

'SMALL FINDS' FROM TURRETS ON HADRIAN'S WALL

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In Archaeologia Aeliana for 1973 Dorothy Charlesworth discussed John Clayton's excavation of Turret 29a at Black Carts. She referred to his finding 'coins of Vespasian, Trajan, Hadrian and Constantine the Great but no intervening emperors, fragments of millstone, coarse pottery, some samian, broken glass, animal bones and horn'. 'In fact' she concluded, 'the normal range of finds from a turret'. The purpose of this paper is to examine the material from turrets on Hadrian's Wall in the light of this statement in order to ascertain whether 'small finds' of copper alloy, bone, iron, etc., are indeed missing from the archaeological record of turrets and, if they are present, what information they can give us as to the use and date of the turrets on Hadrian's Wall.

74 turrets have been excavated in full or part, of which 47 appear to have produced no small finds (see Appendix). Most of the surviving material is housed in either the Museum of Antiquities of the University and Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, in the Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle, or in the Gillam collection of the Department of Archaeology, Newcastle upon Tyne University. Unfortunately much material has disappeared since excavation and one has had to rely heavily on the published reports, however sketchy. Conversely the three collections have also revealed many finds which are not mentioned at all in the excavation reports. The turrets vary considerably in the quantity of finds produced which may or may not reflect the efficiency and extent of the excavation. Wherever possible in the Catalogue below the exact findspot is mentioned but few excavators specified in their reports whether the finds came from inside or outside the turret walls, or how much of the turret was cleared. Many of the excavations in the 1930s were simply intended to confirm the location of a turret and consisted of a single narrow trench.

I would like to thank Colin Richardson of Tullie House Museum for his unflagging efforts in tracking down some of the more elusive finds and Julian Bennett and Neil Holbrook for drawing my attention to some of the less well known excavation records. The finds were patiently drawn by Liz Lazenby and are reproduced at 1:1 unless otherwise stated. Catalogue entries indicated with a dot ● are illustrated.

CATALOGUE

7b Denton Hall (NZ 1986 6555) Excavated in 1929.

None of the finds are now available: AA⁴ VII, 1930, 147.

First floor layer: 'Nothing was found in it, apart from a fragment of bronze and a little mineral coal'.

Period I: 'Among the other finds were a spearhead, much corroded;

several pieces of tubular bronze sheathing, that may have come from the edge of a shield; and part of a hob-nailed boot'.

p.150: 'Besides the two stone bowls... parts of three hand-mills were found; one of them was fairly complete, but broken into several pieces, and the upper stone worn very thin. There was also a roughly rounded ball of sandstone, diameter 3 inches, with two grooves cut at right angles round the circumference, apparently for the attachment of a cord'.

10a Throckley (NZ 1602 6682) Found in 1928. Excavated in 1980.

- 1. Iron spearhead with a long leaf-shaped blade with low gently curved shoulders. The blade has a mid-rib on both faces. The socketed shank has an iron pin riveted right through.
Surviving L: 286mm, Max. W of blade: 54mm, D of socket: 19mm, L of rivet: 22mm. Context 14. AA⁵ XI, 1983, 51, Fig.16. Reproduced by kind permission of J. Bennett. Museum of Antiquities 1980.12.
- 2. Incomplete mottled brown flint thumb-scraper. Bronze Age.
L: 23mm. Occupation level. AA⁵ XI, 1983, 51. Museum of Antiquities 1980.12.
- 3. Mottled brown flint struck flake with no secondary working. White cortex still visible.
L: 26mm. Occupation level. AA⁵ XI, 1983, 51. Museum of Antiquities 1980.12.
- 4. Struck flake of flint burnt white.
L: 21mm. Occupation level. AA⁵ XI, 1983, 51. Museum of Antiquities 1980.12.
- 5. Struck flake of flint burnt white.
L: 18mm. Occupation level. AA⁵ XI, 1983, 51.

17a Welton West (NZ 0580 6825) Excavated in 1931.

Ballista ball of whinstone.

D: 53mm. Weight 288g. Museum of Antiquities 1934.28. (Not mentioned in excavation report: AA⁴ IX, 1932, 257).

18a Wallhouses East (NZ 0434 6844) Excavated in 1931.

Found but no longer available: AA⁴ IX, 1932, 259

'A small ballista ball, 3 1/8 inches in diameter'.

18b Wallhouses West (NZ 0384 6844) Located in 1931, excavated in 1959.

- 1. Circular plate brooch of copper alloy with four openwork peltae arranged around a raised flat boss which contains a disc of red

enamel and has been made separately and riveted into position. The peltae and the brooch itself have raised edges and the resultant sunken field is filled with dark blue enamel. Around the edge are projecting lugs - two are small and semicircular(?) and are placed opposite each other, the third is rectangular and covers the catchplate whilst the fourth is looped and covers the hinge. The hinged pin is still in position.

This brooch has parallels from Canterbury (Smith Vol.VII (1880) Pl.XXI); Knaith Park, Lincs. (in private hands); Wallsend (recent excavations No.1310) and South Shields (Allason-Jones in Miket 1983, No.190). Examination of the brooches suggests the possibility that they may be the products of the same mould. Late 2nd century AD.

Max. D: 34mm, Total H: 12mm. Layer 2. Occupation debris outside turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 9,d. Museum of Antiquities 1961.21.

