ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES FROM MAIDSTONE MUSEUM

Prehistoric

KNOCKHOLT

N.G.R. TQ 484598. A small tanged and barbed arrowhead was dug up in his garden by B. Boyden. It is finely made of a white, translucent flint, the tang and one barb carefully squared, the other barb slightly rounded. The barbs are level with the tang. Length 23 mm., width at base 20 mm. Green's Conygar Hill type d.[1]

LENHAM

Two incomplete La Tène III bronze brooches were found by D. Perrott.
1.   N.G.R. TQ 9051. (Fig. 1, 1). The bow has a rounded knob or boss, a step below it and is decorated above and below the step with incised lines. The spring has four coils (one missing) and internal chord. The foot and pin are missing. The brooch is bent and now 50 mm. long, but in its original state would have been 60–70 mm. long. La Tène III brooches with a boss on the bow have been discussed in detail by I.M. Stead,[2] who regards them as type-fossils for his Welwyn phase, dating to the second half of the first century B.C.
2.   N.G.R. TQ 9050. (Fig. 1, 2). The bow is thin and flat with a slightly convex upper surface. Three coils of a presumably six-coil spring remain, with an external chord held in place by a hook terminating in coupled roundels with central dots; the spring is protected above by side wings. The catch-plate and pin are missing and the bow is bent; the estimated length is 50 mm., the width of the bow 10 mm, and of the chord 19 mm. A close parallel comes from Deal,[3] which has an openwork, fretted catch-plate and a six-coil

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[1] H.S. Green, *The Flint Arrowheads of the British Isles*, BAR 75 (1980), 117 ff.

[2] I.M. Stead, 'The earliest burials of the Aylesford culture', in (Eds.) Sieveking, Longworth and Wilson, *Problems in Economic and Social Archaeology*, (London, 1976), 401–16.

[3] J.P. Bushe-Fox, *Excavation of the Late-Celtic Urnfield at Swarling*, (Reports of the Res. Comm. of the Soc. Ant. London, Oxford, 1925), Pl. XIII, 7.

spring. The type is discussed by Stead,[4] who regards it as an early form of Colchester brooch dating from the end of the first century B.C. or the beginning of the next century.

MARDEN

N.G.R. TQ 747477. A polished Neolithic flint axe (Fig. 1, 3) was found by Mrs. Mayes at Great Tilden Farm, just south of the River Beult. Brown and honey-coloured mottled flint, 120 × 24 mm.

MEREWORTH

Further Neolithic flint implements have been found by R. and E. Earl[5] in Mereworth Woods north of Beech Road, the previous area of finds, and in the area to the south and east, between Beech Road and Kent Street. All the scrapers listed are convex and made on flakes.
N.G.R. *c.* TQ 662549. Blade fragments and large end scraper, 63 × 50 mm.
N.G.R. *c.* TQ 664549. Two end and side scrapers, one on a long, thick flake, 58 × 25 × 10 mm., the other 49 × 31 mm.; an awl, part of a knife on a blade flake with both edges retouched, 45 × 23 mm., and several flakes and 'bladelets'.
N.G.R. *c.* TQ 663548. A short end scraper with the bulbar end removed, 30 × 32 mm., and a large primary flake with cortex remaining on one side, one end retouched as a scraper.
N.G.R. *c.* TQ 667548. Blades and flakes; two scrapers, one made from a thermal flake with the edge worked round about three-quarters of the circumference, 26 × 23 mm., the other an end and side scraper, 45 × 33 mm.

PADDOCK WOOD

N.G.R. TQ 662454. A Mesolithic flint axe was found by Mrs. A.M. Wise at Soak Green. Part of cutting edge broken; length 146 mm., average width 42 mm.

