

³ For the *tutuli* of the continental European bronze age which give their name to the distinctive shape see Jan Filip, *Enzyklopädisches Handbuch zur Ur- und Frühgeschichte Europas* (Prague, 1969), II (L-Z), 1518.

⁴ W. Schulz and R. Zahn, *Das Fürstengrab von Hassleben*, Römisch-Germanische Forschungen, VII (Berlin and Leipzig, 1933), 5-6, Taf. 1, 1 and 6, 12; and below.

⁵ E. T. Leeds and D. B. Harden, *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Abingdon, Berkshire* (Oxford, Ashmolean Museum, 1936), 51-2, Fig. 7 and pl. xvi.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 57.

⁷ Myres in M. Biddle, H. T. Lambrick and J. N. L. Myres, 'The early history of Abingdon, Berkshire, and its abbey', *Medieval Archaeol.*, XII (1968), 26-69, esp. 35-41. Leeds himself later conceded that the brooch was "... probably of earlier date than previously suggested ...", *Oxoniensia*, XVII-XVIII (1952-3), 73.

⁸ Joan R. Kirk and E. T. Leeds, 'Three early Saxon graves from Dorchester, Oxon.', *Oxoniensia*, XVII-XVIII (1952-3), Fig. 30, 2: this was identified by H. W. Böhme, *Germanische Grabfunde des 4. bis 5. Jahrhunderts zwischen unterer Elbe und Loire*, Münchener Beiträge zur Vor- und Frühgeschichte, XIX (München, 1974), 21, but erroneously referred to as Grave II.

⁹ Böhme, *op. cit.* in note 8, 19 ff., and S. Thomas, 'Die germanischen Scheibenfibel der Römischen Kaiserzeit in freien Germanien', *Berliner Jahrbuch*, VII (1967), 1-183.

¹⁰ For Type B generally see Thomas, *op. cit.* in note 9, 31-42. Examples with semicircular roundels are from Cheine, Kr. Stendal (Thomas catalogue no. 45), Rötha-Geschwitz, Kr. Borna (Thomas catalogue no. 144), Wechmar, Kr. Gotha (Thomas catalogue nos. 222 and 223), Slopanowo, Poland (Thomas catalogue no. 538): also the brooch from Csongrád/Szentcs, Hungary (*ibid.*, Taf. iv).

¹¹ e.g. Cheine, *ibid.*, Abb. 13, 2.

¹² *Ibid.*, 40 and Abb. 26, 1. Thomas allows some survival for Series 3 into the early years of the 5th century, *ibid.*, 70.

¹³ *Ibid.*, Karte 5.

¹⁴ e.g. J. N. L. Myres, *Anglo-Saxon Pottery and the Settlement of England* (Oxford, 1969), 8 ff. and 71 ff.; and J. N. L. Myres and Barbara Green, *The Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries of Caistor-by-Norwich and Marshall, Norfolk*, Society of Antiquaries Research Report, XXX (London, 1973), 43 ff.

¹⁵ Olav Röhrer-Ertl, *Untersuchungen am Material des Urnenfriedhofes von Westerwanna, Kr. Land Hadeln* (Hamburg, 1971), 27-9.

¹⁶ Böhme, *op. cit.* in note 8, 34-6.

¹⁷ S. C. Hawkes and G. C. Dunning, 'Soldiers and settlers in Britain, 4th to 5th century', *Medieval Archaeol.*, V (1961), 1-70.

¹⁸ *Lincolnshire History and Archaeol.*, II (1967), 38. Some impression of the quantity and distribution of the relevant material may be gained from the juxtaposition of late Roman metalwork, Romano-Saxon pottery and the earliest Anglo-Saxon pottery in D. Longley, *The Anglo-Saxon Connexion*, British Archaeological Reports, XXII (Oxford, 1975), 1-4, though this national survey is far from up to date for Lincolnshire.

¹⁹ *Britannia*, V (1972), 387.

²⁰ Böhme, *op. cit.* in note 8, *passim*; Hawkes and Dunning, *op. cit.* in note 17.

²¹ Böhme, *op. cit.*, 187 ff.; and for an important earlier statement of similar ideas see J. Werner, 'Kriegergräber aus der ersten Hälfte des 5. Jahrhunderts zwischen Schelde und Weser', *Bonner Jahrbuch*, CLVIII (1958), 372-413. See also the review of Böhme's work by Sonia Chadwick Hawkes in *Archaeol. Jnl.*, CXXXII (1975), 333-4.

²² P. V. Addyman and J. B. Whitwell, 'Some middle Saxon pottery types in Lincolnshire', *Antiq. Jnl.*, L (1970), 98.