- 2. Fragment of a curved copper alloy disc with a rounded edge.
D: 43mm, T: 1.5mm. Layer 16. Floor foundation. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 96. Gillam Collection BW16.
- 3. Thin copper alloy sheet splaying at one end with a small circular hole in the centre near one end (D: 2mm) and a large hole at the very end of one 'arm' (D: 3mm) pushed roughly through. Traces of another hole on the opposite 'arm' survive.
L: 55mm, T: 0.25mm. Layer 22. Found in foundation trench of south wall of turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 96,A. Gillam Collection F22.
- 4. Rectangular strip of copper alloy.
L: 19mm; W:9mm; T: 0.75mm. Layer 9. Ashy level with associated hearth, stone edged gully and large flags at west. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 97. Gillam Collection.
- 5. Rectangular bone plaque with chamfered edges and a drilled circular hole in each corner. Incomplete.
L: 39mm, W: 18mm, T: 5mm. Drawn at 1:2. Layer 1. Foundation trench for 18th century cottage wall, dug into ruins of turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 99,F. Gillam Collection AE 1 A.
- 6. Leaf-shaped arrowhead of dark brown flint. Bronze Age.
L: 18mm, Max.W: 14mm. Layer 3. Last surviving floor of turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 98,C. Gillam Collection AL 3 1b.
- 7. Struck flake of honey brown flint with part of the cortex still visible. No secondary working. Bronze Age.
L: 25mm. Layer 4. Robbing of west wall of turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 99. Gillam Collection AK4.

Also found but no longer available: AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 96-9.

'Three unidentifiable iron objects of oval section approximately 2½" in length'. Layer 16. Floor foundation.

'Iron nail with round head approximately 7/8" diameter and shank of square section approximately 2¾" long overall. Also other iron corroded into small fragments'. Layer 21. Ash under cobbled

hearth in doorway.

- 'Iron stud'. Layer 20. Ash associated with hearth in doorway.
- 'Broken iron nail'. Layer 13. Layer overlying original floor.
- '3 pieces of much corroded iron representing an object of $\frac{3}{8}$ " square section, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ " in length. 3 shoe studs'. Layer 15. The ash pit.
- 'Iron object with right-angled end, $3\frac{1}{2}$ " long. 10 iron shoe studs representing parts of one shoe. The size seems variable probably due to corrosion but the better preserved have a square pyramidal head $\frac{3}{8}$ " across and $\frac{3}{8}$ " tapered shank. 3 iron nails of indeterminate length, one with head'. Layer 11. Ash overlying floor.
- 'Fragment of corroded iron from shoe. 16 shoe studs representing a disintegrated shoe. Three layers of leather are discernible on some studs'. Layer 9. Ash level with associated hearth, stone edged gully and large flags at west.
- 'Eight corroded shoe studs with diameter of head between $\frac{5}{8}$ " and 1" and one preserving shank to length of $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Layer 8. Flags inside turret.
- 'Shield boss, approximately $8\frac{3}{4}$ " diameter, with perforation on flange for attachment. Fragmentary (B). 9 shoe studs with heads approximately $\frac{5}{8}$ " diameter and circular. Part of one shoe? Iron nail 2" long (broken) with shank of square section'. Layer 9a. Associated with flagging in western half of turret.
- 'Iron object of flat or oval section of $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $5\frac{3}{4}$ " long. Perhaps a tie. Round headed nail $\frac{5}{8}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " shank'. Layer 3. Last surviving floor of turret.
- 'Iron shoe stud. Nail? approx. $1\frac{3}{4}$ " but broken'. Layer 6. Final rubbish deposit outside turret.
- 'Portion of iron blade, perhaps from dagger or spearhead. Length $4\frac{1}{4}$ ", $1\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, tapering to rounded end $\frac{5}{8}$ ". Traces of wood survive on point (E). Iron shoe stud, length $\frac{5}{8}$ ", thickness of head $\frac{1}{4}$ ", diameter of head $\frac{3}{8}$ ". Fragments of two nails. They are too corroded to assess their original form'. Layer 2. Occupation debris outside turret.
- 'Square shanked nail approx. $2\frac{1}{2}$ " long with square head'. Layer 5. Ruin of turret externally.
- 'Two shoe studs, head of one in form of four-sided pyramid $\frac{3}{8}$ " across.

25b St. Oswalds (NZ 9359 6945) Found in 1930, excavated in 1959.

- 1. Short copper alloy rod, apparently complete, expanding to the centre and the conical ends. Possibly the centre bar of an openwork belt plate.
L: 22.5mm, Max. T: 5mm. Unstratified. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 118,N. Gillam Collection AA M.
- 2. Curved strip of copper alloy broken along a raised edge. The upper face has a series of short incised lines whilst the under face shows traces of tinning.
L: 24mm, W: 15mm, T: 0.25mm. Unstratified. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 118,R. Gillam Collection BH O.
- 3. Flat copper alloy strip with undulating edges. Waste?
L: 27mm, W: 5.5mm, T:1mm. Unstratified. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 118,O. Gillam Collection BH N.
- 4. Length of U-sectioned copper alloy sheathing, curved at one end.
L: 61mm, W: 6mm. Layer 3. Outside turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 117,I. Gillam Collection CF D 3b.
- 5. Small copper alloy stud with a hollow domed head and a thin square-sectioned shank.
D: 9.5mm, H:8mm. Unstratified. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 118,P. Gillam Collection AR O 7.
- 6. Hollow domed head from a copper alloy stud filled with lead-tin alloy caulking with space for a square-sectioned shank.
D: 26mm, H: 6.5mm. Gillam Collection AR O 7.
- 7. Cow scapula trimmed flat and pierced by two circular holes (D: 7mm) at the apex. A similar implement is known from South Shields (Allason-Jones in Miket 1983, 137, No.31). MacGregor (1985, 179-80) suggests that they were used for handling flour.
L: 112mm. Drawn at 1:2. Gillam Collection AD L.
- 8. Bone counter with a countersunk face pierced by a circular central hole (2mm diam.). Cut from a long bone. See MacGregor 1985, for discussion.
D: 19.5mm, T:2.5mm. Layer 2. Outside turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 118,M.
- 9. Counter cut from grey coarse ware.
D: 18mm, T: 5mm.
- 10. Counter cut from grey coarse ware.
D: 20mm, T:6mm.
- 11. Counter cut from Central Gaulish samian pottery. Chamfered edge.
D: 13-16mm, T: 7mm
- 12. Counter cut from East Gaulish samian pottery. Very roughly cut.
D: 16mm, T: 6mm.

The above counters were all found in Layer 2 outside the turret. AA⁴

XLIII, 1965, 118. Gillam Collection AH 2a B.