[4] *Op. cit.* in note 2, 410–11.
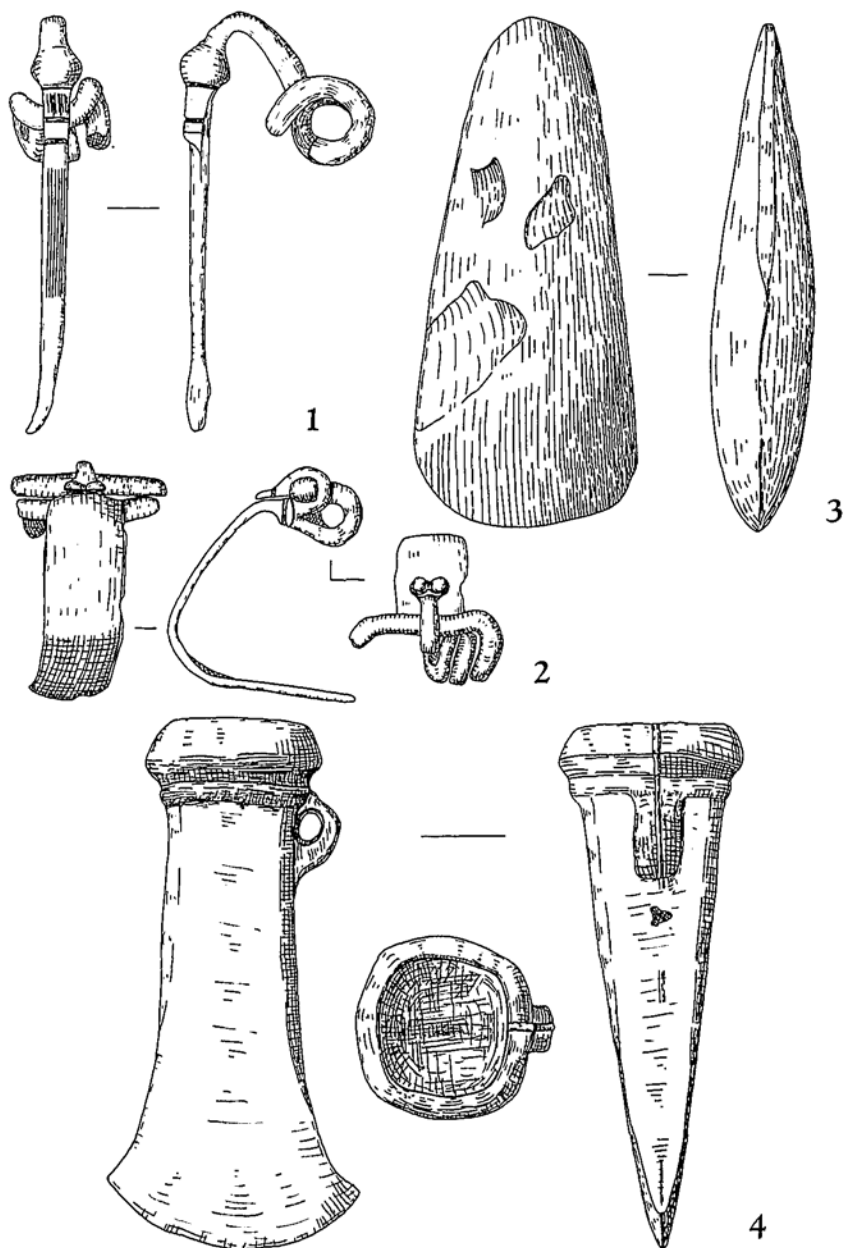[5] For previous finds see *Arch. Cant.*, cvii (1989), 397.

Fig. 1. 1, 2. Lenham: Iron Age brooches (actual size); 3. Marden: Neolithic axe (½);
4. Yalding: Late Bronze Age socketed axe (½).

YALDING

N.G.R. TQ 713499. A bronze socketed axe (Fig. 1, 4) was found by H. Curd while ploughing at Scott's Farm. Length 124 mm. It is the south-eastern type with prominent collar and single moulding below, common in Carp's Tongue hoards and dating to the ninth and eighth centuries B.C.

Roman

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA

N.G.R. TQ 7751. A brooch and a spoon handle were found by K. Parker in the area of the Roman bath-house at Brishing.[6]
1. Crossbow brooch (Fig. 2, 1); copper alloy, length 57 mm. The head is twisted to one side and terminates in a flat, three-pointed projection. The ends of the cross-bar appear unfinished or perhaps originally ended in knobs. The bow is very narrow and deep, its proportions paralleled on a fine brooch from Bath of silver with *niello* decoration in the British Museum, dated to the fourth century (PRB. 1–25.1).
2. Spoon handle (Fig. 2, 3); copper alloy with traces of tinning; length 86 mm.

