

Personal ornament and dress accessories

Brooches

Copper alloy brooch

<3738>, [13007]; period 2, S4, group 228, 10033

Almost complete, hinge and pin missing; L 33mm. Hod Hill, with lateral lugs set in the middle of each side of the bow, which has three vertical ridges in the centre and ridges on the lugs. There are transverse mouldings on the head, below the missing hinge and at junction of bow and foot; the foot expands sharply below this junction then tapers in an elongated triangle to the knobbed foot; solid catch-plate. (Hull Type 62) AD 10-60

Copper alloy brooch

<3739>, [13007]; period 2, S4, group 228, 10033

L 41.5mm. Bow brooch - probably a Hod Hill type without side lugs (cf Hattatt, 1989,320-1). Head has rolled tube for hinged pin mechanism, (pin now separate); strip bow, with parallel mouldings below head and above plain tapering foot; incised Y-shaped decoration on bow; trace of a plain catchplate survives.

Copper alloy brooch

<3737>, [13002]; period P3, B15, group 275, 10216

Complete; L 47mm. Hod Hill without lugs and single rib on bow (?Type 60 - Hull). the head is nicked in above the upper bow, then expands and is rolled back to form a tube which conceals the hinge. The triangular lower bow tapers to a sharply out-turned foot; plain catchplate. The square sectioned pin is still in position. Bright yellow metal, well preserved.

Copper alloy brooch

<3736>, [13002]; period 3, B15, group 275, 10216

Incomplete; L 41.5mm. Lion-bow derivative see Hattatt 1989, 307 no. 782, and BOA 45, no. 782. Very devolved 'lion' at the narrow junction between bow and long foot, which consists only of a transverse ribbed cordon. The upper bow terminates in a cylindrical enclosure formed by a rolled plate attached to the bow, which held the spring. The foot had an attached decorative plate now missing. AD 20-70

Copper alloy brooch

<3740>, [13014]; period 3, OA5, group 273, 10214

Incomplete; L 49mm. One piece brooch; spring of three turns on either side with an external chord and small forward hook. D-sectioned upper bow with a rib separating it from the narrow lower bow; plain triangular catch-plate. Pin and part of spring missing. This is very similar to an 'eye' brooch (Hawkes & Hull 1947, Type XVI), although the distinctive eyes on the head are not visible. The metal of the brooch remains bright, but it is badly corroded. Early to mid 1st century

Copper alloy brooch

<5301>, [18336]; period 6, OA41, group 458, 120231

Almost complete; l 44mm. Aucissa, with inscription AVCISSA, the maker's name in relief on head. This is a classic example with a highly-arched centrally-ribbed upper bow, the broad flat head which bears the inscription, rolled back to form a narrow tube which held the axial rod for the hinge, with a pair of lateral notches below the tube. The short foot ends in a knob, which is cast separately. Pin missing otherwise complete. AD 40 - 65

This is a continental type, seen over the entire Roman area, and was probably introduced to Britain at the time of the conquest, going out of use around AD 60.

Copper alloy brooch

<6740>, [12830]; period 7, OA47, group 223, 10017

Complete; L 34.5mm; w of head 7.5mm. One piece brooch with spring of four turns with internal chord. The spring is rectangular in section, the pin continuing as circular-sectioned wire. Single curve to the wide flat bow, tapering to the foot, which has a single wavy line of punctim decoration; plain catchplate. (Hull Type 11) Good condition.

Copper alloy brooch

<3723>, [12864]; period 2, S4, group 228, 10021

Complete, apart from pin; L 59mm. Colchester two-piece (B), with central rib on bow, decorated with horizontal lines; spring of twelve turn; the semi-cylindrical side wings, which conceal the spring have a single moulding at the end; the catchplate has one circular and one triangular perforation.

Copper alloy brooch

<3663>, [13019]; period 3, OA5, group 273, 10214

Complete; L 57.5mm. Colchester two piece, with mouldings on the side wings; spring of twelve turns; a crest runs from the head on to the plain bow flanked with cavetto mouldings; catchplate with single triangular perforation.

Copper alloy brooch

<3742>, [13005]; period 3, OA5, group 273, 10215

Almost complete; spring and pin missing; L 31.5mm; w of head 6.5mm. Colchester two-piece, axis bar remains; head has grooved decoration at the end of each arm. Ribbed bow, now slightly bent and catchplate pierced with two circular and one triangular perforations. Mid to late 1st century

Copper alloy brooch

<4746>, [18205]; period 6, OA43, group 495, 120237

Complete; l 26mm; w of head 12.5mm.

Two-piece Colchester brooch, of exceptionally small size, but of the typical Colchester construction. The separate spring, of eight turns is held by an axial bar which passes through a lug behind the head and by a chord which goes through a second hole above. The junction between the crest and the upper bow, which is plain, is a little clumsy. The semi-cylindrical wings

concealing the spring are plain and the catchplate is unperforated. The size of this brooch suggests that it was used for fine material. Similar examples are known eg from Gorhambury (Butcher in Neal *et al* 1990, 118, no. 37; Hattatt 1985, 30, 260), but they appear to be less common than their larger counterparts.

Copper alloy brooch

<3722>, [12926]; period 2, S4, group 227, 10021

Incomplete; L 3,3mm. Cruciform plate brooch; central circular plate with four projecting knobs, two concealing the hinge mechanism and pin attachment; hole in centre of plate for ?boss or applied moulding, now missing; hinged pin lost. Mid to late 1st century type.

Copper alloy brooch

<3607>, [12850]; period 3, B13, group 261, 10156

Complete (pin missing); L 26.5mm. Plate brooch, early type. Central roundel, which may have been enamelled, flanked by two long-necked swan's heads the face retains traces of tinning. Hinge housing and part of catch-plate on reverse, but pin is lost.

Copper alloy brooch

<4763>, [18225]; period 6, OA41, group 458, 120202

Complete; l 28.5mm. Copper-alloy plate brooch in the shape of boat containing three figures. The prow takes the form of a bird and the three figures have ring and dot decoration on their heads. The hemispherical shapes (?shields) on the side of the boat have engraved linear decoration. The pin is hinged. There are several parallels for the general form, although they differ in detail. An example from Petinesca Switzerland has incised oars (Ettliger 1973, 125, Taf 15,1), said to have religious connotations, Ettliger cites a further example from Zugmantel (check) and there is another from Neuburg in Bavaria, in silver, with oars inlaid in niello (Garbsch 1986, 20).

Ettliger, E, 1973 *Die Römischen Fibeln in der Schweiz*, Bern

von Garbsch, J, 1986 *Mann und Roß und Wagen. Transport und Verkehr im antiken Bayern*, Munich

Copper alloy brooch

<3724>, [12822]; period 3, B13, group 261, 10259

Complete; l 58mm. Dolphin. Heavy and fairly plain with single grooves at each end of the head and a single rib along the centre of the bow; hook to secure the spring on the head. The catchplate has been repaired - it is of a different alloy to the rest of the object, a brighter yellow in colour contrasting with the darker more coppery bow and is made of sheet not cast metal. It is soldered quite crudely to the bow - interesting evidence of an ancient repair.

Copper alloy brooch

<2040>, [8501]; period 6, OA33, group 374, 80416

Incomplete; l 55.5mm. Dolphin, with plain (poorly preserved) head, fine rib on bow and trace of perforated catch plate; hinge missing. Small hole visible in top of head. 1st century.

Copper alloy brooch

<1998>, [8283]; period 16, OA66, group 748, 80603

Complete; L 33mm. Plate brooch in the form of a pointed hobnailed sandal sole, enamelled with hobnails picked out in a row around the edge and along the centre in a contrasting colour. Loop at heel end and hinged pin.

There are numerous parallels eg Jones 1991, no 341 (Rangoon Street); Hattat 1989, 358, fig 217. Johns (1995, 107) observes that this is the most common object-shaped enamelled brooch found in Britain and they were equally popular in the Celtic provinces. It is highly likely that the type had a symbolic significance and Johns suggests that this could be a possible military link or perhaps some connection with the idea of travel and thus protection from its attendant dangers or some more obscure concept. It should perhaps be borne in mind that shoes feature prominently in burial ritual, there linked to the idea of the soul's journey to the underworld, the shoes providing or symbolising the practical means of travel. It is possible therefore that some such significance was appropriate in life as in death.

Bracelets

Copper alloy bracelet

<3374>, [12537]; period 2, OA19, group 230, 10039

Incomplete; surviving l 48.5mm; w (average) 17mm.

Wide strip bracelet of 1st century type; short section with one terminal, on which there is cut and stamped decoration. At the terminal the decoration consists of a two vertical rows of slanting lines with a line of punched dot and circle decoration between. The main part of the bracelet is edged on both sides with a line of punched dots and a line of slanting lines runs down the centre.

Broad flat bracelets are typically found in 1st century deposits, as at Baldock (Stead 1986, 125) and are distinct from the cable and strip forms found in later deposits, when the bracelet was again a popular fashion item (and arms were visible).

