

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS FROM THE COUNTIES OF LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ADDED TO THE COLLECTIONS OF THE LONDON MUSEUM DURING 1961

Communicated by the Staff of the Museum

Note: The grid references refer to Ordnance Survey 6 in. or 25 in. plans.

A. Bronze Age

FELTHAM, Middlesex (TQ 077725 approximately): in quarry of Hall and Co., Clockhouse Lane was found about 1959 an unlooped, low-flanged **bronze palstave** (axe) with a developed undercut (i.e. overhanging) stop, (length 15·4 cms., maximum width of cutting edge 6 cms.). This axe (Fig. 1a) is of the Middle Bronze Age and of the period c. 1300–1000 B.C. or slightly later, according to current theories of dating. It has been recorded in the Oxford Bronze Implements Catalogue. Presented to the London Museum (61.86) by J. W. Simons, Esq.

B. Roman

CITY OF LONDON (TQ 325807 approximately): in 1960, during sewer-works in Upper Thames Street, between Dowgate Hill and Queen Street were found a quantity of Roman **shoes** and pieces of **leather**. The material, which included studded soles, a toe of a sandal and tooled leather pieces, was donated during 1961–2 by Mr. Alan Carter, the finder, mainly to the Guildhall Museum; a few examples were presented to the London Museum (62.107/1–21).

C. Dark Ages

'THAMES AT LONDON': the following late Saxon and mediaeval objects, dredged from the river at an unknown date, were presented to the London Museum by D. Henderson, Esq., of Dundee. A T-shaped early medieval **axe** of iron (see Fig. 1b): the length of the blade is 21 cms., and the length from the blade to the socket 14·5 cms. (61.173/1). A mediaeval iron **axe** of Ward Perkins Type II in the *Medieval Catalogue* of the London Museum (see Fig. 1c): the length is 22 cms. and the breadth at the cutting edge 15·8 cms. (61.173/2). A second medieval iron **axe** of Ward Perkins Type II (see Fig. 1d) with maker's mark on one cheek; the length is 20·5 cms. and the breadth at the cutting edge 10·8 cms. (61.173/3). A late Saxon iron **spearhead**, 36 cms. long with a long (18·5 cms.) heavy socket retaining a portion of the shaft and rivets; at the junction of the blade and the socket (see Fig. 1e) are three bands of chevron ornament (61.173/4).

