

## Some recent finds from East Surrey

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B Spencer, R Tyrrell, M Welch

*Recorded here is a varied group of finds whose sole link, other than the county in which they were found, is that they were recovered with the aid of metal detectors. Their publication results in no small part from a meeting held in 1992 which detector users operating throughout the eastern part of the county were invited to attend. The object was to explore ways in which co-operation could be gained with a view to increasing the reporting of finds. I very much hope that this paper will go some way towards encouraging others, particularly in the west of the county, to report and record their finds.*

With the exception of coins, most of the prehistoric and Roman and all Saxon material seen by the author is reported on here together with most medieval finds. For reasons of quantity there is also a necessarily highly selective group of later material chosen on grounds which may be somewhat subjective, but most of the later material which has been recorded is presented here. Coin finds are not recorded here but have been reported, together with the other finds, to the county Sites and Monuments Record. For obvious reasons findspots given here are generally confined to parish. Three flint artefacts are also included as these were found during metal detecting activities. A few finds will be published elsewhere: an Early Bronze Age flat axe from Nutfield (Cotton & Williams forthcoming); a Roman object in the form of Janus from Betchworth (Williams *et al* 1994), and a Saxon gold mount from Limpsfield (Okasha & Youngs, in preparation). Some Late Bronze Age finds from Priory Park, Reigate have already been published (Williams 1994) and others are reported in the present volume (Williams 1996).

The area covered by this paper is necessarily arbitrary and extends westward as far as Cobham, Clandon and Shalford, but most material comes from areas east of Dorking and in particular from the Betchworth and Bletchingley areas. It has not been felt possible, with such a variety of finds, to provide much background information on their findspots nor in every instance to discuss their significance in a wider context. Some more general points can be made. Late Bronze Age material reported here and elsewhere indicates occupation extending into the Holmesdale area and in particular a concentration around Bletchingley. Iron Age finds remain elusive and are confined to an unusual brooch from Oxted, a potin coin from Reigate and a coin from Banstead. Roman finds from Godstone, and in particular a scatter of coins, suggest some form of settlement along the Roman road leading south from London. They also hint at some form of occupation in the area around Betchworth where a scatter of Roman finds includes a gold solidus of Valentinian. Of prime interest among the early Saxon material is a group of brooches from the North Downs in the extreme east of the county which may well be indicative of a previously unrecorded settlement or cemetery. The late Saxon disc brooch from Bletchingley and the buckle of similar date from Merstham are both of considerable intrinsic interest as neither is precisely paralleled.

Many of these finds have been recorded on transparencies and a set has been lodged at the Surrey Archaeological Society Library. The greater number of finds have been returned to their respective finders, but where a find has been transferred to a museum collection this has been indicated.

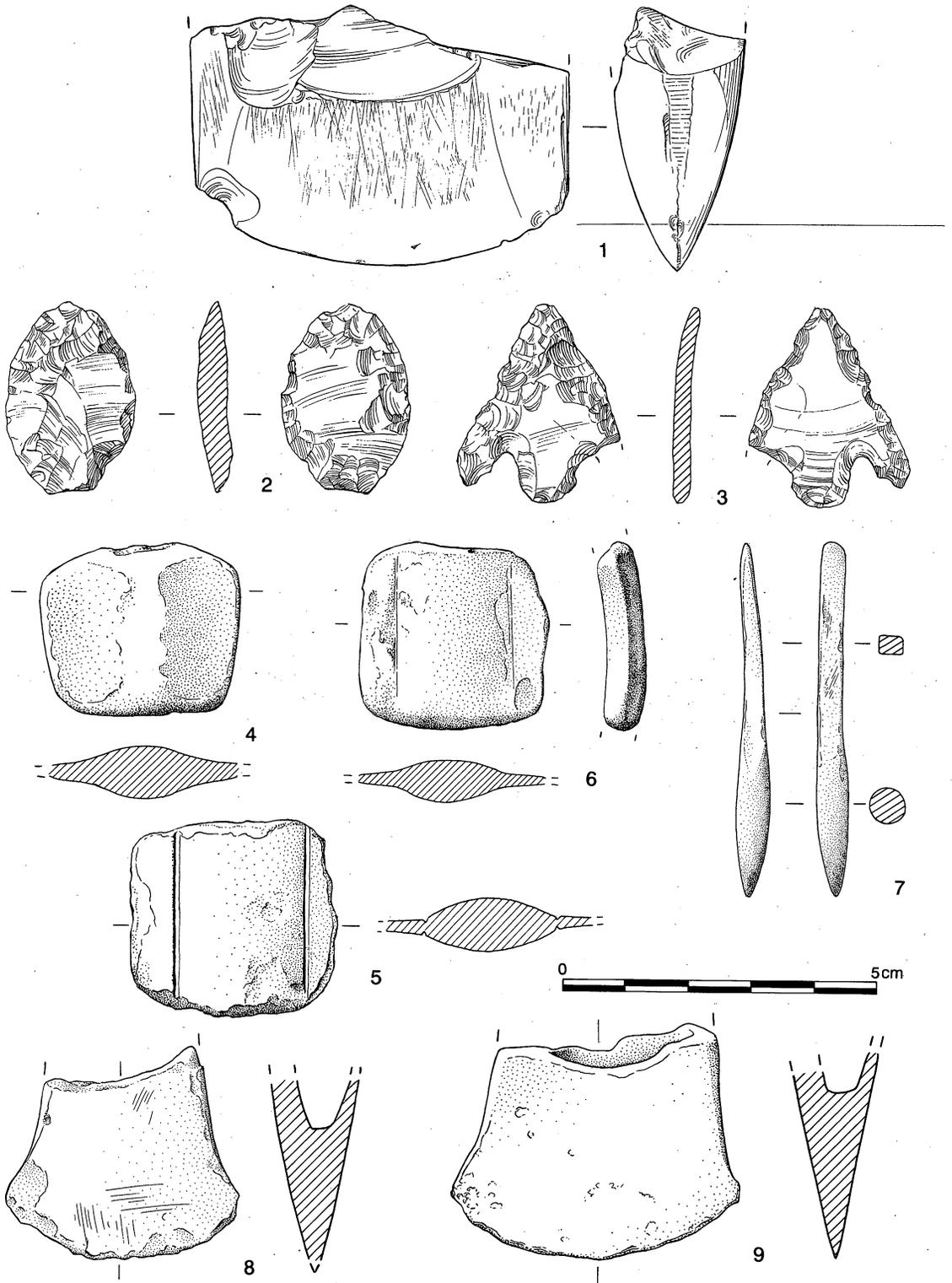


Fig 1 Prehistoric finds from East Surrey, nos 1-3 flint, 4-9 copper alloy (1:1)

## CATALOGUE

*An index to places is given at the end of the catalogue.*

*All finds are of copper alloy unless stated otherwise.*

**Prehistoric**

## FLINTWORK (fig 1, 1-3)

- 1 Blade fragment from a ground flint axe. This Neolithic axe is patinated white overall, including the break which is clearly ancient, but modern damage shows it to be of dark grey flint. There are prominent facets on the sides and clear traces of grinding abrasions. Neolithic. From Clandon.
- 2 Leaf-shaped arrowhead of translucent brown flint. Neolithic. From Betchworth.
- 3 Barbed and tanged arrowhead of translucent light brown flint. One tang is missing. The arrowhead is formed from a flake which is curved in profile. Bronze Age. From Dorking.

## BRONZE AGE METALWORK (fig 1, 4-9)

- 4 Blade fragment from a sword. Eroded, little of the original surface survives. Late Bronze Age. From Bletchingley.
- 5 Blade fragment from a sword. Eroded edges but much of the original surface remains. Late Bronze Age. From Bletchingley.
- 6 Blade fragment, bent and with eroded edges, from a sword. Late Bronze Age. From Betchworth.
- 7 Awl, length 56mm, with rectangular-section tang merging into a circular-section point. Probably Bronze Age. From Gatton.
- 8 Blade fragment from a socketed axe with an asymmetric casting. Late Bronze Age. From Hooley. Now in Guildford Museum.
- 9 Blade fragment from a socketed axe with an asymmetric casting. Late Bronze Age. From Bletchingley.

## IRON AGE, by Val Rigby (fig 2)

- 10 Brooch of insular type belonging to Hull & Hawkes's Group L (Hull & Hawkes 1987, 58-67, pl 21-22) described as Late Hallstatt derivatives to distinguish the group from the better known and more widely found La Tène types. There are no closely dated examples but it was made sometime in the 4th or 3rd century BC.

The iron pin was hinged, pivoting on the inner cross-bar and held in place by coiled bronze wire which formed a false spring. The corrosion suggests the cross-bars and pin were of iron. Brooches of this type are discussed

further by Cotton & Merriman (1994, 51). From Hurst Green, Oxted. Now in Guildford Museum.

**Romano-British**, by Joanna Bird (fig 3)

- 11 Brooch of Colchester B type (Crummy 1983, type 92), in which the spring is secured by passing the chord and the axial bar through two holes in a lug behind the head. The semicylindrical wings are decorated with a single diagonal line on each; the bow has a tapering ridge on the upper portion and three incised horizontal lines above the foot. The catchplate has three pierced holes. The pin and most of the spring are now missing. The type is dated cAD 50-70. From Cobham.
- 12 Part of a brooch of Colchester B type. The rounded mouldings on the semicylindrical side-wings and on the bow are similar to Crummy 1983, fig 6, 48, though less sharply defined. Enough of the catchplate is present to show that it was perforated. The type dates cAD 50-70. From Bletchingley.
- 13 Fragment from the bow of a cast brooch. The brooch belongs to the 'Langton Down' type and the cylindrical spring or hinge cover (both are found on this type), the rather flat bow and the reeded decoration are characteristic. A brooch from Camulodunum is closely similar, with the same curved moulding across the head of the bow (Hawkes & Hull 1947, pl 95, 102). This type, classified as Type K by

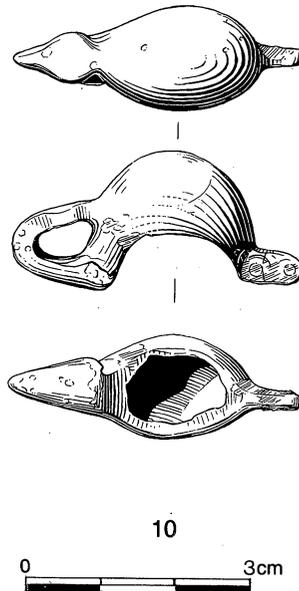


Fig 2 Iron Age brooch (10) from Oxted (1:1)

