at Chillenden, where a vertical shaft roughly 8 ft. in diameter had appeared. Mr. F. Jenkins, F.S.A., brought the site to the notice of the writer through Mr. J. E. L. Caiger.

Before the subsidence was examined on 27th November, a further collapse had occurred resulting in a crater 17 ft. long by 14 ft. wide. At the bottom two chambers were visible heading north-east and west-

¹ The drawings are by Mrs. E. M. Fry-Stone.

² This pendant is quoted in connection with others similar in *Arch. Cant.*, lxxviii, 28 and note 31, but there the provenance is wrongly given as Charlton Railway tunnel near Guston.

³ A. Meaney, *Gazeteer of Early Anglo-Saxon Burial Sites* (1964), 117.

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south-west and measuring 14 ft. 8 in. and 15 ft. 9 in. long respectively. The original depth of the excavation could not be determined due to the large infill of debris, only some 5 ft. 6 in. of cave space remaining. The lowest attainable point was found to be 25 ft. below ground level.

Originally the shaft had passed through 12 ft. of brickearth when, after leaving 3 ft. of chalk for roof thickness, the usual three chambers or 'wells' had been excavated to provide chalk for marling the land. The third chamber to the south had fallen in and could not be entered, the remains having been buried under a large amount of fallen brick-earth.

A somewhat similar excavation in this area was described by Dr. J. D. Ogilvie, F.S.A. (*Arch. Cant.*, lxxiv, 190), at Bramling. This shaft had also passed through the brickearth and was incorrectly referred to as a denehole. The same writer also notes a chalkwell subsidence at Updown Farm, Eastry (*Arch. Cant.*, LXXVI, lxxii).

R. F. LEGG

CHAPEL WOOD, HARTLEY

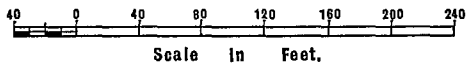
Chapel Wood (N.G.R. TQ60286633) lies in the southern extremity of the Parish of Hartley and takes its name from the still visible traces of the foundations of a rectangular building reputed to have been the Chapel belonging to the medieval village of Scotgrove. The foundations of the Chapel together with traces of what may be other buildings are enclosed within a rectangular earthwork (see plan) which now shows as a low bank approximately 3 ft. above the present ground level and some 12 ft. wide at the base.

The following past references amply describe the site as it has appeared in the past:

1. In 1797 Hasted wrote: 'Scotgrove was very anciently the estate of a family named Torpel and was once accounted a Manor. In the reign of King Henry III William de Fawkeham held this estate of Mabilla, widow of John de Torpel who granted it to him and his heirs in frank fee, to hold on the service of the fourth part of a Knights fee. . . . There was once a Chapel belonging to this estate the foundations of which are still visible in a wood, called Chapel Wood in this Parish; where there are other foundations of buildings near it and a well now covered over.'
2. John Thorpe described a visit¹. 'I went this day in company with Mr. Samuel Atwood Rector of Ash, and Mr. John Barnard to view the site of the Chantry at Scotgrove. It lies in a wood commonly

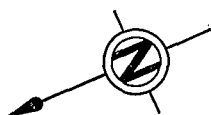
¹ From *Hartley Through the Ages*, Bancks, 52-53 (1927), where it is stated that this memorandum by Thorpe, dated August 2nd, 1728, occurs in an MS. in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries.

EARTHWORKS IN CHAPEL WOOD, HARTLEY, KENT.



