A Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Cruciform Brooches: Data Dictionary

Sites table

Site_id

This field provides the unique identifier for each site, usually equivalent to the parish in which the site is located. Sometimes this is followed by a Roman numeral to distinguish multiple sites from the same parish (e.g. Bridlington I, Bridlington II, Bridlington III). The order in which they progress is arbitrary unless a precedent has been set by a previous publication. Where the parish is unknown, the district can be used. If information is only known for the county level, however, the brooch is counted as "unprovenanced". To distinguish between occasional parish names that occur in multiple counties, the parish name is followed by a comma, followed by a county name or other region.

In the instances of well-known (generally published) cemeteries, a more geographically specific name can be given (e.g. Loveden Hill, Bloodmoor Hill, Westgarth Gardens etc.). If a site has a less well known name which is not equivalent to the parish name, or two names with ambiguous primacy, the more specific name should be placed in brackets after the parish e.g. Faversham (King's Field).

Groups of archaeological or metal-detected finds are defined as a "site" according to various criteria. Highly proximal cemeteries can only really be distinguished if they have been excavated (e.g. Mucking I, Mucking II), or sometimes by different Historic Environment records if they provide sufficient detail. For Portable Antiquities Scheme data, any find with a different grid reference, even if it differs by as little as 100m, is defined as a separate site. Portable Antiquities Scheme finds are only placed under the same site name if they are recorded under *exactly* the same coordinates, no matter how specific or approximate they are, as this supposedly indicates the same event. Occasionally this leads to the unlikely situation of some parishes having up to 10 identified "sites" (e.g. Coddenham), but data preservation has been prioritised over obscuring several potential archaeological sites under one label.

County

County names follow the historic counties of England, with some minor adjustments (e.g. Tees, Tyne and Wear). Only the following 30 values are permitted in the database:

1. Bedfordshire
2. Berkshire
3. Buckinghamshire
4. Cambridgeshire
5. County Durham
6. Derbyshire

7. Essex
8. Gloucestershire
9. Hampshire
10. Hertfordshire
11. Isle of Wight
12. Kent
13. Leicestershire
14. Lincolnshire
15. Norfolk
16. Northamptonshire
17. Northumberland
18. Nottinghamshire
19. Oxfordshire
20. Rutland
21. Shropshire
22. Staffordshire
23. Suffolk
24. Surrey
25. Sussex
26. Tees
27. Tyne and Wear
28. Warwickshire
29. Worcestershire
30. Yorkshire

Any English counties missing from this list lack finds of cruciform brooches.

Cruciform_count

These values were calculated from the number of cruciform brooches, or cruciform brooch fragments, related to each site. They run from 1 to 47, and they add up to 2050. The missing 25 are due to the 25 brooches without known sites.

Site_phase

This value indicates the cruciform brooch phases represented at the site (as defined by in Martin 2015). The phase is given as A, B, or C, or multiple values separated by commas.

Site_type

This field records the type of site chosen from a number of limited categories. These are:

- Burial = Any kind of burial. The criterion for inclusion in this category is that skeletal material was recovered from the site, or there was evidence for grave cuts.
- PAS = Any site originating from the Portable Antiquities Scheme database. The vast majority of these are metal-detected
- Stray find = this category includes finds recovered without context. Some may be metal-detected, but they are not found on the Portable Antiquities Scheme

database. As such, the sources of information for these sites includes publications, museums and Historic Environment Records

- Unknown = usually these are sites often from museum records which could not be linked to Historic Environment Records or published information. It is simply not known whether they were found in stratified contexts or were stray finds

Year_discovered

The year of discovery cannot always be accurate, as many sites have been explored several times over the course of their history, and it is not always easy to tell what year the brooches in question were found in. As such, when there is ambiguity, the earliest year of discovery is given. Values followed by a question mark indicate some doubt in the source of reference. Values preceded by a 'c.' for *circa* indicate a date around that time. In the primary sources, sometimes sites are given as before or *ante* a certain year. In these cases that year is given here as the date of discovery, as it usually indicates the year the site was first recorded. For Portable Antiquities Scheme finds, the date of discovery often differ from the date the record was made. Where the date of discovery is not given on the record, the date of the record's creation is used instead.

