been.[40] However, this spur has the remains of an iron goad riveted on to a hemispherical boss cast integrally with the body of the spur.

From the near continent three parallels, none close, will suffice: a pair of encrusted spurs from grave 2 at Nørre Longelse, Denmark, with terminals in the form of stylised zoomorphic faces;[41] and a prick spur of 11th-century date in the Germanisches Nationalmuseum,[42] whose goad, of uncertain form, projects from the mouth of a zoomorphic face set at the junction of sides and neck. There are also two faces on the straight sides. There is finally a copper alloy spur acquired by the Engel collection from Paderborn, Germany, with goad formed as a bearded head with ears above and beard forming the goad point.[43]

The concave terminal of the neck on the Lewes find suggests that this object was intended to protrude horizontally from another object of semi-circular or curving profile; such a description as would fit the body of a spur. The decoration on the neck suggests that the object is primarily intended to be visible from above, which again would suit a spur. This finely modelled head, with its bulging pointed oval eyes and curling tendrils points to the Urnes Style of Late Viking art, and clearly places the object within the 11th century and probably within its first half. The Soberton object is likely to have had a similar function and to be of similar date, although of less high quality. The V-shaped collar is clearly reminiscent of the moulding at the junction of neck and sides on the Marnhull spur.

It is concluded that both objects are the necks of spurs of composite construction and that both date to the 11th century. The Lewes neck in particular is a well modelled, high-quality casting and is likely to have formed part of a pair of spurs of similar high quality. It is hoped that this note will bring other hitherto unrecognised examples of Late Saxon spurs to light.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to record my thanks to the finders of the two spurs for allowing me to record their finds, as well as to Blanche Ellis for discussing the objects with me and for providing me with the information on parallels as well as her drawing of the spur from Marnhull. Mrs Ellis would also like to thank Mr G. W. Wyatt for allowing her to record the spur from Marnhull.

DAVID WILLIAMS

TWO ADJUSTABLE CANDLEHOLDERS FROM WARWICKSHIRE (Fig. 5)

Two medieval adjustable candleholders of a very unusual type were reported to the Warwickshire Museum in the mid-1990s. The first was found at Ditchford Frary, a deserted medieval village in South Warwickshire, by Mr E. J. Warren in 1996, and this was followed a year later by a second example from Churchover in the east of the county found by Mr M. Miles.[44] Taken together these candleholders provide evidence for the first detailed description of this artefact-type.

These candleholders are made of copper alloy rather than iron which was the more commonly used material in the Middle Ages. Each candleholder consists of two main parts, a stem and an arm, which are connected by a swivel pin. The stem is formed of a

[40] Ipswich Museum 1936.278: H. de S. Shortt, 'Another spur of the first century AD from Suffolk', *Antiq. J.*, 44 (1964), 60, fig. 1.
[41] J. Graham-Campbell, *Viking Artefacts* (London, 1980), 82, no. 291.
[42] No. W3262, labelled 'Bodenfund aus Leester bei Bamberg'.
[43] *Zeitschrift fur Historische Waffenkunde*, VI (Dresden, 1912–14), 327.
[44] Full details of findspots are recorded in the Warwickshire Sites and Monuments Record.

