

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

### THE 'PRIEST' HOUSE AT SMALLHYTHE: A FALSE IDENTIFICATION?

Three buildings in Smallhythe still survive on the site of the main centre of the medieval village standing on the water-front of the old Rother estuary. All were built soon after the great fire of 1514 in 'the which yere Smalithe was burnt on the last day of Julye', as the Tenterden Corporation's minute book records.

The three buildings are the Chapel of St. John the Baptist, the so-called 'Priests House', immediately to its south and, still further to the south, next to the Ferry Bridge, the house in which Ellen Terry lived, now the Ellen Terry Museum. The purpose of this note is to show that there is no evidence to identify the second house as the Priests House and that there is good reason to prefer in this role a house north of the Chapel, but close to it, destroyed by fire in 1910, which was always known as the 'Chapel House'.

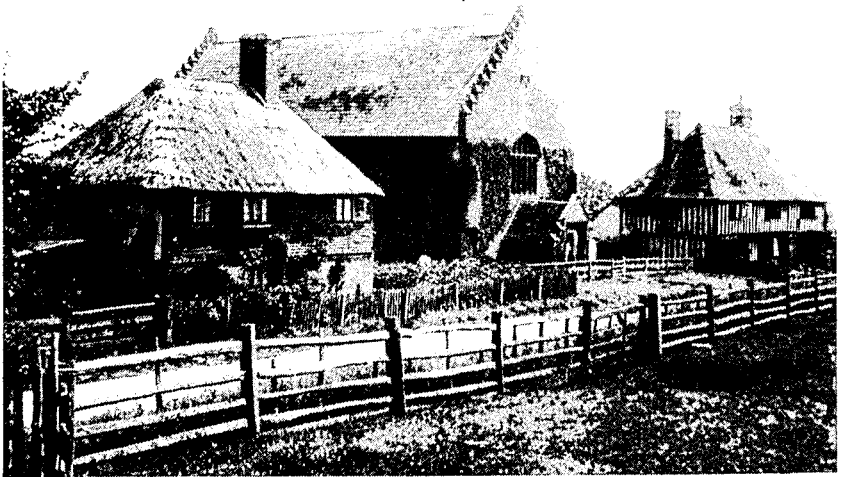
Ellen Terry bought her property at Smallhythe in 1899. For at least the first twenty-five years of her occupancy, the house in which she lived was known as 'The Farm' and the house, now called 'The Priests House', which she gave to her daughter Edith Craig, was known as 'The Cottage'. There are many proofs of this, but a good example is a letter from Edith Craig, in which she protests against burials taking place 'within a few feet of my walls' and a letter from her mother endorsing her protest. Both letters are dated 7th August, 1925, and are headed in the writers' manuscript 'The Cottage' and 'The Farm' respectively. The substitution of 'The Priests House' and 'Smallhythe Place' took place between then and 1947 when Edith Craig died. Both houses were then left to the National Trust which has continued to call Edith Craig's house 'The Priests House' without questioning the identification. There is a strong case for doing so now, before the myth becomes accepted as the truth. Already it has found its way, on the strength of statements in the Trust's guidebooks, into Pevsner and into an article on Priest's Houses in *Country Life* (June 22nd, 1978).

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

A dwelling-place for the chaplain celebrating Divine Service in the chapel of Smallhythe had undoubtedly been built, after the fire but before 1545/6, for a valuation made in that year includes  $\frac{3}{4}d.$  as the rental value of 'a chamber lately built over by the inhabitants of the said Town in which the chaplain dwells'. Its construction had, in part at any rate, been endowed by Robert Brigenden in his will of 19th November, 1517, providing for 'the building of a house for the priest celebrating in the chapel of Smalhythe to occupy and live in'. Both documents are quoted in A.H. Taylor's monumental article on Smallhythe in *Arch. Cant.* A chamber for the priest was therefore provided in Smallhythe sometime between 1517 and 1545.

The question remains whether the house in which a chamber was provided for the chaplain of Smallhythe was the house named by Edith Craig, sometime after 1925, as the 'Priests House' or the Chapel House destroyed by fire in 1910.

PLATE I



Chapel House (l.) and 'Priest House' (r.)

Some of the earlier history of the Chapel House is recorded in the visitation presentments quoted by Taylor (*loc. cit.*). There is a reference in 1608 to the feoffees (= Trustees) and the lands of the chapel, and in 1614 a presentment recites that 'our ancestors built a chapel in place of that destroyed by fire but that the chest to keep the writings touching the lands for maintenance of our minister were most sacrilegiously embezzled'. The story continues in the feoffees' Account Book still preserved in Tenterden Town Hall. This starts in

1686 but refers to a new deed of enfeoffment made in 1670. This in brief referred to earlier failures to keep accounts and laid down procedures to ensure that this was done in future — as indeed it was most faithfully.

Several later enquiries are relevant to the identification of the Chapel House

(a) an audit in 1692 of ‘the lands and house belonging to the feoffees’ included the ‘dwelling house belonging to the chapell and closer together with a piece of land called Muntreefield’ let to Thomas Kite for £2. 5s. Note that only one house was included in the endowment lands and that the lessee was clerk to the feoffees. Note also that Muntreefield is the ‘Montaurye Garden’ mentioned in the 1545 valuation (which also includes only one dwelling-house — the Chaplain’s chamber).

(b) An entry of May 18th, 1730, records a contract with a mason (paid £20) and a carpenter (paid £30) ‘to pull down and new build the Chapell House at Smallhythe’. It required the construction *inter alia* of ‘three fire hearths, one below, two above, the upper part of the house to be weather tiled and double plastered without and within’.

(c) A large number of entries refer to the tenancy of the house by the clerk, though one of 1779 gives the rent for the land only ‘the house being in the chaplains hands’ and there are other references to the chaplain’s occupancy. The clerk, right up to modern times, occupied the house till within a few years of its destruction, for a rental of £2. 10s. (paid back to him as his salary).

The above is clear evidence of the house burnt in 1910, standing to the north of the Chapel, being known as the Chapel House from 1670 onwards and occupied by the clerk. The original house, new built in 1730, must have been put up some two hundred years before, and it is a fair presumption that this was the only house ever mentioned in the feoffees’ list of properties.

The claims of ‘The Cottage’ bought by Ellen Terry and renamed ‘The Priests House’ by Edith Craig are supported by no documentary evidence. Such a name would not have been used after Queen Mary’s death and the only Chapel or Chaplain’s house, mentioned so frequently, is the house burnt in 1910. A.H. Taylor did prodigious research into all the documents he could find about Smallhythe and in none of his published or unpublished papers is there any evidence supporting Miss Craig’s theory, or any reference to her house as the chaplain’s house. It is fair to say that her house has been very recently surveyed most carefully by Mr. Kenneth Gravett who dates it to the first quarter of the sixteenth century, i.e. to about the time when the chaplain’s chamber was built. On the

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

other hand, the construction and elaborate ornamentation of the house make it a most unsuitable house for a poor chaplain.

Is it not a fair conclusion that there is no evidence to justify the identification of Edith Craig's cottage as the 'Priest House' but strong presumptive evidence that the predecessor of the house now built in 1730, destroyed in 1910, contained 'the chamber in which the chaplain dwelt' in 1545?

A photograph (Plate I) of the Chapel House (to the left of the Chapel) and of Edith Craig's 'Priest House' (to its right) shows the rival claimants.

JOHN WINNIFRITH

### SEVENOAKS DISTRICT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

The year to August 1980 has been one of steady if unspectacular progress. Further buildings have been examined and typescript accounts of the following are now available for consultation in the K.A.S. Library and Sevenoaks Library.

*Halstead*      *The Old Rectory, Church Road*

Seventeenth-century, probably first half, with butt-purlin roof. Greatly enlarged and altered in eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

*Oxford*      *No. 20, High Street*

Part of the parish poor-house built c. 1790 and divided into three terraced cottages — of which this was one — when that became redundant in 1834. Converted into a shop, 1980.

*Mount View, The Green*

Second half of eighteenth century. Allegations of earlier core evidently stem from two re-used timbers then incorporated. Nineteenth-century extension and other subsequent alterations.

*Riverhead*      *Cade House, Chipstead Lane*

Despite nineteenth- and twentieth-century changes, this remains a building of considerable interest. Behind the Georgian front (c. 1750-80), part contains late-sixteenth-century timber framing, but most dates from

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

the early years of the following century. The latter work is almost entirely in stone and of exceptionally high quality for a small house, with supra-vernacular sandstone doorways and windows and a nicely-ornamented wooden staircase. The inspiration, and possibly the labour, demonstrably came from the extensive embellishments at Knole in 1603-8.

### *Shoreham Cockerhurst Farm Oast-house, Redmans Lane*

Two roundels and fragment of stowage, c. 1850-70. A long Georgian barn, about half of which had been adapted as the remainder of the stowage, was demolished c. 1910-30 when use as oast-house ceased. At the same time, the surviving remains were re-roofed; they are now (1980) in process of conversion into part of a new residence.

Our most important achievement to date has been the discovery in 1978 that an Otford house called The Chantry originated as a public hall built c. 1400. A detailed study is forthcoming and meanwhile I have written an account for general readers, *Otford's Medieval Court Hall*. This modest booklet represents our first publication and is available from me at 52 Tudor Drive, Otford, Sevenoaks, TN14 5QR, price 50p (65p including postage at 1980 rate). I wish to place on record that the identification of this building owes much to the paper in *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxiii (1968), 1-22. by S.E. Rigold.