13. Half a large sandstone disc. Lid.
D: 115mm, T: 25mm. Layer 1. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 118, L. Gillam Collection.
14. Large sandstone disc. Lid.
D: 129mm, T: 21mm. Layer 8. Outside turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 117, E. Gillam Collection BC 8 G.
15. Large sandstone disc. Lid.
D: 115mm, T: 21mm. Gillam Collection CM R.

Also found but no longer available: AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 116-7.

- 'Iron studs from sole of shoe' Layer 10: on flagging.
- 'Iron shoe stud, 3/4" long' Layer 11: foundation for floor.
- 'Thin bronze disc' Layer 6: north face of Hadrian's Wall.
- 'Iron nail, some 6 1/2" long' Layer 8: outside turret.
- 'Iron nail, length 2 1/2", head 5/8" square. Also part of another large nail. Piece of bone sharpened as a pointed tool.' Layer 3: outside turret.
- 'Some 8 to 9 iron shoe studs, probably part of the same shoe. The rust preserves the remains of three thicknesses of leather. Also some 20 shoe studs, apparently all part of another shoe from just inside the turret entrance. Again rust preserves three thicknesses of leather. Flake of struck flint showing bulb of percussion.' Layer 9: floor material.
- 'Some half dozen iron shoe studs rather corroded. Part of a substantial iron nail. Also iron disc, 1 1/4" in diameter, original thickness probably c. 1/4" Layer 16: working area.
- 'Iron arrow head'. The illustration (J) shows this to be a trilobate type with a short tang: see Coulston 1985, 264. Layer 9a: working area.
- 'Fragments of 2 large nails, and 2 smaller nails, length about 1"'. Layer 9a: working area.
- 'Fragments of some 2 or 3 iron nails, and an unidentifiable piece of iron strip, much bent, 1/2" wide and some 2" long'. Layer 1: mortar surface.
- 'Some 30 iron shoe studs, apparently part of the same shoe, on flagging in entrance'.
- 'Fragment of iron nail'. Layer 2: outside turret.
- 'Iron nail of rectangular section, length 1 3/4", tapers from 5mm to 2 1/2mm'. Layer 5.

'Iron shoe stud. Also one other rather corroded shoe stud, and various fragments representing 10 nails. Piece of lead from the core on top of the Great Wall west of the turret. Sheet lead 2¹/₄" x 1¹/₂". There are 9 small stabbing marks on one side of it. Only 1 or 2mm thick. Struck flint flake, no secondary working.' Unstratified.

26a High Brunton (NZ 9264 6969) Found in 1930, excavated in 1959.

1. Fragment of copper alloy binding of U-section.
L: 101mm, W: 6mm. Layer 7: flooring. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 137, D. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
- 2. Copper alloy needle of oval section with a long oval eye.
L: 67mm. Layer 7: flooring. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 137, E. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
- 3. Copper alloy dagger plate with curved sides and blunt ends with a central rectangular hole (10 x 4mm).
L: 25mm, W: 9mm. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
4. Rectangular copper alloy strip with rounded ends, both pierced by 1mm circular hole.
L: 30mm, W: 12mm. Layer 7: flooring. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 137, G. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
- 5. Copper alloy stud with a hollowed flanged boss head and a short tapering square-sectioned shank.
D: 21mm, Total H: 13mm. Layer 7: flooring. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 137, B.
6. Fragment of a crushed copper alloy stud head.
No measurements possible. Layer 2: flagged floor. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 138. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
7. Tiny fragment of copper alloy sheathing of U-section.
L: 21mm, W: 6mm. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
8. Tiny fragment of an openwork copper alloy belt plate.
L: 15mm, T: 1mm. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
9. Small copper alloy tack made by rolling a sheet and hammering the head flat.
L: 15mm, D of head: 6.5mm. Layer 2: flagged floor. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 138. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
10. Several fragments of sheet copper alloy some of which are clearly offcuts.
Layer 4: bronze working hearth. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, J. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.

The brass knob illustrated as F in the excavation report is modern.

11. Sheep's metacarpal with one end broken and a deep groove cut

around the shaft. Knife handle?

L: 93mm. Unstratified. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, R. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.

- 12. Circular-sectioned bone pin broken off across the spigot head which may have held a shale or glass bead as at South Shields (Allason-Jones and Miket 1984, Type G).
L: 63mm. Layer 4: bronze working hearth. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 138, K. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
- 13. Sandstone whetstone of rectangular shape and section.
L: 70mm, W: 21mm, T: 15mm. Layer 2: flagged floor. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 138, I. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
- 14. Disc cut from a wall sherd of coarse grey ware. The compass point used to centre the circle is still visible.
Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
- 15. Fragment of a clay crucible.
T: 9mm. Layer 4: bronze working area. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 138. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
- 16. Incomplete large clay mould for casting a circular or semicircular object of 58mm diameter with an outer rib and a deep central boss. A wide gully runs from the outer edge of the object shape to the rounded corner of the mould. The back of the mould slopes in and there is a suggestion that there would have been a countersunk hole through the centre.
Layer 1: robber trenches of turret wall. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 139, O. Drawn at 1:2. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
- 17. Triangular clay mould with two corners missing. This appears to have been used to cast an openwork mount such as a baldric mount, cf Oldenstein 1976, Taf.31, Nos.217-28. Mid 2nd century.
L: 35mm, W: 38mm, T: 11mm. Drawn at 1:2. Layer 1: robber trenches of turret wall. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 139, N. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.
- 18. Tiny corner fragment of a clay mould. Enough survives to suggest that it was used to cast a trompetenmuster openwork mount or brooch.
L: 20mm. Drawn at 1:2. Layer 1: robber trench of turret wall. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 139, N. Museum of Antiquities 1975.11.

Also found but no longer available: AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 137-9.

A 'Handled iron tool much corroded. Traces of a handle, probably wooden survive. Length 7½". Corrosion on blade preserves marks of apparently straw. Part of a substantial iron nail, and also a 2" nail'. Layer 9: initial turret floor.