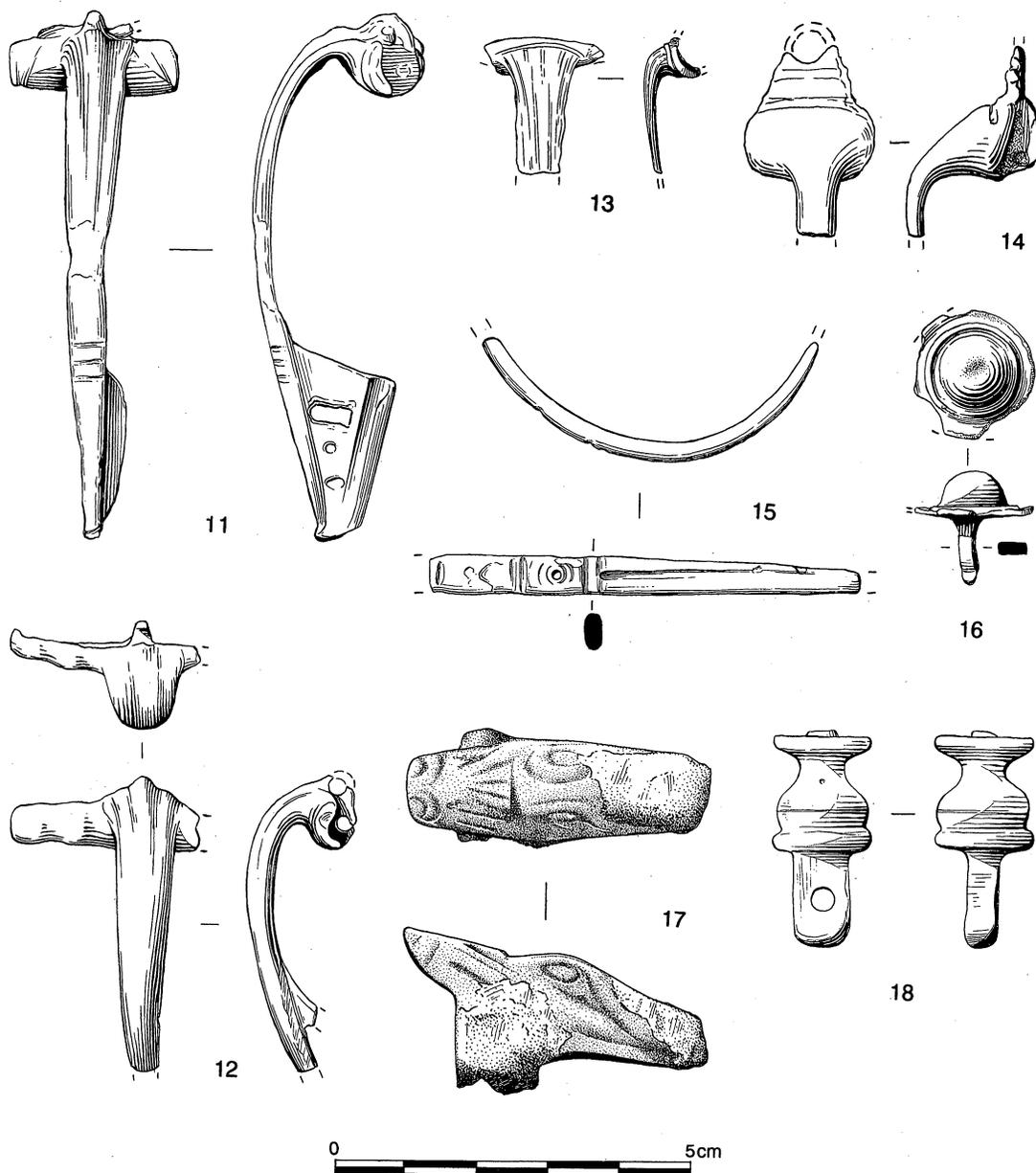


Fig 3 Romano-British finds from East Surrey, nos 11-18 (1:1)

Collingwood & Richmond (1969), is of Gallic origin. It was imported into Britain before the Roman conquest, was common in the Claudian period and had gone out of use by the Flavian period. A date before AD 75 is therefore likely for this piece. From the North Downs at Reigate.

14 Upper portion of a brooch of 'Trumpet' type. The plate on the head has the usual loop at the top, above a simple rectangular moulding; it is

cast in one piece with the bow. The trumpet-shaped upper bow is rather wider and shallower than usual. The back of the head has a pair of lugs which hold the remains of the spring for the pin. To judge from the staining, the axis of the pin was probably iron. This type of brooch was in production by the late 1st century AD and is common on 2nd century sites. The loop at the head would have held a chain, enabling the brooch to be used in

- conjunction with a second brooch, for example to fasten a cloak. From Dorking.
- 15 Armlet fragment, eroded, with ring and dot ornament. A similar example was found in Colchester (Crummy 1983, fig 47). From Bletchingley.
- 16 Decorative stud with an integral short spiked stem. Probably 1st or 2nd century. From Bletchingley.
- 17 Cast terminal in the form of a mule's or ass's head. The added details of the ears and eyes are very stylized; the muzzle has been damaged by iron corrosion but traces of a nose band are visible. The underside is finished but not decorated, suggesting that it would not normally be seen. The head is apparently attached to a rectangular iron shank, otherwise a function such as a flagon lid handle might be suggested. The iron shank indicates use as a handle for an implement such as a knife or perhaps as a terminal for some item such as a piece of furniture where the iron piece was structural. From Cobham.
- 18 Lock pin. Pins of similar size are known from, for example, Verulamium (Waugh & Goodburn 1972, fig 39, no 118) and Colchester (Crummy 1983, fig 137, no 4142), but they normally have a plain shank behind the terminal. The heavy moulding on this example suggests use on an unusually ornamental lock. From Godstone.
- 21 Cast small-long brooch with headplate, bow and upper section of the footplate only, imitating an Aberg Group II cruciform brooch in form (Aberg 1926). The headplate has wings and vestigial extensions copying side knobs, though the upper knob is more complete, triangular in profile with light incised lines and flattened at the back. Simple faceted elements occur at either end of the bow and the upper section of the footplate has a light incised diagonal cross enclosed by parallel lines. The back of the headplate has a damaged single lug with rust traces of an iron pin, while the pincatch on the footplate is almost rubbed away. Later 5th-early 6th century. From Cobham.
- 22 Cast saucer brooch, any traces of gilding removed, with a central circular flat blue glass stud enclosed by two symmetrical Style 1 quadrupeds (head, jaw, neck, body and hindleg), in turn enclosed by two crossnickled lines giving a 'light and shade' effect, and finally a medium-sized rim. A single lug (no trace of pin) and pin catch occur on the back. 6th century (first half to middle). From Woldingham.
- 23 Cast gilt saucer brooch with a central boss enclosed by a moderately well executed five-spiral scroll design with a triangular- or lozenge-shaped billet in between the outer edges of each scroll. Virtually no saucer rim (?filed down after damage). The back has a single spring lug with remains of an iron pin *in situ* and a damaged pincatch. Late 5th or more likely early 6th century. From Botley Hill.
- 24 Cast tongue from a 6th century shield-on-tongue buckle set, with the loop below the 'shield' filed away and a neat hole drilled through the 'shield' so that the artefact could be reused as a pendant. Whether it would have hung from a 'necklace' or from a waist belt as part of a chatelaine is uncertain, though its weight would suggest the latter option. From Banstead.

### Early Saxon, by Dr Martin Welch (fig 4)

- 19 A short-long brooch with ring-and-dot ornament copying the form of a relief-decorated square-headed brooch with animal art in Salin's Style 1. The brooch form it is imitating has a date range of the first half to mid 6th century and this small-long brooch presumably belongs within that time band. Such brooches are not uncommon in southern England and within Surrey. In addition to a similar brooch from the Guildown cemetery (Lowther 1931, 22, fig 6) there are comparable brooches from Mitcham, Graves 107 and 112 (Bidder 1959, pl 9) and Portway, Andover (Cook & Dacre 1985, fig 52, grave 31). From Nonsuch Park.
- 20 Cast silvered (or tinned) small-long brooch with a damaged square headplate, intact plain bow and part of the triangular footplate surviving. Both head and footplate retain traces of a white metal finish and both are decorated with a single ring-and-dot motif at the centre, while two lines of small, spaced, incised marks frame the outer edge of the headplate. The back of the headplate seems to have a single lug with remains of an iron spring and pin attached and the worn remains of a pincatch occur on the footplate. 6th century, probably first half. From Botley Hill.

### Late Saxon (figs 5, 6)

#### STIRRUP MOUNTS

Objects of this type have commonly been identified as book or chest fittings. They have however recently been reinterpreted by Dr Paul Robinson (Robinson 1992) as decorative stirrup mounts which may also have served the function of protecting the stirrup leathers from wear. The writer is carrying out some wider research into these mounts (Williams forthcoming (a)). These objects are often sub-triangular with a curving profile, and invariably have a protruding ledge on the reverse and two or three rivet holes for the attachment of an iron fitting. Their distribution is widespread in England, and Surrey is one of many counties from which they have not previously been recorded. Mount 25 belongs to the