Otford Palace continues to cause us considerable concern and, despite representations from numerous quarters including K.A.S., the attitude maintained by Sevenoaks District Council, as owners, is most discouraging. The situation regarding their plan to open up doorways in the Tudor south elevation, as reported in the last volume of *Archaeologia Cantiana*, is still unchanged and the threat thus remains. The walls of the great three-storeyed tower, for centuries a shell without roof or floors, received regular attention on a 'stitch in time' basis until the local-government changes of 1974. Since then, they have been neglected and are now so decayed that, for the first time in memory, notice-boards warning of the danger of falling brickwork have been erected. Although repairs to this scheduled Ancient Monument, with financial help from the D.o.E. have been under discussion by the Council since 1977, they have been repeatedly deferred on the pretext of the cut-back in public expenditure. It is greatly to be feared that, as a result of failure even

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

to carry out first-aid work, eventual restoration will be so drastic as to entail much disfigurement of the tower's interesting early sixteenth-century features.

ANTHONY D. STOYEL

### EXCAVATIONS AT EASTRY

Trial excavations were carried out by the Department of Archaeology of the University of Leeds during July 1980 within Eastry Court Farm (N.G.R. TR 312548). Two areas were examined immediately to the north of Eastry Court. The first produced a naturally silted, post-medieval ditch whose fill contained a sherd of Belgic pottery. The second area revealed a complex of pre-thirteenth-century ditches, which had completely removed the original chalk surface. A corner of a pre-thirteenth-century timber-framed building was examined. No earlier finds were recovered except small quantities of tenth–eleventh century 'Saxo-Norman' pottery. It is hoped that excavations will continue in 1981.

C.J. ARNOLD

### PIPEMAKERS OF THE MEDWAY TOWNS

In the last volume of *Arch. Cant.*, xcv (1979), 239, I published a list of pipemakers of the Medway Towns. In the light of fresh information the following additions and amendments should be noted:

Joseph Milsom, Rochester, c. 1750–1774

Thomas Hull, Rochester, c. 1765–1774

Christopher Hadds, Rochester, c. 1768–1771

John *Hales* (not Halls), Rochester, c. 1771

John Sloper, c. 1774–1826 was an elector of Rochester but a resident of Gravesend.

Thomas Webb, Rochester, c. 1774–1816

John Cornes, Rochester, c. 1774–1795

Joseph Anderson, Rochester, c. 1816–1868

Charles Birchall, Chatham, c. 1822–1855

William Webb, Chatham, c. 1837

Henry Hunt, Chatham, c. 1838–1858

I. Birchall, Chatham, c. 1840

Richard Anderson, Rochester, c. 1847–1856

George *Chalmers* (not Chambers), Strood, c. 1847

John Watson, Rochester, c. 1847–1856

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

Henry Christopher, Chatham, c. 1849

William Birchall, Chatham, c. 1858–1867

John Smart, Rochester, c. 1859–1868

George Phillips, Chatham, c. 1865–1878. Phillips became a lemon-ade manufacturer around 1871 as well as continuing pipemaking. The business eventually evolved into the well known local mineral-water company Dove, Phillips and Pett, which was in business until fairly recently.

D.E. WILLIAMS

### REMAINS OF THE MEDIEVAL SACRISTY OF ST. HELEN'S CHURCH, CLIFFE-AT-HOO

This church has been fully described in two articles in previous volumes of *Arch. Cant.* The earlier, by the Rev. I.G. Lloyd, appeared in vol. xi (1877), and the second, accompanied by a plan, by A.R. Martin, in vol. xli (1929). Both these writers drew attention to evidence of there having been a small building attached to the north side of the fourteenth-century chancel towards its east end, identified as a chapel or sacristy. The evidence consists of two small arched niches, one in the north (outer) face of the chancel, and the other in the east side of the second buttress from the end, these having been at one time internal features. Martin considered the former to have been a piscina and the other possibly a holy water stoup. Between the two buttresses the treatment of the chancel wall is dissimilar from the decorative coursed ragstone and flint facing of the rest of the fourteenth-century work, being of random rubble, and Martin considered this as indicative of its being a survival of an earlier chancel and that possibly the vanished building was pulled down when the chancel was rebuilt in the fourteenth century or soon after. Inside the chancel, a doorway — now blocked — has fourteenth-century mouldings and formerly communicated with the destroyed building. On the outside the rough rubble blocking of the opening is very apparent.

In 1978, the Rev. S.P. Gray, Rector of Cliffe, requested our Society to carry out excavations to ascertain the nature of the destroyed building, and in May 1979 a small group of our Members<sup>1</sup> opened two wide trenches to reveal the features shown in the accompanying plan (Fig. 1). Unfortunately, the presence of a strip of concrete-set cobbling now runs at ground level round this part of

<sup>1</sup> Those mainly involved were Messrs. T. Beswick, A. Daniels, A.C. Harrison, T. Ithell, P.R. Payne, D. Rouch, and members of the Thameside Archaeological Group, to all of whom the present writer extends his thanks for their support.

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

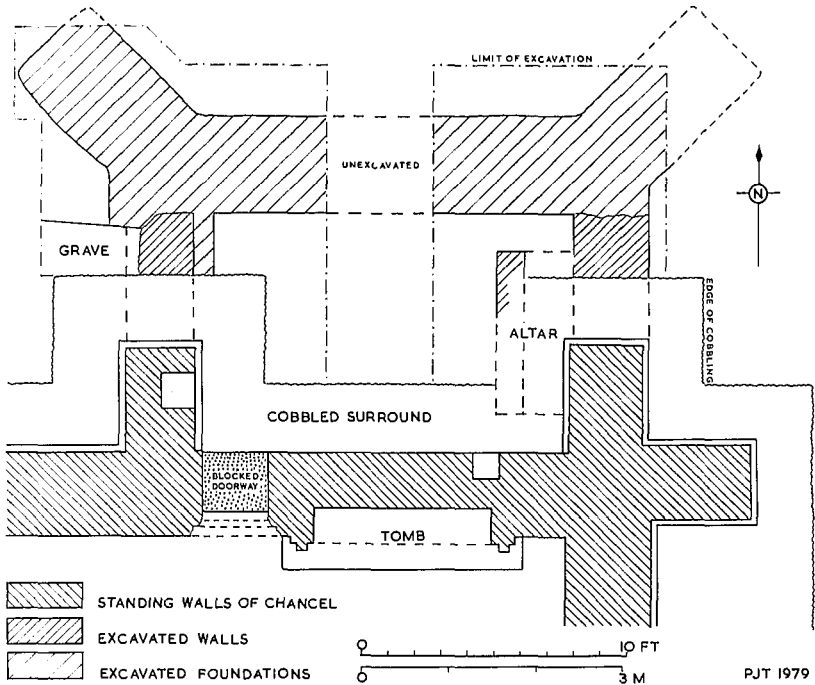


Fig. 1. Plan of the medieval Sacristy on the north Side of the Chancel of Cliffe Church.

the church, constructed recently to prevent surface water penetrating the base of the walls, and we were consequently not able to dig close to the chancel. Northward of this obstruction, however, we uncovered fragmentary remains of two ragstone walls and the wide chalk foundation of the north wall with two diagonal buttresses. It is thus possible to state that the building measured internally 14 ft. from east to west and slightly over 9 ft. in width, allowing for a slight setting back of the north wall on its foundations.

Parallel with the east end there was a wall, 1 ft. thick, plastered on its west face and neatly squared at the north end. The cobbled surface prevented a full examination of this feature which had apparently disintegrated at a point 2 ft. 6 in. from its northern extremity, but it almost certainly formed the front of an altar, the outline of which is restored conjecturally on the plan. If the wall was free-standing with a space between it and the end of the building, as seems probable, the mensa or top slab of the altar may have rested at the rear on a ledge or corbels.



## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

Immediately adjoining is the small niche in the north face of the chancel, interpreted as a piscina. A careful search failed, however, to discover a drain-hole in its very eroded base, but in view of the disintegrated nature of the stonework this negative evidence cannot be stressed.

Reference has already been made to the blocked doorway formerly giving access from the chancel, and this is shown in a photograph accompanying Martin's article in 1929. As he noted, the blocking at the north end descends some distance below the internal cill, so it may be assumed that steps existed in the thickness of the wall. From our observations it is concluded that the floor of the sacristy was about 3 ft. lower than that of the chancel. When the sacristy was demolished and the opening blocked, an extension of the earlier string-course<sup>1</sup> along this side of the chancel was inserted, this now being in a very eroded condition, whereas elsewhere the stonework of the string-course has been renewed in modern restoration. The fact that this insertion was not continued eastward of the blocking may be explained by the fact that to do so would have involved the labour of cutting into the wall, while the introduction of the feature during the construction of the blocking would be comparatively simple.

Both buttresses in line with the east and west walls of the sacristy have been extensively renewed in restoration, but the low-arched niche in the western of the pair is a surviving medieval feature, its floor being 1 ft. 3 in. square while the cill was about 2 ft. 6 in. above the old floor-level. Its purpose is problematical, for it has no rebate for a door or traces of hinges such as would occur if it had been an aumbry, and to Martin's suggestion that it was a holy water stoup (though there is no trace of a basin and the floor is flat) I would add the conjecture that it may have contained a lamp to light the foot of the steep flight of steps leading up to the chancel.