Iron bracelet

<3866>, [13017]; period 2, S4, group 228, 10033

Complete, but fractured; Diam approx 51mm. Single strand of wire, gauge 2.5mm, terminating in a conical knob, Diam 5mm, at one end and a smaller one at the other, the whole bent into a distorted circle. Possibly a bracelet - the knobbed terminals would make it unsuitable for any form of tool or pin and iron jewellery although rarely surviving, is known to have been in use.

Shale bracelet

<2186>, [8260]; period 18, R1, group 677, 81124

Fragment; approx Diam 60mm; th 6.5mm. Neatly cut with D-sectioned outer face and a sharp triangular facet inside, where it has been cut from the parent block. Less than half remaining.

Shale bracelet

<3490>, [12814]; period 18, R2, group 945, 10099

Shale bracelet fragment; present L 65mm; th 4.5mm; approx Diam 80mm. Circular section, slightly faceted on inside.

Finger rings

Copper alloy finger ring

<5089>, [18237]; period 6, OA43, group 465, 120216

Complete; Diam 20mm. Circular-sectioned hoop, with integral oval bezel, inscribed with a chevron or leaf design, a single horizontal line with parallel lines set at an angle on each side.

Iron finger ring

<5211>, [18204]; period 6, OA43, group 495, 120238

Complete; Diam 27x25mm ext. Finger ring. Oval hoop, with broad bezel consisting of two adjoining ovals.

Earrings

Copper alloy earring

<4881>, [18225]; period 6, OA41, group 458, 120202

Complete; Diam 26mm. Plain ring of circular-sectioned wire the tapered ends overlapped and hooked around the ring. There is a marked taper towards the terminals. The type, Type 3 (Allason-Jones 1989, 5) was probably intended for permanent insertion in the ear.

Copper alloy earring

<1173>, [3770]; period 6, OA37, group 417, 90302

Complete; Diam 28.5mm; chain 8mm, w 2.5mm. Plain ring of circular-sectioned wire the tapered ends overlapped and coiled around the ring, as <4881>. The earring, type 3 (Allason-Jones 1989, 5) was probably intended for permanent insertion in the ear. This example has a length of very fine square sectioned loop in loop chain suspended from the ring, suggesting that this is indeed an earring, rather than a chatelaine ring or expanding bracelet, with both of which this form can be confused.

Necklaces

Wooden beads

All period 3, B23 rm A, group 397, 80460

Twenty six charred wooden beads were found in the remains of Building 23 which was destroyed in the Boudican fire, lying together in a group on the floor with other objects that had apparently fallen from a shelf. Although some are damaged and all have been somewhat distorted by the heat, the beads have been sufficiently well preserved by the charring process to allow attempt at reconstruction and identification of the wood species. In practical terms it was only possible to examine the broken beads, from which slides could be prepared, but fortuitously the five selected covered a range of sizes. Four of the beads were identified as box (*Buxus* sp) and one <2643> appeared to be lime (cf *Tilia* sp) (see below). This is one of the larger beads, but size does not seem to have been a factor in the choice of wood, as one of the samples identified as box is from a larger bead <2644>.

The beads were produced on a small bow lathe (D Goodburn pers comm) and the largest are radially split. Box wood was a commonly-used material for small turned items in the Roman period. They take two, possibly three basic forms. Eleven beads, in general the largest are cylindrical with curved sides, (rather than circular). On most the area around the drilled stringing hole is flattened to some degree and in some examples the two faces are completely flattened, apparently sawn. There are no obvious filing marks on the surfaces, which in most cases are now roughened and cracked, but several beads show drilling or turning marks around the edge of the hole. Beads of this form range in diameter from about 40mm to about 21mm. The dimensions can of course only be approximate both because of the condition of some of the beads and the probable shrinkage due to desiccation. Three beads are nearer to a circular or elliptical form, and have a marked central ridge making them almost biconical; these also tend to have a smaller or no flattened area on the upper and lower surfaces. It is possible that <2646> was also of this form. It has disintegrated completely, but the number of surviving fragments suggest that it was one of the larger beads.

Eleven beads are hemispherical, with one neatly sawn flat face and in several examples a domed top with no flattened area around the hole. These range in diameter from 17.5mm to 26mm, thereby overlapping in size with the cylindrical forms. Some are damaged (eg <2666> <2658> <2653>) and could be broken circular or cylindrical beads rather than the hemispherical form. However, in view of the undisputed existence of hemispherical beads, they have been treated as the latter for purposes of the hypothetical reconstruction.

It appears from the overall number and sizes of the beads that they formed a graduated necklace, with the largest of the cylindrical beads at the centre. The hemispherical beads pose a problem, but would fit best placed face to face. There was, presumably a reason for making them hemispherical rather than cylindrical and it is possible that spacer beads in a different material that has not survived were placed between each pair. This material could be copper alloy and it may be significant that no metalwork whatsoever survived in the context. There is also an odd number of hemispherical beads, which could suggest either that one was not recovered, or that one of the damaged examples thought to be hemispherical may in fact be cylindrical, and not one of a pair.

The necklace as reconstructed is about 350mm in length, but could have been longer depending upon the method of stringing and the material used. The size of the holes would be sufficient for the insertion of a leather thong. The beads are large and apparently clumsy, but would not have been as heavy as the necklace composed of 35 blue frit melon beads found at the Courage's Brewery site (ed Murdoch 1991, 103, no. 167). which has been reconstructed as 650mm in length. It is of course possible, even likely, that the beads would have been painted.

Identification of the wood species by *Lisa Gray Rees*

It was possible to identify five of the beads. These beads were identified by making sections from wood fragments saved from each bead during the conservation process.

Transverse, radial and longitudinal sections of the bead fragments were examined under an epiluminating microscope. Diagnostic features were recorded and identifications made using a wood identification key (Schweingruber 1978).

The results are given in the following table.

Accession number	Diagnostic features	
2653	diffuse porous, solitary vessels, thick-walled ground tissue, bi-seriated rays, tail cells, heterogeneous, scariform plates c6 bars	<i>Buxus</i> sp
2643	diffuse porous, solitary vessels, thick-walled ground tissue, bi-tri seriate rays, tail cells, ray height 5-10, heterogeneous, spiral thickening	cf <i>Tilia</i> sp
2665	diffuse porous, solitary vessels, thick-walled ground tissue (only TS possible)	cf <i>Buxus</i> sp
2645	diffuse porous, solitary vessels, bi-seriate, tail cells, heterogeneous,	<i>Buxus</i> sp
2644	diffuse porous, solitary vessels, bi-seriate, tail cells, heterogeneous, scariform plates	<i>Buxus</i> sp

Ref: Schweingruber, F, 1978 *Microscopic Wood Anatomy*

Cylindrical form

<2654>

Incomplete; Diam approx 40mm

Cylindrical form with curved sides, one side showing a pronounced median ridge. Flat upper and lower faces. Sufficient remaining to allow an approximation of the size, but this is clearly the largest bead in the group.

<2656>

Incomplete; fractured; Diam approx 39mm. One half of a bead, broken into five sections, but the underside is missing. The separate pieces were treated in different ways (see conservation report).

<2644> [9095]

Complete, fractured; Diam 37mm; h 18mm; d central hole 6mm.

Circular; cylindrical with flattened upper and lower faces and curved sides.

Buxus sp

<2643>

Half remaining; Diam 34mm; h 16mm; hole incomplete.

Cylindrical form with curved sides and flattened faces. Cf *Tilia* sp

<2641>

Almost complete; damage to one face; Diam 32mm; h 18mm; Diam of hole 6.5mm.

Cylindrical with curved sides; faces flattened. There is a small collar ?turning mark on one flat surface.

<2645>

Complete; Diam 29mm; h 18.5mm; d hole 6mm

Cylindrical form with curved sides; pronounced median ridge on edge; smaller flattened area on each face. *Buxus* sp

<2653>

Almost complete, two fragments; Diam 30mm; h (damaged 14mm) possibly up to 18mm originally; hole broken. Cylindrical form with curved sides; small flattened area on each face. *Buxus* sp

<2664>

Complete; Diam 27mm; h 21mm; Diam hole 6mm.

'Barrel-shaped', with regularly curved sides; top and bottom surfaces are flattened. This is the longest of the beads.

<2649>

Almost complete; one side broken. Diam 26.5mm; h 13mm; Diam of hole 5mm.

Flattened on both faces; curved sides; hole tapers.

<2661>

Complete; Diam 25mm; h 13.5mm; Diam of hole 6mm.

Cylindrical with curved sides; both faces flattened.

<2657>

Complete; Diam 24mm; h 14.5mm; Diam of hole 5.5mm.

Cylindrical with curved sides; on face has a markedly flattened area; the other is a little more rounded.

<2660> [9095]

Complete; d 21mm; h 11mm; d central hole 6mm.

Circular bead, with central hole; charred. Both faces are flattened; curved sides.

Elliptical

<2652>

Almost complete, damaged on one face; Diam 31.5mm; h approx 15mm (damaged); Diam hole 6.5mm.

Elliptical form; pronounced ridge at widest point of circumference.