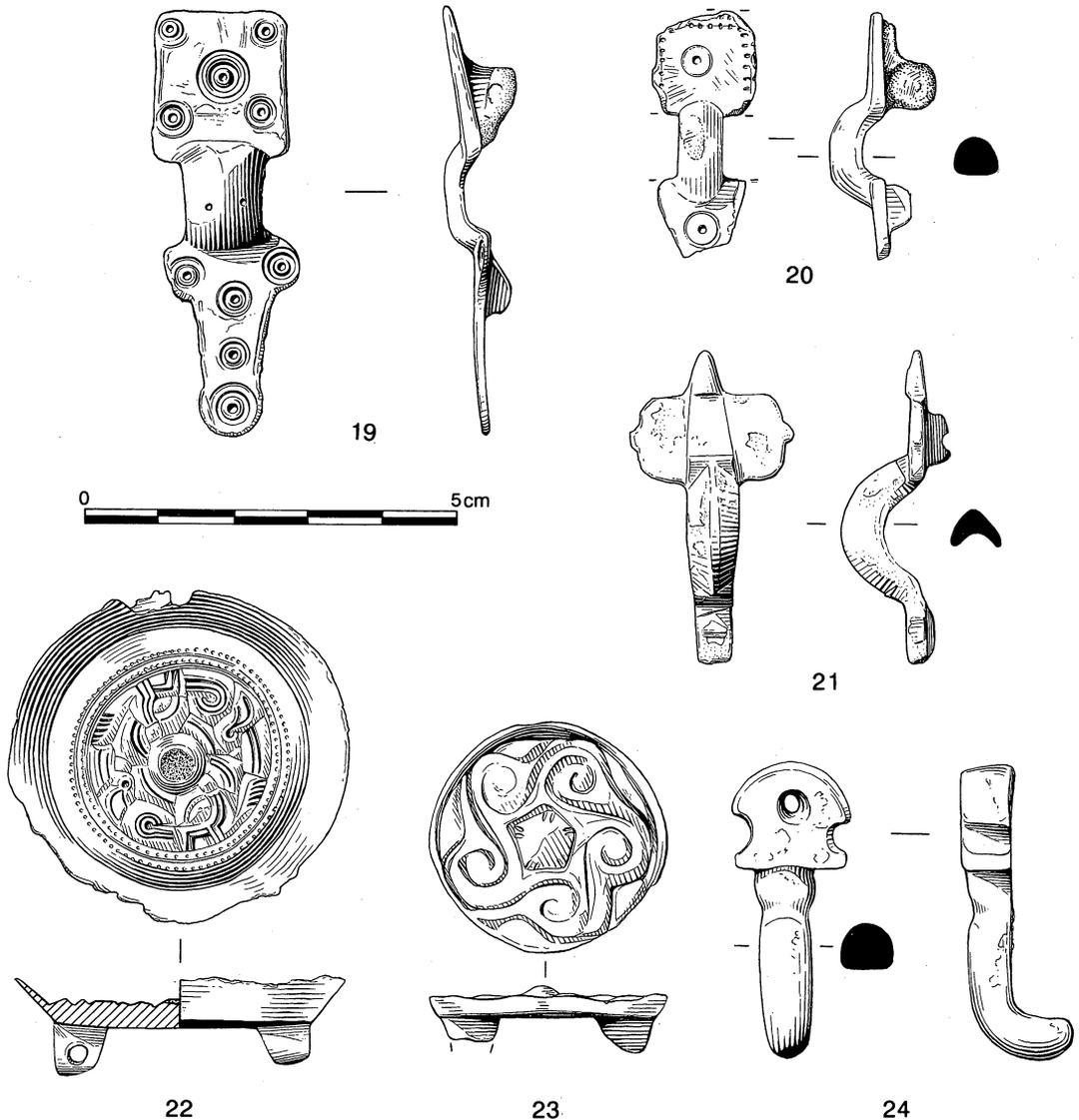


Fig 4 Early Saxon finds from East Surrey, nos 19-24 (1:1)

most commonly found type which depicts a lion-like creature bending its head upwards towards a pendent lobe which descends from the apex of the frame. There is normally a Ringerike-inspired device, a joined pair of spirals, above the lobe but this, unusually, is absent here. Mount 26 is an unusual openwork variant with, at present, only one parallel, from Norfolk. Mount 27 belongs to another widely spread type which is unique in this class of object in having incised rather than moulded decoration. Here the design is a debased and incoherent version of an original which depicts a pair of opposed beasts shown in profile. Mounts 28 and 29 are eroded examples of the same type. Mount 30 is at present unparalleled but both it

and mount 31 share clear characteristics with another widespread type which takes the form of a diagonal cross, often with bosses at the intersections. These mounts can be generally dated to the 11th century and it is not yet clear how long, if at all, they continued in use into the following century.

- 25 Mount, in fine condition, depicting a lion with its front paw and head raised. The creature appears unusually gaunt for this common type. From Bletchingley.
- 26 Openwork mount. The oval frame encloses a lion with its front paw raised. The top has broken away together with the upper.

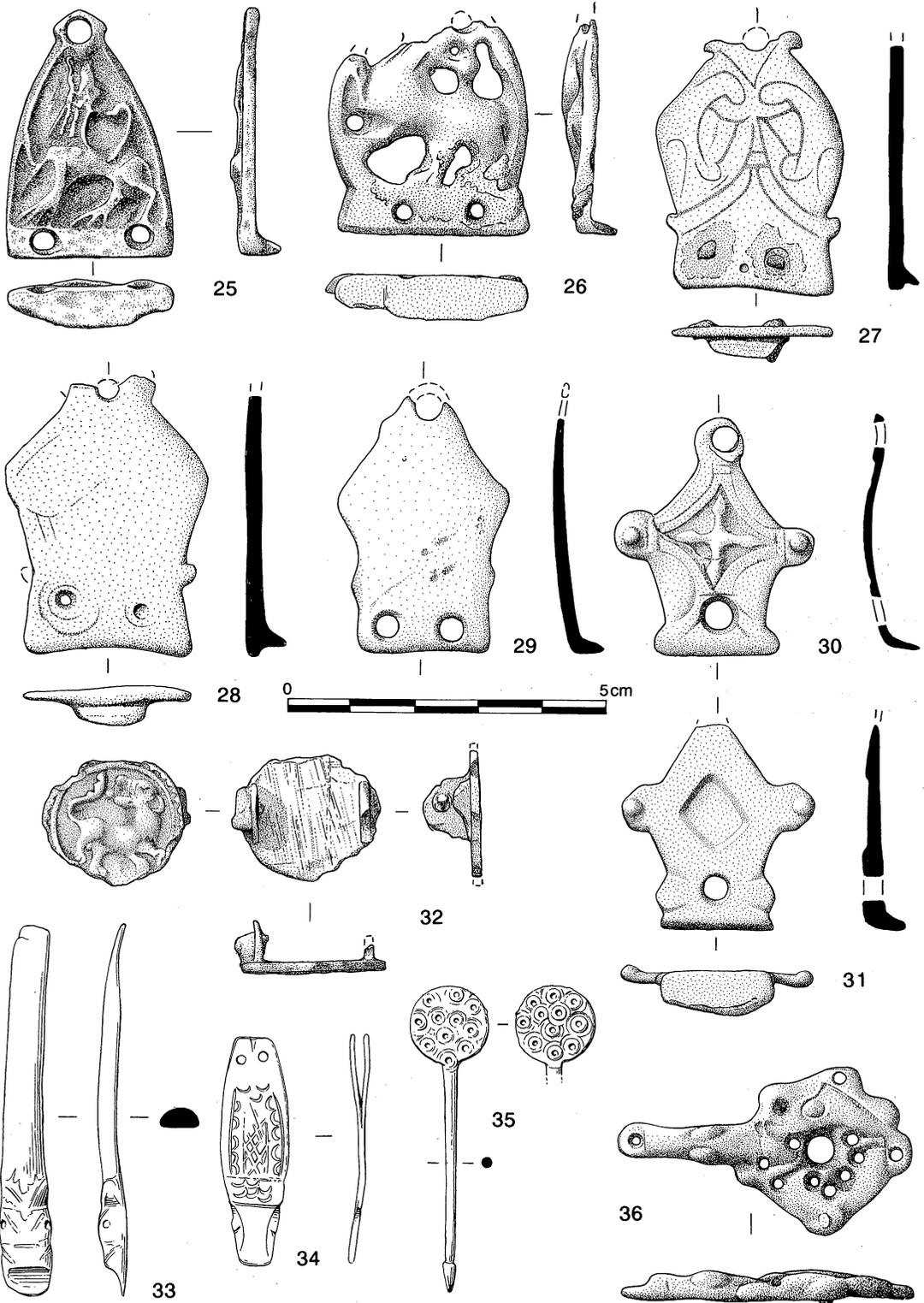


Fig 5 Late Saxon finds from East Surrey, nos 25-36 (1:1)

- 27 Mount, with corroded remains of iron rivets. The top has broken away. The design is lightly incised. From Bletchingley.
- 28 Mount with traces of rivets. The top is broken off and the incised design is eroded. From Betchworth. Now in Guildford Museum.
- 29 Mount, badly eroded. From Ripley.
- 30 Curving mount, in fine condition. From Caterham.
- 31 Mount. The surfaces are very eroded and the upper attachment hole has broken away. There are slight iron traces on the rear. From Shalford.
- 32 Disc brooch depicting a lion-like creature with open mouth bending its head over its back and with its tail raised. There are remains of an iron pin. The toothed border has largely broken away. From Bletchingley.

In so far as this brooch depicts a backward-biting beast, it can be compared with a group of disc brooches of 10th century date (Smedley & Owles 1967) whose distribution is centred on East Anglia. Without exception the beasts shown on this series of brooches are depicted in a stylized form quite unlike the more naturalistic creature depicted here. The Bletchingley brooch would seem to be derived from this series but otherwise may have no published parallels. Dr S Margeson (pers comm) agrees that the brooch is of later date than the East Anglian series and that it is of Saxon rather than post-Conquest date.

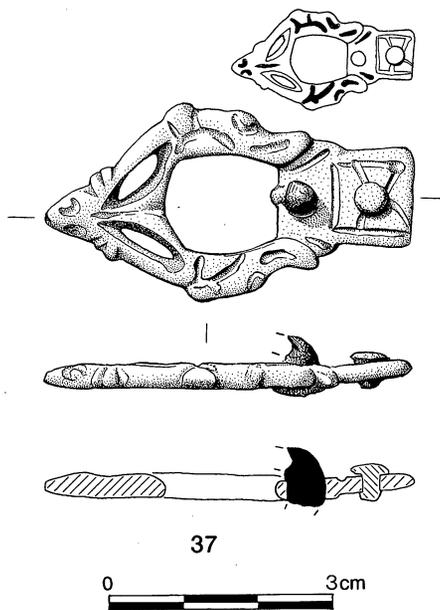


Fig 6 Late Saxon buckle (37) from Merstham (1:1)

- 33 Unidentified. This object, with its zoomorphic head with prominent ears and with sharply flattened terminals, is similar to an object from Winchester described as a possible casket fitting (Biddle 1990, fig 219, 2336). The Winchester mount is given a 10th/11th century date. From Godstone.
- 34 Strap end. Animal head terminal. The remainder decorated with punched semicircles and incised lines. From Ewell.
- 35 Disc-headed pin with hipped shaft. The disc head is decorated on both sides with punched overlapping ring-and-dot motifs which can be paralleled on a number of similar pins from Whitby (Peers & Raleigh Radford 1943, fig 13) or from the Yorkshire Wolds (Haldenby 1994, fig 1, 2-4). The distinctive hipped shaft is often found on bone pins. 8th, possibly 9th century. From Ewell.
- 36 Mount with zoomorphic terminal and openwork body. There are four attachment holes, in one of which a rivet survives. 11th century. From Nonsuch Park.  
This mount can be precisely paralleled by another from excavations at Westbury, Milton Keynes (Mills forthcoming). The two may derive from the same mould. These mounts are debased copies of mounts of similar form decorated in the English variant of the Urnes style (eg Wilson 1964, 203, fig 141; Owen & Trett 1980) and depict a coiled snake-like beast.
- 37 Buckle with integral riveted plate and remains of an iron pin. The rivet survives. Behind the animal head terminal and the pair of elongated openings are two Ringerike-style beasts' heads in profile. There remain traces of a contrasting metal, probably silver or niello, within the incised features forward of the buckle plate. 11th century. From Merstham. (fig 6)

**Medieval**

**AMPULLAE**, by Brian Spencer (fig 7, 38-40)

These are pilgrim souvenirs which would have contained holy water. A wide range of ampullae has been illustrated from Salisbury (Spencer 1990).