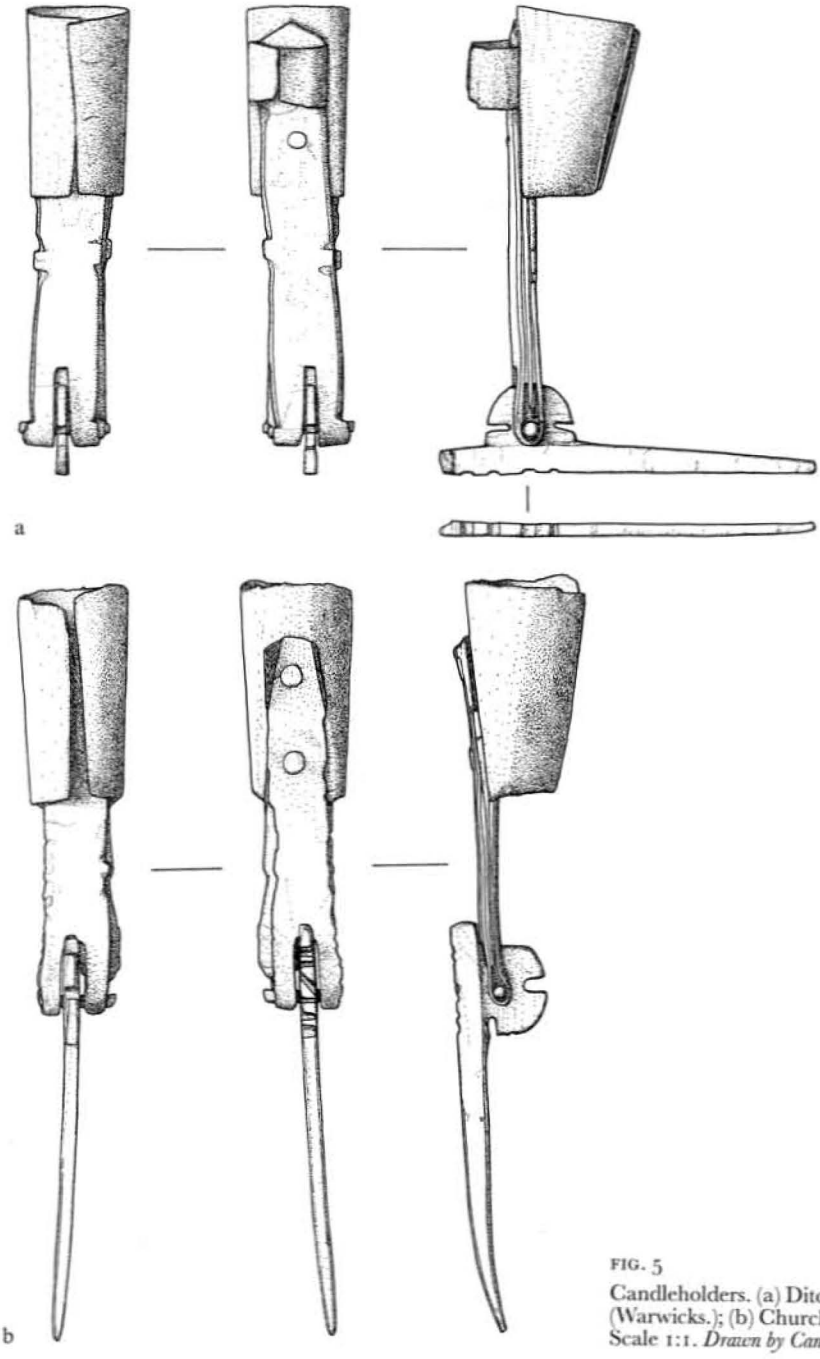

FIG. 5
Candleholders. (a) Ditchford Frary (Warwicks.); (b) Churchover (Warwicks.). Scale 1:1. *Drawn by Candy Stevens.*

strip of metal folded around the swivel pin and held together by two rivets. These rivets also serve to attach a socket of curved sheet metal to take a candle and a folding tab. This folding tab can be swung out away from the stem and when returned to the closed position enables the stem to be locked in three settings: folded down for storage, upright and at 90°. In the Ditchford Frary example (Fig. 5a) the stem is also bent round at the top to form a second smaller socket, probably for a rushlight, a feature now lost in the Churchover find (Fig. 5b). The stem of the Ditchford Frary candleholder also has some crude decoration in the form of a pair of notches along the margin of each edge. Such decoration also once may have existed on the Churchover find, but the stem of this candleholder has been damaged. The arm is formed of a bar of cast metal of rectangular section, which has a protruding semi-circular flange with three notches and is perforated to take the swivel pin. These three notches accommodate the folding tab of the stem. The arm terminates in a blunt point. The arm is decorated, in both examples, with a series of irregular grooves along the outer edge close to the swivel pin. The design of these candleholders has been described by Geoff Egan as 'an ingenious adjustable version allowing for three different positions, fixed by a folding tab'.[45]

The most remarkable characteristic of this type of candleholder is that it may be adjusted for different usages. When fully opened the stem and the arm are in the same plane, and the point of the arm may be fitted into a crack in a tabletop or, perhaps more likely, a separate wooden base. When set at 90° the stem could be pushed into a wall, and lastly when closed the candleholder is reduced in overall length by about a third making it easier to transport. The other notable characteristic of this design is the facility to take both candles and rushlights. Both these characteristics may be found in other light fittings, but only in this type of candleholder are they present in such a form.

A tripod candlestick of copper alloy from London has folding legs and both a pricket for a candle and a small socket for a rushlight.[46] A fragment of the stem of this design of candlestick is also recorded from Laverstock, near Salisbury.[47] In this case the legs are each attached to the stem by a swivel pin. In its most advanced form this tripod candlestick developed into the gilded and enamelled luxury item found at Grove Priory, Bedfordshire, which was closely associated with the Plantagenet Royal House.[48] These tripod candlesticks could only however function in one position. An alternative arrangement is seen in another candleholder from London, made of iron, which has three cups, all set in different directions meaning that only one could be used at any one time. This stood on a base. While possessing the range of positions found in the Warwickshire examples it could not be folded down.[49] Combined socket and pricket iron candlesticks are also known where the socket took a rushlight and the pricket a candle, as in the case of a fragment with a single socket from Norwich, or a paired socket and pricket from London and Hull.[50]

