

Section 44 Trade and commerce; written communication

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Cross-references to Digital Supplement in red
Cross-references to Printed Synthesis in brown

Category 6 Trade and commerce

Finds from La Grava include balances, weights, cloth seals, and tokens, but the bulk of this category consists of coins and jettons. A number of these (30) were recovered from topsoil deposits, with a fairly even split between the inner and outer complex of buildings. The coins and jettons which could be allocated to structures occurred in limited numbers, generally from one to three finds but not concentrated in any one phase, in twenty structures of both domestic and agricultural use.

Balances 44.03/286-288

Two balance beams were recovered, both equal-armed. Small equal-armed balances were the common weighing instrument in the medieval period and were used by money changers, shop keepers, and druggists. The copper-alloy balance with folding arms, [44.03/286], is closely paralleled by an example from Northampton, said to be of late Saxon or early medieval date (Oakley and Webster 1979, fig 111.89). A second close parallel from Winchester is dated to the mid-13th century (Biddle 1990, fig 284.3211). Goodall notes (A Goodall 1981, 64) that there was very little change in the form of these cast copper-alloy balances from the pre-conquest into the early 16th century.

The iron balance, [44.03/287], has a rigid beam and a pivoting suspension stirrup. A larger example of this form, dated to between the 14th and 18th centuries, was found at Oxford (Goodall 1980a, fig 122.180).

Equal-armed balances were used in conjunction with balance pans or scales which were suspended from the beam terminals. Two triangular pans were identified [44.03/288] and are paralleled by 11th- to 13th-century pans from Winchester (Biddle 1990, fig 285.3218, 3220). The La Grava pans were found in phase 6.2 and Period 7, one (Sf 306.03 T13 C47) in destruction levels of S63.

44.03/286

Sf 992 T3 C2 [P6.2 S68]

Cast, copper-alloy, folding, equal-armed balance beam with riveted triangular-shaped stem. Each arm has a cubic boss with chamfered edges and incised lozenge decorated with four ring and dot on each face. Incomplete, lth 75.2mm

44.03/287

Sf 217 T13 C78 [P6.2-7]

Iron equal-armed, rigid balance beam, stem incomplete, with pivoting suspension stirrup. Lth 176mm

44.03/288

Sf 2633 T30 C1 [P6.2-7]

Copper-alloy, triangular-shaped balance pan, incomplete. Remains of two perforations survive along edge. Lth 35mm

Weights 44.03/289-292

Weights can be divided into two types dependent upon the form of balance with which they were used; pan weights with balance scales and hanging weights with steelyards.

Three pan weights were identified. [44.03/289] and [44.03/290] are coin weights used in weighing, respectively, a French half mouton (M Archibald, pers comm) and a gold ryal of James I (Turner 1936, 329). [44.03/291] is similar to decorated pan weights found at Winchester, although of smaller size. The Winchester examples are thought to date to the early medieval period, although recovered, as at La Grava, from late and post-medieval contexts (Biddle 1990, 910).

[44.03/292] is the sole example of a possible hanging weight. Although disc-shaped like many pan weights, two loops are embedded in the weight, presumably for suspension.

44.03/289

Sf 669 T13 F370 [P5.5 S54D]

Circular, French, copper-alloy coin weight for a half mouton. Legend POIS D'AGNIEL. Weight 3.99g

44.03/290

Sf 196 T13 F70 [P6.2-7 S63A/64A]

Rectangular copper-alloy coin weight for gold ryal of James I, legend XXXIII S (33 shillings). Weight 13g

44.03/291

Sf 1930 T7 C691 [P5.5 S16]

Circular, cast lead pan weight with nine-petalled flower on obverse, weight 95g

44.03/292

Sf 561 T13 C141 [P6.2 S63D]

Roughly circular, disc-shaped, lead weight with two copper-alloy loops embedded, possibly for suspension. Damaged, weight 133g

Cloth seals 44.03/293-294

The marking of newly-woven cloths with seals of lead was part of a complicated system of quality control in the medieval and post-medieval textile industry (Egan 1985). Two such seals were identified, [44.03/293] and [44.03/294], both possibly relating to the alnage system of governmental examination and taxation of cloths; without a seal the cloth could not be sold legally. G Egan comments

[44.03/293] is a two-disc seal, stamped SERCHED, of a late 16th- to 17th-century alnage or local corporation seal. The examination referred to was likely to have been a general scrutiny to ensure that the cloth was of good enough quality for the market, rather than one of the more specialised searches for specific finishing processes such as dyeing or fulling. [44.03/294], originally a four-disc seal, was probably an alnage seal of 17th or early 18th century date. The alnage system used four-disc seals from at least the 1610s and was abolished in 1724.