One face has a regular curved, the other appears to be slightly flattened around the area of the hole, but is damaged.

<2650>

Complete; Diam 22.4mm; h 11.5mm; Diam hole 4mm.

Almost elliptical, the upper and lower surfaces more curved than on most of the other examples.

<2642>

Complete; Diam 18mm; h 13.5mm; Diam of hole 5mm.

Almost elliptical; the faces are slightly flattened but the profile is more circular than the other examples, with a gentle curve top and bottom.

Hemispherical

<2640>

Almost complete; Diam 26mm; h 8mm; Diam of hole 4mm.

One face is damaged but sufficient remains of the original surface to suggest that it was hemispherical.

<2648>

Hemispherical? Diam 25mm; h 8mm; Diam hole 4.5mm.

Now hemispherical, but the flat side is severely damaged and it may originally have been elliptical. (Reconstructed as hemispherical)

<2655>

Complete; Diam 24mm; h 10.5mm; Diam of hole 4mm.

Hemispherical; neatly sawn flat base and small slightly asymmetrical hole; charred and split. Top slightly flattened around hole.

<2663>

Almost complete; damage to upper face; Diam 22mm; h 10.5mm; Diam of hole 5.5mm. Hemispherical (probably). Flat, neatly finished base and curving sides. The top is now concave, but this is probably damage, making the original profile hemispherical.

<2659>

Complete; Diam 22mm; h 8.5mm; Diam of hole 5mm.

Hemispherical; neatly made, with a rounded, not flattened top/

<2658>

Damaged, but almost complete; Diam 22mm; h 8.5mm; Diam of hole 4mm.

One side is flat and neatly finished; the other is damaged and now slightly concave, giving an almost cylindrical profile, but the bead may have been hemispherical originally.

<2651>

Almost complete; Diam 21.5; h 11mm; Diam of hole 4.5mm.

Hemispherical. Very smooth flat lower surface, with circular mark around the hole, ?caused by turning or drilling. The angular cut on the top appears to be accidental; it is slightly dished and cut across the grain.

<2647>

Complete; Diam 21.5mm; h 11mm; Diam hole 4.5mm.

Hemispherical, with neatly sawn base; slight ridge above the hole on the upper (curved) surface (?drilling or turning technique).

<2662>

Complete; Diam 21mm; h 10mm; Diam of hole 5mm.

Hemispherical, with flat base and regularly curved top (no flattened area).

<2665>

Complete; Diam 20.5mm; h 10mm; Diam hole 4.5mm.

Hemispherical with a domed, not flattened top. The bottom surface is now roughened but appears to have been flat originally. *Buxus* sp

<2666>

Incomplete; half remaining; Diam 17.5mm; d hole 4mm

The surviving fragment is hemispherical with only a small flattened area around the central hole. The bead may have been hemispherical originally.

<2646>

Charred fragments; not reconstructable.

Jet bead (Fig <A256>)

<6078>, [12482]; period 18, R1, group 918, 10133

Complete; Diam 3.7mm; h 1.5mm. Small cylindrical bead, typical of those from multi-strand necklaces.

Glass bead (Fig <A309>

<6101>, [17915]; period 7, B44rD, group 591, 111340

Turquoise frit melon bead; complete. Dia 13.5; h 11mm.

Glass bead (Fig <A267>)

<5786>, [3500]; period 22, B64rmE, group 819, 90745

Colourless, complete; Diam 4mm, L 5mm. Spur of glass on one side (possibly a double bead originally).

Hairpins

Copper alloy hairpin

<3725>, [12482]; period 18, R1, group 918, 10133

Complete; L 102mm. Cool Group 10A; bi-conical knob head with grooved triangle decoration. Dated by examples found in Walbrook deposit (Cool 1990, 160) and in use by AD 125.

Bone

Type 1: Plain heads c AD 40 - c 200 = Greep types A1, A2

Bone hairpin

<1933>, [8261]; period 15, R1, group 673, 81109

Complete; L 82.5mm. Flat head (Type A1).

Type 3: Spherical head c AD 150/200-400 (Colchester); Greep Type B1

This was the most common form of bone hairpin in the later Roman period.

Bone hairpin

<2229>, [8215]; period 16, OA66, group 748, 80603
Elongated head (Head A); shaft broken; L 55.5mm

Bone hairpin

<2002>, [8260]; period 18, R1, group 677, 81124
Complete; L 65mm. Small head (A), quite neatly made, facets remaining;
base of head set in from shaft.

Bone hairpin

<5705>, [3491]; period 22, B64rmA, group 820,90748
Head A; slender shaft, almost complete. L 57mm

Bone hairpin

<1105>, [3608]; period 22, B64rmE, group 819, 90746
Head A; incomplete, abraded; L c 62mm

Type 5: 1-5 reels beneath a conical or ovoid head c AD 300-400

Bone hairpin

<6061>, [12482]; period 18, R1, group 918, 10133
Incomplete; L of head 9mm. Four reels below a small conical head, shaft
incomplete.

Bone hairpin

<1800>, [8175]; period 18, R1, group 677, 81124
Incomplete; L 55.5mm. Two rings; well finished conical, slightly oval head.

Cosmetic and medical implements

Combs

Bone comb

<979>, [3568]; period 22, B64rmE, group 818,90744
Incomplete; L 37mm ; H 50mm; W of connecting plate 15mm.
Double-sided composite comb; part of the curving end-plate and section of
the bevelled connecting plates remains, secured by iron rivets. Only trace of
the teeth survive, but sufficient remains to show that there were fine teeth on
one side and coarse on the other. Lines on the bevelled edges of the central
plates correspond to the spacing of the teeth, indicating that the plates were
positioned and secured before the teeth were cut.

Wood comb

<5200>, [18314]; period 6, OA44, group 498, 120223
Almost complete; w 83.5mm; h 49.5mm; th 9mm; l of fine teeth 22mm; l of
coarse teeth 22mm. Double-sided one-piece comb with narrow median ridge
and straight side arms; one end complete, the other damaged. Fine teeth set
at 13 to 10mm; coarse at 6 to 10mm.

Wood comb (Fig <A263>)

<529>, [1421]; period 21, OA63, period 688, 81127

Cosmetic implements

Copper alloy cosmetic sets

<4764> [18225] P6 OA41 458, 120203

L overall 59mm; I tweezer 49mm; spoon 48mm; nail cleaner 41mm; Diam ring 12mm. Complete set of tweezers, nail cleaner and spoon, set on an iron ring.

The set is quite elaborate with decoration on all pieces; the tweezers have linear decoration parallel with both edges, while the spoon, which is otherwise plain, has a series of incised grooves below the suspension loop. The nail cleaner has a cordon below the suspension loop, which is in the same plane as the blade, with similar linear decoration to that found on the tweezers.

Copper alloy cosmetic spoon ('ear scoop')

<3441>, [12581]; period 2, R1, group 548, 10306

Almost complete; Diam of scoop 4mm; surviving L 40mm. Straight handle, upper part missing; small rounded scoop.

Copper alloy ligula

<3054>, [11773]; period 18, R1, group 914, 1077

Complete; L 68mm. Oval spoon set upon circular-sectioned handle with trace of flattened suspension loop at the upper end; wire is twisted around the upper part of the handle, presumably as a grip as on some surgical implements, but is not fastened to the suspension loop.

Copper alloy ligula

<4325>, [18050]; period 11, OA76, group 839, 120335

Complete; bent. L c 123mm. Ligula, with plain, slender handle and small circular spoon.

Mirrors

Copper alloy mirror

<2466>, [8727]; period 7, OA40, group 435, 90502

Diam c 120mm; th 1.5mm. Edge fragment from a circular mirror, decorative turning rings visible on the reflective surface.

Copper alloy mirror

<1074>, [3761]; period 7, OA35, group 417, 90202

Dia c 100mm; th 1.3mm. Edge fragment; dot and circle decoration visible on X-ray.

Lead mirror

<4578>, [18089]; period 7, OA45, group 463, 120212

Incomplete; surviving L 39.5mm. Mirror frame. Part of a decorative plate; straight, moulded edged, with repoussé decoration within it, bounded by a single raised circle. The frame would originally have been square, with a hole

cut into the centre for a circular mirror, made of glass. Glass mirrors, minus their frames, have occasionally been found in London, preserved in burials as at Mansell Street (Wardle in Barber & Bowsher 2000, 155, B197.6). Lead mirror cases are even more rare. Lloyd-Morgan cites only three examples from Britain in her paper of twenty years ago, from Ospringe, Verulamium and Chester (Lloyd-Morgan 1977, 237) but they occur in greater numbers on the Continent for example at Aquincum (Zsidi 1995, 71, no. 468, fig 104) or at Nijmegen (Lloyd-Morgan *ibid*). Glass mirrors and therefore mirror cases were produced in the Balkans and at Cologne between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD.

Copper alloy cosmetic grinder

<3142>, [12229]; period 8, R1, group 514, 10051

Complete; L 62.5mm. Centre-loop mortar, with knob terminals. Incised decoration on both sides; groups of zig-zag lines, with vertical lines flanking a plain central panel. No trace of any residue.

