RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES IN KENT

BROOMHILL CHURCH PROJECT: 1988 SEASON

The fourth season of excavation by the Field Archaeology Unit (Institute of Archaeology) in and around the site of the parish church of Broomhill on Romney Marsh continued the study of the building and allowed further work to be done on the plan and to refine the structural sequence. Nothing now remains above ground of the former church, which ceased to be used in the early sixteenth century and was flooded by incursions from the sea around 1570. Only a grass-covered mound in an arable field indicates its position. The church served a parish which straddles the East Sussex/Kent county boundary.

The excavation in 1988 re-opened an area at the north-west corner of the nave dug two years previously.¹ The area examined was extended to include the whole of the north aisle, part of the body of the nave and a small area of the chancel. On the north side of the church a chapel was located within the aisle, which matched that excavated in 1987 in the south aisle. Both the chapels were very narrow and were separated from the rest of the nave by low stone partitions on which stood wooden screens, the 'ghosts' of which were found in the marine sediment. The width of the aisle chapels was further reduced by a stone bench to provide seating around the walls of the church. In both chapels the bases of altars have now been found. These were lit by stained glass windows. A portion of the window, which had blown out from the south wall, was found in 1987 where it had fallen in the soft mud, while the present excavations uncovered pieces of painted stained glass from the window in the north aisle, on either side of the altar.

Though the chancel butts on to the nave, clear evidence was found

¹ M.F. Gardiner, 'Medieval Settlement and Society in the Broomhill Area and Excavations at Broomhill Church', in (Eds.) J. Eddison and C. Green, *Romney Marsh: Evolution, Occupation, Reclamation* (OUCA Monograph 24) (1988), Fig. 10.4, trench D.
that it in fact precedes that construction of the third-phase nave. This confirms observations made in 1987. The nave, at the time of its desertion, was roofed with peg-tiles. The concentration of slate in the area of the chancel suggests a different roof covering there. An indication of an earlier roof for the nave was found in the disturbed soil of the churchyard. Quantities of slates, which had been used since they bore traces of mortar, and glazed ridge tiles were recorded.

In the chancel traces of red pigment were discovered in the sediment overlying the floor of the church. This appears to be paint, possibly from a collapsed rood screen or rood loft. Also within the sediment above the chancel floor were found a number of mortared narrow, yellow bricks. Since there was little other fallen masonry, these had probably come from a position under the eaves or wall-plate, and may have been brought down as the roof collapsed. The church went out of use in the early sixteenth century, and the bricks, therefore, are probably to be dated to the fifteenth century and reflect the early use of brick in a number of buildings on Romney Marsh.

Outside and beneath the floor of the third-phase church the footings of the two earlier phases were followed. Due to the limited period of the excavation these were traced by cutting a series of sections across the church down through the underlying sediments as far as the shingle ridge beneath. The footings of the second-phase church were made from alternate bands of silt and shingle. These ran under the floor of the later church. Compact shingle foundations of the first phase were located to the north, outside the walls of the final-phase church. The lines of the walls of the two earlier phases of church were on a slightly different axis to the walls of the third phase.

It is necessary to modify the structural sequence outlined in an earlier interim report.\(^2\) The suggestion that the first phase of building on the church did not proceed beyond the construction of the footings seems less probable.

Outside the church, on the north side a heavily disturbed layer was found. This was produced by grave digging in this area and part of one grave was excavated. There was no trace of a coffin and the body had almost certainly been inhumed simply in a shroud for a piece of tile had been placed under one foot and a piece of slate under the other. A fragment of skull was found in the church, apparently in an area disturbed during construction works.

The excavations in 1988 produced further evidence of occupation preceding the earliest church building. Beyond the west end of the

\(^2\) \textit{Ibid.}, 119–25.
church, below a layer presumed to be of sediment, a burnt surface was found with considerable quantities of pottery. Underneath the chancel a thin band of carbonized grain and chaff was recorded and samples were taken for identification. The previous year’s work had found a midden with shell, fish bones and other carbonized material beneath the churchyard wall.

As in earlier seasons, the project sought to relate work on the church to the marsh landscape in the vicinity. It was intended to continue a programme of extensive resistivity survey to seek other buildings and landscape features in the area and map the buried shingle ridges. The exceptional dryness of the soil in 1988 led to poor results.

The sea wall adjacent to the church has been removed, but a section was excavated to the south-west where a length remained. This showed that the wall was of dump construction. No evidence was found for a brushwood core suggested in some medieval accounts. The wall stood on, and had been built from, coarsely laminated sediments. These sediments were not horizontally bedded, but dipped to the south-east and a provisional interpretation is that the wall had been built on top of the levée of a former marshland creek. Beneath the coarsely laminated sediments were finer laminated deposits, which in turn overlay a narrow buried channel containing peaty clay.

MARK GARDINER

SEVENOAKS DISTRICT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY GROUP

The past year has seen modest progress in the production of additions to the series of detailed studies of individual buildings recorded by the Group, one being completed and a second expected to be available shortly. Copies of the following were distributed to the normal range of recipients, including the K.A.S. Library.

*Borough Green Study No. 1*: Anthony D. Stoyel, *The Barn of Borough Green House, No. 1 Rock Road, Borough Green.*

This was a single-aisled timber threshing barn of minimal size, 23 ft. wide and 29 ft. 3 in. long, excluding its two terminal outshots,

---

constructed probably in the first half of the seventeenth century. It stood on the southern edge of a farmyard with, to east and west, high boundary walls of random Kentish ragstone, some of it in massive blocks, attributed to the same period. Evidence suggests that during the 1700s the timber walls of the south (aisled) side of the barn and its west outshot end were replaced by walls of stone, likewise from the nearby ragstone quarries. Around the middle of the nineteenth century, however, the barn and outshots were completely rebuilt, thrown into one and much enlarged by a brick northward extension and another eastwards, the latter utilizing the old farmyard boundary wall for its south and east sides. In the rebuilding, many timbers of the original structure were re-used and the great majority still occupy their former positions.

Survivals from the three-bay seventeenth-century barn include three wall-posts of its north side, one of them with iron hinge-hooks for a leaf of the double doors and grooved for housing lift boards, two arcade-posts, the full scarfed lengths of wall-plate and arcade-plate, three tie-beams, eight of the curved braces from posts up to plates and ties, and in the aisle a post-plate and aisle-tie.

A noteworthy external feature is the manner in which exposed corners of the nineteenth-century northern part of the barn were constructed, clearly with the object of avoiding sharp edges that might cause injury to livestock in the farmyard. The corners are of finely-rounded bricks almost up to eaves level, where they are corbelled out in stages to become square.

Many other matters have occupied the Group’s attention during the year and the following is a selection of some of the more interesting.