Besides the two Warwickshire finds there are six other examples of the adjustable candleholder from England.[51] With one exception all were found by metal-detectorists. One from Billingsgate, London is rather more elaborate with incised zigzag and chevron

[45] G. Egan, *The Medieval Household* (London, 1998), 146.
[46] J. Ward Perkins, *London Museum — Medieval Catalogue* (London, 1940), fig. 56, no. 1.
[47] J. Musty et al., 'The medieval pottery kilns at Laverstock, near Salisbury, Wiltshire', *Archaeologia*, (1969), 83–150, fig. 28, no. 3.
[48] E. Baker, 'The medieval travelling candlestick from Grove Priory, Bedfordshire', *Antiq. J.*, LXI (1981), 336–8; see also B. D. Boehm and E. Taburet-Delahaye (eds.), *Enamels of Limoges 1100–1350, Metropolitan Museum of Art* (New York, 1996), 379.
[49] Ward Perkins, op. cit. in note 46, fig. 56, no. 2.
[50] I. H. Goodall, 'Iron candlesticks', in S. Margeson (ed.) *Norwich Households* (Norwich, 1993), 84–6, no. 550; M. J. Hammerson, 'Excavations on the site of Arundel House in the Strand, W.C. 2', in 1972, *Trans London & Middlesex Arch. Soc.*, 26 (1975), 242, fig. 19, no. 5; I. H. Goodall, 'Objects of iron', in P. Armstrong and B. Ayers, 'Excavations in High Street and Blackfriargate', *East Riding Archaeology* 8 / *Hull Old Town Report*, 5 (1987), 197–201, fig. 114, no. 134.
[51] A number of detached arms have been found by metal-detectorists in Norfolk (Helen Geake, pers. comm.).

decoration on the socket and exterior face of the stem. This find lacks the second smaller socket for a rushlight.[52] A find from an archaeological excavation in Hull is incomplete, but the stem has an elaborate decoration of grooved patterns set into two panels, and the arm a series of irregular grooves along the outer edge close to the swivel pin. Interestingly the published description of this damaged candlestick infers that 'a hinged blade between the plates' was used 'for trimming the wick'.[53] In December 2000 a closed candleholder was found at West Stow in Suffolk. Here the arm fits neatly into the open seam of the candle socket and there is an accompanying rushlight holder. About halfway down the length of the stem is a pair of notches along the margin of each edge and there are rather worn horizontal and vertical grooves on the arm. Indeed the West Stow find looks so similar to that from Ditchford that they must be the products of the same workshop.[54] The remaining three English finds only have general provenances. The first was found in Kent, possibly near Rochester, in the late 1980s. It is in fragmentary condition with the socket broken off. The stem is decorated on the outer side with double vertical bands of punched dots and on both sides with six faint horizontal lines.[55] A second, found in 1996, comes from SW. Wiltshire (A) and is notable for being entirely made of sheet metal and lacking a locking device. There is, however, a rushlight socket and the stem is decorated with punched quatrefoils. It is likely that it is a cheaper copy of the standard design (see below).[56] The third find, made in 1997, is also from SW. Wiltshire (B) and has a border of oblique lines around the top edge of the candle socket. The stem is decorated with a pair of horizontal grooves and the top of the arm has moulded horizontal bands. In this case there is no rushlight socket.[57] Lastly there is also a find from Damme, the medieval port of Bruges, in Belgium.[58] This example has incised zigzag and chevron decoration on the socket and stem of different designs to those seen on the Billingsgate find. Like Billingsgate, however, there is no rushlight socket.[59]

TABLE 1
A COMPARISON OF DIMENSIONS OF ADJUSTABLE CANDLEHOLDERS

Site	Folded Length (mm)	Maximum internal diameter of socket (mm)
Ditchford Frary, Warwicks.	64	13
Churchover, Warwicks.	64	13
Billingsgate, London	68	13
Hull	incomplete	missing
Rochester(?), Kent	65 (incomplete)	missing
West Stow, Suffolk	71	12
Wiltshire A	82	15
Wiltshire B	74	15
Damme, Belgium	62	12

[52] Egan, op. cit. in note 45, 146–7, fig. 115 (MoL acc. no. 84.163).
[53] A. R. Goodall, 'Objects of bronze', 202–6 in Armstrong and Ayers, op. cit. in note 50, fig. 117, no. 214.
[54] Helen Geake, pers. comm.
[55] B. Read, *Metal Artefacts of Antiquity Volume I* (Langport, 2001), 124, no. 898.
[56] *The Searcher*, February 1996, 28: Read, op. cit. in note 55, 114, no. 897.
[57] Read, op. cit. in note 55, 124, no. 899.
[58] *The Searcher*, May 1996, 26. The finder, Yves Calleuw, informs me that he knows of no other finds from Belgium or the Netherlands.
[59] There are two other overseas finds: from Gamla Lödöse, near Göteborg in Sweden, held in Statens Historiska Museum, Stockholm, and Novgorod, Russia (Geoff Egan, pers. comm.).

