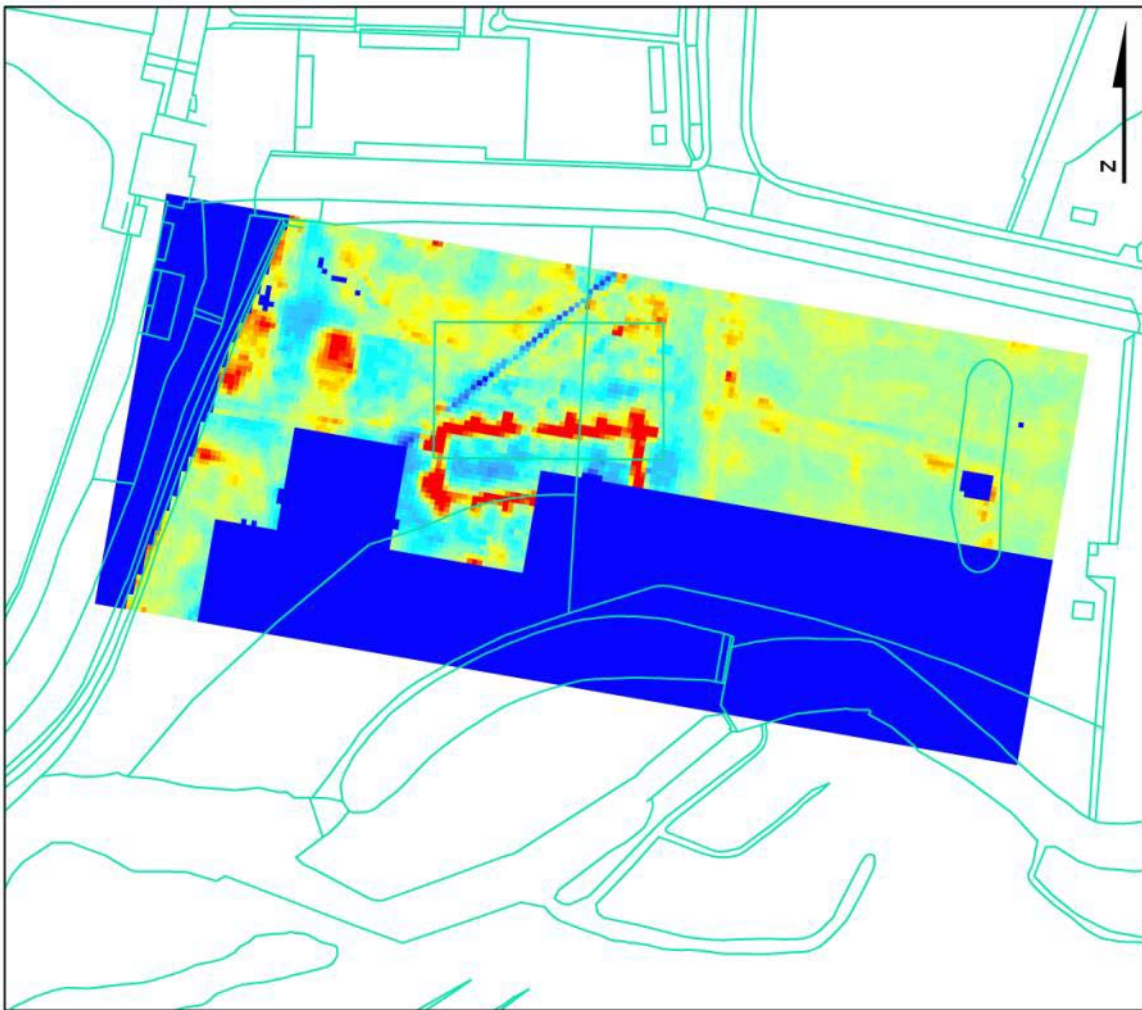


Archaeology in Hampshire



Annual Report 2012

FINDS REPORTED TO THE PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME IN 2012

By Katie Hinds and Rob Webley¹

During 2012 a total of 2,408 Hampshire finds were added to the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database in 2,194 records.

- The finds were from all periods from the Palaeolithic to c. 1800, with the following breakdown: Stone Age (1%), Bronze Age (2%), Iron Age (6%), Roman (41%), early-medieval (2%), medieval (26%), post-medieval and Modern (21%) and uncertain (1%).
- They were made from a range of materials: metal (96.5%, of which copper alloys, 71%), ceramics (2.5%) and worked stone (1%).
- Most finds were discovered whilst metal-detecting (99%), some as 'eyes only' surface finds; the others were found through a variety of means including gardening and chance finding (1%).

