

## OTHER FINDS

### MOLAS: 330 Zone 1

#### AMBER BEADS

A total of twenty-one amber beads were recovered from the neck and shoulder area of the secondary inhumation at ARC WHR 99. Twenty beads are small and one is large and all are discoid with a single central hole. Four small beads are fragmentary and the rest are virtually complete. Comparison with other examples would give a date of approximately 1600 BC.

### MOLAS: 330 Zone 2

#### GLASS

A very small fragment of glass was recovered from ARC STP 99 and a fragment of modern opaque white glass came from ARC SSR 99. The former was intrusive and found in an environmental sample and the latter was also intrusive, in a context that produced pottery dating to AD70-100.

#### COINS

The only coins recovered from Zone 2 came from ARC SSR 99, one is Roman and the other may be Iron Age.

### MOLAS: 330 Zone 3

#### GLASS

A total of eleven glass accessions were recovered from archaeological work in Zone 3. Virtually all of the glass is Roman in date and is vessel glass. All of the glass is fragmentary and most is too small to identify the vessel form. A glass bead was recovered from ARC HRD 99.

#### STONE

A total of 16 stone artefacts were recovered from archaeological work in Zone 3. Two stone artefacts, part of a smoothing stone and a small fragment of a quern, came from ARC 330 98. The remains of a hone and part of a quern were recovered from ARC HRD 99 and eight stone quern fragments and four other objects were recovered from ARC WNB 98.

#### COINS

A total of 51 coins were recovered during archaeological work in Zone 3. Of these, 20 coins (eleven copper alloy, five lead and four silver), dating from Roman to modern, were recovered from the metal detecting project undertaken prior to the excavation at ARC WNB 98. Only one coin was recovered from the excavation itself. A total of 29 copper alloy coins were recovered from the excavation at ARC HRD 99, all dating to the Roman period. Only one coin was recovered from ARC 330 98 in Zone 3, a modern two pence piece.

### CERAMIC ARTEFACTS

A total of 6 ceramic artefact accessions were found during the excavation at ARC WNB 98. One is part of a ring-shaped loom weight, probably Bronze Age in date and five are fragments of triangular loom weights, dating to the mid-late Iron Age. A further nine ceramic artefacts were recovered from ARC 330 98 in Zone 3. A number of these are loom weights dating to the Bronze Age and the Iron Age.

### WORKED BONE

Three bone artefacts were recovered from Zone 3, two from ARC 330 98 and one from ARC WNB 98. The former were recovered from a pit that also produced mid Iron Age pottery. ARC WNB 98 produced a fragment of bone working waste, the distal end of a horse metacarpus. It is indicative of bone working having taken place in the vicinity of the site.

### **MOLAS: 330 Zone 4**

#### STONE

A total of 5 stone artefacts were recovered from ARC 330 98 Zone 4. These consisted of a flint sphere, a hone, fragments of a lava stone quern, a smoothing stone and a saddle quern. The saddle quern could date from the Neolithic to the Iron Age and is a very large example of the type. Transverse 'ripples' on the surface could also represent its use as an axe polishing/sharpening stone.

#### GLASS

An unstratified glass bead was recovered from ARC 330 98 Zone 4.

#### COINS

A total of 2 coins were recovered from ARC 330 98 Zone 4. Both were from unstratified contexts and were made from copper alloy. They date to the Roman and post-medieval periods.

### CERAMIC ARTEFACTS

A total of eighteen perforated clay slabs (function unknown) were found during the ARC 330 98 watching brief, all Bronze Age in date.

### WORKED BONE

Two worked bones were recovered from ARC 330 98, both made from antler; a handle and a waste fragment.

## **MOLAS: 330 Zone 5**

### CERAMIC ARTEFACTS

The only ceramic accessions from Zone 5 came from ARC CGC 98. This site produced two fragmentary and incomplete loom weights and two perforated slabs, as well as fragments of briquetage (ceramic equipment believed to be associated with the manufacture of salt). All the ceramic accessions are dated to the Bronze Age.

### GLASS

No glass older than 19<sup>th</sup> century bottle glass was recovered archaeologically in Zone 5. This glass was recovered from the Knight Place Construction site evaluation ARC KCS 98.

