

## DROXFORD ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY, SOBERTON, HAMPSHIRE

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### ABSTRACT

THE cemetery was discovered in 1900 during railway construction when a large number of graves were found. At least 41 further inhumation burials, mainly oriented east-west, were found during excavations in 1974. No cremation graves have been recorded. The grave goods with the burials suggest a range of date from the late fifth century through the sixth century. The relationship between pagan cemeteries, execution cemeteries, 'heathen burialplaces' and estate and parish boundaries is further discussed.

### PREFACE

THE pagan-Saxon cemetery that is the subject of this paper was first discovered in 1900 but, like a number of other such sites in Hampshire found during the last eighty years, the finds have never been fully published. The absence of excavation reports for cemeteries excavated in Hampshire even during the last twenty years, with the notable exception of Winnall, renders comparative study for the Droxford cemetery almost impossible, so the present paper should really be seen as a presentation of the facts which can only be seen in their true regional perspective when the comparative evidence is available.

Also absent from this paper are specialist reports, other than the comments by Martin Welch, since the author felt that the provision of such material would unduly delay the publication of the evidence provided by the excavations of 1974, which is supplemented by an illustrated gazetteer and limited discussion of the objects found between 1900 and 1902.

### 1. DISCOVERY 1900-02

THE village of Droxford lies in south-east Hampshire, on the River Meon about 18 km

(11 miles) from its mouth (Fig. 1). The place is mentioned in late Saxon land charters (pp. 175-6) and is the *Drocheneford* of Domesday Book (pp. 175). It presumably derives its name from a point where the river could be forded with comparative ease (-ford), the first element probably representing a personal element.

The flood plain of the River Meon is about two hundred metres wide at Droxford and from the edge of the valley bottom the ground rises comparatively steeply on either side, but more steeply on the east side than on the west. The present village is situated on the west side of the river in a relatively flat area provided by a dry valley which formerly supported a tributary of the Meon which joined it near the church. On the east side the ground rises steeply from the floor of the valley, at about 45 m O.D., to a false crest, at about 70 m O.D., and it is in this area that the cemetery is located (Figs. 1 and 2). That part of the cemetery so far located actually lies within the administrative parish of Soberton but its close proximity to the former Droxford Station, in the hamlet of Brockbridge, has led to its association with Droxford rather than Soberton.

The cemetery was first discovered in 1900 during the making of a cutting to carry the Meon Valley railway line linking Alton with Fareham, which was being built in accordance with the Meon Valley Railway Act of 1897. It was opened in June 1903 and was closed in February 1955 (Clark 1964). A local antiquary, William Dale Esq., F.S.A., then of 5 Sussex Place, Southampton, visited the site, having been informed that human bones and pieces of ironwork had been found, and retrieved a number of objects which were

subsequently identified as Anglo-Saxon by Mr. Charles Hercules Read, of the British Museum and then Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of London (Dale 1903, 125-9; 1906, 173-7).

During the summer of 1900 and the autumn and winter of 1901-02 Dale visited the site regularly and was able, with the help of "a couple of navvies who were more intelligent than is usual with their class", to retrieve a quantity of objects and bones. The objects were presented to the British Museum (pp. 136-41) and a few bones were given to the British Museum (Natural History) in 1951 and 1955 (pp. 142). After the main line had been made the railway was widened near the station and a small number of objects were retrieved and presented to Winchester City Museum (pp. 141-2).

William Dale evidently spent a considerable amount of time on the site but, apart from two published notes, no written record of his observations has been traced in archives held by the Society of Antiquaries of London, the Hampshire Field Club, Southampton University Library, Winchester City Museum, Southampton City Record Office, the British Museum, the British Museum (Natural History), the Hampshire County Record Office, or the Royal Commission on Historical Documents. The county newspaper, the *Hampshire Chronicle*, has been scanned for references to the cemetery for the period during which the cutting was being made at Droxford but no direct references occur. Indeed, it is somewhat surprising that the work on the line went almost unnoticed in the contemporary press, although its progress can be determined by indirect references. On the 30th of June reference is made to the making of an 'improved roadway from Droxford village to the proposed new railway station at Brockbridge' and these works were again mentioned on the 7th and 14th of July in the same year. On August 25th 1900, an application for a new hotel near the proposed new station at Brockbridge was discussed as for possible construction 'if the light railway

comes...'. On September the 8th 1900, it was reported that 'good progress has also been made with the Meon Valley line...' and on October 19th 1901, a road was being built 'from the bottom of Garson Hill to the new station at Brockbridge' but it is not clear whether the station had already been built. In December 1901 the Droxford District Surveyor was directed to submit an estimate of the damage caused by the contractors of the Meon Valley Railway, which appears to indicate that by this time the line had been made through part of Droxford. That the line was nearly completed by January 1902 is indicated by the reporting of the dissolution of the local committee of the Meon Valley Navvy Mission which was to close 'as the cuttings are nearly finished'.

Since it has not been possible to locate any original records of the discovery of the cemetery, it is upon Dale's two published notes and the material now held in the British Museum and the Winchester City Museum that we must rely for the evidence of the position, extent, and contents of the graves discovered between 1900 and 1902.

For the position of the cemetery we must rely upon the following abstracts of Dale's two published notes:

'At the village of Droxford it (the railway line) cuts through the top of the hill overlooking the valley on the eastern side, and it is at this point, immediately above Droxford Church and close to the place marked Brockbridge on the map, that the discovery was made' (Dale 1903, 125).

'The area of the cemetery seemed confined to the top of the hill and the railway cut through about 100 yards of it from north to south, apparently near the middle...' (Dale 1906, 175).

'After the main cutting was completed, ... the railway was widened a little near the station, and ... a few more things were found.' (Dale 1906, 177).

The cemetery, as located in 1900-02, thus

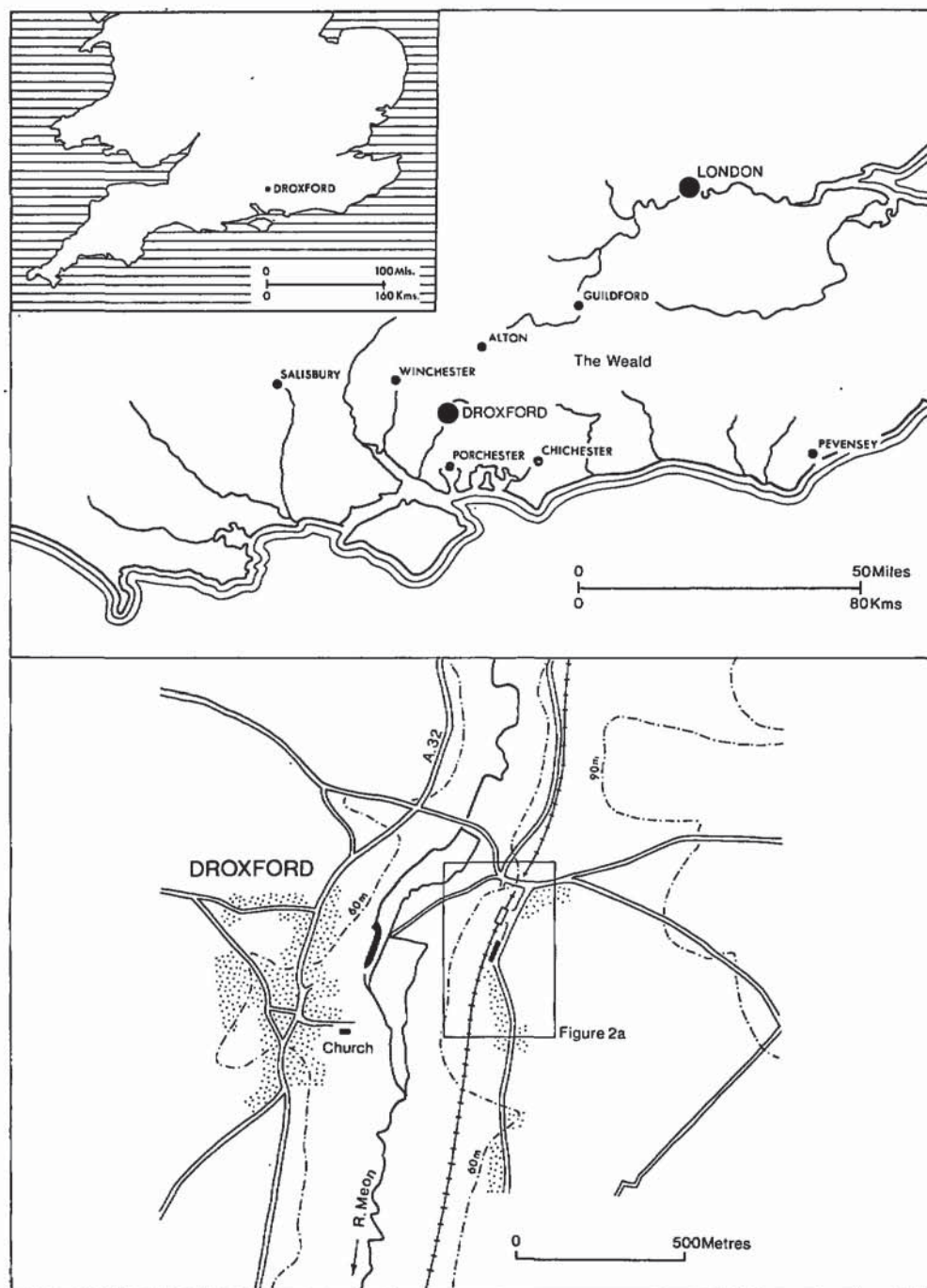


Fig. 1. Location maps, occupied areas stippled.



lay on the top of a hill near the station and extended for about 100 yards. Subsequent survey (pp. 98-9) has shown that this was almost certainly the area immediately adjoining the now disused station on its south side, the later widening referring to the provision of sidings. The making of the cutting also rendered the old road from Soberton obsolete since it had been severed immediately south of the area excavated in 1974 (Fig. 2). This road, now Station Road, appears to have been remade further east, but there is no direct reference to burials being found during the making of the cutting in which it lies. The former position of this old road from Soberton can be traced on the Ordnance Survey plan of 1896 (shown dotted on Fig. 2) and the north-east boundary of this road was encountered as a gully during the 1974 excavation (p. 134 Feature 2). On the plan of 1896 two fields are shown to the east of this road but only one to the west.

One additional abstract from Dale's articles may assist in determining the extent of the cemetery as located in 1900-02. He says 'Very little progress was made with the railway in 1900 owing to the scarcity of labour, and the cutting, after going about half-way through the field where the interments were found, stopped until the following autumn when the work was again resumed and fresh discoveries made' (Dale 1906, 174). What Dale does not make clear is the direction in which the work was being undertaken. A contemporary photograph of the line under construction shows a steam shovel, which according to an elderly resident of Droxford, is identical to that which was used to make the Droxford cutting (see Fig. 3). There is little evidence to indicate the precise section of the line which was under construction when the photograph was taken but it would be nice to think, in view of the close attention that is being paid by two of the 'navvies' to the upper levels of the cutting where a rectangular pit or grave appears to have been encountered, that this is the Droxford cutting, but I am informed that it is more likely the Meonstoke cutting further north. Be this as it may there can be little

doubt, in view of the position of the shadows, that this section of the line was being dug from north to south. It seems likely that the field which was being dug through when work was halted in 1900 was that which lay immediately south of the present road junction, north of the disused station. Work had evidently proceeded to 'half-way through' this field in 1900.

It can thus be argued that the cemetery may have extended as far north as something over half-way across the former field immediately south of the Droxford to Waterlooville road, that is somewhere in the vicinity of the station (Fig. 2, point a), as far south as the old field boundary south of the station (Fig. 2, point b), and at least part of the way across the area subsequently occupied by the railway sidings. The extent of the original sidings can, to some extent, be deduced on a contemporary photograph of Droxford station soon after its completion in about 1903 (see Fig. 4). This view, looking south, shows the main line bearing to the left with a small siding on the right. The area excavated in 1974 lies above the cutting behind the workmen on the left.

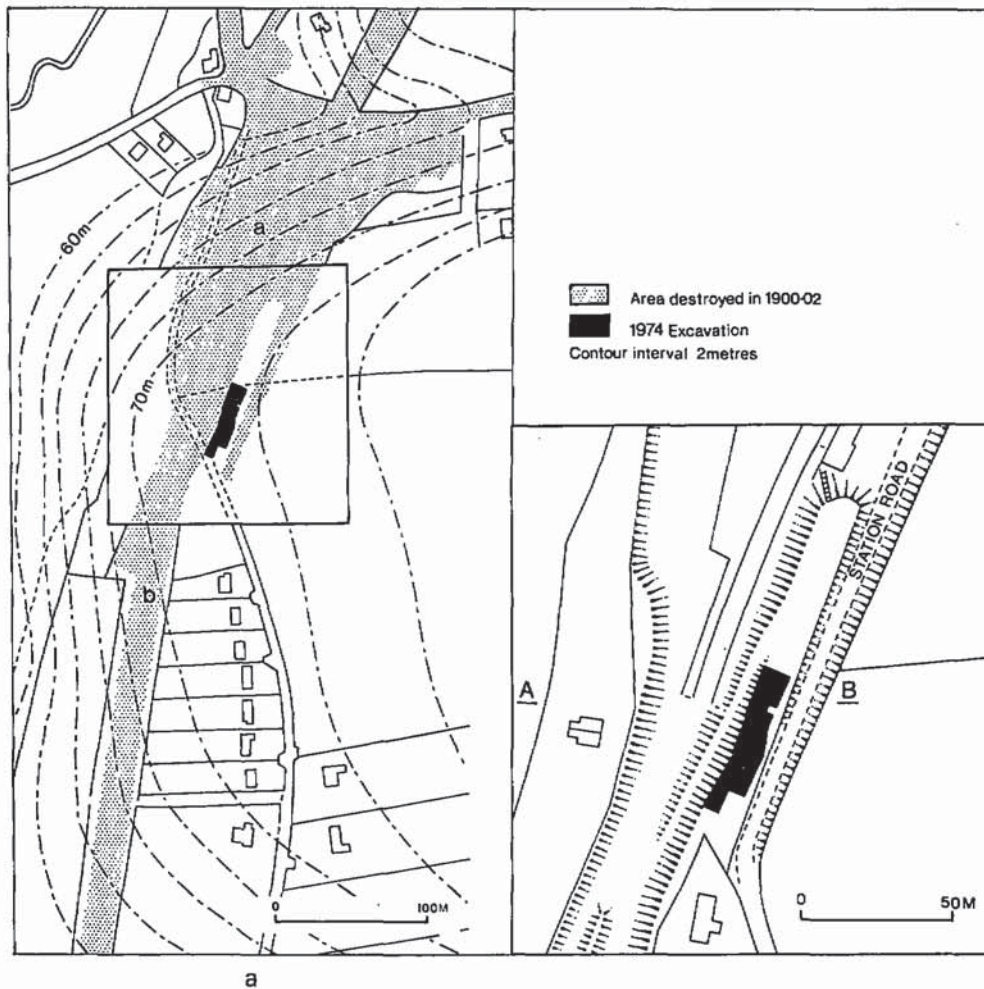
Of the graves themselves Dale published little information, except that many were evidently comparatively shallow, but he did note that there was no evidence of covering barrows, that both east-west and north-south inhumations were encountered, and that a number were unaccompanied. He makes no specific reference to the discovery of cremation burials.

Of the objects retrieved by Dale at least 176 were donated to the British Museum (pp. 136-41 and Figs. 31-46) and 27 were donated to Winchester City Museum (pp. 141-2 and Figs. 47-9).

## 2. REDISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION 1973-4

THE re-examination of the material from Droxford and a detailed study of the original area of the discovery were undertaken by the writer in 1973 as part of a study of the evidence available for a reconstruction of a





## Section A-B

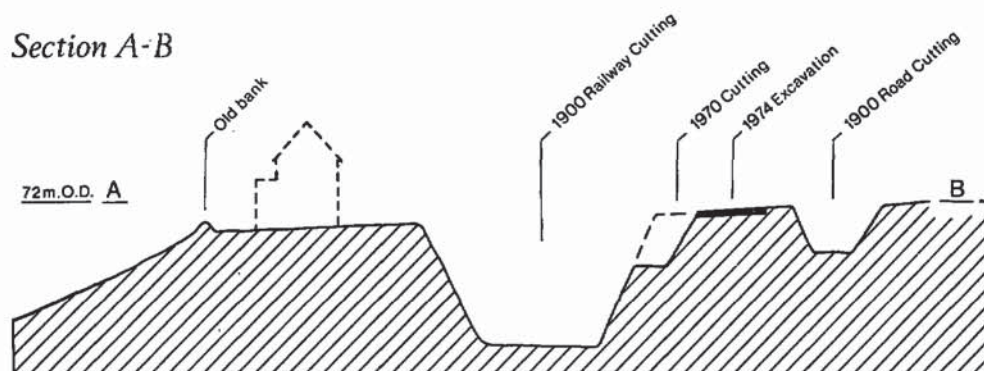


Fig. 2 Droxford: The site and extent of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery. Scales: a. 1:5,000, b. 1:2,500, c. Horizontal 1:1,000, Vertical  $\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ .

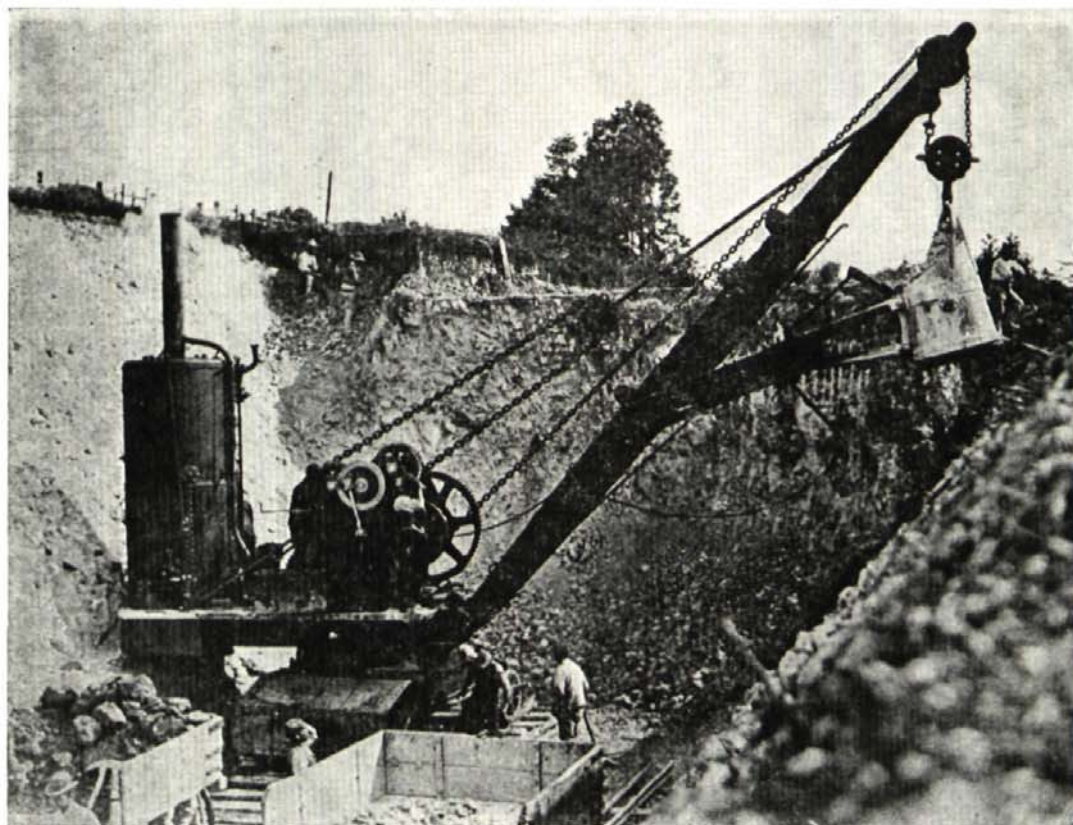


Fig. 3. The making of the railway cutting near Droxford in about 1900. Photograph by kind permission of Mr R. Stone.

pre-Domesday Geography for Hampshire using archaeology, written sources, and place-name elements (Aldsworth 1973). It soon became clear that there was a wealth of unpublished material from Anglo-Saxon cemeteries in the county and fieldwork indicated that where individual objects or graves had previously been discovered undetected cemeteries may exist. There appears to be a general similarity, for example, in the topographical position of many pagan-Saxon cemeteries in that they usually lie on the top of a crest either alongside an earlier burial mound or at the very end of a spur of land. The re-discovery of the Droxford cemetery came as a direct result of the recognition of this pattern which is further discussed in

section 4 (pp. 174–5).

Dale (1906, 175) indicated that the cemetery lay on the top of a hill. A contour survey of the area in the vicinity of Droxford Station, made in 1973, indicated that, although a considerable area of the original top soil and underlying chalk had been removed during the construction of the railway, its sidings, and access roads, sufficient evidence survived to indicate the original profile of the land (Fig. 2). A spur of high ground, rising to just over 70 m O.D., near the station, extends westwards to terminate, close to the western side of the railway cutting, in a steep drop down onto the flood plain of the River Meon. The crest of this spur has been destroyed for



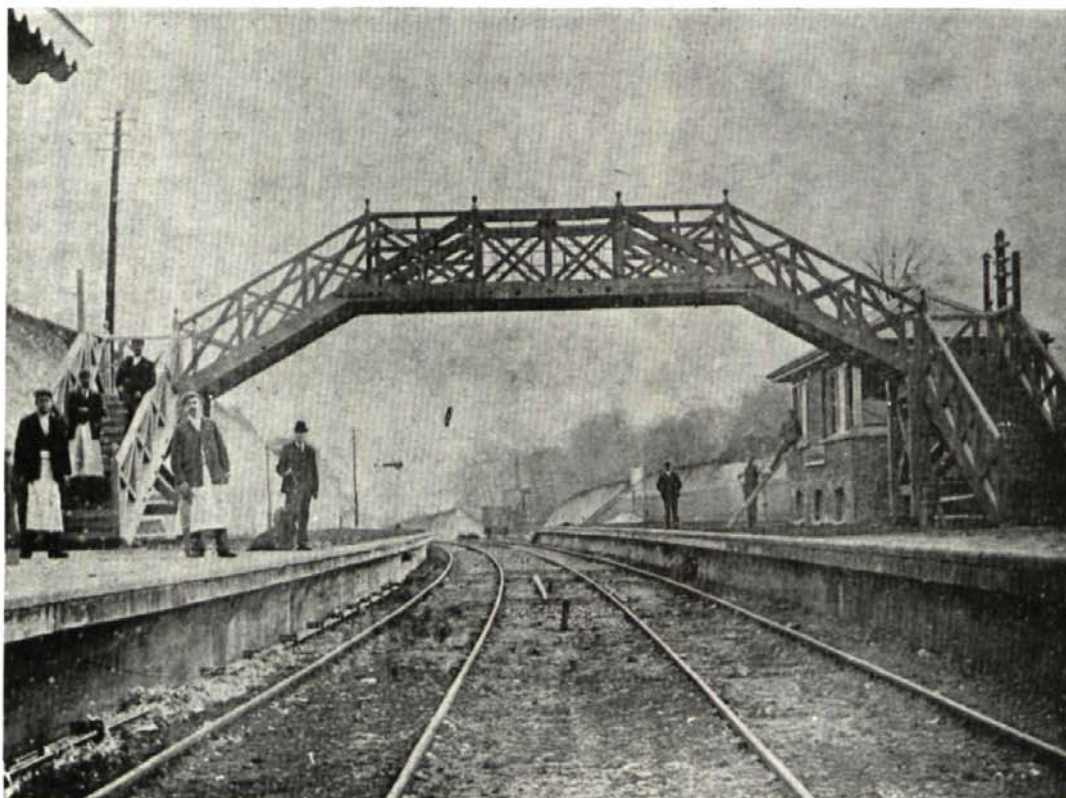


Fig. 4. Droxford Station in about 1903. Photograph by kind permission of Mr R. Stone.

a distance of about 100 m by the railway cutting (Fig. 2), a figure which tallies with Dale's description.

It appears that only a limited area of the original ground surface level on the summit of the end of the spur has survived the construction of the railway. To the west of the original cutting a small area survives in the garden of a pair of semi-detached houses. To the east of the original cutting a narrow strip of land, about 100 m long and up to 10 m wide, survives between the cuttings made for the railway and Station Road. The land to the south has been developed with detached houses, in the gardens of which parts of the cemetery may survive and other remains may occur to the east of Station Road in a field which is ploughed regularly (Fig. 4).

Close attention was paid in 1973 to the narrow strip of land between the railway cutting and Station Road, the western face of which was suffering natural erosion due to the fact that it had been cut back by the owner in about 1970. No discoveries were reported when this work was undertaken but a close examination of the eroding chalk face revealed graves, subsequently identified as Graves 2 and 3, and an iron spearhead, subsequently identified as Grave 1.

The Anglo-Saxon cemetery of Droxford had thus been re-discovered but the few graves which were visible were being destroyed by erosion. In view of the implications of the threat to the site an approach was made to the Department of the Environment and the Hampshire County Museum Service with a

# ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY, DROXFORD, HAMPSHIRE : SITE PLAN

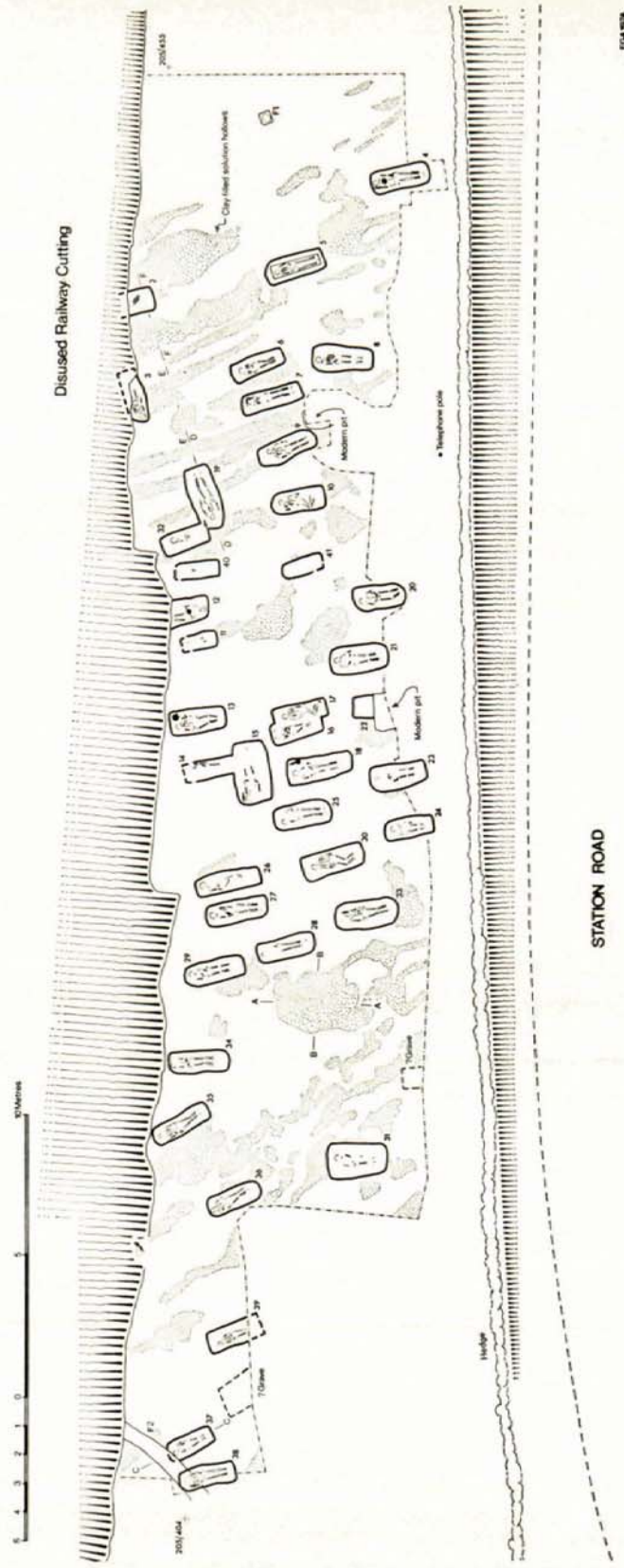


Fig. 5. Droxford: Site plan.



## SECTIONS

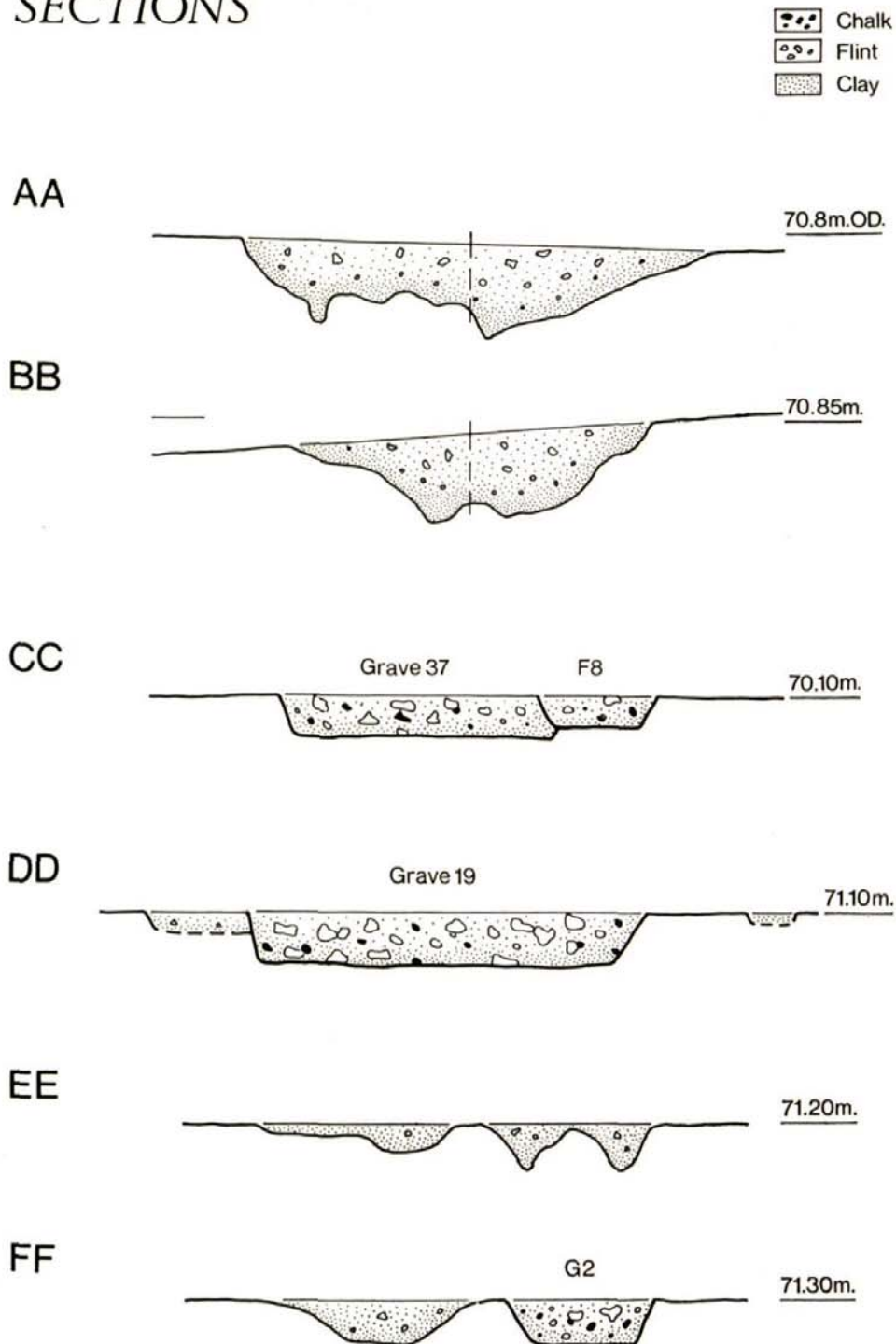


Fig. 6. Droxford: Sections, for positions see Fig. 5. Scale 1:40.

view to excavating that part of the cemetery which was threatened. It was hoped that a small number of grave groups might throw light upon the nature and date of the whole cemetery. When the excavation was undertaken in July and August 1974, the resulting forty-one graves, containing over three hundred and eighty associated objects, surpassed all expectation.

Although the strip of land which survives is about 100 m long it was decided, in view of the fact that the main threat was at the south end and bearing in mind the problem of storing the topsoil for replacement, that excavation should be confined to this area (Fig. 2). It had previously been disturbed, by ploughing and during the cutting and re-cutting of the railway, and much of the overlying topsoil had been removed. The surface sloped gently from about 72.5 m O.D. at the north end to about 71.5 m O.D. at the south end. An area of approximately five hundred square metres of topsoil, about 0.4 m deep, was removed by mechanical means to reveal a thin, patchy, layer of clay-with-flints over underlying chalk. The precise limits of the excavated area were determined by the railway cutting on the west and by vegetation and service poles on the east. The excavation was taken as far south as was possible at the time. Subsequent cleaning of the surface revealed forty-three probable grave cuts, one rectangular post-hole (Feature 1), one gully (Feature 2), and a number of natural clay-filled solution hollows. Two probable grave cuts underlay the eastern side of the excavation, at the south end, and were not excavated. One lay north-east of grave 31 and the other lay between graves 37 and 39 (Fig. 5).

The excavation of the remaining forty-one graves was commenced at the northern end and work proceeded in a southerly direction, each grave taking an average of four man-days to excavate, record, photograph, and remove. The depth to which the graves had been dug in the chalk varied between 0.1 m and 0.74 m, the overlying top soil having been up to 0.5 m thick. The grave fills were normally a mixture

of clay, chalk, and flint. Many of the graves contained large nodular flints but in only one case, grave 21, did these appear to have been deliberately placed in position (p. 124 and Fig. 11).

In the following list of graves and their contents the osteological evidence is based on the preliminary site observations and measurements provided by Graham Johnson which have been amended as a result of Miss Connie Toomey's additional work. A copy of Mr Johnson's report has been placed with the Hampshire County Museum Service and it is hoped that a copy of Miss Toomey's observations will eventually accompany it. Many of the objects described in the list are further discussed in subsequent paragraphs: swords (p. 124), spearheads (pp. 164-6), shield bosses and grips (p. 167), knives (p. 167), belt fittings (pp. 170-1), brooches (pp. 167-71), firesteels and purses (pp. 167-8), amulets, amulet bags, and châtelaines (p. 171), pottery and glass (pp. 173-4), and beads (pp. 171-3). The grave orientations are measured clockwise from true north.

#### GRAVE 1

Originally found in 1973 when the spearhead and a few pieces of human bone were found in the edge of the railway cutting. Subsequent excavation, in 1974, revealed part of the right humerus and clavicle, and a fragment of cranium, which suggested that the skeleton had originally been laid in a grave aligned south-north.

##### Associated find:

1. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 16, no. 1.1), 215 mm long with broken tip, of Swanton's angular type F<sub>2</sub>.

#### GRAVE 2

West-east 287°. Only the eastern part survived, the remainder having been destroyed by the railway cutting, up to 0.92 m long, 0.76 m wide, and 0.28 m deep.

Of the skeleton only the lower leg bones survived and these are thought to be female.

No associated finds.



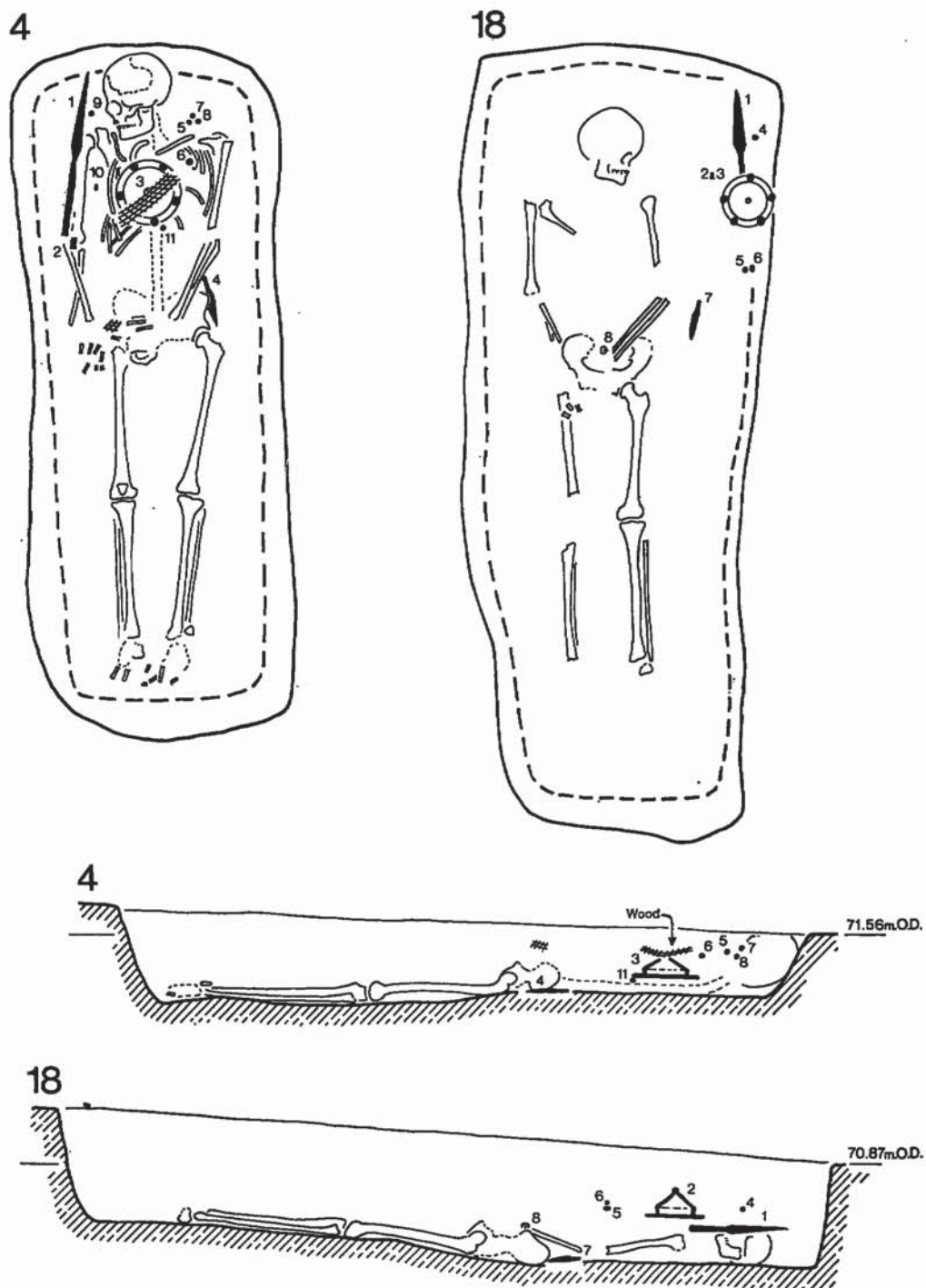


Fig. 7. Droxford: Group 1, warrior graves 4 and 18. Scale 1:20.