BOXLEY

N.G.R. TQ 7659. Copper alloy mount found by R. Parkes (Fig. 2, 4). A hollow, female mask with a tricorn cap, 36 × 42 mm. Miss C. Johns of the British Museum suggests that the cap is intended to represent a helmet.

COBHAM

(a) N.G.R. TQ 6868. Trumpet brooch of copper alloy found by W. Reeves. Collingwood's Rii type, with acanthus leaf moulding carried all round bow and fully rounded button at the end of the foot. There is a small projection from the oval head-plate, but nothing

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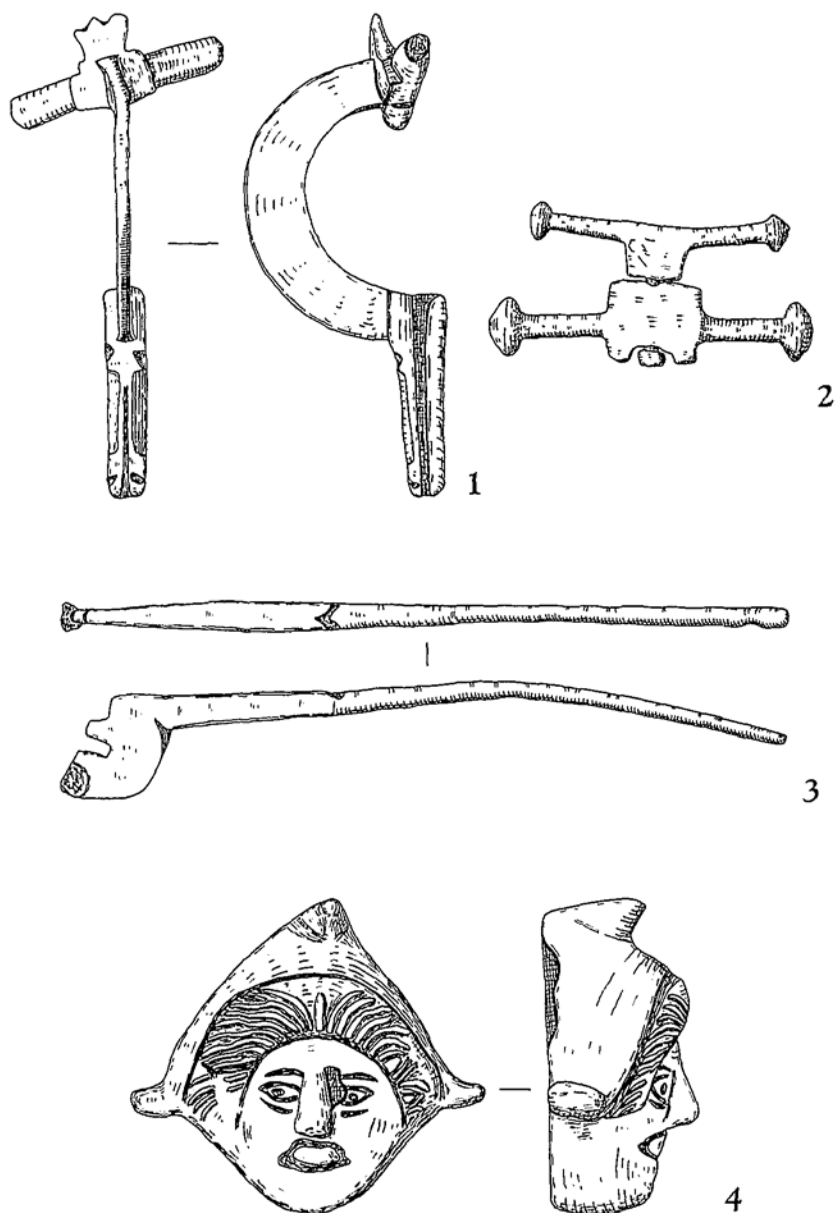[6] For previous finds see *Arch. Cant.*, civ (1987), 355; cv (1988), 305–7; cvii (1989), 398–9.

Fig. 2.   1, 3. Boughton Monchelsea: Roman brooch and spoon handle (actual size);
2. Boxley: Tudor purse-bar (½); 4. Boxley: Roman mount (actual size.)

survives of the pin or its attachment. Length 52 mm. First half of second century.