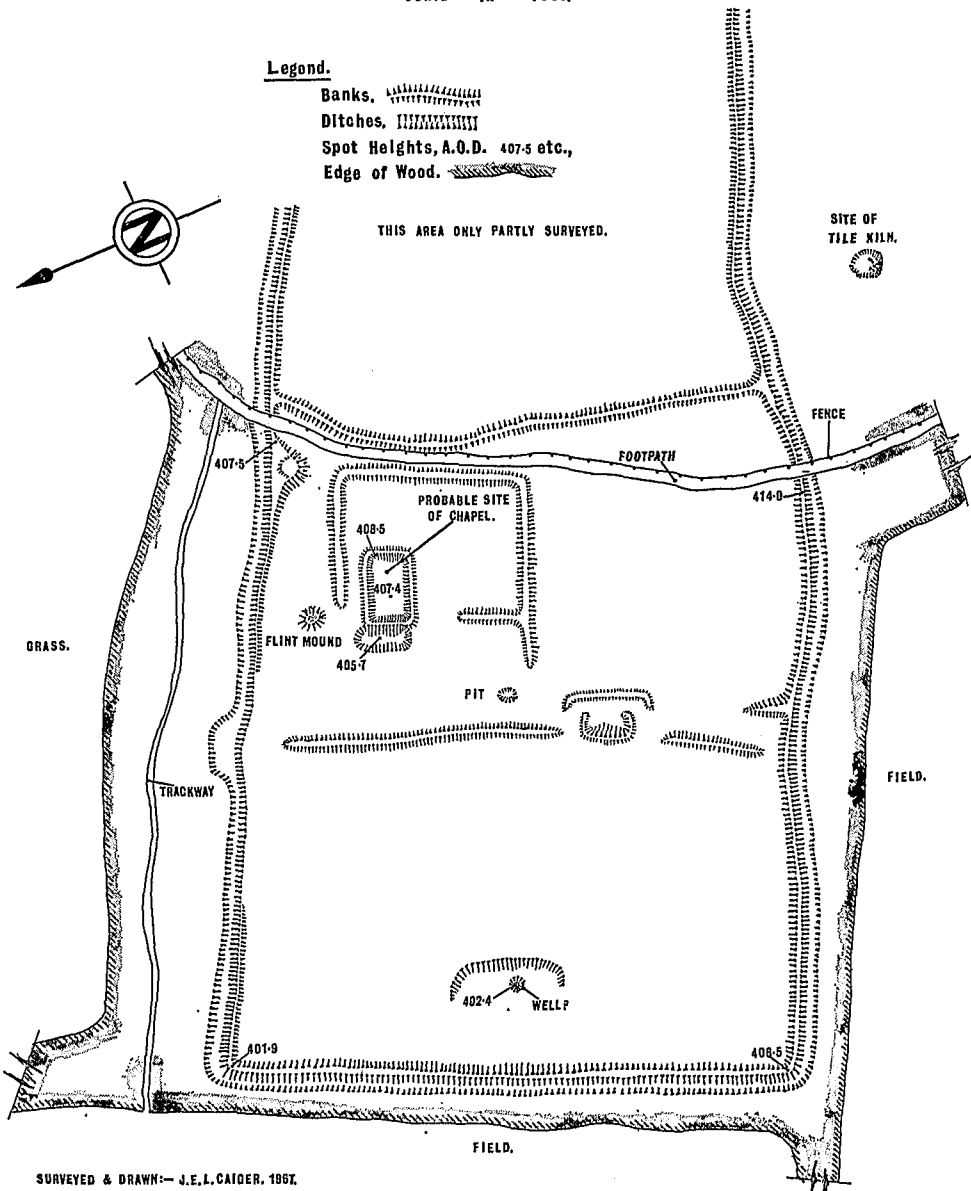
Legend.

- Banks.
- Ditches.
- Spot Heights, A.O.D. 407-5 etc.,
- Edge of Wood.



THIS AREA ONLY PARTLY SURVEYED.

SITE OF
TILE KILN.



SURVEYED & DRAWN:— J.E.L. CAIDER, 1967.

PLAN.

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called Chapel Wood. Through the wood runs a path leading from Ash towards Hartley. The next field to this on the North Site lyes partly in Ash and partly in Hartley. A very few rods on the west side of the path, and if I mistake not, about half way across the wood are ye remains of this Chantry. The vestiges of the walls thereof are plainly distinguished, being two or three feet above the level of the ground and at the west end four or five feet. The door seems to be at the south side. About ten rods on the west side is a deep draw well. The place has been entrenched round, and within it are many foundations and marks of buildings.'

3. In June 1852 a newspaper report on the Parish Church at Ash-by-Wrotham mentioned that 'in the northern part of this Parish is Chapel Wood where was formerly a mansion; a deep well was filled up many years ago with the walls of the Chapel, and the foundations are still visible'.
4. The antiquity symbol indicating the site of the Chapel first appeared on the 6-in. O.S. map in 1869, first edition.

As the area in the vicinity of Chapel Wood is being developed as a housing estate it was thought expedient to prepare a record of the existing earthworks and in April 1967 members of the Fawkham and District Historical Society Archæological Group carried out an extensive survey of as much of the system that was accessible. The survey was made under the direction of Mr. J. E. L. Caiger who also prepared the plan.

The tile kiln marked on the plan was excavated in the autumn of 1963 by members of the West Kent Border Archæological Group and forms part of a separate report now in the course of preparation.

J. A. KEEN

LEAF-SHAPED ARROWHEAD, BOROUGH GREEN

DURING July 1967, Dr. J. R. Chiswell found a small Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead in the garden of his home, 'Wayside', Maidstone Road (A.25), Borough Green, near Sevenoaks (N.G.R. TQ617573). It came from the top foot of soil. It is made of white flint and has been retouched by pressure flaking on both faces. Arrowheads of this type are characteristic of the Windmill Hill culture of the late fourth-third millennium B.C.