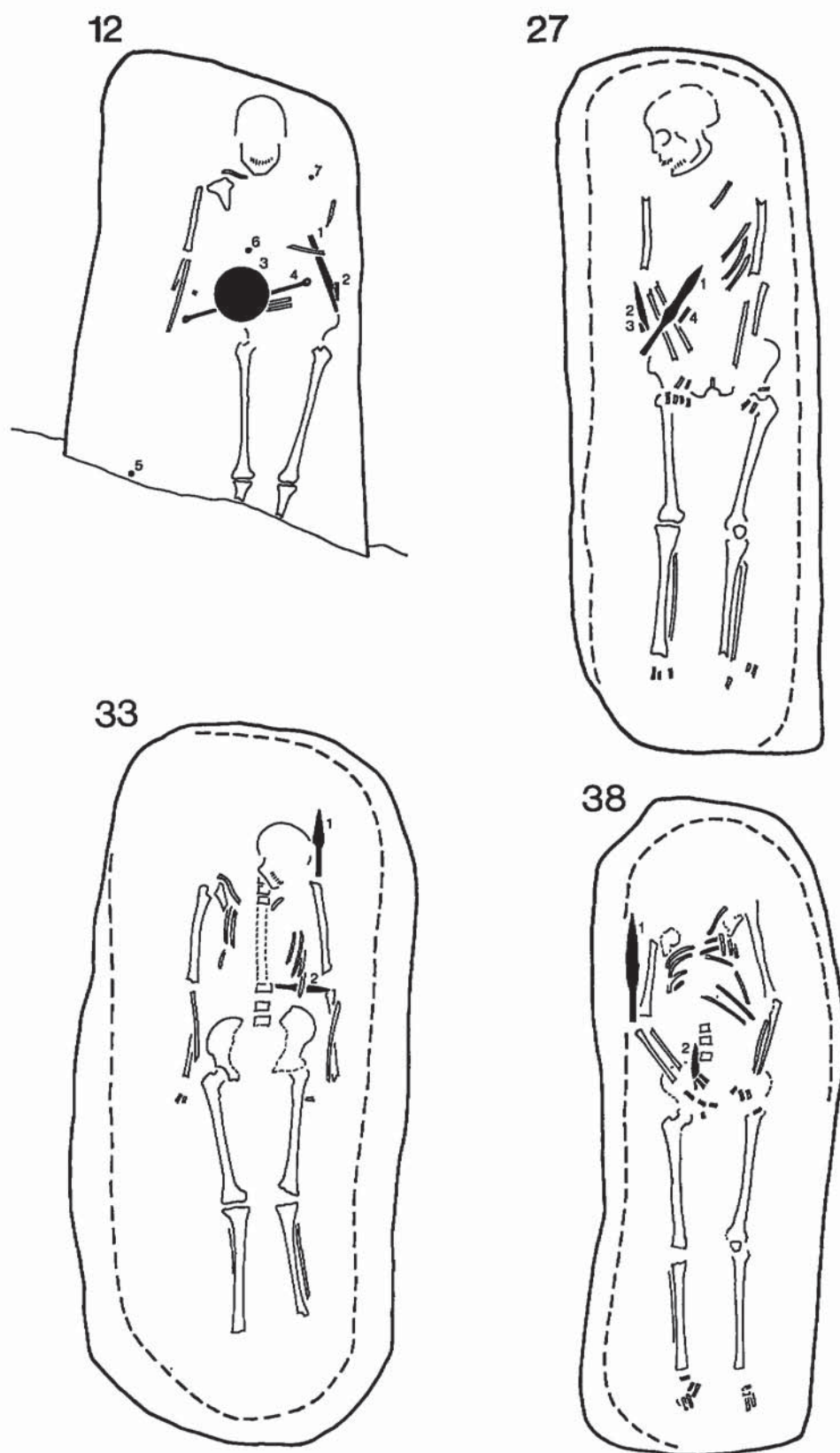


Fig. 8. Droxford: Group 1, warrior graves 12, 27, 33 and 38. Scale 1:20.



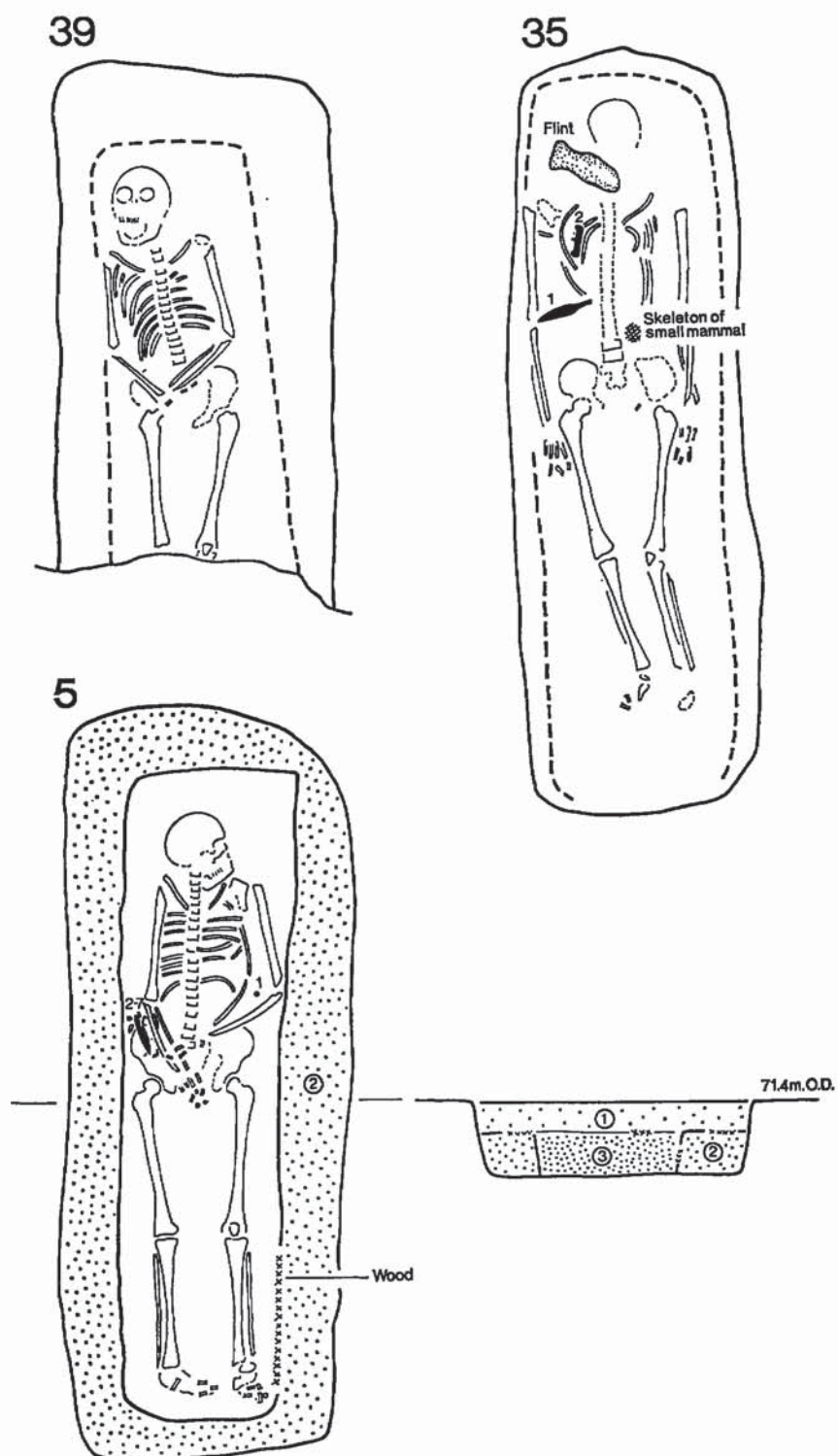


Fig. 9. Droxford: Group 2, male grave 35; group 3, male grave 39; group 4, female grave 5. Scale 1:20.

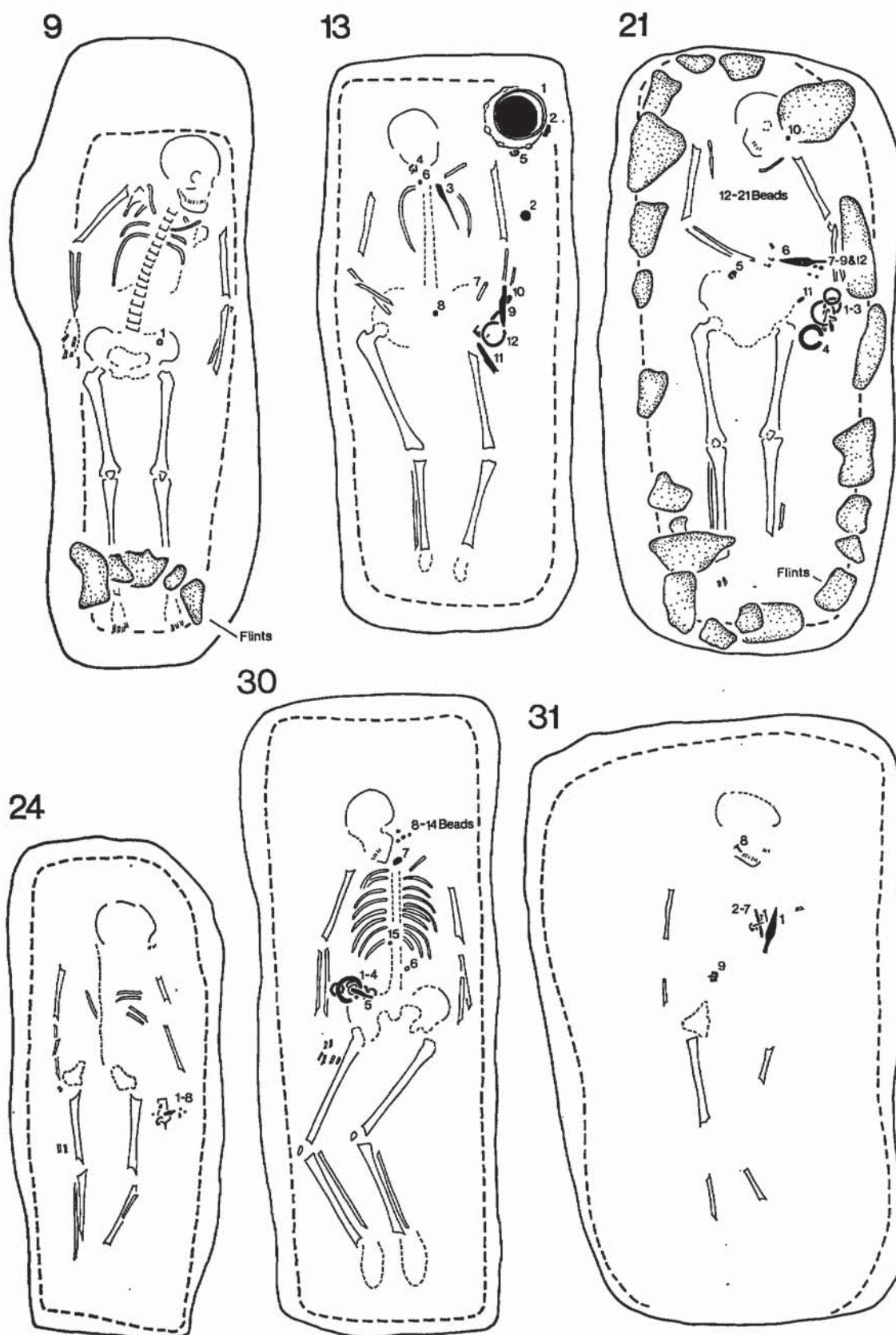


Fig. 10. Droxford: Group 5, female graves 9, 13, 21, 24, 30 and 31. Scale 1:20.



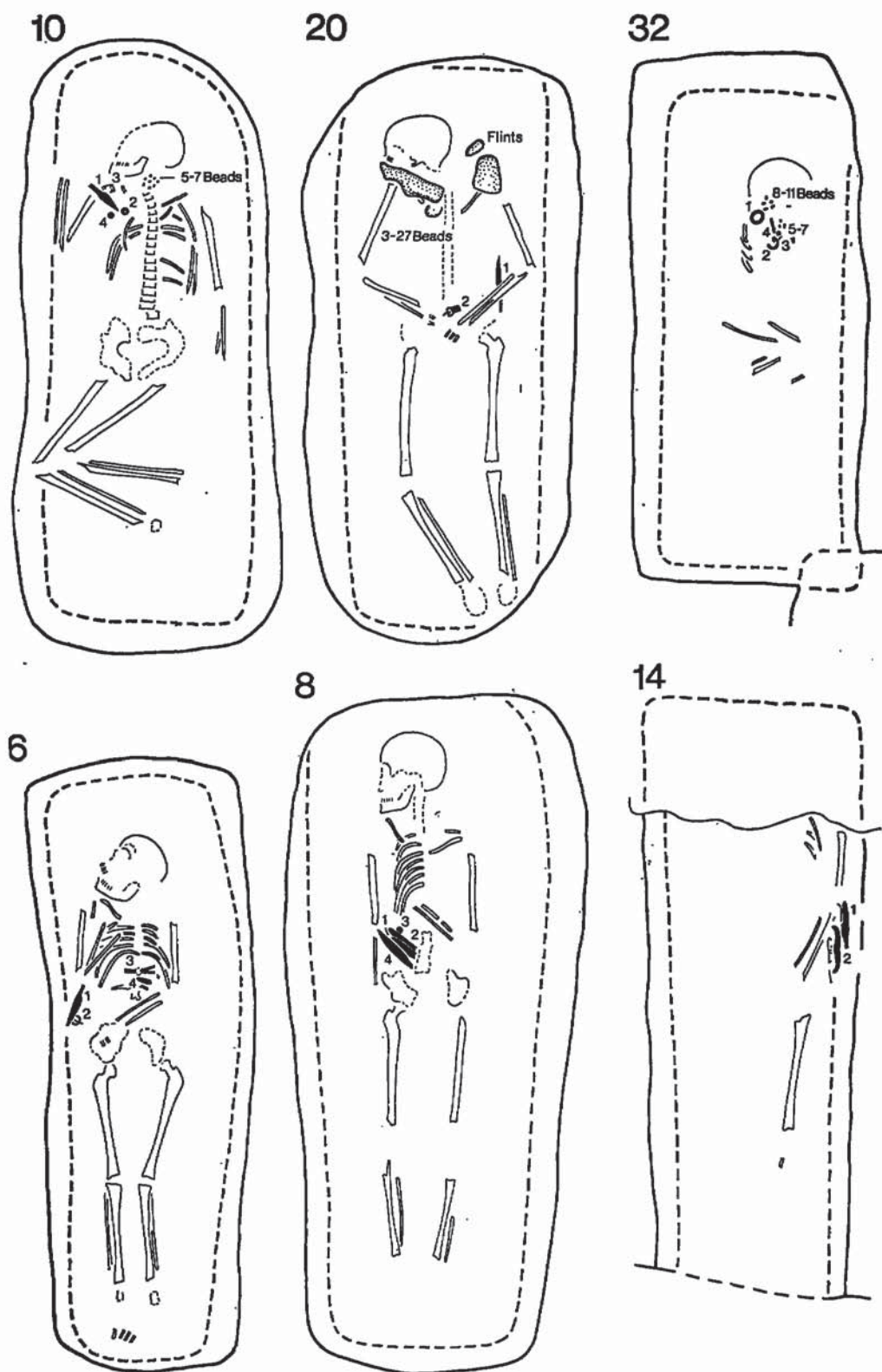


Fig. 11. Droxford: Group 5, infant grave 32; group 6, female graves 10 and 20; group 7, graves 6, 8 and 14. Scale 1:20.

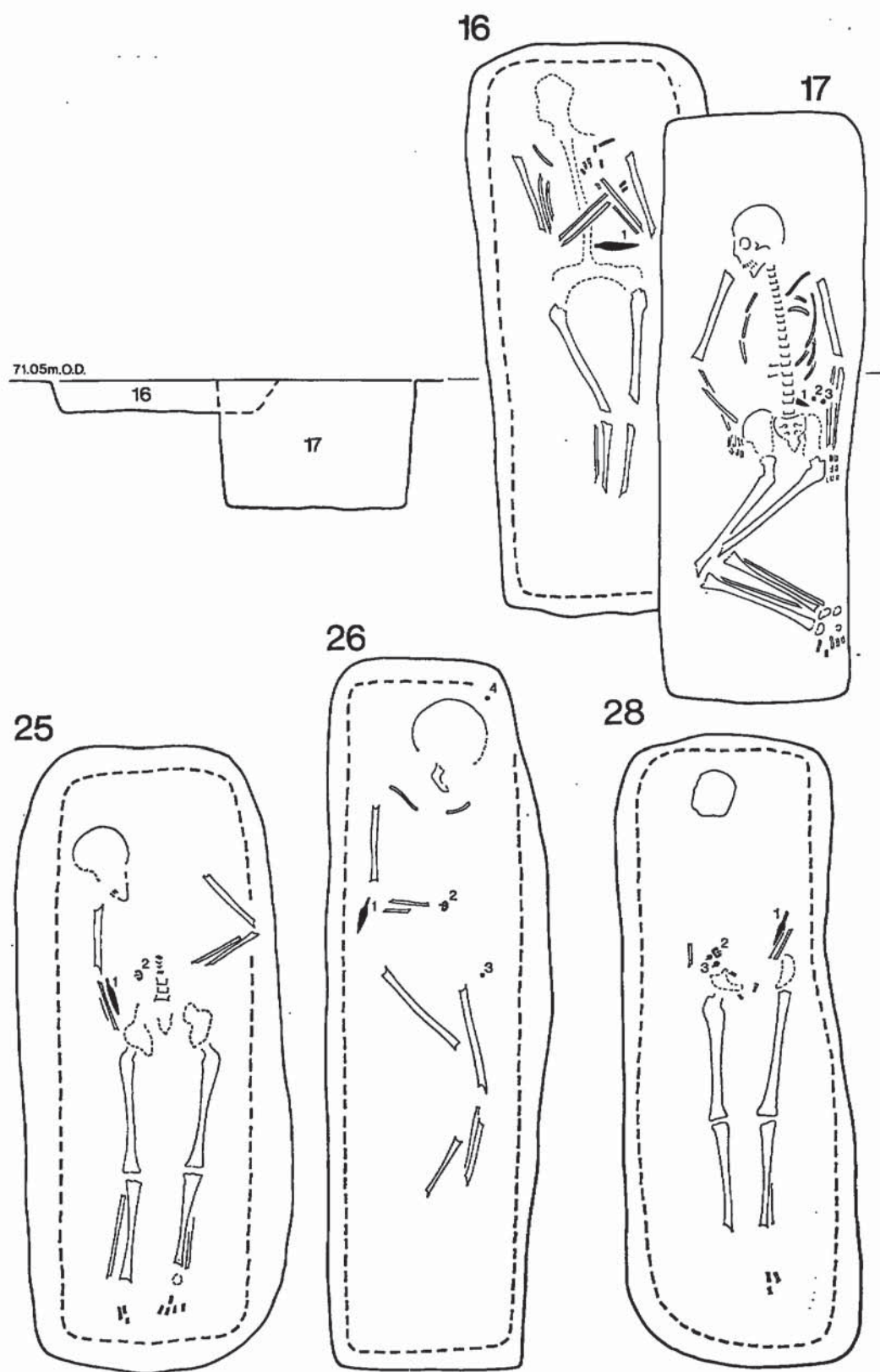


Fig. 12. Droxford: Group 7, graves 16, 17, 25, 26 and 28. Scale 1:20.



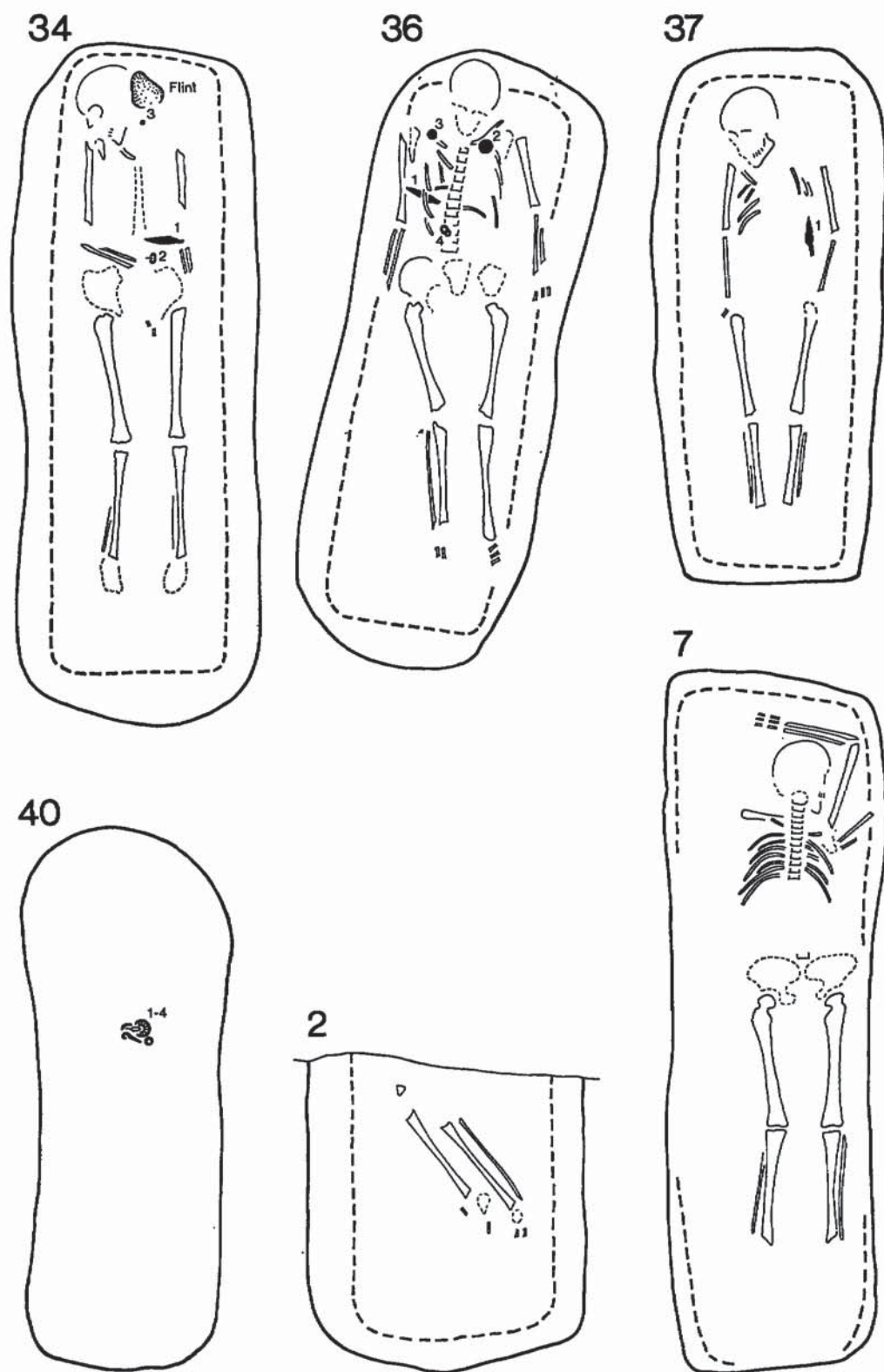


Fig. 13. Droxford: Group 7, graves 34, 36, 37 and 40; group 8, graves 2 and 7.  
Scale 1:20.

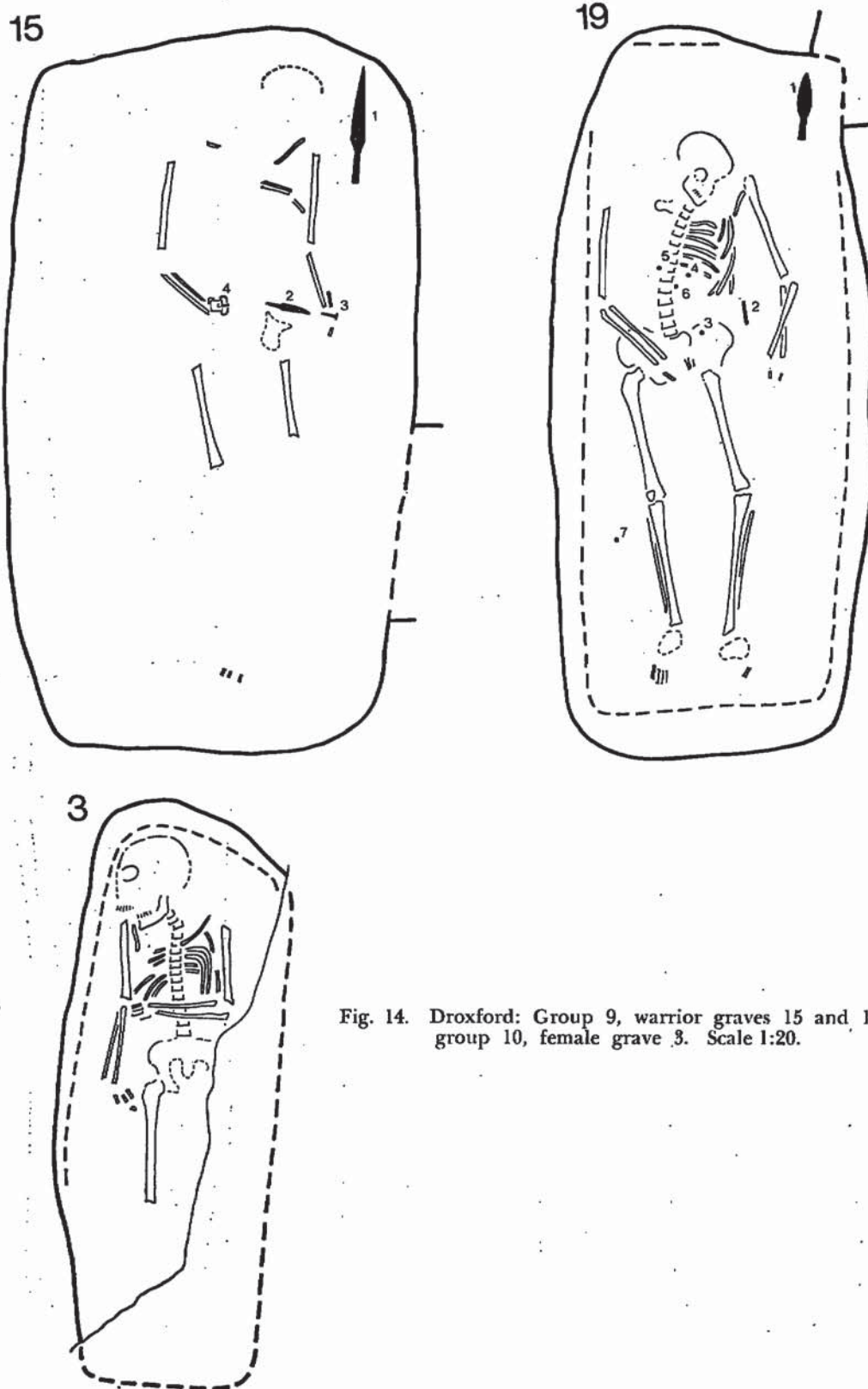


Fig. 14. Droxford: Group 9, warrior graves 15 and 19; group 10, female grave 3. Scale 1:20.



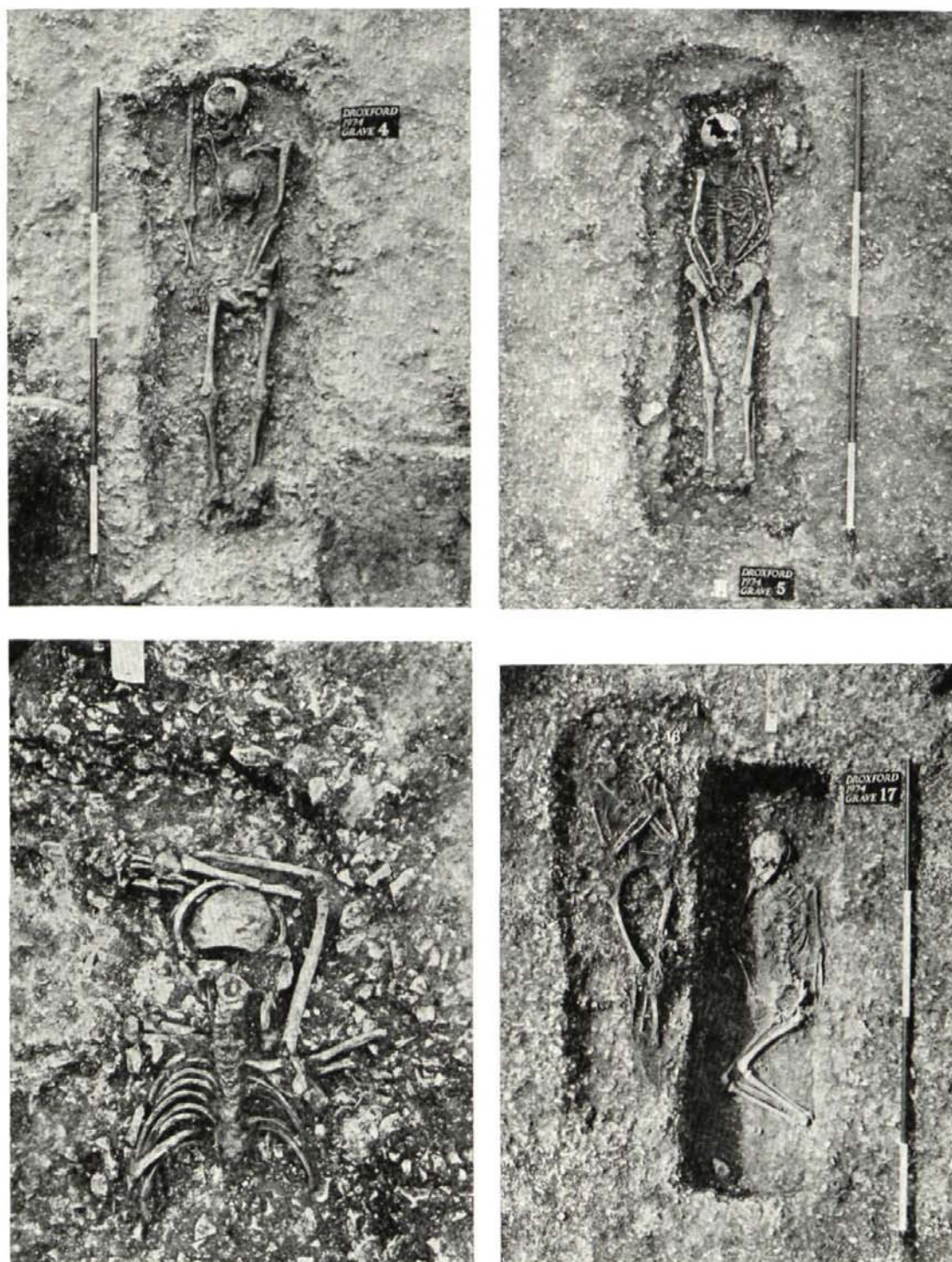


Fig. 15. Droxford: a. warrior grave 4 (above left), b. 'Coffin' grave 5 (above right), c. Female grave 7 (below left), d. Graves 16 and 17 (below right). Scale 1:20.

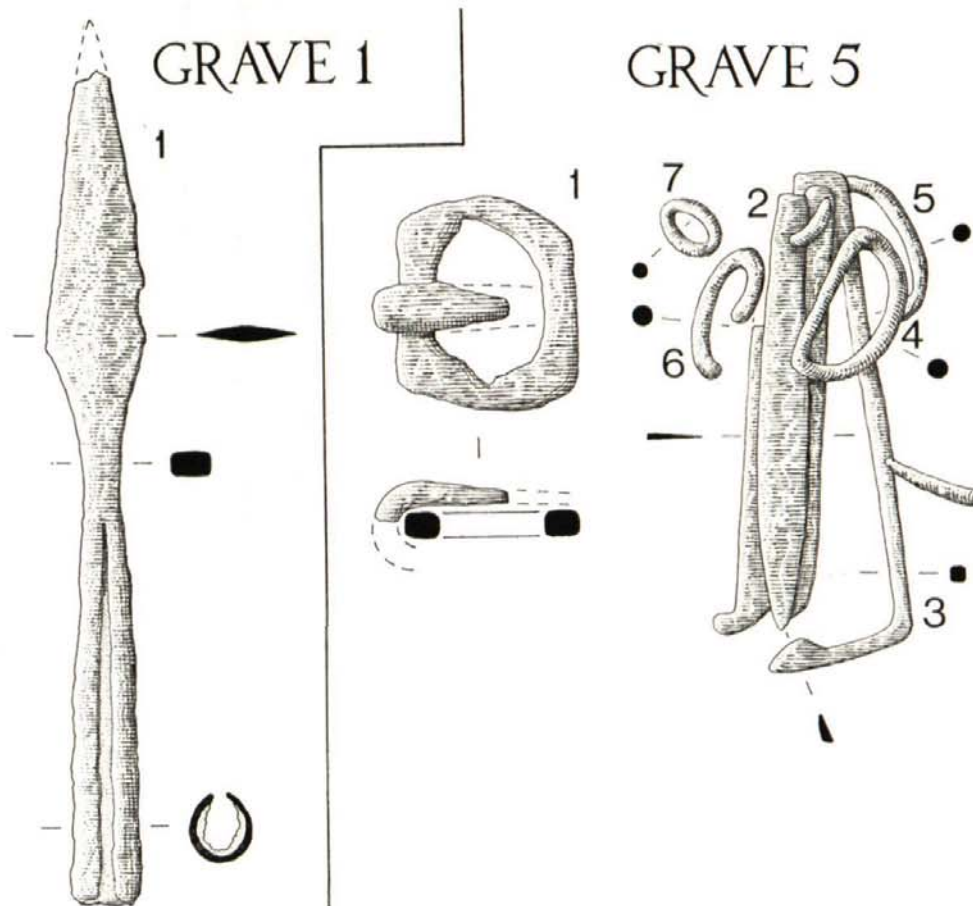


Fig. 16. Droxford: Objects from graves 1 and 5. Scales: 1.1, 5.2–7,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 5.1, actual size.

#### GRAVE 3 (Fig. 14)

South-north  $195^\circ$ . North end destroyed by the railway cutting. 1.65 m long, 0.60 m wide, and 0.36 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult female (30–35 years) about 1.7 m (5 ft 6 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with skull turned to east. Right arm at side, left arm across chest. Of the legs only the right femur survived.

No associated finds.

#### GRAVE 4 (Fig. 7 and 15)

West-east  $290^\circ$ . Rectangular with rounded corners 2.0 m long, 0.8 m wide, and 0.3 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult male (35–40 years) about 1.76 m (5 ft 10 in.) in height. Supine extended,

with skull turned to south. Right arm at side, palm of hand downwards, with upper arm supporting spearhead and rings (1 & 2). Left arm flexed, hand flat on pelvis. Legs extended.

#### Associated finds:

1. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 17, no. 4.1), 440 mm in length, resting on upper right arm. Swanton's leaf-shaped type  $C_3$ , with three rivets surviving in the socket.
2. *Seven iron rings* (one illustrated Fig. 17, no. 4.2), each 20 mm in diameter, lying on upper right arm just below spearhead, suggesting that they were originally mounted on the spear shaft.
3. *Iron shield boss and grip* (Fig. 17, no. 4.3) lying on the centre of the chest. 130 mm in diameter and 85 mm in height, with five plain iron rivets and a short iron grip



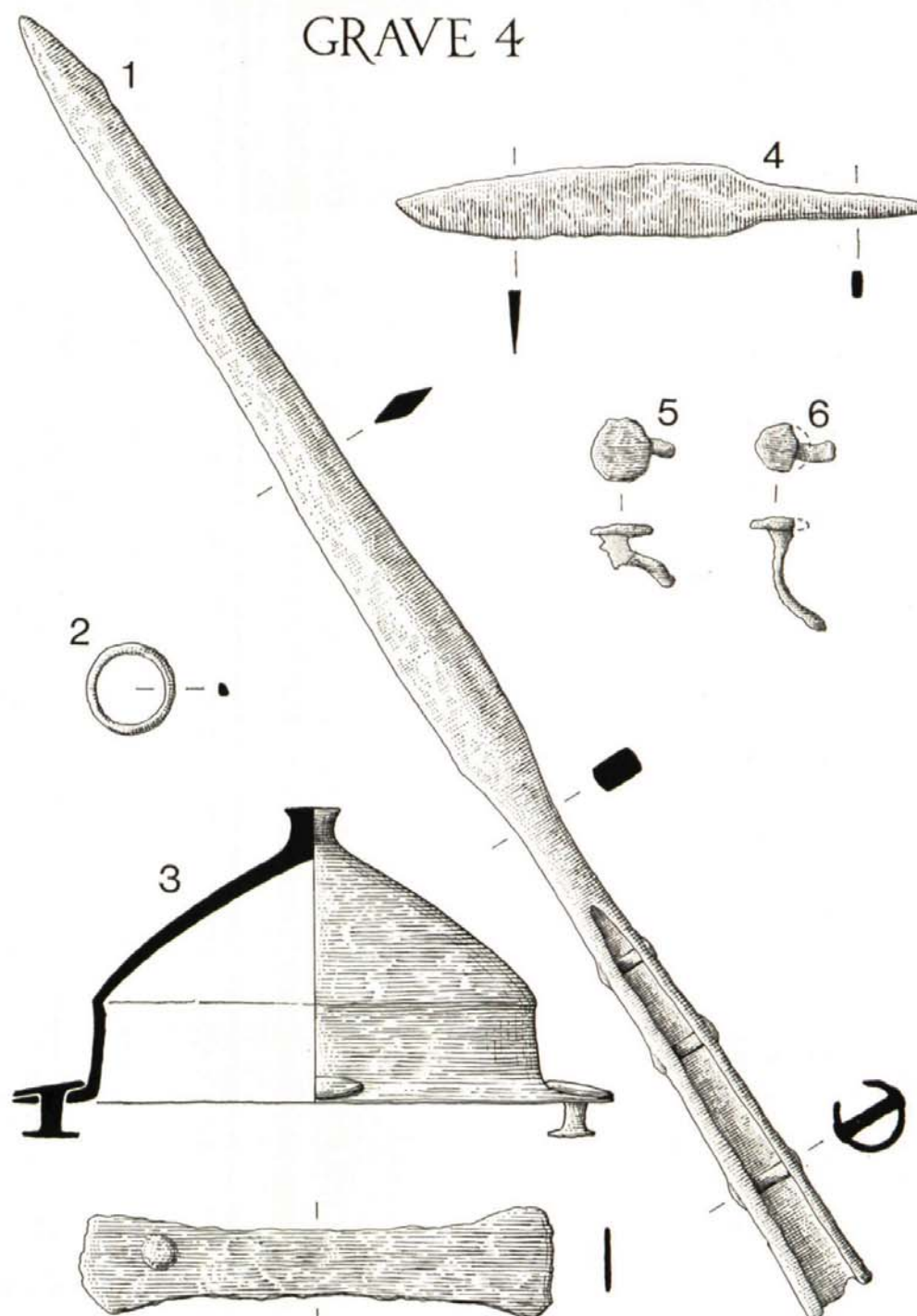


Fig. 17. Droxford: Objects from grave 4. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

135 mm in length and up to 30 mm wide. The boss is of Evison's low carinated type with convex dome (Evison 1963).

4. *Iron knife* (Fig. 17, no. 4.4) lying behind left hip. 150 mm in length, tang to west, cutting edge to south.
  - 5&6. *Two iron rivets* (Fig. 17, nos. 5 & 6) in grave fill and presumably part of shield fittings. Each 30 mm long.
  - 7-11. *Five small bronze fragments* (not illustrated) lying in grave fill and presumably part of shield fittings.
- Two patches of charcoal or decayed wood* found in the upper grave fill may be the remains of shield or a plank laid over the grave (see further discussion pp. 162-3).

#### GRAVE 5 (Fig. 9 and Fig. 15)

West-east 279°. Rectangular 2.08 m long, 0.76 m wide, and 0.24 m deep. Differentiated grave fill, clay with flint and chalk (layer 2) around an area of clean clay (layer 3), and the survival of decomposed wood at the interfaces of the soil changes indicated that the body had been laid in a plank box some 1.80 m long, 0.45 m wide, and, as surviving, 0.15 m deep. The 'box' had seemingly only comprised side and end members. This was sealed by planks covering the full width of the grave cut and the grave was filled with soil (layer 1). There was no evidence to suggest that the box was ever a portable coffin and no evidence of nails or a wooden bottom to the box was found (for a further discussion see pp. 162-3).

Skeleton of an adult female (about 21 years) about 1.67 m (5 ft 5 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with skull turned to north. Right arm near straight with hand, palm upwards, on pelvis. Left arm flexed at elbow with hand on pelvis. Legs straight with feet turned in, having been confined in the 'box'.

#### Associated finds:

1. *Iron buckle and pin* (Fig. 16, no. 5.1). The plain loop is about 28 mm in diameter and is of roughly round section about 4 mm across. The pin is fragmentary.
- A group of objects at the left side. These were raised with the surrounding soil and have, as yet, not been conserved. They include the following identifiable items and several other iron fragments which may all originally have been contained in a bag at the left side.
2. *Iron knife* (Fig. 16, no. 5.2), 115 mm long, which appears to overlay two other iron pieces.
  3. *Iron object* (Fig. 16, no. 5.3), 125 mm long and of square section, with one end turned at right angles and flattened to a rough point.

4. *Iron loop* (Fig. 16, no. 5.4) in the form of a D, 60 mm long and 36 mm wide, which may be the remains of a buckle.
5. *Remains of oval iron loop* (Fig. 16, no. 5.5), 5 cm long and about 3 cm wide.
6. *Iron loop* (Fig. 16, no. 5.6), about 35 mm in diameter.
7. *Oval iron loop* (Fig. 16, no. 5.7), 20 mm long and 15 mm wide.

#### GRAVE 6 (Fig. 11)

West-east 279°. Rectangular 1.86 m long, 0.69 m wide, and 0.22 m deep.