'Five pieces of an apparently flanged, dished, circular iron object, diameter about 7", retaining traces of wood under the flange, and vegetable matter, apparently heather, on the upper surface. Probably a shield boss. Iron nail, length 3". Iron nail, length 4½". 3" nail, originally with large squared head and part (H) of

another nail. Iron shoe studs, preserving shape of toe of shoe.'
Layer 7: stone flooring.

'Iron nail, length 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Layer 8: sand floor.

'Iron nail, length 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Layer 2: flagged floor.

'Roughly circular piece of sandstone, red and yellow, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick, with hole cut more or less centrally. Probably a cover'. Layer 1: robber trenches of turret wall.

29a Black Carts (NY 8842 7129) Excavated in 1873, 1912, and again in 1971.

Found but no longer available: AA² VII, 260.

'Fragments of millstones'.

In 1971 no finds were made: AA⁵ I, 1973, 97.

29b Limestone Bank (NY 8795 7148) Excavated in 1912.

- 1. Copper alloy penannular brooch with traces of tinning on the circular-sectioned shank which expands sharply to the milled knob terminals. Part of the strip pin survives wrapped around the shank. Fowler 1960, Type A2, 174 for parallels. Fowler indicates that Type A2 had a long period of manufacture from 1st-4th century AD and says that 'variations on Types A and D in particular were common on sites connected in some way with the auxiliaries of the army'.
D: 32mm, T: 2.5mm. Chesters Museum.
- 2. Incomplete copper alloy penannular brooch of the same type as above but smaller.
D: 26mm, T: 2mm. Chesters Museum.
- 3. Leaf-shaped copper alloy terminal plate with a small circular hole (D: 2mm) at the end. There is a raised rib in the centre and the plate is broken across a larger circular hole (D: 3mm).
L: 38mm, W: 20mm. Chesters Museum.
- 4. Small turquoise blue opaque glass melon bead.
D: 9mm, H: 7mm. Chesters Museum.

Also found but no longer available: AA³ IX, 1913, 61:

'An iron shield boss of the normal pattern, a large leaf-shaped socketed spear-head (10 inches long)... several indeterminate fragments of bronze, ...pieces of millstones, both of local stone and of Andernach lava, a flint scraper and a flint core, and a broken stone-slab scored for a draughts-board'.

30b Carrawburgh West (NY 8654 7135) Excavated in 1912.

- Iron loop-headed spike with a rectangular tapering shank. See Manning 1985, 130.
L: 99mm, W across loop: 23mm. Drawn at 1:2. Gillam Collection Topsoil AC. (Not mentioned in excavation report: AA³ IX, 1913, 55).

31a The Strands (NY 8557 7118) Excavated in 1966.

- Rectangular fragment of copper alloy with one end complete. The edges are rounded and there is a central rib along the upper face. The whole is slightly curved. Helmet decoration?
L: 33mm, W: 15mm, T: 5mm. Gillam Collection AF. Arch. Newsbulletin Northd. Cumb. and Westmorland No.12, Sept. 1971, 16.

31b Carraw East (NY 8506 7110) Excavated in 1966.

- Circular-sectioned iron rod, curved with both ends broken.
L: 110mm, T: 11mm. Drawn at 1:2. Gillam Collection AM.

33b Coesike (NY 8213 7055) Found in 1930, excavated in 1968.

- 1. Copper alloy disc brooch missing its central boss. An inner ring has metal dots showing through dark blue enamel whilst an outer ring has a scalloped edge and is filled with red enamel. None of the catchplate survives and only the spring of the pin which is held between two lugs by an iron pin. Cf Coventina's Well: Allason-Jones and McKay 1985, No.43. 2nd century AD.
D: 30mm, T of plate: 1.25mm. Rubbish tip outside east wall of turret. AA⁴ L, 1972, 171-4, Fig.8, No.1. Museum of Antiquities 1968.16.1.
- 2. Copper alloy trumpet brooch with a fine bow with stylized acanthus decoration around the waist. The lower shank is triangular in section with incised marginal lines. The foot and catchplate turnover are missing. The head is incomplete but has a raised rim. A loop at the back of the head which is intended to secure the spring, and a small projection at the top, are cast in one with the head. The pin and the spring are incomplete and broken but still survive. Collingwood and Richmond 1969, Type Rii. End of 1st century - beginning of 2nd.
L: 49mm, W across waist: 7mm. Rubble inside turret. AA⁴ L, 1972, 175-6, Fig.8, No.2. Museum of Antiquities 1968.16.1.
- 3. Length of copper alloy U-sectioned binding. The section is rather more angular than is usual.
L: 102mm, W:6mm. Spread of burnt material from primary hearth. AA⁴ L, 1972, 174, Fig.9, No.1. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
- 4. Circular lead plug with faint scratches on one face.
D: 45mm. Latest floor level. AA⁴ L, 1972, Fig.9, No.6. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
- 5. Fragment of an iron knife with fragments surviving of a two-piece

bone handle which is shaped to follow the line of the blade for some distance. The blade has a sharp shoulder to the straight back but a gentle curve to the curved cutting edge. The handle is fastened by two iron disc-headed rivets.

L: 93mm. Drawn at 1:2. Occupation associated with secondary hearth. AA⁴ L, 1972, 175, Fig.9, No.2. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.