SUSANN PALMER

SAXON SUNDIAL IN THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, ORPINGTON

Although the sundial was discovered several years ago it has never been published in detail in *Archæologia Cantiana*. It was found by Mr. Arthur Eldridge of Orpington, on 13th August, 1958, during the

demolition of the south wall of the church for extension purposes. It was embedded in the wall at the springing of the arch of a fourteenth-century window. Just under a quarter of the dial had been cut away to shape it for re-use as a building stone. It is cemented, unfortunately, upside down, into the new arcade in the church at approximately the place where it was found. The dial is a definite piece of sculpture. It is cut from a block of stone rather more than 2 ft. square and 7 in. thick identified as Upper Greensand, Reigate, Merstham or Gatton stone. The dial is a complete circle, diameter 24 in., cut in relief to a height of 3·75 in. from the block. The face of the dial is cut into this circle leaving a border in relief to a height of 0·75 in. This border, 5 in. wide, consists of six concentric circles which enclose (1) a band of cable moulding, (2) a semi-circular plain moulding, (3) a flat band 2 in. wide on which is an Anglo-Saxon inscription, (4) a semi-circular plain moulding, (5) a band of cable moulding running in the opposite direction from (1). The face of the dial is marked by seven (originally eight) radiating incised lines with cross bars at the ends and with intermediate lines further dividing the dial into (originally) sixteen segments. Incised on the face in letters 1·35 in. high is a Latin inscription, part of which was lost when the stone was re-cut, and three Anglo-Saxon runes. There is a hole for the style in the centre and running vertically from this a deep groove which may indicate that the style was supported from above.

The Anglo-Saxon method of reckoning time was to divide the day and night into eight tides. The tides were 7.30 a.m.-10.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m.-1.30 p.m., 1.30 p.m.-4.30 p.m., 4.30 p.m.-7.30 p.m. The crossed lines on the sundial mark the middle of these tides and the intermediate lines the beginning and end of them. It was customary in Anglo-Saxon sundials to indicate with a specially marked line the *dægmael*, the beginning of the first tide of the Anglo-Saxon day at 7.30 a.m. This does not appear on the Orpington dial but the first two runes are spaced round this line.

To date the sundial has proved impossible up to the present. Of the extant Anglo-Saxon sundials many have dials which make use only of the lower half of a circle; those where the circle is entire, such as the early dials in Hampshire, at Warnford, Corhampton and St. Michael's, Winchester, and in Sussex at Bishopstone are usually devoid of radial lines in the top half of the dial. In this respect a dial at Aldborough, Yorkshire, has a similarity with the Orpington dial since it is a circular dial, and divided into eight tides and there is an Anglo-Saxon inscription between the two concentric circles round the circumference. The inscription dates this dial to not earlier than 1066. Cable moulding is usually found as a Norman ornament but there is at Marsh Baldon, Oxfordshire, a Saxon dial which is decorated with a cable moulding in relief round the circumference of the dial. Here the hole for the style



Photo copyright: Mrs. E. D. Hart
 Photograph of the Anglo-Saxon Sundial in All Saints Church, Orpington, reproduced so that the sundial is seen the right way up. The relevant description in the text assumes this position.

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is placed above the centre in the top half of the dial and the bottom two-thirds of the dial is occupied by incised radial lines.

The cable ornament on the Orpington dial is characterized by a line incised through the middle of each turn of the cable. It is noteworthy that the piece of Saxon cable moulding built into the tower at Dartford church consists of two bands of cable, the twists running in opposite directions, and marked by a similar incised line.

MARIE BOWEN

NOTE ON THE INSCRIPTION

By Dr. R. I. Page (*Corpus Christi College, Cambridge*)

The Orpington stone has two texts or text groups, both damaged when the stone top was broken away. The circular dial was surrounded by two cable mouldings, separated by the ring which held text I. The dial circle was divided into sixteen equal sectors by incised rays, every second one crossed at the end. This division must have been formal, for the rays could hardly have been a practical calibration, though they may have served to guide the eye in judging the angle of the sun's shadow. Noon was marked, as in many other extant Anglo-Saxon sundials, by one of the crossed rays, presumably that immediately above the cross which divides text I into two parts, and the dial would probably be fixed to the south wall of the church with this ray vertical, as is the dial of Barnack, Northants., still *in situ* on the south wall of the Anglo-Saxon tower. Thirteen rays enclosing twelve sectors remain out of the original sixteen; four sectors and their corresponding parts of text II are lost. Almost exactly a third of the surrounding ring holding text I has gone.