A proportion of finds examined by the Hampshire Finds Liaison Officer and colleagues were not recorded – generally finds that post-date 1700. The artefacts described below are considered to be particularly interesting examples. The PAS database number (Find ID) is included in each description. The public online database contains detailed information and colour photographs for each object recorded by the Scheme, including those below: see finds.org.uk/database.

Principal finds

A Mesolithic adze from Hayling Island (HAMP-594273)



A complete knapped flint adze or axehead of Mesolithic date, found whilst digging a trench for an extension in a garden in Hayling Island. It measures 161mm in length, 50.6mm in max. width and 36.1mm in max. thickness, weighing 320g (to the nearest 2g). It has an asymmetrical hexagonal cross-section with possible sharpening

¹ Rob Webley left the post of Hampshire Finds Liaison Officer in September 2012; Katie Hinds took up the post in November 2012

removals at the blade end of the upper surface and possible 'tranchet' removals (perhaps the result of heat damage) on the lower surface. The butt end curves round at an angle to the main body. It dates to between c. 10,000 BC and 4000 BC.

A late Bronze Age hoard from Bentley (SUR-84FA31 / 2012 T203)



This small dispersed hoard of late Bronze Age objects comprises four sword fragments, three spearhead fragments, a palstave fragment, a loop from a socketed axe, a dome-headed rivet, 12 fragments of a long-tongue chape, six casting waste fragments, including a casting jet, and nine unidentified plate fragments. A very similar but larger hoard (of 139 objects) was found at Bentley in 1994 (Lawson 1999, 102); it is uncertain whether these are associated. Both hoards share the main object types of swords, spearheads, chapes, palstaves and casting waste and scrap. The overall composition of the hoards match a wider collection of weapon hoards in Hampshire dating to the Wilburton and early Ewart Park traditions of the late Bronze Age (see Lawson 1999, 104; table 11.2). Part of this hoard has now been acquired by Hampshire County Museums Service.

An Iron Age pin from Ropley (HAMP-C319B7)



An incomplete Iron Age pin, broken across the shaft in antiquity, with a spherical head decorated with raised swirls and projecting knobs (Lewis 2013b, 20). It measures 58.55mm in length, 16.95mm in width and weighs 12.26g. The copper alloy of the head has a different composition to that of the shaft, the head being rather more silvery which is suggestive of a higher tin content. This is an unusual example which is not directly paralleled in the British corpus; it has similarities to pins found in Ireland.

An Iron Age unit from Ropley (HAMP-F51387)



This early Uninscribed Southern silver unit appears to be a variant of Rudd's 'Danebury Boar' type (ABC 875; Van Arsdell 1989, 288), which dates to c. 50-20 BC (Allen et al. 2013b, 281, no. 8). On the obverse is a boar going left while the reverse shows a horse going left with ring-and-pellet joints and a wheel above. It varies from other examples in the details that surround the animals. The coin measures 11.61mm in diameter and weighs 0.76g.

A hoard of 105 Iron Age coins from near Chawton (HAMP-6DFB33 / 2012 T43)

This hoard, struck between about AD 10 and 45, comprises several different gold coin types in circulation at the time (Allen et al. 2013a, 266-267, no. 29). The vast majority (98) are coins struck for Verica, a local king with a powerbase in central-southern England (Hampshire and surrounding counties). One coin was struck by Verica's contemporary, Cunobelin, who ruled a territory covering much of eastern England and Kent. The remaining six coins were struck in the name of Epaticcus, who is usually identified as a brother of Cunobelin and issued coins in the Berkshire-Hampshire-Wiltshire area c. AD 30-45. Given the similar age, the number of the coins and fact they were found dispersed over a small area, there is no doubt that they had originally been deposited together as a single group in antiquity. They have since been disclaimed under the Treasure Act.

A late Iron Age / early Roman Knickfibel brooch from Quarley (WILT-9FB4C6)

This rather unusual continental brooch type is not often found in Britain and at the time of writing there are only 11 examples recorded on the PAS database. It is known as a 'Knickfibel' and is a bow brooch, with a sharp bend in the bow encircled by a squashed spherical moulding. The pin and half of the spring coils at the head are missing. The brooch measures 59.38mm in length, 15.66mm in width across the undecorated wings and weighs 7.92g. It is thought that the Knickfibel arrived with the Roman army in the first half of the 1st century AD, because they are rather more common on the forts of the Rhine-Danube frontier (Bayley & Butcher 2004, 148). It uses a Colchester type spring gear with little wings at the head (Hattatt 1987, 30, no. 754).