RECENT FINDS OF PRE-NORMAN SCULPTURE FROM GILLING WEST, N. YORKSHIRE (FIG. 2; PLS. XX, XXI)

INTRODUCTION

Two large fragments of pre-Norman sculpture were recently recovered by Peter Wenham from work by contractors to the side of Gilling Beck (NZ 179053) at Gilling West, near Richmond, N. Yorkshire (FIG. 2), and not far from where a Viking period sword was also found recently. Mr Wenham arranged photography of the stones as recovered, which he kindly made available for purposes of publication, and contacted one of the authors (JTL) of this note. The stones and site were examined in February 1977, and, although full publication will be in the projected Yorkshire volume of the *Corpus of Pre-Norman Sculpture of England*, they seemed of sufficient interest to merit a preliminary note to bring them to the attention of others. They have been on temporary loan to the Department of Archaeology, Durham University, for purposes of study, but will shortly be returned to the care of the N. Yorkshire County Council at Richmond.

Stone A (PL. xx). Height: 77.0 cm. max., width: 53.0 cm. max., thickness: 19.0 cm. max. A shaped block of coarse sandstone. A design appears on one face standing 1.7 cm. in relief against a plain background, itself exhibiting some of the marks from such dressing-back. The reverse face has tooling-marks, but the sides are plain. The design is a plain ring, of diameter 47.5 cm. externally, whose width varies from 3.5 to 4.0 cm. The ring is rounded in section, and encloses a plain cross of quite distinctive shape, utilizing a double curve on each arm. The face of the cross is flat and plain; the only feature to be noted on it is the compass-hole for setting-out the ring.

Stone B (PL. XXI, A, B). A large fragment of a hogback broken at each end, carved from a dark sandstone. Length: 51.0 cm. max., height: 41.5 cm. max., thickness at narrow end: 18.5 cm. at base, thickness at broken centre: 20.5 cm. at base. Along the top runs a plain roof ridge of coped section, 4.0 cm. wide at the end and narrowing at the crest. Below it on each side are three rows of trapezoidal *tegulae*, roughly clawed out. The lowest row terminates in a false eaves line. On *Side 1* below the eaves at the narrow end is a scroll, its band 1.0 to 1.5 cm. wide. In the centre of the side panel is a large star-like design with a central element 7.0 cm. wide and bent rays radiating from it clockwise. The whole motif is 25.0 cm. across. A filler motif is inserted between this and the scroll. Below is a shallow plain plinth. All the decoration below the eaves is carved on a perpendicular plane. *Side 2* carries a debased scroll, picked out in a band 2.0 to 2.5 cm. wide. It is basically an undulating stem with offshoot scrolls at the bends and tangential tendrils. At the top of the panel in the centre a rough triquetra knot serves as a filler. Below is a plain, irregular plinth. At one end there may be the remains of a vertical raised panel though the stone is much damaged at this point.

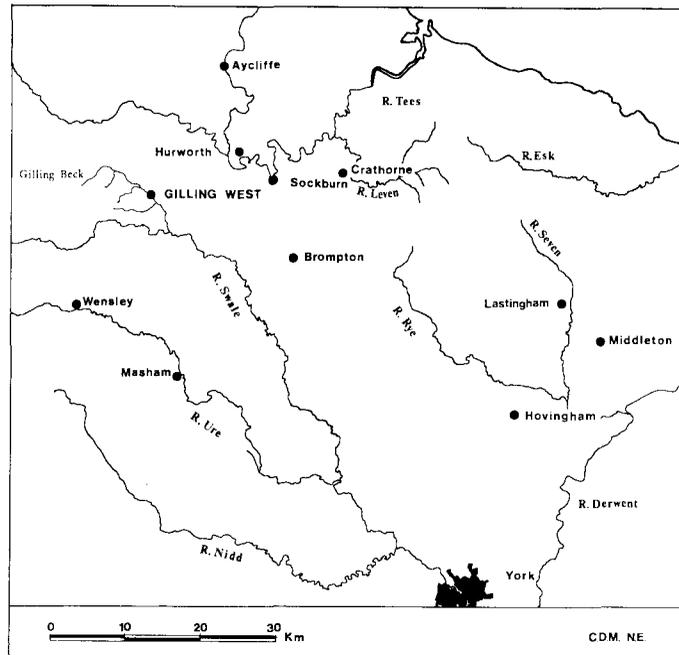


FIG. 2

LOCATION OF GILLING WEST AND RELATED SCULPTURE

DISCUSSION

Neither of the stones can have been in their primary location, since they were found at some distance from the church and its graveyard on the line of an enclosure (of uncertain date) that meets the present stream course. The hogback was certainly a recumbent grave-cover and would have been taken from a cemetery; we can be less sure of the function of Stone A.