### COINS

Only one coin was recovered from Zone 5, during ARC 330 98, a corroded, modern two-pence piece.

### STONE

Two pieces of stone were recovered from Area 330 Zone 5. The first was a fragment of architectural stone from the backfill of Ashenbank Wood Pond (ARC 330 98), discovered when the pond was emptied and dating to the post-medieval period. The second was a single stone 'pebble' (probably used either for baking or as a pestle), recovered from Cobham Golf Course (ARC CGC 98) and dating to the late Bronze Age.

### COBHAM BOUNDARY STONE

The block was nine inches square (228.6mm) in cross section and was geometrically cut.

## **MOLAS: 330 Zone 6**

### STONE

The six artefacts of, or including, worked stone form a small but important assemblage of late 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> century dress accessories. These comprised four beads (two of amethyst and one each of chalk and amber), a small cut garnet and a cabochon garnet mount on a silver buckle. In addition, there is part of a pendant, the poorly preserved mount of which may be of amber or bone.

## GLASS

The glass finds were all from the cemetery and forms a small but important assemblage of 42 beads and three mounts, two set in pendants; there is no vessel glass. Most beads were found in grave [214]. The majority is monochrome and of 7<sup>th</sup> century date (possibly 600 to 650); only one is decorated, but a piece of a reticella bead was reused in a pendant, while a loose mount is of blue and yellow marbled glass.

## WORKED BONE AND COWRIE SHELL

The worked bone finds are from the cemetery and form a small but important assemblage. They include four composite items, these comprise two bone and iron pendants, apparently identical and so far unparalleled, and part of a double-sided comb with iron rivets. The poorly preserved mount in a third pendant may be of bone or amber. Also present is a bead made from a cowrie shell.

## **MOLAS: PARSONAGE FARM**

### STONE OBJECTS

Five stone artefacts were recovered. Four are domestic implements dating to the medieval period, fragments from three mortars and part of a hone. The remaining object is an incomplete pencil, probably dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### GLASS

Two fragments of glass were recovered. Both are unstratified and date to the post-medieval period and are from table wares, probably drinking vessels.

### COINS

Six coins were recovered from the site, of which four are unstratified (but from the topsoil above the archaeological remains). Only one of the coins (from context [607]) is medieval in date. All of the others date to the post-medieval period.

### SHELL OBJECTS

Only one shell object was found, an oyster shell palette containing traces of a red pigment. It was recovered from a structural cut possibly associated with a wall. Shell palettes are known from London, where they have been found in contexts dating to the 12th century and later (Pritchard 1991, 170); they are thought to have been used for wall painting.

## **CAT: WGC 98**

### **STONE OBJECTS**

The three hones are also associated with Structure 3 and they complement the two knives, which they may have been used to sharpen. All three have been produced from local stone types, reflecting perhaps the distinction between urban and rural trading mechanisms in stone objects at this time.

## **CAT: MSH 98**

### **CERAMIC ARTEFACTS**

The excavation yielded a fragment of a fired clay loomweight of bun-shaped form (from pit [223], Group 23), characteristic of the late Anglo-Saxon period, and an intentionally trimmed Roman potsherd. The loom weight is likely to be residual, as the context it is from has been phased as early medieval (c1050-1200). Sufficient of the loomweight survived to be able to calculate the original dimensions and to categorise its fabric. Its presence reinforced other artefactual evidence from the site for textile manufacture (see 3.2.14, 3.2.16 and 3.2.17). The potsherd had been trimmed to a roughly circular shape, probably to form a counter, perhaps used in the medieval game of *Tabula*.

### **COINS**

A single coin was retrieved from the surface of cut 5 (sub-group 56, Group 27, Phase 4), a silver half-penny of Edward I/II, probably lost in the fourteenth century.

### **BONE AND ANTLER OBJECTS**

Two antler objects were recovered. One is a fragment of a double-pointed pinbeater, the other a small piece of the connecting plate from a composite comb. Both objects are of Anglo-Saxon date.