A Roman strap-fitting from Owslebury (HAMP-F92224)

An elaborate copper-alloy 'bar-and-keyhole' strap fastener in two connected parts, dating to the 1st century AD and probably from a harness (Lewis 2013b, 22; Worrell & Pearce 2013, 373-374, no. 27). It measures 48.0mm in length, 12.6mm in max. height, 12.9mm in thickness and weighs 13.77g. The main element is a thick plate which was attached to a strap by two integral rivets at either end of the lower surface. A separate keyhole shaped fitting with a loop at the top slotted into one end of the main element. The main element is decorated with curved lines creating arcs above ovals symmetrically, with back-to-back scrolled curves beyond. On most of this decorated area are the remains of silver plating. A number of published examples of similar fasteners are: Chapman (2005, 136, ref. Te04), Jackson (1990, 36, no. 67), Bishop and Coulston (1993, 106, no. 7), Jenkins (1985, 150, fig. 14). There is currently only one other on the PAS database (LEIC-0017E1).



A Roman denarius from Greyshott (SUR-1B9C73)



This silver denarius of Caligula measures 18.74mm in diameter and weighs 3.27g (Allen *et al.* 2013b, 283, no. 20). Caligula's head is depicted on the obverse, while on the reverse is depicted a radiate head of Augustus facing right between two stars. It was minted at Lyon and dates to the period AD 37-41 (Sutherland & Carson 1984, 108, no. 2). Caligula was the third Roman emperor and this example is one of only 27 coins of his recorded on the PAS database (ten of which are denarii).

A Roman as from Owslebury (HAMP-F4DFE2)



A mid 3rd-century copper-alloy as of Trebonianus Gallus, measuring 22.5mm in diameter and weighing 6.83g (Allen *et al.* 2013b, 285, no. 40). The coin dates to AD 251 to 253, RIC IV.iii, no. 117b (Mattingly *et al.* 1949, 172). It depicts Pietas on the reverse, standing left and raising both hands by the altar. The inscription around reads [PIE]TAS AVGG. The coin was the 22,000th record on the PAS database for Hampshire!

A Roman probable plumb bob from Nether Wallop (HAMP-606896)



This curious copper-alloy find measures 37.65mm in length, 19.28mm in max. width and 19.28mm in max. thickness, weighing 12.4g. It consists of a vertical shaft with bead-and-reel decoration rising from a spherical pierced terminal, below a hollow conical 'skirt' which terminates in a hemi-spherical knob topped by a mushroom-shaped projection. The object is similar to an example of a plumb bob in Appels and Laycock (2007, 142, fig. AA15.28), of which the authors write '[this plumb bob] is probably Roman and could well have been part of a *groma*, which was the main Roman surveying instrument. The instrument itself was of a very simple design, having crossed arms which rested on a bracket attached to a vertical pole. The four arms each had a cord with a hanging plumb bob attached'.

An early-medieval pendant from Nether Wallop (HAMP-71F1C4)



An early-medieval (early Anglo-Saxon, c. 6th century) copper-alloy gilt bell-shaped or 'triangular' pendant, measuring 55.65mm in length, 42.94mm in max. width and 3.92mm in max. thickness, weighing 22.42g. This rare pendant has Salin's Style I decoration and is slightly concave to the reverse with chip-carved moulding to the front in the form of a central nose with bulbous eyes and curving cheek-lines. Hawkes and Grainger (2004, 76, 108) suggest that these pendants are belt pendants or purse fittings.

An early-medieval sword pommel cap from Rockbourne (WILT-5C2531)

This incomplete early-medieval (early Anglo-Saxon, 5th or 6th century) sword pommel cap is of a type known as 'cocked hat' and is made of silvered copper alloy. It measures 35.14mm in length, 15.56mm in height and 10.72mm in thickness, weighing 14.46g. The pommel cap is decorated with a punched ring-and-dot motif on both faces and along the sides, with additional punched 'dot' flanking the edges of the faces. It has two rivet holes that would have secured the cap in place on the pommel as a decorative embellishment rather than being functional.



An early-medieval coin from Micheldever (HAMP-773217)



A base silver 8th-century sceat, measuring 11.65mm in diameter and weighing 0.83g, probably ‘from a small mint on the south coast, perhaps in the Portsmouth area’ (Metcalf 1993, 340). It copies the Hamwic types and like them was picked up by pilgrims going to and from Rome (one has been found in Ostia). This coin is one of a number of noteworthy objects recorded from Micheldever, including the three finds that follow. The new site that they provide evidence for seems to have had an unusually strong floruit in the 7th to 11th centuries. Other finds recorded in previous years include a number of ‘early Anglo-Saxon artefacts, suggesting this was a site of some importance’ over a long period (Naylor 2013, 263).