- 38 Leaden ampulla of flattened flask shape with a pair of suspension handles. On the front is a four-leaf figure and on the flattened reverse a crowned W. Characteristically this flask shows signs of having been sealed by pinching the lips of its mouth together.

Late medieval pilgrims' ampullae present a limited range of perplexingly cryptic symbols and decorative elements. This ampulla, an almost identical example of which was found in 1993 at Sudbury, Suffolk, combines two of the most common motifs. The four-leaf figure,

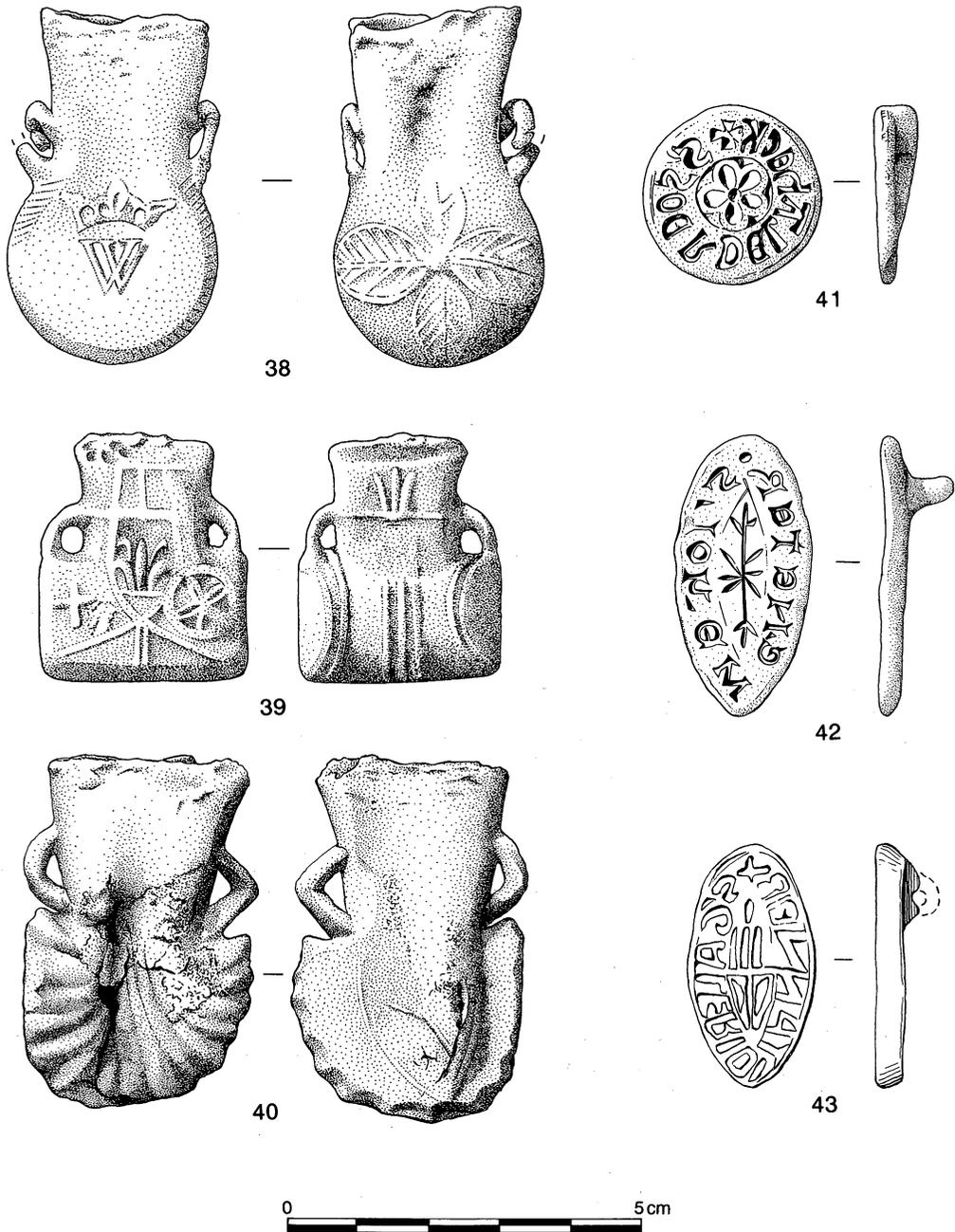


Fig 7 Medieval finds from East Surrey, nos 38-43 (1:1)

which appears on a large number of ampullae (eg Spencer 1990, figs 182-6), was probably intended to represent a herb rich in medicinal properties as well as symbolic significance, namely Herb Paris (*Paris quadrifolia*, ie a herb of harmonious equal parts), otherwise known as True Love since the arrangement of the

leaves suggests the endless True Lovers' Knot. The crowned W, on the other hand, which is also to be found on numerous ampullae (Spencer 1990, 60-1), is probably to be associated with the cult of Our Lady of Walsingham, the crown standing for the Queen of Heaven. One of Walsingham's

- attractions to pilgrims was the well of the Blessed Mary from which doses of thaumaturgic water were distributed. From Godstone.
- 39 Leadern ampulla in the form of a costrel, with a pair of suspension handles bridging the neck and body of the flask. The D-shaped ends of the body are inwardly sloping. On the front a simple linear ornament and on the reverse pseudo-heraldic markings: a fleur-de-lis on a shield, a cross and an imitation of a compass-drawn flower. This ampulla may have come from the Low Countries region since that is where most of the parallels have been found, all with D-shaped ends and some with the arms of Burgundy. The best analogy from an English site was excavated in the Vintry, London (Spencer forthcoming). 15th century. From Godstone.
- 40 Leadern ampulla with the usual pair of suspension handles. The obverse is decorated with a scallop shell motif. The reverse bears the faint and incomplete outline of an armorial shield. Besides being the badge of St James of Compostela, the scallop was also the generic symbol of pilgrimage and was therefore incorporated into the design of pilgrim souvenirs at several centres of pilgrimage. Dozens of ampullae found in England bear the scallop shell motif which in many instances is complemented by simple shields of arms (Spencer 1990, figs 170-4). There is reason to believe that some scallop-shell ampullae, too, were associated with the Walsingham pilgrimage (Spencer 1971). From Limpsfield.
- SEAL DIES, with additional comments by Mary Saaler (fig 7, 41-43)
- 41 Circular leadern seal die bearing the legend S'SOERDELAHECK (or S'SOERDELAHECH) surrounding a five-petalled flower. This seal may be translated as 'The Seal of "SOER" de la Heck (or Hech)'. A Roger atte Heck is recorded as paying the lay subsidy in Merstham in 1332 (Surrey Rec Soc 1932, 36) as also are William atte Hache in Chipstead, Roger and Alice atte Heche in Merstham and Robert atte Hecche in Nutfield. The seal then may have belonged to a member of one of these families. The Christian name remains obscure but the name Saherus, or Saher in English, occurs in the 1235 Surrey Eyre. It seems unlikely to be read as *soeur* (sister), ie a nun. The French form suggests a 14th century date for this seal as French was much in use for official documents at this time. From Gatton.
- 42 Pointed oval leadern seal die bearing the legend S'IOHEWENETER. This seal may be that of Joan Veneter who appears as a resident of Merstham in 1364, or of that family (PRO SC2 204/66). From Chipstead.
- 43 Pointed oval leadern seal die bearing the legend S'GALFRIDI TANNER. This seal is that of Galfridius Tanner. The surname appears in Godstone in the 14th century but is a fairly common one. Galfridius, or Geoffrey, does not appear. From Godstone. Now in East Surrey Museum.
- OBJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH HORSES (fig 8)
- Harness pendants*, with additional comments by Nicholas Griffiths (Griffiths 1986; LMMC 1940, 118-122)
- 44 Quatrilobe pendant with decoration in red and blue enamel. The central, blue, square depicts a lion surrounded by four fleurs-de-lis on a red background. Traces of gilding survive on the lion and fleurs-de-lis. This design is based upon the arms of England after 1340, incorporating the fleur-de-lis of France; however on about one third of pendants of this type the background colours are reversed and the lion sits in a red square. From Gatton.
- 45 Shield-shaped pendant depicting three lions set against a red enamel background; the arms of England before 1340. From Dorking.
- 46 Simple circular pendant with crossed line decoration. The gilding survives as well as the iron pin. From Gatton.
- 47 Lobed pendant with traces of a white metal coating. The central shield has a red enamel cross which may represent St George's cross. Perhaps early 15th century. From Bletchingley.
- 48 Cross-shaped pendant with accompanying attachment and iron pin. Considerable areas of gilding survive on both portions. From Dorking.
- 49 Three-armed pendant with circular terminals. Traces of decoration survive on the central arm. From Oxted.
- 50 Lobed pendant. Badly eroded but retaining traces of gilding. Blue enamel cross. From Kenley.
- 51 Ornate gilded pendant with free swinging central pendant and iron pin (cf LMMC 1940, fig 39). Probably 15th century. From Nonsuch Park.
- 52 Annular pendant attachment with surviving rivet and traces of gilding. From Bletchingley.
- Other objects associated with horses*
- 53 Shield-shaped stirrup mount. Lion rampant on a blue enamel ground. Most of the enamel is gone. The attachment stud, which would have stood out at right-angles, is squashed against the reverse. These objects are thought to have been attached to the top of iron stirrups (Griffiths 1989, fig 4). From Reigate.
- 54 Bridle link fragment. These are generally thought to be of early medieval date but their currency remains unclear. From Bletchingley.