The letters of text I are placed radially. They are seriffed Roman capitals about 2·0 in. high, with occasional ligatured letters (indicated below in the style N/H) and the abbreviation 7 for *and*. C and S are angular, and there are dual forms of some letters, for example, A and A, Ð and Ð, which are not distinguished in the transcript. Thirty-five complete or almost complete characters, including the dividing cross, survive, so, as the letters are evenly set out, some seventeen or eighteen must be missing, probably including a similar cross beginning the inscription. The two parts of text I are:

(a) running clockwise from the broken top to the base cross, letter bases inwards:

- [.] / E C Ð Ð A N Ð E S E C A N C A N / H V †
 5 10 15

(b) running counter-clockwise from top to base, letter bases outwards:

- E L T E L [L] A N 7 H / E A L D A N †
 5 10 15

The middle arm of the first complete letter of I(a), E, is produced backwards to ligature with a preceding character, the lower part of whose stem runs in from the broken edge, about 0·5 in. before that of E. This lost letter was presumably H or F, or perhaps the M form **HH**. Before the first complete letter of I(b), E, is a line, about 0·6 in. long, running in from the broken edge along the inner circumference of the inscription ring. This could be the upper arm of C, E, F, G, S, or T. Damage to the left-hand edge of the stone has affected letters 5-10 of I(b). All can be certainly identified save 6, of which only the stem remains: the context gives the reconstruction [*L*].

Text II is cut on the dial itself, each letter occupying one of the sectors formed by the rays. Part, which is placed symmetrically at the dial top, is in seriffed Roman capitals about 1·5 in. high, set radially with their bases inwards. Two of these letters remain on each side of the break. They read:

O R [. . .] V M

5

Of 3 there remains a fragment of a base, like the left-hand base of A or Æ, or less likely X or an asymmetrical Y. The lower part of the stem of 6 is extant, too near its following ray to be I unless it is placed out of centre, or unless a second letter also occupied this sector. Running backwards from this stem's base is a groove which could well be accidental.

In the three sectors below O are characters most readily interpreted as runes. The lowermost of these is certainly the 'o' rune, its base outwards. Next above it is the symbol **ϕ**, also base outwards. This is not a regular runic type, but could be a rounded version of **ϕ**, the form of the rune *oeþil*, *eðel* found on the Thames scramasax, perhaps on the newly-discovered Sarre pommel inscription, and in some manuscript *futhorcs*. Though it is evidenced only rarely in inscriptions, this may be a local variant, from Kent, of the more common Anglo-Saxon form **ⱦ**. Topmost of the three is **ⱦ**, which resembles the 'æ' rune, though its upper arm leaves the stem unusually far below its top, and the lower arm is rather short. Another possibility—though an unlikely one—is that this is the reversed 'f' rune, its base set inwards like those of the following Roman text. Anglo-Saxon runes are occasionally, though rarely, found reversed.

Most of text I, which is in standard Old English, is intelligible. I(b) contains the phrase *tellan and healdan* 'to count (or to tell) and to hold'. I(a) has the clause *ðan ðe secan can hu* 'to (or for) him who knows how to seek out how', while the beginning letters **ECD** may be a verbal form *ecð* '(it) increases' or part of a longer word. These fragments suggest that the complete text described the sundial's function of counting and keeping the hours, of benefit to those who know how to

read it. The use of the verb *secan* 'to seek out (?how to use the dial)' may arise from the instrument's imprecision in time-keeping, since anyone using it would have to remember to adjust his reading according to the season.

The part of text II in Roman characters is too fragmentary for anything but guesswork. However, a parallel text may be the † ORLOGIU[M] VIATORUM (or VIATORIS as some read) at the top of the Anglo-Saxon sundial at Great Edstone, N.R. Yorks. Perhaps the Orpington text was a spelling of (*h*)*orologium*, presumably ORALOGIUM. The letters GI would occupy a single sector, third from the end, and the fragment which still remains there could be either the stem of I with the G completely lost, or part of a G which once enclosed a tiny I. I do not know if there are other examples of such a spelling—with medial A—in the late Anglo-Saxon period. The form *horalogium* is listed in R. E. Latham, *Revised Medieval Latin Word-list* (London, 1965), but only with a sixteenth-century reference. There are, however, earlier forms with irregular unstressed vowels, *i* and *e*, and a spelling in *ora-* could arise at any time as a result of the influence of the word *hora*.

The runic part of the text remains a mystery: the identification of the forms, the meaning of the letter complex, and the reason for using runes at all. If the runes are the vowels 'æ', 'œ' and 'o', they spell no word either in Old English or Latin. If they are symbols to be read as their rune-names, the sequence *æsc*, *eðel*, *os* has no obvious meaning. Perhaps they are used merely as distinctive marks to identify those sectors of the dial—early and mid-morning—in which they are placed. Other Anglo-Saxon dials distinguish at any rate that sector in which Orpington has 'æ'. Despite their baffling nature the appearance of runes on the Orpington stone adds considerably to its importance. Anglo-Saxon rune-stones are not common—only about thirty-five of them are known—and they are very rare indeed in the south-east where there are only two other examples, the small standing stone from Sandwich, now in the Royal Museum, Canterbury, and the grave slab found at Dover and in the Dover Museum. In consequence each new runic find from the area is of particular interest.

NOTES FROM MAIDSTONE MUSEUM

EASTCHURCH

In June 1967, a prisoner at H.M. Prison, Eastchurch, drew the attention of a member of the staff, Mr. F. Oakes, to some sherds of pottery found during farming work on Standford Hill (N.G.R.