An early-medieval coin from Micheldever (SOM-221D45)



This incomplete early-medieval (Anglo-Saxon) silver penny of Æthelstan I of East Anglia measures 19.6mm in diameter and weighs 0.97g (Allen *et al.* 2013b, 289, no, 90; Naylor 2013, 263-264, fig. 1c). It is a new variant of the Portrait type, the reverse being similar to those on non-portrait types (cf. North 1994, no. 436), and was minted by Monne, probably at Ipswich, c. 827-830.

A medieval 'coin-brooch' from Micheldever (HAMP-6CAD57 / 2012 T307)



'Coin-brooches' (that is, badges made from a coin, usually a penny) are relatively common finds from the mid-late 11th century, during the reigns of Edward the Confessor and William I. Often, as with this example, it is the obverse that has been modified with rivets for brooch fastenings, while the reverse is gilded, presumably to display the cross depicted thereon. This particular coin (measuring 19mm diameter and weighing 1.53g) was

issued under William I by Leofing of Winchester (+ LIFINC ON P[IN]CSI on the reverse) (North 1994, 191, no. 846). Because the artefact has been modified into an object, and is made of precious metal, dating to more than 300 years old, it was submitted as potential Treasure and acquired by Winchester Museums (Naylor 2013, 265-266, fig. 2d).

A medieval coin of Henry I from Micheldever (SUR-8D24D1)



This silver cut farthing measures 9.58 by 8.98mm (original diameter 18-19mm) and weighs 0.49g. It was probably minted in Winchester (the visible reverse legend reads [...]ON PI[...], likely to have read PINC for Winchester) and is of the more unusual 'Voided Cross and Fleurs' coinage dating to c. 1106 (North 1994, 197, no. 861).

A medieval German coin from Ropley (SUR-269403)



This silver coin (measuring 18.32mm diameter and weighing 1.18g) is a German denar or pfennig struck by the Archbishops of Cologne, probably Archbishop Phillip von Heinsberg who was active between 1167 and 1191 (at Cologne) (Lewis 2013b, 29). On the obverse it depicts an archbishop facing with crozier and book, on the

reverse a large central tower with a cupola. Continental coins of this period are rare finds in England.

A medieval Flemish coin from Hook (SUR-54DB38)



This gold half noble measures 27.09mm in diameter and weighs 3.79g (Naylor 2012, 305-306, fig. 2f). It could in all respects be mistaken for an English half noble of similar date, but the 'P' at the centre of the reverse cross and the shield on the obverse (bearing the arms of Burgundy with stripes rather than lions alternating with lis in quarters), denote this as a half noble of Philip the Bold, Duke of Burgundy and Count and Lord of Flanders, 1384-1404, although it could not have been issued until after a decree dated 1st October 1388 (Bastien & Duplessy 1975, no. 29). It was minted in Flanders and may be the first gold coin of Philip recorded from Britain.

A medieval seal matrix from Grayshott (SUR-85FA82)



Lead seal matrices are thought to represent the cheaper end of the market and are usually personal seals. This 'pointed oval' example (measuring 41.51mm in length, 28.08mm in width and weighing 27.73g) is engraved

with +SIGILL' IVONIS D HE(T)LEG around a central fleur de lis. This can be read as The Seal of Hugh of Headley, the village which lies just to the west of Grayshott, where the artefact was discovered. In the medieval period Headley was spelled various ways including Hedleg and Hedlegh. Pointed oval seal matrices are thought to be more popular with female owners and clerics (Harvey & McGuinness 1996, 79-88).

A post-medieval coin from Fareham (HAMP-936A71)



This rather unprepossessing base silver coin (measuring 16.3mm diameter, 0.8mm thick and weighing 0.96g) is a threepence issued by colony of Massachusetts, North America (Allen *et al.* 2013b, 293, no. 127; Lewis 2013a, 390-393, no. 4). Issues from this colony are rare and only three other examples have so far been recorded on the PAS database. This coin of 'pine tree' type was struck between c. 1667 and 1674 (Krause & Mishler 1980, 1323, no. 11/12), in the decades following the English Civil War. However, it is stamped 1652 suggesting that the colony understood that it had no rights to mint coinage, and perhaps wanted to create the illusion that it only minted during an earlier period. The coin has been pierced at around 6 o'clock for conversion presumably into an item of jewellery, though this would have rendered both faces upside down.