Bibliographic_Reference

This field provides bibliographic references to the site. These references by no means provide a list of comprehensive sources. They are simply a means of identifying the site in other sources, primarily Audrey Meaney's (1964) gazetteer. Where the site has a dedicated published report, this is also given. Finds described in annual reports from local journals are also referenced. Usually, the citation refers to accounts of the overall site rather than specific illustrations or corpora of material from numerous sites. However, when the site has not been comprehensively published elsewhere a catalogue may be referenced (usually Reichstein 1975). Each value is separated by semicolons.

HER_reference

This provides a reference to the Historic Environment Record or Sites and Monuments Record number where they could be located and matched with the museum of published records. The purpose of this reference is not only to identify the site with national databases, but it also provides a pathway to a more comprehensive bibliography held by the HER or SMR. The only major missing data here are those pertaining to Northamptonshire, whose Historic Environment Record made data gathering financially unviable at the time of data gathering for this project.

Notes

Miscellaneous notes, which are usually used to clarify aspects of the site's identity.

Contexts table

Context_id

The unique context identification is formed from the name of the site (as given as the Site_id in the Sites table), followed by a context number. The context number is prefixed

by a 'G' for an inhumation grave, or a 'C' for cremation, followed by the number or other identifier precisely as given in the publication or excavation report (e.g. Empingham II G100, Spong Hill C1246).

Site_id

This gives the name of the site to which the context belongs, as given in the Sites table. In the relational database these two fields are linked.

Osteology

This Yes/No field declares whether the context has an available osteological report, or belongs to a site for which there was a full osteological examination. Therefore, even if there was no skeletal material surviving from this particular context, but the rest of the site was subjected to analysis, the entry is still "Yes".

Context_phase

This field gives the phase of the context according to the dating of its cruciform brooches (A, B or C, or combinations of those, comma separated, according to Martin 2015).

Bead_phase

The bead phase refers to Birte Brugmann's (2004) chronology. These contexts fall into the following categories:

- A
- A1
- A2
- A2b
- B1
- In sample, unclassified (for assemblages Brugmann considered, but could not phase)
- Not in sample (for assemblages that fell outside Brugmann's study)

Age_report

This field gives the biological age, as defined by osteological examination, precisely as it is worded in the original report.

Age_category

This field gives the biological age, as defined by osteological examination, converted from the original category in which it was published to those used by Jacqui McKinley in the Spong Hill osteological report (McKinley 1994). See Martin 2015, 210 (Table 15) for details on this). The following values are permitted:

- Infant
- Juvenile (y)
- Juvenile (o)
- Juvenile
- Subadult (y)
- Subadult (o)

- Subadult
- Adult Young
- Adult Mature (y)
- Adult Mature (o)
- Adult Mature
- Adult Old
- Adult
- Indeterminate
- No record

Sex_category

This gives the osteologically-defined sex category of the burial, standardized into the following categories:

- Female
- Female (probable)
- Indeterminate
- Male
- Male (probable)
- No record

Context_type

This field gives the type of context, taken from the following categories:

- Cremation (double, urned)
- Cremation (single, urned)
- Cremation (single, without urn)
- Inhumation (barrow)
- Inhumation (double)
- Inhumation (single)

Associated_items

This field gives a list of items found in the grave separated by semicolons. Values in parantheses after an item indicate a more specific type. The item type is sometimes preceded by the material it is made from, where known (Ae=copper alloy, Ag=silver, Au=gold, Fe=iron, Pb=lead, Sn=tin). The following item types are used:

- Annular brooch (flat, moulded or unidentified)
- Applied brooch (saucer)
- Disc brooch
- Equal-arm brooch (Anglian, Saxon)
- Great square-headed brooch
- Penannular brooch
- Roman brooch (tututus, disc, T-shaped)
- Small long brooch (cross pattee, cross potent, cruciform, imitation great square-headed, square-headed, trefoil or unidentified)
- Swastika brooch