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TQ981702), now within the grounds of the prison. Mr. Oakes and the finder carried out a small excavation in the area and collected further sherds, animal bones and some briquetage.

The pottery included sherds from furrowed ware jars, a coarse gritted storage jar, an amphora of Colchester type 185B and two tiny fragments of samian ware, one a rim sherd of a F.24¹ cup. The bones included pig, sheep and cow, and there were oyster shells, fish vertebrae and a red deer antler.

The site is presumably that of a small farmstead, occupied during the third quarter of the first century A.D. It is of interest, since Roman remains on the Isle of Sheppey are sparse.

D. B. KELLY

EAST MALLING

At the beginning of August 1967, Mr. J. Preece of Larkfield dug up in his garden at Mill Street, East Malling, a double-sided lead seal-matrix of twelfth- to thirteenth-century date.

Diameter	..	..	..	..	1 $\frac{2}{5}$ in.
Thickness	..	..	..	..	$\frac{1}{10}$ in.

Inscriptions

Side 1:

+ SIGILL ROGERI FIL EDEMVNDI

Side 2:

+ SIGILL WILL(?ELMI) FIL EDEMVN

Both inscriptions, crudely cut, are placed between two incised circles. In the centre of both sides are stylized fleur-de-lis. Side 2 has been worn down and probably damaged in antiquity. Side 1 could succeed in time to Side 2, especially as the two seals appear to be those of brothers. There is little difference in letter shape and both inscriptions bear the square E.

L. R. A. GROVE

GREAT MONGEHAM

In February 1967, Mr. B. A. Fowler of 214 Mongeham Road, Great Mongeham, informed me that some three years previously, whilst uprooting trees in his garden, he had found a steel stamp or matrix (Fig. 4B, p. 297). It is said that an ancient tithe barn once stood on this spot which lies east-south-east below Great Mongeham church.

The stamp is $1\frac{7}{16}$ in. in diameter, $\frac{5}{32}$ in. thick.

Because of the edge milling the first impression on seeing the matrix is that it may have been used to make some kind of trade token but

¹ Kindly identified by Mr. A. P. Detsicas, F.S.A.

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none such is known to Kent numismatists. It is more likely to have been a stamp to make the seal impressions on the necks and sides of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century wine bottles. The milling may be paralleled on the bishop's mitre and estoile seals shown in Ruggles-Brise, *Sealed Bottles* (1949), 41 and 114. In the same book, p. 167, are shown similar bottle seals with initials and merchant's mark intertwined. Two of these latter are dated 1710 and 1745. A similar device is shown on a Kent tradesman's token of 1656 (Williamson's *Boyme*, No. 208 *sub* Richard Cullen of Dover).

L. R. A. GROVE

MAIDSTONE

Recent building operations at the corner of the Week Street and High Street, Maidstone, afforded an opportunity to investigate the site, in order to determine the existence or otherwise of a Roman road running in alignment to Week Street.

On investigation it was found that two cellars lay adjacent to the road, with floor levels at a depth of about 12 ft. below the present road surface. Two trial trenches were dug in the cellar floors which were found to overlie natural subsoil. It was concluded therefore that had a road existed at this point it would have been destroyed when the cellars were built. A daily watch was kept on the site and during the demolition of a cellar wall a feature was noted and investigated. At a depth of 8 ft. 6 in. there was the edge of a wall, constructed of ragstone blocks set in mortar on a cobbled base. Adjacent to this was a small section of burnt earth and domestic rubbish containing oyster shells, animal bones and R.B. sherds. The base of a pot and a small bronze coin were found on a ragstone block in the wall and appeared contemporaneous with each other. Both objects are still undergoing examination to establish their date.

The ragstone wall may be the rear of a building with its front located somewhere in the present position of Week Street. The purpose of the building is not known but the evidence suggests that it belonged to the Roman period.

Several pits were uncovered by the contractor's mechanical excavation. Many sherds of medieval date were recovered and also a gilt bronze pan, which had been repaired (Report on this below). Seventeenth- and eighteenth-century occupation of the site was proved by the presence of pits and demolished walls together with clay pipes and domestic refuse.

The following represents a sample of the variety of pottery of the period found on the site:

(a) Grenzhausen ware. Blue stoneware checked jug, exported from Germany; c. 18th.

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- (b) Creamware. Platters made in Leeds, Yorkshire; c. 18th.
- (c) High Halden ware. Colander c. 18th.
- (d) Staffordshire Combed ware. Plate of 18-in. diameter c. 18th.
- (e) Lambeth Delft. Tin enamelled earthenware painted in manganese. Plate fragments.
- (f) Stoneware Pint Pot. Queen Anne—date inscribed 1704.
- (g) Chinese ware. Fragments of bowl, plates, etc. Some of Ch'ien Lung Period, 1736-95.