Skeleton of a sub-adult or adult (16-17 years), probably female, about 1.52 m (5 ft 0 in.) in height. Supine extended, with skull turned to the south. Right arm flexed at the elbow with hand near mandible, left arm flexed at elbow with hand, palm upwards, on pelvis.

#### Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 18, no. 6.1), 115 mm long, at right hip. Tang to west, cutting edge to north.
2. *Iron buckle with pin* (Fig. 18, no. 6.2) found below 1. This comprised little more than a circular iron stain, about 3 cm in diameter, with traces of a pin.
3. *Iron object* (Fig. 18, no. 6.3) below sternum and probably originally beneath body. 10 cm long and comprising one piece of iron, 20 mm by 10 mm, with two prongs, each 70 mm long.
4. *Iron object* (Fig. 18, no. 6.4) probably originally with 3. 7 cm long and possibly part of a knife or firesteel.

#### GRAVE 7 (Fig. 13 and Fig. 15)

West-east 285°. Rectangular with rounded corners, 2.1 m long, 0.21 m wide, and 0.17 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult female (20-25 years) about 1.55 m (5 ft 1 in.) in height, with cranium slightly thicker than the average in the cemetery. Prone, extended, with skull turned slightly to north but nearly face down. Right lower arm placed above head, palm downwards, left arm lying across and under body so that the hand may have originally protruded outside the north of the grave cut.

No associated finds.

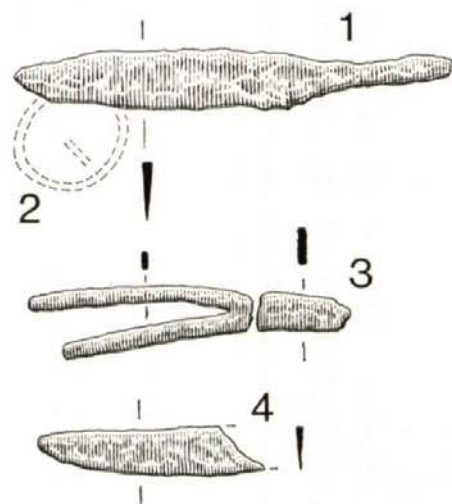
#### GRAVE 8 (Fig. 11)

West-east 300°. Rectangular 2.06 m long, 0.88 m wide, and 0.31 m deep.

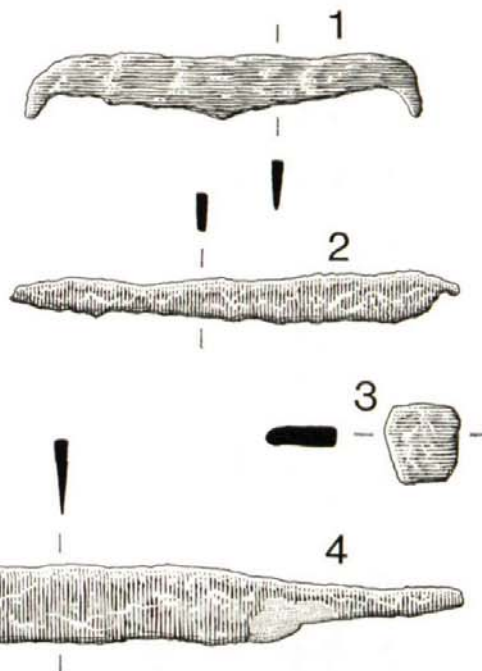
Skeleton in poor condition but probably of an



## GRAVE 6



## GRAVE 8



## GRAVE 10

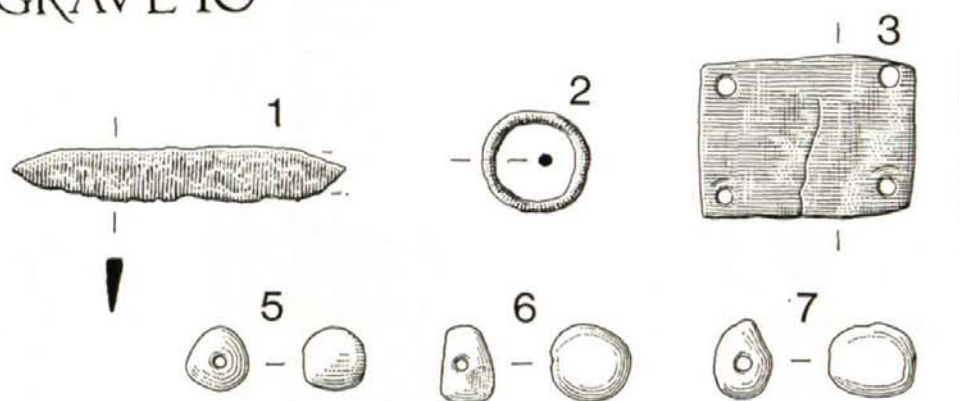


Fig. 18. Droxford: Objects from graves 6, 8 and 10. Scales: 6.1-4, 8.1-4 and 10.1-2,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.

adult female (19-20 years) estimated, from site measurements, to be about 1.63 m (5 ft 4 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with skull turned to

south. Right arm straight, left arm flexed at elbow with hand on chest. Legs extended.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron firesteel* (Fig. 18, no. 8.1) 104 mm long, in form of a bow with excessive wear on the striking edge, which is shown uppermost in the figure.
2. *Iron object* (Fig. 18, no. 8.2), 119 mm long, which is up to 12 mm wide and 3 mm thick and has wood covering one end.
3. *Iron lump* (Fig. 18, no. 8.3), possibly part of a stud or rivet.
4. *Iron knife* (Fig. 18, no. 8.4) 116 mm long, with tang to east and cutting edge to south.

These finds were located together below the right hip and probably form a group carried in a pouch secured by the stud or rivet.

## GRAVE 9 (Fig. 10)

West-east 280°. Rectangular with rounded corners, 2.24 m long, 0.80 m wide, and 0.2 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult female (30–35 years) about 1.64 m (5 ft 4 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with skull turned to north. Arms and legs straight with hands at sides, palm downwards.

## Associated find:

1. *Part of an iron ring* (not illustrated) about 30 mm in diameter, which may be an amulet.

## GRAVE 10 (Fig. 11)

West-east 291°. Rectangular with rounded corners, 1.85 m long, 0.75 m wide, and 0.16 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult female (40–45 years) about 1.72 m (5 ft. 8 in.) in height. Supine, in near crouched position, with head turned to south. Left arm straight, right arm flexed with hand near mandible. Legs flexed with feet drawn up to normal knee position.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 18, no. 10.1) 88 mm long, tang to south-west and cutting edge to south.
2. *Iron ring* (Fig. 18, no. 10.2) 2 cm in internal diameter and 4 mm thick.
3. *Bronze plate* (Fig. 18, no. 10.3), rectangular, 3 cm by 2 cm and 2 mm thick, which is pierced at each corner. No decoration.
4. *Iron lump* (not illustrated), possibly the remains of a stud or rivet.

These four objects were found in close association near the right clavicle. They probably represent a pouch, secured by a stud or rivet (4), supported on a ring (2), decorated with a bronze plate (3), and holding a knife (1).

Nine amber beads were found below the upper vertebrae.

5. Three beads are of Class VIIIa (Fig. 18, no. 10.5).
6. Three beads are of Class VIIIb (Fig. 18, no. 10.6).
7. Three beads are of Class VIIIa (Fig. 18, no. 10.7).

## GRAVE 11

West-east 288°. Small rectangular, 1.5 m long, 0.54 m wide, and 0.10 m deep.

Skeletal remains of an infant, comprised fragments of both femurs and part of a mandible with teeth.

No associated finds.

## GRAVE 12 (Fig. 8)

East-west 108°. Rectangular, with rounded corners, but truncated at west by railway cutting. Maximum length 1.40 m, 0.75 m wide, and 0.10 m deep. The upper levels had previously been destroyed.

Skeleton of an adult male (about 30 years) about 1.8 m (5 ft 10 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with head to east end and feet to west end. Right arm straight, left arm flexed at elbow with hand on pelvis. Lower legs removed during construction of railway cutting.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 19, no. 12.1), 245 mm long, at left side. The tang to the west, the cutting edge to the south, and the point had evidently been broken prior to deposition. The blade is up to 25 mm wide and 4 mm thick.
2. *Iron fragment* (not illustrated) found below 1, which was little more than an iron stain.
3. *Iron shield boss* (Fig. 19, no. 12.3) on right pelvis. In poor condition, the top having been previously removed. 120 mm in diameter with five rivets.
4. *Long iron shield grip* (Fig. 19, no. 12.4) below, and rivetted to 3. 25 mm long, with terminal rivets for securing to shield.
5. *Iron object* (not illustrated), found at the level of the machined surface, which was little more than an iron stain.
6. *Iron object* (Fig. 19, no. 12.6) found near shield boss. Roughly diamond-shaped, 22 mm long, 14 mm wide, and 2 mm thick, with central perforation. Perhaps part of the shield decoration.

## GRAVE 13 (Fig. 10)

West-east 290°. Rectangular, 1.90 m long, 0.88 m wide, and 0.15 m deep.

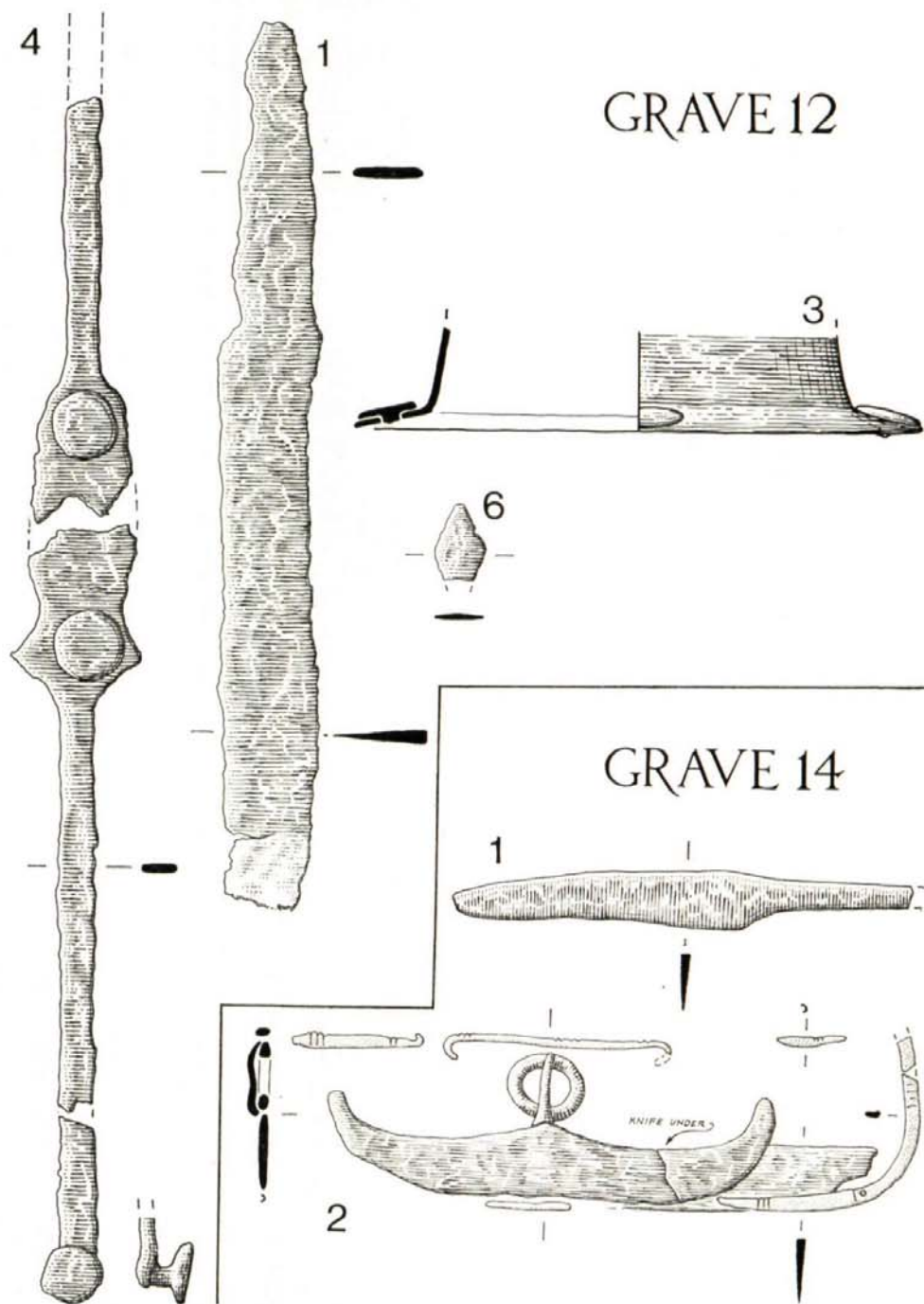


Fig. 19. Droxford: Objects from graves 12 and 14. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



Skeleton, in poor condition, of an adult female (30–35 years) about 1.55 m (5 ft 1 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with left arm and legs straight. Right arm flexed at elbow with hand, palm downwards, on pelvis.

Associated finds:

1. *Pottery vessel* (Fig. 20, no. 13.1) above left shoulder. A grass-tempered bowl, 180 mm in diameter and 125 mm in height, of Myres' long-bossed biconical type.
2. *A pair of identical gilt-bronze saucer brooches* (Fig. 20, no. 13.2, Fig. 52) each 33 mm in diameter. One was located under the pottery vessel (1), the other near the left humerus.
3. *Bronze pin* (Fig. 20, no. 13.3), 133 mm in length, on left breast. It comprises a long, slender, pointed shaft, round in section and about 2 mm across, 103 mm long. This is surmounted by a plain sub-rectangular, flat, plate, 30 mm by 9 mm, and 1 mm thick, beaten from the same piece of bronze. The flat plate is pierced at one corner.
4. *Bronze penannular brooch* (Fig. 20, no. 13.4) at neck. 32 mm in diameter with rolled terminals. Pin flattened at hinge end and bent into a loop to attach to ring.
5. *Bronze buckle and pin* (Fig. 20, no. 13.5) near left shoulder. Oval loop, 31 mm by 24 mm, of D-shaped section, which reduces to carry a plain pin.
6. *Bronze tag* (Fig. 20, no. 13.6, Fig. 52), 20 mm long, at neck. A piece of bronze sheet, 1 mm thick, with repoussé decoration, which is pierced for suspension. Re-used from another object.
7. *Bronze tube* (Fig. 20, no. 13.7), 55 mm long and 13 mm in diameter, below left pelvis. It is made from a piece of sheet bronze, 1 mm thick.
8. *Bronze lump* (Fig. 20, no. 13.8) under sacrum. 8 mm by 6 mm.

Four iron objects were found together at the left hip and probably represent an amulet bag supported by an iron ring (12), which contained the other items.

9. *Iron knife* (Fig. 20, no. 13.9), 120 mm long, with tang to the west and cutting edge to the north. The tip is broken.
10. *Iron latch-lifter key* (Fig. 20, no. 13.10), 160 mm long, in the form of a letter 'T'. The 'handle' is up to 10 mm wide and 3 mm thick, and has a loop at the end.
11. *Iron object* (Fig. 20, no. 13.11), 130 mm long, up to 18 mm wide and 4 mm thick. There are the remains of two prongs at the wider end.
12. *Iron ring* (Fig. 20, no. 13.12), 74 mm in diameter and 5 mm thick.

GRAVE 14 (Fig. 11)

West-east 290°. Rectangular, but destroyed at west end during the making of the railway cutting. A south-north grave (15) lies across the east end of this grave but the stratigraphical relationship between the two could not be determined in the excavation, although grave 15 may be the later of the two (see pp. 164–6). Maximum length 1.40 m, 0.67 m wide, and 0.20 m deep.

Fragmentary remains of a juvenile (possibly 5–10 years), comprising parts of left femur, humerus, radius, ulna, and a few pieces of cranium, ribs, and pelvis. Supine extended.

Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 19, no. 14.1), 130 mm long, at left hip. Tang to east, cutting edge to south.
2. *Bronze and iron firesteel pouch with associated iron knife* (Fig. 19, no. 14.2) at left side.

This comprises one, bow-shaped, piece of iron, 125 mm long, up to 20 mm wide, and 3 mm thick, with iron buckle, 20 mm in diameter, attached, and several pieces of plain and decorated bronze strip, one of which has a small bronze rivet, some 5 mm long, passing through it. This overlays the remains of an iron knife, up to 90 mm long. This object appears to have been damaged during the widening of the railway cutting before 1974 and it is difficult to reconstruct its original form, but an associated dark stain suggests that it is the remains of a purse or tinder pouch with associated firesteel and knife. In Fig. 19 the component parts are drawn in the position in which they were found.

GRAVE 15 (Fig. 14)

South-north 195°. Large, shallow, rectangular with rounded corners. 2.2 m long, 1.20 m wide, and 0.18 m deep. Adjoins grave 14 but the relationship between the two could not be determined during the excavation, although grave 14 is thought to be the earlier.

Skeleton, poorly preserved, of an adult male about 1.80 m (5 ft 11 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with head to the south and turned to the west. Left arm straight, right arm flexed at elbow with hand on pelvis. Legs apparently straight.

Associated finds:

1. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 21, no. 15.1), 360 mm long, near left arm. Appears to be of Swanton's leaf-shaped type C<sub>3</sub>.
2. *Iron knife* (Fig. 21, no. 15.2), 142 mm long,

# GRAVE 13

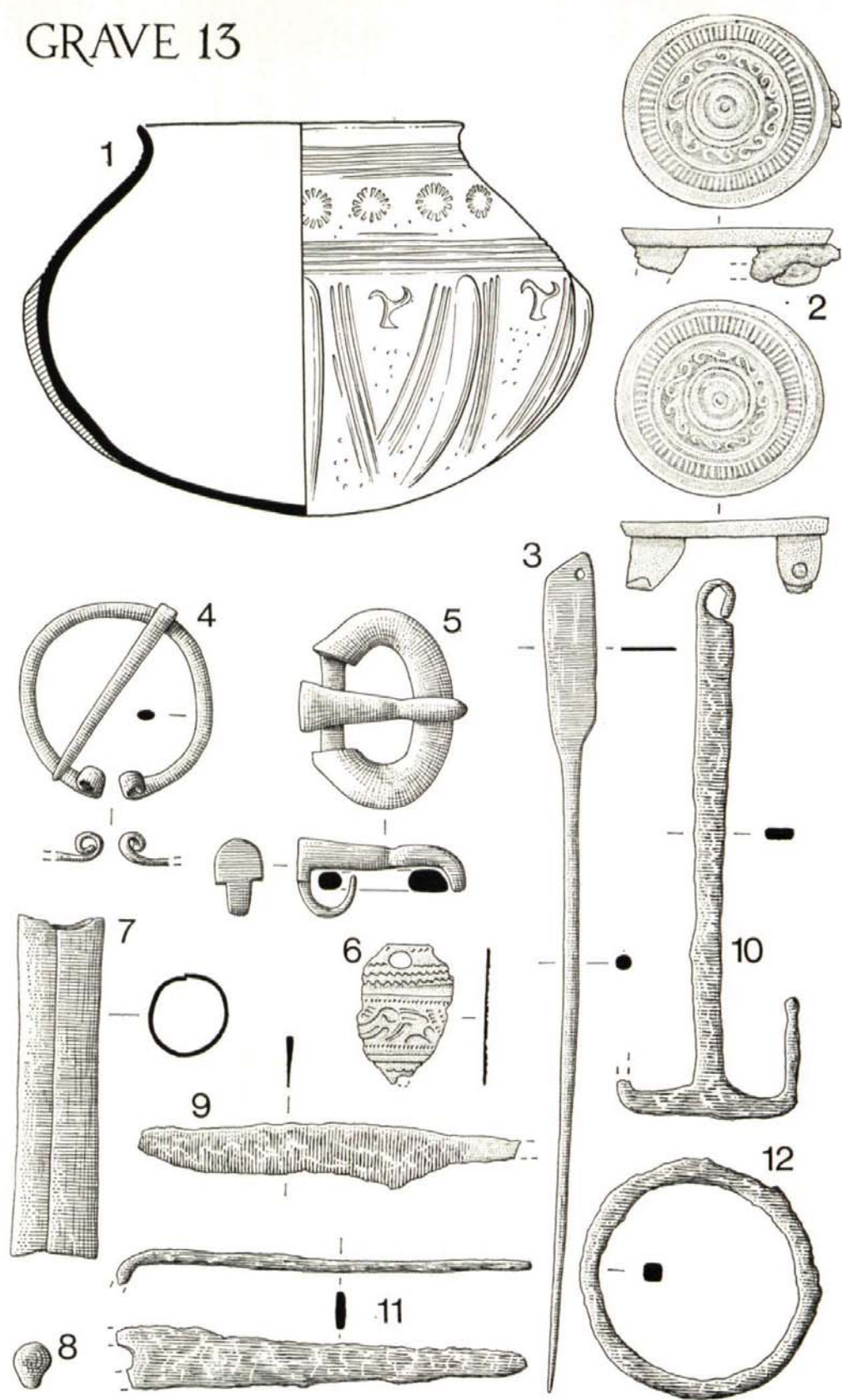


Fig. 20. Droxford: Objects from grave 13. Scales: 13.1, 9-12,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1.1.



at left side. Tang to east, cutting edge to north.

3. *Iron rivet or stud* (Fig. 21, no. 18.3), near left lower arm. The head is 15 mm in diameter and the whole object is 50 mm long.
4. *Iron buckle with plate and pin* (Fig. 21, no. 15.4), near right hand. The buckle comprises an oval loop, measuring 27 mm by 14 mm, of roughly round section about 4 mm in diameter. The plate is rectangular and there are traces of a pin.

#### GRAVE 17 (Fig. 12 and Fig. 15)

West-east 286°. Rectangular, 1.77 m long, 0.70 m wide, and 0.16 m deep. Cut adjoining grave 17 but the stratigraphic relationship between the two could not be determined in the excavation.

Skeleton of an adult (about 40 years), possibly female, about 1.58 m (5 ft 2 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with arms crossed, palms downwards, on chest.

##### Associated find:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 21, no. 16.1), 113 mm long, at left side. Tang to south, cutting edge to east.

#### GRAVE 17 (Fig. 12 and Fig. 15)

West-east 286°. Rectangular, 1.82 m long, 0.61 m wide, and 0.45 m deep. Cut adjoining grave 16 but the stratigraphic relationship between the two could not be determined in the excavation.

Skeleton of an adult female (20–25 years) about 1.64 m (5 ft 4 in.) in height. Supine with legs slightly flexed and head turned to the south. The arms straight, the right hand palm downwards and the left palm upwards.

##### Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 21, no. 17.1), 110 mm long, behind lower vertebrae, tang to south.
2. *Iron rivet* (Fig. 21, no. 17.2) with head about 18 mm in diameter and stem 8 mm long. There are traces of tinning on the head.
3. *Tinned disc* (Fig. 21, no. 17.3), about 16 mm in diameter, which is probably the remains of the tinning from 2.

These three objects probably formed a group comprising a knife in a pouch fastened by the rivet or stud, with the disc as decoration.

#### GRAVE 18 (Fig. 7)

West-east 290°. Rectangular, 2.30 m long, 0.97 m wide, and 0.74 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult male (20–25 years) about

1.70 m (5 ft 7 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with head turned to the north. The legs and right arm are straight, with left arm flexed at elbow with hand on pelvis.

##### Associated finds:

1. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 22, no. 18.1), 245 mm long, at left shoulder. Of Swanton's angular type H<sub>2</sub>.
2. *Iron shield boss* (Fig. 22, no. 18.2), 112 mm in diameter and 80 mm in height.
3. *Iron shield grip* (Fig. 22, no. 18.3), 130 mm long, below 2. It is up to 30 mm wide and about 5 mm thick.

Three iron objects were found standing on edge and presumably originally formed part of the shield.

4. *Iron object* (Fig. 22, no. 18.4), 25 mm long, which may be part of a firesteel.
5. *Iron rivet* (Fig. 22, no. 18.5), 35 mm in diameter and 10 mm long.
6. *Iron rivet* (Fig. 22, no. 18.6), 30 mm in diameter with traces of a stem.
7. *Iron knife* (Fig. 22, no. 18.7), 117 mm long, at left side. Tang to east, cutting edge to south.
8. *Iron buckle with pin* (Fig. 22, no. 18.8) at waist. The loop is roughly 'D'-shaped, measuring 31 mm by 23 mm, and is of round section, about 4 mm across.
9. *Pottery sherd* (not illustrated) of Romano-British coarse grey-ware found in fill of grave.

#### GRAVE 19 (Fig. 14)

South-north 197°. Rectangular 2.25 m long, 0.85 m wide, and 0.30 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult male (20–25 years) about 1.72 m (5 ft 8 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with head to the south and turned west. Legs straight. Left arm straight with palm downwards, right arm flexed at elbow with hand on pelvis.

##### Associated finds:

1. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 23, no. 19.1), 195 mm long, at left shoulder. Of Swanton's leaf-shaped type C<sub>1</sub>.
2. *Iron knife* (Fig. 23, no. 19.2), 90 mm long, at left side.
3. *Iron rivet or stud* (not illustrated) on left side of pelvis.
4. *Iron rivet or stud* (not illustrated) on lower chest.
5. *Fossil sponge* (not illustrated) found on lower chest.
6. *Fossil sponge* (not illustrated) found on lower chest.
7. *Pottery sherd* (not illustrated) of Romano-British coarse grey-ware found in upper grave fill.



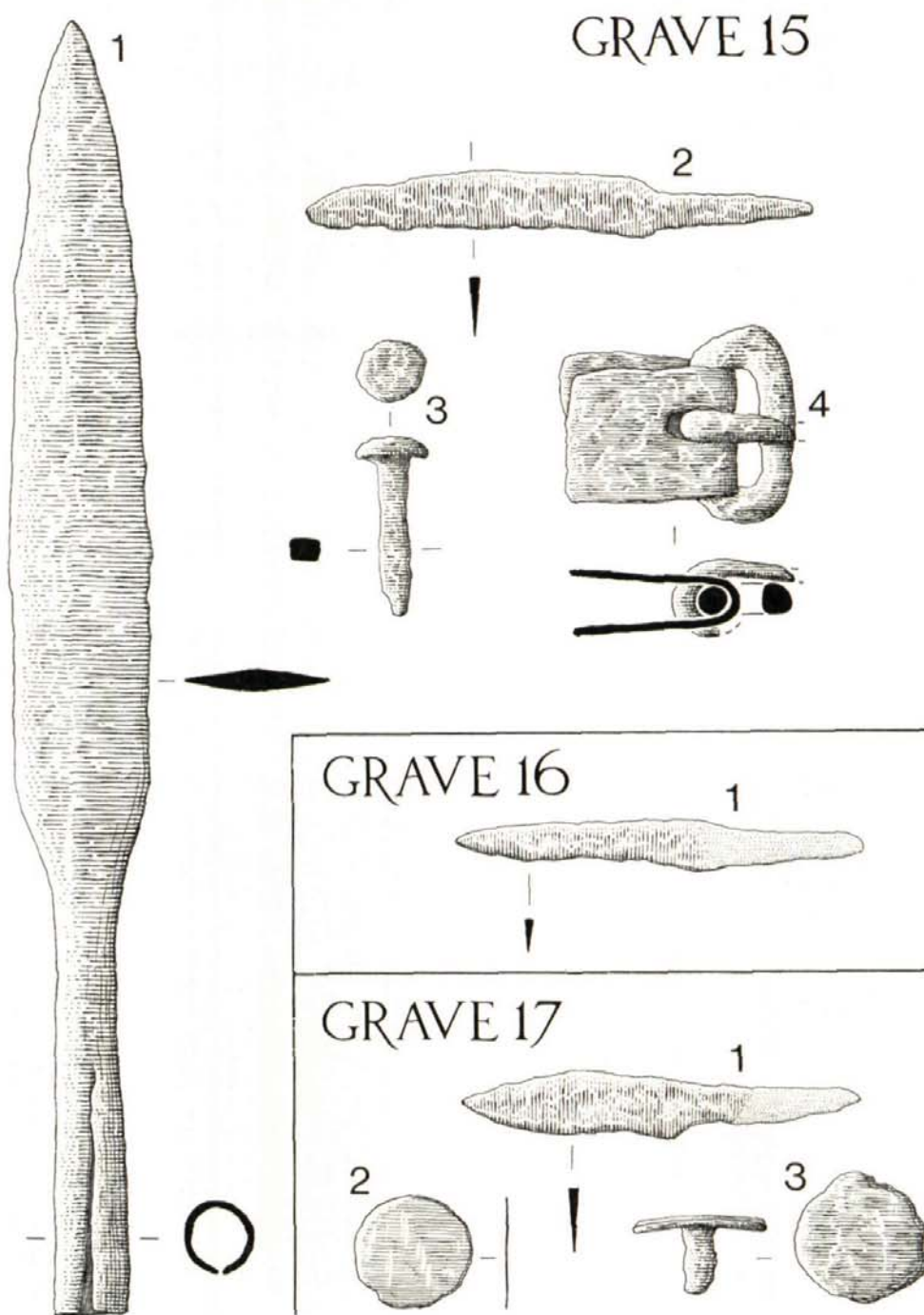


Fig. 21. Droxford: Objects from graves 15, 16 and 17. Scales: 15.1-3, 16.1, 17.1,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.

## GRAVE 18

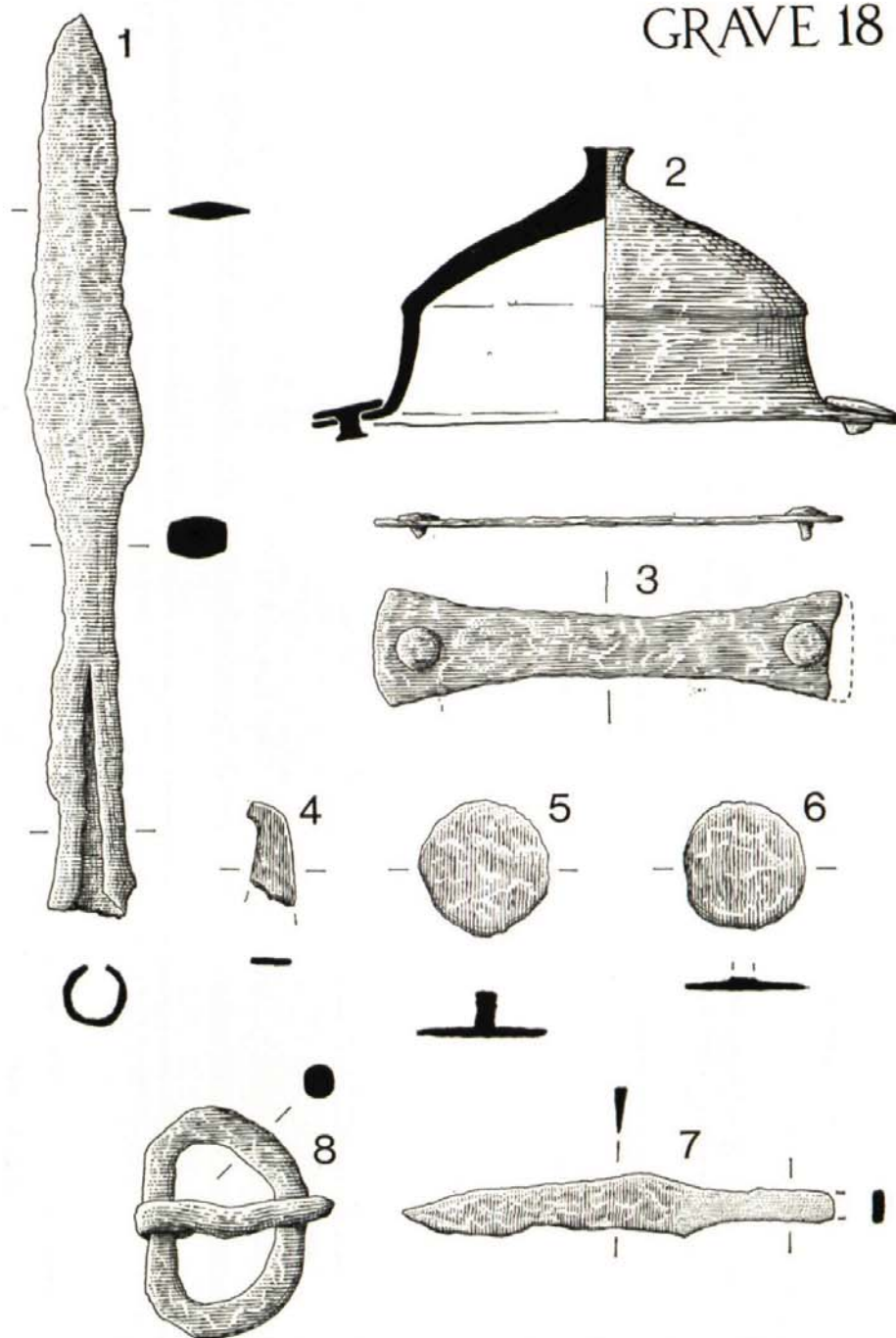


Fig. 22. Droxford: Objects from grave 18. Scales: 18.1-7,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 18.8, 1:1.

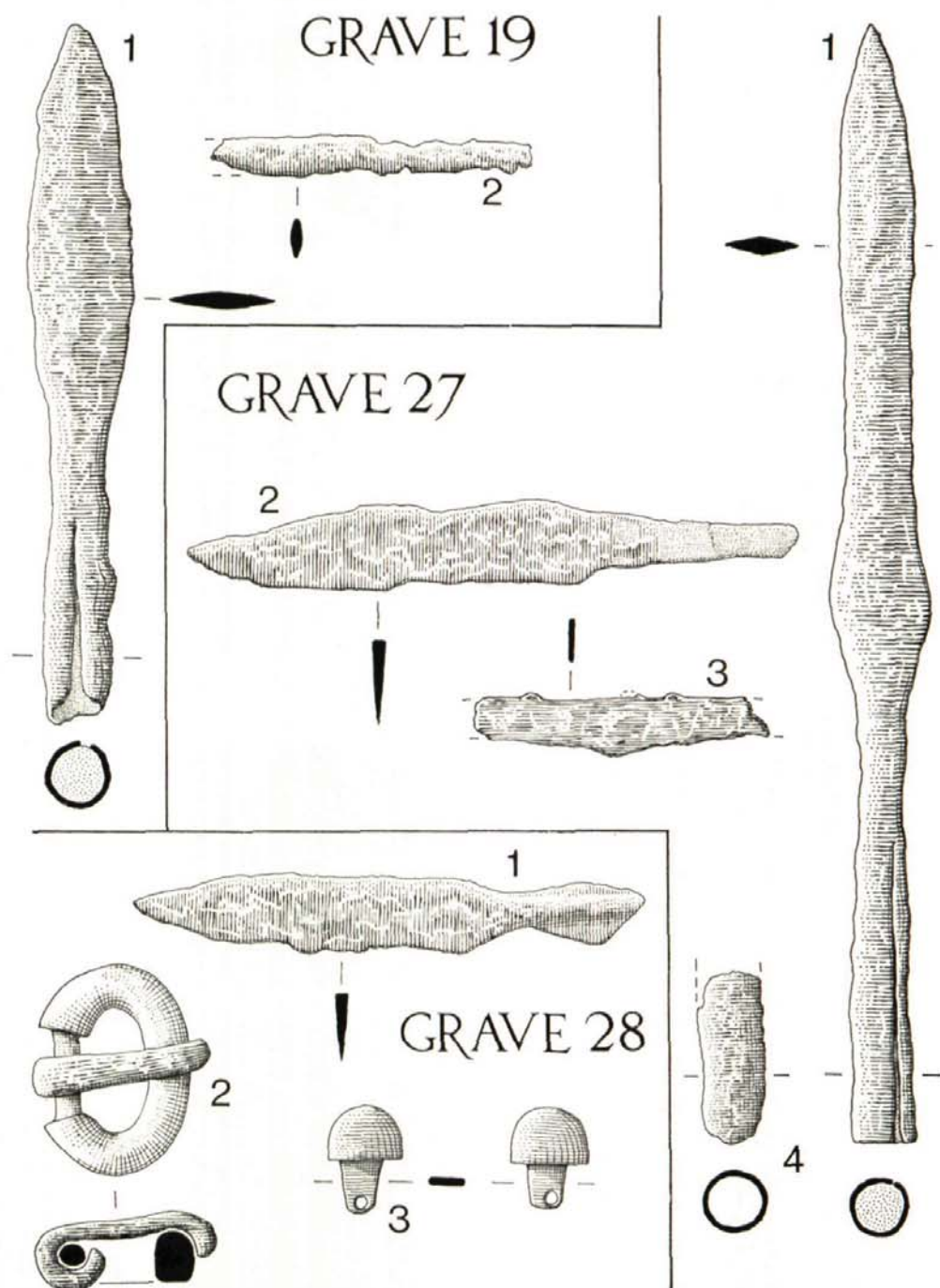


Fig. 23. Droxford: Objects from graves 19, 27 and 28. Scales: 19.1-2, 27.1-4, 28.1,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.



## GRAVE 20 (Fig. 11)

East-west 294°. Rectangular, 1.80 m long, 0.82 m wide, and 0.30 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult female (about 30–35 years) about 1.62 m (5 ft 3 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with head turned to the south. Large flints placed upon lower jaw and left shoulder. The legs straight but arms flexed at elbows with hands on pelvis.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 24, no. 20.1), 160 mm long, at left side. Tang to east.
2. *Iron and bronze buckle with pin* (Fig. 24, no. 20.2) at waist. A plain iron loop, 35 mm by 24 mm, of round section, about 4 mm across, with traces of an iron pin. There is a plain, undecorated, rectangular bronze plate, 30 mm by 33 mm, which held the buckle to a belt by an iron rivet.

One hundred and sixty-three amber and glass beads were found over and around the upper body. A full scale plan of the position of each bead was made during the excavation but it has not been possible to reconstruct the original string lines from this. For classification see pp. 172–3.

3. Seven beads of Class Ia (Fig. 24, no. 20.3–5).
4. One bead of Class Ib (Fig. 24, no. 20.3–5).
5. One bead of Class Ic (Fig. 24, no. 20.3–5).
6. One bead of Class IIa (Fig. 24, no. 20.6).
7. One bead of Class IIb (Fig. 24, no. 20.7).
8. One bead of Class IIc (Fig. 24, no. 20.8).
9. Twelve beads of Class IIIa (Fig. 24, no. 20.9).
10. Five beads of Class IIIb (Fig. 24, no. 20.10).
11. Two beads of Class IV (Fig. 24, no. 20.11).
12. One bead of Class V (Fig. 24, no. 20.12).
13. One bead of Class VI (Fig. 24, no. 20.13).
14. Two beads of Class VIIa (Fig. 24, no. 20.14).
15. One bead of Class VIIb (Fig. 24, no. 20.15).
16. Thirty-four beads of Class VIIIa (Fig. 24, no. 20.16).
17. Twenty-seven beads of Class VIIIb (Fig. 24, no. 20.17).
18. Three beads of Class VIIIc (Fig. 24, no. 20.18).
19. Five beads of Class VIId (Fig. 24, no. 20.19).
20. Forty-seven beads of Class VIIE (Fig. 24, no. 20.20).
21. One bead of Class IX (Fig. 24, no. 20.21).
22. One bead of Class Xa (Fig. 24, no. 20.22).
23. One bead of Class Xb (Fig. 24, no. 20.23).
24. Three beads of Class XIa (Fig. 24, no. 20.24).
25. Two beads of Class XIb (Fig. 24, no. 20.25).
26. Two beads of Class XIIa (Fig. 24, no. 20.26).
27. One bead of Class XIIb (Fig. 24, no. 20.27).

## GRAVE 21 (Fig. 10)

West-east 294°. Rectangular with rounded corners, 1.95 m long, 0.94 m wide, and 0.30 m deep.

Fragmentary skeleton of an adult female (about 25 years) about 1.57 m (5 ft 2 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with head turned to the north. The left arm straight with hand, palm downwards, at side. Right arm flexed at elbow with hand on pelvis. Legs straight. Flints apparently placed around periphery of grave fill and overlying skeleton.