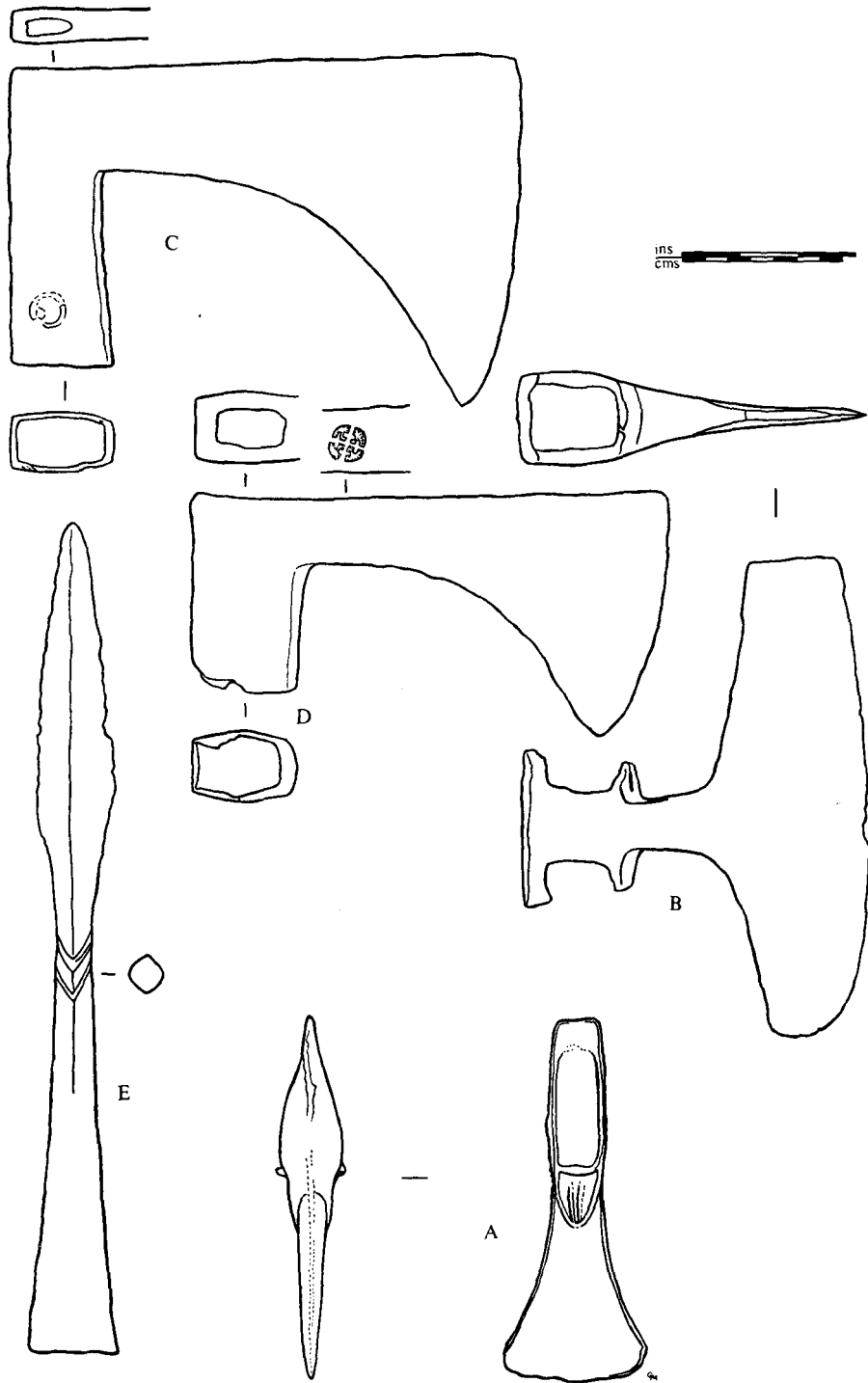


Fig. 1

D. Mediaeval and Post-Mediaeval

TWICKENHAM, at Teddington, Middlesex (TQ 163708 approximately): as a surface find in a garden at Udney Park Road was discovered a hiltless bronze **toy dagger**, two-edged, with quillons twisted to make an S-curve and with prominent cusped écussons; the length is 5.9 cms., and the maximum breadth 1.7 cms.; it is of about the 15th century. Presented to the London Museum (61.201) by Mrs. V. Bell, the finder.

BERMONDSEY (TQ 33257955): in the cellars of Messrs. Crofton Ltd., Paper Merchants, 150–154 Bermondsey St., was found on 8 February, 1961, during excavations for stanchions, a quantity of **17th-century pottery** fragments forming a coherent chronological group. This included a piece of coloured Dutch or Hessian ware, a fragment of majolica base, fragments of green and yellow-glazed kitchenware and a base of a vessel of pinkish cream ware with some clear glaze, having a triangular opening in the side. It has been suggested that this was a 'fire pot' or heater. The material was presented to the London Museum (61.31/1–18) by B. W. Hatt, Esq.

WESTMINSTER. The London Museum has acquired (61.94) the nail-studded **oak doors** from the Strand entrance of **Northumberland House**. It has been conjectured that they are contemporary with the carved portal of *c.* 1609 by (?) Gerard Christmas. The maximum height is 13 ft. 4 in., the overall width excluding hinges 9 ft. 4 in., and the thickness $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. See Plates 4 and 5 of the London County Council *Survey of London*, Vol. XVIII, *The Strand* (1937).