Some pottery of an earlier date is still being examined.

Thanks are due to Mr. D. B. Kelly of Maidstone Museum and those members of the Lower Medway Archæological Research Group who assisted on this site.

H. V. SUMMERTON

Report on gilt bronze bowl

The bowl was found in a partly crushed state and was restored to something like its pristine condition at Maidstone Museum. The skull of a cat, with lower jaw missing, was lying in it when excavated.

The bowl is of thin bronze sheet, gilded, undecorated, with sagging base. Ancient damage was mended with three thin plates held to the interior of the main body by bronze, divided pins rather like modern brass paper fasteners but with various shaped heads, mostly rectangular, and two triangular sidepieces, the whole cut from one piece of metal. The bowl was obviously considered of value to merit these repairs (*J.R.S.A.I.*, 97, p. 20, no. 65).

Plain, narrow, everted, flat rim with no rolling over. Six holes equidistantly punched through the rim from below with an extra, small hole behind the only hole where the rim projects into a small triangular point. These holes may have been made to contain ornamental studs (cf. London Museum: *Medieval Catalogue*, fig. 66, A 27350) or to hold a chain for suspension as the bowl has a sagging bottom.

Diameter at rim (approximately)	.. ..	9 $\frac{1}{8}$ in.
Average width of rim	.. ..	$\frac{2}{5}$ in.
Base diameter	.. ..	7 in.
Height	.. ..	3 in.
Thickness	.. ..	$\frac{1}{16}$ in.

Date: late medieval, thirteenth to fifteenth centuries.

L. R. A. GROVE

MAIDSTONE

In 'Notes on Recent Additions to the Collections' (of Maidstone Museum) published in the *South Eastern Gazette* of the 24th January, 1922, a brief reference, as follows, was made to the finding of a medieval

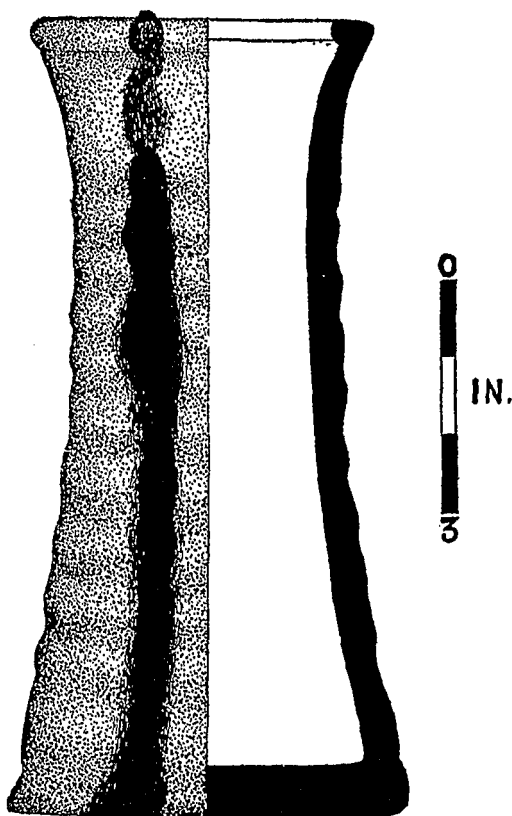


FIG. 3. Glazed "butterpot" from Week Street, Maidstone.

pottery kiln. 'In the course of digging a hole during some building operations at Mr. W. Buck's garage in Week Street, Maidstone, several pieces of medieval pottery, probably of the fourteenth century, and supposed to be butter jars,² were found a few feet below the surface, and some of them were presented to the Museum³ by Mr. J. Buck of Bearsted.' A four-line mention of the find in *Archæologia Cantiana*, iv, 64, seems to be the only other reference to this kiln.

At the time of the find, in 1921, an alleyway ran on the south side of 125 Week Street. At the west end of this alley a hole was made to contain a telegraph pole.⁴ The dome of a pottery kiln, approximately 4 ft. across was broken through and underneath, according to my

² For some comments on the purpose of these see Llewellynn Jewitt's, *The Ceramic Art of Great Britain*, i, 95-96. Another school of thought considers them to have been used as supports in kilns.

³ Accession number 4 (1921).

⁴ This property is now used as a garage by the *Kent Messenger*.

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

informant, the late Mr. B. Wicks, were several 'butterpots' (cf. *Arch. Cant.*, lv, 62, no. 20), of which some unglazed examples have been given to the Maidstone Museum from time to time.

During July 1967 Mrs. M. Levett of Maidstone showed me a 'butterpot' which she had obtained from the site in 1921. This I thought important enough to record and draw (Fig. 3) as it had a spill-trail of dark green, fourteenth-century type, glaze running down the side from a blob on the rim. On the base was stuck a good deal of material, such as sandstone, lumps of glaze and bright-red baked clay, upon which it had rested in the kiln.