44.03/293

Sf 1359 T7 C694 [P7 S16D]

Incomplete two-disc lead cloth seal stamped SERCHED. Lth 19.4mm

44.03/294

Sf 44 T13 C1 [P6.2-7]

Incomplete four-disc lead cloth seal. Lth 28mm

Originally a four-disc seal, was probably an alnage seal of 17th- or early 18th-century date. The alnage system used four-disc seals from at least the 1610s and was abolished in 1724

Coins

A total of 86 coins were recovered. These are discussed chronologically below, and summarised in [9.05=50.03]. Due to the quantity of coins, the majority of post-medieval date, and the percentage of topsoil finds (30%), only phased coins are listed. The exception to this are coins of intrinsic interest.

Roman

All of the nine Roman coins recovered were residual. The condition of the coins varied considerably, some lacking any surface detail. Four of the coins were pierced, suggesting reuse as pendants. This was a common practice in the Anglo-Saxon period (cf Evison 1987, 49). The coins are listed in date order [2.05=44.01].

Sf no	Trench Context	Period	Structure	Type	Denomination	Date	Condition/comment
2130	30/106	6.1	43D	NA	As?	0-199	very worn, pierced
1521	13/520	5.3	29	NA	As/Follis	0-199	very worn, pierced
2768	30/791	5.3	40A	NA	As/Follis	0-199	very worn
1964	23/97/21	5.1-5.2	18A	?Trajan/Hadrian?	sestertius	early/mid-2nd century	very worn
760	13/561	5.3	28A	Constantine I R. wreath inscribed VOT XX or XXX	AE 3	320-324	worn
814	13/1	6.2-7	NA	Constantine I R. wreath inscribed VOT XX or XXX	AE 3	320-324	worn, pierced
738	13/518	5.3-5.5	31A	Crispus R. BEATA TRANQUILLITAS VO[TIS] X[X]	AE 3	321-323	pierced
2707	30/730	6.2	41D	Constantine I R. GLORIA EXERCITUS	AE 4	330-337	fair
2420	30/1	6.2-7	NA	Constantine I R. GLORIA EXERCITUS	AE 4	330-337	worn

44.01 *Roman coinage by small find number, context, phase, Structure, type, denomination, date, and condition*

Medieval

Of the twenty-two medieval coins recovered, nineteen were from phased deposits, with at least ten residual. The earliest coins recovered were of Henry II; there were no coins recovered dating from between the Roman period and

1180–89. The highest rate of loss occurred in coinage of the 14th century, increasing in the second half of that century. Of the medieval coins which could be allocated to structures, no more than two were recovered from any one building and these were normally of different phases [44.02].