Corbels in the chancel wall indicate the level of the sacristy roof, and from this it may be judged that the internal height of the building was approximately 10 ft.

To the west, the foot of a grave had been cut into the wall and footings, indicating that the uncoffined burial took place after the demolition of the sacristy.

*Discussion.* There can be little doubt that the destroyed building was intended primarily as a sacristy or vestry as its position in relation to the chancel is that commonly assumed by such structures in parish churches, as at Stone (Dartford), Crayford and elsewhere.

<sup>1</sup> Martin stated that 'a plinth has been inserted when the door was blocked up, to match that round the rest of the chancel', but in fact the top chamfer of the actual plinth is well below the string-course and is not continued across the blocking.

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

The occurrence of an altar would not be out of place in such a context before the Reformation. As for its age, I see no reason why it should not have been contemporary with the fourteenth-century chancel. Diagonal buttresses were rare before that period<sup>1</sup> and the indisputable fourteenth-century Decorated moulded jamb of the entrance from the chancel is partly covered by the plinth of the later Perpendicular tomb. Martin's observation that part of the chancel wall coinciding with the length of the sacristy is of rubble, contrasting with the banded facing of the remainder, does not necessarily imply that it is of a different age. As this area would have been enclosed within the sacristy, it was not given the elaborate banded treatment employed on the exposed parts of the chancel, and was no doubt originally plastered — as were nearly all internal wall surfaces in medieval churches. There is no clue as to when the sacristy was demolished, but I consider it not unlikely to have taken place at the Reformation when the abolition of the medieval rites would have rendered obsolete the vestments and other liturgical ornaments, which the building was provided to accommodate.

P.J. TESTER

### A CRUCIFIX FROM THE MAISON DIEU, OSPRINGE

The Hospital of St. Mary of Ospringe, commonly called Maison Dieu, was founded *c.* 1234, although it may have existed in rudimentary form before that date. Recent excavation of part of the hospital recovered fragments of an enamelled crucifix in a layer of rubbish which accumulated in the yard (955) between *c.* 1483 and the early to middle sixteenth century.<sup>2</sup> The find-spot in the centre of this yard suggests that the crucifix did not come from the main hospital chapel but from a small private chapel, possibly just a niche, in the room above the undercroft (342) adjoining the Camera Regis, or from a chapel attached to the south end of the common hall (B534).<sup>3</sup>

The fragments (Fig. 1a; Pl. I, a-c) consist of pieces of thin sheeting (2 and 5) with repoussé daisies and pellets, also pieces of

<sup>1</sup> Francis Bond, *Gothic Architecture in England* (1906), 361.

<sup>2</sup> G.H. Smith, 'The Excavation of the Hospital of St. Mary of Ospringe, commonly called Maison Dieu', *Arch. Cant.*, xcv (1979), 106, 137-9, Fig. 138. 124-6, Fig. 140, 130. The authors are grateful to Mr. George Smith for his help in the preparation of this note.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 100, 105.

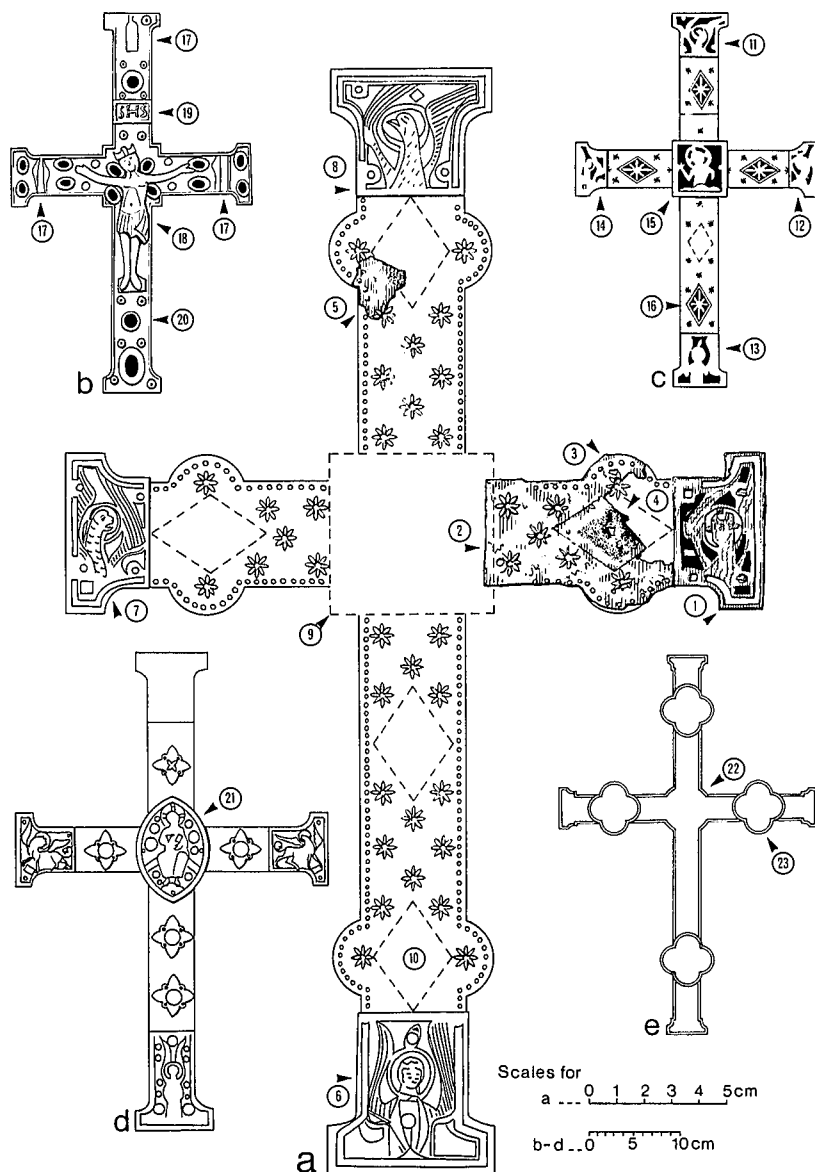


Fig. 1. Reconstruction of the Ospringe Crucifix (a) with comparable Crucifixes from Womersley (b - front; c - rear) and Liège (d) and by Jean Garnier of Limoges (e).

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

decorated edging strips (Pl. I, a and c) and an enamelled plaque (1). When these pieces were found they formed a nucleus of fragments with the enamelled plaque face up, and another piece (5) (Pl. I, e) 2 m. away. The largest piece of sheet (2) (Pl. I, c) comes from one arm of the cross and the enamelled plaque, which depicts the winged ox symbolizing St. Luke, comes from the end of the arm. There are traces of gilded sheet metal on the back of the enamelled plaque showing that it overlapped the sheet by about 3 mm. The small sheet fragment (5) is unlikely to come from the same arm. One of the edging strips (Pl. I, a) must have come from the side of sheet (2, Pl. I, b) because of its shape, while the length of the straight piece (Pl. I, d) suggests that it comes from the lower arm of the crucifix. The pieces of sheet metal originally encased a wooden cross and were attached by flat-headed nails, 6 mm. and 10 mm. long; the nails in the enamelled terminal are elongated triangles of thick sheet metal, up to 12 mm. long. Traces of wood adhering to the backs of the larger fragments indicated that the cross was of oak.

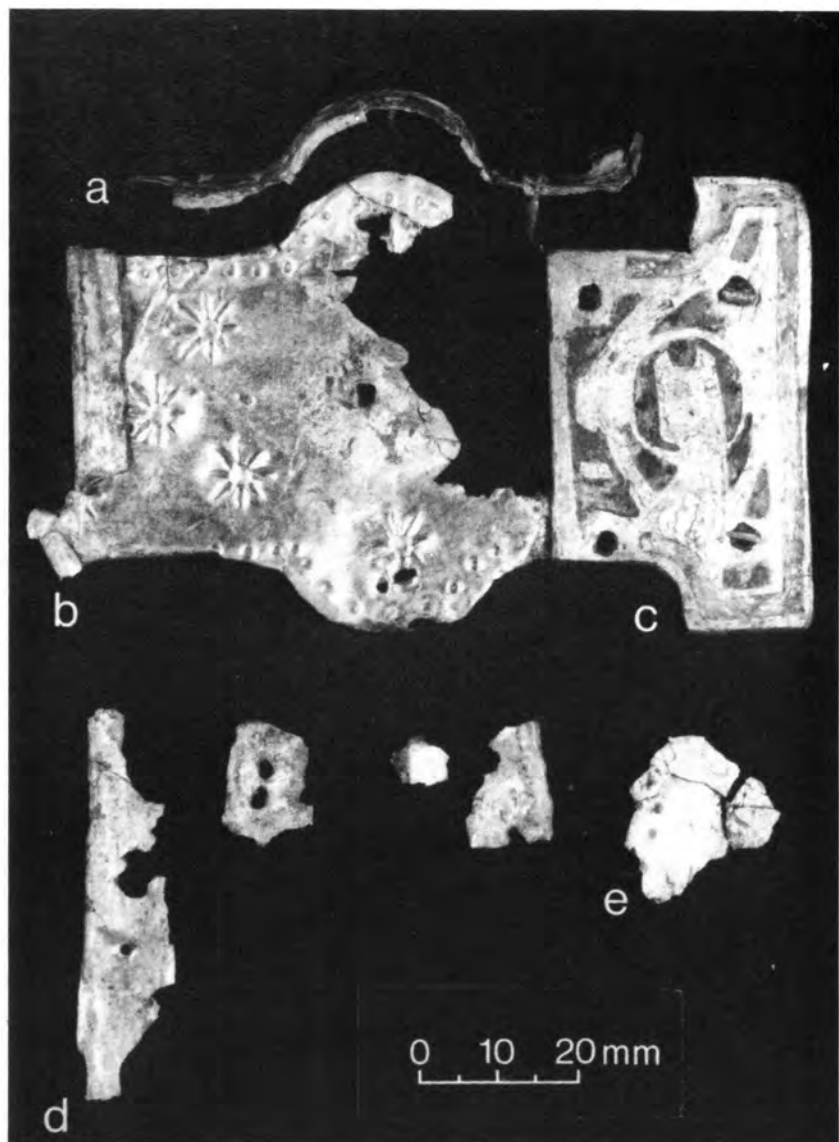
The analyses of the sheeting and plaque show that the base metal is mainly copper with traces of lead and probably arsenic. The gilded surfaces of both contain traces of mercury, and had thus been applied by the fire-gilding technique. The flat-headed nails are of copper with minor/trace amounts of tin, lead, and also zinc; the latter was lacking in the 'nails' of the enamel plaque. The terminal plaque is decorated with *champlevé* enamel set into chiselled engraved depressions of uneven depth. The enamels have decayed and become impregnated with corrosion products from the underlying metal. It would seem that the background had been a deep blue, bordered by a white band. The nimbus was white, with the rays in red. The winged ox is gilded and lightly engraved to show facial features, feathered wings and part of the torso.<sup>1</sup> A lozenge-shaped plaque (4) was fixed to the large gilded sheet (2) by a nail.