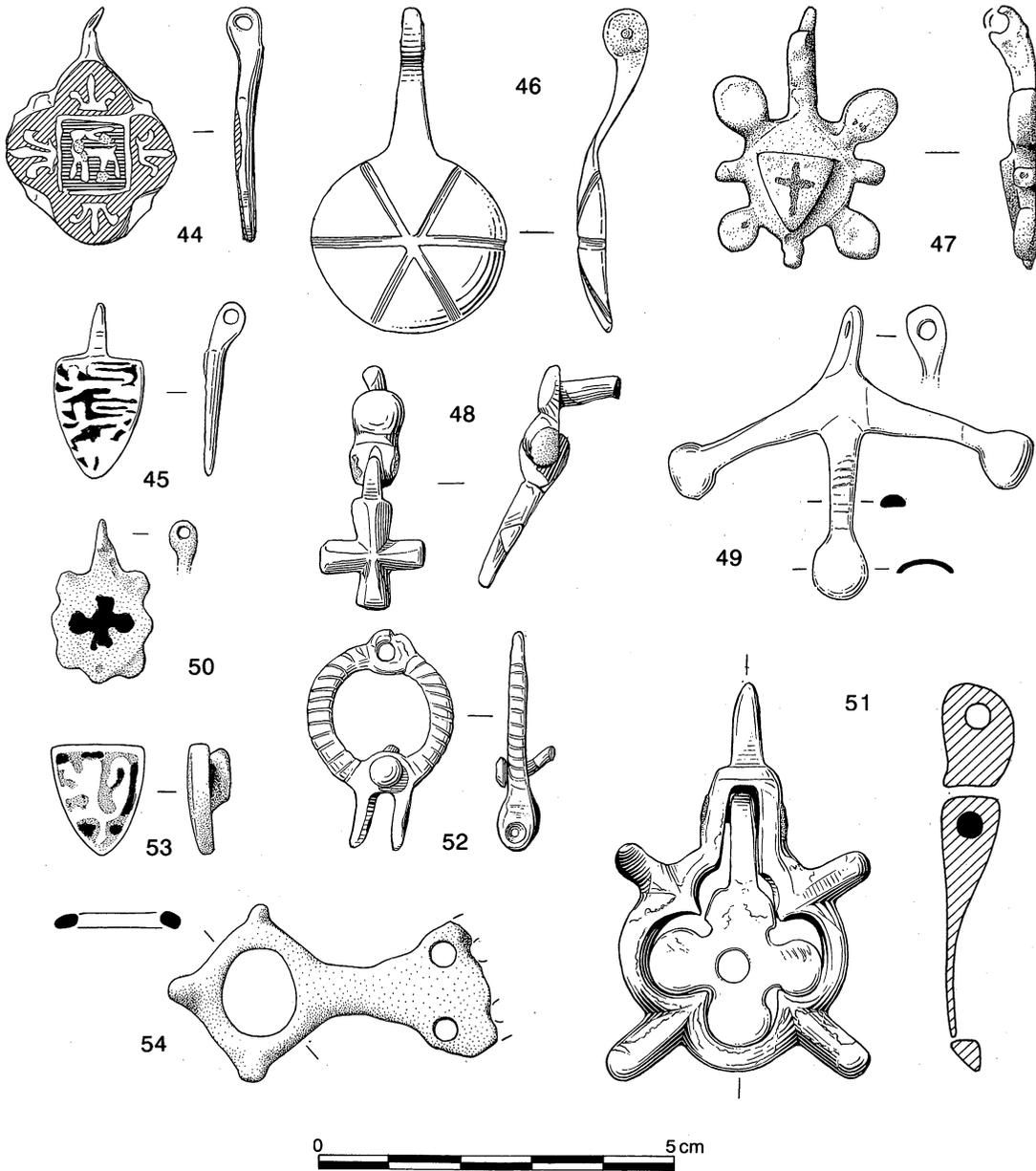


Fig 8 Medieval finds from East Surrey, nos 44-54 (1:1)

DRESS ACCESSORIES (fig 9; fig 10, 68-73)

Rings

- 55 Finger ring. Gilding survives only on the area of the bezel. The ring has a blue glass cabochon and moulded grooves on the shoulders. The hoop is partly distorted and eroded. John Cherry (pers comm) suggests a 13th century date for this ring. From Gatton.

Buckles, brooch and belt fittings

- 56 Annular buckle with pin. Probably 14th century. From Bletchingley.
- 57 D-shaped buckle with attached plate pierced for five rivets. One dome-headed rivet survives. From Betchworth.
- 58 Buckle with forked spear spacer and attached pin. The enclosing plates are missing. 13th/14th century. From Bletchingley.

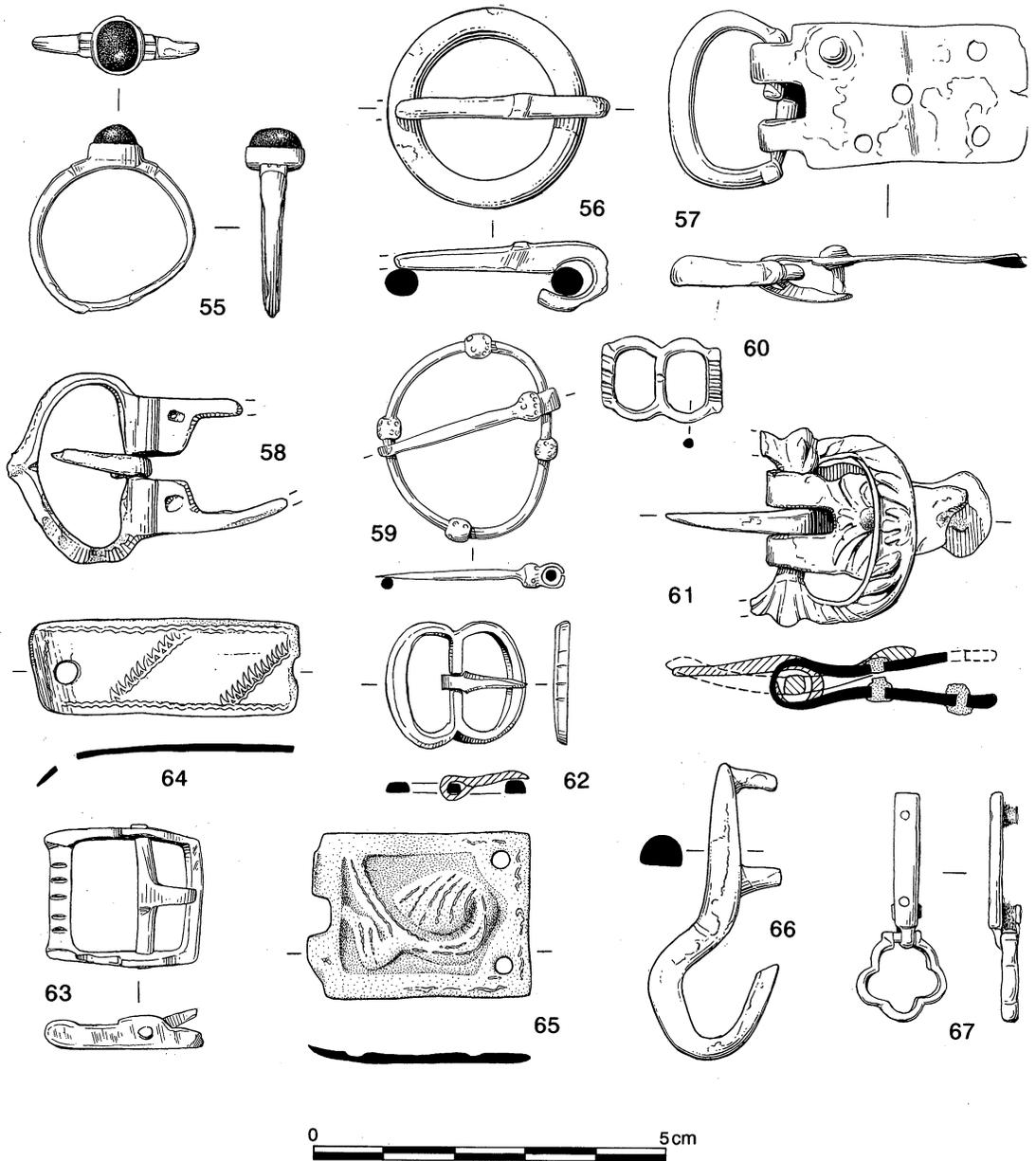


Fig 9 Medieval finds from East Surrey, nos 55-67 (1:1)

- 59 Annular brooch. Dull grey metal, perhaps silver, although there are traces of a brighter metal which may be a silver coating remaining within and around the punched circles. Geoff Egan (pers comm) suggests a late 14th century date. From Gatton.
- 60 Small double oval buckle frame, grey metal (?lead alloy). Egan & Pritchard (1991 no 384) illustrate a similar buckle which is described as gunmetal. Perhaps from a shoe. Probably 14th-15th century. From Bletchingley.
- 61 Double oval buckle frame fragment with plate and pin. There are two iron rivets. The frame and plate are decorated with a foliage-based design. The plate is paralleled amongst the unpublished finds from the Old Vicarage, Reigate and by a complete fitting from Southampton (Platt & Coleman-Smith 1975, fig 242, 1775) where a date in the second half of the 14th century is suggested. From Bletchingley.
- 62 Double-oval buckle frame and pin. Silver, very