**St. Thomas à Becket’s Well, Otford**

The substantially-medieval stone structure was fully described in *Arch. Cant.*, lxx (1956), 172-7. It is a privately-owned scheduled ancient monument which was built as the principal source of water-supply to the nearby former palace of the Archbishops of Canterbury. The north wall of the well chamber, 35 ft. long, has been progressively collapsing since the 1950s and the east wall is now bulging. The Group is seriously concerned that no repairs have been carried out and that the owner, several years ago, installed water-pumping machinery for his trout farm, thereby almost certainly damaging the fourteenth-century stone floor and possibly also the earlier one underlying it. Following representations to English Heritage, an Inspector of Ancient Monuments has visited the site and is
conducting discussions with the owner concerning the monument’s present condition and the alterations it has undergone.

*Nos. 99 and 101, High Street, Sevenoaks*

These timber-framed buildings of c. 1575–1600 were described in *Arch. Cant.*, cii (1985), 263. They were built as two small detached shops without living-accommodation and became linked together in the nineteenth century. A destructive restoration was halted as a result of the Group’s intervention in 1982, since when matters have been virtually at a standstill and the condition of the buildings has deteriorated. A much more satisfactory scheme of repairs has been drawn up and work was resumed early in 1989.

*Walnut Tree Cottage, no. 124 Kippington Road, Sevenoaks*

This house was inspected by the Group at the request of the owner. The earliest indications are of an L-plan dwelling built about 1675–1700, the south wing of which has been lost and the remainder encased in Victorian walls and flanking enlargements. It stands within the original curtilage of Kippington House (rebuilt c. 1780) and is believed to have been provided as living-accommodation for an employee of the household and his family. The three-bay main stem retains a fair amount of its primary timber framing, including chamfered beams with cyma stops. Its high-pitched roof, hipped at both ends, is of simple raftered construction strengthened by heavy butt-purlins in line.

*Rose Cottage, Twiton, Shoreham*

Another dwelling inspected by invitation of the owner.

Disregarding its modern rear extension, the cottage is only one room deep and of two bays, each with timber framing of quite different character. The west bay, with cyma chamfer-stops, chiselled carpenters’ marks and unjowled storey-posts, must date from around 1700. The east bay, displaying little of significance except stepped hollow chamfer-stops, is of earlier appearance and may perhaps be ascribed to the first half of the seventeenth century. The roof is inaccessible, but the ends of side-purlins project through the gabled west wall.

It is considered probable that the east bay originated as part of a house extending further eastwards, where a nineteenth-century cottage now adjoins. If the Victorian stack between the two perpetuates the site of the original, the house was almost certainly of lobby-entry type with a central chimney block. The ground-storey
ceiling beam at the bay-division is mortised for closed framing, doubtless pierced or removed when the enlargement to the west was built.

ANTHONY D. STOYEL

NOTES ON THE BRASSES IN EAST WICKHAM CHURCH

The little St. Michael's Church at East Wickham served the needs of the local community from the thirteenth century to the period between the two World Wars when the enormous development of residential estates and the increased population necessitated the replacement of the church by a larger building. In 1932, the existing church of the same dedication was built a short distance to the south-east and the ownership of the old building was in 1969 transferred to the Greek Orthodox Church. At that time the movable fittings of historic interest were transferred to the modern church, including the brasses, the removal of which was entrusted to the first-named writer. In the process, certain observations and discoveries were made which are considered worthy of permanent record.

JOHN DE BLADIGDONE AND HIS WIFE MAUD (Fig. 1)

This important early brass has had a chequered history. A drawing made in 1809 by Thomas Fisher (Fig. 2) shows the lower part of the gravestone missing, with the inscription on the shaft of the cross broken off after the letter S of SA. The three foliated terminals were by then lost but the drawing shows the indents formerly containing them, and this, together with recent observation of the very eroded Purbeck gravestone still surviving in the middle of the church, shows the restoration of the brass in 1887 to have been somewhat defective in replacing the terminals on too small a scale. Probably the restorer was guided by Haines' drawing of 1861 (Fig. 3) when much of the brass was detached from the gravestone, and the conjectural outline

1 An account of the old church by T.F. Ford, A.R.I.B.A., was published in Arch. Cant., xli (1929), 207-16.
2 Herbert Haines, An Introduction to the Study of Monumental Brasses, Part I, (1861), cxxxv.
Fig. 1. Brass to John and Maud de Bladigdone, as restored in the nineteenth century.
(Rubbing by P.J.T., 1956).
Fig. 2. Etching by Thomas Fisher, 1809, showing parts missing by that year.
was represented by dotted lines. It is known that at one time parts of the brass were loose and kept in a drawer in the vestry. Reference by the restorer to the indent could have avoided the error, but the brass was at that time re-set on a new stone. It is now recognised that originally the distance between the lateral terminals of the cross-head was approximately 11 cm. greater than in the present reconstruction, and their form was more angular.

In 1969, the brass was removed from its later stone and mounted on a board for permanent display in the modern church. A rubbing of part of the original gravestone bearing the eroded indent is shown here as Plate I.

The date 1325 in Arabic numerals was inserted in the Victorian restoration and is of doubtful accuracy. For lack of documentary evidence concerning John de Bladigdone’s death, the costume of the

---

Rubbing of part of the original gravestone showing the indent of the brass in its original form. (Rubbing by P.J.T., 1956).

demi-figures provides the main clue to dating the brass. The Department of Textiles and Dress of the Victoria and Albert Museum has kindly examined a rubbing of the figures and stated that the costumes are of the period 1330 to 1380. John is described as wearing a cote-hardie over a gipon, the former being identified by the hanging sleeves at the elbows. Indications of drapery at the neck probably represent a hood, and the hair style is suitable for the period stated.
Maud wears a wimple round her neck and her hair is covered by a braid. Tightness of fit for the garments and the use of buttons down the front are also typical of the period.

In his contribution to *The Earliest English Brasses* Dr John Blair has observed that such brasses of open-cross type containing small figures are generally not earlier than 1340, and in recent correspondence with the writers concerning the date of the East Wickham brass he has further stated that these brasses are essentially a feature of the 1340s. The figures, he notes, show very distinctively the swaying posture characteristic of the second half of the century, but he adds, 'I would have thought that a date c. 1340 is fair enough, but I would not be unhappy with a date in the 1330s, or rather later in the 1340s'.

Bladindon (as the place-name was more usually spelt) was an estate in the manor and parish of Bexley and was later known as Blendon. The boundary between East Wickham and Bexley was formed by the Dover Road (A207), and Blendon lay in Bexley about a mile south of the division. Assuming that John and Maud were resident at Blendon, it is curious that they should have been buried at East Wickham and not in their own parish church of St. Mary's, Bexley, only a mile and a half from their home.

WILLIAM PAYN, YEOMAN OF THE GUARD, AND HIS THREE WIVES, 1568 (Fig. 4)

It was also found necessary to lift this brass and transfer it to the modern church, and in doing so an interesting discovery was made. The inscription plate is palimpsest and also the figures of the three sons (Fig. 5). The underside of the plate bears a Latin inscription to John Auncell, 'a monk of this place', who died in 1511. Obviously the plate came from a religious house suppressed in the reign of Henry VIII, but there is no known record to show to which monastery John Auncell was attached. In Mill Stephenson's *List* the name Auncell is recorded on a brass of c. 1500 at West Lavington, Wiltshire.

