

Data Table 3 Comparative measurements and other data of selected coffins and angle brackets from south-east England and the Continent

Site	County/ equivalent	Grave no.	Sex	Coffin (m) (wood)	Brackets	Total	Size (mm)	Terminals	Dating (AD)	References
SE England										
Prittlewell	Essex	-	M	2.25 x 0.85 x 0.50 (ash)	L-shaped; at corners and sides	16 (8 vertical, 2 horizontal at each corner)	mainly 135–170 x 50–90	squared, convex, rounded	late 6C–early 7C	this vol
Dover, Buckland II	Kent	388	C	1.70 x 0.42 (oak)	L-shaped; at corners and ends (top)	8 (4 vertical, 4 horizontal at corners)	ext = 81–96 x 48–57; W 38–45 (published as 75–90 x 45–55)	squared	unknown	Riddler 2012c, 38–41; Riddler et al 2012, 435, figs 10.51a–h, 10.107
Deal, Mill Hill	Kent	92	F	(wood not identified in publication)	rect equal-armed; 2 at diagonally opposite corners, 2 displaced on opposite sides	4	80–94 x 70–82; W 18–20	squared	c 530–70	Parfitt and Brugmann 1997, 24, 153 nos o1–4, fig 72
Finglesham	Kent	22 (head end disturbed)	M	W 0.62, H >0.28 (oak)	L-shaped; 3 at foot end (displaced); 1 disturbed	4 (?originally 4 upper, 4 lower)	86–108 x 44–48; W 23–24	squared to rounded	7C	Hawkes and Grainger 2006, 45–6, figs 2.79–80
Finglesham	Kent	204	M	2.18 x 0.61 (head) to 0.56 (foot); H 0.40 (wood not identified in publication)	L-shaped; on long sides towards corners (long arm vertical); 3 staples at base	8 (4 upper, 4 lower)	93–130 x 35–48; W 25–36	squared	c 525	Hawkes and Grainger 2006, 146–8, figs 2.145–6
Kingston	Kent	146	M		form unknown; at corners	4	not given		7C	Faussett 1856, 69
Kingston	Kent	176	M		form unknown	several	not given		7C	Faussett 1856, 74
Kingston	Kent	205	C		form unknown; at corners	4+	not given		7C	Faussett 1856, 77
Kingston	Kent	302	C			2	127 x 127		7C	Faussett 1856, 93–4
Saltwood	Kent	200	M		form unknown; at corners	?8	not given		late 6C–early 7C	Riddler 2012c, 38
Frankish (France, W Germany)										
St-Dizier, France	Haute-Marne	11		1.62 x 0.52	L-shaped; at corners (4 horizontal) and long sides (4 vertical)	8	not given		6C	Fischer et al 2009, 196, fig 14 (upper); Truc 2012, 53–8, figs 2, 4, 6
St-Dizier, France	Haute-Marne	13			L-shaped; towards foot end	4	not given		6C	Fischer et al 2009, 196, fig 14 (lower); Truc 2012, 53–8, figs 2, 4, 6
Hordain, France	Nord-Pas-de-Calais	260	M	c 2.00 x 0.65	rect equal-armed; at corners; also 6 cleats, 3 staples and 14 nails, around ends (wood remains not identified in publication)	4	c 100 x 100; W 20	?squared	mid 6C	Demolon 2006, 24, CD-Rom 155–61, no. 2
Cologne (St Severin), Germany	Kr Köln	III,73	F	1.88 x 0.65–68; Th 17–18mm (oak and beech, with different grain direction)	equal-armed, tapering; at corners	4	c 80 x 80, c 90 x 80, c 110 x 90 (x2)	expanded, round	late 6C	Fremersdorf 1941–2, 125, fig 1; Päßgen 1992, ii, 232–3, fig 86; iii, pl 125
Morken (St Martin), Germany	Kr Bergheim	2	M	2.05 x 0.65 (Böhner) 2.34 x 0.69 (Hinz) 2.10 x 0.80 (Nieveler)	equal-armed, slender arms extending from triangular base; at corners; also loose nails	4	c 160 x 160	expanded, round	late 6C	Böhner 1958b, 436, fig 14 no. 1a–d; Hinz 1969a, pls 8, 11 no. 1a–d; Nieveler 2003, 314–15, pl 21 no. 26
Rübenach, Germany	Kr Mayen-Koblenz	151 (disturbed)	M	2.12 x 0.82	rect equal-armed; at 3 corners and in fill; also loose nails	?4	W 21	squared	c 600	Neuffer-Müller and Ament 1973, 178–9, pl 8 no. 39

Rübenach, Germany	Kr Mayen-Koblenz	703 (disturbed)			3 flat rect pieces from 2 brackets; at lengthwise opposite corners	?4	W c 30	squared	late 7C	Neuffer-Müller and Ament 1973, 249, pl 41 no. 2
Alamannic (SW Germany, Switz)										
Güttingen, Germany	Kr Konstanz	17	M		equal-armed, tapering; at corners	4		unknown (very corroded)	c 600	Fingerlin 1971, 177, pl 9
Kirchheim unter Teck (St Martin), Germany	Kr Esslingen	1	M	(wood remains not identified in publication)	equal-armed, tapering, 1 twisted towards end; 2 pairs (? upper and lower) <i>in situ</i> at head end	?8/?12 (5 + 6 separately [front/back views] illustrated in publication, but unclear how much duplication)	c 100 x 100	expanded, round	c 600	Koch 1971, 310–11, figs 1, 14–15
Kirchheim unter Teck (St Martin), Germany	Kr Esslingen	3	F	(wood remains not identified in publication)	equal-armed, abruptly narrowing (bird breast–neck–head in profile)	? (4 illustrated in publication)	c 125 x 125	expanded, bird-headed	mid 7C	Koch 1971, 323–4, fig 17
Zofingen (St Mauritius), Switzerland	Kt Aargau	81	M	2.32 x 0.86	equal-armed, abruptly narrowing (bird breast–long, slender, twisted neck–head [?swan] in profile); at corners	4	c 160 x 160	expanded, bird-headed	mid 7C	Hartmann 1981, 151, fig 6; 153, no. 10; 155, fig 11
Lombard (N Italy)										
Trezzo sull'Adda	Milan	3	M	c 1.55 x 0.65 (sweet chestnut)	rect equal-armed; at corners and middle; also some nails	16	average 105 x 105; W 28	squared	c 625	Roffia 1986, 56; 102 (fold-out grave plan); 256–65; pls 20–1
Trezzo sull'Adda	Milan	4 (contents displaced by natural processes)	M	(ash)	equal-armed, tapering; also 25 staples	18	average 100 x 100; max W 35	expanded, approx triangular to leaf-shaped	c 625	Roffia 1986, 82; 103 (fold-out grave plan); 256–65; pls 34–6
Trezzo sull'Adda	Milan	5	M	(sweet chestnut)	rect equal-armed; at corners and middle	16	average 145 x 145; W 35	squared	c 625	Roffia 1986, 99; 104 (fold-out grave plan); 256–65; pls 48–50

Notes:

Compared to 'true' grave goods, coffin fittings have often been treated as 'poor relations' in older publications (and to some extent still more recently), and not given the detailed attention and recording they deserve, so that the quality of data available is very variable.

Methods of measuring brackets are rarely stated; they can be based on external or internal measurements, and may or may not take into account the length of the actual angle, which is generally rounded, making it difficult to draw comparisons between quoted sizes. For the present analysis, both external and internal measurements were taken, projecting the lengths of each arm to the point at which they meet, and this method was used for sites where dimensions are not quoted.