### **WORKED STONE OBJECTS**

A fragment of a quern, a spindle whorl and a small section of rubble were recovered by hand excavation. The quern may be Roman, Anglo-Saxon or early medieval, and is of a rare, oscillatory type. The spindle whorl is early medieval and of a material and type which is now well attested within East Kent, being produced at or near *Sandtun*, West Hythe. The section of stone rubble comes from an early medieval context but its function in relation to activity of that period is unclear.

### **GLASS**

Five small fragments of post-medieval glass were recovered from the excavation.

## **WESSEX: HOL 99**

### HUMANLY MODIFIED AND UNWORKED STONE

Two whetstones, both incomplete, were recovered, one from colluvial deposits (3614TT), and one from ditch **4001**. Neither is datable on morphological grounds, but the latter was associated with Early Bronze Age pottery. A broken and burnt flint hammerstone came from ditch **4004**. Two conjoining fragments of burnt stone were recovered from a probable pit (**2124**).

### GLASS

This category comprises two fragments of bottle glass, and one fragment of window glass, weighing a total of 21g, all of a modern date.

## **WESSEX: LSF 99**

### COINS

The six fragments of silver coin, probably from a single Late Iron Age potin coin, were recovered from pit **2536**. This represents a class II coin; a type issued from the 1st century BC into the early part of the 1st century AD. The date range suggests either that it may be an intrusive find from a feature that is currently attributed to the Early/ Middle Iron Age (i.e. 700 – 100 BC), or supporting the hypothesis that the post-hole (i.e. round-house) continued in use throughout the Iron Age.

### GLASS

Total of 12 pieces, weighing 51g.

## **WESSEX: SWR 99**

### WORKED STONE

Trench	Feature	Context	Count	Weight (g)	Material	Comments
3577TT	Ditch 357703	357704	2	3350	Sandstone	Saddle quern frags
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3350</b>		

## **WESSEX: SALTWOOD**

### CERAMIC LOOMWEIGHTS

Three fragments of ceramic loomweights came from settlement contexts in the western part of the excavation area. A fourth fragment was retrieved from the fill of grave C14 (central cemetery). Two of the fragments come from annular loomweights of Early Anglo-Saxon date, a third comes from an intermediate or bun-shaped loomweight which should be of Middle to Late Saxon date; the fourth piece is indeterminate.

### PREHISTORIC WORKED BONE

A fragment of a red deer antler, comprising tine and part of the beam, was recovered from the fill of Early Bronze Age ring ditch C1041. It survives in poor condition, but presumably represents casual discard of a digging implement, possibly used to excavate the ring-ditch itself.

### ROMANO-BRITISH COINS

Twelve coins were recovered, of which all but one are of late Roman date, spanning a fifty year period from late Constantinian issues onwards (c. AD 330-380). They may have been in circulation up to and around AD 400, and indicate activity around the trackway network and accompanying features at the western end of site during the middle and later part of the 4<sup>th</sup> century. One coin from an Anglo-Saxon grave in the central cemetery represents a late 2<sup>nd</sup> century issue which may originally have been placed within or near the mouth of the deceased.

### ROMANO-BRITISH BROOCHES

Nine Roman brooches were recovered, eight from the settlement area to the west (six from four cremation burials in group C25) and one from a penannular ditch surrounding an Anglo-Saxon grave in the central cemetery. Six of the brooches can be identified to type and two others can be placed with the same broad chronological framework, even though they cannot be assigned to a specific type.

### ROMANO-BRITISH WORKED STONE

1.1.1 Four Roman stone objects were recovered, consisting of two incomplete shale bracelets and fragments of a hone and a quern. The raw material for the shale bracelets probably came from Dorset. These examples are comparable to others found in Roman contexts in East Kent. The hone has been made from a micaceous Kentish ragstone and is of a familiar, if slightly unusual Roman type. The quern fragment had probably been discarded after it had fractured. It is made from basalt lava, probably of Rhenish origin.

### ANGLO-SAXON GRAVE GOODS

#### SWORDS

Ten swords dating from the 6<sup>th</sup> to early 7<sup>th</sup> centuries AD were recovered from the Anglo-Saxon cemeteries at Saltwood. At least one of the swords has hilt-fittings of Continental origin, although the questions of importation or possible origins of the owner must be considered in conjunction with the technological study of the blades.

