

ART. V.—*An enamelled fibula from Brough-under-Stainmore.* By E. J. W. HILDYARD, F.S.A.

Read at Kendal, March 26th, 1955.

ONE of the *fibulae* figured here (fig. 1) was brought to my notice by our member Mr. E. L. Wright, of Brough. It had been found recently by Mr Haydock, of Church Brough, while digging in his garden, about a hundred yards east of the Roman fort; it was complete when found, but its pin was subsequently broken and lost.

While not a very pleasing example artistically, it is a solid piece of work, well finished with careful detail, decorated with enamel and showing faint traces of having been gilded originally. The enamel is arranged on the upper part of the bow, in three panels with alternate squares of different colours, one of which was (or has become) orange, while the other, mostly now missing, has turned black or dark blue. The orange enamel is shown *black* in the drawing. Above the bow, on a small head-plate below the cast head-loop, are two horizontal rows of enamel, similarly arranged. The pin is hinged, the upper part of the bow bevelled (i.e., triangular in section), and head and foot are embellished with raised dotted decoration, and there is a decorated boss on the middle of the bow, below the enamelled panels.

It has been recognised, since R. G. Collingwood produced his pioneer classification,¹ that brooches like this are closely allied to the well-known trumpet type, having much the same profile and similar head-loops, foot-knobs and, sometimes, the acanthus moulding on the

¹ *Archaeologia* lxxx 37-58; *The Archaeology of Roman Britain* (1930) 243-260.

bow; and Collingwood put them among the "south country imitations" of the trumpet brooches.

Though they are not at all common, they are sufficiently numerous to be classified as a distinct type, which might perhaps be called the *panelled trumpet*; although the panelled upper bow really replaces the "trumpet", the retention of that word would denote the connection

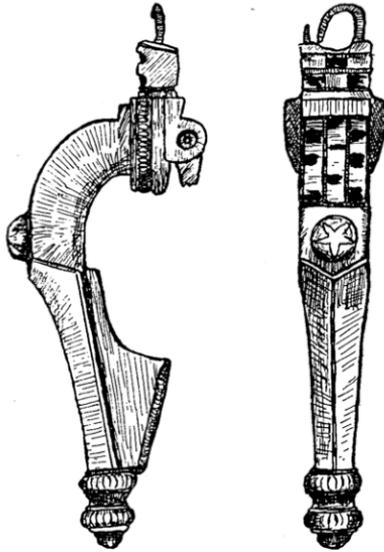
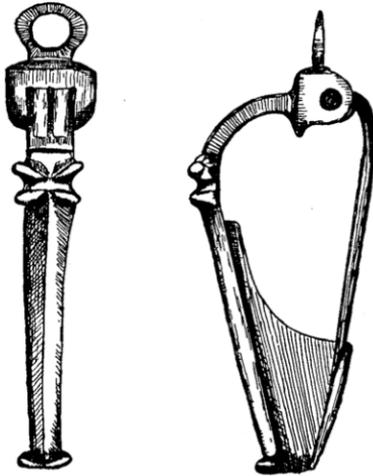


FIG. 1. (†).

between the two types (*panelled bow* would not do, as it would lead to confusion with other types, especially the head-stud). The notion that they were all southern imitations of the trumpet is dealt a serious blow by the discovery of the specimen here under consideration. Its mere presence at Brough, where trumpet brooches are known to have been made, allows the assumption that it is a local product; and this is confirmed by the extremely careful workmanship and finish. Finally, the presence

of a very similar brooch at Traprain Law,² one of the only two other places where traces of the manufacture of these *fibulae* have been found, seems to put the matter beyond reasonable doubt.

On the other hand, there is no reason to dispute that the "panelled trumpet" was, like the ordinary trumpet, copied in inferior style in southern Britain. Some of the southern specimens show this very clearly, for example



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FIG. 2. ($\frac{1}{2}$).

the one figured here for comparison (fig. 2, not previously published), from Caves Inn near Rugby, Warwickshire. Its detail is weak and its whole production shoddy in comparison with the Brough specimen. The Caves Inn brooch, it may be noted, was found in association with a normal, north-country made, trumpet (Collingwood type R ii) and an early second-century "dolphin" brooch

² PSAScot. lxvi, 1931-2, 333 and fig. 31, no. 11.

of late and degenerate style. This suggests, as is generally agreed indeed, that there is little chronological difference between the genuine article and its imitations.

In a minor way, perhaps, the Brough brooch is an interesting find, showing as it does that the type was made by northern craftsmen — in this case, by a man of more technical skill than of talent for design.

Both the brooches here figured and discussed are now in my collection.

APPENDIX.

In addition to the three examples of the “panelled trumpet” referred to in the text, I know of the following:—

1. Northchurch, Herts. (British Museum: *Guide to the Antiquities of Roman Britain*, 1951, 18 and fig. 10, 21).
2. Peebles, Scotland (National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh).
3. Pont-y-Saison near Chepstow, Monmouthshire (British Museum).
4. Town Malling, Kent (British Museum: *Guide*, 1951,
5. Woodeaton, Oxon. (JRS vii 112 f. and fig. 11, 60).
- 6-9. Caerwent (Newport Borough Museum—I owe my knowledge of them to the kindness of Mr Cefni Barnett); no. 6 is a near replica of no. 5, enamelled in orange and green.
10. York (Yorkshire Museum); a near parallel to fig. 2 above, except for double moulding on the bow, but with a similar four-coil spring.

All the “panelled trumpet” *fibulae* have cast head-loops. It may be added that there is a closely allied and clearly contemporary type, without head-loop but with “dolphin” profile and “arms” (for the spring-cover) and

chequered enamel bow; two of the specimens of this type cited below occur in association with the panelled trumpets already quoted:—

1. Pont-y-Saison (British Museum).
2. Caerwent (Newport Museum).
3. Silchester (*Archæologia* xcii 145 and fig. 8, 3); in this specimen the enamel is carried down to the foot.