## Associated finds:

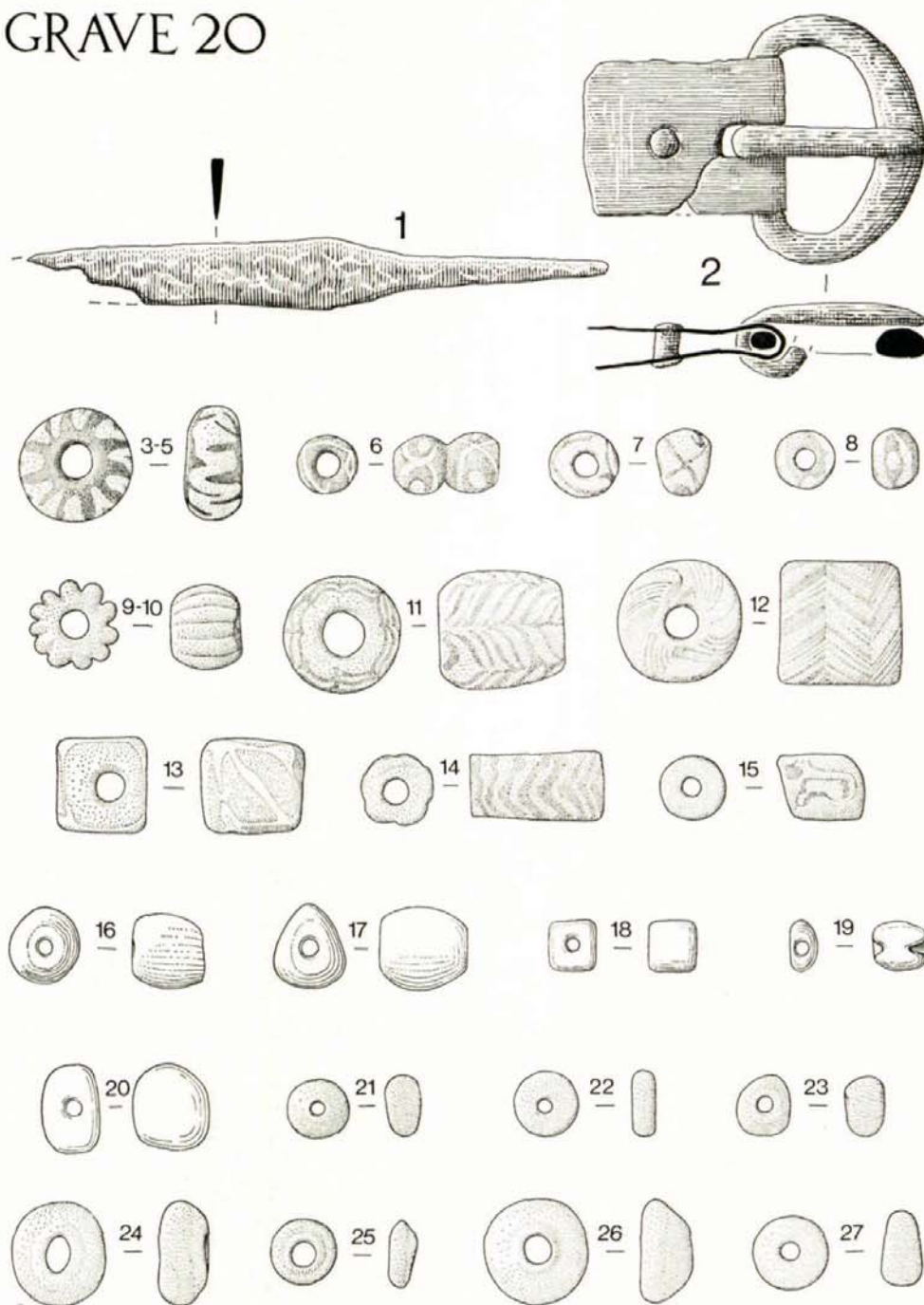
A group of objects (1–4, 6, 8, 9, & 11), at the left hip, which appear to represent an amulet bag and its contents.

1. *Iron ring* (Fig. 25, no. 21.1–3), 76 mm in diameter and 6 mm thick, with two flanged loops attached which may have been used to hang the ring from a leather strap.
2. *Two iron rings* (Fig. 25, no. 21.1–3), each 50 mm in diameter and 5 mm thick.
3. *Iron object* (Fig. 25, no. 21.1–3) comprising a bar, about 80 mm long, with loops at either end. Within one of the loops there are the remains of a hooked piece of iron.
4. *Ivory or bone ring* (Fig. 25, no. 21.4), 85 mm in diameter, 13 mm wide, and 5 mm thick. This is pierced in two places and has traces of iron on either side of a short gap in its perimeter.
5. *Iron buckle with pin* (Fig. 25, no. 21.5) at waist. The plain oval loop, 27 mm by 22 mm, is round in section and carries the remains of an iron pin and traces of a plate.
6. *Iron knife* (Fig. 25, no. 21.6), 140 mm long, with tang to the north.
7. *Bronze stud* (Fig. 25, no. 21.7), 25 mm in diameter.
8. *Bronze stud* (Fig. 25, no. 21.8), 48 mm in diameter.
9. *Iron rivet with tinned head* (Fig. 25, no. 21.9), 18 mm long.
10. *Iron rivet with tinned head* (Fig. 25, no. 21.10), 44 mm long.
11. *Iron rivet* (Fig. 25, no. 21.11), 18 mm long.

Thirty amber and glass beads found around the upper body.

12. Four beads of Class IIIa (Fig. 25, no. 21.12).
13. Four beads of Class IIIb (Fig. 25, no. 21.13).
14. Eight beads of Class VIIIa (Fig. 25, no. 21.14).
15. Three beads of Class VIIIb (Fig. 25, no. 21.15).
16. One bead of Class VIId (Fig. 25, no. 21.16).
17. One bead of Class VIIIf (Fig. 25, no. 21.17).
18. One bead of Class VIIIg (Fig. 25, no. 21.18).
19. Four beads of Class XIa (Fig. 25, no. 21.19).

## GRAVE 20

Fig. 24. Droxford: Objects from grave 20. Scales: 20.1,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.



20. Two beads of Class XIb (Fig. 25, no. 21.20).
21. One bead of Class XIV (Fig. 25, no. 21.22).
22. *Roman bronze coin* (not illustrated).
23. *Iron object* (not illustrated), found near skull, which was little more than a stain when found.
24. *Fossil sponge* (not illustrated) found in upper grave fill.

## GRAVE 22

West-east 298°. Rectangular, but only the west end survived, having been destroyed at the east end by a recent disturbance. Maximum length 0.8 m, 0.8 m wide, and 0.1 m deep.

Only the disturbed remains of a skeleton were encountered and these appear to suggest an adult, possibly male, about 1.70 m (5 ft 7 in.) in height.

No associated finds.

## GRAVE 23

West-east 290°. Rectangular, 1.9 m long, 0.9 m wide, and 0.25 m deep.

Fragmentary remains of a skeleton of an adult (over 20 years and probably about 35) about 1.58 m (5 ft 2 in.) in height, which may indicate a female. Supine, extended, with right arm straight and both legs straight. Left arm did not survive.

No associated finds.

## GRAVE 24 (Fig. 10)

West-east 291°. Rectangular, 1.62 m long, 0.7 m wide, and 0.24 m deep.

Skeleton of a juvenile (perhaps 13–14 years), probably female. Supine, extended, with head turned to the north. Arms and legs straight.

## Associated finds:

A group of objects, including a châtelaïne, a belt buckle, and rivets found at left side.

1. *Bronze, tinned, object with small iron ring attached* (Fig. 26, no. 24.1), which appears to be the principal component of the châtelaïne, to which other objects (2–5) were originally attached. It is 95 mm long, up to 40 mm wide, and up to 4 mm thick. The central ring is much worn on one side and the small iron loop is about 18 mm in diameter.
2. *Iron ring* (Fig. 26, no. 24.2), 35 mm in diameter and 4 mm thick.
3. *Iron object* (Fig. 26, no. 24.3), 45 mm long, 11 mm wide, and 2 mm thick, with remains of a rivet.
4. *Iron object* (Fig. 26, no. 24.4), 24 mm long,

13 mm wide, and 2 mm thick, with traces of a stem.

5. *Iron object* (Fig. 26, no. 24.5), 17 mm long, 13 mm wide, and 2 mm thick, which has a central perforation.
6. *Iron belt buckle and pin* (Fig. 26, no. 24.6), comprising the remains of a loop, about 25 mm in diameter and 4 mm thick, and a pin which has a small square panel.
7. *Iron stud or rivet* (Fig. 26, no. 24.7), triangular in shape, 31 mm long, 10 mm wide, and 3 mm thick, with central perforation.
8. *Iron stud or rivet* (not illustrated), of which only fragments survived.

## GRAVE 25 (Fig. 12)

West-east 290°. Rectangular with rounded corners, 1.96 m long, 0.76 m wide, and 0.33 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult female (about 20 years) about 1.59 m (5 ft 2 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with head turned to south. Right arm at side, left arm flexed at elbow with hand on lower abdomen. Legs straight.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 26, no. 25.1), 145 mm long, near lower right arm. Tang to west, cutting edge to south.
2. *Iron buckle with pin* (Fig. 26, no. 25.2) on right side of waist. Oval ring, 3 cm by 2 cm, of round section 4 mm across. Simple pin on south side of ring.

## GRAVE 26 (Fig. 12)

West-east 289°. Rectangular, 2.22 m long, 0.66 m wide, and 0.14 m deep.

Poorly preserved skeleton of an adult (35–40 years). Supine, extended, but turned slightly onto left side, with skull turned to north. Right arm flexed at elbow. Left arm absent. Legs slightly flexed.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 26, no. 26.1), 90 mm long, at right side, tang to west.
2. *Bronze buckle with iron pin* (Fig. 26, no. 26.2), at waist. The buckle is oval, 23 mm by 17 mm, and round in section, 3 mm across. The remains of the pin are carried on a thinner part of the loop.
3. *Iron rivet* (Fig. 26, no. 26.3), at left hip. The head is 10 mm in diameter and the whole is about 22 mm long.
4. *Pottery sherd* (not illustrated) of Romano-British coarse grey ware found in grave fill.



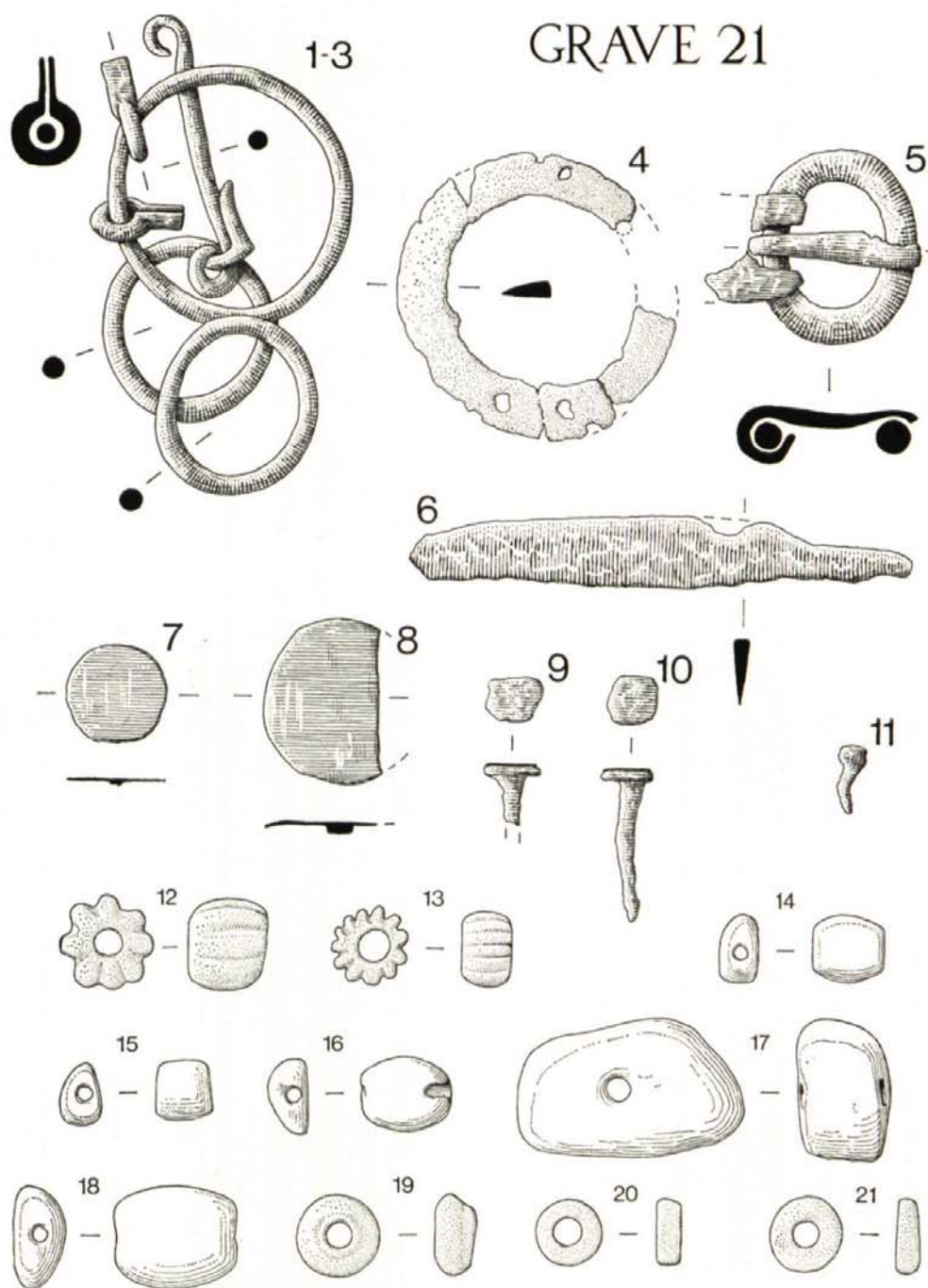


Fig. 25. Droxford: Objects from grave 21. Scales: 21.1-4,6,9-11,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.

## GRAVE 27 (Fig. 8)

West-east 291°. Rectangular, 2.12 m long, 0.75 m wide, and 0.15 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult male (30–35 years), about 1.74 m (5 ft 8 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with skull turned to south. Legs and arms extended, with hands, palm upwards, on pelvis.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 23, no. 27.1), 316 mm long, over lower right arm. Of Swanton's angular type H<sub>2</sub>.
2. *Iron knife* (Fig. 23, no. 27.2), 168 mm long, at right side. Tang to east, cutting edge to north. Traces of wood on the tang.
3. *Iron object* (Fig. 23, no. 27.3), alongside knife. 80 mm long, up to 15 mm wide, and 3 mm thick. It may be the remains of a firesteel.
4. *Iron ferrule* (Fig. 23, no. 27.4), alongside spearhead, 50 mm long, tapering from 18 to 10 mm in diameter. Probably originally attached to bottom end of spear shaft.

## GRAVE 28 (Fig. 12)

West-east 289°. Rectangular with rounded corners, 2.0 m long, 0.75 m wide, and 0.35 m deep.

Poorly preserved skeleton of an adult female (35–40 years) about 1.68 m (5 ft 6 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with legs and arms straight.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 23, no. 28.1), 142 mm long, at left side.
2. *Bronze buckle with iron pin* (Fig. 20, no. 28.2) on right pelvis. An oval loop, 29 mm by 21 mm, of oval section, about 5 mm across, with an iron pin.
3. *Two identical bronze studs* (Fig. 23, no. 28.3) with 2. Each has a round head, 10 mm across, and a perforated tang.

## GRAVE 29

West-east 286°. Rectangular, 2.10 m long, 0.78 m wide, and 0.15 m deep.

Poorly preserved skeleton of an adult female (25–30 years) about 1.52 m (5 ft) in height. Supine, extended, with legs straight. Left arm straight, hand, palm upwards, on left pelvis. Right arm flexed at elbow with hand on left upper arm.

No associated finds.

## GRAVE 30 (Fig. 10)

West-east 285°. Rectangular, 2.15 m long, 0.80 m wide, and 0.16 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult female (20–25 years). Supine, extended, with legs slightly flexed. The skull turned to south. Arms straight.

## Associated finds:

Group of objects (1–4) at right side, which are probably the remains of an amulet bag and its contents.

1. *Iron ring* (Fig. 27, no. 30.1–4), 100 mm in diameter, 10 mm wide, and 2 mm thick. There is a gap, 12 mm across, on one side.
2. *Iron ring* (Fig. 27, no. 30.1–4), 50 mm in diameter and 7 mm thick.
3. *Two iron rings* (Fig. 27, no. 30.1–4), each 40 mm in diameter and 4 mm thick.
4. *Iron ring with two flanged iron loops attached* (Fig. 27, no. 30.1–4), 25 mm in diameter.
5. *Iron knife* (Fig. 27, no. 30.5), 124 mm long, at right side.
6. *Iron ring* (Fig. 27, no. 30.6), 30 mm in diameter, at waist.
7. *Bronze ring* (Fig. 27, no. 30.7), 22 mm in diameter, at neck.

## Nine beads found at neck.

8. One bead of Class VIIIb (Fig. 27, no. 30.8).
9. Two beads of Class VIIIE (Fig. 27, no. 30.9).
10. One bead of Class IXb (Fig. 27, no. 30.10).
11. One bead of Class Xc (Fig. 27, no. 30.11).
12. Two beads of Class XIb (Fig. 27, no. 30.12).
13. One bead of Class XIIa (Fig. 27, no. 30.13).
14. One bead of Class XIII (Fig. 27, no. 30.14).
15. *Fossil sponge* found at waist.

## GRAVE 31 (Fig. 10)

West-east 295°. Rectangular, 1.98 m long, 1.24 m wide, and 0.26 m deep.

Fragmentary remains of the skeleton of an elderly adult (at least 45 years), but insufficient to establish sex or stature. Supine, extended, with skull turned to north.

## Associated finds:

Group of seven objects (1–7) at left side.

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 27, no. 31.1), 140 mm long, with tang to east.
2. *Iron ring* (Fig. 27, no. 31.2), 24 mm in diameter and 3 mm thick, which may be an amulet.
3. *Iron object* (Fig. 27, no. 31.3), 120 mm long, 15 mm wide, and 2 mm thick, with loop at one end and the remains of two prongs at the other.
4. *Iron object* (Fig. 27, no. 31.4), 80 mm long, 5 mm wide, and 2 mm thick.
5. *Iron object* (Fig. 24, no. 31.5), which may be part of a rivet or stud.
6. *Iron object* (Fig. 27, no. 31.6), 66 mm long, up to 7 mm wide, and up to 5 mm thick, with a tang at one end. This may be the remains of a steel.



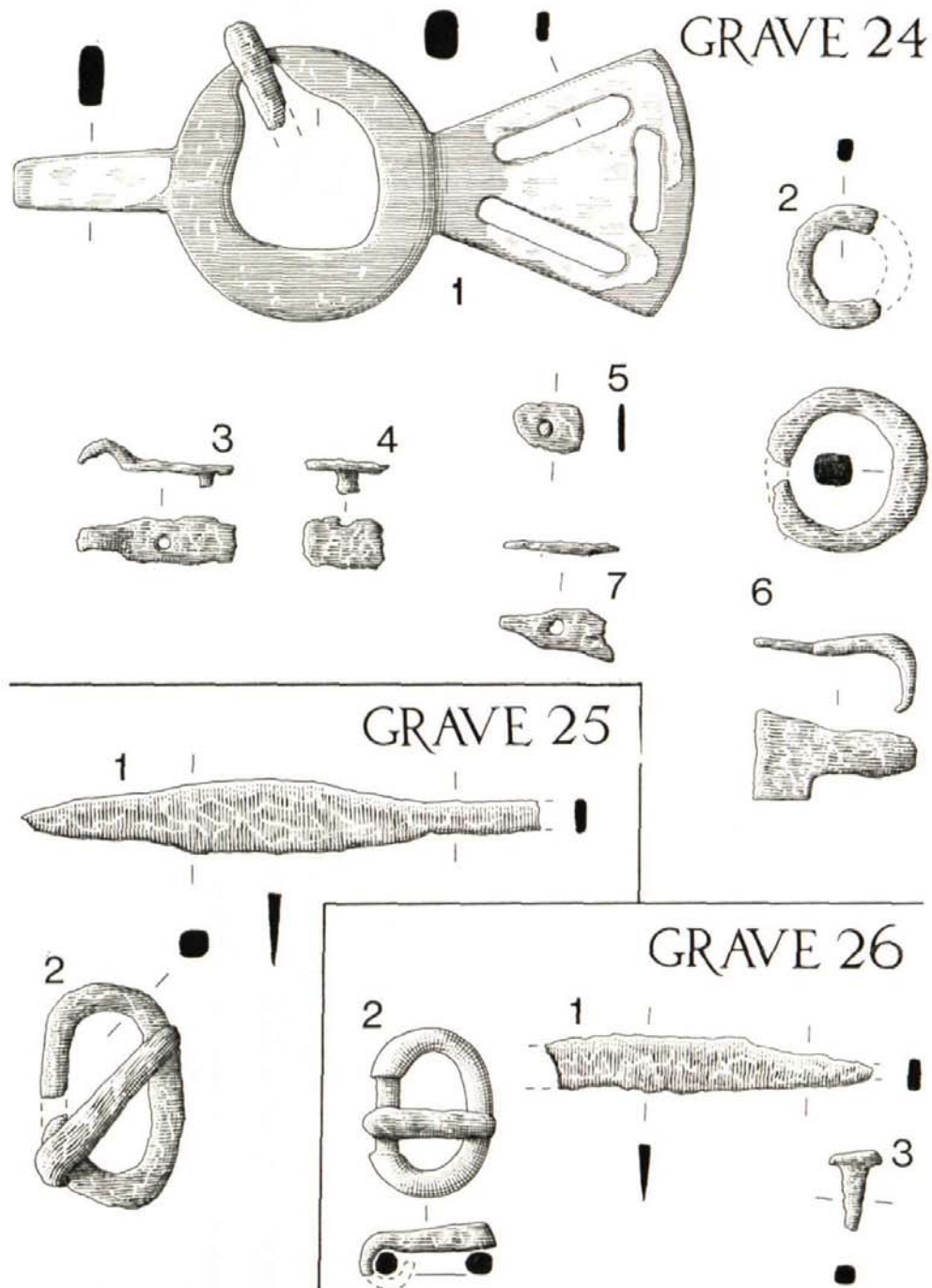


Fig. 26. Droxford: Objects from graves 24, 25 and 26. Scales: 24.2-5,7, 25.1, 26.1,3,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.

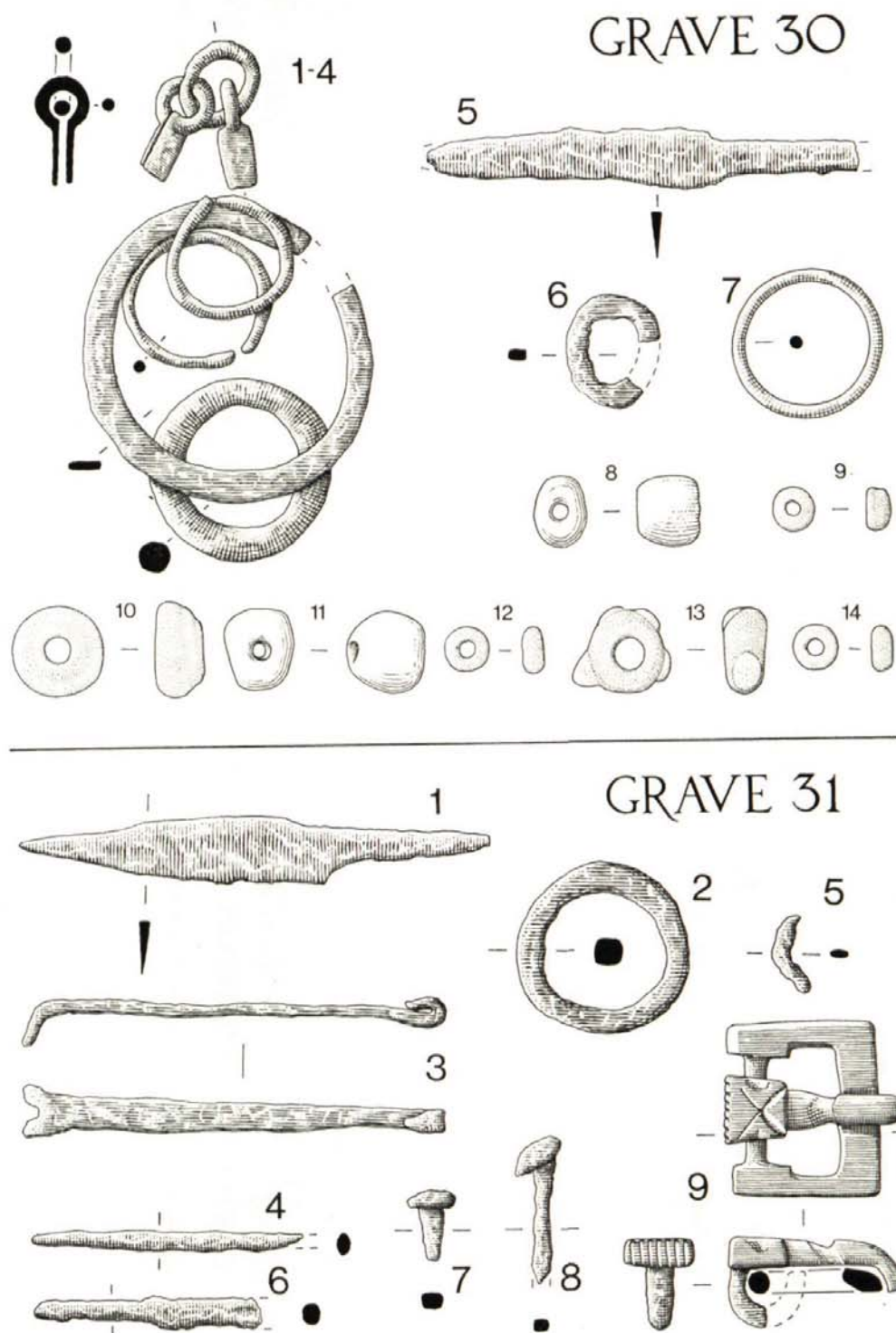


Fig. 27. Droxford: Objects from graves 30 and 31. Scales: 30.1-6, 31.1,3-8,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1.1.

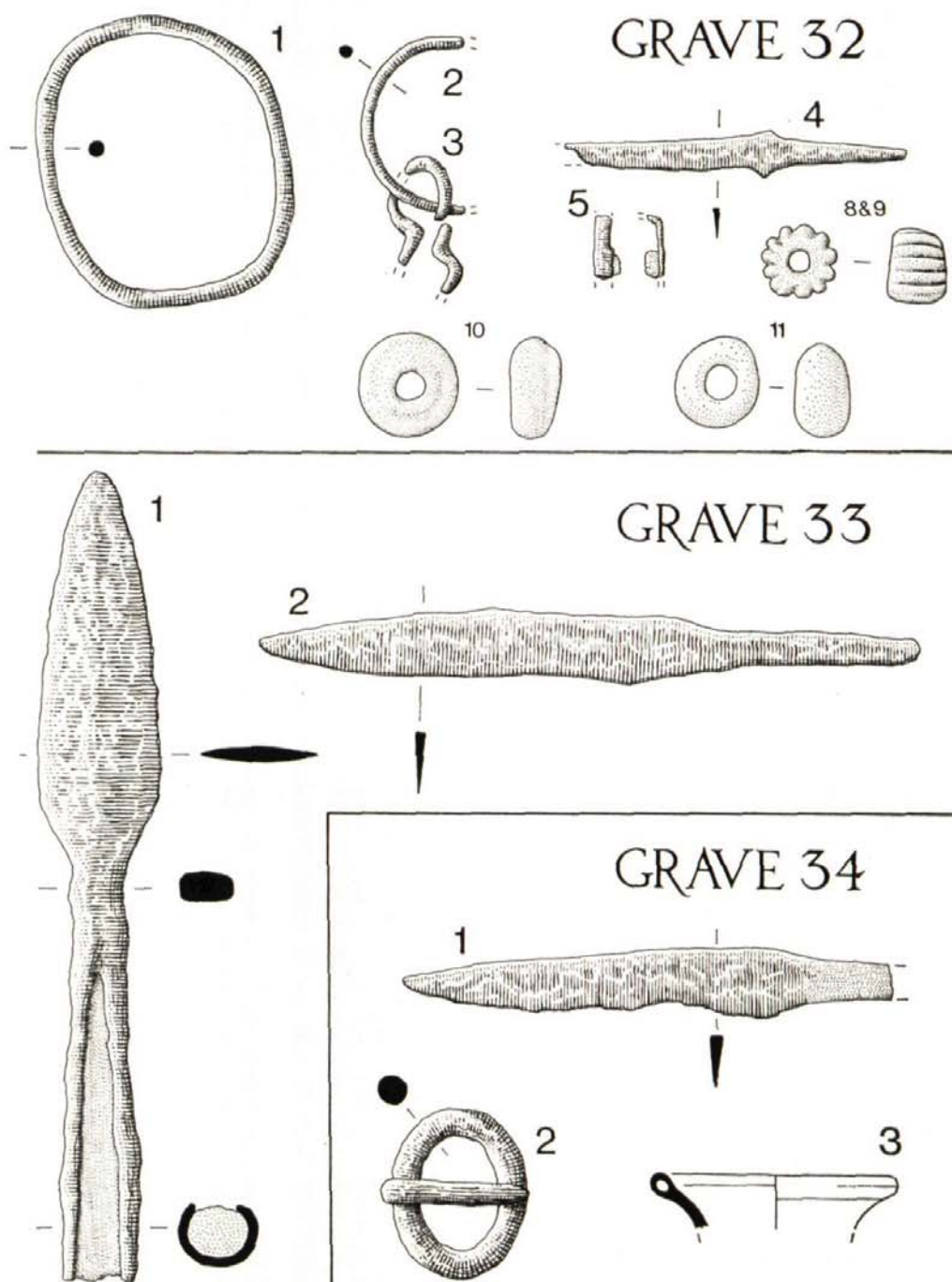


Fig. 28. Droxford: Objects from graves 32, 33 and 34. Scales: 32.1-5, 33.1, 2, 34.1, 3,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.



7. *Iron rivet* (Fig. 27, no. 31.7), 20 mm long.
8. *Iron rivet* (Fig. 27, no. 31.8) in mouth. The head is 13 mm in diameter and the whole 40 mm long.
9. *Bronze buckle with pin of bronze and iron* (Fig. 27, no. 31.9) at right side. The buckle is rectangular, 25 mm by 22 mm by 3 mm thick, and plain. The bronze pin, which is secured to the buckle by an iron strip, has a small rectangular panel decorated with an incised cross.

## GRAVE 32 (Fig. 11)

West-east 279°. Small, rectangular, 1.62 m long, 0.75 m wide, and 0.32 m deep. The south-west corner of grave 19 impinges on the north-east corner of this grave, but the stratigraphic relationship between the two could not be determined during the excavation (p. 162).

Fragmentary remains of the skeleton of an infant (possibly 4–5 years). Appears to have been laid on left side facing north, with legs drawn up.

## Associated finds:

In a group near skull—

1. *Iron ring* (Fig. 28, no. 32.1), 80 mm in diameter and 5 mm thick, which may be part of an amulet bag.
2. *Part of an iron ring* (Fig. 28, no. 32.2), 47 mm in diameter and 5 mm thick.
3. *Iron object* (Fig. 28, no. 32.3), comprising a loop in the form of a figure 8. 40 mm long, of round section, about 4 mm thick. This may originally have been attached to 1 or 2.
4. *Iron knife* (Fig. 28, no. 32.4), 96 mm long.
5. *Iron object* (Fig. 28, no. 32.5), comprising a strip of iron bent around a small piece of wood. 16 mm long, up to 5 mm wide, and 2 mm thick.
- 6–7. *Iron fragments* (not illustrated) which may be part of one of the other objects.

## Five beads—

8. One bead of Class IIIa (Fig. 28, no. 32.8&9).
9. One bead of Class IIIb (Fig. 28, no. 32.8&9).
10. Two beads of Class XIa (Fig. 28, no. 32.10).
11. One bead of Class XIIa (Fig. 28, no. 32.11).

## GRAVE 33 (Fig. 8)

West-east 292°. Rectangular, with rounded corners, 2.14 m long, 0.97 m wide, and 0.30 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult male (40–45 years) about 1.74 m (5 ft 8 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with skull turned to north. Arms straight with hands, palm downwards, at side. Legs straight.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 28, no. 33.1), 230 mm long, to north of skull. Of Swanton's angular type F<sub>3</sub>.
2. *Iron knife* (Fig. 28, no. 33.2), 185 mm long, at left side, tang to south.

## GRAVE 34 (Fig. 13)

West-east 297°. Rectangular, 1.98 m long, 0.75 m wide, and 0.36 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult female (35–40 years) about 1.61 m (5 ft 3 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with head turned to the south. Left arm flexed at elbow with hand on pelvis. Legs straight.

## Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 28, no. 34.1), 140 mm long, at left side. Tang to north.
2. *Iron buckle with pin* (Fig. 28, no. 34.2) at side. The buckle is oval, 23 mm by 18 mm, and 3 mm thick.
3. *Glass fragment* (Fig. 28, no. 34.3), near skull, which may be a recent intrusion. It is of pale green translucent glass, perhaps part of a rim.

## GRAVE 35 (Fig. 9)

West-east 271°. Rectangular, 2.05 m long, 0.66 m wide, and 0.40 m deep.

Skeleton of an adult male (about 25 years) 1.80 m (5 ft 11 in.) in height. Supine, extended, arms and legs straight. Right hand, palm upwards, at right side. Left hand, palm downwards, at left side.

## Associated finds:

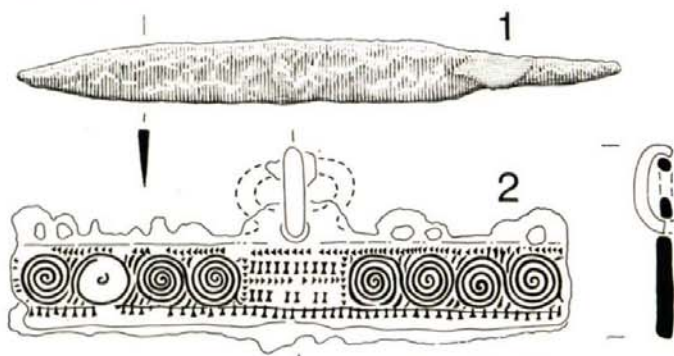
1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 29, no. 35.1), 156 mm long, at right side. Tang to north, cutting edge to west.
2. *Iron firesteel with wire inlay and bronze pin* (Fig. 29, no. 35.2 and Fig. 51). 73 mm long, 13 mm wide, and 3 mm thick. The mount is decorated with eight spirals and was supported by the surviving bronze pin on an iron buckle of which only traces survive. This item has yet to be conserved, but the X-rays appear to show loops along its upper edge. It was found at the right side of the chest.

A small collection of animal bones was found near the left side.

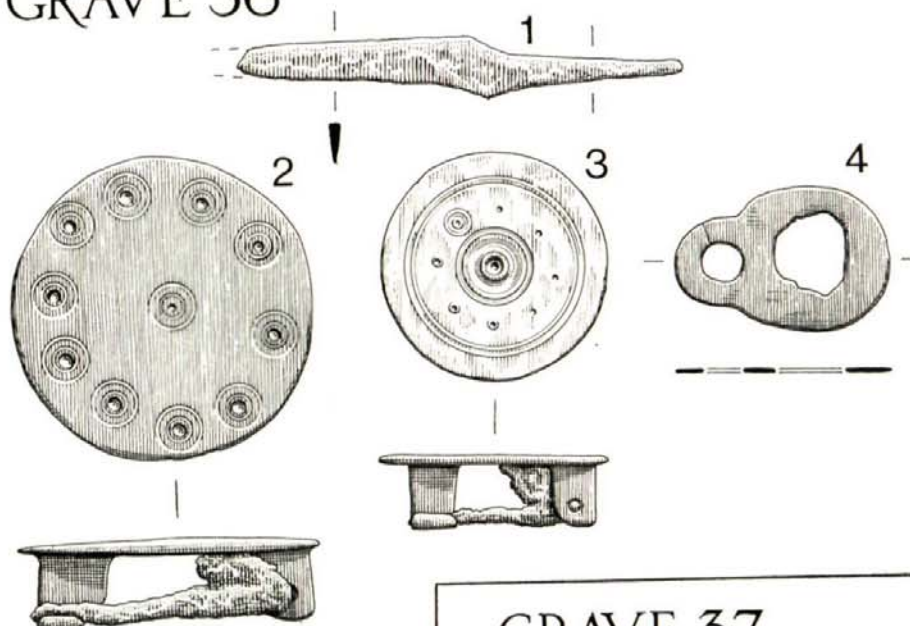
## GRAVE 36 (Fig. 13)

West-east 278°. Rectangular with rounded corners, 1.90 m long, 0.70 m wide, and 0.24 m deep.

## GRAVE 35



## GRAVE 36



## GRAVE 37

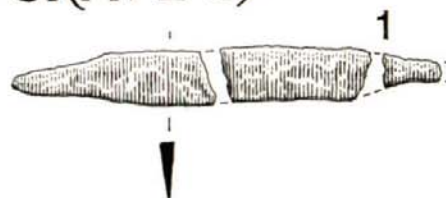


Fig. 29. Droxford: Objects from graves 35, 36 and 37. Scales: 35.1, 36.1, 37.1,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.



Skeleton of an adult female (20–25 years) about 1.56 m (5 ft 1 in.) in height. Supine, extended, with arms and legs straight.

Associated finds:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 29, no. 36.1), 117 mm long, at right side, tang to north, cutting edge to west.
2. *Bronze disc brooch* (Fig. 29, no. 36.2, Fig. 52c), 39 mm in diameter, on left shoulder.
3. *Bronze disc brooch* (Fig. 29, no. 36.3, Fig. 52c), 30 mm in diameter, on right shoulder.
4. *Bronze object* (Fig. 29, no. 36.4), under lower vertebrae, in the form of a figure eight, 25 mm long, 20 mm wide, and 1 mm thick.

GRAVE 37 (Fig. 13)

West-east 277°. Rectangular, 1.70 m long, 0.80 m wide, and 0.24 m deep.

Fragmentary remains of a skeleton of a juvenile (15–17 years). Supine, extended, with head turned to south. Arms and legs straight.

Associated find:

1. *Iron knife* (Fig. 29, no. 37.1), 110 mm long, at left side. Tang to east.

GRAVE 38 (Fig. 8)

West-east 287°. Rectangular, with rounded corners, 1.90 m long, 0.70 m wide, and 0.30 m deep. Cut through at west end by gully—feature 2 (see p. 96).

Skeleton of an adult male (about 21 years), 1.71 m (5 ft 7 in.) in height. Supine, extended, the skull having been almost completely destroyed by feature 2. Legs and left arm straight. Right arm flexed, hand on pelvis.

Associated finds:

1. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 30, no. 38.1), 335 mm long, at side of upper right arm. Of Swanton's leaf-shaped type C<sub>3</sub>.
2. *Iron knife* (Fig. 30, no. 38.2), 130 mm long, below right pelvis. Tang to east.

GRAVE 39 (Fig. 9)

West-east 280°. Rectangular, east end not excavated, but length of 1.46 m exposed. 0.77 m wide and 0.36 m deep.

Skeleton of an elderly person, possibly male, about 1.64 m (5 ft 4 in.) in height, with arthritic thoracic vertebrae.

No associated finds.

GRAVE 40 (Fig. 13)

West-east 295°. Rectangular, 1.67 m long, 0.63 m wide, and 0.14 m deep.

No skeletal remains encountered during excavation, but presumably the grave of an infant.

Associated finds in a group in centre of grave—

1. *The foot of a Romano-British bronze brooch* (Fig. 30, no. 40.1) with iron adhering.
2. *Bronze object* (Fig. 30, no. 40.2), 63 mm in diameter and 1 mm thick, which may have been collected as an amulet. It is now broken but appears to have comprised an outer band, 5.5 mm wide, inside which there was a further band, 15 mm wide, decorated with lozenge-shapes produced by pierced fretwork. There is a break in the outer band but this is closed by bronze tubing which is secured by bronze rivets. This tubing may originally have been continued around the whole object.
3. *Iron object* (Fig. 30, no. 40.3), 63 mm long, in the form of a straight pin surmounted by a loop. It is up to 8 mm wide and 4 mm thick.
4. *Iron ring* (Fig. 30, no. 40.4), 40 mm in diameter and 4 mm thick.

GRAVE 41 (not illustrated)

A shallow rectangular depression, 1.20 m long, 0.58 m wide, and 0.40 m deep, aligned west-east. This contained a comparatively clean fill. Although originally thought to be a natural clay-filled solution hollow, the orientation of the feature, 284°, which conforms to the west-east alignment of many graves in the cemetery, suggests that this represents the grave of an infant.

No associated finds.

FEATURE 1 (Figs. 5 & 6)

A rectangular post-hole in the chalk, measuring 0.60 m north-south, 0.40 m transversely, and 0.30 m deep. This contained a chalk and flint packing around a central clay fill. No dating evidence was found.