The dimensions of Stone A are similar to those of a stone from Hurworth, Co. Durham, recently published as a grave-slab,¹ and indeed the cross-design would be

appropriate to such a purpose. Certainly it is more likely to have lain flat than been upright, for the ring and cross design is placed centrally, whereas a vertical grave-marker would have required some depth of burial in the ground which would upset the balance of the design. (It seems unlikely that the stone is substantially smaller than originally, for the rounded corners seem deliberate.) Northumbria furnishes a series of cross-decorated grave monuments ranging from early examples at Lindisfarne and York, more elaborate versions at, for instance, Wensley and Monkwearmouth, to later examples such as at Aycliffe.² Hence such a lay-out cannot serve as a dating criterion.

Many of these stones have well-finished surfaces, sometimes with additional design. In contrast, the stone from Gilling displays this quality on only one face, utilizing a variety of cutting techniques. This might suggest an alternative function for this stone. Architectural sculpture is well documented. One site in Yorkshire which has yielded examples of both interior and exterior decorative panels is Hovingham.³ Built into the exterior W. wall of the late pre-Conquest tower is a roughly-cut cross standing in high relief from a rectangular block. In exactly the same position, over the W. door of the tower of Middleton-by-Pickering, is a similar slab carrying a cross in relief. Both the Hovingham and Middleton towers belong to the latest pre-Conquest phase but both used earlier sculpture as masonry.⁴ Such decorative panels seem to have been re-used in later rebuilding and their size and shape make it unlikely that they were originally grave-markers. Although there is no pre-Conquest fabric in the present church at Gilling West, the site was almost certainly that of an ecclesiastical establishment. Both the author of the *Life of Abbot Ceolfrid* and Bede speak of an early monastery at *Ingellingum*, usually identified with Gilling West.⁵ There seems to be a case, therefore, for considering the possibility of the Gilling stone being a piece of architectural sculpture like those at Hovingham and Middleton. Indeed the cross-shape, with double curved arms and wide arm-pits, is very similar to the Hovingham panel. This shape of cross has a cognate form in the free armed crosses, such as the Yorkshire examples of Lastingham and Masham,⁶ conventionally dated to the 9th century. The Middleton cross panel has features, like the central rosette and setting, paralleled at Lastingham.⁷ The Gilling cross is plain, its only mark being the centre point for its construction, though we have to allow for the possibility of the use of paint as embellishment, so there is no diagnostic decorative ornament to support the evidence of the cross shape. That, however, belongs to the Anglian tradition as exemplified in the Rothbury cross-head,⁸ and rarely occurs in this area of Yorkshire in an Anglo-Scandinavian context. The ring which surrounds the cross is separate from it and is not related to the Anglo-Scandinavian wheel-heads where the ring is usually integrated into the form of the cross-head.

The hogback, Stone B, fits neatly into the established distribution pattern for that type of recumbent monument.⁹ The centre of hogback innovation was Allertonshire, between Northallerton and the R. Tees, and the type also occurs in Cumbria. It appears to have been a fairly short-lived provincial development stimulated by recumbent monuments at York and is closely associated with the Norse-Irish presence in 10th-century N. England.¹⁰ Gilling is quite near hogback sites in the Tees valley though this is the first Anglo-Scandinavian recumbent monument to be found in the village.

The tegulation of the hogback's roof indicates that it is a skeuomorph of a building and the trapezoid shape of each tegula is typical of the majority of the Yorkshire examples. Later developments of hogback design tended to depart from recognizable architectural features, so the Gilling stone reflects the original inspiration. The debased scroll of Side 2 is not the work of an accomplished sculptor, though we should be careful not to assume that whatever is crude is necessarily late in date. The Gilling scroll is probably a clumsy copy of the neatly arranged, tight scrolls of the Crathorne hogbacks¹¹ which are not far distant.

The star motif with radiating bent rays is unique, however. The nearest parallel is the 'Sun Stone' at Govan on the Clyde,¹² but the resemblance is perhaps mere chance. The Gilling motif may be seen in terms of the Anglo-Scandinavian habit of creating

illusions of complicated interlace by cramming together closely packed bent elements; stopped plait is another manifestation of this tendency.¹³

In a preliminary note such as this, it is not appropriate to discuss the *corpus* of sculptural material from Gilling West. However, both stones discussed here are of a form new to the site — a point of some interest. The importance of the occurrence of the Anglian cross-type on Stone A is considerable, since, despite the tradition of the ecclesiastical centre at the site, all the sculpture that had so far come to light belonged to the later, Anglo-Scandinavian period. This recent find now establishes a sculptural tradition that reflects mainstream Anglian stylistic trends at Gilling. The hogback Stone B is a Viking period monument and must be contemporary with the two round-shaft derivatives already known at the site.¹⁴ This group accords happily with the finding of the sword. Clearly Gilling had an important phase of existence in this period, hardly to be inferred from the extant literary sources.

