

rouletting (No.19). Other forms, including bowls and dishes, are often burnished (Nos.14, 17 and 18).

At Brancaster, the principal source of coarse wares during the third century was the Nar Valley, and a third century date would fit the small sample of pottery from the Middleton kiln.

Shouldham and Pentney are, to date, the main kiln sites known, but the existence of other smaller local workshops is suspected, and the discovery of further Nar Valley Ware kilns in this area of west Norfolk may be anticipated.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Hodge, C.A.H., Burton, R.G.O., Corbett, W.M., Evans, R. and Seale, R.S., 1984 'Soils and their Use in Eastern England', *Soil Survey of England and Wales Bulletin* 13 (Harpenden).
- Rogerson, A. and Ashley, S.J., 1985 'A medieval pottery production site at Blackborough End, Middleton', *Norfolk Archaeol.* XXXIX, 181-9.
- Silvester, R.J., 1988 *The Fenland Project Number 3: Marshland and the Nar Valley, Norfolk* (East Anglian Archaeol. 45).
- Swan, V.G., 1984 *The Pottery Kilns of Roman Britain* (Royal Commission on Historical Monuments Suppl. Ser. 5) (London).

### FOUR CONTINENTAL OBJECTS OF EARLY SAXON DATE

by Steven J. Ashley, Kenneth Penn and Andrew Rogerson

Four pieces of metalwork (Fig.1, one not illustrated), unusual in an Early Saxon Norfolk context, have recently come to light.

1: Complete headplate and upper part of bow of a copper alloy radiate brooch with five integrally cast knobs, cast and probably hand-finished grooved decoration, and punched dots; double pin-lug on reverse with iron spring bar. Found in Bylaugh parish (County Number 23473; NCM Accession Number 96.987).

2: Fragment of headplate and bow of copper alloy radiate brooch with two surviving integrally cast knobs, cast and probably hand-finished cross-hatched decoration on headplate, grooves on bow, and punched ring-and-dot decoration on knobs and bow; single central pin-lug on reverse. Found in Hindringham parish (County Number 25474; private possession).

3: Silver detached knob with cast animal-head motif, and some surviving niello inlay; hollow underside unequally divided by transverse ridge; broad end pierced by circular hole and upper edge of ridge by semi-circular notch. Found in Beachamwell parish (County Number 4562; private possession).

Not illustrated: Rectangular headplate of copper alloy brooch with five integrally cast knobs and cast decoration. This object was unfortunately mislaid before being taken to N.A.U. for recording. Found in Buxton with Lammas parish (County Number 24886).

The radiate brooch is rarely found in England outside East Kent. By 1940 Kent had produced 90% of known examples (Hawkes 1956). Usually either in silver or gilt copper alloy, the type was imported from the Frankish Rhineland during the first half of the sixth century (Chadwick 1958, 41). No.1 is closely paralleled by an example from Lyminge, Kent (Åberg 1926, fig.151). A pair differing from No.2 only in the use of zig-zag rather than grooved decoration on the edges of the bow was recovered from grave 133 in the cemetery at Little Wilbraham, Cambridgeshire (Neville 1852, pl.8; Reichstein 1975, 151, Taf. 106). They were accompanied by a cruciform brooch of Åberg's (1926) Group III and a wrist clasp of Hines' (1984) Form C.3. The lost unillustrated piece was similar to a brooch with a Kentish provenance (Åberg 1926,



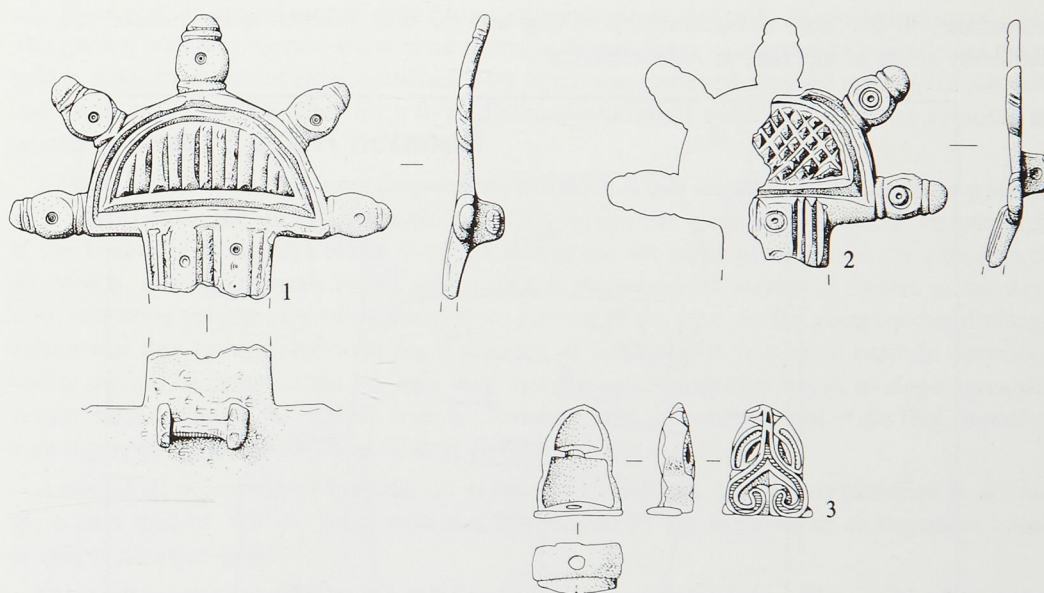


Fig.1 Three Continental objects of Early Saxon date. Scale 1:1.

fig.159). The silver knob (No.3) is less easy to place, but may have formed part of a radiate brooch of Frankish or Lombardic origin. It is possibly rather later than the other objects.

All four pieces were found with metal detectors and are apparently isolated finds. It is most likely that they found their way to Norfolk from Kent rather than directly from the continent, and they serve to underline the presence of links between East Anglia and the south-east at an earlier date than the historical and archaeological evidence normally allow us to glimpse.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Åberg, N., 1926 *The Anglo-Saxons in England* (Cambridge).  
 Chadwick, S.E., 1958 'The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Finglesham, Kent: a reconsideration', *Medieval Archaeol.* II, 1-71.  
 Hawkes, C.F.C., 1956 'The Jutes of Kent' in Harden, D.B. (ed) *Dark Age Britain: studies presented to E.T. Leeds*, 91-111.  
 Hines, J., 1984 *The Scandinavian Character of Anglian England in the pre-Viking Period* (British Archaeol. Rep. British Ser. 124).  
 Neville, R.C., 1852 *Saxon Obsequies* (London).  
 Reichstein, J., 1975 *Die kreuzformige Fibel* (Neumunster).

### BEESTON REGIS PRIORY A NOTE ON THE PONDS

by Edwin J. Rose

A footnote may be added to Stephen Heywood's paper on Beeston Regis Priory in *Norfolk Archaeology* volume XL, 226, concerning the unusual system of ponds. The ruins have a large and deep pond on both the north and east sides; these are marked on the site plan, fig.1 of that paper, but appear more clearly on the aerial photograph (plate I) and the reconstruction drawing (fig.5). These features are quite unlike the usual fishponds found on monastic sites; rather they have