The flanging on the edging strips (Pl. I, a and d) suggests that they overlapped the gilded sheets, which were also flanged. They give an internal measurement of 9 mm. as the possible thickness of the oak cross and the large gilded sheet (2) gives a minimum width of 38 mm.

A close parallel to the Ospringe crucifix, and probably of similar dimensions, was found in Womersley Church, North Yorkshire<sup>2</sup> (Fig. 1b (front) and 1c (rear)), and the reconstruction of the Ospringe crucifix (Fig. 1a) is based on this. It is clad in sheets of

<sup>1</sup> Conservation by Miss J. Watson, X-ray fluorescence, technical examination and notes on the analysis by Miss J. Bayley, Ancient Monuments Laboratory.

<sup>2</sup> J. Fowler, 'The Womersley Crucifix', *Yorks. Arch. Journ.*, ii (1973), 35-42.



Fragments of the Ospringe Crucifix

gilded copper which on the reverse of the cross have *repoussé* stars or daisies and pellets. At the ends of the arms are enamelled plaques (11 – 14) bearing the symbols of the evangelists. A plaque from the base of a similar crucifix showing the winged figure symbolizing St. Matthew, has been found at Haughmond Abbey, Shropshire.<sup>1</sup> The colouring in all the examples seems to follow a standard design, having a background of deep blue with a pale border. The lost terminals on the Ospringe crucifix (6 – 8) are taken from the Womersley example. The lozenge-shaped plaques on the arms of the Womersley crucifix (16) are also enamelled, and it may be assumed that those on the Ospringe example (4 and 10) resembled them. At the centre of the Womersley crucifix is a square plaque (15) showing Christ, his right hand raised in benediction and his left holding a book. A similar plaque was found at Brenzett, Kent,<sup>2</sup> and the Ospringe cross probably also had such a plaque (9). On the front of the Womersley crucifix (Fig. 1b) are settings (20) for artificial gems, blanks (17) once occupied by figures of saints, and the sacred monogram (19). The figure of the crucified Christ (18), cast in relief and attached to the cross by nails in the hands and feet, has an enamelled loin cloth; it is similar to one from Criccieth Castle, Gwynedd,<sup>3</sup> and others from London.<sup>4</sup>

A cross from Liège<sup>5</sup> (Fig. 1d) has a similar arrangement on its reverse; the central plaque (21) is, however, vesica-shaped, while that on a cross by Jean Garnier<sup>6</sup> (Fig. 1e, 22) is apparently round. The latter example also has quatrefoil plaques (23) on the arms, and it seems likely that similar ornaments were on the obverse of the Ospringe crucifix, accounting for the semicircular expansion on the arm. (3).

All these crosses belong to the class of enamelwork produced in the late-twelfth and early-thirteenth centuries at such centres as Limoges and towns on the Rhine and Meuse. Jean Garnier, who made the crucifix shown in Fig. 1e, was certainly a Limoges enameller, but it has been suggested that the Brenzett plaque is of

<sup>1</sup> C. Blair and M.L. Campbell, 'An eleventh-century Latten Candlestick Base and a thirteenth-century Limoges Plaque from Haughmond Abbey, Shropshire', *Antiquity*, lix (1979), 414–18.

<sup>2</sup> A. Roper, *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxvi (1971), 228–9.

<sup>3</sup> 'Crucifix Figure from Criccieth Castle', *Antiquity*, xv (1935), 358–9; B.H. St. J. O'Neil, 'Criccieth Castle, Caernarvonshire', *Arch. Camb.*, xcvi (1944), 38.

<sup>4</sup> London Museum, *Medieval Catalogue*, 288, pl. LXXXI. 1 and 2.

<sup>5</sup> C. de Linas, 'Emaillerie limousine', *Bulletin de la Société d'Art et d'Histoire du Diocèse de Liège*, iv (1886), 1–5, pls. I – II.

<sup>6</sup> C. de Linas, 'Les Crucifix *champlevé* polychromes, en plate peinture, et les Croix émaillées', *Revue de l'Art Chrétien*, ser. 3, iii (1885), 457–8.

English manufacture.<sup>1</sup> If the Ospringe crucifix was originally made for the Maison Dieu, then it most probably dates from the foundation of the hospital in the first half of the thirteenth century. The fact that wood remains on the back of the larger fragments indicates that these pieces were still attached as the wooden cross decayed. It is possible that the rest of the metal fittings, and especially the gems that, by analogy with the other examples, would have been set into the front of the cross, were stripped and robbed at the dissolution of the hospital. That some of the metal was scattered at this time is suggested by the other small sheet fragment (5) which, when found about 2 m. from the other pieces, did not have wood adhering to it.

J.C. THORN and A.R. GOODALL

#### A STAMPED MORTARIUM FROM HIGHAM

The mortarium (Fig. 1) was found *in situ* on the edge of Higham Saltings (N.G.R. TQ 698752). The find-spot is only a few yards from the site of the discovery, in 1964, of three Romano-British cremation burials.<sup>2</sup> The mortarium was resting on a burnt surface about 5 ft. below the high water level. When found it contained a large amount of material, apparently of an organic origin. The mortarium is of a grey fabric and was coated with a cream-coloured slip. The find was brought to the attention of Mrs. K. Hartley, B.A., F.S.A. who kindly submitted the following report:

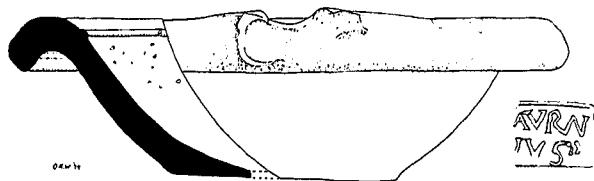


Fig. 1. Stamped Mortarium from Higham (Scale:  $\frac{1}{4}$ )

This virtually complete mortarium has a name stamp of the potter Saturninus I impressed to each side of the spout. When complete the stamp reads SATVRNI/NVS followed by a leaf stop (see *Frere 1972*, 377, fig. 146, no. 36).<sup>3</sup> Stamps from approximately forty-six of

<sup>1</sup> *Op. cit.* in note 7, 228.

<sup>2</sup> *Arch. Cant.*, lxxix (1964), lvi.

<sup>3</sup> *Verulamium Excavations, I. Reports of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London*, no. xxviii.

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

his mortaria are known from the important pottery at Brockley Hill, Middx. (*Castle 1976*, fig. 9, facing p. 224),<sup>1</sup> and there is no doubt that he worked there.

Thirty-seven of his mortaria are recorded from sites throughout England with the largest numbers of Verulamium (8) and London (10 or 11), which formed the main part of his home market. A stamp from Milecastle 50 Turf Wall may be dated to within a few years of A.D. 125 (*Trans. Cumberland & Westmorland Antiq. & Arch. Soc.*, 2nd ser., lii, 34, fig. 7, no. 38); one from Heronbridge and one from Verulamium are from deposits dated later than A.D. 130. The rims used by Saturninus indicate activity within the period c. A.D. 95–135. The small hole in the centre of the base was almost certainly the result of excessive wear and there can be no doubt that this vessel was abandoned at some time within the period A.D. 100/105–135.

P. PAYNE

### SOME SITES IN NORTH KENT

The sites mentioned below were identified by two K.A.S. observers during pipe-laying and drainage operations in the years 1977–1979. Observation was subject to the exigencies of the work in progress and the aim, necessarily, was to record sites for future investigation rather than to engage in rescue digging.