FEATURE 2 (Figs. 5 & 6)

A shallow gully, aligned north-west to south-east across the west end of grave 38, 0.70 m wide and 0.18 m deep. It contained a loose fill of clay, chalk, flint, and human skull fragments from grave 38, and appears to represent the hedgerow and ditch which formerly marked the north side of the lane which led to Soberton, prior to the construction of the railway line. This lane is shown on early maps but was re-aligned in about 1900.



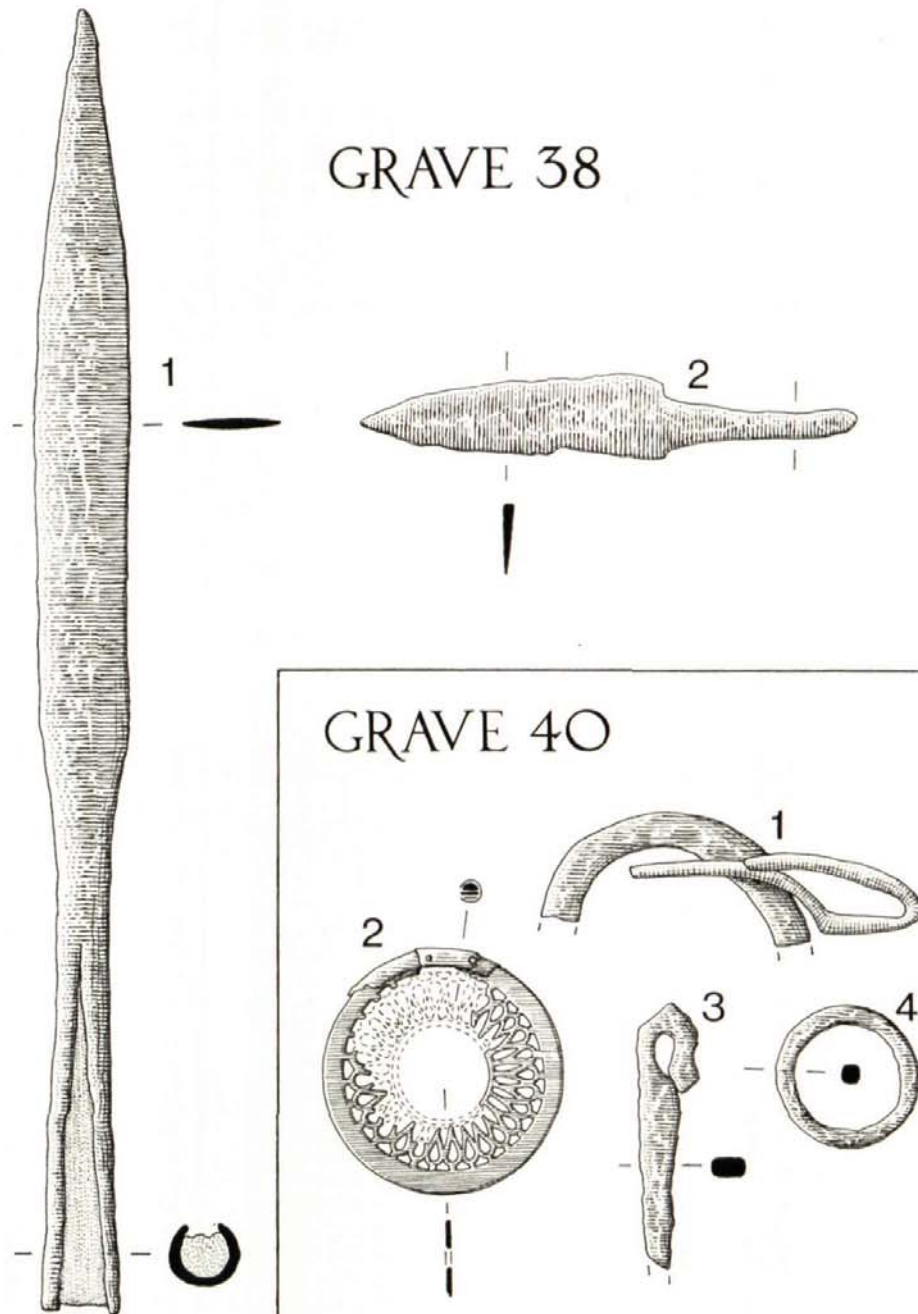


Fig. 30. Droxford: Objects from graves 38 and 40. Scales: 38.1,2, 40.2-4,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 40.1, 1:1.

## GAZETTEER OF FINDS DISCOVERED 1900-1902

Of the material recovered by William Dale, at least 176 objects were presented to the British Museum, 27 objects were presented to Winchester City Museum, and some human bones were presented to the Royal College of Surgeons. The latter were subsequently given to the British Museum (Natural History).

*Material in the British Museum*

The material presented to the British Museum is catalogued in the British and Medieval—Register of Accessions Volume 8, September 1898—May 1905, on pages 129 to 135, the entries being made on July 22nd, 1902. The finds were given by William Dale, Esq., F.S.A., of 5 Sussex Place, Southampton. In general the material is as described in the accessions register and most of the objects are marked with their accessions number, but there are a few anomalies. Accession numbers 120-134 refer to 15 iron knives, but at least 28 iron knives or similarly catalogued objects can be identified in the collection. Some of these, i.e. numbers 122-3, 126, 127-130, and 133, can be correlated with the accessions register either because they are numbered or because their descriptions fit those given. Thus 29 iron objects cannot be directly related to the remaining 6 descriptions in the register. In the following catalogue 6 of these are provisionally catalogued alongside the remaining 6 descriptions in the register, whilst the remainder are added at the end of the list as numbers 177 to 189. In addition to these, there are 5 objects which are currently stored with the Droxford material which are neither marked with an accession number nor do they compare with any description in the accession register. They are included in the catalogue, as numbers 190-194, but there must remain some doubt as to whether they really belong to the Droxford material.

In the following list the numbering adopted is that given in the British Museum Accession Register, with the addition of those other objects referred to above which are apparently not included in the register, and

these numbers are also used in the illustrations of the material. In the general discussion these numbers are prefixed by the letters BM.

1. *Romano-British bronze brooch* (Fig. 31.1) of cross-bow type, some 63 mm long, with pin now missing (Dale 1903, fig. 5).
2. *Gilt small square-headed bronze brooch* (Fig. 31.2), 51 mm long.
3. *Bronze small long brooch* (Fig. 31.3), 52 mm long, with separate bronze pin with spiral spring.
4. *Bronze disc brooch* (Fig. 32.4), 35 mm in diameter, with iron pin missing.
5. *Gilt bronze button brooch* (Fig. 31.5), 28 mm in diameter, decorated with five spirals (Dale 1903, fig. 1).
6. *Bronze button brooch* (Fig. 31.6), 23 mm in diameter, decorated with a stylised human face within a circle.
7. *Gilt bronze button brooch* (Fig. 31.7), 17 mm in diameter, decorated with a stylised human face within a circle, and with remains of an iron pin (Dale 1903, fig. 2).
8. *Bronze mount* (Fig. 33.8), 65 mm long and up to 23 mm wide, which may be for the handle of a sword.
9. *Bronze buckle and pin* (Fig. 32.9). The buckle measures 36 by 26 mm and is 'D'-shaped in section. The pin is 36 mm long and is triangular in section.
10. *Bronze buckle with iron pin* (Fig. 32.10). The buckle is oval, 25 by 20 mm, and carries a plain pin.
11. *Bronze and iron buckle with plate* (Fig. 32.11), about 37 mm long, now in two parts. The pin is missing. The ring measures 22 by 15 mm and has a circular section. The plate is in the form of a pointed shield measuring 20 mm in length by 21 mm wide, and is 6 mm thick. The front of the shield is of bronze but the back has an insert of iron which is held in position by three iron rivets. The front appears to have been decorated by triangular stamps.
12. *Shoe-shaped bronze fastening* (Fig. 32.12), 20 mm long, with a pierced shank.
13. *Shoe-shaped bronze fastening* (Fig. 32.13), identical to 12.
14. *Bronze rivet* (Fig. 33.14) with flat, circular, head. The head is 24 mm in diameter and the pointed shank is 22 mm long.
15. *Bronze rivet* (not illustrated), similar to 14.
16. *Bronze rivet head* (Fig. 34.16), comprising a thin sheet of bronze formed into a dome some 16 mm in diameter.
17. *Bronze disc* (not illustrated), 18 mm in diameter and about 1.5 mm thick. The edge is sharply defined, like that of a modern



- coin, but there appears to be no surface decoration.
18. *Roman bronze coin of Marcus Aurelius A.D. 161-180* (not illustrated) which has been pierced for suspension.
  19. *Roman bronze coin of the House of Constantine 4th c. A.D.* (not illustrated), with traces of wood adhering to one face and two holes for suspension or perhaps mounting on a wooden object.
  20. *Bronze finger ring* (Fig. 35.20), 25 mm in diameter, with twisted loop and broken bezel which may originally have contained a stone.
  21. *Bronze finger ring* (Fig. 35.21), 22 mm in diameter, in the form of a plain loop with bezel consisting of a double row of looped wire.
  22. *Bronze annular brooch* (Fig. 32.22), 36 mm in diameter, comprising a plain band, 9 mm wide and 1 mm thick, with a single perforation for a pin which is now missing.
  23. *Bronze annular brooch* (Fig. 32.23), 37 mm in diameter, comprising a plain band, 10 mm wide and 1 mm thick, with single perforation for a pin which is now missing.
  24. *Bronze ring* (Fig. 35.24), 42 mm in diameter, of 'D'-shaped section, 8 mm wide and 4 mm thick.
  25. *Bronze loop* (Fig. 35.25) in the form of a letter 'D', measuring 35 mm by 24 mm, formed from a single strip of 'D'-shaped section 3.5 mm by 2 mm, with overlapping ends.
  26. *Bronze buckle* (Fig. 32.26) in the form of a 'D', measuring 29 mm across. It is formed of a single strip of metal with square section about 2.5 mm across. There are signs of wear on one side but no pin.
  27. *Bronze ring* (Fig. 35.27), 21 mm in diameter, formed from a piece of strip with round section measuring 3 mm across.
  28. *Bronze ring* (Fig. 35.28), 24 mm in diameter, formed from a piece of strip with round section some 3 mm in diameter.
  29. *Bronze loop* (Fig. 35.29), now of irregular shape, about 16 mm in diameter, made from a strip of round section about 1.5 mm in diameter. A lump of bronze on one side may be the remains of a bezel.
  30. *Bronze ring and fastening* (Fig. 35.30). The ring is 19 mm in diameter and made from a strip which has a round section some 3 mm in diameter. The fastening, which was probably rivetted to a leather strap, is 16 mm long and 7 mm wide.
  31. *Partially-gilded bronze pendant with loop* (Fig. 31.31). The pendant is in the form of a semi-circle, some 42 mm wide, 30 mm high, and 2 mm thick. The gilded front face is decorated with the scattered limbs of animals and what may be a human face in Salin style I zoomorphic form. It was apparently attached to a strap by a single rivet through the loop.
  32. *Bowl of a bronze spoon* (Fig. 34.32), 34 mm long and 19 mm wide, with the remains of a stem on the back.
  33. *Pair of bronze tweezers* (Fig. 34.33), 65 mm long.
  34. *Pair of bronze tweezers* (Fig. 34.34), 63 mm long, with one arm broken.
  35. *Bronze pin* (Fig. 31.35), 113 mm long, of round section, some 2 mm in diameter. The top is of square section and faceted with rounded mouldings below.
  36. *Bronze ring* (Fig. 35.36), 37 mm in diameter, of plain wire of round section, about 1.5 mm across. Secured by overlapping ends.
  37. *Bronze, lozenge-shaped mount* (Fig. 33.37), comprising two plates, each 57 mm by 34 mm and 1 mm thick, linked by four bronze rivets which secure the plates at a distance of 6 mm apart. The lower plate is plain, but the upper is of bronze with a high tin content and decorated with a series of raised dots.
  38. *Bronze finger ring* (Fig. 35.38), 20 mm in diameter, formed from a single piece, 4.5 mm wide and 1 mm thick, with overlapping ends.
  39. *Bronze disc* (not illustrated), 34 mm in diameter and 1 mm thick. This is quite plain, though slightly concave.
  40. *Part of a bronze cylinder* (Fig. 34.40), 36 mm long, being part of a longer cylinder, oval in section, 1.5 by 0.8 mm and about 2 mm thick. This may be part of a tubular mount like the complete example no. 52.
  41. *Bronze tube* (Fig. 33.41), measuring 30 mm long and 6 mm in diameter, formed of a single sheet of bronze, 1 mm thick, turned into a tube decorated with five grooves at one end and two at the other. Possibly part of a cosmetic brush of the type described by Brown (1974).
  42. *Bronze tube* (Fig. 33.42), measuring 15 mm long and about 8 mm in diameter, formed of a single sheet less than 1 mm thick rolled into a plain cylinder. Possibly part of a cosmetic brush.
  43. *Bronze handle of a bucket* (Fig. 34.43), comprising a single strip of bronze 21 mm long, 15 mm wide, and 1 mm thick, which is turned at either end to retain iron fittings which attached the handle to the bucket. The original bone lining is missing and the upper surface of the handle is decorated with incised crosses and ring-and-dot ornament.



44. *Part of bronze and bone handle of a bucket* (Fig. 34.44), comprising a strip of plain bronze, 60 mm long, 15 mm wide, and 1 mm thick, with fragments of bone lining rivetted to the underside.
  45. *Fillings from bronze bucket mounts* (Fig. 33.45), comprising two strips of bronze, each 15 mm wide and 1 mm thick. One is 40 mm long, the other 22 mm long. They are both pierced with holes for mounting and decorated with dents and holes.
  46. *Bronze fitting* (Fig. 33.46), comprising a strip of plain bronze, 72 mm long, 14 mm wide, and 1 mm thick, which appears to be tinned on the outer, concave, surface. This may be from the scabbard of a sword.
  47. *Bronze strip* (Fig. 34.47), 73 mm long, 11 mm wide, and 1 mm thick, with two hollow bronze rivets on one side.
  48. *Bronze fitting* (Fig. 33.48), 35 mm long, 21 mm wide, and 1 mm thick, with iron lump and remains of wood on one side. This may be part of the mount for a sword handle.
  49. *Pair of bronze mounts* (Fig. 34.49), one broken, the other complete. It is 42 mm long and 7.5 mm wide, but tapers down to a curved end. These may be for attaching to strap ends and each has a single perforation.
  50. *Bronze strip* (Fig. 34.50), 76 mm long, of 'U'-shaped section, measuring about 4 mm across. This may be part of the edging of a firesteel pouch like that found in grave 14.
- The following four items are said to have been found together with a small spearhead, and were probably deposited as a complete, or part of a, grave group:
51. *Bronze wheel-shaped mount* (Fig. 35.51), 49 mm in diameter and 3 mm thick, formed from a single piece of cast bronze with an outer rim and three spokes radiating from a central disc with raised knob.
  52. *Bronze tubular mount* (Fig. 33.52), 66 mm in length, in the form of a flattened cylinder, 17 mm wide and 10 mm deep, with a loop attached to one side. A small piece of leather was found inside the tube when received by the museum (Baldwin-Brown 1915, pl. 99; and Evison (1965, 51, Map 10, No. 1).
  53. *Part of a bronze applied brooch* (Fig. 32.53), 30 mm in diameter and 1 mm thick, comprising the backplate only with remains of bronze and iron pin and slot to carry the missing catch plate.
  54. *Part of a bronze applied brooch* (Fig. 32.54), 33 mm in diameter and 1 mm thick, comprising part of the backplate with catch plate inserted through slot.
  55. *Amber bead* (Fig. 36.55), 25 mm in diameter and 8 mm thick, in the form of a disc with sloping sides. Class VIIIh.
  56. *Amber bead* (Fig. 36.56), 27 mm in diameter and 10 mm thick. Class VIIIh.
  57. *Amber bead* (Fig. 36.57), 23 mm in diameter and up to 17 mm thick, in the form of a disc with sloping upper surface. Class VIIIj.
  58. *Amber bead* (Fig. 36.58) in the form of a cube measuring 9 mm across. Class VIIIc.
  59. *Opaque glass bead* (Fig. 36.59) in the form of a rounded cylinder, 13 mm high and 22 mm in diameter, with a small part broken. The centre is of a dark material, over which bands of red and green have been added and onto which trails of yellow have been laid. Class V.
  60. *Fragment of amber bead* (not illustrated) which may be part of a cylindrical bead about 3 mm in diameter.
  61. *Shale bead* (Fig. 36.61), 9 mm in diameter and 7 mm high. Class XV.
  62. *Melon bead in translucent green glass* (Fig. 36.62), 8 mm in diameter and 12 mm high. Class IIIa.
  63. *Spherical opaque white glass bead* (Fig. 36.63), 8 mm in diameter and 7 mm high. Class XVIa.
  64. *Spherical opaque blue glass bead* (Fig. 36.64), 13 mm in diameter and 10 mm high. Class XVIb.
  65. *Quoit-shaped opaque black bead* (Fig. 36.65), 13 mm in diameter and 5 mm high. Class Id.
  66. *Quoit-shaped blue translucent glass bead* (Fig. 36.66), 16 mm in diameter and 7 mm high. Class XIa.
  67. *Quoit-shaped blue translucent glass bead* (Fig. 36.67), 8 mm in diameter and 4 mm high. Class XIb.
  68. *Quoit-shaped olive-brown translucent glass bead* (Fig. 36.68), 6 mm in diameter and 3 mm high. Class XVII.
  69. *Globular opaque black glass bead* (Fig. 36.69), 16 mm in diameter and 8 mm high, decorated with one green and several white spots. Class Ie.
  70. *Quoit-shaped bead of yellow glass* (Fig. 36.70), 15 mm in diameter. Class XIII.
  71. *Melon bead in pale green/yellow glass* (Fig. 36.71), 12 mm in diameter and 6 mm high. Class IIIa.
  72. *Part of a quoit-shaped opaque black glass bead* (Fig. 36.72), about 22 mm in diameter. Class XVII.
  73. *Glass fragment* (Fig. 37.73), 45 mm long, 22 mm wide, and 4 mm thick. The surfaces



are completely decayed so that the true nature of the fragment is not determinable. It may be of recent origin.

74. *Glass fragment* (Fig. 37.74), measuring 32 mm by 18 mm and 8 mm thick, of translucent green glass with three raised ribs. This may be of recent origin.
  75. *Shale fragment* (not illustrated), about 32 mm long, of irregular form.
  76. *White pebble* (not illustrated), about 13 mm in diameter.
  77. *Brown pebble with natural perforation* (not illustrated), about 26 mm in diameter.
  78. *Clay spindle-whorl* (Fig. 37.78), 28 mm in diameter and 6 mm high, with perforation some 6 mm in diameter.
  79. *Shale spindle-whorl* (Fig. 37.79), 30 mm in diameter and 8 mm high.
  80. *Shale spindle-whorl* (Fig. 37.80), 29 mm in diameter and 8 mm high.
  81. *Sandstone fragment* (not illustrated), 48 mm long, 12 mm wide, and 9 mm thick, which may have been used as a hone.
  82. *Facetted, carinated, pottery vessel* (Fig. 37.82), 67 mm in diameter at the rim and 67 mm high, of dark-brown ware with grass- or chaff-tempering.
  83. *Pottery sherds of one or two vessels* (Fig. 37.83), comprising a group of four sherds and another of two sherds. All are stamped with rosettes.
  84. *Pottery sherds of a small vessel* (Fig. 37.84), comprising part of a base with a lug attached and three rim sherds, all in a hand-made coarse, gritty, dark grey ware.
  85. *Fragments of a brown glass beaker* (Fig. 37.85), comprising one base and two rim sherds of a cone-shaped beaker up to 65 mm in diameter at the rim and about 115 mm in height.
  86. *Roman bronze coin of Faustina* (not illustrated).
  87. *Roman bronze coin of Magnentius, AD 350-353* (not illustrated).
  88. *Roman bronze 4th century Folles, possibly of Crispus, AD 317-326* (not illustrated).
  89. *Roman bronze coin of the House of Constantine* (not illustrated).
- The following spearheads are classified according to M. J. Swanton (1973; 1974) and are further discussed below (pp. 164-6).
90. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 38.90), 299 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type I<sub>1</sub> (Swanton 1973, fig. 45c; 1974, fig. 7b).
  91. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 38.91), 284 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type I<sub>1</sub>.
  92. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 38.92), 248 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type L.
  93. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 38.93), 409 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type K<sub>1</sub>.
  94. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 38.94), 318 mm long, with long angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>3</sub>.
  95. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 38.95), 330 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type L.
  96. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 38.96), 221 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type L. It carries a group of inlaid string-lines, presumably silver or bronze, in the blade angle.
  97. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 39.97), 200 mm long, with small angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>1</sub>.
  98. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 39.98), 212 mm long, with angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>2</sub>.
  99. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 39.99), 332 mm long, with large angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>3</sub>.
  100. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 39.100), 282 mm long, with large angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>3</sub>.
  101. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 39.101), 213 mm long, with angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>2</sub>.
  102. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 39.102), 173 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type L.
  103. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 39.103), 166 mm long, with small angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>1</sub>.
  104. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 39.104), 346 mm long, with large leaf-shaped blade of Swanton's type C<sub>3</sub>.
  105. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 39.105), 290 mm long, with small leaf-shaped blade of Swanton's type D<sub>1</sub> (Swanton 1973, fig. 18d).
  106. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.106), 225 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type L.
  107. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.107), 192 mm long, with a small angular blade of Swanton's type E<sub>1</sub> (Swanton 1973, fig. 23f).
  108. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.108), 185 mm long, with an angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>2</sub>.
  109. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.109), 181 mm long, with a small angular blade of Swanton's type E<sub>1</sub> (Swanton 1973, fig. 23g; 1974, fig. 4a).
  110. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.110), 173 mm long, with small angular blade of Swanton's type E<sub>1</sub>.
  111. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.111), 140 mm long, with small angular blade of Swanton's type E<sub>1</sub>.
  112. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.112), 150 mm long,



- with small angular blade of Swanton's type E<sub>1</sub>.
113. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.113), 135 mm long, with small angular blade of Swanton's type E<sub>1</sub>.
  114. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.114), 126 mm long, with small angular blade of Swanton's type E<sub>1</sub>.
  115. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.115), 111 mm long, with small angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>1</sub>.
  116. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.116), 174 mm long, with small leaf-shaped blade of Swanton's type D<sub>1</sub>.
  117. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.117), 178 mm long, with leaf-shaped blade of Swanton's type D<sub>2</sub>.
  118. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.118), 170 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type L.
  119. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 40.119), 312 mm long, with corrugated blade of Swanton's type J (Swanton 1973, fig. 48e).
- Some difficulty has arisen in relating the iron knives to the similarly classified objects in the accessions register (see p. 136).
120. *Iron knife* (Fig. 41.120), 100 mm long, broken at tip.
  121. *Iron knife* (Fig. 41.121), 131 mm long.
  122. *Iron knife* (Fig. 41.122), 115 mm long, broken at both ends.
  123. *Iron knife* (Fig. 41.123), 122 mm long, broken at tip.
  124. *Iron knife* (Fig. 41.124), 106 mm long, broken at tip.
  125. *Iron knife* (Fig. 41.125), 145 mm long, now in four pieces.
  126. *Iron firesteel* (Fig. 46.126), 160 mm long and up to 18 mm wide, and 2 mm thick, showing signs of wear on lower edge.
  127. *Iron knife* (Fig. 41.127), 135 mm long, broken at both ends.
  128. *Iron knife* (Fig. 41.128), 115 mm long, broken at both ends.
  129. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.129), 105 mm long, with broken tang.
  130. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.130), 100 mm long, with broken tang.
  131. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.131), 120 mm long.
  132. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.132), 113 mm long, broken at tip.
  133. *Part of an iron knife* (Fig. 42.133), 102 mm long.
  134. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.134), 110 mm long, broken at tip.
  135. *Iron shield boss with tinned rivets* (Fig. 43.135), 113 mm in diameter and 79 mm high, with low carinated cone.
  136. *Iron shield boss* (Fig. 43.136), 114 mm in diameter and 86 mm high, with low straight cone and carination.
  137. *Iron shield boss* (Fig. 43.137), 120 mm in diameter and 68 mm high, with low carinated cone.
  138. *Iron shield boss* (Fig. 43.138), 120 mm in diameter and 96 mm high, with low straight cone and carination.
  139. *Iron shield boss* (Fig. 43.139), 105 mm in diameter and 87 mm high, with low carinated cone.
  140. *Iron shield boss* (Fig. 43.140), 123 mm in diameter and 80 mm high, with low carinated cone.
  141. *Iron shield boss* (Fig. 43.141), 105 mm in diameter and 76 mm high, with low straight cone and carination.
  142. *Iron shield boss* (Fig. 43.142), 105 mm in diameter and 80 mm high, with low straight cone and carination.
  143. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 41.143), 534 mm long, with large straight-sided angular blade of Swanton's type E<sub>3</sub>.
  144. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 41.144), 173 mm long, with small angular blade of Swanton's type H<sub>1</sub> (Swanton 1973, fig. 37c).
  145. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 41.145), 147 mm long, with straight-sided angular blade of Swanton's type E<sub>2</sub>.
  146. *Long iron shield grip* (Fig. 44.146), 384 mm long, but broken at one end. Three tinned rivets survive (Dale 1903, fig. 6; Evison 1965, 26).
  147. *Long iron shield grip* (Fig. 44.147), 317 mm long, but broken at one end. Two rivets survive.
  148. *Two pieces of a long iron shield grip* (Fig. 44.148), 242 mm long, but one end missing.
  149. *Part of a long iron shield grip* (Fig. 44.149), 308 mm long, with two surviving rivets but both ends missing.
  150. *Part of an iron shield grip* (Fig. 44.150), 120 mm long.
  151. *Iron shield grip* (Fig. 44.151), 115 mm long, with two rivets.
  152. *Iron shield grip* (Fig. 44.152), 120 mm long, with two rivets.
  153. *Part of an iron shield grip* (Fig. 44.153), 53 mm long.
  154. *Bronze strip* (Fig. 34.154), 57 mm long, 15 mm wide, and 1 mm thick, with an iron rivet at either end.
  - 155–158. *Four iron horse-shoes* (not illustrated), donated with the other material, but now considered by the British Museum to be seventeenth-century in date and no longer part of the Droxford Collection.
  159. *Iron pyrites nodule* (not illustrated).
  160. *Iron rod* (Fig. 46.160), 236 mm long and up to 11 mm wide, with a hook at one end.



161. *Iron rod* (Fig. 46.161), 152 mm long, with loop at one end. The rod expands from 7 mm wide at one end to 15 mm wide at the other.
162. *Part of a probable iron bridle bit* (Fig. 46.162), comprising an iron ring, 45 mm in diameter, with two smaller rings and an iron rod with loop, 68 mm long, attached.
163. *Iron ring* (Fig. 46.163), now oval, measuring 68 mm by 60 mm in diameter.
164. *Iron ring* (Fig. 46.164), 54 mm in diameter, with round section 5 mm across.
165. *Iron ring* (Fig. 46.165), 48 mm in diameter, with round section 4 mm across.
166. *Iron ring* (Fig. 46.166), 41 mm in diameter, with round section 4 mm across.
167. *Iron ring* (Fig. 46.167), 37 mm in diameter, with round section 4 mm across.
168. *Iron ring* (Fig. 46.168), 47 mm in diameter, with round section about 5 mm across.
169. *Iron ring* (Fig. 46.169), 46 mm in diameter, with piece of iron attached.
170. *Part of an iron buckle* (Fig. 32.170), comprising an oval loop measuring 44 mm by 24 mm.
171. *Iron sword* (Fig. 45.171), 287 mm long, up to 56 mm wide, and up to 5 mm thick, with traces of wood near the tang.
172. *Iron sword* (Fig. 45.172), 900 mm long, up to 60 mm wide, and 7 mm thick, with traces of a wooden scabbard and cross-bar pommel on the tang.
173. *Iron sword* (not illustrated) which has not been traced in the museum, although listed in the accessions register.
174. *Iron sword* (Fig. 45.174), 843 mm long, up to 49 mm wide, and 6 mm thick, with traces of a wooden scabbard and portions of a bronze binding strip, 233 mm long.
175. *Iron sword* (Fig. 45.175), 876 mm long, up to 54 mm wide, and 7 mm thick.
176. *Iron sword* (Fig. 45.176), 836 mm long, up to 43 mm wide, and 6 mm thick.
177. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.177), 80 mm long.
178. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.178), 117 mm long.
179. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.179), 88 mm long.
180. *Iron strip, possibly a firesteel* (Fig. 46.180), comprising a piece of iron 97 mm long which tapers from 11 to 8 mm wide.
181. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.181), 164 mm long.
182. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.182), 118 mm long.
183. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.183), 125 mm long.
184. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.184), 129 mm long.
185. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.185), 145 mm long.
186. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.186), 90 mm long.
187. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.187), 101 mm long.
188. *Iron knife* (Fig. 42.188), 88 mm long.
189. *Iron knife* (Fig. 41.189), 98 mm long.
190. *Iron spike* (Fig. 46.190), 125 mm long, with loop at one end.
191. *Iron strip* (Fig. 46.191), 100 mm long and 3 mm thick, which tapers from 10 to 6 mm wide, with hook at one end.
192. *Iron strip* (Fig. 46.192), 85 mm long, with one end turned at right angles rather like a key.
193. *Part of an iron ring* (Fig. 46.193), with two iron strips attached. Possibly part of a châtelaïne.
194. *Fragment of bronze* (Fig. 32.194), 35 mm long, which appears to be the remains of a buckle plate with arcaded open-work. It may have been burnt prior to deposition (Evison 1968, fig. 4i, 238, 246).

#### *Material in Winchester City Museum*

The following material is held by the Winchester City Museum, having been donated in about 1900. There are no details in the Accessions Register but the site is listed as number 122—The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Droxford. The accession numbers extend from 122.1 to 122.25, and 122.00.1/1 and 122.00.1/2. There appears to be no reason why two of the accession numbers should be prefixed by 00 and then subdivided 1/1 and 1/2, but it may well be that some were received at a different time than the remainder of the material. In the following list and in the illustrations the site number (122) has been omitted and in the remainder of the text the material is identified by the prefix WCM and the site number is again omitted.

1. *Iron seax* (Fig. 47.1), 40 mm long, with a single cutting edge. The tang is broken.
2. *Part of an iron shield boss* (Fig. 47.2), up to about 110 mm in diameter, comprising the tip and surrounding area only.
3. *Part of a pair of iron shears* (Fig. 47.3), 177 mm long, comprising one half only.
4. *Iron knife* (Fig. 47.4), 140 mm long.
5. *Iron knife* (Fig. 47.5), 180 mm long.
6. *Iron object* (Fig. 47.6), 170 mm long, which has a loop at one end and the remains of two hooks at the other. Another, hooked, iron object, 90 mm long, is rusted to it.
7. *Iron bar* (Fig. 47.7), 150 mm long, curved, circular in section and tapers from 4 mm in diameter to 10 mm.



8. *Iron spearhead* (Fig. 47.8), 195 mm long, with small angular blade of Swanton's type F<sub>1</sub> (Swanton 1974, fig. 4a).
  9. *Gilt bronze saucer brooch* (Fig. 48.9; Fig. 51d), 40 mm in diameter, with animal ornament.
  10. *Gilt bronze saucer brooch* (Fig. 48.10; Fig. 51d), 40 mm in diameter, with animal ornament.
  11. *Iron buckle and plate with silver-wire inlay* (Fig. 48.11, based upon X-ray), comprising an iron loop, measuring 44 mm by 16 mm, with a rectangular plate, 50 mm by 20 mm, and the remains of an iron pin. The loop has wire bound around it and the plate has a series of scroll designs which include a quatrefoil at the centre (Evison 1965, 76, Map 2, 18, and plate 6c).
  12. *Part of a silver radiate brooch* (Fig. 48.12), 30 mm long, comprising the foot only, which is decorated with a double row of punched dots between two rows of triangular stamps.
  13. *Iron knife* (Fig. 48.13), 120 mm long.
  14. *Fragments of wooden bucket and bronze binding* (not illustrated) which are possibly part of number 25.
  15. *Iron ring* (Fig. 47.15), 60 mm in diameter and 35 mm thick. Now in two parts.
  16. *Iron ring* (Fig. 47.16), 58 mm in diameter and 5 mm thick.
  17. *Iron object(s)* (Fig. 47.17), 58 mm long, comprising two pieces rusted together and two other small pieces.
  18. *Iron ring* (Fig. 48.18), 66 mm in diameter and 12 mm wide, with flange, 3 mm wide, on inner side.
  19. *Piece of copper wire* (Fig. 48.19), about 30 mm long, which may be part of a finger ring.
  20. *Piece of sheet bronze* (Fig. 48.20) in the form of the letter 'H', 31 mm long, 15 mm wide, and 1 mm thick, with the remains of a short rivet on one side and the remains of tinning on the other.
  21. *Beach pebble* (not illustrated), 25 mm long, of red stone with white striations, but no perforation.
  22. *Half a cylindrical white stone* (not illustrated), 15 mm long and 13 mm in diameter, which may have been used as a bead.
  23. *Iron knife* (Fig. 48.23), 87 mm long.
  24. *Three fourth-century Roman coins* (not illustrated).
  25. *Wooden slave bucket with bronze bindings* (Fig. 49.25), 110 mm high, 117 mm in diameter at the top, and 130 mm in diameter at the base, although the wooden staves have now almost completely disappeared. The binding comprises three horizontal bands, four vertical strips, one handle, and two plates which supported the handle on the bucket. The two lower horizontal bands are 20 mm wide and quite plain, but the upper one is 27 mm wide and is decorated with dots and arcs. The vertical strips are 17 mm wide and decorated with dots. The handle is 7 mm wide and quite plain. The plates measure 70 mm by 54 mm and are decorated with dots. Part of the upper edge of the upper horizontal band is covered by a strip of bronze with curved section, 7 mm across (Evison 1965, 22, Map 8, No. 6).
- 00.1/1-2. *Pottery vessel* (Fig. 49), up to 130 mm in diameter and 130 mm in height, represented by several sherds.

#### HUMAN REMAINS

Miss Rosemary Powers, of the British Museum (Natural History), has kindly examined the skeletal remains from Droxford in that museum and has provided a detailed report which will be placed with Graham Johnson's report in the Hampshire County Museum Service. The remains were held in the Royal College of Surgeons until 1951 and 1955 when they were transferred to the Natural History Museum where they are in store under the accession number RCS 4.255. They include parts of four mandibles, parts of two skulls, and a femur, indicating that the part of the cemetery found in 1900-02 included one woman, probably near thirty years of age, one man, nearer fifty, and two 'young' men barely twenty years old.



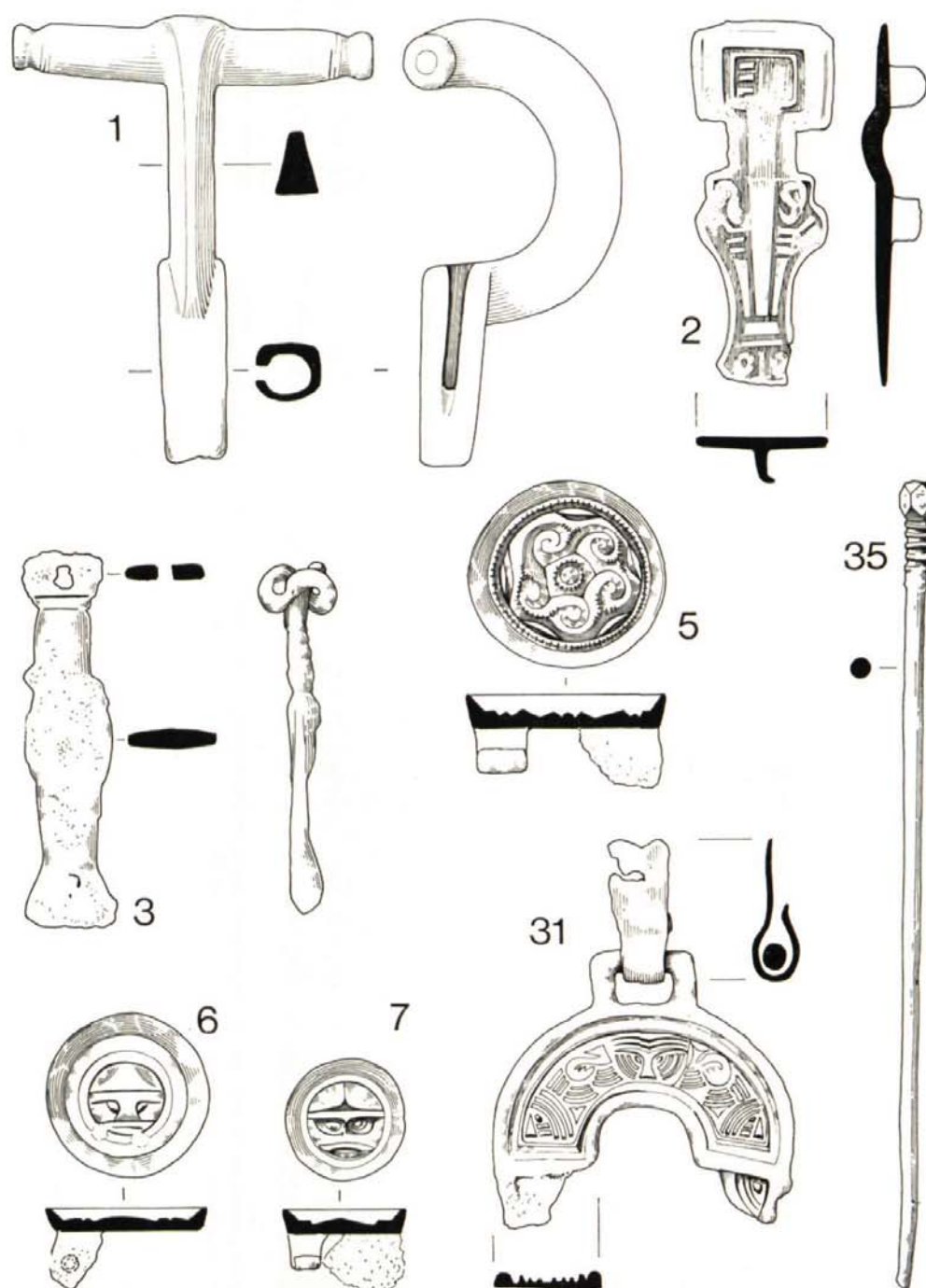


Fig. 31. Droxford: Bronze objects in the British Museum. Scale 1:1.

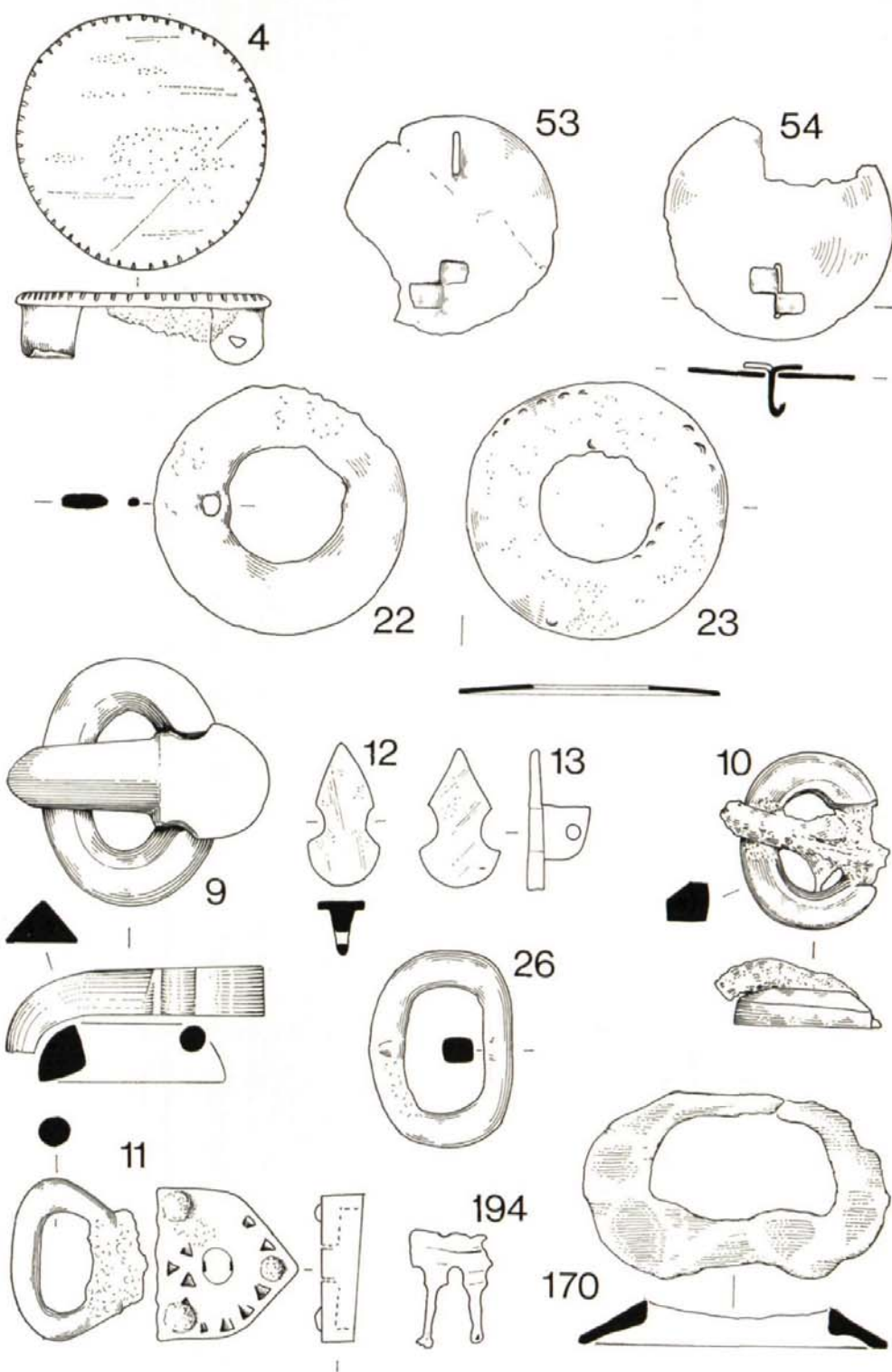


Fig. 32. Droxford: Bronze objects in the British Museum. Scales: 194,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.