Copper alloy cosmetic grinder

<3492>, [17661]; period 18, OA58, group 656, 110803

Complete; L 60mm. Centre-loop mortar with knobbed (phallic) terminals. The loop is relatively large, w 15mm and the sides are undecorated. Heavily leaded copper alloy (XRF).

Marble palette

<868>, [3491]; period 22, B64 rMA, group 584, 111237

Almost complete; L 98mm; W 57mm; Th 18mm. Rectangular marble palette, with deeply bevelled edges, the grinding surface very heavily worn. The shiny black stone, veined with light green is heavily metamorphosed and could be a variety of serpentine (S Pringle *pers comm*). It is certainly a good quality imported object and may be far older than the 4th century date of the context.

Textile production and working

Ceramic spindle whorl

<4073>, [12229]; period 8, R1, group 514, 10051

Half remaining. Diam 47.5mm; Diam central hole 9mm; Th 6mm. Cut from coarse ware body sherd; VRW.

Copper alloy needle

<3440>, [12581]; period 6, B34, group 548, 10306

Complete; L 143mm. Rectangular eye; pointed head, Crummy 1983, Type 1.

Copper alloy needle

<1138>, [3770]; period 6, OA37, group 417, 90302

Complete; L 115mm; w head 2.5mm. Flattened spatulate head with rectangular eye, Type 2, Crummy 1983.

Iron needle

<5594>, [18087]; period 7, OA45, group 463, 120212

Almost complete; L 108mm. Square head and rectangular eye, Type 2. Point missing

Copper alloy ?baling needle

<5353> , [18252]; period 6, S20, group 461, 120207

Complete; total L 116.5mm. Needle, with fine well-made point and rectangular eye, similar in shape to a Type 1 eye, with slightly flattened section set on a tapering shaft which has a square moulding 104mm below the point. Below the moulding the shaft/handle continues as a thinner (1.5mm gauge) rod, curved into a U-shaped loop and terminates in a cylindrical collar. The curvature of the handle is very neat and appears to be deliberate.

Implements of this type are already known from the Walbrook (Wilmott 1991, 118, no.316) and on other sites in Britain, eg Cirencester (museum display) and Newstead (Curle 1911, pl 73). Clearly the curved knobbed terminal would make it impossible for the needle to pass through the material being sewn, whatever texture it was, and the implement must have had some specialised use. A surgical function has been considered but is thought unlikely (Ralph Jackson pers comm). Current research suggests that they were baling needles and this convenient term is used of the examples from Castleford by Hilary Cool (Cool & Philo 1998, 91). In use they would be pushed through the layers of material and then withdrawn from the same side. Cool cites work by Biddle and Elmhirst (1990, 807) on similar tools with perforated tips and elaborated heads from medieval contexts in Winchester where it is suggested that they may have been used for a couching technique or for stitching documents. At Castleford the baling needles are found in contexts associated with the occupation of the fort and it is possible that they may have a basically military association.

In view of the large numbers of writing tablets and styli found in the Walbrook contexts, the possibility that they could have been used for stitching documents is an attractive one, but their design is of no obvious advantage in securing wooden tablets. It is more likely that they were used for textiles, and from their size, coarse ones. Commercial use in baling is perhaps more probable.

Domestic utensils and furniture

Lighting

Copper alloy lamp

<14>, [1116]; period 6, OA43, group 493, 120208

Complete; L 86mm. Circular lamp and hanger. The lamp has a neat rounded nozzle, circular lid and lunate projection at the back which would have served both as a handle and to keep the lamp away from the wall when in use. The hanger, which would have been driven into a beam on the wall, consists of a flat bar with a spike at one end and an eye at the other, below a characteristic spiked projection, from which a heavy loop-in loop chain hung. This terminated in a small ring, to which three smaller chains were attached, each fastened at the other end to an eye on the lamp, placed at the base of the nozzle, at the centre of the lid and at the base of the handle. Part of the wick

preserved inside the nozzle proved to be Z-spun hemp (identified by MoLSS conservation).

Lamps of this general form are found on the continent, especially in Italy (eg Ward-Perkins and Claridge 1977, 135), where they are often suspended in sets from candelabra. They are rare in Britain, although hangers are found, as at Colchester (Crummy 1983, 80, fig 84; Hawkes and Hull 1947, pl 100, 33). Copper-alloy lamps are found in the earlier collections from Colchester, one free-standing example with a similar crescent handle (Crummy 1997, 91).

Iron lamp hook

<2097>, [8283]; period 16, OA66, group 748, 80603

Incomplete; surviving L 122mm. Lamp hook; broken at lower end, with spiked terminal and projecting hook. The shaft is square sectioned below the terminal; below this is a section with a decorative twist, returning to a square section just above the break.

Lead lamp

<1683>, [7954]; period 7, B24, group 378, 80419

Complete; L 101.5mm; W 74mm; H 20mm. Lampholder similar in shape to those made in ceramic, which can be holders or open lamps. It is quite roughly shaped and now distorted with rounded nozzle. The stump of a ?handle is attached to the base of back wall. The use of a metal with a low melting point makes it more probable that this is a lamp holder rather than a lamp.

Lead or lead alloy lamps/holders are known but are rare in London. Recent finds include one from Regis House in a late 1st/2nd century waterfront context (KWS94 <1191> [4173]; J Keily pers comm).

Ceramic lamp

<4211>, [9055]; period 5, OA24, group 623, 80468

Fragment of ?volute lamp closed lamp; part of side wall only. Type uncertain. Lyon ware. 1st century.

Ceramic lamp

<4639>, [15442]; period 6, B43 rB, group 581, 111234

Closed form, probably volute; W 60mm; H 25mm. Base and part of sides remaining; distinct base ring; part of shoulder and the edge of a discus, with a very slight trace of a design; handle stump at back of lamp, probably a narrow ring handle. Most of the discus; the entire front part and the nozzle are missing. Fabric – Central Gaulish (CGOF), red-brown slip.

Utensils

Bone spoon

<2790>, [9094]; period 3, B23rmA, group 397, 80460

Incomplete; Diam of bowl 21.5mm. Spoon bowl and two fragments of handle (incomplete). The handle continues for a short way on the underside of the spoon.

Bone spoon

<6454>, [9094]; period 3; B23rmA, group 397, 80460

Incomplete; Diam 23mm. Spoon bowl, darkened in use ? oiled or burnt.

Turning marks visible on interior of bowl.

Bone spoons

<2791>, [9055]; period 5, OA24, group 623, 80468

Fragments of round-bowled spoons (at least nine individual items).

a) Nine fragments of spoon bowl, all with part of the handle, which in several cases can be seen to continue below the bowl. Four are darkened, probably in the fire rather than in use.

b) Four fragments from the pointed tips of the handles

c) Eight stem fragments

d) Nine fragments of burnt stem.

Bone spoon

<4686>, [18182]; period 7, OA57, group 628, 120310

Complete; L 128.5mm; Diam of bowl 23.5mm. Round bowl and pointed handle; well made. The handle continues on the underside of the bowl, on the upper surface of which turning marks are visible.

Copper alloy spoon

<3442>, [12608]; period 6, B34rmB, group 550, 10313

Almost complete; L 88mm; Diam bowl 25mm.

Fairly flat bowl; handle joined to underside of bowl without a rib; handle broken at upper end. No trace of tinning detected by XRF analysis (AML).

Lead alloy spoon

<3905>, [12631]; period 18, R2, group 945, 10099

Incomplete; L 37mm. Lead tin alloy/pewter (XRF). Oval spoon bowl broken at the base of the handle, the end of which can be seen on the underside.

Undecorated.

Bone scoop

<2258>, [8501]; period 6, OA33, group 374, 80416

Complete; L 135mm; W of blade 92.5. Scoop fashioned from the flat shoulder blade (scapula) of a sheep-sized animal (cf MacGregor 1985, 179-80). This example is simple in form with a squared-off terminal and the bevelled blade-end is worn and polished with use.

MacGregor notes various examples of Roman date, with a wide distribution across Britain (eg Castleford, Greep 1998, 281 and summary). At least two other examples are known from London, an elaborate inscribed scoop with a suspension loop from Billingsgate Buildings (Chapman in Jones 1980, 93, no.490, fig54) and one from CED89, (Wardle 1993) See also Rees 1979, 319-20.

Iron flesh hook

<5374>, [18337]; period 5, OA26, group 307, 120114
Incomplete; L 71mm. Flesh hook, Manning Type 1, (1985, 105), with two hooked teeth set in line on one side of the square sectioned stem, which is broken.

Vessels

Iron handle

<1199>, [3886]; period 5, OA25, group 305, 90103
Complete; L 152mm. Drop handle, probably from a vessel or small bucket. Square sectioned iron rod, with curled back, circular-sectioned terminals.

Copper alloy vessel

<3797>, [15281]; period 6, B18, group 340, 110644
Incomplete; L 25.5mm. ?Vessel foot in the shape of a three-clawed bird's foot; trace of an attachment behind the 'leg'. Possibly from a tripod, for example supporting a candelabrum or lamp.