## SPEARS

In total, a relatively large assemblage of 31 spearheads has been recovered from individual graves; they are the commonest weapons to occur in graves at Saltwood. They have been identified to type and most of the forms present are those common in East Kent during the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries, although there are several examples that are rare in Kent and more common further to the west and north. One example has a rare inlaid pattern on the blade seen only on a few other spearheads of Kentish provenance. Almost all of the spearheads are complete or nearly complete, allowing them to be assigned to type and examined for the technology of their manufacture.

## ANGONS

Three angons were recovered from graves in the central cemetery at Saltwood. Each came from a large and conspicuously wealthy grave of the early 7<sup>th</sup> century (graves C5, C7 and C200). The angons are very similar in form, with narrow, forked barbs. They represent a Frankish weapon type which is found in Kent during the later 6<sup>th</sup> and early 7<sup>th</sup> century, generally in wealthy weapon graves. A few examples have been found from graves outside of Kent. Although possibly Frankish, the Saltwood Tunnel examples may be Anglo-Saxon copies or variants. They almost double the number known from Kent and therefore provide useful corroboratory evidence for the date and distribution of such a weapon type, and its occurrence in Anglo-Saxon contexts.

## ARROWHEADS

A set of approximately twelve iron arrowheads was found in grave C5 (central cemetery). They lay on the left side of the grave, close to a shield boss, spear and angon. They were found in a group, with their blades pointing towards the head of the grave. They remain accreted together as a single group of objects. The space in the grave immediately to the east would have been sufficient to accommodate wooden shafts for each of the arrowheads.

## SHIELDS

Shield fittings comprising bosses, grips and board studs were recovered during the excavation of the Anglo-Saxon cemeteries at Saltwood. All the fittings are iron, although some rivets and board studs are plated with copper alloy or silver, and they range in date from *c.* AD 550 to 700. Shield bosses of Dickinson's group 3/6, 6 and 7 and grips of Härke's type I are believed to have been locally produced. Bosses of the recently-identified sub-type 3bii, associated with long grips of Härke's type III and domed, plated rivets, are almost certainly Frankish in provenance, recovered from richly-furnished multiple-shield burials dating to *c.* AD 600.

## HORSE HARNESS

Elements of horse harness were retrieved from graves C5 and C7 in the central cemetery. The assemblage from grave C5, located to the left of the skeleton, included several cleats and strap distributors, and may be associated with an adjacent horse burial (grave C27). A larger and more complete assemblage, including a bridle bit, was recovered from grave C7; some of the iron components appearing to be decorated with silver inlay. In addition, an unusual harness arrangement from grave C121 in the western cemetery lay underneath the



ring sword in that grave. It comprised elements of a baldric, and was probably worn by the deceased.

#### JEWELLERY

At least 20 graves from Saltwood Tunnel contain items of dress-jewellery (brooches, metal fittings from necklaces, pins, bracelets and finger-rings). As a percentage of the overall combined cemetery populations, this quantity is relatively low, reflecting a pattern developing into the 7<sup>th</sup> century, when burial of women with conspicuous dress accoutrements was becoming less common.

#### BEADS

A large number of beads (813) were recovered from 32 Anglo-Saxon grave contexts in all cemeteries, with a small quantity (21) from other contexts on site. The assemblage includes beads of glass, amber, amethyst, rock crystal, bone and copper alloy. It is probable that many represent at least non-local items, and possibly continental imports – in particular the amber, amethyst and rock crystal examples.

#### GOLD STRIP

Lengths of gold strip were recovered from grave C112 (western cemetery), possibly from a head-band. This is the only gold thread/strip to be recovered from any of the Saltwood Tunnel Early Anglo-Saxon cemeteries. The presence of gold of any sort is a symbol of wealth/status.

#### WORKED STONE

A single example of a spherical rock crystal with a silver frame came from a grave in the western cemetery. It probably lay between the legs of the deceased and it may have been placed in a leather container. Most of the examples of rock crystals have come from rich female graves which, in Kent, belong essentially to Kentish Phase III. The Saltwood Tunnel example can be compared with recent discoveries from Mill Hill Deal and Dover Buckland, as well as older discoveries and contemporary Continental graves.