JAMES T. LANG AND CHRISTOPHER D. MORRIS

NOTES

¹ C. D. Morris, 'An Anglo-Saxon grave-slab from Hurworth, Co. Durham', *Archaeol. Aeliana*, Ser. 5, (1973).

² E. Okasha, *Handlist of Anglo-Saxon Non-Runic Inscriptions* (Cambridge, 1971), *sub nomine*; W. G. Collingwood, *Northumbrian Crosses of the Pre-Norman Age* (London, 1927), 13, fig. 17; C. D. Morris, 'Aycliffe and its pre-Norman sculpture', in J. T. Lang, ed., *Anglo-Saxon and Viking Age Sculpture*, British Archaeol. Rep., 49 (Oxford, 1978).

³ W. G. Collingwood, 'Anglian and Anglo-Danish sculpture in the North Riding', *Yorks. Archaeol. Jnl.*, xix (1907), 334, 337; W. G. Collingwood, 'Anglian and Anglo-Danish sculpture in the West Riding', *Yorks. Archaeol. Jnl.*, xxiii (1915), 255-6, fig. b.

⁴ H. M. and Joan Taylor, *Anglo-Saxon Architecture* (Cambridge, 1965), I, 327, 419, 420.

⁵ *Historia Abbatum Auctore Anonymo*, cap. 2, ed. Charles Plummer in *Venerabilis Baedae Opera Historica* (Oxford, 1896), I, 388; *Historia Ecclesiastica*, Bk. III, caps. 14 & 24, ed. B. Colgrave & R. A. B. Mynors (Oxford, 1969), 256-7 and 292-3; A. H. Smith, *The Place-Names of the North Riding of Yorkshire* (Cambridge, 1928), 288; E. Ekwall, *Dictionary of English Place-Names*, 4th ed. (Oxford, 1960), 196. See also C. D. Morris, 'Northumbria and the Viking settlement: the evidence for land-holding', *Archaeol. Aeliana*, Ser. 5, v. (1977) 91, note 97, for discussion of connexion of *Suth-gedluit* with Gilling.

⁶ Collingwood 1907 (op. cit. note 4), 358-9, fig. g; 360-61, fig. i.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 356, fig. a; 370-72, fig. g.

⁸ Collingwood (op. cit. note 3), 77, fig. 95.

⁹ J. T. Lang, 'Hogback monuments in Scotland', *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scotland*, 105, 1972-4, 208, fig. 1.

¹⁰ J. T. Lang, *Hogbacks in North-East England*, unpublished M.A. Thesis, Durham University 1967; J. T. Lang, 'Continuity and innovation in Anglo-Scandinavian sculpture', in Lang, ed. (op. cit. note 3).

¹¹ Collingwood 1907 (op. cit. note 4), 304-5, fig. a; F. J. Haverfield and W. Greenwell, *Catalogue of the Sculptured and Inscribed Stones in the Library of Durham Cathedral* (Durham, 1899), 115.

¹² C. A. Ralegh Radford, 'The Early Christian monuments at Govan and Inchinnan', *Trans. Glasgow Archaeol. Soc.*, New S., xv, part 4 (1966), fig. 9.

¹³ Collingwood 1907 (op. cit. note 4), 345, fig. 6.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 322-3, figs. d, e, j, k, l and m.

AN ANGLO-SCANDINAVIAN ORNAMENTED KNIFE FROM CANTERBURY, KENT (FIG. 3; PL. XXII)

During the 1976 excavations at 77-9, Castle Street, Canterbury, Kent, an iron knife was discovered that has a bone handle with exceptionally fine 10th-century Anglo-Scandinavian ornament (PL. XXII, A, B; FIG. 3, a-d).¹

Iron knife with bone handle. The iron knife-blade has a short straight cutting-edge with a pointed end, from which the back slopes steeply; it then runs parallel to the cutting-edge before being stepped up to its broad tang which is encased between two plates of bone, held together at the front by two iron rivets. The back end of the tang, which is overall the full breadth of the handle, curves upwards and rests on top of the inner of a second pair of iron rivets of which only the outer penetrates both bone plates.²

The bone plates each have a central oblong field, defined by a plain border, which contains a medial-incised interlace pattern; the ends terminate in stylized animal-masks. The pattern on one side (FIG. 3, d) is a simple continuous interlace with the addition of two free rings, one on either side of a central complication formed like a figure-of-eight. At each of the two well-preserved return-angles in the upper part of the