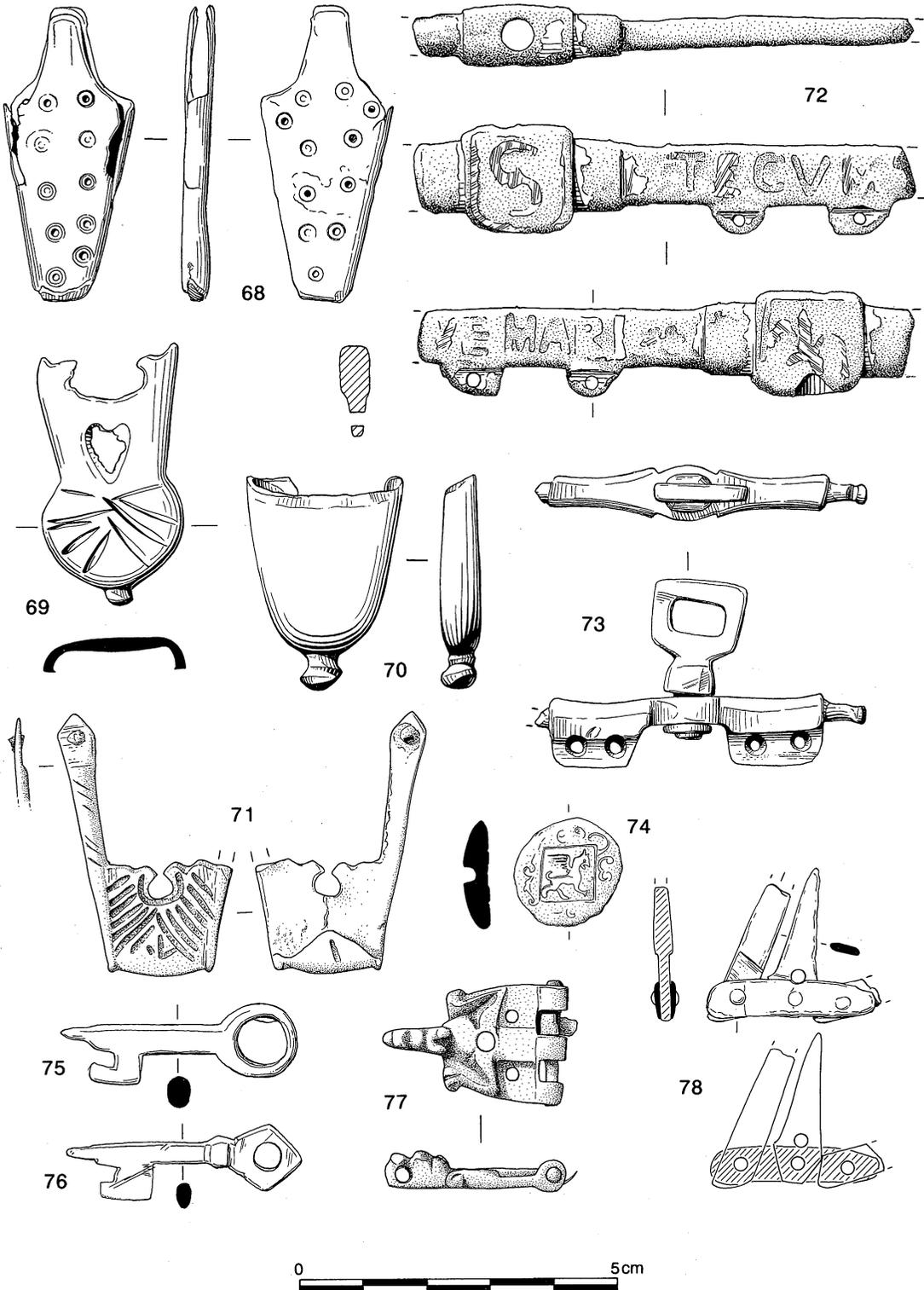


Fig 10 Medieval finds from East Surrey, nos 68-78 (1:1)

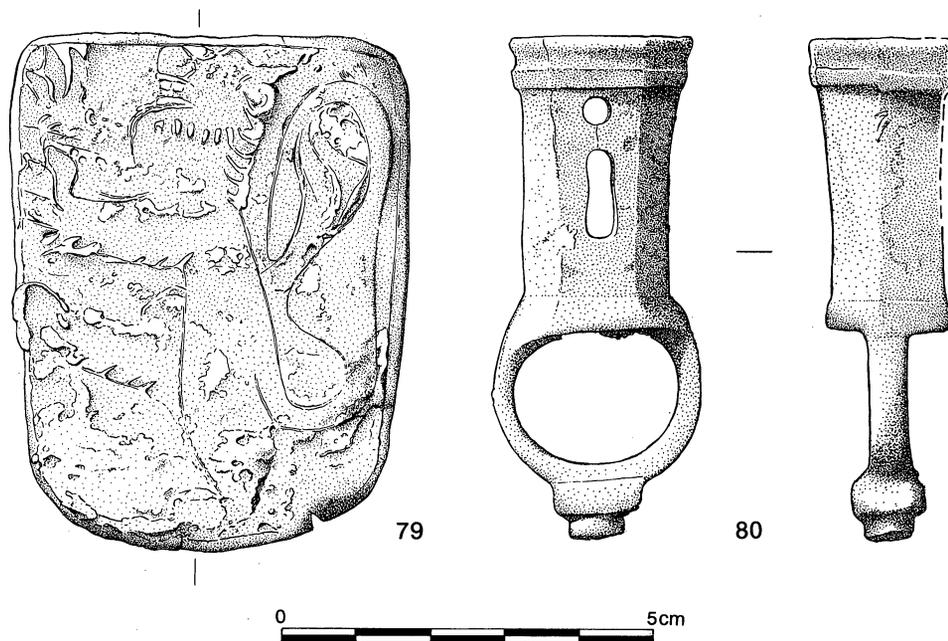


Fig 11 Medieval finds from East Surrey, nos 79-80 (1:1)

- fine condition, with a series of short grooves on the edge of one side of the frame. Probably late 14th/early 15th century although rather plain for a silver buckle. From Bletchingley.
- 63 Square buckle frame with five grooves on its outer edge. Free-moving pin on integral bar (Egan & Pritchard 1991, fig 62, 445, from a context of c1350-1400). From Betchworth.
- 64 Strap end or buckle plate. One side remains, gilded, with rocker-trace decoration. Probably 13th century. From Bletchingley.
- 65 Buckle plate. Probably originally gilded; there are traces of gilding within the edge zigzag decoration and elsewhere. The design appears to be stylized foliage although it may be intended as a mythical beast. 12th/early 13th century. From Bletchingley.
- 66 Belt hook, with traces of gilding. Probably 13th century. From Bletchingley.
- 67 Bar mount from a belt, with swinging suspension loop (Egan & Pritchard 1991, fig 138, 1189). There are traces of what appears to be cloth around the lower rivet. 13th/14th century. From Ewell.

#### *Sword chapes*

- 68 Sword or dagger chape. Thin sheet decorated with ring-and-dot ornament. A de Reuck (pers comm) suggests an early medieval, ie 12th century, date for this chape. From Gatton.
- 69 Openwork chape with crude slash decoration. A de Reuck (pers comm) suggests a late 15th

- century date for this and the following chape. From Cobham.
- 70 Hollow chape terminating in a knop. From Cobham.
- 71 Chape fragment with iron rivet extant. This form of chape can be paralleled at Winchester (Biddle 1990, fig 348, 4030-1) and from excavations at 16 Bell Street, Reigate (Williams forthcoming (b)). A similar object from London is, however, identified as a strap end (Egan & Pritchard 1991, fig 83, 575). Probably 13th century. From Gatton.

#### *Purse bars*

Both are of late 15th or 16th century date.

- 72 Arm and central boss of a purse bar. Traces of white metal coating survive on the decorative elements but the object is greatly eroded. The complete legend would have read AVE MARI[A GRACIA PLENA] on one side and [DOMINUS] TECUM on the other. The boss is decorated with an S and a fleur-de-lis. LMMC 1940 Type A2. From Flanchford, Reigate.
- 73 Purse bar, largely complete, with swivelling loop. LMMC 1940 Type B5. From Betchworth.

#### MISCELLANEOUS (fig 10, 74-78; fig 11)

- 74 Button-like object. Sub-circular, with a flat face and domed on the reverse. It is pierced

- centrally by a circular hole. The incuse design shows a griffin-like beast within a square frame surrounded by curling motifs. There are traces of a white metal coating. Probably late medieval. From Bletchingley.
- 75,76 Casket keys. Probably late medieval (cf LMMC 1940, pl 30, 34-9). 75 from Woodmansterne, 76 from Ewell.
- 77 Hinged book clasp in the form of a beast with front legs drawn back. Egan & Pritchard 1991, fig 101, 720-6) illustrate less elaborate versions although the identification given there is now thought to be incorrect. Late medieval. I am grateful to G Egan for the identification as a book clasp. From Gatton.
- 78 Central section from a folding balance, with truncated arms. The type is precisely paralleled at Winchester (Biddle 1990, 924-5) where a 13th to early 14th century date is given. From Betchworth.
- 79 Plaque in the shape of a round-bottomed shield depicting a standing lion with front paws raised. The plaque is in poor condition but traces remain of blue enamel on the recessed field and red enamel in the area of the lion's ear and open mouth. There are no traces of attachment and it may be that the plaque was secured in a collar or sleeve, perhaps to a box or casket or possibly to a tomb. The plaque is likely to be English of late 13th or early 14th century date. From Merstham.
- 80 Candleholder. This component would have been rivetted to a metal dish which formed the base. The rectangular slot in the side of the holder would have carried a device for removing the candle. LMMC 1940, 178, shows the complete form. Late medieval. From Ewell.
- Post-medieval**
- DRESS ACCESSORIES (fig 12; fig 13, 93-102)
- 81 Large decorated double oval buckle frame. This can be compared with, for example, a buckle from Beeston Castle of 16th/17th century date (Keen & Hough 1993, fig 100, 1). From Bletchingley.
- 82 Double oval buckle frame. Late medieval-16th century. From Bletchingley.
- 83 Double oval buckle frame. Late medieval-16th century. From Gatton.
- 84 Annular buckle with central bar, remains of an iron pin, and two projections. This buckle, which is poorly finished, does not appear in Egan & Pritchard 1991 but can be paralleled in LMMC 1940 pl 77, 13,14). G Egan (pers comm) suggests a 16th century date. From Bletchingley.
- 85 Oval buckle. Lead or tin alloy though with green patination and iron pin. Read (1988, fig 28, 36) illustrates a similar example from Abbotskerswell, Devon, to which a 17th century date is given. From Betchworth.
- 86 Button. 16th to early 17th century. From Bletchingley.
- 87 Hooked tag. This belongs to a ubiquitous class of object usually ascribed to the 16th century. This example is damaged. From Lingfield.
- 88 Hooked tag. Rectangular loop with foliage design and openwork trefoils with cabled border between. This is very similar to an example from Norwich (Margeson 1993, fig 8, 72). From Epsom.
- 89,90 Set of clasped strap fittings. 90 is incomplete but Read (1988, fig 21, 14) illustrates the complete form with an example from Gappah, Devon, to which he ascribes a 16th/17th century date. 89 is clearly the opposing fitting. The purpose of the side loop is unclear although Egan & Pritchard suggest that a similar projection on a buckle of earlier date from London (Egan & Pritchard 1991, fig 63, 457) was intended to carry a sword. 89 from Merstham, 90 from Bletchingley.
- 91 Set of clasped strap fittings. While the design of the component on the right is eroded it is clear that these two fittings of similar design would have formed a pair, though they were not found together. A similar hooked fitting from Colchester (Crummy 1988, fig 20, 1778) is described as a belt hook. 17th or 18th century. From Betchworth.
- 92 Strap fitting. White metal coating. Evidently this fitting is of the same class of object as 91. 17th/18th century. From Bletchingley.
- 93-100 Harness or belt fittings. These are most likely to be of 16th or 17th century date and are representative of a type of object with a variety of forms but which may be identified by the two attachment spikes on the reverse. 99 and 100 may be earlier. 99, in the shape of a bird, retains gilding. Read (1988, fig 22, 20) illustrates a similar example to 96. 94 can be paralleled at Beeston Castle and from a late 17th century pit at Nonsuch Palace (Keen & Hough 1993, fig 100, 31). From Bletchingley (93, 95-8) and Betchworth (94, 99-100).
- 101 Belt or harness fitting. Circular with raised boss and holes for three rivets, one of which is missing. A post-medieval date is probable. From Ewell.
- 102 Openwork bridle boss, with a central fleur-de-lis. Read (1988, 124) illustrates a similar example from Haccombe, Devon, and suggests a 17th century date. From Gatton.
- SPURS (fig 13, 103-6)
- Detailed comments are by Blanche Ellis.
- 103 Spur rowel. There appear to be faint traces of punched decoration on one of the points. This rowel is very typical of the 17th century when five-point rowels with small divider ridges were