Table 1 compares two dimensions of the candleholders — folded length and internal diameter of the socket. The latter is the maximum measurement, taken across the top. Only the measurements of the Warwickshire finds have been taken from the actual objects. The measurements of the others are taken from published and unpublished scale drawings and are obviously subject to error. Despite this a pattern emerges for the seven candleholders for which data is available. The socket internal diameter is remarkably consistent in the range of 12–15 mm with the largest values being recorded for the Wiltshire finds. Wiltshire A is also the largest in terms of folded length, 82 mm, compared to the other values of 62–74 mm.[60] These measurements bear out the view expressed above that Wiltshire A is a copy of the standard design.

The precise date of these adjustable candleholders is unclear. The earliest appearance of the socket in an English context is as a cupped holder found at Winchester and dated to the late 11th or 12th century.[61] It remained in use throughout the remainder of the medieval period, and beyond. For example, there is a wall-mounted candleholder of the late 16th century found in Amsterdam, dated by reference to a find made at 'Het behouden huys' on Nova Zembla occupied by the explorer Willelm Barents in 1597.[62] However, it seems reasonable to suggest that these objects may be dated to the late medieval period, perhaps the late 14th or 15th centuries. This dating is based on the zigzag engraving found, for example, on the Billingsgate and Damme finds which is not seen on objects after c. 1500.[63] Such a conclusion would certainly be supported by the archaeological evidence from Hull where the candleholder was found in a building dated to the mid- to late 14th century (post-1347/52).[64]

It is interesting to consider the findspots of these portable candleholders in the seven cases where these are known. Both of the Warwickshire examples were found close to Roman roads — Ditchford Frary is about three-quarters of a mile (1 km) east of the Fosse Way while the site at Churchover lies close to the west side of the Watling Street. Both roads would have continued in use into the medieval period, with the Watling Street in particular being a major artery by the mid-14th century. Likewise the find from West Stow is less than a mile east of Icknield Street, another medieval road with Roman, and indeed prehistoric, antecedents.[65] The London, Hull and Damme finds are all from ports which were of considerable importance in the Middle Ages, while Rochester was a sizeable town with a castle and cathedral.[66] It has been estimated that during the 14th century there were around a thousand merchants in London engaged in a variety of trade. In particular by the 1330s the port of London accounted for about a third of all English wool exports.[67] Hull too was very active in the wool trade, although its merchants also shipped grain to the Continent.[68] At its height, in the 14th century, Damme was the chief trade centre in northern Europe for wine and a very important market in Europe for Swedish herring.[69] This association with communications, by both land and sea, might suggest that such portable candleholders were popular amongst merchants as a convenient means of providing light while staying overnight in inns.

[60] The similarity of the two Warwickshire finds is remarkable.
[61] K. Barclay and M. Biddle, 'Stone and pottery lamps', 983–4 in M. Biddle (ed.), *Object and Economy in Medieval Winchester: Artefacts from Medieval Winchester* (Oxford, 1990).
[62] J. M. Baart et al., *Opgravingen in Amsterdam* (Amsterdam, 1977), 358 and 360, no. 673.
[63] Geoff Egan, pers. comm.
[64] Armstrong and Ayers, op. cit. in note 50, 40 and 44. The candleholder was found in phase 5W, in an ancillary structure within a clay floor level on the Wyteland property.
[65] See J. M. Steane, *The Archaeology of Medieval England and Wales* (London, 1985), 104–9, for a discussion of medieval roads.
[66] The find from Novgorod is a further example. Novgorod was a thriving river port in the medieval period.
[67] S. L. Waugh, *England in the Reign of Edward III* (Cambridge, 1991), 48 and 62.
[68] Ibid., 59.
[69] Baedeker, *Belgium* (Basingstoke, 1996), 192–3.

Study of these two Warwickshire finds has thus enabled the identification of a distinct category of medieval lighting equipment. Following the development of a prototype, perhaps in the late 14th century, a small group of workshops began to produce an adjustable candleholder for use by merchants and other travellers. Each workshop made a slightly different product and this accounts for the significant differences in technology and more minor variations in design.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to Geoff Egan, Brian Read, Yves Calleuw and Helen Geake for their comments on this paper. I would also like to thank Jerry Warren and Michael Miles for reporting their finds to the Warwickshire Museum.

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