The fabric of the pot itself is of buff-coloured paste incorporating fine sand. It is a heavy vessel for its size—5 lb. 3 oz. including the material (weight not more than 3 oz.) stuck to the base.

L. R. A. GROVE

NETTLESTEAD

A small palaeolithic hand-axe of Middle Acheulian type was picked up by our member Mr. R. G. Cutting in Hale Park Wood, Nettlestead (N.G.R. TQ677508). The axe is of a mottled grey-brown flint, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. maximum width and 1 in. max. thickness.

D. B. KELLY

NEW ROMNEY

In May 1966, an iron arrowhead, $4\frac{1}{8}$ in. long (Fig. 2A), was found some 3 ft. below ground level by men digging in allotment gardens, formerly a tennis court, north of Sussex Road. The site lies east of the Bowling Club and of the southern end of Spitalfield Lane.

The arrowhead appears to belong to Ward Perkin's type 14 (London Museum: *Medieval Catalogue*, 70) where the barbs curve in towards the socket. Such 'broadheads' were used exclusively for hunting. A series of them, dated fourteenth to sixteenth centuries, is shown in the Tower of London (cf. *Archæologia*, xxxvi, plate VII, no. 3).

I am grateful to Miss Anne Roper, F.S.A., for calling my attention to this find.

L. R. A. GROVE

PLUCKLEY

A large palaeolithic flint hand-axe of Middle Acheulian type was found on his land by Mr. D. Attlee of Greenhill Farm, Egerton (N.G.R. TQ911459). It has a creamy-brown patina and is $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. maximum width and $1\frac{5}{8}$ in. maximum thickness.

D. B. KELLY

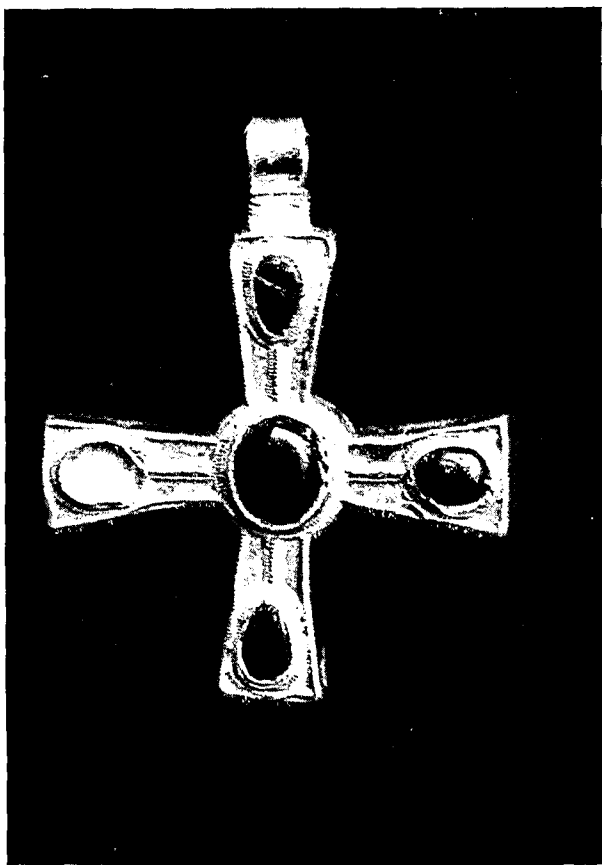


Photo: Kent Messenger

Anglo-Saxon gold cross, Thurnham.
(Length 6·7 cm.)

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

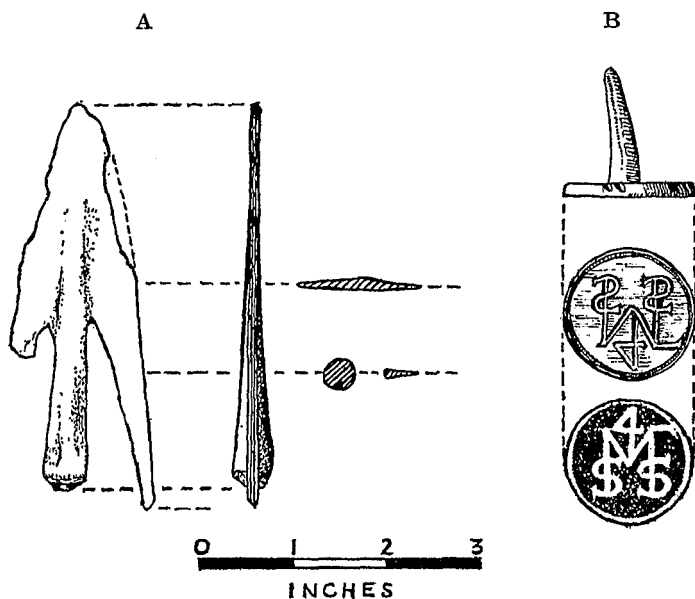


FIG. 4.