(b) N.G.R. TQ 6867. Enamelled plate brooch of copper alloy found by R. Parkes. Lozenge-shaped and three-stepped; round lugs at the corners with dot-in-circle decoration. The central lozenge retains traces of enamel, now pale green in colour. Pin and part of plate missing. Cf. examples from Richborough and Boughton Monchelsea.[7] Second century.

(c) N.G.R. TQ 6769. Fragment of a rosette brooch of copper alloy found by R. Parkes at Battle Street.

GILLINGHAM

N.G.R. TQ 8269. Pottery found by G. Peters on Nor Marsh included about half of a samian Dr. 37 bowl with stamp of the South Gaulish potter Crestus in one of the decorative medallions: MCRESTĪO.

WEST MALLING

N.G.R. TQ 6858. Incomplete Colchester brooch of copper alloy found by S. Parkes. The bow, part of perforated catch-plate with two circles and part of spring survive. Length 68 mm.

Roman coins

BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA

N.G.R. TQ 7751. *Denarius* of Septimius Severus, R.I.C. 93, found by W.F. Lambert.

BOXLEY

N.G.R. TQ 7659. *Antoninianus* of Valerian, R.I.C. 74, found by J. Cox.

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[7] *Richborough IV*, 117 (no. 49); *Arch. Cant.*, cv (1988), 307 and Fig. 5, 4.

COBHAM

N.G.R. TQ 6867/6967. Seventeen coins found by R. Parkes.[8] Some
very worn but ranging in date from Hadrian to Valens and including
two *CONSTANTINOPOLIS*, an *VRBS ROMA* (Arles mint) and a
GLORIA EXERCITVS (two standards). Identifiable coins were:
Hadrian: *denarius*, R.I.C. 69; Carausius: *antoninianus*, *PAX AVG*;
Allectus: *quinarius*, Colchester mint, R.I.C. 128 o͞c; Crispus: three
folles: Trier, R.I.C. 431; London, R.I.C. 295; Lyons, R.I.C. 103;
Gratian: Arles mint, R.I.C. 15 OF | II; Valens: *siliqua*, *VRBS ROMA*
(mm. missing, c.f. Trier, R.I.C. 27e).

STAPLEHURST

N.G.R. TQ 786436. *Antoninianus* of Probus, Lyons mint, R.I.C. 124
found by Mrs. A. Waldron, adjacent to the Roman road.

Anglo-Saxon

BOXLEY

(a)   N.G.R. TQ 7560. Penny of Wulfred, Archbishop of Canter-
bury, found by S. Parkes. B.M.C. 26; NORTH 240/1 with three
pellets by face; moneyer Saeberht.
(b)   N.G.R. TQ 7759. Incomplete square-headed brooch of copper
alloy (Fig. 3, 1) found by W. Reeves. Worn, with no traces of gilt
remaining; humped bow, triangular in section, with raised central rib
and sunken panel of decoration on each side. The edge of the
head-plate may have had zigzag decoration, but the brooch is too
worn to be certain of this. The two lugs for securing the pin survive
and there are traces of iron between them. Length 45 mm.; width of
head-plate 34 mm.
   Dr John Hines, of the University of Wales (Cardiff) has kindly
provided the following note, based on the drawing of the brooch:
'This brooch belongs within the Kentish series of sixth-century
square-headed brooches which has been studied and classified by
David Leigh.[9] In Leigh's classificational scheme all copper alloy

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[8] For coins previously found in this area see *Arch. Cant.*, civ (1987), 357; cv (1988),
310.
   [9] D. Leigh, *The Square-Headed Brooches of Sixth-Century Kent*, unpublished Ph.D
thesis (1980), University of Wales (Cardiff).

Kentish square-headed brooches are placed in Series III. The confronted beasts in the head-plate of this brooch, with their two-profile heads forming a single *en face* mask in the upper part of the centre of the panel, are related in design to the pattern found on two other brooches, which are very similar to one another, one from Dover, Buckland (unstratified)[10] and one from Howletts (B.M.).[11] The Boxley brooch appears to be a smaller and degenerate version of the model represented by these two silver brooches of Leigh's Series I. As far as one can judge from a drawing of a fragment, the Boxley brooch has one of the more ambitious designs for a Series III brooch, although relationship between copper alloy and silver Kentish square-headed brooches is not in itself especially uncommon. Parallels to the motif in the head-plate panel can also be found in the head-plates of Anglian English square-headed brooches of group XV,[12] whose distribution centres upon Cambridgeshire: relationship in this case, however, is likely to be indirect, as it appears possible to link the group XV brooches more definitely with a distinctive type of Kentish buckle plate[13] than to any Kentish square-headed brooches. A reasonable approximate dating of the Boxley brooch is around the middle of the sixth century; Leigh's study suggests a date post *c.* 530 for the brooches from Dover and Howletts cited here.'