A post-medieval handle from Bishops Waltham (HAMP-AE36D4)

This handle, originally cast in two pieces, is hollow and would have held an iron blade probably for a whittle-tang knife. It dates to the 17th century and measures 83.45mm in length, 14.25mm in max. height, 24.9mm in max. width and weighs 30.54g. The handle is decorated with symmetrical moulded foliate decoration inlaid with black and white enamel. It narrows to the open end (for the missing blade), while at the opposite, wider end, above a collar, is an integral elaborate zoomorphic terminal, again with moulded decoration in the form of lobes, also carrying traces of black and white enamel. The jaw is now somewhat squashed but would originally have gaped open. The fields for enamelling were cast as one with the object in the champlevé technique. There are several parallels on the PAS database and items in this crude and colourful style are thought to be from a London workshop.



Acknowledgements

With thanks to Ben Roberts, Laura Burnett, Ian Leins, John Naylor and David Williams for aid in the identification and analysis of the finds discussed above.

References

- Allen, M., Ghey, E. & Naylor, J. (eds.), 2013a, Coin Hoards from the British Isles 2013, *British Numismatic Journal*, **83** 263-275.
- Allen, M., Naylor, J. & Walton, P. (eds.), 2013b, Coin Register 2013, *British Numismatic Journal*, **83** 276-312.
- Appels, A. & Laycock, S., 2007, *Roman Buckles and Military Fittings*, Witham, Essex: Greenlight Publishing.
- Bastien, P. & Duplessy, J., 1975, *Catalogue des Monnaies D'or Flamandes de la Collection Vernier*, Wetteren.
- Bayley, J. & Butcher, S., 2004, *Roman Brooches in Britain: A technological and typological study based on the Richborough collection*, London: The Society of Antiquaries of London.
- Bishop, M. C. & Coulston, J.C.N., 2005, *Roman Military Equipment from the Punic Wars to the Fall of Rome*, London: Batsford
- Chapman, E.V., 2005, A Catalogue of Roman Military Equipment in the National Museum of Wales, *BAR* 388, England: Archaeopress
- Hawkes, S. C. & Grainger, G., 2004, *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Worthy Park, Kingsworthy, Near Winchester, Hampshire*, Oxford: Oxford University School of Archaeology.

- Harvey, P. D. A. & McGuinness, A., 1996, *A Guide to British Medieval Seals*, London: The British Library and Public Record Office.
- Hattatt, R., 1987, *Brooches of Antiquity*, Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Jackson, R., 1990, *Camerton. The Late Iron Age and early Roman metalwork* London : British Museum Press
- Jenkins, I., 1985, A Group of Silvered Horse-Trappings from Xanten (Castrum Vetera), *Britannia* **XVI** 141-164.
- Krause, C. L., Mishler, C., Bruce, C. R. & Pettit, W.A., 1980 *Standard Catalogue of World Coins*, Iola, Wisconsin: Krause Publications.
- Lawson, A., 1999, The Bronze Age hoards of Hampshire, *Experiment and design: archaeological studies in honour of John Coles*, Oxford: Oxbow Books, pp. 94-107.
- Lewis. M. (ed.), 2013a, Report of the Portable Antiquities Scheme 2012, *Post-Medieval Archaeology*, **47/2**, 388-401.
- Lewis. M. (ed.), 2013b, *The Portable Antiquities Scheme Annual Report 2012*, London: The British Museum.
- Mattingly H., Sydenham E. A. & Sutherland C. H. V., 1949, *The Roman Imperial Coinage volume IV part iii*, London: Spink and Son Ltd.
- Metcalf, D. M., 1993, *Thrymsas and Sceattas in the Ashmolean Museum Oxford (Volume 3)*, Ashmolean Museum and Royal Numismatic Society.
- Naylor, J. (ed.), 2012, Medieval Britain and Ireland, 2011 – Portable Antiquities Scheme Report, *Medieval Archaeology*, **56** 301-321.
- Naylor, J. (ed.), 2013, ‘Medieval Britain and Ireland, 2012 – Portable Antiquities Scheme Report’, *Medieval Archaeology*, **57** 262-284.
- North, J. J., 1994, *English Hammered Coinage volume 1*, London: Spink and Son Ltd.
- Rudd, C., 2010, *Ancient British Coins*, Norwich.
- Sutherland, C. H.V. & Carson, R. A. G., 1984, *The Roman Imperial Coinage volume I*, London: Spink and Son Ltd.
- Van Arsdell, R. D., 1989, *Celtic Coinage of Britain*, London: Spink and Son Ltd.
- Worrell, S. & Pearce, J., 2013, ‘Finds Reported under the Portable Antiquities Scheme’, *Britannia*, **44** 345-380.