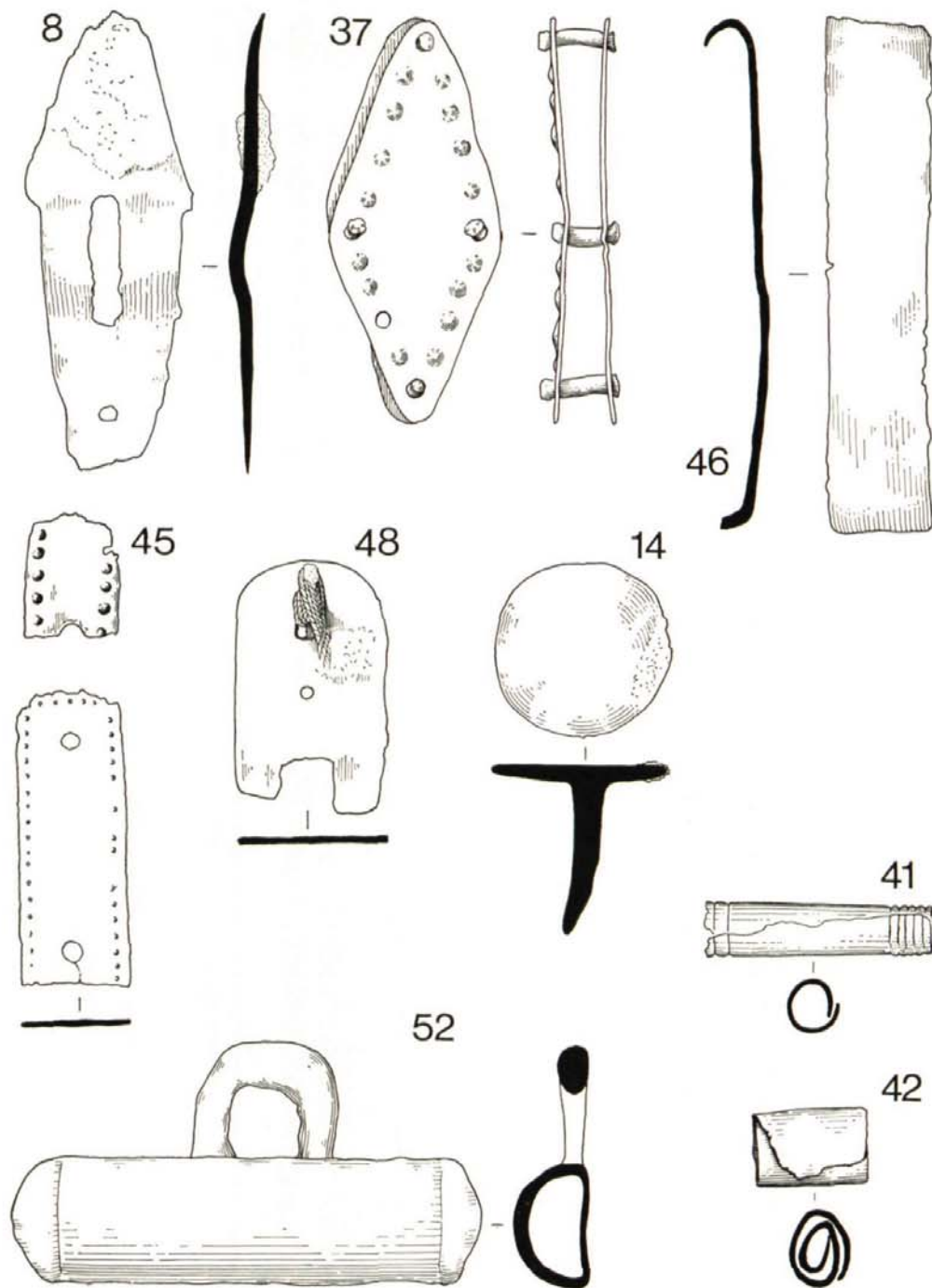


Fig. 33. Droxford: Bronze objects in the British Museum. Scale 1:1.

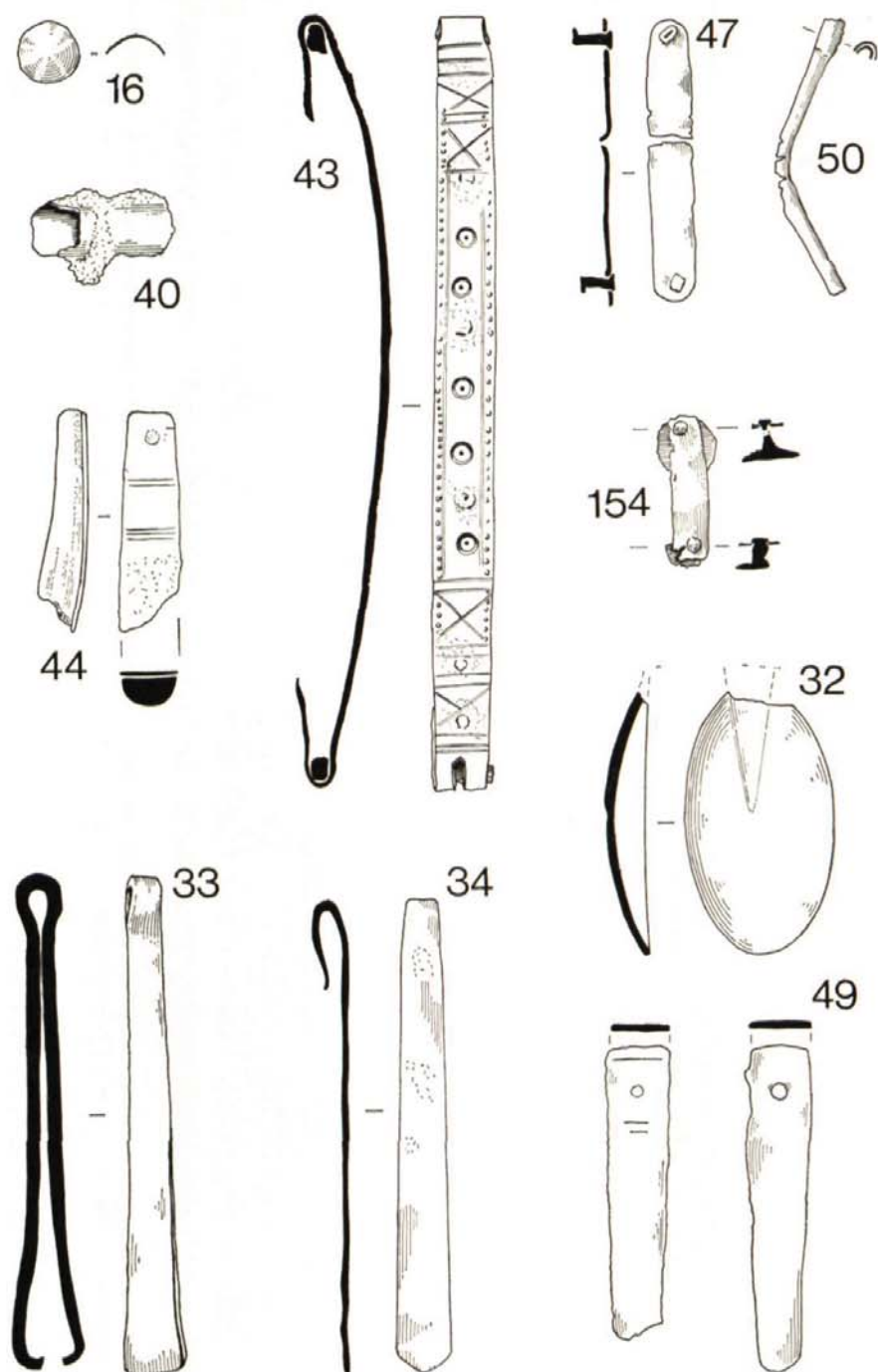


Fig. 34. Droxford: Bronze objects in the British Museum. Scale 1:1.



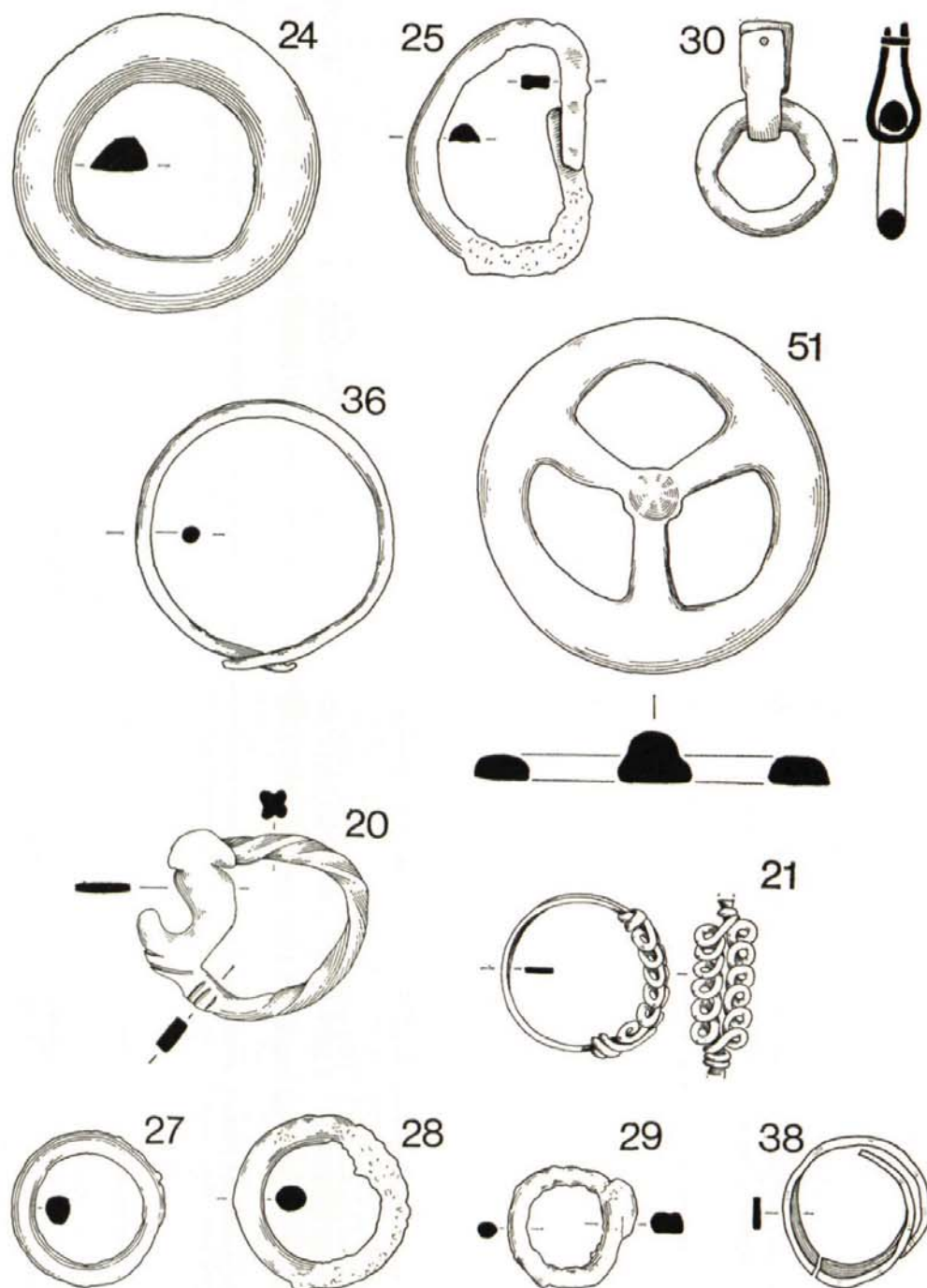


Fig. 35. Droxford: Bronze objects in the British Museum. Scale 1:1.

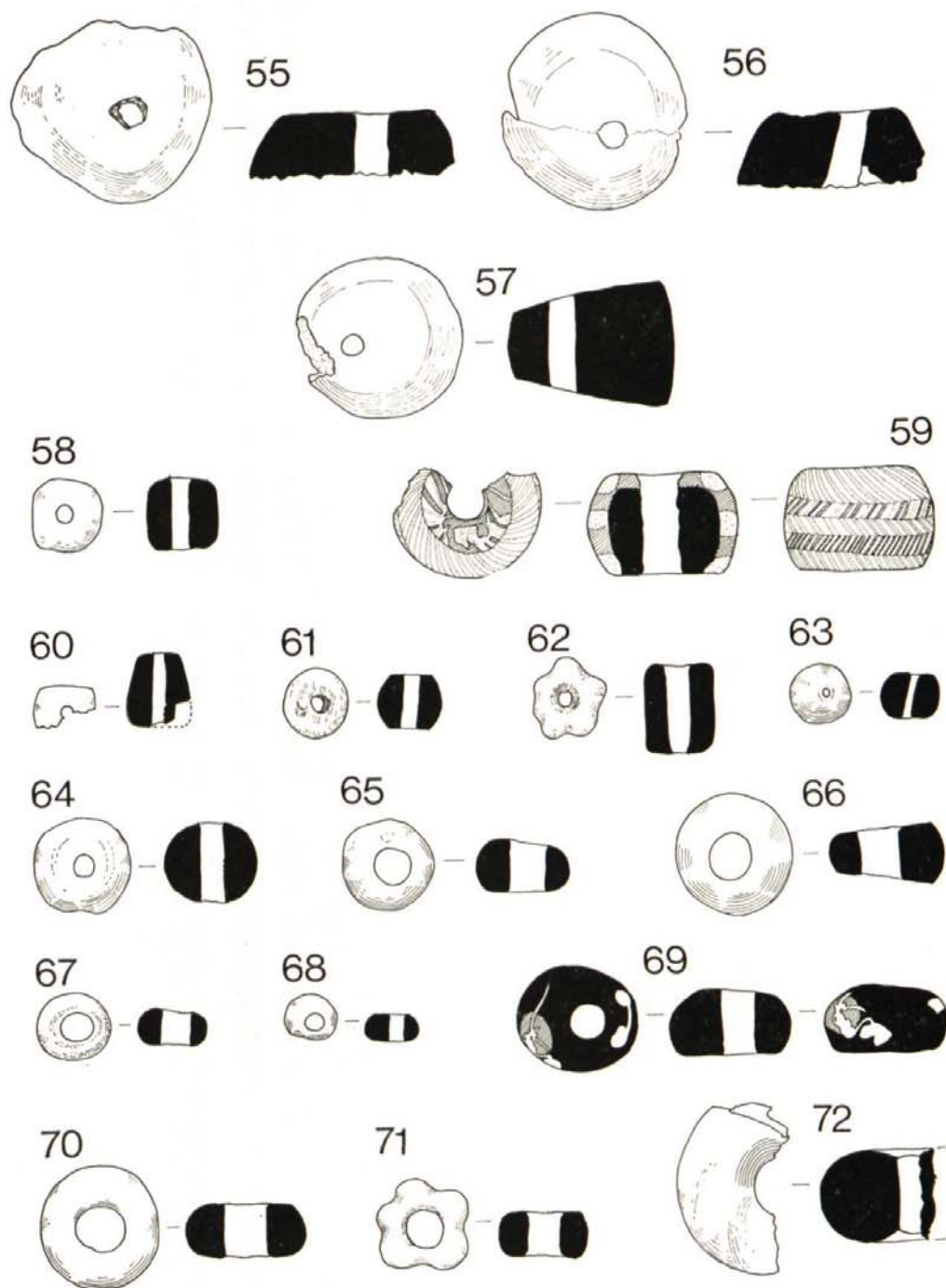


Fig. 36. Droxford: Beads in the British Museum. Scale 1:1.



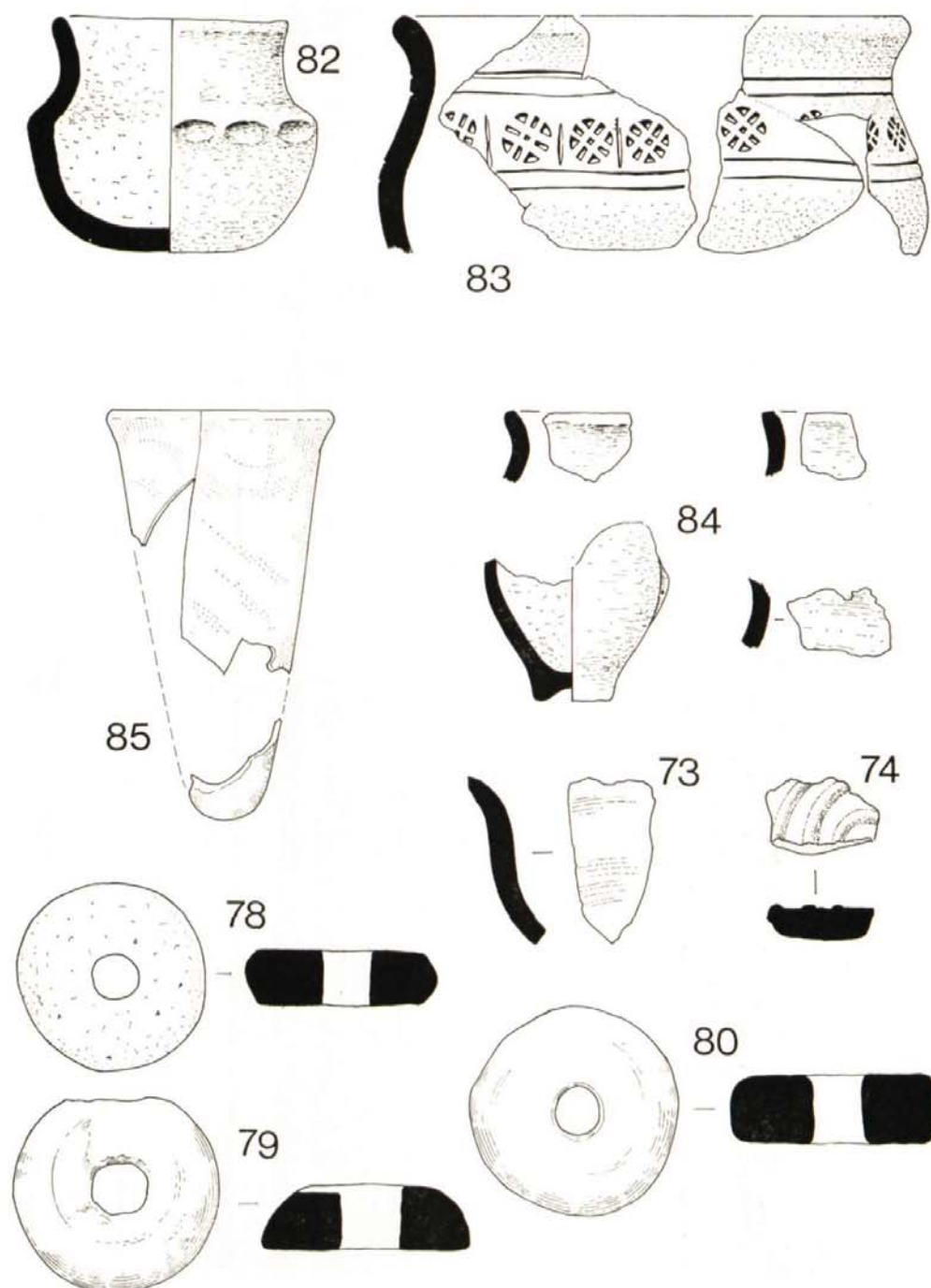


Fig. 37. Droxford: Objects in the British Museum. Scales: 73, 74, 82-5,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest 1:1.

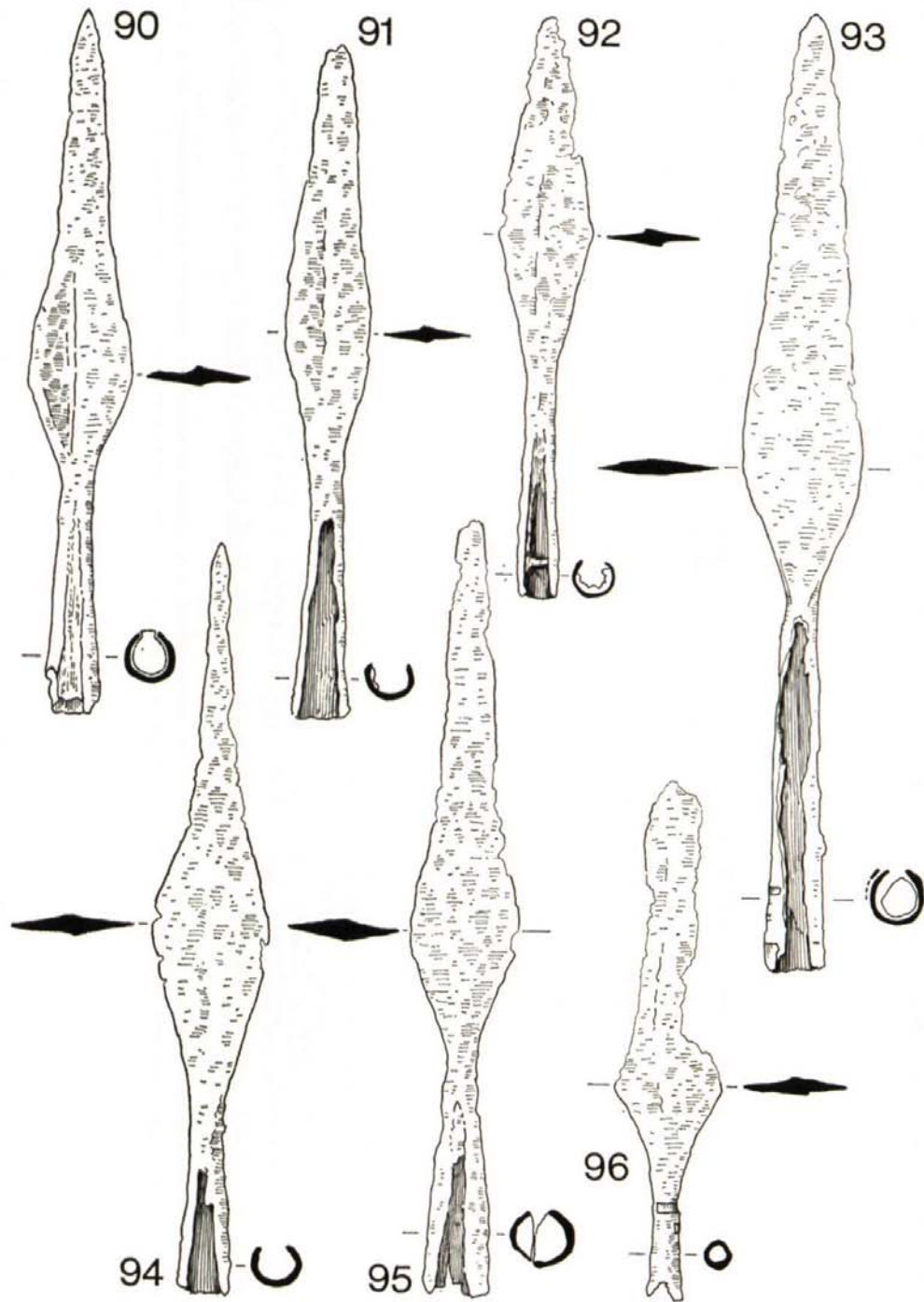


Fig. 38. Droxford: Iron spearheads in the British Museum. Scale  $\frac{1}{3}$ .



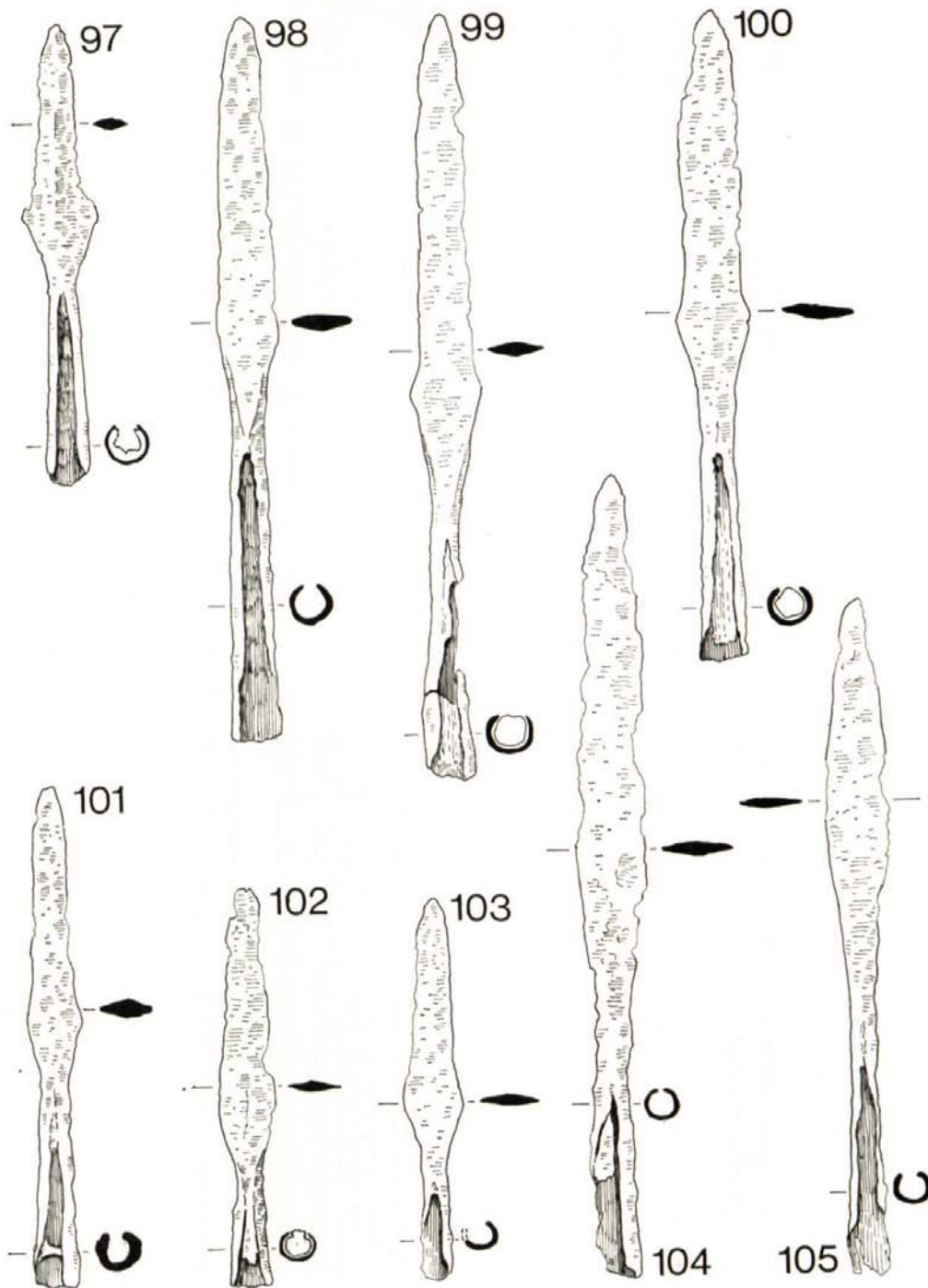


Fig. 39. Droxford: Iron spearheads in the British Museum. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

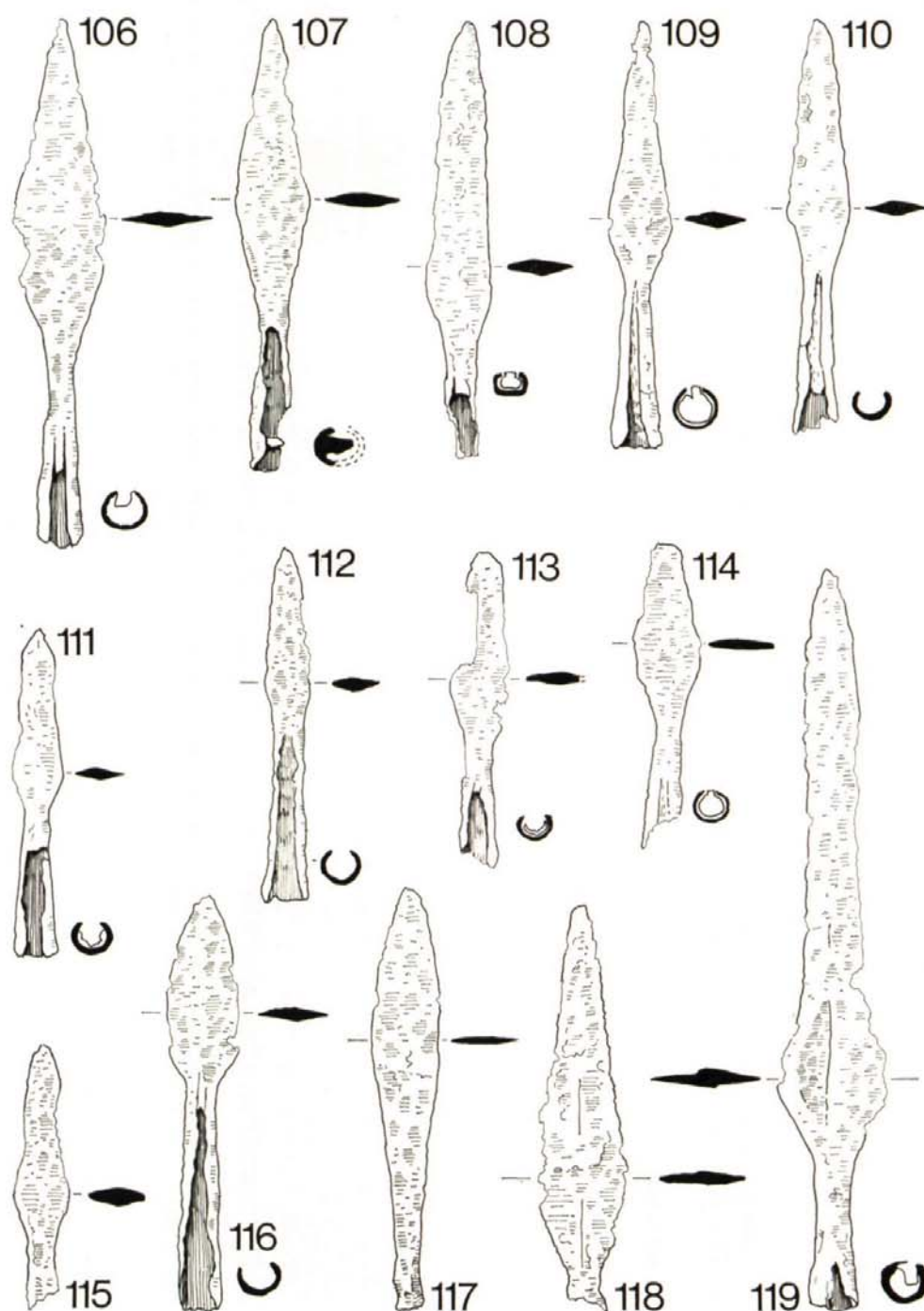


Fig. 40. Droxford: Iron spearheads in the British Museum. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



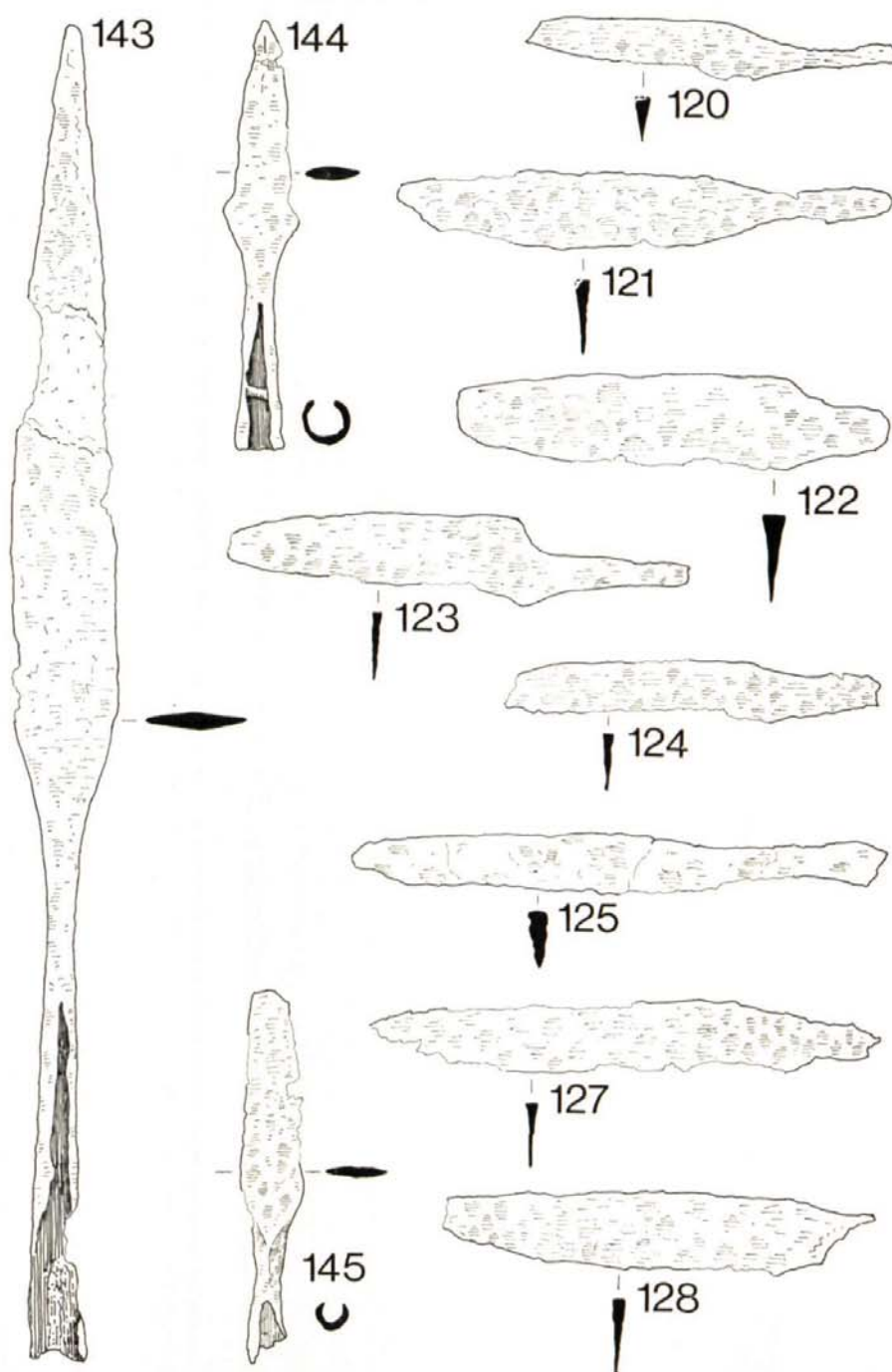


Fig. 41. Droxford: Iron spearheads and knives in the British Museum. Scales: 120-125, 127, 128,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 143-145,  $\frac{1}{3}$ .