Sf no	Trench Context	Period Phase	Structure	Type	Denomination	Date	Condition/ Comments
1538	13/1146	5.2	20A	Henry II	Penny, Class 1b/c, London RAUL	1180-89	Worn
1579	13/73	5.4	30	Richard I	Penny, Class 2	1189-1199	Worn, cut in half
739	13/324	5.4	19	John	Penny Class 5b, Lincoln HU[E]	1205-1216	
712	13/518	5.3-5.5	31A	John/Henry III	Penny, London, IL[GER]	1205-1247	Worn, cut in half
956	1/2	7	16D	French	Dernier, Serain, Count Walerand of Ligny	1275-1325	Imitation of English long cross type
1092	6/54/04	5.6	19D	Edward I	Penny, 2/3 issue, Dublin	1281-1283	Worn, deposited c 1420
2467	30/1	6.2-7	NA	Edward I	Penny, class 9	c 1299	Clipped, lost before c 1350
836	13/964/01	6.1	30A/53A	Edward I	Penny, mule ob. class X rv. class IX, London	c 1300	Worn, clipped, deposited c 1400
744	13/341	6.1-6.2	30D	Edward II	Penny, class XI, London	1307-1327	Lost before c1350
2243	30/40	6.1	59A	Edward III	Half penny, 2nd coinage London	1335-1344	Slight wear, deposited 1350-1375
2019	30/1	6.2-7	NA	Edward III	Penny, pre-treaty series C, London	1351-1352	Clipped, deposited pre 1412
2125	30/20	5.6	43	Edward III	Penny, pre-treaty, York	1351-1361	Very worn, clipped, deposited c 1400-1420
2277	30/190	5.3-5.4	Rt H	Edward III	Quarter noble, treaty series London	1363-1369	Deposited pre 1412
627	13/314	5.6	17A	Edward III	Penny, post-treaty York	1369-1377	Worn, deposited c 1400-1420
2144	30/66	6.1	59D	Edward III	Penny, post-treaty, York	1369-1377	Worn, lost early 1400s
105	13/1	6.2-7	NA	Richard II	Penny, class Ia, York	1377-1399	
1724	23/1	6.1-6.2	NA	Richard II	Half penny, doublestruck	1377-1399	
236	13/1	6.2-7.0	NA	Henry IV	Penny, heavy coinage, York	1399-1412	Slightly worn, deposited c 1420
243	13/30	6.2	31D	Venetian, Doge Michelestino	Galley half-penny	1400-1413	Worn

44.02 Medieval coinage by small find number, context, phase, Structure, type, denomination, date, and condition

Post-medieval coinage

Well over half the coin assemblage is of post-medieval date (55 coins). No coins, however, dating between c 1415 and c 1600 were recovered. The majority of the post-medieval assemblage centres on the first two quarters of the 17th century; farthing tokens of James I and Charles I being the commonest (40). These were markedly concentrated in and around S16 and S63. The coins are listed in date order in [44.04], see also [9.05=50.03].

Sf No	Trench Context	Phase	Structure	Type	Denomination	Date	Condition/comment
268	13 47	6.2	63D	James I	Sixpence, 4th bust	1607	
49	13 1	6.2-7	NA	Louis XIII	Liard	1610-1643	
21	13 1	6.2-7	NA	James I	Farthing	1613-1625	? Forgery, worn
235	13 70/02	6.2-7	63A/64A	James I	Farthing	1613-1625	Ob. worn, pierced
287	13 111	6.2	NA	James/Charles I	Farthing	1613-1644	Worn, crumpled
301	13 118	6.2	63D	James/Charles I	Farthing	1613-1644	Worn, crumpled, pierced
444	13 130	6.2	63D	James/Charles I	Farthing	1613-1644	Very worn
172	13 78	6.2-7	NA	James/Charles I	Farthing	1613-1644	Very worn
1211	6 2	6.2	19A	James/Charles I	Farthing	1613-1644	Worn, folded
1301	7 538	7	16D	James/Charles I	Farthing	1613-1644	Very worn, folded
1338	7 535	7	16D	James/Charles I	Farthing	1613-1644	Very worn
90	13 70/02	6.2-7	63A/64A	James/Charles I	Farthing	1613-1644	Very worn
19	13 1	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Farthing	1625-1634	Miss-struck, ?forgery
77	13 1	6.2-7	NA	James/Charles I	Farthing	1613-1644	Worn, crumpled
134	13 70/01	6.2-7	63A/64A	James I	Farthing Lennox, Type 3c	1614-1623	
169	13 78	6.2-7	NA	James I	Farthing Lennox, Type 3	1614-1623	Damaged
204	13 74	6.2-7	16D	James I	Farthing Lennox Type 3d	1623-1625	
1319	7 524	7	16D	James I	Farthing Lennox	1623-1625	Pierced
37	13 1	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Farthing	1625-1634	Worn, damaged
158	13 70/01	6.2-7	63A/64A	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond Type 1c	1625-1634	
962	1 2	7	16D	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond	1625-1634	Worn
1289	7 523	7	16D	Charles I	Farthing, CARA forgery	1652-1634	Pierced
230	13 70/02	6.2-7	63A/64A	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond Type 1c	1625-1634	
8	13 4/5/6	6.2-7	16A	Charles I	Farthing	1625-1634	? Forgery
493	13 112	6.2	NA	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond Type 1c	1625-1634	
173	13 78	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond	1625-1634	Miss-struck
136	13 70/01	6.2-7	63A/64A	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond Type 1c	1625-1634	
2634	30 1	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond Type 1	1625-1634	Worn, pierced
175	13 78	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Farthing, ?Richmond	1625-1634	Pierced
171	13 78	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond Type 1c	1625-1634	Very worn
176	13 78	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Farthing, CARA forgery	1625-1634	Very worn