The observers thank the Southern Water Authority and the British Gas Corporation, for allowing them access and facilities, and are grateful to Mr. A.C. Harrison, F.S.A., for his advice and help, particularly in the identification and dating of the pottery.

N.G.R. TQ 69137394. Shorne Marshes. In alluvial clay at a depth of about 1 m., sherds of second century Romano-British pottery, including samian, some of it apparently water-worn.

N.G.R. TQ 69877410. Shorne Marshes. In blue alluvial clay at a depth of about 1.25 m., sherds of black burnished ware, some of it blistered (probably kiln-wasters). Traces of bright blue vivianite in the alluvium and adhering to some of the sherds.

N.G.R. TQ 70147422. Shorne Marshes. In alluvial clay at a depth of 1.36 m. a cushion-sized stone, probably sarsen, and a blacked slab of Roman brick (both left *in situ*); inverted on the brick, most of a coarse black pot and other sherds, all probably assignable to the period A.D. 80–120.

<sup>1</sup> *Trans. London & Middx. Arch. Soc.*, 27.



## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

N.G.R. TQ 70247285. Shorne. Less than 1 m. below the surface and extending about 25 m. on either side of the cart track between Red House and King's Farm, a massive area of dark blue clay, mottled a bricky red and containing a few colourless insoluble crystals. The cart-track marks the way southward from a known occupation area (Bronze Age to Anglo-Saxon) some 800 m. to the north. No artefacts were found.

N.G.R. TQ 70897333. Higham. Despite the proximity of a railway cutting where large quantities of pottery were found when the cutting was made,<sup>1</sup> nothing was found here.

N.G.R. TQ 71536950. Watling Street (A2), Chapter Farm. A large main was passed under A2, on the line of Roman Watling Street, at the entrance to Chapter Farm. The modern three-lane road here has a lay-by and wide grass verges, giving a total width of 30 m. to the public highway. From two pits sunk outside the highway fences a 50 m. tunnel was bored under the road and lined with 6 ft. diameter reinforced concrete piping. The top of this piping is 3.2 m. beneath the surface of the modern road. No identifiable trace of Roman roadwork was encountered. Since its width between boundary ditches was probably not more than 25 m., it could be contained within the width of the modern highway, and the vertical distance of 3.2 m. between the modern road surface and the tunnel would be more than enough to contain its thickness, the more so in that the tunnel showed the subsoil to be of solid chalk for most of its length. Only at its northern end did the tunnel encounter the large flints of the Bullhead Bed and the sands of the overlying Thanet Beds. Here and for some way northward the pipe-trench cut through the notoriously irregular junction between the Chalk and the Thanet Beds, in which some of the zigzags exposed on the walls of the trench might easily be mistaken for ditches cut in the chalk and filled with sand and flints.

N.G.R. TQ 72797407 – 72977414. Higham, Oakleigh Farm. Kilns and pottery, late-second and early-third centuries, were excavated by Mr. Philip Catherall, Gas Corporation archaeologist, assisted by Mr. A.C. Harrison and the observers

N.G.R. TQ 72937063. Strood, Brompton Farm, at a depth of 0.8 m. to 1.2 m. a patch of black ash was found to contain the upper parts of a coarse greyish cooking-pot about 18 cm. diameter, apparently of late-first or early-second century A.D. date. The ash deposit was found to continue at the same level for at least 2 m. northward from the northern face of the pipe-trench but did not

<sup>1</sup> *Arch. Cant.*, xi (1877), 114; xxiii (1898), 22.

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

show on the southern face. It also yielded oyster- and snail-shells and the charred knuckle-end of a bone.

N.G.R. TQ 73017071. Strood, Brompton Farm. Part of a late Roman bowl, inlaid with silver, was retrieved by the driver of a heavy mechanical excavator at a depth of 2 m. or less, and was subsequently deposited with the British Museum pending an inquest. Several pieces of Roman tile were found in the topsoil of the adjacent field.

N.G.R. TQ 73027319. Cliffe. On the east bank of the Higham-Cliffe boundary stream a dark layer about 1 m. thick was briefly exposed; it runs eastward, capped by sandy deposits, and there are signs of occupational soil between the stream and the summit of Buckland Road.

N.G.R. TQ 74677806. Cliffe Marshes, Bush Wick. A levelled mound, with Roman and medieval pottery. Salt-panning and rubbish pits were visible on the cleaned banks of the north-south drain, and two levelled areas at N.G.R. TQ 74707810.

N.G.R. TQ 75117787. Cliffe Marshes, Sheepfold. At a depth of 1.3 m. a hard platform of burnt clay about 2 m. long, going inward from the channel bank for at least 0.5 m. and underlain by black ash resting on blue clay at 1.5 m. Similar evidence of salt-panning was found on the near-by northward channel at a depth of 1.5 m., while eastward, at N.G.R. TQ 75147786, is another levelled area with Romano-British pottery.

N.G.R. TQ 75147641. Cooling. From 25 m. east of this point on the parish boundary the alluvial subsoil becomes reddish, with bricky crumbs and occasional sherds of coarse black pottery, continuing for about 100 m. eastward and covering an area of salt-panning overlying the Chalk, which is here about 2 m. beneath the surface. A similar area exists between 105 and 142 m. north-east of this reference point.

N.G.R. TQ 75407655. Cooling Marshes. Here the Thanet sands and Bullhead Bed come within 3 m. below the surface of the blue alluvial clay, showing peat, bricky burned clay, bivalve shells and a few calcined flint chips.

N.G.R. TQ 76497663. Cooling, Broomhey Farm. The O.S. maps indicate 'Roman pottery kilns (sites of)', and there have been finds and brief reports of archaeological activity hereabouts.<sup>1</sup> The present report follows a straight cross-section through the area from a channel at N.G.R. TQ 76337659 eastward to a junction of channels at N.G.R. TQ 76737665, a distance of 390 to 400 m. Sites along this

<sup>1</sup> *Arch. Cant.*, xlii (1930), xlvi; xlv (1933), xliii; lxxxii (1967), lv; lxxxv (1970), 187; lxxxvi (1971), 242; lxxxvii (1972), 240; lxxxviii (1973), 207.

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

cross-section were measured from N.G.R. TQ 76337659 in metres, thus:

- (a) 0 – 165 m., alluvial marsh, about 2.5 m. above mean sea-level:
- 74 m., at 2 m. depth in blue clay, the top of a roughly trimmed upright post;
  - 82 m., at about 1 m. depth, a similar post;
  - 85 – 105 m., at about 0.4 m. depth, a close scatter of flint cobbles, with a few sherds, probably first century;
  - 105 – 165 m., bricky brown soil above alluvium streaked with red and black ash to a depth of about 1 m., apparently salt-panning, and containing:
    - 125 m., at 1.2 m. depth, part of a kiln or hearth of baked clay, with a clay kiln-bar;
    - 147 m., at 1 m. depth, a pit with black ash and meat bones;
    - 153 m., at 0.8 m. depth, a pit with black ash and potsherds, including first century A.D. combed ware black with bead rim and, above it, a fragment of samian (Form 37), probably second century A.D. form
- (b) 165 – 395 m., sand and pebble beds (Woolwich Beds) above marsh level;
- 169 m., at 2 m. depth, the black ash bottom of a large pit or ditch, with flints, bones and coarse Romano-British pottery;
  - 201 – 202 m., close to sandy surface, the cross-section of a north—south track about 2 m. wide, of flint cobbles, chalk lumps, tile fragments, and pebbles;
  - 220 – 240 m., scattered sherds, including colour-coated ware;
  - 227 – 228 m., cross-section of a track, roughly parallel to 201–202 above, but of close-packed pebbly soil with sherds, including a second-century A.D. samian fragment;
  - 261 m., a broken cremation urn, standing in a hole made in a blackened pebble floor and packed in on one side with flints, sherds and clay; inside the urn, plastic grey clay at the bottom, under a layer of sherds covered by the top (mouth and handles) of an amphora; a red pot, sealed with clay, had stood on the amphora, and there was some calcined bone. The urn itself stood upon the inverted base of a samian bowl, clearly stamped CABBIM. Part of a Patch Grove type storage jar and some

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

late second-century A.D black burnished ware were found near-by.

271 m., a pile of tiles, probably a kiln-pedestal, standing on a floor of closely-packed pebbles set in greyish sandy clay; reddish sherds with friable surface, probably late second or third century A.D.

272 – 395 m., no signs of occupation encountered.

N.G.R. TQ 77717651. High Halstow. Signs of Salt-panning in the alluvial clay along the north side of the Nature Reserve. (Mr. M.L. Titt, agricultural engineer, reported finding at N.G.R. TQ 77957671 two saucer-shaped pans of baked clay, each 3 m. across at 0.3 m. below the surface, containing some heat-shattered flint.)

N.G.R. TQ 78647641. High Halstow. West side of Decoy Lane, by the Nature Reserve entrance, the site of a former cottage, with modern and medieval brick and tile and remnants of a tiled hearth; on its north-west side, a cobbled area with seventeenth-century sherds, clay pipe fragments, and a piece of heavy iron-slag, like that from Wealden bloomeries.

N.G.R. TQ 81757572. Stoke, Malmaynes Hall Farm. The northern face of a trench showed a pit 1.5 m. deep, with up to 0.5 m. of ash at the bottom and containing pottery of the second and third centuries A.D., including one piece of samian. On the nearby sub-surface a red tile, 11 × 11 × 2 cm., was found, showing white slip decoration and yellow lead glaze, probably thirteenth century.