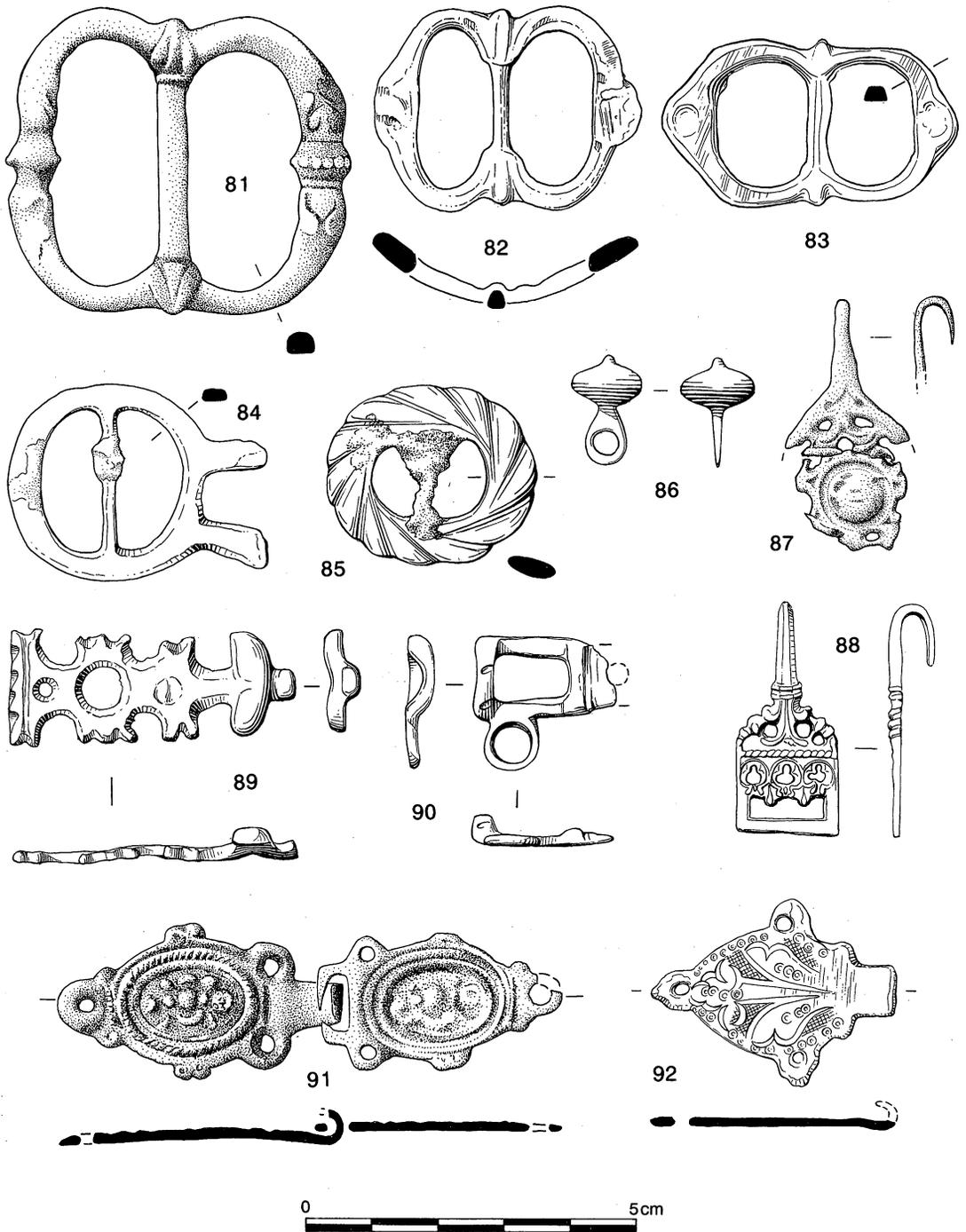


Fig 12 Post-medieval finds from East Surrey, nos 81-92 (1:1)

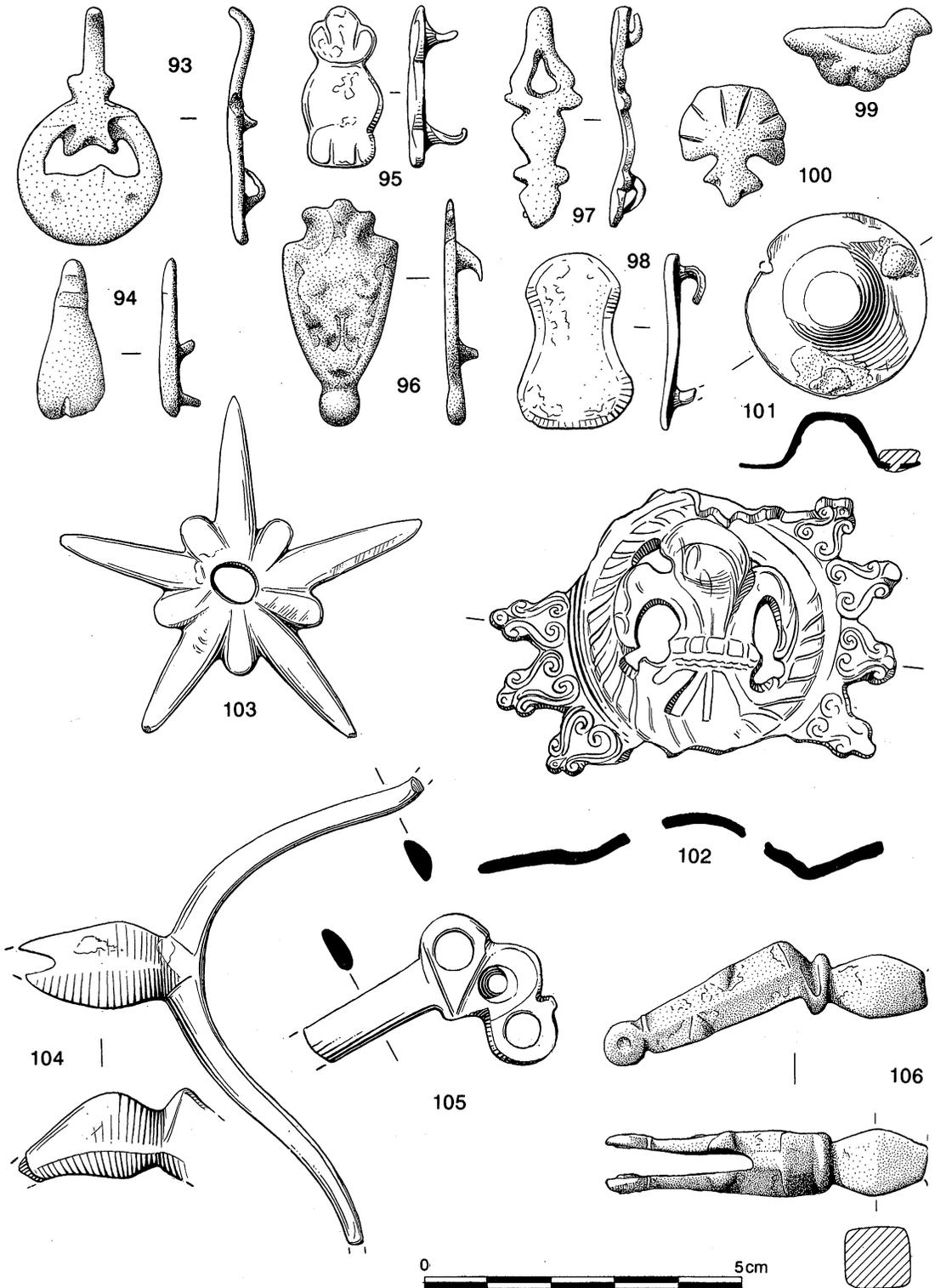


Fig 13 Post-medieval finds from East Surrey, nos 93-106 (1:1)

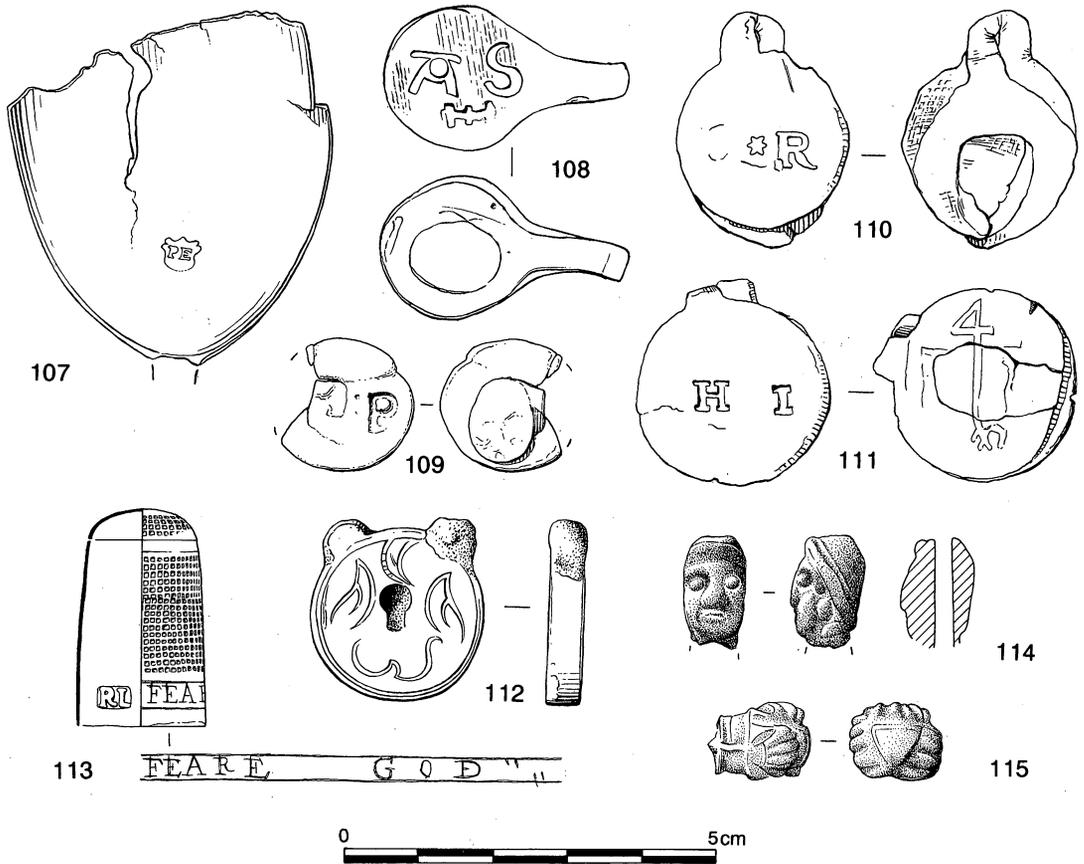


Fig 14 Post-medieval finds from East Surrey, nos 107-115 (1:1)

- especially common. Those of copper alloy often had punched decoration in the form of tiny circles and semicircles, often associated with silvering and gilding. The central hole is oval which suggests it was heavier on one side and has worn asymmetrically. This rowel dates from the first three quarters of the 17th century and probably from the middle of the century. From Betchworth.
- 104 Spur with distorted sides, their terminals missing. This is similar to a spur depicted on a portrait of a man by Edward Bower, dated 1638, and is comparable to two held by the British Museum (56 7-1 2550 and 2552). This spur probably dates to c1620-40. From Betchworth.
- 105 Spur side terminal. This is a variation on a group of 17th century spurs whose terminals often have their central hole, which is purely decorative, not quite closed into a ring. This form, with its incised V lines, which look hand chiselled, can be seen on an example in the British Museum (56 7-1 2558). From Bletchingley.