Sf No	Trench Context	Phase	Structure	Type	Denomination	Date	Condition/comment
120	13 6	6.2-7	16A	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond Type 1c	1625-1634	
963	1 2	7	16D	Charles I	Farthing, Richmond	1625-1634	Worn
1305	7 502	7	16D	Charles I	Farthing, forgery	1625-1644	
273	13 113	6.2	63D	Charles I	Farthing	1625-1644	Crumpled
47	13 1	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Penny	1625-1649	Initial mark 2 pellets, worn, deposition 1640s
269	13 47	6.2	63D	Charles I	Farthing, Maltravers Type 3	1634-1636	Reverse very worn
3	13 1	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Farthing, Maltravers Type 3	1634-1636	Miss-struck
170	13 78	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Farthing, Maltravers Type 3	1634-1636	Worn
138	13 70/01	6.2-7	63A/64A	Charles I	Farthing, Maltravers Type 5	1634-1636	
1300	7 501	6.2-7	16	Charles I	Farthing, Rose Type 2	1636-1644	Very worn
135	13 70/01	6.2-7	63A/64A	Charles I	Farthing, Rose Type 1c	1636-1644	? Clipped
2228	30 1	6.2-7	NA	Charles I	Half crown forgery	1645	Indented by nail
2326	30 1	6.2-7	NA	Charles II	Farthing	1672-1685	Very worn, in circulation until 1800
1381	7 606	6.1	16	Charles II	Farthing	1672-1685	Very worn, date illegible
247	13 1	6.2-7	NA	NA	Farthing	NA	Copper plugged lead farthing, surfaces illegible
1059	6 81	5.6	19	NA	Farthing?	NA	Lead disc, plug missing, surfaces worn smooth, INTRUSIVE?
1290	7 502	7	16D	William & Mary	Half penny	1694	
22	13 1	6.2-7	NA	William III	Farthing	1695-1702	Worn
2721	30 579	5.3-5.5	36	William III	Half penny	1695-1702	Very worn, late deposition date, INTRUSIVE
1383	7 562	6.1	16	William III	Farthing	1700	Worn, deposited later 1700s
2427	30 1	6.2-7	NA	William III	Sixpence	1700	
2442	30 1	6.2-7	NA	George I	Penny	1714-1727	Worn
2459	30 1	6.2-7	NA	George V	Penny	1915	
2422	30 1	6.2-7	NA	George V	Penny	1918	

44.04 Post medieval coinage by small find number, context, phase, Structure, type, denomination, date, and condition

Jettons

Jettons originated in western Europe in the mid-/late 13th century. They were used with a counting board or cloth which had a column of marks of value on the left. Reckoning was carried out by moving the counters into the appropriate column or box. Prior to the late 13th century unmarked counters of stone or other materials were used. After this date jettons, thin discs, commonly of copper alloy, roughly struck with patterns resembling coinage, came into use. These quickly gained popularity and by the later Middle Ages and during the 16th century their use became universal. The 31 jettons recovered were divided into three types; Anglo-Gallic, French, and German.