(c) N.G.R. TQ 7758. A Late Saxon casket mount of copper alloy (Fig. 3, 3) was found by R. Parkes. It is in the form of a bearded human face, with a flange at the lower end and three rivet holes. 32 × 30 mm. Eleventh century.

(d) N.G.R. TQ 7659. A Late Saxon strap-end of copper alloy (Fig. 3, 2) found by R. Parkes. It has an openwork design of two serpents biting a central plant (? debased acanthus) and terminates in a similar head. The attachment-plate at the butt-end is missing. 51 × 26 mm. A comparable openwork strap-end was found at Winchester.[14] This has two 'lizard-like creatures' biting at the main stem and a

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[10] V.I. Evison, *Dover: The Buckland Anglo-Saxon Cemetery*, H.B.M.C.E. Archaeological Monograph 3 (London, 1987), 37–8 and Fig. 64, 9.

[11] *Op. cit.* in note 9, *Ho2*.

[12] J. Hines, *The Scandinavian Character of Anglian England in the pre-Viking Period*, BAR, Brit.ser., 124 (1984); J. Hines, *A New Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Great Square-Headed Brooches*, Soc. Ant. London Res. Rpt. (forthcoming); E.T. Leeds, *A Corpus of Early Anglo-Saxon Great Square-Headed Brooches* (Oxford, 1949), nos. 19–25, 27–29.

[13] S.C. Hawkes *et al.*, 'The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Monkton, Thanet', *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxix (1974), 78–9.

[14] (Eds.) Janet Backhouse *et al.*, *The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art 966–1066* (British Museum, 1984), 96, no. 82. I owe this reference to Mrs. S. Youngs of the British Museum.
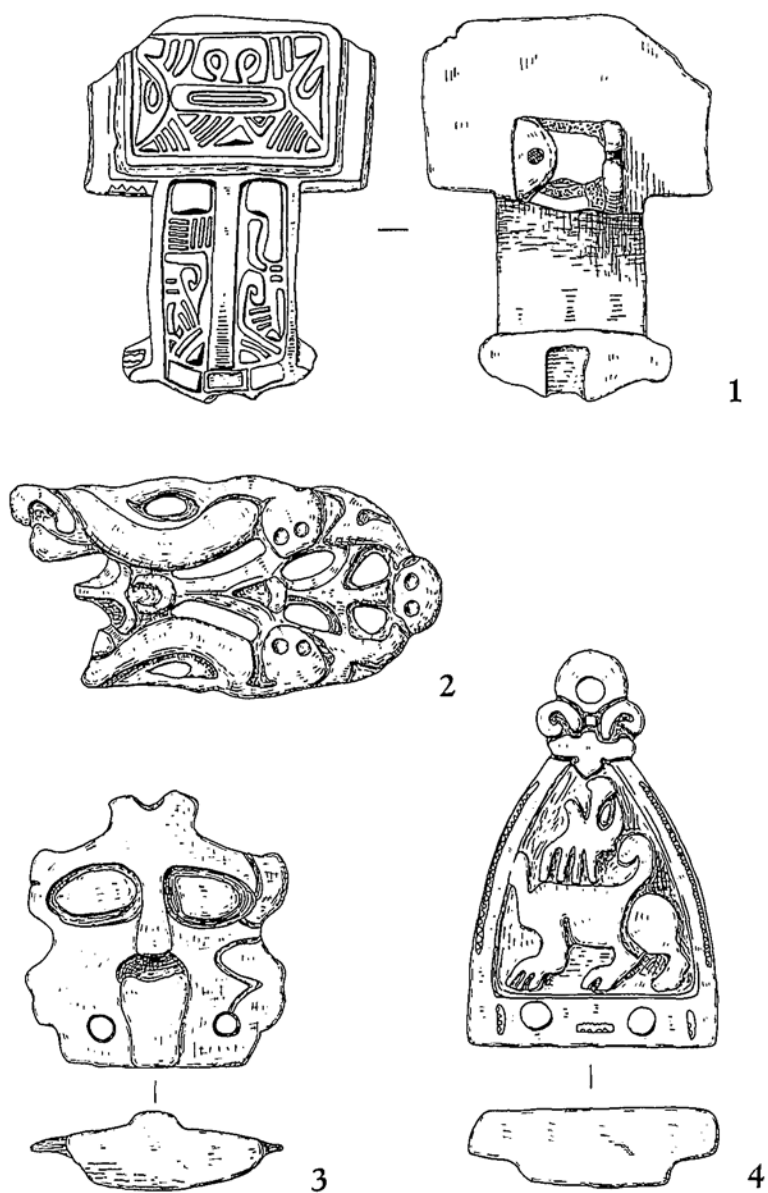
Fig. 3. Anglo-Saxon. 1–3. Boxley: 1. Square-headed brooch; 2. Belt terminal; 3. Casket mount; 4. Cliffe: Casket mount. (All actual size.)