6. Iron buckle of oval shape but very fragmentary. The shank is semicircular in section with a rectangular-sectioned pin.
D: 66 X 53mm, Pin: 44mm. Packing below latest floor level. AA⁴ L, 1972, 175, Fig.9, No.5. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
7. Iron nail.
L: 45mm. Rubble outside turret. AA⁴ L, 1972, 171. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
8. Iron nail.
L: 63mm. Rubble outside turret. AA⁴ L, 1972, 171. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
9. Iron nail.
L: 56mm. Ruble outside turret. AA⁴ L, 1972, 171. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
10. Iron nail.
L: 43mm. Occupation associated with primary floor. AA⁴ L, 1972, 174. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
11. Iron nail.
L: 65mm. Occupation associated with primary floor. AA⁴ L, 1972, 174. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
12. Iron nail.
L: 59mm. Spread of burnt material from primary hearth. AA⁴ L, 1972, 174. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
13. Iron nail.
L: 35mm. Levelling for secondary hearth. AA⁴ L, 1972, 174. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
14. Iron nail.
L: 31mm. Occupation associated with secondary hearth. AA⁴ L, 1972, 175, Fig.9, No.3. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
15. Iron nail.
L: 51mm. Trample of latest floor level. AA⁴ L, 1972, 175. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
16. Iron nail.
L: 52mm. Trample of latest floor. AA⁴ L, 1972, 175. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.
17. Three iron hobnails.
D: 14mm, L: 15mm. Occupation associated with secondary hearth. AA⁴ L, 1972, 175, Fig.9, No.4. Museum of Antiquities 1970.12.

34a West Grindon (NY 8128 7043) Found in 1913, excavated in 1948 and again in 1971.

- 1. Copper alloy 'dolphin' brooch. The bow tapers from a blunt head with a median groove running to the foot, flanked by shallow ribs which expand to raised ovals at the waist. From the ovals run two marginal grooves. The bow ends in a globular terminal with a ridge-and-grooved neck. The catchplate is plain. At the head the short oval-sectioned arms expand slightly at the ends and are pierced to take the hinge pin but are otherwise undecorated. The spring has seven coils and a vestigial spring clip survives. Ettlenger 1973, Type 38; Collingwood and Richmond 1969, Type H. Cf Newpark, Polmaise, Stirling (Royal Scottish Museum L1956.4): very similar silver brooch but with an openwork catchplate. 1st to early 2nd century AD.
L: 58mm, W across arms: 18mm. Museum of Antiquities 1975.15.
- 2. Rim and neck of a copper alloy vessel. The rim is expanded and the neck flares widely.
D: 155mm. Museum of Antiquities 1975.15.
- 3. Fragment of a circular-sectioned copper alloy ring.
D: 35mm, T: 4mm. Museum of Antiquities 1975.15.
- 4. Iron knife blade with a convex cutting edge and a concave back. The long rectangular shank extends beyond the handle and ends in a wide ring. The wooden handle is in two pieces and is decorated with incised transverse and crossed lines. The handle is held in place by two iron rivets.
L: 106mm, W: 54mm. Drawn at 1:2. Cf. MacGregor 1985, Fig.88e for type. AA⁵ I, 1973, 109, Fig.10, No.2. Museum of Antiquities 1975.15.
- 5. Disc-headed iron stud.
L: 17mm, D of head: 18mm. Museum of Antiquities 1975.15.
- 6. Nine iron hobnails.
On the clay floor. AA⁵ I, 1973, 109, Fig.5. Museum of Antiquities 1975.15.
- 7. Black or very dark green bun-shaped glass counter or brooch inset.
D: 13mm, H: 6.5mm. In blocking wall in east side of turret. Museum of Antiquities 1975.15.
- 8. Glass cylinder bead which tapers slightly at the end, and is decorated with bands of grooves along the length. Decayed to powdery white.
L: 16mm, W: 6mm. From topsoil inside turret. Museum of Antiquities 1975.15.

Also found but no longer available: AA⁵ I, 1973, 109.

'Spearhead on original floor west side of baulk' Fig.10, No.1.

'Two choppers, on original floor level' Fig.10, Nos.3 and 4.

'Stirrup found in consolidation, medieval' Fig.10, No.5.

35a Sewingshields (NY 8009 7008) Found in 1913, excavated in 1958.

- 1. Copper alloy wheel brooch with a circular red enamelled dot at the hub. The six spokes are decorated with transverse notches and there is a wide groove around the inner rim. A series of squares of alternate pale blue and red champlevé enamel runs around the flat rim which is also notched along the edge. The hinged pin is missing although the curled catchplate and lugged hinge survive. Ettliger 1973, Type 40. 2nd century AD. Wheel brooches and studs are common in the military zones of Britain and are often associated with the cult of Taranis (Jessop 1979).
D: 31mm, T of wheel plate: 1mm. Layer 3. Occupation inside turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 155, D. Museum of Antiquities 1959.3.
- 2. Fragment of a copper alloy vessel with upright walls and two bands of incised lines around the rim and two more further down. The wall angles sharply inward below the last group of lines. See AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 155 for metal analysis.
D: 80mm. Drawn at 1:2. Layer 3. Occupation inside turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 155, A. Museum of Antiquities 1963.6.
- 3. Copper alloy scabbard chape of crescentic shape with front and back identical but for a small lozenge-shaped hole through the back (2 X 2mm). Similar chapes are also known from Corbridge (Corstopitum Museum 75.1229), Chesters (Chesters Museum: Budge 1903, 395, No.157) and South Shields (Allason-Jones and Miket 1984, 3.404).
H: 36mm, W: 55mm, Total T: 12mm. Unstratified. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 156, J. Gillam Collection A5 3.
- 4. Fragment of curved U-sectioned copper alloy binding.
L: 26mm, W: 5mm. Unstratified. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 156, I. Gillam Collection A5 3.
- 5. Small quartz slingstone.
D: 29mm. Layer 3. Occupation inside turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 155, B. Gillam Collection BD.

Also found but no longer available: AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 155ff.

E Straight-backed iron knife with the cutting edge curving only at the tip. The tang is set in line with the back.

Layer 3. Occupation inside turret.

F Incomplete socketed iron implement, possibly a spear, with a wide flat blade and curved shoulders.

Layer 3. Occupation inside turret.

G 'Iron blade, perhaps a piece of door furniture. Found with it was a piece of 3" iron strip, curved, and of triangular section, the side of the triangle being $\frac{3}{8}$ " each. Both preserve traces of wood.' 'Small nail, wood adhering, length $1\frac{1}{4}$ " (incomplete). Part of a substantial nail length $3\frac{3}{4}$ ".

Layer 3. Occupation inside turret.

38b Highshield Crag (NY 7639 6785) Excavated in 1911.