- Pin (Ae, bone or Fe)
- Wrist-clasps (A, B7, B8, B9, B12, B13, B13a, B13b, B13c, B14a, B14b, B15, B16, B17, B17a, B17b, B18, B18a, B18b, B18c, B18d, B19, B20, C, C3, unidentified)
- Pendant
- Animal tooth pendant (beaver, boar, pig, unidentified)
- Bracteate (C-type)
- Bucket pendants (Ae)
- Bulla pendant (Ag)
- Ivory pendant
- Pebble pendant (in Ag frame)
- Roman coin pendant
- Roman spoon pendant
- Scutiform pendant (Ae, Ag)
- Spangle (Ae)
- Earring (Ae, bead)
- Finger ring (Ae, Ag, white metal)
- Bead (Ae, amber, antler, bone, glass, ceramic, chalk, coral, crystal, Fe, gilded glass, gold-in-glass, ironstone, jet, melted glass, Pb, quartz, shell, silver-in-glass, shell, Sn, stone)
- Buckle (Ae, Fe, with Fe tongue, with Ae plate, with Ae or Ag inlay)
- Decorated buckle (Ae)
- Shield-tongue buckle (Ae)
- Shoe-shaped belt studs (Ae)
- Strap-end (Ae)
- Tag-end (Ae)
- Chatelaine (Fe)
- Key (Ae, Fe)
- Girdle-hanger
- Ring (Ae, Ag, antler, bone, Fe, horn, ivory, Pb, pewter, with niello inlay)
- Decorated ring
- Loop [=wire ring] (Ae, Ag, Fe)
- Bracelet (Ag, Ae)
- Anklet (Ae)
- Comb (bone, composite)
- Toilet set
- Ear scoop (Ae)
- Tweezers (Ae, Fe)
- Needle (Ae, wooden)
- Needle case (bone)
- Spindle whorl (antler, bone, ceramic, chalk, shale)
- Quern fragment
- Whetstone
- Flint
- Fossil
- Polished stone

- Fire steel
- Knife (bone, Fe, with horn or wooden handle, with leather sheath)
- Roman knife handle (Ae)
- Roman coin
- Animal bone (sheep, pig, deer, cattle, goat, horse, small mammal)
- Vessel (Ae, ceramic, glass)
- Ae vessel rim
- Bucket fitting (Ae)
- Ceramic sherd
- Drinking horn (with Ae rim)
- Wooden bucket (Ae bound)
- Band (Fe)
- Chain link (Ae)
- Cylinder (Ae, Fe)
- Disc (Ae, Ag, Fe, silvered)
- Ferrule (Fe)
- Fitting (Ae, Fe)
- Fragments (Ae, Fe, glass, melted, wooden)
- Glass cullet
- Hooks (Ae)
- Mount (Ae, gilded, cloisonné)
- Nail (Fe)
- Object (Ae, bone, Fe, wooden)
- Rivet (Ae, Fe)
- Rod (Ae, Fe)
- Sheet (Ae, Ag, Fe, white metal)
- Slag
- Staple (Ae, Fe)
- Strip (Ae, Fe)
- Stud (Ae)
- Tools (Fe)
- Tube (Ae, Fe)
- Washer (Ae)
- Wire (Ae)
- Shield boss
- Spearhead
- No associated items
- No record

Associated_cruciforms

This field lists the types of all the cruciform brooches recovered from this context, separated by semicolons.

Plan

This Yes/No field indicates whether or not the grave context has an available published plan.

Brooches table

Brooch_id

This number field provides a unique identification number for each brooch. The order ascends not by site or by context, but by their place in the typology. The numbers match the catalogue entries in Martin 2015.

Context_id

This field provides the name of the context from which the brooch was recovered, which corresponds to the unique identifier (Context_id) in the Contexts table. These fields are linked in the relational database. Where the brooch was not recovered from a context, the value is "None".

Site_id

This field displays the site from which the brooch was recovered. The value corresponds to the unique name in the Sites table (Sites_id). Brooches from unknown sites have the value "Unprovenanced".

Type

This is the type of cruciform brooch according to the classification system proposed in Martin 2015. The typology initially breaks the corpus down into four major groups, which are further subdivided into sub-groups. The sub-groups are then broken down into individual types. This hierarchical method classification is reflected in each type's name. For instance, type 4.3.1 represents the first type in sub-group 3 of group 4. The method of classification itself relied on a consideration of each brooch's mixture of stylistic components, which is presented in full in Martin 2015. Less complete brooches are classified to the sub-group, or even just the group level. If the brooch cannot even be classified to the group level, then it is designated a type given in the 'Guide to Fragment Classification' in Martin 2015 (Appendix 3).