Anglo-Gallic jettons are thought to have been made at English mints in France, coming into production from the mid-/late 13th century and continuing until the end of the 14th century (Barnard 1916, 93). The commonest obverse is the conventional king's bust facing, of which nine examples were found cf [44.03/295]. Jettons with this obverse cannot be earlier than 1279, when Edward I introduced the sterling type of penny, whose general appearance they copy (Barnard 1916, 93). Other obverses which occur amongst the 21 Anglo-Gallic jettons from La Grava include the lion's mask [44.03/296], two crowns [44.03/297] and a possible castle with three turrets (or city ground plan?) [44.03/298].

Reverses take the form of crosses, long or short, such as *recercellée*, *patonce*, *pattée*, or floriated, usually cantoned by pellets but sometimes with other motifs, such as quatrefoils [44.03/296]. The place of the legend on these early jettons was usually occupied by small ornaments such as pellets, upright strokes, or circles enclosing dots. Occasionally jettons of this type have crosses on both sides, but of different designs [44.03/299].

As is the case with the majority of Anglo-Gallic jettons, the La Grava examples are wholly or partially pierced in the centre. It has been suggested that this is the result of working on a lathe to ensure that the jettons were uniformly circular (Barnard 1916, 95).

A single jetton was found in deposits of phase 5.3. As these jettons are not thought to predate the mid-13th century, and this example is worn, it is likely to be intrusive. The remaining jettons were recovered from deposits of phase 5.4 onwards; nine were found together (T7 L562 P6.1) deposited within the extended west wall of S16.

In the 14th and 15th centuries the copper working industry at Tournay produced quantities of jettons. These were copies of French jettons, made cheaply, perhaps underselling their competitors. The Tournay jettons more or less repeat the French counters of this period and therefore are considered together. Three such jettons were found, one too fragmentary to identify the complete pattern. 300 is a close parallel to a jetton attributed to the Royal Almonry of France, dating to the third quarter of the 14th century (Barnard 1916, 113 no 2), while 301 is a 15th-century jetton of Dauphine possibly from the Tournay mint (Barnard 1916, 120 no 61).

German jettons 302–303, manufactured in Nuremberg, superseded the Tournay jettons. Production of these jettons appears to have started about 1500 continuing into the 17th century. Seven of these jettons were found, all from deposits of phase 6.2 and Period 7. Six were from the workshops of Hans Krauwinckel (cf 1292), who flourished c 1580–1610; 303 was the sole example from the workshop of Hans Schultes, dating to the mid-/late 16th into the early 17th century.

Anglo-Gallic jettons 44.03/295-299

44.03/295

Sf 1293/04 T7 C562 [P6.1 S16]

Anglo-Gallic jetton. Ob conventional king's head, full face, within inner circle, border of pellets. Pierced. Rv Short-cross floriated and cantoned by one pellet, inner circle, border of alternating pellets and upright strokes

44.03/296

Sf 794 T13 C643/1 [P5.4 S17D]

Anglo-Gallic jetton. Ob lion's mask within inner circle, border of pellets, partially pierced. Rv long-cross *recercellée*, cantoned by open quatrefoil, outer circle

44.03/297

Sf 2683 T30 C763 [P5.6 S31A]

Anglo-Gallic jetton. Ob two crowns within inner circle, border of alternate saltires and cinquefoils. Rv short-cross *recercellée* cantoned by pellet, inner circle, border of pellets. Partially pierced

44.03/298

Sf 1293/02 T7 C562 [P6.1 S16]

Anglo-Gallic jetton. Ob castle(?) with three turrets with star(?) to left within inner circle, border of pellets. Rv long-cross *recercellée*, cantoned by pellet, outer circle

44.03/299

Sf 687 T13 C300 [unph S63]

Anglo-Gallic jetton. Ob four lys radiating arranged in a cross with an octafoil in centre, two pellets on either side of each lys, cantoned by trefoil within *tressure* of four arches and in each spandrel a small quatrefoil. Rv short-cross *recercellée* with small petalled flower at end of each arm, cantoned by three pellets and a double tailed loop, inner circle, border of alternate pellets and saltires. Partially pierced

French jettons

300 Not illus

Sf 2217 T30 C46/6 [P5.5 S50]