Simpson (1976) illustrates a selection of objects under the heading 'Objects of Bronze, Bone and Glass from Housesteads, Highshield Crag Turret (38b) and Peel Crag Turret (39a)' (Fig.65). Unfortunately it has proved impossible to ascertain which of the objects were found at High Shield Crag.

39a Peel Crag (NY 7562 6763) Excavated in 1909.

- 1. Two lengths of copper alloy U-sectioned binding.
L: 129mm, 98mm, W: 6mm, 5mm. Drawn at 1:2. Found below the upper floor level of a central hearth. Simpson 1976, 99, Fig.65,6. Gillam Collection.
- 2. Small copper alloy annular ring of semicircular section.
D: 19mm, W: 2mm, T: 3mm. Found near the burials of a young man and an older woman in the north-west corner of the turret. Simpson 1976, 100, Fig.65,1. Gillam Collection.
- 3. Large oval annular ring of oval section.
D: 35.5 X 33mm, W: 4mm, T: 4.5mm. Simpson 1976, Fig.65,3. Gillam Collection.
- 4. Rough lead disc with a convex face. A small circular hole has been drawn through the centre (D: 2.5mm). Possibly caulking from a composite stud.
D: 23mm, H: 5mm. Gillam Collection.
- 5. Very corroded and incomplete iron knife. The blade appears to have an arched back and a straight cutting edge and thickens to a short tapering tang which ends in a disc terminal, now bent over. Two wide bands of lead cover the junction of blade and tang. 1st century AD.
L: 105mm, W of lead bands: 21mm, Depth of lead bands: 11mm. Drawn at 1:2. Gillam Collection.
- 6. Blue opaque melon bead.
D: 11mm, H: 9.5mm. Simpson 1976, Fig.65,4. Gillam Collection.

44b Mucklebank (NY 6814 6671) Excavated in 1892.

Found but no longer available: AA² XXIV, 1903, 16.

'Some buckles, studs and small objects of bronze were found just

above the original floor level'.

'The number of very large iron nails, many much oxydized, found at this stage of the excavations seems to indicate that a great proportion of the upper part of the turret must have been constructed of wood'.

'There were not found any of the rounded stones used as projectiles in the ballista'.

45a Walltown Craggs (NY 6740 6635) Found in 1883, partially excavated in 1886, excavated again in 1959.

Found but no longer available: AA⁴ XLVIII, 1965, 166.

'Socketed iron gouge cf. Curle, Newstead pl.LIX, No.13'.

'Iron strip of some 6½" in length, thickness of ¼", and width of ½". Perhaps a tie'.

'Fragments of two iron nails, 1 fairly substantial (length 3¼").'

48a Willowford East (NY 6296 6629) Excavated in 1923.

Found but no longer available: CW² XXVI, 1926, 429-50.

'Stone - Two fragments of micaceous sandstone, roughly marked out in squares; probably portions of draughts-boards'.

One whetstone.

'A heavy stone disc with circular soot-mark on one side (cover or stand for cooking pot)'.

'Half of a small quern in the modern fence wall above E. turret'.

'Two small (iron) broad-bladed knives with tang upturned at end (near W. wall of E. turret, floor 3)'.

'Small heavy fragment pyramidal in shape (head of pilum?)'.

'Late 2nd century (bronze) knee fibula with three flutings on the bow (in loose soil thrown out from between floors 1b and 2); fragments of a pair of tweezers; folded strip of thin bronze (edge of sheath?)'.

48b Willowford West (NY 6251 6651) Excavated in 1923.

Found but no longer available: CW² XXVI, 1926, 444-5.

Fragment of stone draught-board 'having a rudely engraved row of three circles with probably a fourth circle at one end and a more angular figure at the other, 2nd period floor'.

'Three whetstones'.

'Several nails of various sizes (all levels). Spearhead 6 1/2 inches long, the blade 2 1/4 inches wide. Two bars each 2 1/2 inches long jointed together and looped at each end, one bearing a link (part of a bit?).'

'Many corroded plate-like fragments in hearth la'.

'Hearth 2 contained several round lumps of fused iron'.

'Small (glass) melon bead'.

49b Birdoswald Turret (SW) (NY 6113 6620) Excavated in 1913.

- 1. Copper alloy brooch in the form of a long-eared dog running to the right. The body has a cell of dark blue enamel with spots of yellow enamel, following the shape of the torso. The eye is a dot of white or pale green enamel. The tip of the tail has several transverse grooves. The pin is still in position held between double lugs by a copper alloy hinge-pin. The catchplate is missing. Cf Lerat 1957, Pl.VII, No.152.
L: 40mm, T of plate: 3mm. Floor 1B. CW² XIII, 1913, 305, 337, Pl.XXVIII. Tullie House Museum 4.1913.1.
- 2. Rectangular copper alloy bar, hollow at the back. The face is set with millifiori enamel consisting of a chequerboard design set in a double row, red-and-white on blue, blue-and-white on red, mustard yellow and black. One end is undercut and shows traces of an iron blade held in place by an iron rivet. The other end has incised band decoration at the neck and ends in a thick circular loop. Knife handle? Late 2nd century AD.
Total L: 57mm, W: 13mm, Max. T: 8mm. Floor 1B. CW² XIII, 1913, 337, Pl.XXVIII, No.2. Tullie House Museum 4.13.9.
- 3. Three fragments of U-sectioned copper alloy sheathing. One fragment expands before ending in a tight curl. The illustration in the excavation report shows that when complete the sheathing ended in an elaborate knob and clearly formed one complete side of a dagger scabbard binding.
L: 68mm. Found outside walls. CW² XIII, 1913, 338, Pl.XXVIII, No.3. Tullie House Museum 4.1913.7.
- 4. Sandstone disc.
D: 31mm, T: 6mm. Tullie House Museum 4.1913.

50a TW High House (NY 6023 6569) Found in 1934.

- Length of copper alloy binding of U-section decorated with oblique grooves on face. Cf Crummy 1983, No.4192.
L: 83mm, W: 8mm. Tullie House Museum 4.1913.