terminal animal-head, like that on the Boxley piece, with tendrils issuing from its mouth. It is dated to the early–mid tenth century.

CLIFFE

N.G.R. TQ 7476. A Late Saxon casket-mount (Fig. 3, 4) was found by J. Ashby. It is triangular, decorated with a beast with raised head and is similar in design to a mount in the museum, found at Boxley,[15] though it is slightly larger and retains more of the detail. Copper alloy with thin strips of zigzag silver at the edges, a flange at the lower end and three rivet holes; 47 × 30 mm. Eleventh century. Museum acc. no. 1990–18.

Medieval

BOXLEY

(a)   N.G.R. TQ 7659. Pewter token found by J. Cox. Stag, right/ expanding cross; diam. 14 mm. The same obverse and reverse occur together among the very large groups of pewter tokens found in London outside the London Wall near Aldersgate Street[16] and in Winetavern Street, Dublin,[17] where they were firmly dated to the third quarter of the thirteenth century. The series has been discussed in detail by Dolley and Seaby.[18]
(b)   N.G.R. TQ 7659. Circular lead seal-die (Fig. 4, 6) found by J. Cox. + S' IVRDANI BASTAR, surrounding estoile of five points. The reverse is plain and has the remains of a ring handle at the top. Diam. 27 mm. Late twelfth–thirteenth century.
(c)   N.G.R. TQ 7560. Small ring brooch of copper alloy (Fig. 4, 11) found by S. Parkes. The outer edge has twenty projections with rounded tops and inside there are seven settings, irregularly spaced, for glass or stones, now all missing. Diam. 18 mm. It is reminiscent of

[15] *Arch. Cant.*, civ (1987), 359 and Fig. 8, 1.
[16] C.R. Smith, *Catalogue of the Museum of London Antiquities* (London, 1854), 156–7; Pl. XVI, 12.
[17] M. Dolley and W.A. Seaby, 'A Find of Thirteenth-Century Pewter Tokens from the National Museum Excavations at Winetavern Street, Dublin', *The Numismatic Circular*, LXXIX, no. 12 (1971), 446–8. Type no. 28.
[18] *Ibid.*

ring brooches with bosses on the ring to hold glass or stones, like those from Little Avebury, Wilts., and Noble Street, London.[19]
(d)   N.G.R. TQ 7558. Purse-bar of copper alloy (Fig. 2, 2) found by D. Lloyd. It is Ward Perkins' type B8,[20] with a second bar in place of the loop, dated by him as late as the middle of the sixteenth century by the stamped ornament found on some examples. The downward projection of the upper bar has slight traces of a lightly incised or stamped design on both sides, possibly a crown. Length of lower bar 77 mm., of upper 61 mm.; height 34 mm.

CLIFFE

N.G.R. TQ 7476. Lead seal-die found by J. Ashby. Pointed oval, length 36 mm. + S' RIChAR . . . . . . Reverse has solid triangular lug at the top and debased fleur-de-lys in relief.