Wood dish

<3087>, [9422]; period 3, OA11, group 392,90610
Almost complete; Diam 195mm; H 25mm. Shallow dish or platter with raised sloping sides. Shallow foot ring on underside and turning rings at junction of inner plate and sides and on outside.

Wood dish

<2392>, [8727]; period 7, OA40, group 450, 80308
Check Lab/HSL Dish

Furniture

Copper alloy mount

<2775>, [9118]; period 6, B21, group 363, 80302
L 85mm. Small statuette or mount in the form of a leaping female panther, cast in the round with a hollow belly. The forepaws of the animal are outstretched and her tail is elegantly curled around one hind leg, which terminates in a peg for attachment. The lower part of the other leg is broken. There is a circular hole in the centre of the back, not visible from the side view. The details of the head are well modelled and the muscles of the body are shown, although there is much surface corrosion. The metal appears to be a heavily leaded copper alloy with black surface corrosion products.

The object is very similar to a less well preserved galloping panther figurine from Exeter (Allason-Jones 1991, 257, no.103. fig 116) which may be from a funerary context. Pitts (1979) refers to several panthers from Roman Britain, one from London (Pitts 1979, no. 279, pl 27), suggesting that they were usually furniture attachments.

It could of course be a free-standing statuette, originally set on a base, but this example is probably a vehicle or a furniture mount (C Johns pers comm) and has therefore been placed in this category. A vessel mount would be soldered to the body of the object at the lower end and the peg indicates a more robust attachment. Cart decorations are often Bacchic and therefore

leopards, panthers and tigers abound. Four such examples appear in von Mercklin (1933), all from Athens. The panther was also associated with the cult of Cybele (Green 1978).

There is a close parallel in the Nabeul Archaeological Museum, Tunisia, where it forms part of an assemblage comprising a frame with galloping horse and human figure - there described as an 'ameublement'.

Wood handle

<4060>, [12908]; period 2, OA19, group 231, 5012

L 210mm; H 60mm; W 25mm. Handle, curved at the centre, with flattened ends, square-sectioned. Iron rivets on each of the flat ends secured the handle in place to a drawer, chest or other item of furniture.

Shale table

<842>, [3491]; period 22, B64, period 820, 90748

Incomplete; Diam ***. Table top, the original surface lost, but the underside retains rebates for two of three legs. This is a typical form of Roman table, which is often made of Kimmeridge shale (Lawson 19** , ****). It would have been circular originally with three legs, which were often elaborately carved as on the example from Colliton Park. Other table fragments have been found in London, notably parts of a leg from Fenchurch Street (Keily in prep).

Copper-alloy ring key

<4649>, [18162]; period 6, OA41, group 458, 120205

Complete; Diam 20mm. Key finger ring, worn very thin at the back; square ward with T-shaped perforation.

Bells

Provisionally placed in this category although they undoubtedly had a variety of functions, ranging from use as door chimes, use in religious observance, or as animal bells for domestic pets and other animals.

Copper-alloy bell

<4651>, [18162]; period 6, OA41, group 458, 120205

Almost complete; H 44mm; max W 38mm. Small sub-rectangular bell, with a characteristic polygonal handle, part of the body of the bell and the clapper missing. The size makes it suitable for the variety of uses outlined above.

Recreation and leisure

Bone die

<5707>, [3916]; period 7, OA35, group 418, 90204

Complete; 7.5 x 7 x 6mm. Small single-piece die, irregular cube, neatly made, the two faces marked one and six being larger than the others (Type 1.2 at Castleford, Greep 1998, 272). The two smallest faces are marked two and five; as is usual all opposing faces add up to seven. The values are marked in ring and dot motifs, placed asymmetrically on each face.

Bone Counters

The majority of Roman counters are produced on a lathe or with a centre-bit (MacGregor 1985, 133). The typology used here is that of Greep (1998, 272), who has recognised three types, with some chronological distinction between Types 1 and 2, which comprise Crummy's Type 1 (1983). Type 1 counters are flat on both sides and usually have a small central lathe mark. Greep dates the form from AD 40 -200/250. Type 2, which has a plain countersunk obverse surface, again with a lathe mark, appears to belong chiefly to the 2nd century, c 125-200 and Greep (ibid) notes that the two forms do not occur together, although both appear separately with Type 3 counters, in which the obverse side is decorated with concentric circles. These occur throughout the Roman period.

The total of 15 from Poultry, which includes examples in post-Roman contexts, is not great from so large an urban site and indeed they are perhaps more common on military sites and in sets, from graves. Here there are no obvious concentrations which might indicate sets. Two of the Type 1 counters are of particularly small size at c 10.5mm.

All complete unless stated otherwise.

Bone counter

<6345>, [18132]; period 6, OA43, group 462,120210

Type 1. Small, flat surfaces. Diam 10mm; Th 3mm

Bone counter

<5218>, [18204]; period 6, OA43, group 495, 120238

Type 1. Flat, with lathe mark, bevelled edge. Dia 18mm; Th 4mm

Bone counter

<3141>,[12194]; period 12, B70, group 885,10300

Type 3. Complete; well turned series of concentric rings. Dia 21mm; Th 4mm.

Ceramic counter

<4161>, [12385]; period 12, R1, group 876, 10332

Complete; Diam 35mm. Crudely cut from base of pot; the edges deliberately smoothed. BB1

Glass counter

<6105>, [15437]; period 6, B43rmC, group 580, 111230

Complete. Black. Standard form with domed top and flat base. Diam 16mm; H 7mm.

Objects for weighing and measuring

Copper- alloy scales

<3567>, [12787]; period 7, B40Ra, group 570,10230

Almost complete; Diam 22mm. Scale pan. It seems more likely to be part of a pair of scales (and not a stud) in view of two suspension holes, completely worn through which survive on the undamaged edge of the dished circular sheet.

Lead weight

<1072>, [3761]; period 7, OA35, group 418,90202
Biconical weight; flat top and bottom. Dia 23mm; 55gm

Lead weight

<5384>, [18089]; period 7, OA45, group 463, 120212
Circular pan weight. Dia 16mm; th 3mm; wt 4.1gm

<5531> [18089] P7 OA45 463, 120212
Circular pan weight. Dia 15mm; th 2.5mm; wt 3.5gm

<3628> [12625] P5 OA22 322, 10272
Circular ?steelyard weight, with flattened upper and lower surfaces and rounded sides. Rectangular indentation on one surface, probably for attachment of suspension loop. Dia 37mm; h 19mm; wt 166gm

<3576> [12581] P6 B34 543, 10275
Biconical with flattened upper and lower surfaces. Dia 27mm; h 17mm; wt 81gm

<3573> [12637] P6 B34 543, 10273
Flat circular pan weight. Roman. Dia 22mm; th 8mm, wt 25.5gm

<3455> [12556] P6 B34 543, 10275
Globular weight, possibly biconical originally, but distorted with narrow, incomplete collar. This would be suitable for use as a steelyard weight. H 24mm; wt 60 gm

Writing materials and associated objects

Wood writing tablets

<5164> [18314] P6 OA44 498, 120223

missing from Lab – not seen

Appears to be the 'label' type of tablet parallels from CID90, KWS94, Bucklersbury

<5451> [18337] P5 OA26
Complete; charred, now in two fragments. L 160mm; w 147mm; th 7.5mm. Outer leaf, one side with recessed area for the wax. Two holes on one long edge and the grooves caused by the cord survive. Boudican fire debris.

Iron styli

<1463>[3918] P5 OA25 305, 90103

Complete; l 136.5. Type 1, point at one end; small wedge-shaped eraser, with rounded base and small spurs underneath on both sides. No obvious junction between point and stem, which tapers regularly.

<2780> [9118] P6 B21 363,80302

Complete; l 105.5. Type 1 with U-shaped eraser and plain straight stem. Very small and fine.

<2404> [8772] P6 B29 445, 80304

Complete; l 107mm. Type 1, with wedge-shaped eraser, which has a distinct shoulder between it and the stem.

<2405> [8772] P6 B29 445, 80304

Complete; l 106.5mm Type 1, encrusted, but in good condition, with plain stem and wedge-shaped eraser; shoulders at junction of stem and eraser, but no visible spur.

<2591> [8919] P6 B29 445, 80304

Complete; l 114mm. Type 1.

<4894> [18197] P6 S20 461,120207

Complete; l 122mm. Type 1/2 . Neat wedge-shaped eraser, the same width as the stem, with straight sides; no junction between stem and eraser, but there is a small spur on one side only. Possible junction between stem and the very short point, which would make this a Type 2, but too encrusted for certainty.

<5010> [18204] P6 OA43 495, 120238

Complete; l 110mm. Type 1, with long well-formed eraser, wedge-shaped with incurving sides.

<4948> [18264] P6 OA44 498, 120223

Complete; l 122mm. Type 2, with a sharply defined angle between the stem and point; short well formed wedge-shaped eraser with shoulders.

<2443> [8727] P7 OA40 450,80308

Complete; l 125mm. Type 1, but in poor condition and bent. Long wedge-shaped eraser.