50b Appletree (NY 5973 6573) Excavated in 1911.

- 1. Complete penannular brooch of oval section which expands slightly to the double disced milled terminals. The circular-sectioned pin is flattened only fractionally and is wrapped tightly around the shank. Fowler 1960, Type A4: this brooch is listed on p.175. D: 34.5mm, W of terminals: 7mm, L of pin: 35mm. Floor IB. CW² XIII, 1913, 338, Pl.XXVIII, No.5. Tullie House Museum 7.19.11.
- 2. Copper alloy strip folded in half and pierced by an iron rivet at the top to attach it to leather. As the piece folds it tapers and passes through the rectangular looped head of a leaf-shaped pendant which has chamfered edges on both faces. Cf South Shields: Allason-Jones and Milet 1984, 3.602. Apron pendant. Total L: 52mm, L of pendant: 32mm, Max. W of strap: 7mm, Max. W of pendant: 8mm, Max. T of pendant: 2.25mm. Outside walls. CW² XIII, 1913, 338, Pl.XXVIII, No.9. Tullie House Museum 4.13.9.
- 3. End of a plain copper alloy scabbard runner. The slightly convex face tapers to a broken end. The other end has a stepped projecting terminal which has been badly made so that it curves to one side. An iron shank projects from the back. Cf South Shields: Allason-Jones and Milet 1984, 3.644 and 645. L: 71mm, Max. W: 11mm. Outside walls. CW² XIII, 1913, 338, Pl.XXVIII, No.10. Tullie House Museum 4.13.6.
- 4. Copper alloy stud, circular with a scalloped edge. The shallow convex face has lightly incised lines running between the scallops. A central roved shank projects from the back. D: 35mm, H: 9.5mm. CW² XIII, 1913, Pl.XXVIII, No.8. Tullie House Museum 4.1913.8.

Also found but no longer available: CW² XIII, 1913, 338:

'Penannular brooch; diameter 1³/₈ inches. Outside walls'. From the photograph (Pl.XXVIII, No.6) it appears to have milled knobbed terminals, i.e. Fowler 1960, Type A2.

'A melon-shaped bead of blue glass-paste, No.7, Fig.38, came from outside the walls of Appletree Turret' (p.339).

51a Piper Sike (NY 5887 6530) Found in 1927, excavated in 1970.

Several iron hobnails survive from both excavations (Tullie House Museum 131.1975.3 and 57.1933.3/4/5) but no finds are mentioned in the excavation reports (CW² XXVIII, 1928, 382 and CW² LXXIII, 1973, 67ff).

51b Lea Hill (NY 5844 6501) Found in 1927, excavated in 1958.

- 1. Fragment of a copper alloy nailcleaner. Part of the rod handle survives and is decorated with deep incised transverse grooves. The blade is flat and is broken where it begins to bifurcate. L: 29.5mm, T: 3.5mm. Layer 7c: occupation immediately above pink

clay floor. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 180, E. Gillam Collection DO T.

- 2. Small hollow domed copper alloy stud with a short roved shank. D: 8.5mm, H: 5mm. Layer 7c: occupation immediately above pink clay floor. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 180, D. Gillam Collection CF5 &c.
- 3. Copper alloy disc stud with a central countersunk boss and a turned back edge. The short shank is bent to one side. D: 14mm, H: 5mm. Layer 7a: occupation layer. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 181, J. Gillam Collection AV N 7a.
- 4. Shallow hollow dome of a copper alloy boss or stud filled with lead-tin alloy with the scar of an iron shank. D: 30mm, H: 4mm. Gillam Collection AL 4. Outside NW corner of turret.
- 5. Fragment of copper alloy U-sectioned binding with traces of wood still inside. The piece is curved. L: 53mm, W: 6mm. Layer 1: ruin of turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 182, X.
- 6. Fragment of a ring or buckle of semicircular-sectioned copper alloy. D: 31mm, W: 4mm, T: 2mm. Gillam Collection AV 7a.
- 7. Rib bone of an ungulate, split in half and rounded at the ends. One end has a deep transverse groove. L: 65mm. Layer 1: ruin of a turret. AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 182, T. Gillam Collection AX E.
- 8. Roughly cut red sandstone counter. D: 20mm, T: 10mm. Tullie House Museum 1985.11.

Also found but no longer available: AA⁴ XLIII, 1965, 180ff.

'Broken stone lid in red sandstone, blackened by firing'. Layer 9, occupation material. A.

'Stone cover in thin grey micaceous sandstone' Layer 8: pink clay floor. B.

'Fragments of some half dozen iron shoe studs, length 5/8", heads pyramidal. Grey-green hone of fine micaceous sandstone, rebated at broad end to take mounting? Length 3 1/2", width 1", tapering to 1/2".' Layer 7c: occupation above pink clay floor.

'Iron nail, length 1 1/4", round head 1/2" in diameter. Portion of lava quern, used as flagging'. Layer 7b: laid flags.

'Iron shoe stud, length 1/2", head originally pyramidal in form. cf Newstead pl.LXVII. Three iron nails, one 2 1/4" long, roundheaded, diameter 1"; another length 2", diameter of head 1/2". Portion of iron blade, rounded one end, diagonal break the other. Length 3 3/4", width 1" to 1 1/4". Layer 7a: occupation.

'Fine grained micaceous grey green sandstone hone. Fragments of

Niedermendig lava quern, disintegrated.' Layer 6; 3rd century collapse of turret. Finds residual.

'Ornamental brass fitting, with two short studs at back for attachment' (this is a peltate mount of the type illustrated by Oldenstein 1976, Taf.53: late 2nd century AD). 2³/₄" nail and a 2¹/₂" nail, very corroded' Layer 2: occupation on 4th century hut floor.

'Stone cover or pot lid, diameter 8", with central hole, diameter 3/4". Firing on a slightly convex surface indicates its use at one period as a pot lid. Coarse micaceous sandstone, iron stained, with disseminated carbonaceous particles' O. Layer 2a: heavy firing north of hut wall.