- 106 Spur neck. The neck commences with a quadrangular-section stump and is decorated with alternating raised triangular bosses. Much of the original gilded surface survives. From Bletchingley.
- This spur dates from 1600-60 and belongs to a group which has been cast in a rather brittle copper alloy; several are broken. Others in this group are as follows: London (British Museum 56 7-1 2555), which is very similar to this present example but has raised lozenges with punched florets; Oatlands Palace, with raised triangular areas arranged one above the other; Hinton-in-the-Hedges, Northants; an example in the Ashmolean Museum (583.1886) with raised triangles on the remaining side.

MISCELLANEOUS (fig 14)

- 107 Spoon bowl fragment. The touch mark is PE within a shield. 17th/18th century. From Betchworth.

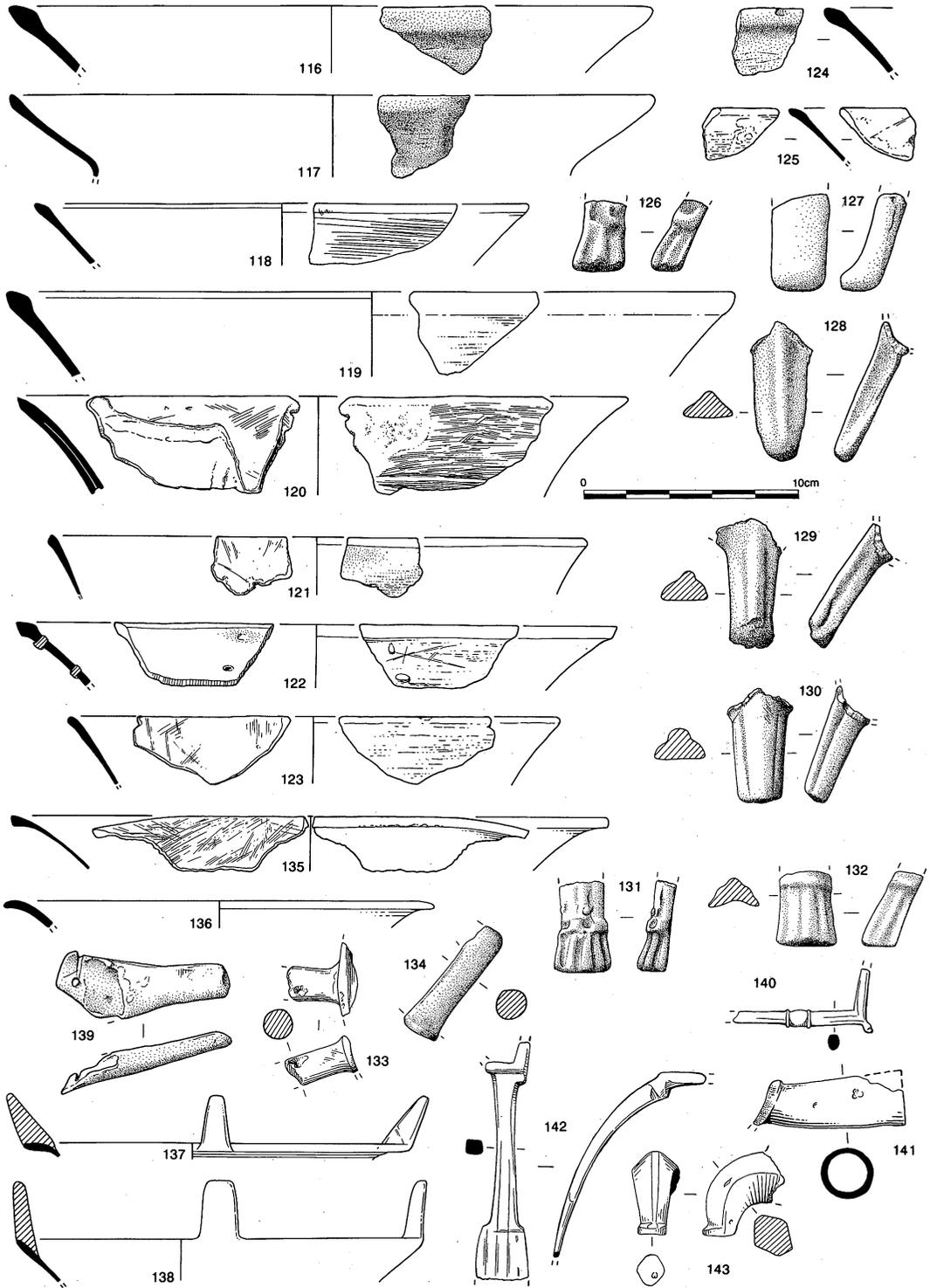


Fig 15 Late and post-medieval metal vessel fragments from East Surrey, nos 116-143 (1:3)

- 108-111 Lead cloth seals, by Geoff Egan  
All four seals are of 17th/18th century date.
- 108 Two-disc seal with an incuse AS denoting an artisan weaver. The clothier's/weaver's stamp on the other side has presumably been abraded by calendaring the textile, the imprint of which is visible. From Nutfield.
- 109 The initials on this seal are unclear but this is also a clothier's seal. From Betchworth.
- 110 This seal has the initials <G>R (?weaver/clothier). From Gatton.
- 111 This seal has an incuse HI (artisan/weaver?) but the initials on the mark are not discernible. From Dorking.
- 112 Miniature padlock, presumably from a small casket. The mechanism is iron; the arm is missing. 17th/18th century. From Bletchingley.
- 113 Thimble, by Ros Tyrrell  
A silver thimble (base diameter 18mm, height 30mm), machine knurled with rectangular holes. These holes on the top are arranged radially around a bare tonsure which shows signs of use. A plain band runs around the top. The inscription FEARE GOD has been incised around the rim in an irregular style. The thimble also has a maker's mark RL stamped inside. Maker's marks are more usually found on the outside of Dutch-made, hand-punched copper alloy thimbles from a period around 1520-1620. A tonsure is sometimes indicative of an earlier date but the height, machine knurling and the inscription contradict this. Holmes (1985) suggests that silver thimbles became increasingly popular after the mid-16th century and this example probably comes from that period. From Reigate.

- 114-5 Terminals, probably from knives. 114 is in the form of a fully modelled head wearing a cap. 115 is a more complex design with scallop shell-like motifs and terminating in a shield. Probably 16th century. From Betchworth.

#### METAL VESSELS (fig 15)

These fragments are likely to vary widely in date from the late medieval period through to the 17th or 18th century.

- 116-134 Objects 116-125 are rim fragments from cooking pots or cauldrons, many of which bear filing marks as well as deposits of soot on their exteriors. 120 seems to be a patch from a rim, 122 has two copper alloy rivets, presumably for the attachment of a handle. 126-132 are feet from tripod cooking pots. 133-4 are elbow handles from cooking pots. 120-123, 125-8, 132, 134 from Bletchingley, 116-9, 124, 130, 133 from Betchworth, 129 from Lingfield, 131 from Dorking.
- 135-6 These are rims from bowls. 135 is sooted on the exterior. 135 from Bletchingley, 136 from Betchworth.
- 137-8 Rims with supporting knobs, from chafing dishes. 137 from Betchworth, 138 from Lingfield.
- 139 This may be a handle from a pipkin. One rivet hole survives. A groove adjacent to the rivet hole may reflect a protrusion on the wall of the vessel. From Leigh.
- 140 Swinging handle, probably from a bowl. The type can be paralleled from Combeinteignhead, Devon (Read 1988, 69), and Westbury, Milton Keynes, Bucks (Mills, forthcoming). From Betchworth.
- 141 Hollow handle with attached rim fragment, probably from a pipkin. From Nutfield.
- 142 Handle from a jug or ewer. The upper junction appears to bifurcate asymmetrically. The date is uncertain. From Godstone.
- 143 Foot, perhaps from a tripod candlestick. On the base of this well-finished foot is a stamped heart. 16th or 17th century. From Bletchingley.

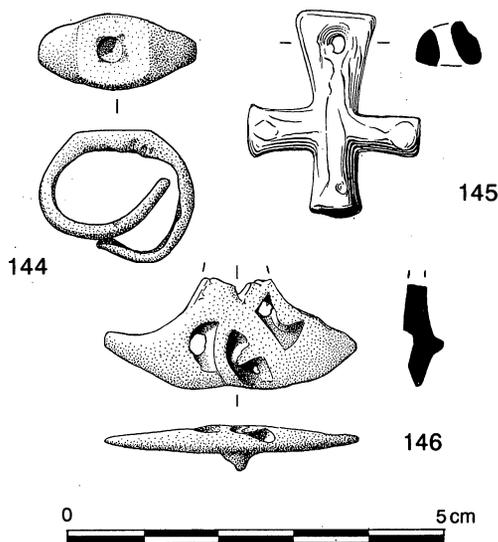


Fig 16 Miscellaneous undated finds from East Surrey, nos 144-6 (1:1)

#### Undated (fig 16)

- 144 Ring, flat-topped with a recess for a ?glass setting. Perhaps Roman. From Bletchingley.
- 145 Lead cross, pierced for suspension. From Betchworth.
- 146 Mount fragment, gilded, with a rear attachment spike. This may be a post-medieval harness mount but the debased interlace suggests a possible early medieval date. From Betchworth.

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**Correction**

Object 17 is almost certainly not of Roman date. It may be one of a series of copper alloy zoomorphic terminals dating to the 11th century AD. Recent research shows that these were fitted in pairs to the lower ends of stirrups.