<2348> [8721] P9 OA55 624, 80453

Complete; l 123mm. Type 2; shoulder at junction with point. Top of eraser is very square, but encrusted.

<3151> [12229] P8 R1 514, 10051

Complete; l 123.5mm. Type 1; small wedge-shaped eraser.

<4331> [18041] P11 S43 844,120409

Complete; l 140mm. Type 1; well formed wedge-shaped eraser, separated by a shoulder from the stem which is bent.

<1995> [8280] P16 OA66 748,80603

Incomplete; l 81mm. Type 4, with bands of non-ferrous inlay.

Copper-alloy seal boxes

<3817> [15400] P7 B44 586, 10230

Dia 20mm; l to hinge 26mm.

Seal box with appliqué frog decoration on lid. Boxes with applied decoration appear to be less common than those with enamelled designs (see Hattatt 1989, 465 for some examples) - such forms include good luck symbols such as phalli, eagles and the busts of deities. The frog was an attribute of the Sabazios, a Thraco-Phrygian mystery god, although in this case it may simply have been a good-luck symbol. There are good parallels from Verulamium, (Waugh and Goodburn 1972, 122, no.65, fig 34); also Richborough V, 101, nos 183-5 and refs.

<3816> [15223] P7 B19rmC 349, 110671

Complete; l 20mm; Diam 16mm. Circular seal box, very encrusted, but with moulded concentric circle decoration on the lid.

<2440> [8259] P20 B61rmD 761, 82909

Incomplete; w 20mm. Leaf-shaped seal box lid with the enamelled design of a crouching hare; the lid is broken just beyond the head of the animal. Enamelled zoomorphic designs on seal boxes appear to be very rare, although animals and other designs occur in relief on earlier forms. This example would date, on the grounds of the enamelling from the very end of the 1st or more probably the second century and it is residual in its context.

As a motif in Roman art, the hare was popular, appearing with dogs in hunting scenes and alone on plate brooches.

Lead-alloy inkwell

<2690> [9244] P3 B6 153, 80231

Height 37mm; diameter 30mm. Lead/tin (*ie* pewter) inkwell cf examples in copper alloy eg from Pompeii (Ward-Perkins & Claridge 1976, 285) and Aquincum (Zsidi 1995, 55, no. 228 fig 69, no.229; Nagy 1942, pl LXXVI.3 and 3). Cylindrical box with alternate bands of plain and beaded decorative mouldings on the main part of body, slightly out-turned foot and rim. Made from sheet metal bent round to form a cylinder to which the top and bottom discs were applied, as Pompeii example. There is a discoloration down one side, but no obvious seam. Underside of the base has central boss and concentric ring mouldings. Lid fits snugly over the top and has a central hole.

copper alloy

<2477> [8763] P5 OA25 305, 80105

Dia 21mm. Lid from cylindrical box (or ? inkwell). Finely made, with concentric mouldings on the upper surface, in the centre of which there is a small boss, surmounted by a knob in a differently coloured metal (white). The boss is made separately from the main circular part of the lid and is secured on the underside by means of a shank and roughly cut foot plate. The edges of the lid are seated for insertion into the vessel and a small gap on one side could indicate that it was hinged.

?in this category or with vessels

Bone ?styli/pens

<3963> [15428] P3 B3rm H 131, 110459

check description - object at drawing office.

For discussion of this object, see Walbrook catalogue No. **

Tools

Iron knives

<5016> [18252] P6 S20 461, 120207

Complete; l 20.5mm. Group types -7-9 ?Type 7c? The general type is characterised by the down-turned blade, which is seen here, although the back falls from the end of the handle to the tip, without the straight section seen on Type 7 (neither does it have the concave curve of Type 9). The back is more akin to Type 8 but the edge has the sinuous profile of Type 9. The flat tang handle would have had bone plates riveted to it - two rivets remain; the plate ends in a triangular-sectioned terminal. Probably nearest in type to Type 9, but with a composite and not a solid handle. Other examples from Walbrook deposits (Manning 1985, 113).

<5048> [18132] P6 OA43 493, 120208

Complete; l 148mm. Type 8, the back angled down from its junction with the handle; triangular blade with straight edge, slightly worn, stepped down from the handle, which is made in one piece with the blade.

<5030> [18204] P6 OA43 495, 120238

Incomplete; l 75mm; w 12mm. Knife or razor with parallel sides, the blade falling towards the tip (Type 1c, Manning 1985, 109, fig 28). Non-ferrous metal at junction of blade and handle (the rest of which is missing) is copper alloy; standard type. The handle would have been of bone.

<5223> [18314] P6 OA44 498, 120223

L 98mm. Type 1C; straight blade with parallel edge and back, and turned down tip. The handle would have been of bone and is now missing, but the copper alloy binding, with an elaborate diagonal edge at the junction of the blade and handle, survives.

<2462> [8726] P13 OA56 737, 80504

Almost complete; l 169mm. Type 23. The back of the blade curves up from the tang to a point (now incomplete) which would be at a higher level than the tang. The edge is stepped down from the tang and rises in a convex curve to the pointed tip.

copper alloy knife

<3068>[6071] P34 OA142

L 53.5mm. Knife or razor handle with rectangular cut-out, and terminal in the shape of a ?lion head. Parallels for the general form from Colchester, Crummy 1983, 110, nos 2938, 2939, but these have suspension loops instead of the animal head terminal; also Verulamium, Waugh and Goodburn 1972, 124, no.75. Residual

Ivory handles

<3656> [13077] P5 OA22 308, 10154

L ***mm. Ivory/iron One-piece knife handle of uniform oval section; iron blade surviving in the groove at one end. An iron ring is set in the upper end but it lacks the tension clip of the mid 1st century examples.

<2449> [3662] P6 OA32 432, 90403

L 70.5mm. Ivory. One piece knife handle, waisted at each end, with a central groove. A groove at the wider end held the blade; the tang passed through the centre of the handle and was secured by a tension spring at the waisted upper end. Typical example of the type introduced to Britain at the conquest, but which is also found in non-military contexts (Crummy 1983, 107). Mid to later 1st century.

Bone handles

<4795> [18189] P6 OA41

L 56mm; w 12.5mm. Bone knife handle as above, with waisted terminal. Iron corrosion in the flattened end which held the blade.

Wood handle

<4036> [12864] P2 S4 228, 10028

L ***

Oval-sectioned handle, now slightly curved, probably for a tool.

Wood/iron spade

<3160>[12360] P18 R2 944, 10103

Almost complete; oak spade blade with iron sheath and integral handle. Overall length 390mm; l of blade 280mm; w of blade 195mm; w of iron sheath 220mm; w of handle 45mm.

The oak blade is edged with a corroded iron sheath with a U-shaped cutting edge, which flares slightly at the base, and ?V-shaped section. The arms of the sheath project about half way up the blade. The remains of a handle with a roughly squared section extends from the top of the blade. Comparison with a complete example from Stonea Grange (Potter and Jackson 19**, ***), suggests that it would have terminated in a T-shaped handle. This example approximates to Manning's type 1b. with a rounded edge and outwardly flaring arms (Manning 1985, 44).

The use of an iron cutting edge appears to have been a Roman introduction to Britain, and the form would have been well established by this late date.

Woodworking tools

iron

<5215> [18252] P6 S20 461, 120207

Incomplete; l 91mm. w of edge 62mm; th 9mm (max). Adze or axe blade. Triangular blade, tapering to a sharp edge.

<5015> [18151] P6 OA43 493, 120208

Incomplete; l 154mm. Tanged hand-saw, with square sectioned rod handle terminating in a rolled loop; curved back and concave edge which is serrated; tip of blade broken. Set of teeth 3:10mm.

<2719> [9028] P9 OA55 624, 80453

L **mm. Drill. Pyramidal head and flat diamond-shaped head, set on a square-sectioned stem, as Manning 1985, 26, fig 5,2. Comparatively rare type, probably partly due to its fragility.

<5356> [18277] P6 OA44 466, 120224

Almost complete; L 119mm. Awl. Square sectioned bar, which expands at about two thirds of the way from one end. One end, close to the expansion, tapers to a sharp point and appears to be complete - the other tapers more gently and may be a tang inserted into a wooden or bone handle. Possibly a very narrow drill bit, but is more likely to be an awl.

copper alloy

[11983]<2985> P8 R1 511, 10044

Complete; l 40mm. Fish hook, single hook with barbed end, tie loop at upper end.

Fasteners and fittings

Copper-alloy locks and keys

<2463> [8772] P6 B29 445, 80304

Complete; L 91mm. Lock bolt with rectangular perforations set in the shape of a U. Very heavy, for use with a large tumbler lock slide key with a U-shaped bit.

<2571> [8933] P6 B29 445, 80306

Complete; L 60mm. Lock bolt with five triangular perforations, set in two rows, of three and two. Very neatly made and well preserved.

Copper-alloy mounts

<2470> [8763] P5 OA25 305, 80105

Complete; l of each arm c 47mm, w 28mm. Sheet, bent in the centre at right angles, each side pierced with three rivet holes in a triangular arrangement; three dome-headed nails remain. Probably a reinforcement for the edge of a wooden box.