French jetton (Barnard 1916 plt IV, 12). Ob moor's head, right, legend AVE MARIA GRACIA x. Rv bowed cross of two strands fleur de lys, its voided centre enclosing a lys, cantoned by cinquefoils, legend +A/VE/M/AR[IA]

301 Not illus

Sf 1562 T13 C146 [P6.1-6.2 S27A]

French jetton (Barnard 1916 plt VII,61). Ob dolphin embowed within inner circle, legend LE. NOBLE.ET.HIER.PO[ISSON]. Rv a cross of three strand fleur de lys and *fleuronnée* with a quatrefoil in the centre, all within *tressure* of four arches *fleuronnée* at each angle, legend A/V/E/M with small crosses each side of letters

German jettons

302 Not illus

Sf 1292 T7 C559 [P7 S16D]

German jetton. Ob three open crowns and three lys arranged alternately round a flower within inner circle, legend HANN.S.KRAVWINCKEL.IN.NVR. Rv *reichsapfel* within double *tressure* of three arches and three angles alternately, all within inner circle, legend GOTES.REICH.BLIBT.EWICK

303 Not illus

Sf197 T13 C71 [P6.2]

German jetton. Ob three open crowns and three lys arranged alternately round a rose within an inner circle, legend GLICK [KVMPT.VON.]GOI[IET]. Rv *reichsapfel* within a double tressure of three arches and three angles set alternately within inner circle, legend HANS.SCHVLTES.NOR[NBERG]

Tokens 44.03/304–305

A variety of token forms are found on medieval and post-medieval sites. Monetary tokens were made either because no coins existed of a value low enough for small transactions or because the supply of low-value coins was insufficient for the public need. One of the main periods of usage of such tokens was between 1648 and 1672, due to the absence of authorised copper coinage under the Commonwealth. Towns and traders therefore took it upon themselves to issue small change. These tokens were mainly for farthings and halfpennies. [44.03/304] is an example of such a trade token.

Smaller tokens of lead or lead alloy decorated with animals, geometric or pseudo-heraldic designs, but without legends, first appeared in the mid-13th/14th century, remaining in use into the 17th century. Their function remains uncertain, possible uses include meal tokens, alms, trade, and small change. They are found mainly in urban settings and are sometimes cut in half or quarters suggesting they possessed a monetary value. [44.03/305] has been identified as a 17th-century token (P Stott, pers comm). Both tokens were from the environs of S16.

44.03/304

Sf 1309 T7 C518 [P7 S16A]

Copper-alloy halfpenny trade token of Thomas Turney of Hemel Hempstead, 1664

44.03/305

Sf 1379 T7 C523 [P7 S16D]

Circular lead token with trefoil motif on obverse, plain reverse. Dia 14.8mm

Category 7 Written communication

Finds in this category were limited to styli, papal bull seals, and book clasps.

Writing equipment 44.05/306-308

Two implements, one copper alloy and one bone, have been tentatively identified as styli. Styli continued in use throughout the medieval period, their use ceasing perhaps in the 16th and later centuries (Biddle and Brown 1990, 729). [44.05/306], although not conforming to the spatulate or T-shaped styli of the early and later medieval periods, could have been equally serviceable for both writing upon and smoothing wax tablets. Alternatively it may have been used as a 'dry' hard point for ruling on parchment (Biddle and Brown 1990, 731).

Lathe-turned bone or ivory implements with ovoid heads, short tapering or parallel-sided shanks and inset metal points were previously thought to be parchment pickers. Recent findings indicate that these objects were actually styli used on either wax or slate tablets (Malcolm Jones, pers comm). Examples are known from a number of medieval sites (MacGregor 1985, 124; Biddle and Brown 1990, 734), the majority dating from the 13th to 14th centuries, although the Winchester examples spanned from the late 12th to the 16th. [44.05/307] was recovered from late 12th-century deposits.

Writing leads [44.05/308] were used for ruling lines on parchment and were first introduced at the end of the 11th century (Ker 1957, xxiv-xxv). All three of the La Grava priory examples are relatively short, not exceeding 65mm, combining a pointed with a spatulate end. At Winchester these objects were thought to have been used by craftsmen, especially carpenters (Biddle and Brown 1990, 736-7). Lead points have been found at Hull (Watkin 1987a, fig 119.282), Winchester (Biddle and Brown 1990, fig 212) and Kirkstall Abbey (Duncan and Moorhouse 1987, fig 71.230) dating from the 13th and 14th centuries. The two phased examples were found in deposits of phases 5.4 and 5.6-6.1.