COBHAM

(a)   Three copper–alloy circular seal-dies, all with conical, hexagonal handles, found by D. Lloyd in Cobham Park. No. 1 has trefoil terminal to handle, but on the other two the terminals are broken off. Thirteenth–fourteenth century.
1.   N.G.R. TQ 6868. (Fig. 4, 1). Fleur-de-lys within a quatrefoil. S' ROBERT BOVTEL. Diam. 18 mm.; height 22 mm.
2.   N.G.R. TQ 6768. (Fig. 4, 2). Stag's head, six-point star on each side, pheon above, within beaded circle. * S' WILᵼI DE NORITORE. Diam. 19 mm.
3.   N.G.R. TQ 6768. (Fig. 4, 3). Animal curled up within six-point star formed of two triangles. No legend. Diam. 14 mm. A seal-die from Thetford[21] has a lion curled up, but head left, within a 'star of David' and in the interstices outside the star the legend LEVL AMVR (true love).
(b)   N.G.R. TQ 6868. Harness pendant (Fig. 4, 10) found by S. Parkes. Heater shield shape, copper alloy, enamelled, 28 × 17 mm. The design is of two gold trumpets on a blue field scattered with gold crosses. This is the canting arms of De Trumpington: Azure,

[19] *Wilts. A. M.*, 64 (1969), 118; *London Museum Medieval Catalogue* (1940) (hereafter *L.M.M.C.*), Pl. LXXVIII, top left.
[20] *L.M.M.C.*, 169 and Fig. 52.
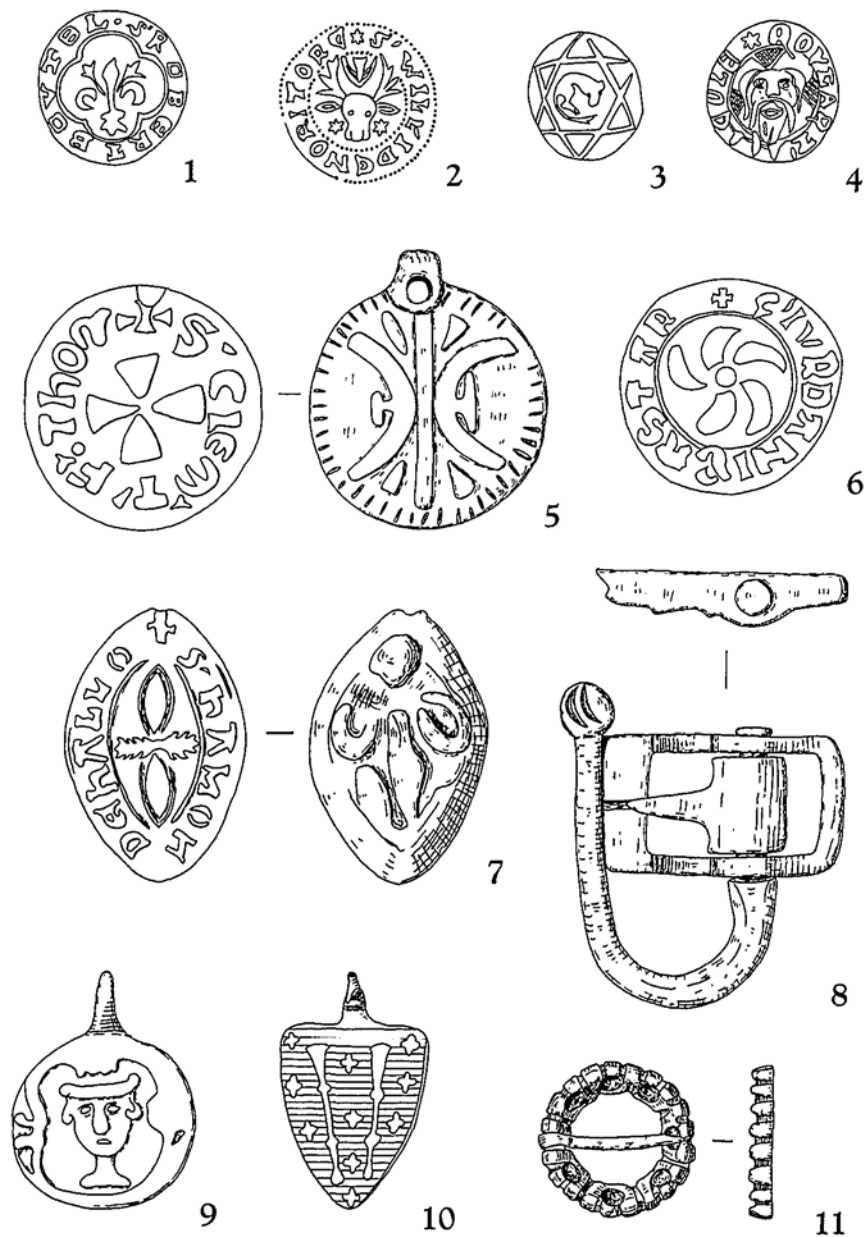[21] *Norfolk Arch.*, xxxix (1985), 220, Pl. V.