<5377> [18337] P5 OA26 307, 120114

Complete; l 45mm; l head 20mm. Finial or mount, possibly from furniture. Knobbed terminal over heavy double cordon moulding set on a stout tapering square sectioned shank.

<5378> [18337] P5 OA26 307, 120114

As <5277>, presumably from the same object. Encrusted. L 43mm; l head 20mm.

<3638> [17765] P5 R2 331,111822

Almost complete, bent; l (bent) 46.5mm; l of pendant 18mm. Pierced strap with incomplete tapering terminal; the other end has a shell-shaped pendant attached by a hinge. This is now bent and corroded on to the strap so only the reverse is visible. Possibly military.

<5408> [18252] P6 S20 461, 120207

L c 56mm. Sheet with repoussé decoration in the form of circles composed of dots. No obvious signs of attachment, but this may be part of a box fitting or binding.

Fasteners

copper alloy

<2456> [8748] P13 OA56 735, 80502

L 38mm. Clasp or fastener; T-bar at one end, then curved expanding shaft, rectangular in section terminating in a circular moulding, with a narrower rectangular projection below. It appears to be functionally similar to a button and loop fastener.

Structural fittings

iron

<2969> [8984] P3 B8 rm B 182, 80224

Incomplete; l 70mm. Loop hinge; part of one arm with terminal loop which passed through the eye of the second strap. Two nails in situ on the surviving strap which is incomplete.

<6404> [51129] P6 OA43 493, 120208

Brackets or reinforcements for the 1st/2nd century water tank.

Broad strap (80mm), bent at 90 degrees with a regular series of nails along each long edge.

<6403> [51129] P6 OA43 493, 120208

Bracket/ binding for water tank. Narrower strap (24mm) with regularly spaced (c 65mm) Type 1 nails.

<5020> [18204] P6 OA43 495, 120238

Almost complete; l 110mm. L-shaped hinge staple.

lead

<3823> [17930] P3 R2 112, 111705

Clamp; L 58mm. Two parallel strips of lead, linked by two bars, top and bottom. Similar from South Shields.

<3949> [15522] P3 B3 135, 110427

Folded sheet, pierced with a series of irregularly spaced small holes – possibly a sprinkler or drain. 29 x 27mm (folded)

Military equipment

Weapons

iron

<2742> [8984] P3 B8 rmB 182, 80224
Complete; l 155mm. Spearhead. Leaf-shaped blade and a conical socket.

<3088> [9425] P3 OA11
Complete; l 115mm. Spearhead. Conical closed socket; leaf-shaped head with elliptical section; diamond shaped terminal at the top of the head.

<1629> [4919] P7 OA40 451,30209
L c 300mm. Spear. Closed conical socket. Long narrow tapering blade with midrib, now bent (?Group IV, Manning 1985, 167); gently curving shoulders.

<2391> [8726] P13 OA56 735, 80502
L 112mm. Spearhead. Leaf-shaped, conical socket.

<5298> [18317] P5 OA26 307, 120141
Complete; l 64mm; Diam 20mm. Spear butt? Conical ferrule, with single rivet, a pole tip or very possibly in this context a spear butt.

<5643> [18264] P6 OA44 498, 10223
L 33.5mm; w 8mm. Spear butt, small socket with diamond-shaped terminal. Very similar to examples from Rheingönheim illustrated by Bishop and Coulston 1993, 68, Fig 35, 17-18.

Armour

copper alloy

<5295> [18317] P5 OA26 307, 120114
Complete; l 43mm; w 15mm. Hinged strap fitting from *lorica segmentata* both elements complete, with rivets.

<4892> [18197] P6 S20 461,120207
Complete; l 29mm; h of buckle 20mm. D-shaped buckle and one plate from a hinged strap from a cuirass.

<3895> [12888] P2 S4 228, 10031
Incomplete; w 15mm. ?Apron-mount. Hollow cast biconical terminal with rectangular moulding above; fractured above this point. Very similar to an apron-mount terminal from Verulamium, (Goodburn 1984, 35, no.80, fig 11).

<2363> [8751] P7 R1 387,80445
Complete; 53 x 20.5mm. Mount with niello inlay, in a chevron design along the centre of the plate and running S- waves on each long edge. Strap mount, probably from an apron (eg Bishop & Coulston 1993, 99).

Studs

Flat circular studs of specific form and decoration are commonly found on military sites and are thought to belong to military equipment, functioning for example as apron mounts. Webster (1958, 85 & fig 6, no. 151) distinguished four basic decorative patterns among the London material in his publication of early military equipment from Britain. These are A -- a linear six pointed star,

formed by three intersecting lines, with a series of dot and circle motifs around the circumference; B -- a similar central device, but the outer circles are filled with a cross; C -- two intersecting lines form a cross, the end of each arm with transverse lines giving 'standard' effect, and in each quarter is a 'petal' infilled with dots; D -- a small central circle within which is a cross; lines radiate out from the edge of the inner circle, each terminating in a smaller circle in which there is a single dot. Such studs are often tinned and decorated with niello.

copper alloy

<3883> [12926] P2 S4 227, 10021

Dia 17mm. Flat circular head, with incised radial pattern, twelve-pointed star inlaid with niello; shank broken. Variant of Type A.

<5252> [18264] P6 OA44 498, 120223

Dia 14mm; l 10.5mm. Type A, rather crudely stamped. Flat head with incised radial lines and dot and circle motifs between them. Square sectioned shank, thin sharp point.

<3892> [12888] P2 S4 228, 10031

Dia 17.5mm. Flat head, turned over at edge, with incised (?niello) linear star pattern in centre. Similar to Pattern B, but without the dot and circles and has a groove around the circumference, containing the star.

<5440> [18232] P6 OA43 120209

Dia 14.5mm; l 8.5mm. Rosette stud with linear decoration. Wavy edge following the segments defined by a series of straight lines which cross at the centre. Square sectioned shank, sharply tapering.

<5056> [18144] P6 OA43 group 493,120209

Almost complete; d of head 23mm; surviving L 13m

Stud or mount. Flat head on which is engraved the figure of a bird in lines and punched dots. The shank is thin and rectangular in section and is broken at what appears to be a perforation, as is found on a lock pin, although the shank is much thinner than that of a lock pin.

There is a very similar stud (with square-sectioned shank) found in Miles Lane (Wheeler 1930,112- 13, Fig 37, 4), where it is suggested that the bird is a stylised eagle, a possibility also raised by Bishop (in preparation, IH53). The Miles lane stud has been made from recycled sheet metal.

Copper-alloy mounts

<3208> [9444] P3 OA11 167, 80260

L 30mm. Mount in the shape of a stylised acorn; circular-sectioned rivet at one end; the other end, with the acorn cup is broken, but presumably had a similar attachment.

Acorn terminals, varying considerably in design and detail, are found in military contexts and on equipment (eg Webster 1958, 74, nos 29& 30, fig 3, from Cirencester). Webster cites also examples from Colchester (Hawkes and Hull 1947, pl cii, no. 26) and Kastell Pfunz (ORL, no. 73, Taf xiii, nos 63-4).

<3558> [12681] P5 OA22 312, 10082

Complete; L 40mm. Oval mount, with two mouldings on each side of the widest part, the ends narrow and terminating in small knobs, which conceal two shanks on the reverse; hollowed back. Possibly a military belt or strap fitting.

<3284> [12473] P5 OA22 311,10247

L 46.5mm; w 15mm. Mount or pendant, military in style. Thin rectangular sheet, the upper edge straight, the lower curved and projecting into a diamond shaped terminal of typical Roman form; plate pierced with three rivet holes in a triangular pattern; small tang – perhaps for suspension at the top.

<5225> [18249] P6 OA43 493, 120208

Incomplete; surviving l 19mm. Terminal from a mount or pendant in the shape of an inverted palmette, with above it two small circular eyes on either side of a horizontal moulding; above this two broken arms fork outwards. Possibly from an apron mount or phalera pendant. ?WALCAT

<2034> [8283] P16 OA66 748, 80603

Almost complete; l 35mm. Pendant or mount, possibly from harness or an apron. Suspension loop at top, with below it a square moulding; the main part of the object is a narrow strip, with triangular section (and flat back), expanding into a rounded terminal (?phallic).

Harness fittings

copper alloy

<2435> [8746] P6 B29 445, 80306

Almost complete; l 66mm. Stout loop with moulding and transverse grooves at the junction of the loop and top plate on which there are recessed circular depressions for the (missing) rivets; lower plate also missing.

<2436> [8764]

As <2435>, and probably part of the same set. L 67.5mm

Pendants – equine

copper alloy

<5299> [18225] P6 OA41 458, 120202

Complete; l 51mm. Leaf-shaped ('teardrop') pendant - originally suspended from a *phalera*, the upper part pierced with two peltate apertures; below this is a foliate design, possibly representing vine leaves, a common Bacchic motif on such pendants. Linear and punched decoration emphasises the design of stylised acorns and leaves; suspension loop at top; small terminal knob. Mid to late 1st century type.