A. Medieval arrowhead from New Romney.

B. Great Mongeham matrix.

THURNHAM

An Anglo-Saxon gold cross (Plate III) was found in March 1967, by Mr. P. Beer of Thurnham while harrowing a field north of the Pilgrims' Way (N.G.R. TQ814576). At a coroner's inquest at Tonbridge on 21st June, it was found not to be treasure trove.

The cross is 6.7 cm. long (including the suspension loop), of pale yellow gold, hollow and squarish in section (average thickness c. 9 mm.). There is a central, oval garnet and a garnet at each end of the expanded arms, drop-shaped on the vertical arms and oval on the lateral ones. The garnet on the left-hand lateral arm is missing. The garnets are set in beaded gold strips, imitating filigree, and similar strips join the central stone to those on the arms, the vertical strips having a plait pattern. There is beading along the edge on the face of the cross and below the suspension ring, where the plait pattern occurs again.

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

A number of small pectoral crosses are known from Kent and elsewhere,⁵ datable to the second half of the seventh century. Although the Thurnham cross cannot be exactly paralleled, there are certain features which are found on other jewellery of the second half of the seventh century. The plaited pattern, for instance, occurs on a pendant from Milton Regis in the Society's collection,⁶ and the drop-shaped garnet pendants on the necklaces from Desborough,⁷ Roundway Down⁸ and Callidge Lowe tumulus (Derbys.)⁹ are mounted like those on the Thurnham cross.

D. B. KELLY

TONBRIDGE

The Museum has recently purchased 12 volumes containing samples of the printing work done by William Bridger (later Bridger and Son) of Tonbridge. They cover the years 1842 to 1850 and 1867 to 1869 and contain bills and brochures advertising property sales in Tonbridge and surrounding parishes, material concerning friendly societies, benefit societies, medical clubs, savings banks, turnpikes, Edenbridge Fire Engine Association, prosecuting societies, schools (including Tonbridge School examination papers), churches and chapels, constables' duties, Medway Navigation charges, Tonbridge Union Quarterly Abstracts, voting registers, Tonbridge Choral Society, Tonbridge Phonetic Society, Tonbridge races, concerts, theatres (Theatre Royal, Canterbury; Tunbridge Wells; Tonbridge), Sevenoaks Assembly Rooms, cricket, fairs, circuses, executions, railways and tradesmen's advertisements.

L. R. A. GROVE

ULCOMBE

Recently acquired by Maidstone Museum from this parish, but from two different sources, are two smith-made iron implements.

1. A carpenter's axe with tubular socket and triangular blade. Upper edge of blade straight and inclined upwards. Lower edge concave. 'This type of axe is common in representations of carpentry from the thirteenth to the sixteenth centuries' (Ward Perkins, *op. cit.*, 59). This is Ward Perkins Type II and is similar to example A 2278 in the London Museum. It was found by E. Chapman, Esq., on Church Farm in 1900.

⁵ S. Hawkes in *Arch. Cant.*, lxxviii, 29-32 and refs. therein.

⁶ S. Hawkes, *op. cit.*, 28 and fig. 2, 2.

⁷ R. Jessup, *Anglo-Saxon Jewellery* (1950), pl. XXVIII.

⁸ and ⁹ J. Y. Akerman, *Remains of Pagan Saxondom* (1855), pls. I and XL.

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

Maximum length	..	..	..	..	7½ in.
Length of top edge	..	..	..	..	7 in.
Breadth at cutting edge	..	..	..	..	5 in.
Length of cutting edge	..	..	..	..	6¾ in.
Length of socket	..	..	..	..	3½ in.

2. A bill of fifteenth-century type, with broad blade, long socket and ogival edge. Dug up in the garden of the late Walter Woolley at Knowle Hill and given to the Museum by our member, J. A. Gallienne, Esq. It has five holes, in the shape of a quincunx, pierced through the blade in front of the back spike. Both spikes are diamond shaped in section at the point.

Total length	..	..	..	..	19 in.
Length of socket (approximately)	..	..	..	..	6¼ in.
Width of blade (less back spike)	..	..	..	..	4¼ in.

A similar bill is illustrated in fig. 149, no. 3, of G. C. Stone's *Glossary* and one is carried by a retainer of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, in B.M. Cottonian MS. (Julius E IV) folio 5b (date 1485-90). The holes suggest that it was a parade weapon.

L. R. A. GROVE

WEST WICKHAM

An Anglo-Saxon escutcheon from a hanging bowl has been lent to the museum by Miss Joan Richardson, of Herne Bay. It was dug up by her some years ago in a garden in Hawes Lane, West Wickham.

The escutcheon is circular, with an openwork design and a bird's head terminal to the suspension hook. It is one of bronze with traces of silvering. A description and drawing will be published in the next volume of *Archæologia Cantiana* after the escutcheon has been treated for corrosion and cleaned.

D. B. KELLY

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