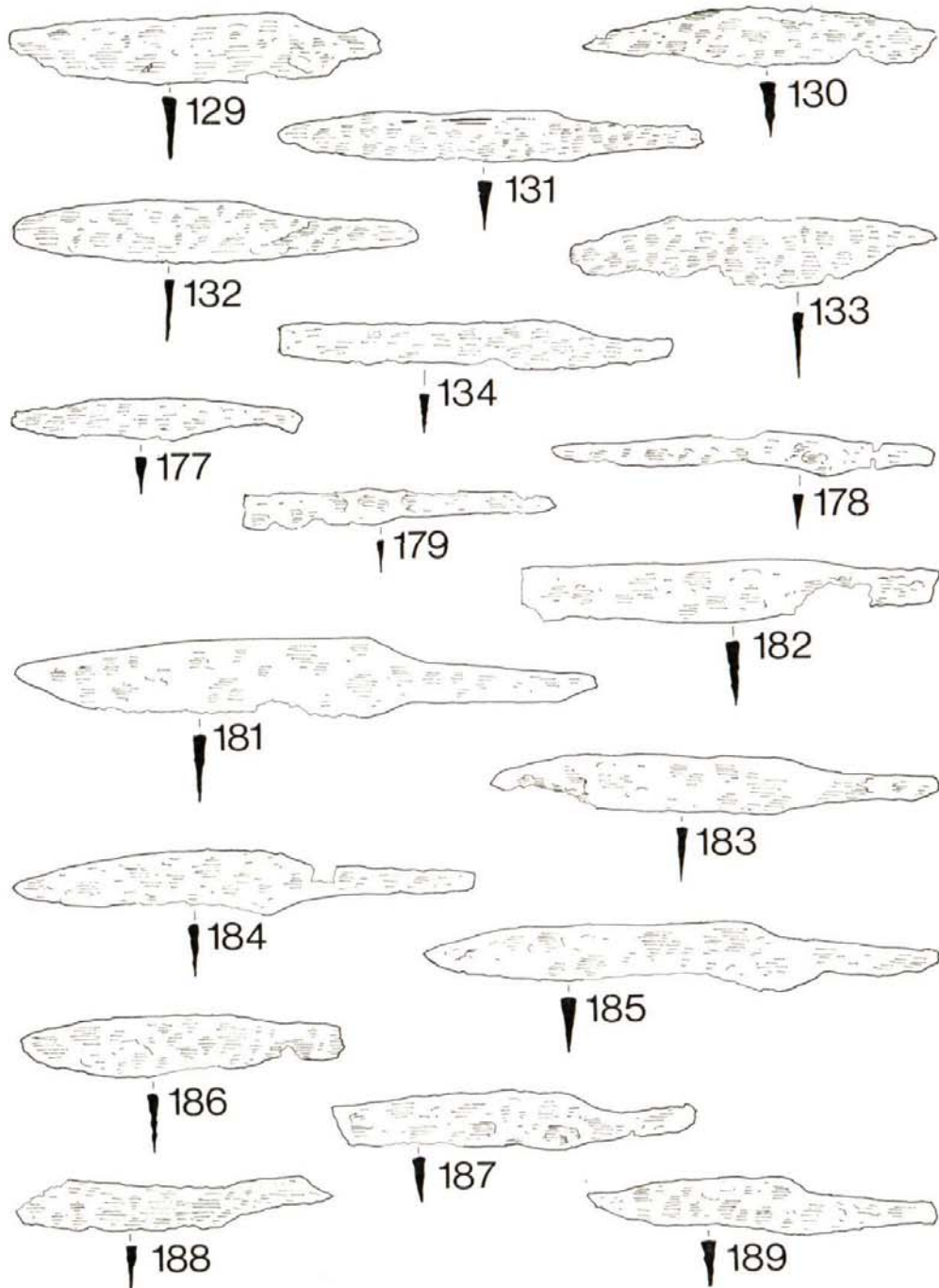


Fig. 42. Droxford: Iron knives in the British Museum. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



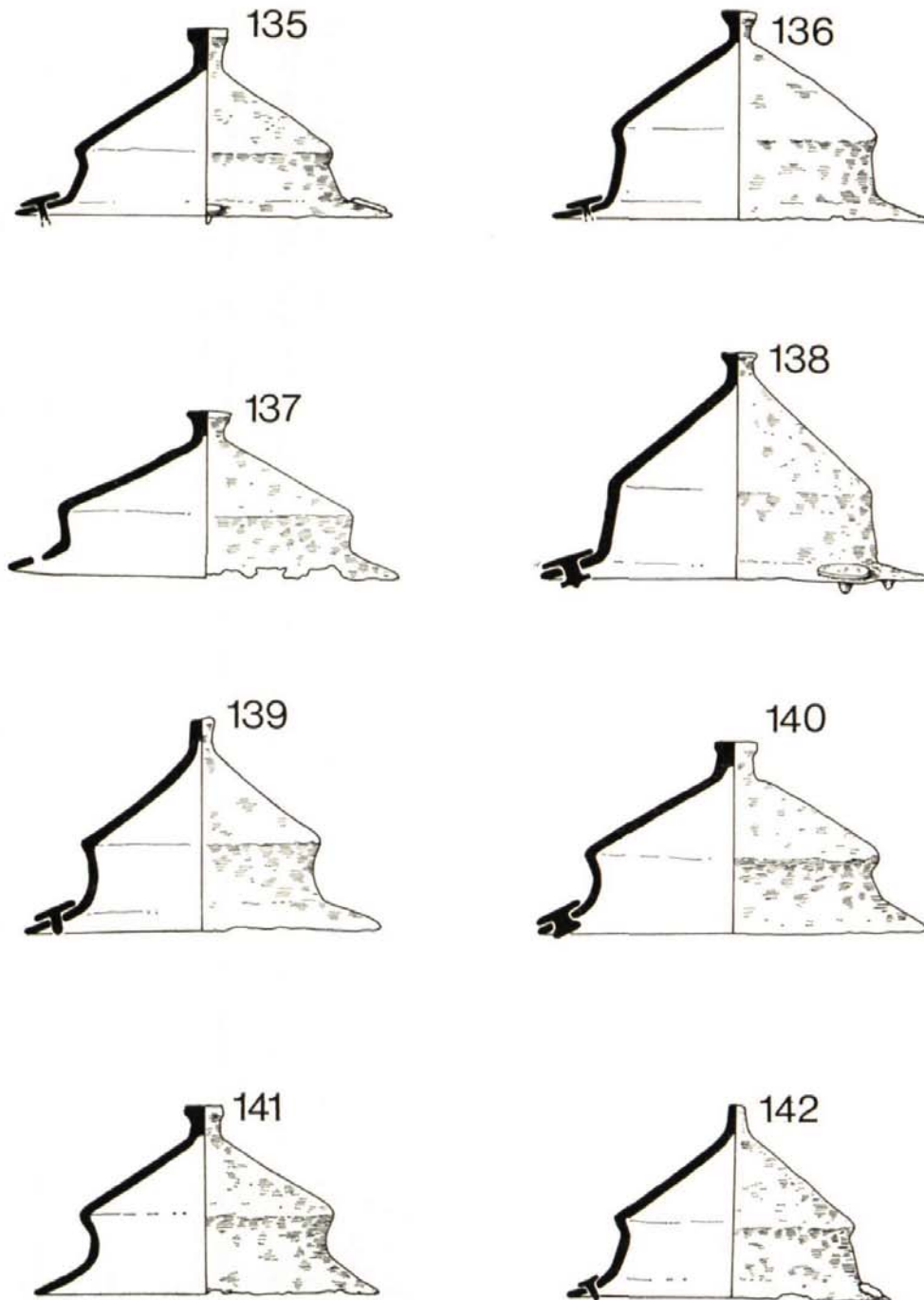


Fig. 43. Droxford: Iron shield bosses in the British Museum. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

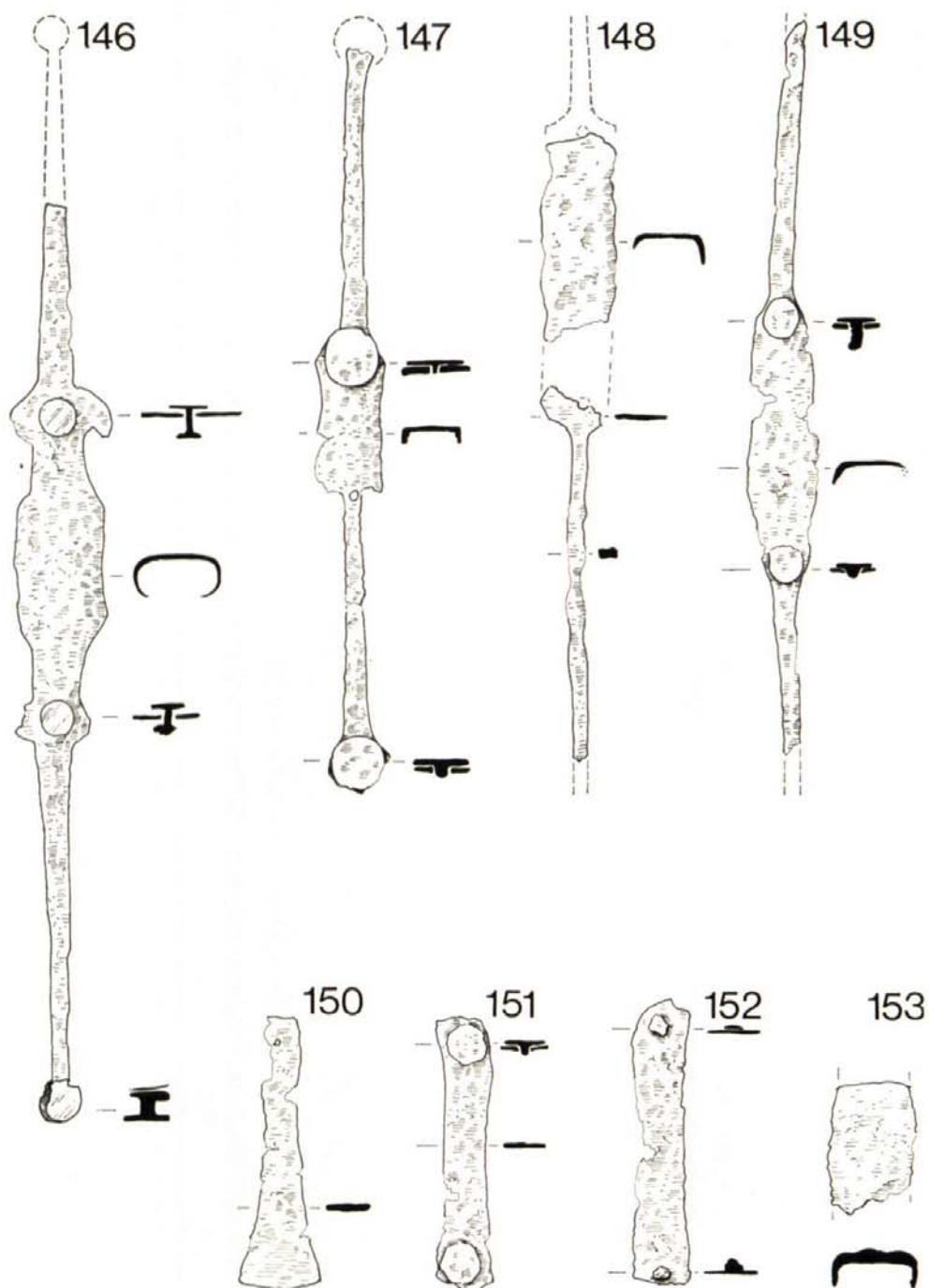


Fig. 44. Droxford: Iron shield grips in the British Museum. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



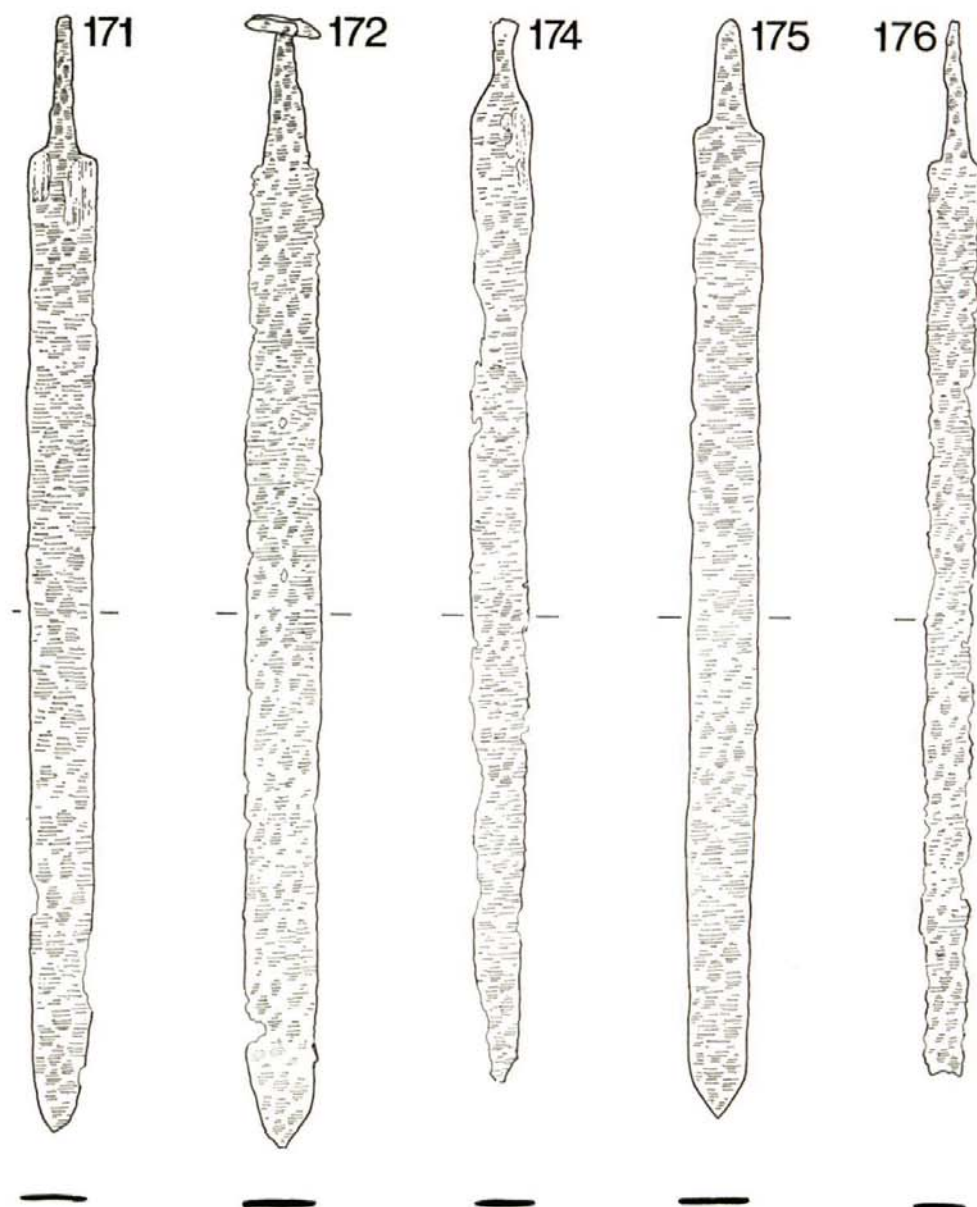


Fig. 45 Droxford: Iron swords in the British Museum. Scale 1:6.

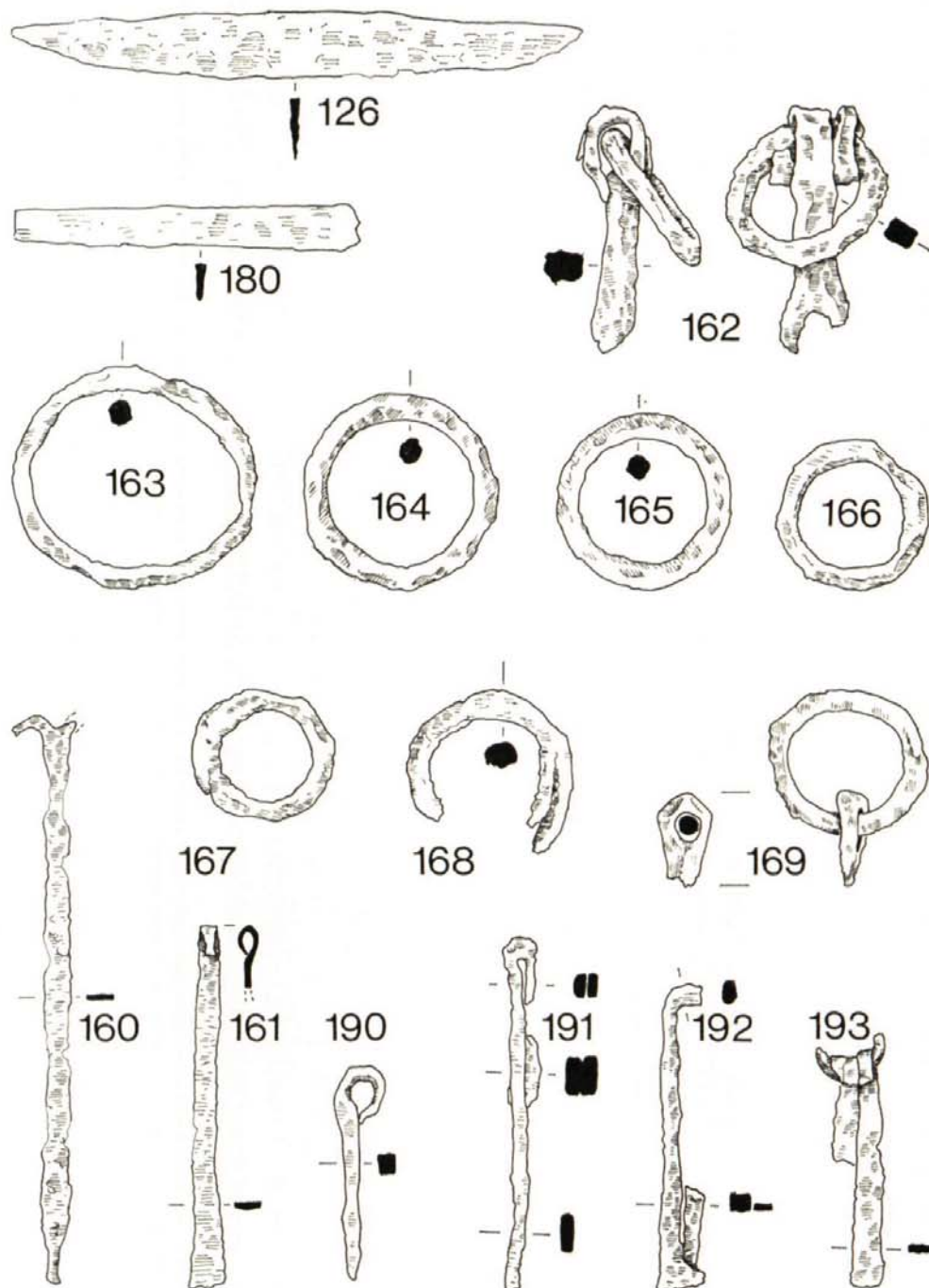


Fig. 46. Droxford: Iron objects in the British Museum. Scales: 160, 161,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; rest  $\frac{1}{4}$ .



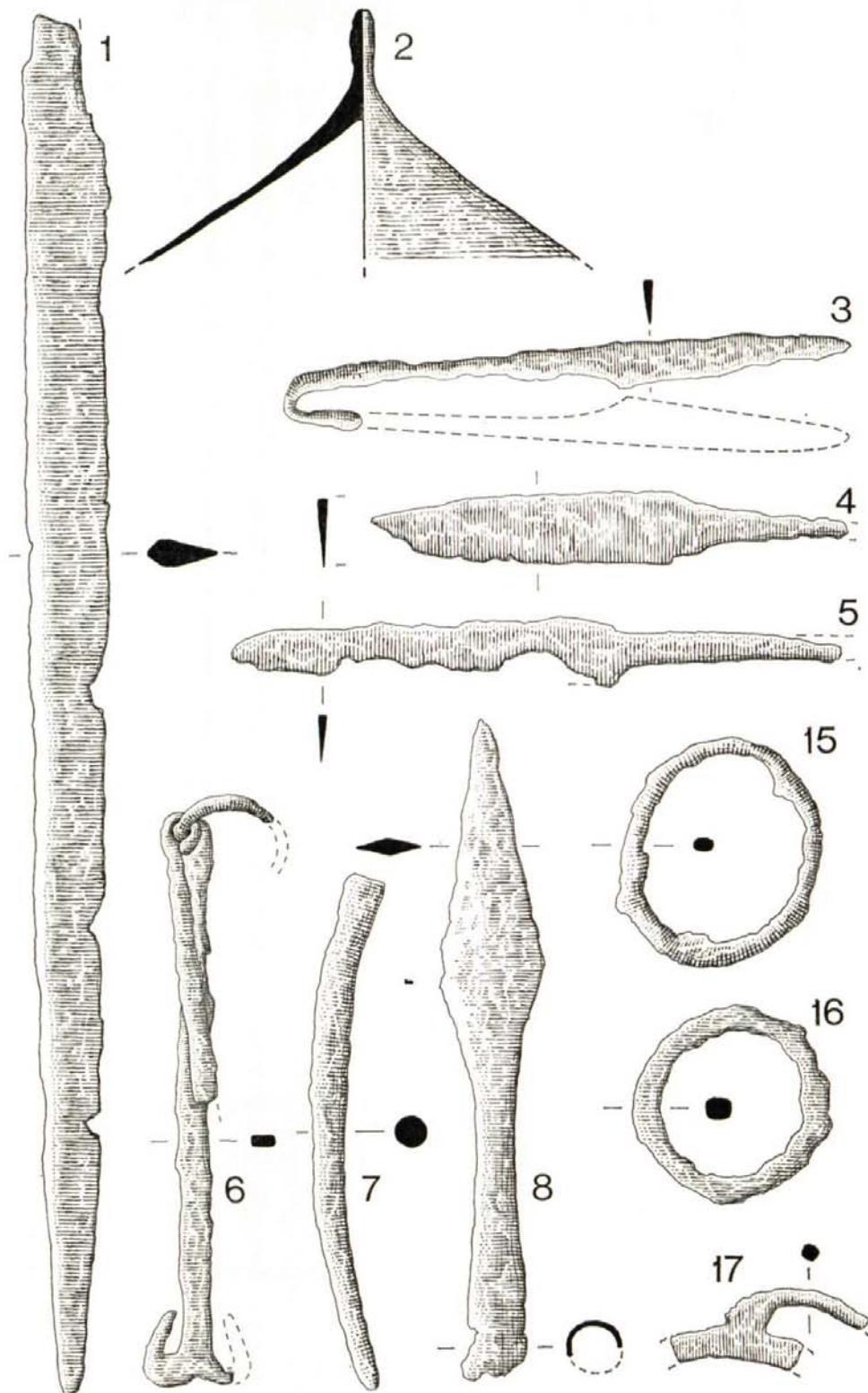


Fig. 47. Droxford: Iron objects in Winchester City Museum. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

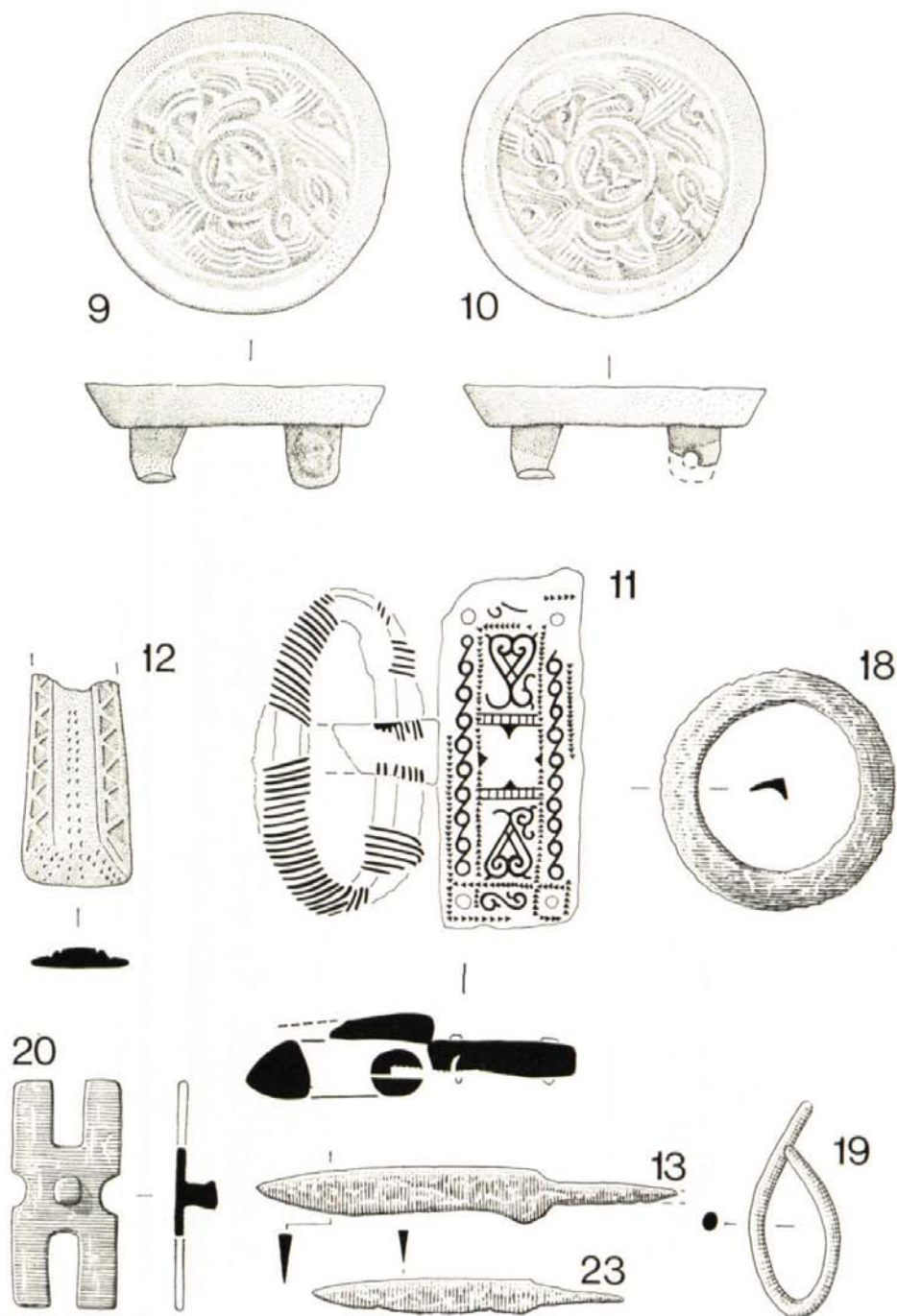


Fig. 48. Droxford: Iron and bronze objects in Winchester City Museum. Scales: 9-12, 19, 20, 1:1; rest  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

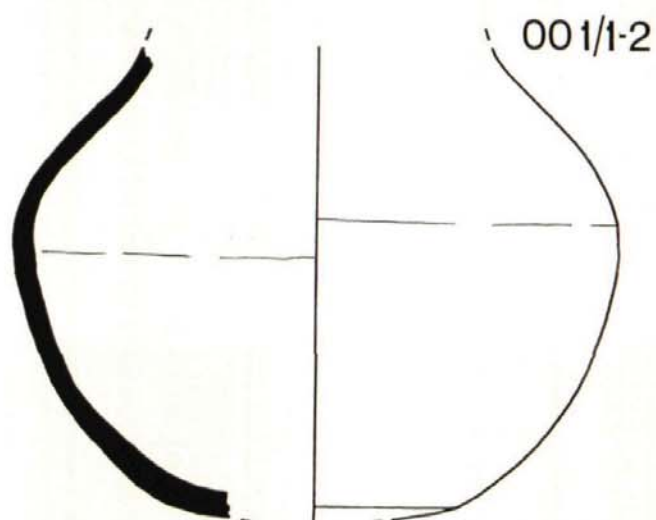
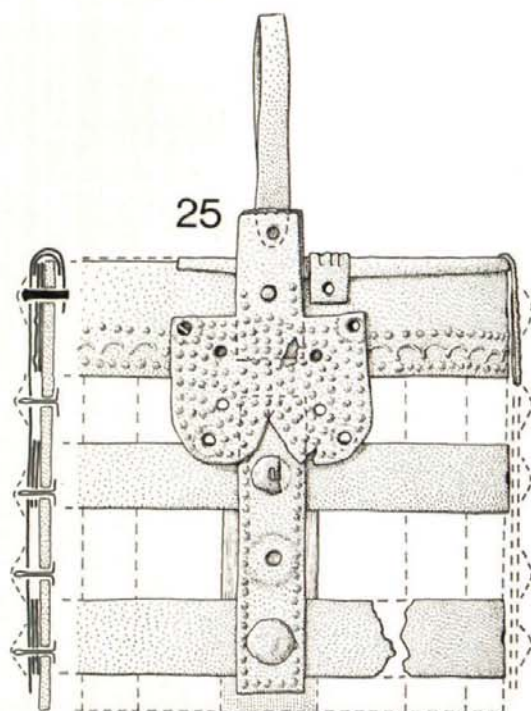


Fig. 49. Droxford: Objects in Winchester City Museum. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



### 3. DISCUSSION

The forty-one graves were encountered within an area which measured about forty-eight metres from north to south by about eleven metres from east to west. Thirty-seven of the graves were aligned east-west, generally with the head to the west, and four were aligned north-south. Although there was no conclusive evidence it is thought that the north-south graves (1, 3, 15 and 19) may have been later in date than those which were aligned east-west, the sole evidence being the position of the spearhead in grave 19 which should have been disturbed by grave 32 if the latter were the later to be dug.

No precise pattern appears to emerge from the distribution of the north-south graves, but the east-west graves appear, generally, to occur in groups of up to six graves alongside one another (plan, Fig. 5). This seems to indicate that there was some formal layout in this part of the cemetery, perhaps based either on families or on bodies which were interred within a limited time zone. With such a comparatively small sample it is difficult to argue one way or the other but either possibility must be considered in further discussion. This suggests that the positions of the graves were marked on the surface by mounds or marker posts, although no evidence of this was found in the excavation. Marker posts are known in Kent (Hogarth 1973) and it may be that at Droxford the evidence for these had been destroyed by ploughing and the removal of topsoil.

An alternative explanation might be that some, or all, of the graves were left open for a period of time after the body had been placed in position and before the graves were backfilled. Reynolds (1976) has considered the position of objects and bones in Anglo-Saxon cemeteries which appear to indicate disturbance after interment, and he has suggested that bodies may have been laid within the grave and covered by planking and soil which subsequently collapsed, causing dislocation of the objects and bones. At Standlake Down, Oxfordshire, Grave 24 contained extensive

areas of carbonised wood which appeared to represent some internal wooden structure (Dickenson 1973) and similar features are known in Berkshire, at Abingdon (Leeds and Harden 1936) and Harwell (Kirk and Marshall 1956). The steps or ledges in graves at the seventh-century cemetery of St. Peter's, Kent (Hogarth 1973), may also once have supported planks covering the graves. At Droxford two graves provided evidence for planking and several contained objects which do not appear to have survived in their original position. The position of a number of the skeletons also appears to indicate that the bodies may have partially or completely decayed before the graves were backfilled. In Grave 5 the body had been laid within a plank box (see p. 114 and Fig. 9), although there was no evidence to suggest that this was once a portable coffin and no evidence of a wooden bottom was found. This suggests that the box either provided an *in situ* coffin which was immediately covered by planks and soil, or that it was an open box which was not covered until some time after the body had been placed in position. In Grave 4 (Fig. 5 and Fig. 15a) two patches of charcoal or decayed wood were encountered in the upper grave fill, possibly representing remains of the shield or of a plank laid over the body. No evidence for covering planks was found in the remaining thirty-nine graves.

In Grave 13 the pair of gilded bronze saucer brooches were located one under the pottery vessel, near the corner of the grave, and one near the left humerus. In this type of female burial the pair of brooches is usually placed one on each shoulder, as in grave 36, and presumably, at the time of interment, held clothing in position. In grave 18 the iron shield boss, the shield grip, and several rivets probably associated with the shield, were all located close to the side of the grave in a position that suggests that the wooden shield could not have fitted within the grave if these objects were in their original position (Fig. 7, 18.2-6). The shield is far more likely to have been placed over the chest, as in Grave 4, and its position, as excavated, may indicate that it



had been moved when in a decayed condition. It seems unlikely that these objects had been moved by natural soil consolidation or by the activities of burrowing animals and it may be that they were moved when the grave was backfilled after the body and some of the grave goods had decayed.

In the plank-lined grave 5 the bones of the upper part of the skeleton seemed to be in their natural position (Fig. 7) and did not appear to have moved as the body decayed. In many of the other graves, however, notably Grave 13 (Fig. 10), Grave 21 (Fig. 10), and Grave 35 (Fig. 9), the bones appeared to have been moved from their natural position. In general the upper arm bones appeared to be much further apart than normal and it may be that the graves were backfilled after some decay had occurred.

Thus, though there was no evidence for grave markers at Droxford, there is evidence to suggest that the graves were either left open or were covered by earthen mounds supported by planking until the bodies and some of the associated finds had decayed. At Droxford groups of five graves occur with Graves 6, 7, 9, 10 and 41; and 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24; and a group of six occurs with graves 16, 17, 18, 25, 30 and 33. The bone identification suggests that the first two groups contain one male, three females, and one child, and the third group contains two males and four females. Whether these topographical groupings are particularly significant in terms of time or families is not clear.

Of the forty-one graves encountered during the 1974 excavation, twelve are probably of males, twenty-one appear to be of females, and six are juveniles or infants. The remaining two cannot be classified by their bone structure or associated finds.

From the preliminary evidence available for ages at death, nearly half, seventeen out of forty-one, appear to have died between the ages of about twenty and thirty, and the majority of these, about fourteen, died before the age of twenty-five. Eight appear to have

died before the age of twenty. After the age of about thirty the numbers of females dying decreases but the overall number stays at five or six within each five-year period.

These results apply equally to both sexes and match those which have been obtained from other recently excavated cemeteries, for example the seventh-century cemetery at Polhill, in West Kent (Philp 1973, 168). The distribution of graves by age and sex is shown in Fig. 52 but no particular pattern seems to emerge.

The majority of the graves are orientated east-west and among these there are six male burials (Graves 4, 12, 18, 27, 33, and 38, Figs. 7 and 8), which are accompanied by one or more weapons. These normally include a spear, although grave 12 only contains a shield boss and a large knife. This category of grave has been called Group 1 and their distribution, along with the distribution of the other categories of grave encountered in the cemetery, is shown in Fig. 52. Group 2 comprises the single male burial, grave 35 (Fig. 9), which contained an inlaid iron firesteel and a knife, but no weapons. Similar assemblages are known elsewhere, for example in grave group B at Alfriston, East Sussex, and grave 5 at Brighthampton, Oxfordshire (Brown 1977b, 462). Only two male burials orientated east-west lacked associated finds and these have been called Group 3. But in this group, grave 22 was incomplete, while grave 39 (Fig. 9) was that of an old man.

The female and child graves with east-west orientation varied in their grave assemblages. Group 4 is the single plank-lined burial accompanied by a buckle and a group of other iron objects (Grave 5, Fig. 9). Group 5 comprises six female and one infant burial which were accompanied by one or more rings (Graves 9, 13, 21, 24, 30, 31 and 32, Figs. 10 and 11). In three of these cases (Graves 21, 30 and 32) the rings appear to belong to purses, but in another three, (Graves 9, 13 and 31) they are single rings. In grave 24 the rings represent a *châtelaine*. The Group 6 graves (10 and 20, Fig. 10) contained assemblages of



beads but no rings, whilst the Group 7 graves (6, 8, 14, 16, 17, 25, 26, 28, 34, 36, 37 and 40, Figs. 11-13) contained assemblages without beads. In addition there are five burials in Group 8 (Graves 7, 11, 23, 29 and 41, Fig. 13) with no associated finds.

There are four north-south orientated burials. In Group 9 there are three warrior burials (Graves 1, 15 and 19, Fig. 14) and in Group 10 one female burial (Grave 3, Fig. 14), which was unaccompanied.

#### *Swords*

None of the graves excavated in 1974 contained a two-edged sword, though six are recorded in the British Museum register, of which five have been located and illustrated (BM 171-2, 174-6, Fig. 45). It has often been noted that swords are relatively rare in cemeteries and they are generally taken to indicate high social status. The lack of decorated scabbard mounts on the Droxford swords, however, suggests that none of them were buried with a warrior of exceptionally high status. One sword (BM 174) did possess portions of a bronze binding strip and all of them showed traces of leather and wood scabbards which encased them. None of these swords has been X-rayed in order to ascertain whether they show pattern-welding. In the absence of associated finds or ornament it is impossible to date them precisely.

#### *Spearheads*

Forty spearheads have been recovered from the cemetery but only seven are recorded within the context of their original grave group. One other (Grave 1.1) was found in its original position but the remainder of the grave group had been destroyed when the railway cutting was widened in about 1970. In the eight graves where the relationship between the spear and the skeleton can be determined, the spearhead is normally located to one or other side of the head or upper arm suggesting that the complete spear had been placed along one side of the body, but in grave 27, the spearhead was laid across the right forearm suggesting that it was not mounted on a complete spear when deposited. Alongside was the

only example from the cemetery of an iron ferrule which had presumably originally been fitted to the lower end of the spear.

M. J. Swanton (1973 and 1974) has recently classified Anglo-Saxon spearheads according to their form and has reviewed the evidence for the dating and distribution of each type. Since it is within the context of a grave group that a date range can best be attributed to the use of an artifact type, it is intended here to deal first with the spearheads from Droxford which occur in grave groups and then consider the general date-ranges and distributions suggested by Swanton's classification.

Two spearheads have been found with shield bosses which provide some evidence for date, but in the remaining graves there is no other datable material. In Graves 4 and 18, spearheads, of Swanton's type C<sub>3</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> respectively, are associated with bosses which can probably be attributed to the late fifth or early sixth century (see below p. 167).

Swanton's dating for the spearhead types may be used to provide an indication of the date-range of the Droxford cemetery and it is, in this respect, also interesting to note those types which are absent.

The single example with a small leaf-shaped blade, type C<sub>1</sub>, from the north-south grave 19, is found in relatively large numbers over virtually the entire area of Anglo-Saxon settlement, but few examples are usefully associated, being generally found in poorly furnished graves, as is this example from Droxford. It is thought to be characteristic of an early stage in the migration period, but its occurrence here in what may be a later grave (see p. 162) may be evidence for its use at a slightly later date. The largest of the English leaf-shaped spearheads, type C<sub>3</sub>, is represented in three graves. Elsewhere 'no associated example of this group can with any certainty be considered early' (Swanton 1973, 55). At Droxford supporting evidence comes from Grave 4, where the spearhead is associated with a shield boss of the late fifth or early sixth century, and from the north-south



# THE COMMUNITY AT DROXFORD

*Status by Associated Finds*

*Age/Sex Structure*

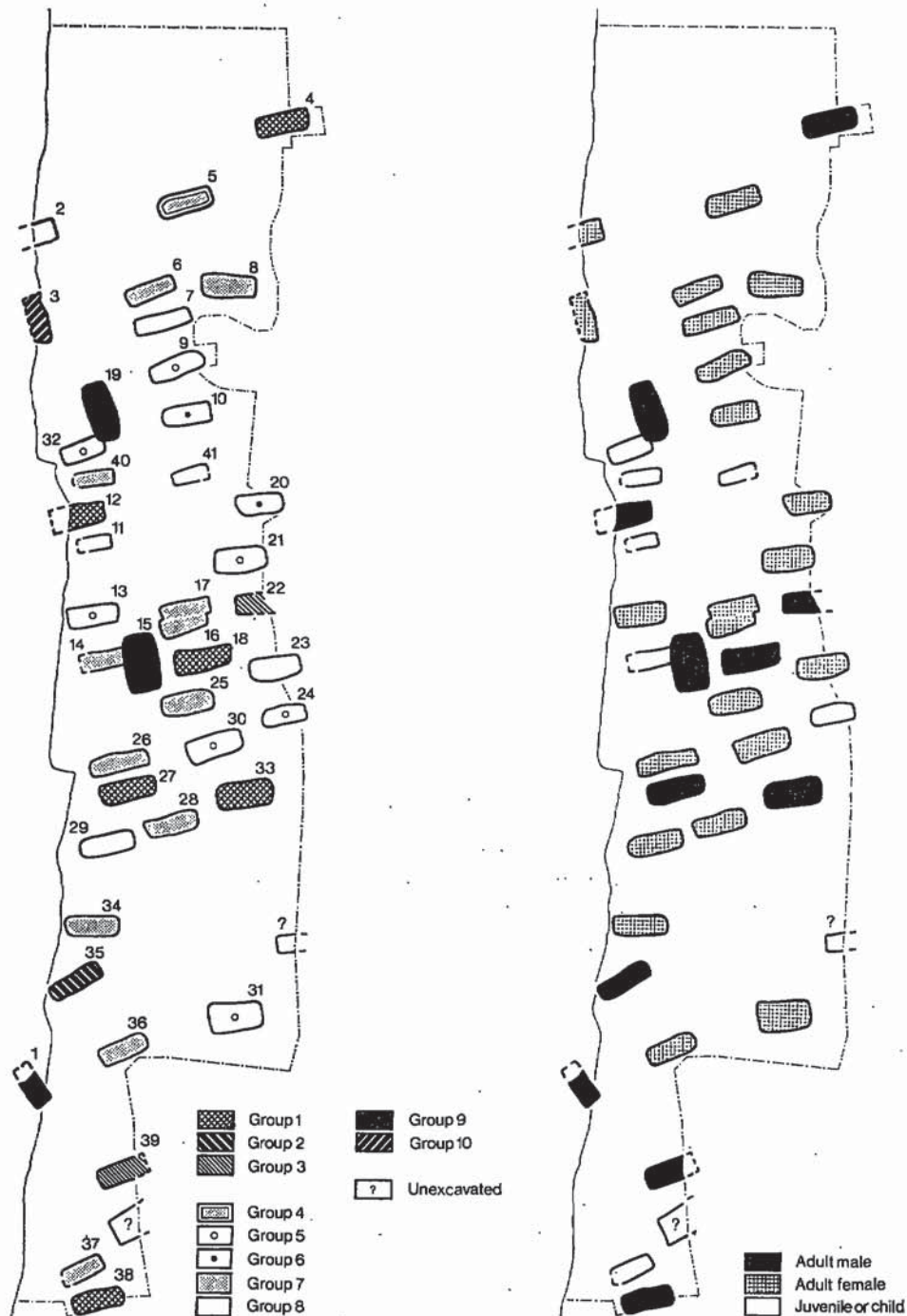


Fig. 50. Droxford: For classification of the groups by age, sex and associated finds see pp. 163-4.

grave 35 which may be slightly later than most of the other graves in the cemetery. The third example in Grave 38, is associated with a knife. The commonest leaf-shaped type,  $C_2$ , which has the 'widest possible date range' (Swanton 1973, 51), is not represented at Droxford, nor are type  $C_4$ , which 'appears more decisively later than type  $C_3$ ' (Swanton 1973, 59), and the late Kentish type,  $C_5$ .

There are two examples (BM 105 and 106) of the more slender leaf-shaped form  $D_1$ . This type is considered to have a wide date range but is 'characteristic of the Midlands and North' (Swanton 1973, 64). These examples are included in Swanton's corpus but omitted from his distribution map (1973, fig. 19). A single example occurs of type  $D_2$  (BM 117), which is 'thought to have developed within the sixth century' (Swanton 1973, 64). Type  $D_3$ , a sixth-century type characteristic of East Kent, the lower Thames, and the Midlands, is not represented.

There are seven examples of the small angular type  $E_1$  (BM 107, 109–114). They 'generally occur only in poorly-furnished graves' and 'such datable examples as exist indicate a relatively early phase of the settlements' (Swanton 1973, 81–3).

There is one example of each of the larger angular types  $E_2$  and  $E_3$  (BM 145 and 143 respectively), but both these have a fairly widespread distribution and there is little useful dating except that some examples of  $E_2$  have been found in early contexts. The sixth to seventh-century type  $E_4$  is not represented.

The relatively early type  $F_1$ , is represented by one example (WCM 8), although this appears to be omitted from Swanton's map (1973, fig. 19), and single examples of each of types  $F_2$  and  $F_3$  occur (grave 1 and grave 33) but neither had datable associations. Type  $F_2$  is thought to be 'later sixth to seventh century' (Swanton 1973, 93), which would appear to support the suggestion that, like the other north-south graves, grave 1 may be late. Type  $F_3$  is thought to be mainly of the sixth century.