The Payn plate was broken, probably when removed from its original stone in the sixteenth century, and on the reverse are file marks at the break, apparently related to an attempt to join the two pieces.

---

5 A *Jordan de Bladindone* is listed in the Lay Subsidy of 1334–5. *Kent Records*, xv (1964), 133.
Mr J.C. Page-Phillips, F.S.A., has examined the palimpsest plates of the three sons and stated that they are apparently parts of the gown of a male effigy of c. 1440.

Documentary evidence indicates that the Payn (or Payne) family owned property in and around East Wickham and Welling in the sixteenth century and later. Their family tomb is in the churchyard of St. Mary's, Bexley, and bears the name of Edward Payne of Welling
Fig. 5. Underside of the Payn inscription plate with epitaph to John Auncell, described as 'a monk of this place', who died in 1511. Also the reverse sides of the three children, the plates having been cut from the figure of a male civilian, c. 1440. (Rubbing by H.A.J., 1969).
who died in 1603, and his wife, Elizabeth, who died at the same time. The Registers show that he died of the plague. Later members of the family are recorded on the same stone. Welling was at that time a hamlet straddling the boundary between East Wickham and Bexley. John Payne, described as a yeoman of East Wickham, founded in 1589 a charity for the relief of the local poor, details of which were shown on a large board formerly in the old St. Michael’s Church and now removed to Hall Place, Bexley.

H.A. JAMES and P.J. TESTER

OBSERVATIONS MADE IN THE SACRIST'S CHECKER AREA BESIDE ‘GUNDULF’S’ TOWER AT ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL – JULY 1989

During the latter part of July 1989, two toilets in the north-east corner of the Sacrist’s checker area (east of ‘Gundulf’s’ tower) were demolished, as was a modern east–west brick wall to the south. The concrete surface beneath them was removed and a rough hole was dug by workmen (about 2 m. deep) under the demolished toilets in which to lay new sewage pipes. From this hole a gap was made for the new pipes under the wall of the Sacrist’s checker (which surrounded the area on the north-east, joining ‘Gundulf’s’ tower to the cathedral). This gap connected up with an existing sewer man-hole beyond the wall. Outside the wall, present-day ground level is nearly 2 m. below the concrete floor level in the Sacrist’s checker area, and it was always clear that the level inside the Sacrist’s checker area had been built up in relatively recent times. The many levels in this area of the cathedral are exceptionally complicated, and this is not the place to go into any detail, except in as far as they relate to the Sacrist’s Checker lower levels.¹

The hole made by the workmen was examined by the writer of this note, and a rough plan was made on 28th July. On the following day (a Saturday when no workmen were present), he managed to draw the main section in the hole (Fig. 1); the main feature revealed was a brick and rough stone-lined cess-pit. This had been cut through and destroyed by the workmen on the south-west and north-east (and its contents were completely removed). It must, however, have been a nineteenth-century cess-pit for the forerunner to the recently demo-

¹ A re-assessment of the dating of all phases of work in Rochester Cathedral is long overdue.
lished toilets. At the base of the brickwork (the level to which the workmen had dug) was a harder, more consolidated and leached layer. This contained mortar and Reigate stone fragments and may well be the building level for the eastern arm of the cathedral where much Reigate stone is used.\textsuperscript{2} The eastern arm was probably constructed in the last two decades of the twelfth century, soon after the fire of 1179 (though dated by W.H. St. John Hope to c. 1200–1215.)\textsuperscript{3} Overlying this harder layer at the bottom of the hole, and behind (and cut through by) the brick lining to the cess-pit was a layer of up to 1 m. in thickness of large, loose broken chalk fragments and tiles. Some of these tiles were apparently pantiles, and the layer perhaps dates to the eighteenth century and may relate to the time when the top half of ‘Gundulf’s’ tower was destroyed.\textsuperscript{4} This act of vandalism seems to have taken place soon after 1781 so that the materials could be used for ‘the repair of the church’.\textsuperscript{5} Above the layer of loose chalk and tiles was a more compact layer containing loam and clay as well as smaller fragments of brick, tile, etc. Overlaying this was the bedding level for the concrete.

In the north-west corner of the hole dug by the workmen was the corner of the eastern of the two large buttresses added to the north-east corner of ‘Gundulf’s’ tower. Only the very corner of the buttress had been exposed, but it was possible to trace this right down to its foundation. The south face of this buttress was masked by the angle of the cess-pit wall, while the southern side of the east face of the buttress was covered by the foundations of the brick north wall of the recently demolished toilets. The south-east angle of the buttress to ‘Gundulf’s’ tower was made of large ashlar blocks of a yellow fine-grained sandstone (probably from the Hastings Beds of the lower Cretaceous).\textsuperscript{6} These had a 7 cm. wide vertical chamfer on the angle, and this ended at a rather damaged plain stop half-way down the

\textsuperscript{2} The building level of the eastern arm can still be gauged from the level of the base of the plinth of the eastern arm.

\textsuperscript{3} The standard work on Rochester Cathedral is of course W.H. St. John Hope, ‘The architectural History of the Cathedral Church and Monastery of St. Andrew at Rochester’, \textit{Arch. Cant.} xxiii (1898), 194–328.

\textsuperscript{4} It was not possible to examine the contents of this rubble layer because of the danger of the sides of the hole collapsing.

\textsuperscript{5} F.F. Smith, \textit{A History of Rochester} (1928), 281.

\textsuperscript{6} The bringing of freestone from ‘Farleigh’ (Fairlight in East Sussex) to Rochester Castle is documented in 1367–68 (see \textit{Arch. Cant.}, ii (1859), 112 and 121). This stone was shipped by sea from Winchelsea. The most likely source is Cliff End Sandstone from the base of the Wadhurst clay, which was quarried around Fairlight and at Winchelsea; see R.D. Lake and E.R. Shephard-Thorn, \textit{Geology of the Country around Hastings and Dungeness} (1987), 27–30.

392
section. Below the block with a stop on it was a chamfered block
(apparently made of Purbeck marble)\(^7\) and then one more course of
fine masonry before the foundation of rough stones was reached. The
foundation level was at least 20 cm. above the hard surface at the
base of the hole (mentioned above as being possibly the c. late
twelfth-century construction level). It must, therefore, be later than
this.

The two large buttresses on the north-east side of ‘Gundulf’s’ tower
perhaps date from the later thirteenth or early fourteenth century
when the upper machicolated level of the tower was built. Unfor-
unately, this upper stage was destroyed soon after it was recorded
for us in 1781 by Francis Grose in his *Supplement to the Antiquities of
England and Wales*, and we only have Grose’s drawing as a rea-
sonably clear record of what the tower looked like before its upper half
was removed.\(^8\) Above the machicolated top stage there was probably
an octagonal lead-covered broach spire, and this seems to have
disappeared by the seventeenth century at the latest.