<5303> [18247] P7 B30rmC 475, 120308

Almost complete; H 39mm; W (surviving) 30mm; body Th 0.5mm; terminal th 1.3mm. Bird-headed bi-lobed harness pendant. The suspension loop, the neck of the bird, is bent forward and terminates in a bill, the eyes of the

creature are shown above. There is a fan-shaped terminal below the 'wings' which are undecorated, one now incomplete.

The type is generally pre-Flavian in date and there are several examples of bird-headed pendants from London (ed Bishop forthcoming)

<3143> [12229] P8 R1 514, 10051

W 60mm; h, including suspension ring, 66mm

Bi-lobed pendant, very similar to one from Calvert's Buildings (Stevenson 1993?, 84, no.5) but the present example has a zoomorphic forward hanging suspension loop in place of a bird-headed (swan) terminal, the form commonly found in London (Bishop in prep). The animal head is distinctly canine or vulpine, with clearly defined ears; the original suspension ring is also preserved. The outer edge of the pendant is decorated with a row of punched dots and a single engraved line and the central terminal is a typical spherical knob extending from raised and stepped bars, identical to the Calvert's Buildings example. Similar pendants with wolf's head suspension loops were found at Usk (Manning 1995, ****).

Bishop notes that the distribution of bird-headed pendants, to which this example is related, are pre-Flavian in date, found almost exclusively in pre-Flavian contexts.

Button and loop fasteners

copper alloy

<3594> [12820] P18 R2 group 945, 10098

Complete; l 41mm. Two flat plates decorated with champlévé chequerboard enamelling, originally in contrasting colours, linked by a stout curved bar, with a loop behind the lower plate.

Probably of 2nd century date and possibly from cavalry harness. The precise function of button and loop fasteners is disputed, but they are often found in association with military material. They are likely to have been used as leather fittings ?straps/harness/frogs.

Religion, cult and superstition

Votives

copper alloy

<3593> [12820] P18 R2 group 945, 10098

Dia 23.5mm; th 1.5mm. Votive in the form of a model six-spoked wheel, with wide outer rim. The spokes, which are of the same yellow alloy as the rim bear horizontal linear decoration. A contrasting boss made separately in a copper-coloured is set into the centre of the wheel and a slight protuberance on the otherwise flat underside suggests that this is the head of a shank which is now broken.

The wheel was a powerful solar symbol associated with the Celtic sun god long before the Roman period, (Green 1989, 117) and model objects appear in various parts of Roman Britain, (for the military areas, see Green 1978, 32 also Green, M, 1984 *The Wheel as a Cult-symbol in the Romano-Celtic world*).

iron

<5307> [18225] P6 OA41 458, 120202

Complete; l 65mm. Miniature knife. Tanged with a small, but sharp triangular blade, the back of which continues the line of the tang. Possibly a votive.

Model objects are found in both military and civilian contexts and are thought to possess ritual significance (Green 1978, 32) and numerous types have been recorded, including knives. Apart from miniature wheels which can be interpreted as cult emblems of the Celtic Wheel-God (and of which we have an example in these deposits) Green (1975) sees no invariable connection between the miniature objects and specific deities. Some objects on the Continent are inscribed with the names of deities however and their ritual nature is commonly accepted.

Copper-alloy figurine

<2837> [16993] P35 R102 1170, 112014

Incomplete; surviving l 68mm. Bacchic figurine depicting a vintaging cupid, cast in a naturalistic style in the round and likely to be of Italian or Gaulish manufacture. The figure a youth, has chubby feature and flowing locks, in Bacchic style. He carries two overflowing buckets of grapes, one in his right hand, the other on his left shoulder and supported by the left arm. Broken just above the knees.

Ceramic figurine

<2346> [8640] P13 OA56 735, 80502

Incomplete; l 112mm. Part of a Venus figurine, head, right arm and feet missing, broken below shoulders and at ankles. The nude figure is in the same pose as above, but is from a different mould; the body more slender and the modelling more delicate, although not more detailed; air hole on side at left hip.

Defixio

<2120>[8298] P16 OA66

Defixio; L **mm; w **mm. Rectangular sheet of lead, when found folded into four. The inner surface is covered with lines of cursive script, which have been interpreted by Dr R Tomlin as a series of names; full report awaited. From the form of one of the names the tablet appears to date from the mid to late 2nd century, (M Aurelius onwards). This is a classic form of curse tablet, where the names of the victims are inscribed on lead, the sheet is then folded and offered to the gods, frequently in water.

There have been previous discoveries of *defixiones* in the Walbrook, for example RIB 6, cursing Titus Egnatius Tyrannus and Publius Cicereius Felix.

Iron rattle

<1523> Unstratified

Rattle. Rectangular plate set on a stem which has decorative twisting and terminates in a ring loop. At the bottom of the plate are two holes in which are set non-ferrous rings and analogy with other example would suggest that there were at least two similar rings at the top also. It is possible that the

rings held dangling chains and perhaps small bells or jangling plates. L 120mm

Wheeler (1930, 108, PI XLVIII, 1-3) cites three generically similar examples from Moorgate Street, two of which have rectangular plates, one with a similar handle loop and suggests that they can be identified with the *sistrum* , a rattle used in the rites of Isis. The name *crepitacula*, which was also applied to the religious *sistra* was given to the rattles used by Roman children. The classic *sistrum* as illustrated in Roman iconography (Fleischhauer 198*,***) is however of very different shape, as noted by Manning (1985, 145), and although the London objects may have a similar function, a precise analogy cannot be drawn. Objects similar to the London examples have been found in Britain at Colchester (Manning 1985, 144, S144), Baldock (Stead 1986, ***) A similar find in copper alloy from the German Limes fort at Ursprung is cited by both Wheeler and Manning (ORL B VI, Kastell 66a (1929) 36, No. 18, Taf IV,11).

While a utilitarian function, for example as a child's rattle cannot be ruled out, it remains highly likely that this object had a ritual or symbolic function, and this may be of particular significance in view of its proximity to the Walbrook.

Antler pendant

<1975> [8501] P6 OA33 374, 80416

Antler pendant; complete. L 77mm; w 66mm; th 18mm. Pendant formed from a shed adult red deer antler base, the 'coronet'. One side has been sawn flat, with visible saw marks; the other (the front), is slightly domed and roughly shaped; the chisel marks also visible. The pendant was suspended by means of a circular hole at the top on the outer zone, now worn through.

This belongs to a class of pendants, made from the crown or burr of red deer antler, which are widely known in the north-west Roman provinces (Greep 1994), particularly from early Roman contexts. Several forms are known, ranging from a simple roundel as the present example, which is of Greep's Type 1 (ibid 81, Fig 1), to more elaborate examples sometimes carved with a phallus (ibid 80, Fig 1). The undecorated pendants have the widest distribution, but Greep has noted some variation in the distribution of the more elaborate types (1994, 87). London has already produced five examples of the latter, and although the plain types are in general more common, this is only the second undecorated pendant recorded from the city and Southwark. A pendant of Greep's Type 2, with a central hole was recently discovered at a cemetery site in Great Dover Street (Wardle in Mackinder in prep).

Greep (1994, 82) discusses the function of these amulets. Deer antler was thought to possess prophylactic powers and this may have prompted its amuletic use. The frequent embellishment of the pendants with phallic symbolism would have reinforced such protective powers and enhanced its value as a good luck charm. Greep points out that the choice of the crown for the manufacture of pendants may have been prompted by its convenient shape.

Lead- alloy pendant

<3735> [13007] P2 S4 228,10033

L 30mm. Pendant? Crudely-fashioned from lead alloy, the front has a rounded section, with a small linear moulding and two projections at the lower end, which may be phallic, although very stylised (and possibly distorted by heat). There is a roughly punched suspension loop at the upper end which is wider than the body of the pendant. The back is almost flat, but may have been distorted by heat. Possibly military and almost certainly phallic.

Metal working waste
copper alloy

<4678> [18319] P10 OA75 482, 120328
Sheet, ?offcuts

<5228> [18260] P6 OA44 467, 120226
Thin sheet, offcut, from which a semi-circle has been cut.

<5832> [12785] P8 R1
Sheet

<3268> [12482] P18 R1

<4988> [18083] P10 OA75
Sheet, ? offcut

<3478> [12655] P18 R2

<5343> [18233] P6 OA43 493, 120208
Molten lump, heavily leaded.

<6527> [18130] P10 OA75 482, 120328
Sprue.

<4327> [18035] P11 OA77
Heavy tapering bar; rectangular section ?offcut . L 61mm

Uncertain function
iron

<4775> [18225] P6 OA41 458, 120202
L 125mm. Fitting, possibly from cart or similar, originally identified as a linch pin, although this seems unlikely. Stout square sectioned bar, rebated at the lower end. The upper end is slightly splayed and appears to have been hammered and there is a circular hole 12mm from the top. Below this is a decorative ?stop ridge formed from a strip of iron, the same width as the bar, which projects from the bar and is coiled into a decorative spiral (similar to the projections seen on mower's anvils).