N.G.R. TQ 82927560. Middle Stoke. A shallow burnt area, about 2 × 2 m., with small fragments of pottery, probably thirteenth-century.

N.G.R. TQ 83857558. Stoke, the Wick. Removal of topsoil showed the rim of a burnished urn some 30 cm. in diameter and 25 cm. high; inside, above clay, flints and calcined bone, stood a 10 cm. black pot capped by remains of a reddish 'saucer'.

All the pottery, apparently mid-first century A.D., was sodden and fragile and was taken to Rochester Museum for preservation.

P. THORNHILL AND P. PAYNE

## TWO DEPOSITS OF NINETEENTH-CENTURY CLAY TOBACCO PIPE KILN WASTE FROM CHATHAM

### Interim Report

In October 1979 a dump of pipemaker's waste was discovered in the front garden of Gibraltar Cottage, 19 Maidstone Road, Chatham. During April 1980 another, larger deposit was disclosed by road-

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

widening at the junction of Richard Street and James Street, Chatham. Both deposits derived from the activities of members of the Birchall family, who seem to have been the predominant pipe-makers of Chatham during the first half of the nineteenth century.

The earliest deposit was that at Richard Street, where the Birchalls resided between c. 1800 and 1867. The material found here belonged to George Birchall, c. 1800–1840, and it is probable that his kiln is close by, *in situ*, somewhere under the car-park which covers most of the surrounding area. The majority of the pipes recovered have large fluted bowls, some are decorated with embossed symbols, e.g. Britannia and masonic emblems. Many pieces of kiln-furniture were also recovered. Among the pipes are several by Thomas Webb of Rochester, c. 1774–1816; and two marked I.S., probably John Sloper, who lived in Gravesend but appears in the Rochester Poll-Books up to 1827. The material extends *under* James Street, which appears to have been built by 1810; together with the style of the pipes a date-range for activity on the site of 1790–1810 is suggested.

The deposit at the Maidstone Road site derives from the kiln of Charles Birchall, c. 1822–1855. Most of the pipes recovered have plain bowls with pointed spurs and small initials and are of a type which had evolved by the 1830s. A large minority of the pipes is marked I.B. and is stamped on the back of the bowl BIRCHALL. This member of the family does not appear on any records and has yet to be traced. Pipes of eight local contemporaries of Charles Birchall were found stratified in the waste. Similar kiln-furniture to that of Richard Street was also found. The grounds of the cottage were formerly larger and contained some small buildings, one of which may have housed a kiln but later buildings now cover these former grounds. The relationship between Birchall and the property has yet to be established. A date for activity here of 1835–1855 is most likely. It is hoped that a full illustrated report will appear at a later date.

D.E. WILLIAMS

## CANTERBURY CITY MUSEUMS

A bronze mount was found in the autumn 1978 by Mr R. Hopkins of Ashford while exploring with a metal detector an area of newly made up land on the western side of Canterbury's Rheims Way, N.G.R. TR 142577. The area known as Toddlers' Cove was being raised by the City Engineer's Department with soil taken from, among other places, the soil heaps of the excavations in the centre

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

of Canterbury. Mr Hopking brought the mount to the museum and has subsequently been good enough to donate it for display.

Mrs. Katherine East, of the Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities, British Museum, has provided the following report:

'Bronze plaque, originally gilt, 3.1 cm. × 3.1 cm. and 1–2 mm. thick. of inverted shield shape with straight base and sides curving inwards towards the rounded apex. The apex is damaged and the appearance suggests that there was originally a rivet hole at this point. The front and back surfaces show areas of both the red and the green colour typical of copper corrosion products. Adhering to the basal edge are three separate small, protruding lumps of corroded bronze.

The front surface has a slightly raised peripheral border and carries the design of a single quadruped standing proud against the reserved background. The body is outlined with double contour lines and has one rear and one fore-foot both pointing forwards and each furnished with three strong toes. The tail passes behind the rear leg, crosses in front of the body and terminates in a leaf composed of two curled fronds with a central billet. The backward-turned head has a short curled lappet, an open mouth with upturned snout and a large lentoid eye prolonged backwards to a point. The outlines and features of the animal are picked out by gilding (shown shaded in the drawing) (Fig. 1). However, the presence of flashes of gilding on the surface of the body and elsewhere suggests that the whole surface of the mount was originally gilt.

A ninth-century date and south of England origin are suggested for this mount. The powerful animal drawing, double-contoured outlines and the exaggerated treatment of the eye are features of late ninth-century Mercian sculpture; points of resemblance can be shown between the Canterbury animal and those on cross shafts from Desborough, Ashbourne, Moulton, St. Oswald's, Gloucester, and the strong-chested animal with curved neck from St. Alkmund, Derby.<sup>1</sup> However, the Mercian beasts have naturalistic ears, are often collared and, with the exception of the Moulton quadruped, are entwined in interlace. Though the head with lappet and the foliate tail are found on creatures in semi-circular fields on the Tassilo chalice, the bold and contoured body of the Canterbury animal suggests a ninth- rather than an eighth-century date. The use of the plant motif and the naturalistic pose of the animal point

<sup>1</sup> A tenth-, rather than a ninth-century dating for these crosses has recently been suggested by Rosemary Cramp in *Anglo-Saxon and Viking Age Sculpture* (ed. J. Lang, BAR 49, Oxford, 1978).



Fig. 1. Bronze Mount from Canterbury ( $\frac{1}{3}$ )

towards Carolingian influence and a south of England workshop. The form of the trefoil on the tail can be paralleled in the manuscript Royal I.E. VI;<sup>1</sup> folio 4a of this manuscript has, in addition to the Trewhiddle-style animals discussed by Wilson,<sup>2</sup> naturalistic quadrupeds lightly delineated in dots which can be compared with the Canterbury beast. The Leningrad Gospels, folio 18, carries a large, upstanding quadruped picked out in double contouring, which employs the same simplification of profile drawing in showing the legs of one side only. It seems, therefore, that the dating of this object should place it somewhat earlier than the contorted Trewhiddle animals and the fashion for silver and niello; a date in the first half of the ninth century is suggested. Details of treatment shown by the Canterbury quadruped occur also in eleventh-century metalwork and sculpture, but in these later examples the contoured outlines are lacking and there is a greater degree of modelling of the animal body.

It is conceivable that the mount formed part of a bookclasp, which hinged along the present base but, in the absence of a direct parallel, any suggestion as to the original function of this mount can be no more than tentative.'

K.G.H. REEDIE

#### A HEAD OF A ROMAN BRONZE FIGURINE FOUND NEAR CANTERBURY

A recent acquisition at the Royal Museum, Canterbury, is the head of a small bronze figurine found in 1980 by Mr I. Thompson in an arable field on the west side of Stuppington Lane, Canterbury. N.G.R. TR 148564.

<sup>1</sup> I am grateful to Miss M. Budney for drawing my attention to these plant motifs and for useful discussions about the manuscript.

<sup>2</sup> D. Wilson, *Anglo-Saxon Ornamental Metalwork 700-1100*, London 1964.

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

The head, c. 3 cm. high, has broken off at the point where the neck joined the shoulders. It is of a youthful male person with head inclined slightly to the left. The facial features are indistinct and the nose is rather flat in profile, probably due to corrosion. The hair is long, waved and parted in the centre at the back of the head. The ends on the front are drawn up to the top of the head and are secured in a knot above the forehead; at the back they are rolled over and secured in a knot on the nape of the neck. This hair-style is found on several types of Apollo in classical sculpture, for example Apollo Belvedere in the Vatican Museum, and also on more inferior Roman provincial versions in bronze such as a figurine found at Richborough, Kent,<sup>1</sup> and in pipe-clay as found at Hatcheston, Suffolk,<sup>2</sup> Pupillin (Jura)<sup>3</sup> and Vichy (Allier).<sup>4</sup> Unlike the clay figurines, however, the bronze head under discussion has no wayward tresses falling down over the shoulders. Although the attributes of Apollo are obviously lacking, there is a strong possibility that the youthful male person was intended to represent Apollo. The figurine probably dates to about the second century A.D.

F. JENKINS

### THE BRASS TO ALICE DRAYTON IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH, HORTON KIRBY<sup>5</sup>

On the floor of the south transept of this church there is a monumental brass consisting of the single effigy of a lady attired in the costume of c. 1460, set in a large and much-eroded slab of shelly marble, with three heraldic shields remaining at the corners, while a fourth shield and a plate bearing the inscription have long since been missing. Some writers on the church have been content to refer to this brass as being of an 'unknown lady', though in one

<sup>1</sup> J.P. Bushe-Fox, *Third Report of the Excavations at the Roman Fort at Richborough*, Reports of the Research Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, x (1932), 88-9, pl. XVIII, 2.

<sup>2</sup> Ipswich Museum, unpublished.

<sup>3</sup> M. Rouvier-Jeanlin, *Catalogue des Figurines en Terre cuite gallo-romaines du Musée des Antiquités Nationales*, Editions C.N.R.S., xxiv<sup>e</sup> supplément à 'Gallia', Paris 1972, 221, no. 530.

<sup>4</sup> M. Rouvier-Jeanlin, *ibid.*, a clay mould for an Apollo figurine now in the museum at Moulins (Allier).