‘Gundulf’s’ tower has been given this name for many years now,\(^9\)
and it has always been assumed that the tower was built during
Gundulf’s episcopate (1077–1108). In fact, since St. John Hope’s time
it has been assumed that the tower was built by Gundulf ‘soon after
his consecration,’\(^10\) and before he rebuilt the cathedral, and that it
was ‘raised for defensive purposes’. In this he goes one stage further
than Hasted who conjectured ‘that it was first intended as a place of
strength and security, either as a treasury or a repository of re-
cords’\(^11\). Hasted, however, also suggests that ‘there is a tradition of
its having been called the bell tower, and of its having five bells
hanging in it’. This surely is the correct solution. As St. John Hope
himself pointed out, ‘there is documentary proof that it was at an
early date used as a campanile’, and the tower is first recorded in
Prior Reginald’s time when he is said to have ‘made two bells, and
placed them in the greater tower.’\(^12\) Reginald, whose exact dates are
unknown, was documented as prior in 1155 and 1160.\(^13\)

---

\(^7\) The chamfered course can be seen just above ground level on the north side of the
large north buttress. It, too, appears to be of Purbeck marble.

\(^8\) The drawing is reproduced in Hope, *op. cit.*, n. 3, 202.

\(^9\) E. Hasted, *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent*,
iv (1798), 101.

\(^10\) Hope, *op. cit.*, n. 3, 201.


\(^12\) B.L. Cotton Vespasian A 22, f 85 and J. Thorpe, *Registrum Rossettense* (1769), 118.

\(^13\) J. Le Neve, *Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae, 1066–1300, II Monastic Cathedrals* (1971),
79.
afterwards, further bells were hung in the tower, and in the later Middle Ages it was known as ‘3 bell steeple.’

Today the tower is only about half its original height (c. 40 ft. high) and its interior has been much mutilated. It is, however, possible to see that the original corner clasping buttresses never contained staircases and that in the original ground-floor level it contained a slit window in the middle of each of its four sides. At first floor level there were originally four larger windows splayed back to semicircular rere-arches in each of the four sides. This all suggests a straightforward bell-tower, and not a keep, and it seems more likely that it was built in the decade or so before it is first documented in the middle years of the century. As a bell-tower only it is most unlikely to have been built before the cathedral was rebuilt by Gundulf, and nothing in the surviving fabric suggests an early Norman date. Most of the rubble walling is of broken fragments of Kentish ragstone, but significantly there are also a few pieces of re-used architectural fragments, at least, one of which appears to be of twelfth-century date. The larger blocks, particularly those in the original pilaster quoins, are of tufa and ragstone.

In summary, therefore, I would suggest that ‘Gundulf’s’ tower was always only a bell-tower, and that it was built in the second quarter of the twelfth century. At this time detached free-standing bell-towers were common; they were built in the twelfth century at St. Augustine’s Abbey and Christ Church Priory in Canterbury, for example. Today they survive only rarely (at Chichester Cathedral for instance), and it is nice, therefore, to be able to add the Rochester tower to the list. It is unusual only as a survival (albeit a partial one), and in its close proximity to the cathedral (necessitated by cramped conditions within the Roman city walls).

TIM TATTON-BROWN

14 pace Hope, op. cit., n. 3, 201.
15 These can best be seen on the south side of the tower, on the fire escape ladder from the roof down to the north choir aisle.
RESEARCHES and DISCOVERIES IN KENT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES FROM MAIDSTONE MUSEUM

Prehistoric

BOUGHTON UNDER BLEAN

In an exchange with Taunton Museum the museum has acquired the Late Neolithic beaker found at Brenley and given to the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society by the Rev. W.A. Jones in 1876. It is of Clarke’s Primary Southern (British) Beaker type (S.1.) and is no. 387 (fig. 774) in his corpus.¹ Museum accession number: 156.1989/1.

BOXLEY

A flint dagger (Fig. 1, 1) was found by D.L. Applegate: N.G.R. TQ 766591. Light grey, black banded flint with a thin white patina; the top of the grip is broken off. Length 113 mm., max. width 43 mm. When found in association these flint daggers accompany beakers.² Two daggers, both casual finds, from Boxley and the Maidstone area, are in the museum collections.

HAWKENBURY

Sherds from two Iron Age jars were found by N. Simmonds during dredging of the River Beult: N.G.R. TQ 789462. Hand-made, dark grey ware, S-profile rims, perhaps second–first century B.C.

KINGSWOOD

A small group of flints, including blade flakes and a Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead, was found by R. Goble: N.G.R. TQ 837515.

² Sixteen are listed by Clarke, ibid., 438–447.
Fig. 1. 1. Boxley: Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint dagger. 2. Whitfield: Mesolithic quartzite pebble-hammer. 3–6. Boughton Monchelsea: Roman: brooches (3 and 5); button and loop fastener (4); strap-end (6). (Scale: 1–2: ½; 3–6: actual size).
MEREWORTH

Flint implements were found by our member R. Earl in Mereworth Woods north of Beech Road near Kent Street: N.G.R. TQ 662549. In addition to a core, three bladelets and a ‘thumbnail’ scraper, there were six scrapers of Neolithic type, all convex on flakes (length given first):
1. Short end scraper on flake with bulbar end removed; 38 × 40 mm.
2. Scraper on thermal flake; 43 × 33 mm.
3. Short end scraper; 40 × 50 mm.
4. Short end scraper on a very thick (15 mm.) flake; 35 × 43 mm.
5. Short double-ended scraper; 60 × 50 mm.
6. Short double-ended scraper; 48 × 40 mm.

WHITFIELD

A quartzite or sandstone pebble-hammer with hour-glass perforation (Fig. 1, 2) was found by T. Allen at Maydensole Farm at the end of 1988 and brought for recording by our member J. Bradshaw: N.G.R. TR 315477. 102 × 77 mm. County number Kent 74. Over seven hundred pebble-hammers are recorded from the British Isles, nearly all of quartzite or sandstone, but the great majority are casual finds. The type certainly appears in the Mesolithic period, but can be later. Twelve have previously been recorded from Kent, two of quartzite, two of sandstone and eight (unexamined) of either quartzite or sandstone.

Celtic Coins

Impressions in Maidstone Museum and Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

4 ibid., 30; P.P.S., xv (1949), 70–6.
RESEARCHES and DISCOVERIES IN KENT

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA

N.G.R. TQ 7751. Two coins found by K. Parker in area of Roman bath building at Brishing.\textsuperscript{7}
1. AV Quarter stater of British type PA (Mack 38). Diam. 10/11 mm.; weight 1.257 g.
2. AE uniface coin. Obverse (convex): horse right with prominent flowing mane; six-point star of two triangles above, six-leaf flower below.

BOXLEY

N.G.R. TQ 765597. AE coin found by R. Parkes. Very worn, horse left/?: ovoid, diam. 12/16 mm.