#### BUCKLES AND BELT FITTINGS

A total of 48 buckles and six belt fittings was recovered from the three cemeteries, generally spanning a date range from the 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, although examples possibly extending back to the late 5<sup>th</sup> century. The buckles were made from both copper alloy and iron, with two instances of gilding, at least two cases of wire-inlay (potentially silver wire) and one case of garnets set on gold foil.

#### GLASS VESSELS

Four glass vessels and one fragment of glass were recovered from graves within the Saltwood Tunnel Anglo-Saxon cemeteries. A 'Kempston' type cone beaker was recovered from grave W104 (eastern cemetery). The remainder were from graves in the western cemetery, comprising a bell beaker from grave C118, as well as an unusual combination of palm cup and another bell beaker from grave C151. In addition, a sherd of Roman vessel glass was recovered from grave C53 in the central cemetery.

#### KNIVES

Eighty-four complete or nearly complete knives were recovered from both male and female graves of early Anglo-Saxon (6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> century) date, distributed throughout each of the cemeteries at Saltwood. This is one of the largest collections from East Kent Anglo-Saxon cemeteries, with the notable exceptions of Finglesham and Dover Buckland.

#### KEYS AND GIRDLEHANGERS

Iron keys were found in several graves at Saltwood. Almost all of the keys are larger forms, with the T- or L-shaped wards characteristic of the early Anglo-Saxon period, or simple latchlifter devices. There is one example of a small padlock key. With one exception, graves with keys do not include any jewellery, although they are frequently associated with beads.

#### MINERALISED LEATHER

The mineralised remains of scabbards and sheaths are preserved on a number of swords and knives from the Saltwood Tunnel cemeteries. In addition, a fragment of skin or leather was found within a copper alloy Byzantine bowl also containing a set of antler gaming counters. Evidence for the use of leather in Britain in the early Anglo-Saxon period is extremely scarce until the late 6<sup>th</sup>/early 7<sup>th</sup> century, when 'Rhenish-type' leather sheaths were introduced, and leather was used frequently in artefact production.

#### TEXTILE REMAINS

A number of objects, mostly of iron, from the Saltwood Tunnel cemeteries have been identified as having mineralised textile on or near them. These textiles relate mainly to the clothing of the interred individuals; the fabric-types identified so far fall within the expected range for an Anglo-Saxon cemetery, although there are some unusual items.

#### TEXTILE IMPLEMENTS

A fragment of a bone or antler double-pointed pinbeater was recovered from the fill of an early medieval post-hole, and is almost certainly of Early or Middle Saxon date.

#### BYZANTINE ('COPTIC') BOWLS

Three cast bronze 'Coptic' bowls were found in separate graves in the central cemetery. As with most of the Byzantine bronze bowls in Kent and Suffolk, the bowls are of similar type with openwork pedestal feet and drop handles of semi-circular or rectangular form. They were found in the large and conspicuous male graves within the cemetery that may be founder graves (graves C5, C7 and C200). Each one came from a different location in the grave. The bowl from grave C5 contained 45 gaming pieces and fragments of leather. There were no surviving contents in the other bowls.

#### IRON-BOUND CONTAINERS

Iron bindings from three wooden buckets were associated with three of the four richest burials in the central cemetery, all dating from *c.* AD 575 – 625. In addition, the iron handle (but no bindings) from another bucket was recovered from a fourth grave in the same cemetery. In all four instances the bucket had been placed in the corner of the grave, outside the coffin.

#### GAMING PIECES

Forty-five antler gaming pieces, some decorated on their plano-convex surfaces, were discovered within and below the Byzantine bowl in grave C5. Although a few were excavated by hand, the majority were removed as a soil block and excavated in the City of Lincoln laboratories. The gaming pieces had originally been placed in a leather container within the bowl, and included two sizes of counter. They are similar to assemblages recovered from male graves in East Kent and further afield, and probably date to the first half of the 7<sup>th</sup> century.

#### STRUCTURAL IRONWORK

A small range of structural items (nails, cleats and staples) provides evidence for coffins and other wooden grave furniture in up to 17 graves within the three cemeteries.