<sup>5</sup> I am grateful to the Dartford Historical and Antiquarian Society for permission to reproduce the substance of these notes which I first published in an unillustrated form in their *Newsletter*, no. 10, in 1973.



## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

popular work she has been identified by wild conjecture with the heiress Lora de Ros who, about 1292, married Roger de Kirkby (or Kirby) from Lancashire, an alliance which resulted eventually in the addition of his family name to that of the manor.

In Griffin and Stephenson's *List of Monumental Brasses Remaining in the County of Kent in 1922* she is, however, correctly identified as Alice Drayton, daughter and heiress of John Kirby, and wife first of Thomas Stonor and later of Richard Drayton. The arms of the last two, impaled by those of Kirby, occur on the monument.

Further illumination comes from Hasted's statement<sup>1</sup> that at the end of the reign of Richard II (1399) the manor descended to a Kirkby heiress who married Thomas Stonar, of Stonar in Oxfordshire, and that his descendants accordingly held the property for several generations. Although Hasted mentions neither her name nor the fact that she was buried here, there can be little doubt, in view of what has already been stated, that Alice Drayton, née Kirby, commemorated by the brass in the south transept of Horton Kirby church was the heiress to whom he refers.

As the three surviving shields constitute the sole remaining evidence of identity, they may be described in further detail. The arms at the south-west corner of the slab (the head of the effigy is to the west) are identifiable as KIRBY, *Azure, six lioncels rampant argent, on a canton or a mullet gules*. The lioncels were rendered in lead and are now barely distinguishable. The canton and pierced mullet are of brass on this and the other two shields. At the south-east corner is KIRBY impaling DRAYTON, *Ermine, two bars gules, in chief a demi lion rampant of the second*. The other shield, at the north-east corner, is KIRBY impaling STONOR, *Azure, two bars dancettée, or, a chief argent*.

A curious feature is that in two cases the arms of the lady's family are shown impaling those of her husband, which is the opposite of correct heraldic practice, probably due to an engraver's error. A suggestion that this was done out of respect for the superior social standing of the heiress is not supported by the evidence of the brass to Lady Joan de Cobham (*d.* 1433), in Cobham church, near Rochester. She was an heiress of great wealth and social status but her arms are there shown impaled by those of her second husband, Sir Reginald Braybrook. The Cobham brass has the arms of the lady's ancestors at the upper corners and sides of the large slab, and has the same dignity and effective simplicity of design displayed by

<sup>1</sup> *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent* (1797), 496-7.

the Horton Kirby memorial, although about twenty-five years earlier.<sup>1</sup>

Regarding the missing shield at the north-west corner, some observations by Hasted<sup>2</sup> supply a possible clue to the arms it bore. Referring to Gilbert, son of Roger de Kirkby, he mentions that 'there is a large gravestone in the south cross of this church, with the portrait of a man in long robes, with the inscription torn off; but at the north corner of it these arms remain, *Quarterly, first and fourth, Kirkby; second and third, Ros*, which is most probably his grave stone.' Upon consideration, it appears extremely probable that the brass Hasted described was, in reality, the one forming the subject of these notes. Certainly no trace of any other monument fitting his description now exists in the church or is recorded elsewhere as having done so. Nearly all the particulars he mentions are applicable to the Alice Drayton brass: it is in the south transept, it is on a large slab (approximately 9 ft. 2 in. by 4 ft. 4 in.), it possesses a solitary effigy accompanied by heraldic shields, and the inscription is missing. But it might be objected that Hasted refers to only one shield and that he notes the effigy as that of a man. Both these objections can be overcome, however, by assuming that the monument was partly covered — possibly by pews — when Hasted saw it in the eighteenth century. If pews encroached on the south and east margins, he would not have known of the shields now remaining but would have seen only the one now missing, which he aptly described as being 'at the north corner'. The fact that this brass is not mentioned in Thorpe's account of the monuments in this church in his *Registrum Roffense* (1769) is further support for the supposition that it was obscured at that period. The quartered arms of Ros and Kirkby would be very appropriate in this position in reference to the union of the two families already mentioned from which Alice Kirby was descended.

It is possible that the head of the effigy may have been detached at some time, for it is broken in a line across the shoulders. If Hasted saw the present effigy with the head hidden or missing, he would be quite liable to mistake it for 'a man in long robes.'

In the north transept, the brass to John Browne (*d.* 1595) has a shield with the Stonor arms wrongly relaid in the slab. This shield was formerly in the nave on a slab with indents for three other shields and an inscription (Griffin and Stephenson). It is quite probable that this was the memorial to Thomas Stonor, first husband of

<sup>1</sup> | *Arch. Cant.*, xi (1877), 100.

<sup>2</sup> *Loc. cit.*

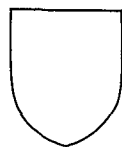


Fig. 1. Brass to Alice Drayton, née Kirby, in Horton Kirby Church. (*The length of the effigy is 48½ in.*)

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

Alice Kirby whose own memorial in the south transept bears heraldic evidence of her ancestry and two marriages.

In the accompanying illustration (Fig. 1), rubbings of the components of the brass have been mounted in their correct relative positions except that the upper shields are moved 6 in. downwards towards the head of the effigy, and the lower pair are shown the same distance nearer the indent of the inscription than they appear on the slab. This has been done to minimise the degree of reduction of the whole composition and to avoid loss of detail. The indent of the missing inscription shows the plate to have measured 25½ in. by 5¼ in. and there are indications of there having been three securing rivets set in lead with pouring channels leading to them from the edge of the plate. The missing shield is restored conjecturally as the indent is completely eroded although a lead plug and rivet remain to attest its former existence.

P.J. TESTER

### PLAXTOL

Through the help of our member, Mrs. M. Lewis, of Dunks Green, I have been able to inspect a medieval lead seal-matrix found during November 1979 on the surface of a field of Broadfield Farm lying below Old Soar Manor. The finder was Mr Dennis Apps, the farm manager.

#### Description

Pre-cast with, on the obverse, an overpierced quatrefoil design with four intermediate dots, which have done through the lead to make small bosses on the reverse. Tall triangular-shaped handle.

#### Inscription:

\* S ' RICI ' . F ' . SYMON ' .

(Seal of Richard Son of Symon).

Reversed N. wedge-shaped contraction marks. Of early thirteenth-century date.

Diameter	= 2.5 cm.
Overall height	= 1.2 cm.
Thickness of disk	= 2 mm.
Height of handle	= 1 cm.

A little patination, uniform on the reverse.

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

I have normally discussed such finds with the late Stuart Rigold (*Antiq. Journ.*, lvii (1977), 324–9). This was the last seal to have had the benefit of his criticism.

L.R.A. GROVE

### LOST EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY CHARITY BOARDS FORMERLY IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BEXLEY

Until 1965 there were in the lower part of the tower of this church two large framed charity boards which were removed in that year on account of their infestation with woodworm. From information given in response to a recent enquiry as to their present whereabouts it is assumed that they have been destroyed.

Having learned of their intended removal in July 1965, I made a transcript of the information on the boards, and it is considered worthy of publication so that the record may not be irretrievably lost.

#### *First Board*

##### BENEFACTORS to the POOR of this Parish of BEXLEY

GAVE to the POOR of this Parish  $20^{\text{s}}$ . in Rye yearly to be given palm sunday payable out of the Parsonage

GAVE to the POOR  $10^{\text{s}}$ . in Bread beer & cheese yearly to be given in the Church on Easter day & payable out of y<sup>e</sup> parsonage

M<sup>R</sup> LANE gave  $10^{\text{s}}$  yearly to be paid at Christmas to the Church Wardens for y<sup>e</sup> use of the POOR in Bread. issueing out of Four Tenements in Bexley in y<sup>e</sup> occupation of Francis Mace or his Assignes

GAVE a Parcell of Land above five Acres in this Parish called Parish Lands. lett by Lease at  $2^{\text{l}}. 10^{\text{s}}$ . p<sup>r</sup> ANNUM. to be paid to y<sup>e</sup> Church Wardens for the use of the POOR. to be given in Bread at Five several times

M<sup>R</sup> NICHOLAS FRANKWELL sometime VICAR of this Parish Gave  $\frac{1}{6}$  yearly

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

M<sup>R</sup> KENDALL gave  $\frac{L}{2}$  yearly for y<sup>e</sup> use of the POOR of this Parish. both payable on ALL S<sup>ts</sup> DAY. by the Company of Wax Chandlers London

GAVE  $\frac{S;D}{6;8}$  yearly for the use of the POOR of this Parish. payable at Christmas out of the Chief House in Bridgen. belonging to a Colledge in Greenwich.

WILLIAM FITCHETT Gave  $\frac{S}{10}$  yearly to y<sup>e</sup> use of the POOR of this Parish in Bread. payable at Whitsuntide out of the Houses adjoining to y<sup>e</sup> River at the South end of the Bridge and out of the Lands belonging to y<sup>e</sup> same

M<sup>RS</sup> SHERMAN Gave  $\frac{L}{7}$   $\frac{S}{10}$  the Interest whereof to be given in Bread yearly for the use of the POOR in this Parish in the Month of November.