SNODLAND

N.G.R. TQ 708620. Billon (or, less likely, AR) stater of Durotriges found in River Medway adjacent to Roman villa by P. Golding. Mack 318, which is AE; diam. 18 mm. Although it is perhaps surprising to find Durotrigan coins in Kent there are two from Richborough and one from Dover.\textsuperscript{8} In his summary of Celtic coins from Richborough\textsuperscript{9} Allen records them as both Mack 318, of a very debased silver.

\textit{Roman}

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA

N.G.R. TQ 7751. The nine objects below, all of bronze or copper alloy except no. 8, were found by K. Parker in the area of the Roman bath house at Brishing.\textsuperscript{10} (See also under Celtic and Roman coins).
1. An enamelled button and loop fastener (Fig. 1, 4). Rectangular head, 13 × 16 mm., decorated with three red triangles, their inward

\textsuperscript{7} See \textit{Arch. Cant.}, civ (1987), 353, and cv (1988), 303, for previous finds of Celtic coins.
\textsuperscript{10} See \textit{Arch. Cant.}, civ (1987), 355, and cv (1988), 305–7 for previous finds.
facing sides curved, with two blue 'laurel leaves' between. Length 21 mm.; top of loop missing. Wild's class VIa. 11 Second century A.D.

The use of these objects is uncertain. They are often regarded as dress or cloak fasteners, 12 but Wild 13 sees no evidence for this and supports those who see them as fittings from horse harness, presumably as strap terminals. Two of them have been found in Mainz attached to a sword scabbard and one with the swords in the double inhumation burial at Canterbury Castle. 14

2. Enamelled plate brooch of lozenge shape (Fig. 1, 5) with lugs in the middle of each side and at foot (? tortoise), decorated with concentric circles. Traces of blue and white enamel in central lozenge; pin missing; length 33 mm. Second century A.D.

3. Fragment of circular plate brooch decorated with two bands of concentric triangles surrounding central boss, the outer ring filled with red enamel. Diam. c. 20 mm. The type is not uncommon. 15 Second century A.D.

4. Brooch with hinged pin (Fig. 1, 3). Short, humped bow with central raised ridge and wings; flat, slightly expanding foot with knob below bow; cylindrical cover to bar holding pin; pin and catch-plate missing. Length 31 mm. Hod Hill or Hod Hill derivative.

5. Foot and part of bow, including acanthus moulding, of trumpet brooch of Collingwood's group Riv. Length 38 mm.

6. Spring (four coils) and part of bow of Nauheim derivative brooch. The bow is broad and has three ribs. Length 24 mm.

7. Spring cover and part of bow of Colchester B brooch.

8. Round, oblate bead of turquoise frit. Like a melon bead, but without gadroons. Diam. 14 mm.

9. Strap end (Fig. 1, 6); flattened, rectangular section; length 46 mm. 16

12 E.g. by Gillam in (Ed.) I.A. Richmond, Roman and Native in North Britain, 1958, 79–85.
14 L. Allason-Jones and R. Miket, Catalogue of Small Finds from South Shields Roman Fort, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1984, 186; P. Bennett et al., The Archaeology of Canterbury I: Excavations at Canterbury Castle, Maidstone, 1982, 44–6; 185–8; fig. 100B.
15 See Arch. Cant., cv (1988), 308, for comparable brooch and references therein.
16 Cf. Richborough v, 95, nos. 120–1; South Shields (op.cit. in note 14), 188–190, nos. 3.598–3.602.
RESEARCHES and DISCOVERIES IN KENT

BOXLEY

(a) N.G.R. TQ 771585. Bow, spring cover and hook of Colchester brooch, found by R. Parkes. Length (twisted) 57 mm.
(b) N.G.R. c. TQ 781595. Finger ring (Fig. 2, 1) found by R. Cox in February 1989. Bronze/copper alloy. Narrow hoop of D-section, flattened at bezel, which is expanded to take a perforated disc of blue glass in one piece, its centre filled by the bronze. Diam. 25 mm.; width at centre of bezel 12 mm. It is of Henig's type III,\(^{17}\) dated to the second half of the first and first half of the second centuries A.D. Two similar rings with intaglios were found in the Walbrook, London.\(^{18}\)

COBHAM

N.G.R. TQ 670693. Colchester BB brooch found by R. Parkes near Battle Street. Foot missing; spring of seven coils; length 23 mm.

COWDEN

N.G.R. TQ 4640. Bronze/copper alloy wheel brooch (Fig. 2, 2) found by D.M. Lynn in August 1988. Nine spokes, the spaces between each third pair left solid; central domed boss with three grooves running round lower part; pair of lugs to hold hinged pin (missing) and small catch-plate. Estimated diameter 26 mm. The brooch is bent in half and may well have been rather flatter than shown in the drawing.

LENHAM

N.G.R. TQ 905519. Colchester brooch found by D. Perrott. Most of the perforated catch-plate, the pin and three of the seven spring coils missing; length (bent) 36 mm.

\(^{17}\) M. Henig, *A Corpus of Roman Engraved Gemstones from British Sites*, B.A.R. 8 (i), 1974, 47.
Fig. 2. 1. Boxley: Roman ring. 2. Cowden: Roman brooch. 3. Boxley: Late Saxon casket mount. 4. Boxley: Medieval ring brooch. 5-6. Medieval harness pendants: Sandway; Boxley. (All actual size).
RESEARCHES and DISCOVERIES IN KENT

Roman Coins

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA

N.G.R. TQ 7751. Twenty coins found by K. Parker in area of Roman bath building at Brishing. The identifiable or partly identifiable coins range in date from the Republic to Constantine I (GLORIA EXERCITVS, two standards). The four pre-Conquest coins, like the Celtic coins, are to be explained by the building's position within the earthworks of the Quarry Wood oppidum.

Two Republican denarii: Sydenham 1014 and 1129a; as of Augustus, Lyons mint R.I.C., I (rev. Edn.) 230; as of Augustus, Nimes mint, Agrippa and Augustus /COL NEM, crocodile, etc.; dupondius of Claudius, R.I.C. 94 or 110; denarius of Hadrian, R.I.C. 67; denarius of Faustina I, R.I.C. 362; sestertius of Faustina II, R.I.C. 1621; sestertius of Julia Mamaea, R.I.C. 705; denarius of Titus (under Vespasian), R.I.C. 218.

BOXLEY

N.G.R. TQ 771555. Four coins found by R. Parkes: as of Faustina II; antoninianus of Gallienus (sole reign), R.I.C. 164 (\(\frac{1}{3}\)); Constantine I, Trier mint R.I.C. (VII) 45; Constantius II, Trier mint R.I.C. (VII) 528.

HAWKENBURY

N.G.R. TQ 787462. As of Claudius found by N. Simmonds during dredging of River Beult on line of Roman road from Rochester to Hastings. R.I.C. (rev.) 100 or, more likely, a contemporary native copy.