Phase

This field provides the phase (A, B or C) to which the brooch belongs. These phases were a product of three different kinds of seriations, presented in full in Martin 2015. The first was a seriation of stylistic components, the second was a seriation of grave-associated cruciform brooch types, and the third and final was a seriation of other grave-associated dress accessories. The absolute dates for these phases were arrived at through a mixture of interpolations, which are again presented in full in Martin 2015. The dates are as follows:

- AD c.420-475
- AD c.475-550
- AD c.525-560/70

Complete

This Yes/No field indicates whether or not the brooch is complete. Note that 'complete' in this instance is defined by having only at least one of each attribute, as explained in Martin 2015, 10 (note 17).

Zoomorphic_ornament

A list of all the Salin's Style I motif's found on the brooch. The following values, or a combination of them separated by semicolons, are permitted (see Martin 2013 for definitions):

- Biting beast
- Crouching beast
- Crouching beast with beak
- Helmed profile
- Miscellaneous
- None
- Yes, but no image [i.e. verbal description only, or the only available image is not of adequate quality]

Geometric_ornament

This field provides a list of all the geometric motifs on the brooch (if any). The following categories, or a combination of them separated by semicolons, are permitted:

- False setting [imitation of an inset gem/glass/paste rendered in the relief casting of the brooch]
- Horror vacui ['space-filling' geometric shapes, sometimes perhaps degraded Style I]
- Inset gem/glass/paste
- Miscellaneous
- Ring-and-dot
- S-shape
- Swastika
- Trefoil/quatrefoil

Punched_ornament

This field provides a list of all the geometric motifs on the brooch (if any). The following categories (see Martin 2015, 152, Figure 44 for definitions), or a combination of them separated by semicolons, are permitted:

- A1
- A2
- A3
- A4
- A5
- A6
- A7
- A8

- A9
- B1
- B2
- B3
- B4
- B5
- B6
- B7
- C1
- C2
- C3
- C4
- D1
- D2
- E1
- E2
- E3
- Miscellaneous
- Illegible [punch marks present, but not sufficiently visible to define, or simply a verbal report of 'punchmarks']
- None

Surface_treatment

This field describes any surface treatment or metal inlays. The following categories are permitted:

- Gilded
- None
- Unknown

Lugs

The number of lugs on the reverse of the brooch, which can be 1 or 2. Frequently, however, these are not visible due to corrosion, or due to the reverse not being illustrated. The following values ar used:

- 1
- 2
- Missing [i.e. headplate missing]
- Unknown

Length

This is the maximum length of the brooch given in millimetres to the closest millimetre. Where the value is '0' no length could be established.

Weight

This is the weight of the brooch measured in grams to the closest gram. Where the value is '0' the brooch could not be weighed, or a weight was not available from the published source.

Garment_fastened

This field provides an interpretation of the garment the brooch fastened in the grave from the available evidence, or the reason why no interpretation is possible. The following categories are used (see Martin 2015, 195-6 for definitions):

- Cloak
- Cremation [i.e. no interpretation possible]
- Disturbed [or double burial]
- Dual-fastened cloak
- Mantle-dress
- No context [i.e. no interpretation possible]
- No grave plan [i.e. no interpretation possible]
- Not worn [i.e. no interpretation possible]
- Peplos
- Use-adapted

Angle_worn

This field provides an approximate measure of the angle at which the brooch was worn in the grave in relation to the central median line of the human body from head to foot. Measurements are given in degrees, with 0 indicating the foot of the brooch pointing directly upwards, and 180 indicating the foot of the brooch pointing directly downwards. Where the angle was not measureable the following reasons can be given:

- Cremation
- Disturbed [or double burial]
- Insufficient record [no grave plan, or no grave plan of sufficient detail]
- No context
- Not worn
- Use-adapted

Source

This records the source of information from which the brooch was recorded. The following categories are used:

- HER – Historic Environment Record visited
- Museum – Museum visited and brooch seen in person, or identified from museum records
- PAS – recorded from the online Portable Antiquities Scheme database
- Publication – recorded from an illustration or description from a published source only