### *Second Board*

ARTHUR POULTER Esq GAVE  $\frac{L}{5}$  the Interest whereof to be given in Bread yearly for the use of the POOR of this Parish in y<sup>e</sup> Month of November

ANE the LADY AUSTEN Gave  $\frac{L}{10}$  the Interest whereof to be given yearly in Bread to the POOR of this Parish on or about the Third of November

S<sup>r</sup> EDWARD BRETT Gave  $\frac{L}{20}$  the Interest whereof to be given yearly in Bread for the use of the POOR on or about the Eighteenth of February

HENRY TRAVEIS of London Gent Gave  $\frac{L}{10}$  the Interest whereof to be given yearly in Bread to the POOR of this Parish on or about y<sup>e</sup> Twentysventh of Sept<sup>r</sup>

FRANCIS MOOR Late of this Parish Yeoman Gave by his will  $\frac{S}{10}$  yearly in Bread to the POOR of this Parish at Two several times (Viz<sup>t</sup>) in April and October

M<sup>R</sup> BENIAMIN HUNTINGTON Late VICAR of this Parish Gave  $\frac{L}{50}$  the Interest whereof to be given yearly in Bread to the POOR of this Parish at five several times Viz<sup>t</sup> one in April. Two in November. and Two in Ianuary

THOMAS SMOULT Docter in Divinity sometime VICAR of this Parish by his Will Gave  $\frac{L}{100}$  for the use and Benefitt of the POOR of this Parish. and not for the ease of y<sup>e</sup> Rich which said Sum is laid out in apurchase of Two Messuages or Tenements with their appurtenances in Bridgen. the rents whereof are Vested in Trustees (after Repairs and all other Inciden charges deducted) in Trust to put Poor Children to School or Place them forth Appretices

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

JAMES WOOD	}	Church Wardens
and		
HEN. GODDEN		
		A D 1710

*Notes on the Benefactors*

The following additional information has been gathered from entries in the parish registers and other sources:

HENRY LANE. His Christian name is supplied by a list of benefactors in the registers where it is recorded that he also gave 10s. to North Cray and 6s. 8d. to Leigh and East Wickham. He is probably to be identified with Henrie Lane who was buried at Bexley on 19th April, 1632. The family appear to have resided in the part of the old parish now known as Sidcup.

NICHOLAS FRANKWELL. The registers state that the Wax Chandlers Company received money from his estate to pay £6 yearly for the use of the poor of Bexley on November 1st or within three days after. He was vicar of Bexley from 1609 until his death in 1658.

WILLIAM KENDALL. Hasted's *History of Kent* (1797) states that he gave by his will in 1558 an annuity from houses vested in the Wax Chandlers Company to the yearly value of £2. The word 'both' in this entry on the charity board must refer to this and the Franckwell benefaction immediately above. A note in the registers is as follows: 'Mr. Kendall on All Saints Day 40s. and a feast Personage on Palm Sunday 1pd in corn and on Easter Day 10s. in bread and cheese. From the chief house in Bridgen 6s. 8d. Palm Sunday.' This last item apparently refers to the second entry on the board after Kendall's name, but there is disagreement as to whether the distribution was to be at Christmas or on Palm Sunday.

WILLIAM FITCHETT. His annual benefaction was to be given on Whitsun Monday. Forty shillings was given at his funeral on 13th October, 1636.

Mrs. SHERMAN The registers record that Mr. (*sic*) Sherman gave £5 to the use of the poor and by 1704 the additional interest had brought the amount to £7. 10s.

ARTHUR POULTER. He does not appear in the registers and Hasted gives no further clue. There was a locality in Bexley called Poulter's Spring, as noted in Wallenberg's *Place-names of Kent*.

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

LADY ANN AUSTEN. Widow of Sir Robert Austen of Hall Place. She died in 1687.

SIR EDWARD BRETT. A noted Royalist soldier whose monument is in the north aisle and records his exploits. He lived at Blendon in the parish of Bexley and was buried on 18th February, 1683, on or about which date each year the benefaction was subsequently made.

HENRY TRAVEIS. He died at the age of 76 in 1706 and was buried on 27th September.

FRANCIS MOOR (or MOORE). In the registers it states that he left 10s., half of which was to be given to the poor on the first Sunday after the anniversary of his baptism (19th August), and the other half on the Sunday after the anniversary of his burial, which took place on 4th April, 1684. The worn stone covering his grave remains just outside the south porch.

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON Vicar of Bexley from 1666 until his death in January 1706/7.

THOMAS SMOULT. Vicar from 1658/9 until 1666. He died in 1707.<sup>1</sup>

P.J. TESTER

## A BRONZE AMULET FROM BOUGHTON ALUPH

The bronze object illustrated in Fig. 1 was recently found on private land near Boughton Aluph and is now in private possession. It was submitted to the British Museum, and Miss Catherine Johns, F.S.A., of the Department of Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities, reports as follows:-

‘The small bronze is undoubtedly Roman and of considerable interest. Small phallic amulets, generally of bronze or bone, were widely used in the Roman period as they were believed to have apotropaic powers. There are probably more of them from Romano-British sites than the literature would suggest, as some may have escaped publication because they were regarded as offensive. There are a number of forms, some with suspension loops, others like this one, with no visible means of attachment, but presumably applied to some object. Some are simple representations of male genitalia, indistinguishable, in effect, from votive objects of this

<sup>1</sup> The dates of the vicars of Bexley given here are taken from Canon Scott Robertson’s article on Bexley Church in *Arch. Cant.*, xviii (1889).



## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

form, while others are more elaborate: a common form is a crescentic double phallus (one end of which is sometimes strictly not a phallus, but terminates in a fist with the thumb held between the index and middle fingers), with another phallus in the centre.

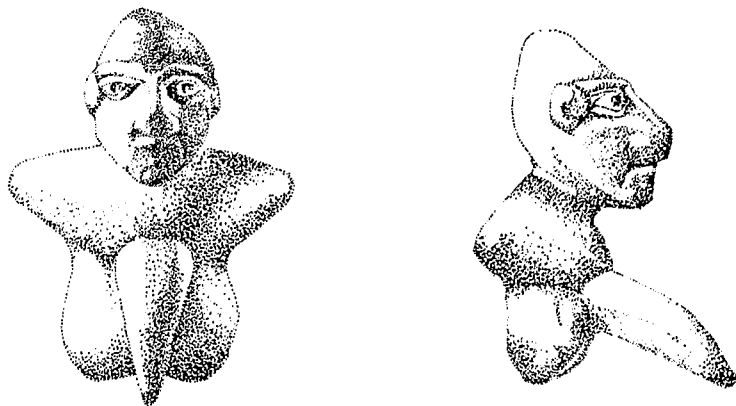


Fig. 1

A bronze Amulet from Boughton Aluph (*Drawn by Lorraine Harrison*) ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )

I have found only one reasonably close parallel, with a head surmounting the genitalia; this is a bronze in the Greek and Roman Department of the Museum (registration number 1912. 11-25.50) which has no provenance, but is likely to be from France as it came to the Museum in the Morel Collection. Another, slightly more distant parallel, is from Mainz and is illustrated in Behrens, 'Neue und ältere Funde aus dem Legionskastelle Mainz', in *Mainzer Zeitschrift*, xii (1917), 29, fig. 10,5. This is of the crescentic form mentioned above, though with some additional phalli depending from it, and has a somewhat Celtic-looking head and a suspension loop. The head of the Boughton Aluph piece is very different and completely Roman in style. It recalls the representations of dwarfs, pygmies and other grotesques, often depicted as dancers or entertainers, which are quite common. As well as the beak-like nose and often twisted features, such grotesques are commonly shown with genitals of exaggerated size. One other parallel of interest may be worth mentioning, though it appears to be unprovenanced, and I

## RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES

know no details about it: it is a Roman terracota (incorrectly described as a lamp), which is said to be in the Wellcome Collection (now in the Science Museum), and is illustrated on Pl. 16 of a somewhat idiosyncratic volume called *Phallic Worship* by George Ryley Scott (London, 1966). A recent short paper by P. Turnbull, 'The Phallus in the Art of Roman Britain', in the *Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology*, 15 (1978), 199–206, provides a useful summary on the subject.'

J. BRADSHAW

## A GRAVE GROUP FROM BARMING

A cremation burial was found in April 1979 in Barming Woods and was brought to my attention by Mr P. Payne to whom I am indebted for the information.

The grave group consisted of four vessels: (i) A large Patch Grove ware jar (height 0.32 m. and girth 0.90 m.), with the usual notched decoration at the shoulder and girth, containing very few calcined bones which do not allow for sex and age determination; (ii) a small white-slipped flagon; (iii) a very small 'poppy-head' beaker; and (iv) a Central Gaulish samian dish (Form 18/31), stamped TIIRITIOM. Burial clearly took place about the middle of the second century A.D.

A.P. DETSICAS

## INTERIM REPORT ON EXCAVATIONS IN 1980 BY THE CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Throughout 1980 a series of major excavations was again undertaken, including the final stages of the Mint Yard and St. Gabriel's Chapel excavations. Also completed during the year, after about two and a half years of continuous work, were the two final stages of the Marlowe excavations, and a final interim report appears below. More work was undertaken at the "Poor Priest's" Hospital, and during the latter part of the year and still continuing is a large excavation at 69a Stour Street (see below).

The final stage of the St. Gabriel's Chapel excavation consisted of more small trenches at the west end and east of the apse of the Chapel which abutted onto one of the piers of the rebuilt Trinity