SNODLAND

N.G.R. TQ 695609. Four coins found by P. Golding on spoil heap from construction of new Tesco building. All antoniniani: Gallienus (sole reign), R.I.C. 210, but with mm. \[N\]; Victorinus; others not identifiable.

\[19\] For previous finds see Arch. Cant., civ (1987), 357, and cv (1988), 310.
RESEARCHES and DISCOVERIES IN KENT

Anglo-Saxon

BOXLEY

(a) N.G.R. TQ 768595. A Late Saxon bronze or copper alloy casket mount (Fig. 2, 3) was found by W. Reeves. It is trapezoidal in shape with a flange, 8 × 7 mm., projecting at a right angle at the base; the two rivet holes at the base retain the corroded iron rivets; 42 × 24 mm. The mount is decorated with a serpent, or perhaps a dragon, if the outer scrolls are taken as legs, its body formed into an interlace pattern. These mounts are usually assigned to the eleventh century. Another casket mount was found a few years ago at Boxley, fairly near to this one.

(b) N.G.R. TQ 764597. A sceatta found by R. Parkes: Diademed bust right with cross/Man facing with cross and bird. B.M.C. 18. London derived series. Diam. 11 mm.; weight 1.048 g.

(c) N.G.R. TQ 771582. A penny of Harold I found by S. Parkes; incomplete and badly struck. + HAR(O)LD RE / Jewel cross (? . . . IFICI) ON CEN. Canterbury mint. B.M.C. type I.

COBHAM

Two sceattas found in Cobham Park by G. Lloyd.


2. N.G.R. TQ 683684. Cross and pellets / standard; like B.M.C. 8, but no legend. Frisian. Diam. 11/13 mm.; weight 1.255 g.

Medieval

BEARSTED

N.G.R. TQ 798562. Circular lead seal-die (Fig. 3, 6) found by R. Parkes near Ware Street. + S' RICARDI FIL IO. .S (Seal of

---

21 Arch. Cant., civ (1987), 359, and fig. 8, 1. This mount was acquired by Maidstone Museum: Acc. no. 45.1988.
22 B.N.J., xxx (1960), 32.
RESEARCHES and DISCOVERIES IN KENT

Richard Fitzjohn) surrounding design of four-leaf flower and four stamens/stigmas with four crescents between leaves to form lozenge. Diam. c. 25 mm. Late twelfth to thirteenth century.

BOXLEY

(a) N.G.R. TQ 771586. Circular seal-die (Fig. 3, 1) of copper alloy found by W. Reeves. Hexagonal, conical handle with trefoil terminal; 22 × 18 mm. Design of Pelican in her piety; a pelican piercing her breast over a nest with three fledglings. The legend, between beaded circles, appears to be: * SVM Rio(or C) CAELI. The design is a fairly common one, occurring both on personal and 'off the peg' seal-dies. 23 Late thirteenth to fourteenth century.

(b) N.G.R. TQ 7658. Circular seal-die (Fig. 3, 2) of copper alloy found by S. Parkes in field to north of the abbey precinct wall. The die is flat, its reverse plain with a ring lug at the top. Legend: * S' BERNARDI DE MAUSDIEV, within beaded circles, surrounding a harpy or siren. Diam. 20 mm. Late thirteenth to fourteenth century.

(c) N.G.R. TQ 7658. Circular lead seal-die (Fig. 3, 5) found by S. Parkes in field north of abbey precinct wall. Flat; the reverse has crude fleur-de-lys design and solid semi-circular lug at top. Diam. 25 mm. Legend: * S' ADAM. PhIh, between circles surrounding eight-point star.

(d) N.G.R. TQ 770581. Ring brooch of silver (Fig. 2, 4) found by S. Parkes. Decorated with four rosettes, each of eight petals and of lozenge or square shape. Two opposing arcs between the rosettes are twisted. Pin missing; slightly bent; diam. 46 mm. Comparable Scottish examples were discussed by J.G. Callender 24 and are fourteenth-century in date, being found with coin hoards from Canonbie (Edward I and II, Alexander III) and Langhope (Edward I–III). 25 English finds cited by Callender come from Wiltshire and the Isle of Wight. 26

(e) N.G.R. TQ 771586. Papal bull of Gregory IX (VIII) (1227–41), found by W. Reeves.

(f) N.G.R. TQ 771584. Copper alloy purse-bar found by R. Parkes.

25 J.D.A. Thompson, Inventory of British Coin Hoards, A.D. 600–1500, Royal Numismatic Society, Special Publications, no. 1, 1956, 22, 82, and pls. IX and XVI.
Ward Perkins type B3. Shield-shaped central boss with scallop shell ornament on both sides; twisted terminals; 46 × 98 mm. Early sixteenth century.

(g) N.G.R. TQ 771584. Belt hook of tinned copper alloy (Fig. 4, 1) found by R. Parkes. Lozenge shape; openwork design of cross and border of roundels. On the back, above and below the openwork cross, are two spikes or rivets for fastening. 44 × 32 mm. Probably late fifteenth to mid sixteenth century.

(h) N.G.R. TQ 774595. Harness pendant of copper alloy (Fig. 2, 6) found by D.L. Applegate. Heater shield shape with a long, wide, flat attachment, the suspension hook or hole missing; 50 × 28 mm. Some gilt and patches of green, decayed enamel remain, which are taken to be blue. If so, it may be described: azure, three bendlets sinister or.

CHALK

N.G.R. TQ 687728. Copper alloy seal-die of pointed oval shape (Fig. 3, 3) found by K. Sargess at East Court Farm. + SIGILL IOhAN. FA, surrounding design of an axe on a heater shield with pincers above. FA is presumably for Faber (Smith). Reverse has semi-circular ring lug at lower end. 30 × 17 mm. Thirteenth to fourteenth century.

CLIFFE

N.G.R. TQ 7476. Oval lead seal-die found by B.S. Ashby. *S’ WILLI EDMVND, surrounding eight-point flower. Reverse plain, with lug; 36 × 24 mm. Mr Ashby kindly gave the die to the museum: Acc. no. 28.1987a.

COBHAM

(a) N.G.R. TQ 684684. Two harness pendants and three pendant mounts found by G. Lloyd within a few yards of the mount and pendant reported last year. Two gilt copper alloy pendant in form of a fleur-de-lys swinging within a quatrefoil frame, similar to pendant found previously.