No examples are known from Droxford of the series G types, which have 'an insular character for which no clear continental parallel can be adduced' (Swanton 1973, 99), but there are twelve of the series H type, which consists of angular blades characterised by a concave curve about the angle. Of the early type  $H_1$  there are four examples (BM 97, 103, 114 and 144) but none have associations. Of the five examples of the larger type  $H_2$ , two occur in grave contexts (graves 18 and 27), but the remainder (BM 98, 107 and 108), do not. In grave 18 a date in the late fifth to early sixth century is suggested by the accompanying shield boss (see page 167), and this seems to support Swanton's dating for this type. The three examples of type  $H_3$  (BM 94, 99 and 100) are again thought to be of roughly the same date.

The fifth-century type with corrugated leaf-shaped blade, type I, is represented by two unassociated examples (BM 90 and 91). The distribution of this type is 'distinctive, centred on the chalk downlands of Hampshire and bounded on the north by... the Thames' (Swanton 1973, 123). Swanton considers that 'this... might be reckoned an early West Saxon development, perhaps originating soon after the first settlements' (Swanton 1973, 125). A single unassociated example (BM 119) of the angular equivalent, series J, may be of late fifth to sixth-century. A distribution similar to that of type  $I_1$  occurs with type  $K_1$ , another late fifth to early sixth century form, represented by one example (BM 93), but none of the narrower version, type  $K_2$ , which has a distribution mainly north of the Thames, occur at Droxford. Another type which has seldom been found in Kent, series L, has six unassociated examples from the site (BM 92, 95, 96, 102, 106 and 118) and these appear to date to around AD 500.

The majority of the Droxford spearheads thus appear to range in date from the late fifth into the sixth century, and late types are absent, with the exception of a single example from the north-south grave 1, which may be of late sixth to early seventh century date.



*Shield bosses and grips*

Twelve shield bosses are represented in the cemetery, but only three (4.3, 12.3, and 18.2) have been recovered within their grave context. With the exception of 12.3, of which only the lower part survives, and WCM2, of which only the upper part survives, all are complete and all appear to conform to Vera Evison's late fifth to early sixth century types (Evison 1963) being sharply carinated with a dome which is straight-sided or slightly convex. All are between 105 mm and 130 mm in diameter and, with the exception of the incomplete example (WCM 2), all have a flange about 2 cm wide, usually with disc-headed rivets surviving.

All three of the shield bosses found within grave contexts in 1974 were accompanied by shield grips. A further eight examples survive either complete or incomplete from the earlier work on the site. Six of these are of the short strap type (4.3, 18.3, BM 150, 151, 152 and 153), but only the possible fragment 153 has flanges to support a wooden handle. The remaining five grips (12.4, BM 146, 147, 148 and 149) are all of the long type, but none survive complete, the longest being BM 146 which is 38.5 cm long. The four examples in the British Museum have flanged grips at the centre but the single example found in 1974 is flat.

*Knives and Seax*

There is one large single-bladed iron knife which merits description as a *seax* (WCM 1, Fig. 7). This, though broken at the tang for the handle, measures 40 cm in length. Its proportions are those of the narrow bladed *seax* found on the Continent in the sixth-century (Böhner 1958, Taf. 25, 4-8). A shorter *seax* with a blade just over 21 cm long and 2.5 cm wide at its junction with a similarly broken tang was excavated by Mrs Sonia Hawkes from grave 49 at Kingsworthy, Hampshire, in a context datable to the late fifth- or early sixth-century. It has a straight back and an equally straight cutting edge which tapers without any curvature at the point. Similar *seaxes* in Graves 10 and 56 at

Gilton, Kent, were buried in middle sixth-century contexts (Hawkes 1973, 189). Thus a date in the sixth-century is possible for this example from Droxford.

There is one long knife in grave 12 (Fig. 19, no. 12.1) but it is not large enough to be regarded as a weapon rather than a domestic tool, although it does occur with a shield boss without spear. Of the remaining knives, all are acceptable for the fifth- and sixth-centuries and none of them belong to distinctively seventh-century types.

*Firesteels and Pursemounts*

Firesteels used by striking an iron edge with a flint to produce a spark to light tinder are an important class of object, generally found in male graves. The finest specimen occurs in grave 35 (Fig. 29, no. 35.2, Fig. 51) and is decorated with wire inlay. The spiral coil design revealed by X-ray photography, the possible bird-headed terminals, and its rectangular shape place it in Brown's Krefeld Type (Brown 1977b, 461-2) dated by Krefeld-Gellep (Rhineland) grave 43, and Highdown (Sussex) grave 14, to the middle and second half of the fifth-century.

The plain iron firesteel in grave 14 (Fig. 19, no. 14.2) is also of some interest. It has an iron buckle attached and is accompanied by a number of plain and decorated strips of bronze. Similar bronze edge-bindings associated with firesteels have been recognised at Chessell Down, Isle of Wight, and more recently at Rübenach (Rhineland) in graves 342 and 343. Hillier reconstructed the binding at Chessell Down as the edging of a purse (Hillier 1855, 33) but it might rather have belonged to a tinder pouch attached to the firesteel (Brown 1977b, 472-3, and 476).

Four plain iron firesteels were found in graves 6 (Fig. 18, no. 6.4), 8 (Fig. 21, no. 8.1), and 27 (Fig. 26, no. 27.3), and as BM 126 (Fig. 46), whilst a fifth may be represented by a fragment in grave 18 (Fig. 22, no. 18.4).

*Brooches*

The circular bronze backplates (BM 53 and 54, Fig. 32) with the remains of their pin



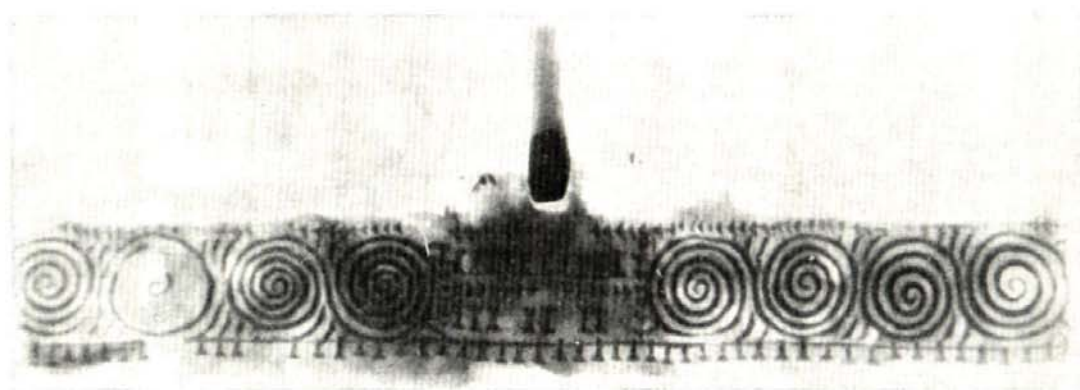


Fig. 51. Droxford: Grave 35, inlaid iron mount. Approximately twice actual size. Radiograph and photograph by the Hampshire County Museum Service.

attachments, represent two *applied saucer brooches*. Their decorated sheet metal front-plates have not survived, but their relatively small size, with diameters of 30 and 33 mm, suggests manufacture in the fifth- or early sixth-century.

There are two pairs of *cast saucer brooches* and one single brooch, all with their decorated surface gilded and all fitted with iron pins. The single brooch (BM 5, Fig. 31) has a five-spiral coil design with cross-nicked lines. This is a common type of design and this example can be dated broadly to the later fifth- and early sixth centuries. The pair from grave 13 (Fig. 20, no. 13.2) have a variant of the spiral coil with eight reversed S scrolls surrounded by a milled border. A brooch from Loenen in the Netherlands (Böhme 1974, 28–31) with three reversed S scrolls, is a prototype for this design. Brooches with a design related to the Droxford pair occur at Chatham, Kent (Leeds 1912, pl. XXV, 1), Harnham Hill, Wiltshire, grave 12 (Akerman 1853, 278, pl. XII, II), and Linton Heath, Cambridgeshire, grave 176. These brooches probably belong in the first half of the sixth-century, as do a pair with animal ornament in Salin Style I (WCM 9 and 10, Figs. 48, 52). These have a central design of a whirligig of three animal legs surrounded by a border of two quadrupeds set

nose to tail. The designs are well executed and comparable to brooches from Gloucestershire at Fairford (Leeds 1912, pl. XXVI, 4), Oddington (Anon. 1787, pl. opp.p. 307), and Bishop's Cleeve (unpublished: information from David Brown). These differ in having three animals in place of two in the border and in having at the centre at Fairford and Oddington a human mask, and at Bishop's Cleeve a glass setting.

Two miniature cast saucer brooches or *button brooches* occur fitted with iron pins (BM 6 and 7, Fig. 31). Both have standard human mask designs, but one of them is not gilded (BM 6). The type is datable to the late fifth- and the first half of the sixth-century.

The *disc brooches* of cast bronze with iron pins are found in grave 36 (Fig. 29, nos. 36.2 and 3) and in the British Museum (BM 4, Fig. 29). The only decoration on the latter is a series of notches cut round its edge. Although of different diameters both brooches in grave 36 have similar ring-and-dot compass inscribed ornament, but one (no. 3) appears to have a very high tin content in the bronze alloy. The type can be dated to the late fifth- and the sixth-centuries.

There are two crude *annular brooches* without their pins (BM 22 and 33, Fig. 32).





Fig. 52. Droxford: a. The pair of saucer brooches from grave 13, b. The bronze pendant from grave 13, c. The disc brooches from grave 36, d. The saucer brooches in Winchester City Museum. Actual size. Photographs by F. Aldsworth, Nick Bradford and the Hampshire County Museum. Service.

One of these has a perforation to take a pin, but lacks decoration (BM 22). The other is ornamented with a crescent design applied with a stamp, but there is no trace of the pin arrangement (BM 33). They are derivative versions of the *quoit brooch* form datable to the fifth-century and were probably made in the sixth-century.

A simple bronze *penannular brooch*, complete with pin and with its terminals rolled back to act as pin-stops, is associated with the pair of saucer brooches from grave 13 (Fig. 20, no. 13.4).

The gilt bronze *small square-headed brooch* is the only example of this brooch type, which appears in the first three-quarters of the sixth-century (BM, Fig. 31). An extremely crude brooch without a bow might perhaps be described as a *small-long brooch* (BM 3, Fig. 31). It lacks decoration and has a bronze pin with a spiral spring. An imported Frankish *radiate-headed brooch* is represented by a broken footplate (WCM 12, Fig. 47). This can be compared to brooches of Kühn's types 6, 7, 9-11, and 21-23 (Kühn 1940; 1965) which are broadly datable to the sixth-century.

An early form of the Roman crossbow type (BM 1, Fig. 31) was probably manufactured in the third century A.D. (Collingwood and Richmond 1969, 289-9, fig. 105, no. 75). Roman coins, brooches, and other jewellery frequently occur in Saxon graves but have no chronological significance (Kent 1961; Rigold 1974).

#### *Buckle and Belt Mounts*

The iron kidney-shaped buckle (BM 170, Fig. 32) is a fifth-century type, though one that continues into the sixth-century. A similar date can be given to the iron buckle and plate with silver inlay (WCM 11, Fig. 48) and the iron buckle in grave 21 (Fig. 25, no. 21.5) which resembles a buckle in grave 4 at Reading, Berkshire (Stevens 1894, fig. 7) which was associated with a shield-shaped belt plate and a pair of applied saucer brooches decorated with a design of six face masks. The bronze and iron shield-shaped belt plate

(BM 11, Fig. 32) probably had a glass, metal, or stone setting, as did the Quoit Brooch Style belt plate in grave 34 at Highdown, Sussex (Evison 1965, pl. 14d). A similar, but undecorated, belt-plate in grave 2a at Alfriston, Sussex was associated with a sixth-century buckle loop (Griffiths and Salzmann 1914, pl. V, 4 and 4a).

A damaged fragment of a buckle plate with arcaded openwork (BM 194, Fig. 32; Evison 1968, 238, 246 and fig. 4i) has been linked by Dr. Evison to the Quoit Brooch Style workshops. It appears to have been burnt and may have come from a cremation. The remaining bronze buckles appear to belong to the sixth-century, notably the square buckle in grave 31 (Fig. 24, no. 31.9) which is paralleled in grave 29 at Bifrons, Kent (Brown 1978, pl. opp. p. 17), as well as the shield-on-tongue buckle (BM 9, Fig. 29) and two studs (BM 12 and 13, Fig. 32), paralleled by a decorated pair from Meonstoke (Devenish and Champion 1978), a buckle with iron pin (BM 10, Fig. 32) and the buckle and pair of studs in grave 28 (Fig. 23, nos. 28.2 and 3).

The circular mount in grave 40 (Fig. 30, no. 40.2) has openwork decoration which resembles the intertwining heads of a mount from grave 81 at Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire (Humphreys et al. 1923, pl. XV; and Vierck 1977, Abb. 2.3) datable to the second half of the sixth-century.

The three-spoked wheel disc mount (BM 51, Fig. 35) can be compared to four-spoked wheel discs from Grave 65 at Polhill, Kent, in a seventh-century context (Hawkes 1973, 193, fig. 55, no. 530), and from France (Renner 1970, Taf. I, 27), whilst the similar mount from Obermöllern, central Germany, Grave 1 (Renner 1970, Taf. I, 24) is datable to the first half of the sixth-century. This Droxford disc mount was said to have been associated with a small spearhead (not identifiable), two applied saucer brooches (BM 53 and 54, Fig. 32), datable to the fifth- or sixth-centuries, and the bronze tubular mount (BM 52, Fig. 33) with a loop attached to one side. Leather was found in this tube when it was registered



in the British Museum confirming its function as a belt fitting. This type of tubular mount, with one side flattened, has been discussed by Dr. Evison. While the Quoit Brooch Style animal designs on the Croydon (Surrey) strap distributor indicate manufacture in the fifth-century, grave associations point to a date for burial as late as the first half of the sixth-century (Evison 1965, 50-51).

A pendant decorated in Salin Style I has a central human mask flanked by two animals in a semi-circular panel (BM 31, Fig. 31). One of its terminals is damaged, but the decoration of the other, with an animal head seen in profile, is still clear. This mount can be compared to the quoit pendants from a cemetery near Cambridge and from Gullydynt, Finland (Era Esko 1965, 72, fig. 50 and pl. IX, 32). The Gullydynt pendant was modified to be used as a brooch after the manner of the Scandinavian Vendel period ring brooches (Nerman 1969, Tafs. 16-17). On stylistic grounds the Droxford pendant dates to the first half of the sixth-century.

#### *Bags, Châtelaines and Amulets*

Bags supported at the mouth on an iron or ivory ring are not uncommon and these contained a variety of objects, often including a piece of considerable antiquity when deposited, which David Brown has suggested might have been carried as amulets (Brown 1977a). Such collections frequently contain rings or ring-shaped items and six of the Droxford female graves excavated in 1974 contained one or more iron rings (Graves 9, 13, 21, 30, 31 and 32).

Grave 24 contained an openwork bronze mount with an iron ring attached (Fig. 26, no. 24.1) to which two other iron rings (nos. 24.2 and 6) may have been attached to be worn as a *châtelaine*. The probable infant in grave 40 was accompanied by part of an old brooch, kept as an amulet.

The ivory or bone ring in grave 21 has a cross section which suggests that it is probably bone—ivory rings are usually round in section—and is too small to have acted as a

bag mouth (Fig. 25, no. 21.4). It resembles rather the bone rings found in seventh-century contexts, for example in grave 43 at Polhill, Kent (Hawkes 1973, 193, fig. 53, no. 490). A group of three iron rings (Fig. 25, nos. 21.1-3) may represent the contents of an associated bag suspended from a belt or sash.

A similar bag, mounted on iron rings, occurred at the right side of the body in grave 30. The large flat ring matches that found in grave 2 at Purwell Farm, Cassington, Oxfordshire (Leeds and Riley 1942, fig. 15), and would have formed the bag mouth. It would be suspended from the wrist by a ring with flanged loops attached (Fig. 27, nos. 30.1-4) and the bag would have contained three iron rings.

Grave 32 contained a group of iron objects near the skull, including one large iron ring (Fig. 28, no. 32.1) and two small iron loops (nos. 32.2 and 3), possibly the remains of similar bags.

Another three graves (9, 13 and 31) contained the remains of rings, whilst the numerous iron and bronze rings and ring-shaped objects from earlier excavations (Figs. 35 and 47) possibly represent similar assemblages.

#### *Beads*

Two hundred-and-thirteen beads were found during the excavations in 1974 and a further twenty-two survive from the excavations undertaken between 1900 and 1902 (BM 55-74 and WCM 21 and 22).

Beads are normally associated with female burials (except where they appear to have decorated sword hilts) and all those found at Droxford in 1974 appear to be associated with female graves (10, 20, 21, 30 and 32). In three of these (10, 30 and 32) the beads were grouped at the neck suggesting that they probably formed a necklace, perhaps quite a short string worn round the throat. In these cases only five or nine beads were worn. In the other two cases however, the beads were located around the upper part of the body suggesting that they formed much larger



necklaces. Grave 20 contained one hundred-and-sixty-three beads and grave 21 contained twenty-nine beads, but in neither case has it been possible to reconstruct the original arrangement despite their individual positions having been recorded at full scale during excavations.

Little work has been undertaken on the study of pagan-Saxon beads in England and little comparison is possible either by type or date. Some work has been undertaken on the continent, especially by Fremersdorf (1955), Böhner (1958), Christlein (1966) and Koch (1977), but it is difficult to apply the continental dates to Southern England because of inconsistencies within certain assemblages (Dickenson 1973).

The Droxford beads are made of glass, amber or shale. They are described under seventeen classes based upon their material and appearance. The translucent glass beads occur in Classes III, IV, VI, XI, XIII, XIV and XVII; the opaque glass beads are Classes I, II, V, VII, IX, X and XVI; the amber beads are Class VIII; and the shale beads are Class XV.

*Class I: quoit bead of black opaque glass*, generally about 15 mm across. *Ia* is decorated with a zig-zag trail in a white slip, which in *Ib* is yellow, and in *Ic* is pale brown.

These occur only in grave 20 where seven of Class *Ia*, and one each of *Ib* and *Ic* were found (Fig. 24, no. 20.3–5). *Id* (BM 65) is 13 mm across and undecorated (Fig. 36, no. 65) and *Ie* (BM 69) is near globular, about 16 mm in diameter and 8 mm high, and is decorated with white spots (Fig. 36, no. 69).

*Class II: segmental opaque glass bead*, usually less than 10 mm in diameter, decorated with coloured slip. *Ila* is a double-segmented bead in red with grey trails. *Ilb* is grey with green trails and red spots and *Ilc* is red with yellow trails and spots. Only one of each of these types occurs and they are all in grave 20 (Fig. 24, nos. 20.6–8).

*Class III: small melon bead with vertical grooves in translucent glass*, about 10 mm in

diameter. *IIIa* is pale green/yellow and occurs in grave 20, where there are twelve examples (Fig. 24, no. 20.9), in grave 21, where there are four examples (Fig. 25, no. 21.12), in grave 32, where there is a single example (Fig. 28, no. 32.8), and BM 62 and 71 (Fig. 36, nos. 62 and 71). *IIIb* is blue and occurs in grave 20, where there are five examples (Fig. 24, no. 20.10), in grave 21, where there are four examples (Fig. 36, no. 21.13), and in grave 32, where a single example occurs (Fig. 28, no. 32.9).

*Class IV: large melon bead in green translucent glass*, about 15 mm in diameter and 18 mm high, decorated with an incised 'fern leaf' pattern inlaid with yellow paste. Only two examples occur and both are from grave 20 (Fig. 24, no. 20.11).

*Class V: large cylindrical opaque glass bead* decorated with a zig-zag pattern in brown or green, red, and yellow. Two examples are known. That from grave 20 (Fig. 24, no. 20.12) is 18 mm in diameter and 18 mm high. It is brown, red, and yellow and is probably the finest bead from the cemetery. The other example, BM 59 (Fig. 36, no. 59) is in the form of a rounded cylinder or barrel, 22 mm in diameter and 13 mm high. Damage has revealed details of its structure. The centre is of a black opaque glass over which bands of red and green have been laid. The surface is covered by yellow trails. These belong to a continental type datable to the sixth-century (Koch 1977, Farbtaf. 4).

*Class VI: translucent green glass bead in the form of a cube*, about 12 mm across, which is decorated with an incised trail pattern inlaid with yellow paste. Only one example occurs and that is from grave 20 (Fig. 24, no. 20.13).

*Class VII: cylindrical bead in a red opaque glass* with decoration. Only three examples are known and all are from grave 20. Two are class *VIIa*, about 10 mm in diameter and 20 mm long, decorated with zig-zag trails of yellow (Fig. 24, no. 20.14), whilst the remaining example, *VIIb*, is about 10 mm in diameter and 13 mm long, and is decorated with yellow and green trails (Fig. 24, no. 20.15). These again belong to a continental



type of sixth-century date (Koch 1977, Farbfaf 5).

*Class VIII: amber*, is the most numerous of all the bead types at Droxford. One hundred and fifty-nine examples are known from the 1974 excavations and five survive from the 1900-02 work. They occur in graves 10 (8 examples), 20 (135 examples), 21 (14 examples), and 30 (2 examples) and BM 55-58 and 60. The class has been sub-divided into nine groups according to the way in which the piece of amber has been shaped by the removal of facets. These are illustrated by selected examples. *VIIIa*: cylinder about 8 mm in diameter and about 10 mm high (Fig. 24, no. 20.16). *VIIIb*: wedge about 10 mm across (Fig. 24, no. 20.17). *VIIIc*: cube about 6 mm across (Fig. 24, no. 20.18). *VIIId*: cylinder, flattened on one side, about 8 mm across (Fig. 24, no. 20.19). *VIIIe*: flattened barrel, about 10 mm across (Fig. 24, no. 20.20). *VIIIf*: irregular, a single example in grave 21, much larger and less regular than the others being 32 mm long, 16 mm wide and about 12 mm thick (Fig. 25, no. 21.17). *VIIIg*: flattened barrel, much larger than *VIIIe*, being 16 mm high, a single example in grave 21 (Fig. 25, no. 21.18). *VIIIh*: disc with sloping sides, about 25 mm in diameter and up to 10 mm thick. Two examples (Fig. 36, nos. 55 and 56). *VIIIj*: thick disc, 23 mm in diameter, 17 mm thick, with a sloping upper surface, a single example (Fig. 36, no. 57).

*Class IX: opaque glass quoit bead*, about 10 mm in diameter. *IXa*: green, grave 20 (Fig. 24, no. 20.21). *IXb*: yellow, grave 30 (Fig. 27, no. 30.12).

*Class X: red/brown opaque glass quoit bead*, about 10 mm in diameter. Only two plain examples occur and both are from grave 20. *Xa*: quite thin (Fig. 24, no. 20.22). *Xb*: fatter (Fig. 24, no. 20.23). *Xc*: 12 mm in diameter, has yellow blobs (Fig. 27, no. 30.10).

*Class XI: translucent blue glass quoit bead*. *XIa*: comparatively large, up to 15 mm in diameter, occurs in graves 20, 21 and 32 (Fig. 24, no. 20.24). *XIb*: smaller and quite thin,

up to 8 mm in diameter, occurs in graves 20, 21 and 30 (Fig. 24, no. 20.25).

*Class XII: translucent green glass quoit bead*. *XIIa*: comparatively large, up to 13 mm in diameter, occurs in graves 20, 30 and 32 (Fig. 24, no. 20.26). *XIIb*: smaller, 10 mm in diameter, occurs as a single example in grave 20 (Fig. 24, no. 20.27).

*Class XIII: translucent yellow glass quoit bead*, occurs in grave 30 and BM 70 (Fig. 27, no. 30.11).

*Class XIV: translucent colourless glass quoit bead*, single example 11 mm in diameter, in grave 21 (Fig. 25, no. 21.21).

*Class XV: small shale bead*, 9 mm in diameter and 7 mm high, BM 61 (Fig. 36, no. 61).

*Class XVI: is a spherical opaque glass bead*, two examples, BM 63 and 64. *XVIa*: white, about 8 mm in diameter (Fig. 36, no. 63). *XVIb*: blue, about 13 mm in diameter (Fig. 36, no. 64).

*Class XVII: translucent olive brown glass bead*, 6 mm in diameter, BM 68 (Fig. 36, no. 68).

#### *Pottery, Glass and Wooden Vessels*

Five complete or near complete pottery vessels are known from the cemetery (Grave 13.1, BM 82, 83 and 84, and WCM 00 1.1-2), and two Romano-British sherds were found in the fill of graves 18 and 26.

1. The near complete pot in grave 13 (13.1, Fig. 20) belongs to the long-bossed style. Its fabric is fine, sandy, tempered with chopped straw or grass, and flint. Below the shoulder the body is divided, by nine long bosses pushed out from inside, into triangular panels each stamped with a three-legged 'swastika' and vertical tooled lines. The shoulder itself has a group of four or five horizontal tooled lines which are matched by a similar group below the rim. Between the two is a horizontal band of rosette stamps. This vessel can be paralleled by a pot from Little Wilbraham, Cambridgeshire. (Myers 1977, fig. 260, no. 2715) and by sherds of a vessel with a similar



rosette stamp from War Down, Buriton, Hampshire (Cunliffe 1975, 60, fig. 1). The associations of grave 13 confirm the dating of long-boss style pottery in the first half of the sixth-century (Myres 1977, 44).

2. The smaller carinated bowl with flaring rim (BM 82, Fig. 37) is in a dark brown fabric tempered with grass or chopped straw and decorated with facetting on the carination. The closest parallel for this pot is the vessel from Alfriston, Sussex, Grave group E (Myres 1977, fig. 95, no. 11). Both were probably manufactured around the middle of the second half of the fifth-century.

3. Six sherds from a stamped vessel (BM 83, Fig. 37) of a dark, sandy ware about 15 cm in diameter at the rim. The decoration consists of a pair of horizontal tooled lines on the shoulder and a second pair just below the rim, between which are a band of stamps. Two of the sherds have a short vertical tooled line between each stamped design, but this does not occur on the remaining sherds. The vessel form and design can be paralleled at Lovedon Hill, Lincolnshire (Myres 1977, fig. 98, no. 1401) and at Worthy Park, Hampshire (Myres 1977, fig. 109, no. 1209). It belongs to a common sixth-century style.

4. Coarse grey-ware sherds seem to represent a lugged vessel about 4 cm in diameter at the rim and at least 6 cm high (BM 84, Fig. 37). This belongs to a type which is common in the North Germanic world and cannot be closely dated.

5. The sherds in Winchester City Museum include five pieces from a plain shouldered bowl (WCM 00 1/1-2, Fig. 49) up to 13 cm in diameter and 13 cm high. It is of a dark brown sandy fabric tempered with flint and chopped grass or straw. This plain vessel has a low bulbous form reminiscent of Thurmaston, Leicestershire (Myres 1977, fig. 58, no. 3712), a form datable to the later sixth- and seventh-centuries (Myres 1977, 7).

The only near complete glass vessel from the cemetery is represented by the pieces of the plain cone-shaped beaker (BM 85, Fig. 37)

which is 8.5 cm in diameter at the rim and about 11.5 cm high. It is comparable in form to the beaker from grave 79 at Highdown, Sussex (Read 1896, 205, 213); similar vessels are known from Bifrons and Faversham, Kent (Harden 1956, 161). The type was probably manufactured within the fifth-century.

The bronze-bound wooden bucket (WCM 25, Fig. 48) has its mounts decorated with small *répoussé* bosses and the upper bronze band is decorated with an arcade design of linked semicircles between two rows of bosses. This bucket has been discussed by Vera Evison together with others which share this arcaded band decoration (Evison 1965, 22). As she points out, the associations of grave 23 at Howletts, Kent, and grave 60 at Petersfinger, Wiltshire, belong to the earlier sixth-century, as do the associations in grave 49 at Kingsworthy, Hampshire (Swanton 1973, fig. 85 a-d). A date in the late fifth- or first half of the sixth-century is probable for the Droxford bucket.

#### 4. THE CEMETERY AND THE SETTLEMENT IT SERVED

FROM the evidence provided by the forty-one graves and the two probable grave out-lines found in 1974, together with the objects recovered in 1900-02, it is possible to speculate about the original size of the cemetery and the community it served. In 1974 eight out of the forty-one graves contained spearheads, i.e. one in five, and if this were a true indicator of the percentage of spearmen in the cemetery, then there must originally have been at least two hundred graves represented by the forty spearheads so far recovered. A similar figure may be obtained by applying an equation to the shield bosses which, like the spears, are large iron objects which are more likely to be recovered than smaller objects. Bearing in mind the extent of the cemetery as indicated by Dale (pp. 94-6) it seems likely that there could be at least another hundred graves surviving in the area immediately north of that excavated in 1974



and in the area to the immediate west of the railway cutting, giving a total of about three hundred or more in all.

A cemetery of this size, perhaps representing a time span of about 150 years from the late fifth- through the sixth-century, suggests a community perhaps the size of a medieval hamlet or small village, but no trace of a contemporary settlement has so far been found in close proximity to Droxford, indeed it is difficult to know quite where to look for evidence. At Bishopstone, in East Sussex (Bell 1978) the settlement lay immediately above the cemetery on the same spur of high ground, and at Highdown Hill, Ferring, West Sussex, the discovery of post-holes and a gully in cutting IV (Wilson 1940) may indicate that the cemetery and settlement both lay within the Iron Age hillfort. In these earliest of pagan-Saxon sites the settlements and cemeteries lay in close proximity, but this may not be the case at Droxford and field surveys in the area immediately to the east have as yet been fruitless.

The contemporary occupation sites nearest to Droxford are represented by the village at Chalton (Addyman et al 1972; Addyman and Leigh 1973; Champion 1977) and by a scatter of grass-tempered pottery at Catherington (Cunliffe 1972). Neither of these lies close to known cemeteries, but one or both may have been served by those at Snell's Corner, near Horndean (Knocker 1956), which lies between the two, and on War Down (Cunliffe 1975), to the north. It seems likely that after the initial phase of pagan-Saxon settlement, as represented at Bishopstone and Highdown, cemeteries may have been sited peripheral to areas belonging to particular settlements. Many of the known pagan-Saxon cemeteries in south-east England lie either on the crests of ridges in close proximity to Bronze Age barrows or on the very ends of spurs of high ground overlooking major valleys. It is suggested that it was these valleys that provided the physical boundaries for the earliest Anglo-Saxon territories on the south coast. In Sussex such areas of land have been defined by the

rivers Ouse and Cuckmere (Welch 1971) and by the rivers Arun and Adur (Cunliffe 1973).

## 5. LATE SAXON DROXFORD AND ITS 'HEATHEN BURIALPLACE'

ALTHOUGH there is, as yet, no evidence to indicate where the people lived who were buried in the pagan-Saxon cemetery, it seems likely that the settlement of Droxford (Drochenford) in Domesday Book was on the site occupied by the present village of that name; a settlement which was probably first established in the middle or late Saxon period. Droxford was a Hundred in 1086 and was held by the Bishop of Winchester who also held it circa 1066 (Round 1900, 466).

The place is also referred to in three late Saxon land charters in which its boundaries are defined. In A.D. 826 land at Droxford was granted to the minister of SS Peter and Paul at Winchester by King Egbert (Sawyer 1968, No. 276). In A.D. 939 land was granted by King Athelstan to his sister Eadburgh (Sawyer 1968, No. 446) and in A.D. 956 a grant of land was made by King Eadwig to the noble lady Aethelhild (Sawyer 1968, No. 600). The bounds given in all three charters have been reconstructed by G. B. Grundy (1924, 73-78) and the first appears to follow the later parish boundaries of Droxford, Swanmore and Shedfield, but the other two appear to cover smaller areas. Of particular interest in the boundary of the earliest charter is the reference to a 'heathen burialplace', which was thought by Grundy to lie near the north-east corner of the park at Midlington (Grundy 1924, 76) just over half-a-mile south of Brockbridge (SU 608172), but the bounds are difficult to reconstruct along this eastern boundary and the reference to a burialplace could easily be argued, on topographical grounds, to refer to the pagan-Saxon cemetery.

Bonney (1966) has suggested that the term 'heathen burialplace' found in charter bounds, may refer to pagan Saxon burial sites. Although there is no confirmatory archaeological evidence, he has gone on from this to use the relationship between pagan Saxon



cemeteries and parish boundaries in Wiltshire to infer that some parish boundaries may derive from the boundaries of early Saxon estates (Bonney 1972; 1976). Although there may be some topographical relationship between several Hampshire pagan Saxon cemeteries and parish boundaries (p. 178) there is also evidence to suggest that 'heathen burialplaces' may be somewhat later in date than indicated by Bonney. The term occurs in ten places in Hampshire charters (Fig. 53) and in only one of these cases, that of Droxford, does it appear to lie in the vicinity of a known pagan Saxon cemetery. A charter, dated to A.D. 1046, which gives bounds reconcilable with Hoddington, in Upton Grey parish, also includes the term 'heathen burialplace' (Sawyer 1968, No. 1013; Grundy 1927, 279) and, although there is no known pagan-Saxon cemetery in the area, a number of undated burials, apparently in a pit, were found on the parish boundary when a road was widened in 1968 (*Basingstoke Museum Field Notebook*, March 1968, p. 64). An unpublished sixth-century saucer brooch, with six-spiral decoration, was found about half-a-mile away in 1970 (*Hampshire County Museum Service Records* Acc. No. 1970-505) but this does not appear to be related to the burials.

It is suggested here that the term 'heathen burialplace' may not refer to pagan-Saxon cemeteries but to the late Saxon and medieval burial sites of persons, particularly executed criminals, who were not permitted burial in a churchyard and who are likely to have been buried away from the centre of an estate, probably on or near its boundary. There is ample archaeological and documentary evidence to support such a suggestion and it is interesting to note that the documented Hampshire examples all occur on what were the judicial limits—the Domesday Hundred boundaries (Fig. 53).

Excavations on Stockbridge Down in 1935 and 1936 (Gray Hill 1937) revealed a cemetery containing between forty-five and fifty individuals. There was 'ample evidence to suggest that the bodies had been buried at different times... and probably over a period of years'.

Of the skeletons that were undisturbed by later insertions, two had been decapitated and at least sixteen 'had their wrists crossed, or very closely together, either behind or in front of the body in such a way as to suggest... that the wrists were bound'. One decapitated inhumation was accompanied by the remains of a decapitated dog and another was accompanied by six coins. Two postholes were thought to represent the site of a gibbet although this could not be substantiated in the excavation. A re-appraisal of the six coins, apparently concealed by a criminal in his armpit, suggests that the subject was executed in the autumn of 1065 (Dolley 1957). This type of cemetery is not uncommon elsewhere, though they often, presumably through lack of other evidence, are assumed to be battle sites. The occurrence of a number of undated burials, 'evidently slain in battle', at Great Bedwyn, Wiltshire, led A. Burne (1950) to suggest this to be the site of the battle of Biedanheafod, dated 675 A.D., in which Wulfhere, the son of Penda, fought Aescwine. A cemetery of fourteen inhumations, inserted as secondary burials in a barrow, was found in 1889 near Old Sarum and was considered, also, to be the site of a battle (Blackmore 1893).

At Meon Hill, less than two miles from Stockbridge Down, Miss D. M. Liddell excavated ten skeletons of tenth- or eleventh-century date and 'the manner of their burial' indicated 'deliberate executions over a period of years rather than the results of a battle' (Liddell 1933). 'Six had been decapitated and the heads of four were laid between their knees. Two had their hands crossed behind their backs and two crossed in front, wrists touching as if bound' and there were 'no signs of dislocation on any of the articulated vertebrae to suggest death by hanging, unless by strangulation'. A similar group of burials was found on Roche Court Down, near Winterslow, in 1930 (Stone 1932), whilst the burials found at Upton Grey in 1968 also appear to fall into a class of heathen burial, in this case in a pit. A late Saxon land charter for Cron-dall, Hampshire, dated 973-4 (Sawyer 1968,



# HAMPSHIRE

## 'Heathen Burials' & Domesday Hundreds

- MD MOUNT DOWN
- MH MEON HILL
- SD STOCKBRIDGE DOWN
- SP 'SAXON'S PIT'
- 'Heathen burialplace'
- Domesday Hundred boundaries
- .... Late Saxon charter bounds



Fig. 53. The boundaries shown for the Domesday Hundreds are based upon interpretation of Saxon bounds and the Domesday Survey.

No. 820), refers to 'Slahtor weg', a 'heathen burialplace', and 'the bank where Aelfstan lies in a heathen burialplace'. A reconstruction of the bounds indicates that all three points lie close together on the summit of a ridge to the south-east of the hamlet of Well (Grundy 1924, 48-55) at grid reference SU 773462. The term 'Slahtor' has been translated by Grundy as 'blackthorn' but it could be interpreted as 'slaughter way' (ME *Slahter*—slaughter) leading up to a place of execution. A charter for Fyfield, dated to 975, refers to 'Wures byrgylse' (Sawyer 1968, No. 800 and Grundy 1926, 100-101) and a charter for Wootton St. Lawrence, dated 990, refers to 'Scobban byrygels' (Sawyer 1968, No. 874; Grundy 1927, 313-318). The occurrence of personal name elements associated with burials would appear to indicate individuals buried outside the church. The remainder of 'heathen burialplaces' in the Hampshire charters appear to be located on high ground, usually in locally eminent positions.

The terms 'hlaew' (mound) and 'beorge' (barrow), both sometimes associated with personal names, occur on fourteen occasions in Hampshire charters and may also refer to burial places of the late Saxon period. The 'Hildan hlaew' of the Highclere charter, dated to 953 (Sawyer 1968, No. 565; Grundy 1926, 133-137), also occurs in the bounds of Ashmansworth, dated 909 (Sawyer 1968, No. 378) and Crux Easton, dated to 796 and 961 (Sawyer 1968, Nos. 268 and 689).

The place referred to as 'Seaxen seath' in a charter for Farley Chamberlain, dated to the reign of King Edward between 899 and 924 (Sawyer 1968, No. 360; Grundy 1926, 119), and as 'Seaxes seathe' in a charter for Ampfield, of a similar date (Sawyer 1968, No. 381 and Grundy 1921, 83) may refer to a heathen burial pit, perhaps comparable with that found at Upton Grey. The term 'Ealdan Cwealmstowe' or old killing place occurs in a charter for Chilcomb, dated 909 (Sawyer 1968, No. 376; Grundy 1921, 167), and appears to lie on high ground in the vicinity of Mount Down at grid reference SU 404287. If this is so then it may fall close to the site where an

early Anglo-Saxon inhumation was found some time after 1935 (Meaney 1964, 97-8) and Mr. Wilkie, of the nearby Merdon Farm, has informed me that human bones were found in the same area when trenches were being dug during the First World War. Rather like the occurrence of an early cemetery near a heathen burialplace at Droxford, it is possible that this may indicate continuity of use or coincidence, with both sites selecting the same optimum location—a locally eminent position.

The archaeological and charter evidence seems to suggest that in the middle and late Saxon period 'heathen burials' were interred on elevated positions, often on the margins of the relevant administrative boundary. The remains appear to be placed in haphazard, shallow graves, or pits, and show signs of having been executed. The tying of hands, and the dislocation of upper vertebrae suggest execution by hanging, whilst in other cases the head may be severely cut or completely removed during execution. Dorothy Whitelock has shown that both hanging and decapitation were common forms of execution in late Saxon England and notes that phrases like 'to the gallows tree' and 'to the place of execution' are common outside Hampshire. She notes that in a poem entitled 'The Fates of Man', St. Juliana is led out to execution 'near the land boundary' (Whitelock 1952, 144).

It was noted that many of the known pagan Saxon cemeteries in Hampshire overlooked major river valleys (see above p. 176). Elsewhere (Aldsworth 1973, 9-10) I have remarked upon the high percentage of late-Saxon charter estate boundaries which follow major valley bottoms. If all or some of the pagan-Saxon cemeteries were placed in a peripheral location to the settlement they served then perhaps they may have set a precedent for the heathen burialplaces of the late Saxon period. Whereas in Wiltshire the locational pattern of the pagan-Saxon cemeteries appears to suggest that they were placed on boundaries that were later to become parish boundaries (Bonney 1966; 1972; 1976), in Hampshire it seems more likely that the pagan cemeteries



were located on the margins of territorial areas which, like those identified in Sussex by Welch (1971) and Cunliffe (1973), were defined mainly by major river valleys and water courses. It was these areas that were subsequently subdivided to provide the late Saxon estates, many of which later became medieval parishes, and the Hundreds. It is on or near the Hundred boundaries that the 'heathen burialplaces' are to be found, but, as yet, no documented 'heathen burialplace' has been located by excavation although this would, on the evidence presented herewith, appear fundamental to our interpretation of the term.

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