44.05/306

Sf 2120 T30 C47 [P6.1 S56D]

Cast copper-alloy stylus(?), circular in section, tapering to rounded point, tip missing. The shank becomes rectangular in section at mid-point, tapering in thickness forming a wedge-shaped head. Lth 72.9mm

44.05/307

Sf 787 T13 C554 [P5.2 S16A, S54]

Ivory stylus, head only surviving. Lathe-turned with ovoid head, moulded junction of stem and head and three groups of incised lines decorating the stem. Lth 28mm

44.05/308

Sf 502 T7 us,

Lead point, rounded in section and tapering to point. Opposite end spatulate. Lth 59.5mm.

Papal bull seals 44.05/309–310

A papal bull or decree was so-called from the *bullā*, the leaden seal by which the document was authenticated. The seals depict on one face the two apostles, separated by a cross, and surmounted by the legends and SPA (*SANCTUS PAULUS*) SPE (*SANCTUS PETRUS*) and on the opposing face, the name of the reigning pope. The use of the SPASPE images on bulla appear to date from the 11th century.

Two papal bull seals were recovered: [44.05/309], Alexander IV (1254–1261), and [44.05/310], due to incompleteness, one of the Gregories, the VI to the IX, most probably Gregory the VIII or IX, 1187 or 1227–1241 respectively. The Calendar of Entries in the Papal Registers (1893, vol 1, 300) records a papal bull of the 11th June 1254 concerning the appointment of conservators to the church of Pewsei and mentioning the Prior of La Grava [Coleman Section 65]. Although this specific bull would not have been sent to La Grava, a corresponding communication informing the prior of his appointment may have been sent. It is tempting to suggest that [44.05/309] may have been associated with the decree of 11th June 1254.

44.05/309=8.05

Sf 1414 T6 F55 [P6.1 S19D]

Lead papal bull seal, complete, Alexander IV, 1254–61. Obverse bordered by series of small, raised pellets within which are two full face portraits, Saint Paul and Saint Peter, with cross between, legend SPASPE. Reverse, border of small, raised pellets, legend ALEXANDER. PP.IIIII. Ribbon slot intact, dia 37mm

44.05/310=8.05

Sf 817 T13 F858 [P5.3 S28]

Lead papal bull seal cut in half, possibly Gregory VI–IX. Obverse as above (left-hand side), reverse, raised pellet border, legend GR GOR PP.VI. Remains of perforation near bottom edge, dia about 38mm

Book clasps 44.05/311–313

Book clasps do not appear in the archaeological record until the late medieval period (Moorhouse 1971, 59). [44.05/311] and [44.05/312], both retaining traces of leather, are closely paralleled by finds from Cheddar (Wilson 1979, fig 93.16) and Battle Abbey (Geddes 1985, figs 51, 67 and 69) dating from the 15th to 16th centuries. The identification of [44.05/313] is more tentative although its shape and slightly hooked end are suggestive of a book clasp. All three objects come from Periods 6.2 and 7.

44.05/311

Sf 950 T1 C17 [P6.2 S19D]

Copper-alloy book clasp, rectangular in plan with flared, notched end and notched sides. Surfaces decorated with acorn and ring and dot motif and double zigzag border at one end. Three iron rivets and, on reverse face, leather *in situ*. Lth 47.4mm

44.05/312

Sf 194 T13 C80 [P6.2 S63D]

Copper-alloy book clasp, rectangular in plan with incised lines (haphazard?) along edges. Two copper-alloy rivets fix under-sheet, between which are leather remains. Lth 47mm

44.05/313

Sf 1811 T23 C6 [P6.2–7 S23A]

Copper-alloy book clasp(?), damaged and cut. Roughly rectangular end with remains of perforation(?), narrowing abruptly and then gradually expanding towards broken end.
Lth 98mm