---

27 London Museum Medieval Catalogue (1940) (hereafter L.M.M.C.), 168 and fig. 52.
26 Arch. Cant., cv (1988), 314–7, Cobham nos. 1 and 6; fig. 7, 1 and 3.
29 Ibid., 316.
2. Pendant as no. 1, but fleur-de-lys only, the frame missing.
3. Three-armed pendant mount (Fig. 3, 9), 40 × 46 mm. There is a rivet hole at the end of each arm and at the junction of the arms a square decorated with a diaper pattern. This outer face is gilt all over except for the cells of the diapering, which were perhaps enamelled, though no enamelling remains. The attachment for the bar holding the pendant loop was made by cutting a wide slot in the lower arm of the cross and bending it back to form two rings. An almost identical mount, in the Musée de Cluny, is illustrated in the London Museum Medieval Catalogue.30
4. Three armed pendant mount like no. 3, but with the vertical arm missing; length of horizontal arm is 51 mm. The two fastening studs remain, 8 mm. long, of copper alloy with domed heads.
5. Small vertical mount for pendant (Fig. 3, 7) of copper alloy, gilt; length 20 mm. The two small rivets, of copper alloy, remain.
(b) N.G.R. TQ 678688. Mount of thin copper alloy sheet (Fig. 3, 8) found by Capt. L.E. Mulcrow. It is in the form of a saltire with a cross, decorated with stamped circlets, incised between the arms. There is a rivet hole at each corner and traces of gilt remain all over; 29 × 29 mm. Perhaps attached to harness at a cross strap junction.
(c) N.G.R. c. TQ 670693. Belt or strap-end hook (Fig. 4, 2) found at Battle Street by R. Parkes. Copper alloy; length 41 mm. The body, between the bar and hook, is circular with a cross design and a beaded edge. The irregular depressions between the arms of the cross are the result of poor casting and an almost identical hook found

30 L.M.M.C., 119, fig. 39, 1.
unstratified during the excavation of The Mount Roman villa at Maidstone shows that an openwork design was intended. A further example from St. Augustine’s Abbey, Canterbury, has the openwork cross design.\textsuperscript{31} Comparable examples with a Tudor rose instead of an openwork cross come from London (in Maidstone Museum) and Woodeaton\textsuperscript{32} and one with an open centre, perhaps for a stone, from Coventry, dated to between 1545 and 1557/8.\textsuperscript{33} A date during the first half of the sixteenth or the end of the fifteenth century seems likely.

DARTFORD

N.G.R. TQ 537744. Copper alloy seal-die (Fig. 3, 4) found by C.M. Sackett and identified at Dartford Museum, where it was kindly suggested that it be brought to Maidstone Museum for recording. Heater shield shape, 20 × 17 mm; hexagonal, conical handle with a pierced trefoil terminal, height 27 mm. Legend within beaded lines, surrounding a lion rampant: * I SVM LEO FORTI (I am a strong lion), the redundant initial I presumably filling a space. Circular dies with a lion and the same legend are in the Museum of London\textsuperscript{34} and the British Museum.\textsuperscript{35} Late thirteenth to fourteenth century.

SANDWAY

N.G.R. TQ 878512. Copper alloy harness pendant (Fig. 2, 5) found by G. Lloyd. Heater shield shape; length, including suspension ring, 43 mm., width 24 mm. Device of an owl passant guardant between two stems, each bearing leaves and a flower, its feet resting on the left stem. Most of the enamel remains, the owl white, the flowers a greenish blue, the stems and leaves red. If the field was gilt, no trace remains of this. Two pendants in the Museum of London, from Kensington and London Wall, show similar owls.\textsuperscript{36}

\textsuperscript{31} \textit{Antiq. Journ.}, i (1970), 346 and fig. 1, 5.
\textsuperscript{32} \textit{Oxoniensia}, xiv (1949), 23 (E 9) and fig. 5, 6.
\textsuperscript{33} \textit{P.M.A.}, xv (1981), 98 and fig. 6, 105.
\textsuperscript{34} \textit{Antiq. Journ.}, lxiv (1984), 380, and fig. 4, 17.
\textsuperscript{35} \textit{Op. cit.} in note 23, no. 741 and pl. XVI.
\textsuperscript{36} \textit{L.M.M.C.} (1940), 120 and pls. XVIII, 4 and XXI, 4.
SNODLAND

N.G.R. TQ 695609. Two objects found by P. Golding on spoil heap from new Tesco building.
1. Ring brooch of copper alloy, diam. 41 mm., like the one found at Marden.\(^{37}\)
2. Belt or strap-end hook of copper alloy (Fig. 4, 3). Design of openwork tracery; 31 × 15 mm. Late fifteenth to early sixteenth century.

WEST MALLING

N.G.R. TQ 683577. Papal bull of Innocent VI (1352–62) found by L. Mabb during building work at the abbey in the 1970s.

Post-Medieval

BOXLEY

N.G.R. TQ 771584. Lead cloth seal found by R. Parkes. A row of four joined discs, each disc 14 mm. in diameter. The outer discs (1 and 4) are plain, one having a rivet, the other perforated for fastening the seal.\(^{38}\) The second disc has a double rose below a double arched crown, within a circle, reminiscent of the reverse of the type I rose farthing tokens of Charles I. The third disc bears the initials T.W., with a pierced mullet above and below, within a circle. Surrounding the initials is the legend SHROVSBRY, preceded by a pierced mullet and within a beaded circle.

D.B. KELLY

\(^{37}\) Arch. Cant., ciii (1986), 256, and fig. 7, 5.

\(^{38}\) See G. Egan, Lead Cloth Seals, Finds Research Group, 700–1700, Datasheet 3, Fig. 10.
BILSINGTON

Roman pottery has been picked up from the surface of two fields on Oxpound Farm. The redness and textures of many of the coarse ware sherds, plus quantities of burnt daub, suggest kiln sites. No sherds with distinct waster attributes were found, however, and all the sherds are small. Medieval sherds were also collected from the same fields. Details are as follows:

Approx. N.G.R. TR 035319: About 15 grey ware sherds, mostly fine thin wares, one with a distinctive lattice pattern incised on the exterior; one sherd of samian ware; one flagon rim sherd in hard sandy buff ware with pink core; two sherds about 1 cm. thick in buff sandy wares; about 140 sherds of coarse wares, many bright orange or pink in colour. Rim fragments suggest that the sherds come from round shouldered jars with beaded or everted rims, and two types of decoration appear: groups of parallel incised lines, and a broad shallow groove (or two grooves) around the shoulder. One sherd with the latter decoration is also burnished on the exterior of the shoulder.

N.G.R. TR 037321: A similar but smaller assemblage to the above, with fewer grey ware sherds present, and no coarse ware sherds decorated with the parallel incised lines.

BURMARSH

A medieval stirrup (Fig. 1) found in Rushy Field (approx. N.G.R. TR 087312) was brought in for identification. It is made from copper gilt, and in its original state it probably had a strengthening bar under the foot-rest and coloured enamel in the decorative roundels. Its original shape was almost triangular, c. 14 cm. high and 9 cm. wide. The top end is squared and provided with a slit about 2.5 cm. wide and a round hole 6 mm. in diameter for suspension. The decoration consists of five slightly raised roundels, two on each side and one at the top, with finely incised panels between them. The top roundel has a rampant beast, probably a lion, and the lower roundel on each side bears the same image, although on one side it is in reverse, so that both creatures face to the front of the stirrup. Of the upper roundels, one bears three lozenges, the other three vertical bands, with three birds on a diagonal band across them. The incised decoration on the sides consists of pairs of pointed half-leaves, points uppermost except
on one panel, with deeper triangular incisions above the top panels. Below the foot-rest and extending from its front, two flaps of metal are each decorated with two triangular leaves, each leaf on a curling stem.