Museum

This field records the collection (museum or otherwise) where the item is currently kept. All museums have been updated to their current names, which differ occaisionally from those given in Martin 2015. Where the location is unclear from the name, it is given in parentheses after the collection name. The collections include:

- Abingdon County Hall Museum
- Almonry Museum (Evesham)
- Alnwick Castle
- Ashmolean Museum (Oxford)
- Baysgarth House Museum
- Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
- Brewhouse Yard Museum (Nottingham)
- Bristol Museum and Art Gallery
- British Museum
- Buckinghamshire County Museum (Aylesbury)
- Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology
- Cambridgeshire Archaeology Store
- Charnwood Museum (Loughborough)
- Colchester Castle Museum
- Cornell University (USA)
- Derby Museum and Art Gallery
- Dorman Museum (Middlesborough)
- Drayton House
- East Riding Museum Collection (Sewerby Hall)
- Elveden Estate Museum
- Ely Museum
- Girton College Lawrence Room
- Grantham Museum
- Great North Museum (Newcastle)
- Hattatt Collection
- Hertford Museum
- Hull and East Riding Museum
- Ipswich Museum
- Jewry Wall Museum (Leicester)
- Kettering Museum and Art Gallery
- King's Lynn Museums
- Leicestershire Museums Archaeological Collection
- Lincoln Collection
- Louth Museum
- Lowestoft Museum
- Maidstone Museum and Art Gallery
- Manchester Museum
- Market Hall Museum, Warwick
- Moyse's Hall Museum (Bury St Edmunds)

- National Museums Liverpool (World Museum)
- Newark and Sherwood Museums Service
- Norris Museum (St Ives, Cambs)
- North Lincolnshire Museum Service
- Northampton Museum and Art Gallery
- Norwich Castle Museum
- Orford Museum
- Oxford Museums Resource Centre
- Peterborough Museum
- Pitt Rivers Museum (Oxford)
- Present whereabouts unknown
- Private collection
- Rutland County Museum (Oakham)
- Still with excavator
- Stockton Museums (Preston Park Museum and Grounds)
- Stockwood Discovery Centre (Luton)
- Stolen
- Sudbury Museum Trust
- Suffolk Archaeology Service
- The Bowes Museum
- The Herbert Museum and Art Gallery (Coventry)
- The Higgins Bedford
- The National Brewery Centre (Burton on Trent)
- The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust (Stratford-upon-Avon)
- The University of Nottingham Museum of Archaeology
- West Berkshire Museum (Newbury)
- West Stow Museum
- Weston Park Museum (Sheffield)
- Worcester Museum and Art Gallery
- York Archaeological Trust
- Yorkshire Museum (York)

Accession

This provides the accession (museum) number of the item, or alternatively its Portable Antiquities Scheme database unique identifier. If the number could not be found, the value will be "Unknown".

References

This field provides information on where a published image for the item can be found in the form of a bibliographic reference, abbreviated to the 'Author date' format. The full reference can be found in the references table. While attempts were made to be comprehensive in locating bibliographic references, many are surely missing, so where they are lacking, the value "None found" is used. Where the published image is from the Portable Antiquities Scheme website, the value "Portable Antiquities Scheme database" is used.

Repair

This field records whether or not the brooch bears any marks suggesting it has been repaired, customized or use-adapted. First the item is listed as "Customised", "Repaired" or "Use-adapted", then the specific nature of the modification is given, followed by (in parentheses) the parts of the brooch that were affected. Where nothing special is noticed, the value is "None identified".

Mortimer1990_id

This field provides the name of the brooch in Mortimer's 1990 DPhil thesis. Where the brooch was not included in that work, the value "Not in corpus" is given.

Martin2011_id

This field provides a reference to the name of the item as it was given in Martin 2011.

Notes

This field is used for any miscellaneous notes relating to the item.

Hyperlink

This field provides a hyperlink to a stable internet address, usually where an image can be found. At this stage, the only sources used here are the Portable Antiquities Scheme database and the British Museum's online collections catalogue.

References table

Short_title

This is the shortened reference to the cited work found elsewhere in the database, formed by 'author date' (e.g. Akerman 1855).

Full_reference

This provides the full bibliographic reference to the cited work.   The reference is provided in the 'Author date' format, and the full reference can be found in the references table. Where no published image could be found, the value is given as "None found".

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