Fig. 4.   Medieval. 1–7. Seal-dies: 1–3. Cobham; 4. South Ash; 5. Snargate; 6. Boxley;
7. West Malling; 8. Cobham: Locking buckle; 9,10. Harness pendants: Snodland,
Cobham; 11. Boxley: Ring brooch. (All actual size).

crusily, two trumpets pilewise or.[22] The crosslets were too compli-
cated to reproduce on a small pendant, but appear on the well-known
early fourteenth-century brass of Roger de Trumpington at Trum-
pington.
(c) N.G.R. TQ 6868. Lead ampulla found by W. Reeves. Very
worn, crushed and handles missing, though originally present. One
side has design of a compass-drawn flower, perhaps of twelve petals.
Length 52 mm.
(d) N.G.R. TQ 6868. A locking buckle of copper alloy (Fig. 4, 8)
found by D. Lloyd; 38 × 32 mm. Half-a-dozen of these buckles are
listed in the London Museum Catalogue,[23] where the function of the
locking device is regarded as obscure. Mr Lloyd pointed out to me
that the twisted knob terminals of the moving arm is like those on the
type B3 purse-bars[24] and the loop of a purse-bar of this type in his
possession could be attached quite securely to the arm of the buckle,
which locks firmly in place. Early sixteenth century.

SNARGATE

N.G.R. TQ 9928. A ring brooch and a lead seal-die found by
D. Perrott.
1. Ring brooch of copper alloy, pin missing, diam. 25 mm. One half
of the ring is twisted and has double lines of dot decoration between
the twists, the other plain. A similar brooch was found during
excavations in the outer court of St. Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury,
in the post-1300 construction layer.[25]
2. Circular lead seal-die (Fig. 4, 5), diam. 28 mm. + S' CLEM'T'F'
ThOM. (Clement FitzThomas). Design on reverse of (?) debased
fleur-de-lys; perforated suspension lug at top. Late twelfth–thirteenth
century.

SNODLAND

N.G.R. TQ 6862. Harness pendant and enamelled stud found by
S. Parkes.
1. Circular harness pendant (Fig. 4, 9), copper alloy gilt all over,

[22] C.W. Scott-Giles, *Boutell's Heraldry*, (rev. edit., London, 1954), 100–1.
[23] *L.M.M.C.*, 279–280 and Pl. LXXVII, 11 and 12.
[24] *Ibid.*, 168 and Fig. 52.
[25] *Arch. Cant.*, ciii (1986), 115 and Fig. 7, 8.

about half of the gilt remaining. Diam. 21 mm. Design of facing human head within a quatrefoil. It lacks detail, but is possibly intended to show a woman wearing a head-dress with templers; if so, it would be early fifteenth century.

2. Enamelled heater shield shape stud of copper alloy, 17 × 15 mm. It bears the arms of England (gules, three leopards in pale or) and retains traces of red enamel. A thick rivet, 12 mm. long, projects from the back and this and the small size of the shield suggest that the stud belongs to the group of mounts fastened to the top of a stirrup.[26]

SOUTH ASH

N.G.R. TQ 6063. A copper alloy seal-die (Fig. 4, 4) was found by C. Henderson and identified by the curator of Dartford Museum, who kindly suggested that it be brought here for recording. It is circular and has a hexagonal, conical handle with a loop at the top; height 23 mm., diam. 16 mm. * ROVLART ' COLE surrounding the head of Christ with nimbus. Late thirteenth–fourteenth century.

WEST MALLING

N.G.R. TQ 6862. Lead seal-die (Fig. 4, 7) found by S. Parkes. Pointed oval shape with design of four leaves. + S'hAMO DE hALLO. 32 × 21 mm. Reverse has crude fleur-de-lys design and lug at top.

D.B. KELLY

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[26] N Griffiths, *Shield-Shaped Mounts*, (Finds Research Group 700–1700, Datasheet 12, 1989), Figs. 4 a-b.