This stirrup is clearly a piece of skilled workmanship and its original appearance would have been highly decorative. Published
parallels cannot be found, but further research on the heraldic emblems suggests a date in the second quarter or middle of the fourteenth century; the three-lozenge device is the arms of the Barons Montacute or Montagu, Earls of Salisbury, described as argent, three lozenges in fess gules. The arms on the opposite side of the stirrup to this are those of the Barons Grandison, described as paly argent and azure with bend gules charged with three eagles displayed. Burke's *Dormant and Extinct Peerages* (1883) states that these two families were joined in the marriage of Katherine, daughter of William, first Baron Grandison (died c. 1330), to William, first Earl of Salisbury, who died in 1343. The most prominent emblem on the stirrup, the rampant lion, appears in various colour combinations on the arms of numerous families. I think that in this case it must be the arms of Fitzalan, Earls of Arundel, described as azure, a lion rampant within a bordure, or. This is because Sibil, a daughter of the first Earl of Salisbury, married Sir Edmund Fitzalan, younger son of the eighth Earl of Arundel. No dates of birth or death are given for Sibil or Sir Edmund, but the latter's elder brother was born in 1306, giving a wedding date no earlier than the late 1320s.

The allusions to Sibil's parents' arms suggest that this stirrup (perhaps as part of a complete saddle) was made specially for Sibil after her marriage. The length of the foot rest (c. 7 cm.) and delicacy of the stirrup also suggest that it was made for a lady's use.

Seven sherds of medieval pottery dug up in the garden of Orgarswick Farm (approx. N.G.R. TR 090309) were brought in for identification. Six sherds are of shell-tempered coarse fabric, very probably from fourteenth-century cooking-pots, and the seventh sherd is of a slightly later pinkish sandy fabric. The sherds are large and in good condition, suggesting that they come from a rubbish pit rather than a field-manuring scatter.

CHEVENING

Sherds of Romano-British pottery returned from Bromley Museum to Sevenoaks Museum have completed a late first–early second-century cremation burial group found at the top of the quarry face at Cold Arbour Wood, Chevening, in 1932 (mentioned briefly in *Arch. Cant.*, xlv (1933), p. xliii) and recorded by Dr. Gordon Ward, M.D., F.S.A.
RESEARCHES and DISCOVERIES IN KENT

CRANBROOK

A fifteenth-century wooden king-post measuring 2.15 m. in length 'from a house at Cranbrook' has been given to the Kent County Museum Service by Hastings Museum and Art Gallery. It was purchased by Hastings Museum in 1931 from Messrs. Vidler Bros.

DYMCHURCH

An incomplete quillon dagger of early or mid-sixteenth-century date found at Uplands (approx. N.G.R. TR 098298) was brought in for identification. The iron blade, which is single-edged, measures 13 cm. long without the missing tip, which would probably have added 2–3 cm. to the length. One side of the copper alloy guard (Fig. 2) is decorated with vertical incisions, and the terminals carry an indented ring and cross. On the other side of the guard is a fan-shaped peg intended to protect the user's hand. Dr Sarah Bevan, of the Royal Armouries, has supplied the following information. 'My impression from illustrations . . . is that this was as much a civilian dagger as a military type . . . The peg was to help protect the user's hand from the cut of an opponent's blade, when the dagger was used in conjunction with a sword in a two-weapon fight.' The dagger has been returned to the finder.

EASTRY

Grave goods from the Anglo-Saxon burial found at Eastry House in 1970 (described by Sonia Hawkes in Anglo-Saxon Studies, B.A.R. 72, vol. I, 1979, 81–113) are now held at the Kent County Museum Service. They comprise 29 glass beads, an iron knife, a copper alloy mount, part of a copper alloy brooch hinge and a copper alloy pin-head with blue glass inset. The gilt bronze brooch which was the outstanding feature of this grave is already on display at Deal Archaeological Collection, Deal Library.

NEW ROMNEY

A medieval sword scabbard chape found by a metal detector at approximately N.G.R. TR 057252 was brought in for identification. The chape, (Fig. 1, 3) which measures 4 cm. long and 3.8 cm. at its widest, is made of heavy bronze and was fixed to the scabbard by iron
rivets, one of which remains in place. Dr Sarah Bevan, of the Royal Armouries, has tentatively dated the chape to between about 1250 and 1350, and commented that chapes are usually made of sheet metal folded and soldered. The triangular holes and slot in either side of the chape appear to have been cut out of the metal.

NEWCHURCH

A medieval flesh hook, picked up from a ploughed field at N.G.R. TR 061322, was brought in for identification. The socketed hook, 21 cm. long, has three curled prongs at its tip at right angles to the shaft (Fig. 1, 4). A pin, for holding the socket on to a wooden handle, is still in place near the base of the socket which is 2.5 cm. in diameter. According to the London Museum Medieval Catalogue, flesh hooks were kept near the domestic hearth to pull cooked meat out of the cooking-pot or cauldron.

NORTHFLEET

A Roman bronze coin dug up in the garden of 15 Tooley Street (approx. N.G.R. TQ 626737) was brought in for identification. It is an AE3 of Valentinian I A.D. 364–375), showing on the reverse the Emperor holding a labarum and dragging a captive, and is in good condition.

Mesolithic flintwork and a Roman tegula fragment discovered during the construction of the Northfleet southern by-pass in 1987 have been transferred to the Kent County Museum Service. The finds were published by D. Garrod in K.A.R. 92 (1988), 36–8.

SOUTHFLEET

A large quantity of Roman coarse pottery, iron, stone, bone and daub excavated from Springhead between about 1960 and 1984 has been transferred to the Kent County Museum Service from the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit. A basic index of the material (162 boxes) is being prepared.

TROTTISCLIFFE

Two companion pieces to the baked clay disc, found near Trottiscliffe Court Farm and published in Arch. Cant., cvi (1988), 214–5, have
been collected from the same spot and given to the County Museum Service. Both are shaped from parts of discs, but appear to be complete objects in themselves (see Fig. 1, 5). One, which is 10.2 cm. in length and 9.5 cm. wide, is formed, apparently cut, from about one-third of a disc, the curved edge being rounded and not square as on the previously published object. Nevertheless, this does have on one side two small holes 2 cm. apart similar to the first disc. The other piece, 12.3 cm. long, which has a badly cracked surface, is formed from a narrow segment and has a squared outer edge. Both show polished areas of wear with distinct lines of rubbing.

A reference to a similar disc of brown stone found near Hayes Parish Church appears in K.A.R. 56 (1979), 145. The proximity of this and the Trottiscliffe objects to medieval church sites might possibly be relevant to their use.

J. VALE