'2¹/₂" nail with large head (1" across). Stone pot lid, 4¹/₂" diameter, with scalloped edge, apparently originally with 2 scallops to each of the eight divisions. Sandstone as O' Q. Layer 3: under flagged floor of hut. (The brass button (P) from this layer is modern).

'Portion of iron blade, 3" long, 1¹/₂" wide, with end of blade curving up to tang? Very heavily corroded (U). Iron scabbard chape, with fragments of corroded bronze adhering internally and straw preserved in the external corrosion (Y). Six inch nail originally with head 1" square. Five iron nails, one 3³/₄" long, head 1" square. 4 nails, lengths indeterminate, one square-headed. Bone plaque, 1/10" thick, with holes in three surviving corners. There are signs of wear by diagonal threads' (this appears to be a weaving tablet: see Wild 1970, 73, Fig.66). (S). Layer 1: ruin of turret.

52a Banks East (NY 5747 6472) Found in 1927, excavated in 1933. No finds are mentioned in the excavation report.

1. Copper alloy trumpet brooch, very stylized with the acanthus motif at the waist degenerated to four transverse ridges. The foot is narrow with a double rib motif. A rectangular plate projects from the head and a loop projects from this plate. A second loop emerges from under the cylinder hinge. The pin is missing its tip. Collingwood and Richmond 1969, Riii. L: 49mm. Tullie House Museum 69.1937.4.
- 2. Rectangular copper alloy belt plate with an openwork design in the centre consisting of two elaborately filled circles. Four tiny countersunk holes are placed at the corners suggesting that the piece was sewn into position rather than riveted. Such plates are common in the 2nd century although this particular design is unusual. L: 42mm, W: 23.5mm, T: 1mm. Tullie House Museum 69.37.8.
- 3. Incomplete copper alloy rectangular belt plate with openwork fretwork in the centre. One circular hole survives mid way up one end. Cf Oldenstein 1976, Taf.62, 63. South Shields: Allason-Jones

and Miket 1984, 3.772.

L: 31mm, W: 20mm, T: 1mm. Tullie House Museum 69.1937.7.

- 4. Rectangular copper alloy plate with two lugs projecting from the edges at one end. The upper face has two incised borders filled with oblique nicks. A single loop projects from the centre line of the back whilst a double lugged hinge projects at the other end.
L: 49mm, W: 20mm.

Found with it was a rectangular buckle with triangular hollow sectioned arms which splay out to the globular, disc-necked terminals. A fragment of the iron hinge pin is in position.
L: 27mm, W: 30mm.

Also found and apparently fixed at right angles to the belt plate is a double cylinder hinge with a short oval-sectioned tapering pin held in position by an iron pin.
L of pin: 25mm, Total W of hinge: 14mm. Tullie House Museum 69.1937.2.

- 5. Domed copper alloy head from a stud.
D: 26mm, H: 4mm. Tullie House Museum 69.1937.16.
- 6. Rectangular copper alloy strip with slightly tapering sides pierced by two disc-headed rivets.
L: 34mm, W: 10mm. Tullie House Museum 69.1937.3.
- 7. Copper alloy strip with one end curled, the other curved but broken across a circular hole.
L: 29mm, W: 5mm. Tullie House Museum 69.1937.3.
- 8. Copper alloy strip with a flat rectangular end. The slightly bulging shank has the edges folded in before ending in a broken loop.
L: 36mm, W: 6.5mm. Tullie House Museum 69.1937.5.
- 9. Copper alloy strap-end with a lentoid body and squared loop around a semi-oval hole. The strap-end is flat on both sides with decorative notching on each side of the loop. Cf Allason-Jones and Miket 1984, 3.597-606. Late 2nd century AD.
L: 39mm, Max. W: 11mm, T: 2mm. Tullie House Museum 69.1937.3.
- 10. Iron axe with a long splayed blade. Lugs project on either side of the oval shaft hole and the end is short and blunt.
L: 133mm, W of blade: 52mm, End: 29 X 24mm. Drawn at 1:2. Tullie House Museum 27.1935.5.
- 11. Iron anvil or wedge of rectangular section markedly tapered. The top shows signs of much use.
L: 79mm, Max. W: 50mm, Max. T: 47mm. Drawn at 1:2. Tullie House Museum 27.1935.7.
- 12. Iron bar of irregular shape and section. Slightly splayed at the surviving end. Ingot?
L: 92mm. Tullie House Museum 27.1935.5.

13. Iron bar of irregular shape and section.
L: 106mm. Tullie House Museum 27.1935.5.
14. Iron bar of irregular shape and section.
L: 113mm. Tullie House Museum 27.1935.5.
15. Iron bar of rectangular section tapering to a spike with the other end narrowing to a strip.
L: 74mm, W: 13mm. Tullie House Museum 27.1935.5.
16. Incomplete iron nail.
Tullie House Museum 57.1933.7.

Also catalogued as coming from the 1933 excavations under accession number 69.1937 in Tullie House Museum but no longer available:

- .6 'Two fragments of bronze sheathings. Foundation level'.
- .9 'Part of rim and side of a bronze cup abt. 2ins diam.'
- .11 'Two frags. of a bone handle, burned, showing surface tooling'.
- .15 'A leaden handle, 6 ins. across. No level given'.

53a Hare Hill (NY 5612 6461) Found in 1855, dug in 1932.

A spindlewhorl in Tullie House Museum (16.20.25) is recorded as coming from this turret but there is some doubt as to the accuracy of the provenance.

The first fact which emerges from the Catalogue is that small finds are certainly present in the archaeological record of turrets and in both quantity and quality. The brooches in particular are worthy of note - four are enamelled (18b.1, 33b.1, 35a.1 and 49b.1) covering a variety of types but all dated to the late 2nd century. The rest are of types typical on the frontier: two trumpet brooches (33b.2 and 52a.1), one knee brooch (48a unlocated) and four penannular brooches (29b.1 and 2, 50b.1 and 50b unlocated). There is also an unusual dolphin brooch of 1st century date (34a.1). They are mostly complete, that is reusable if found, and this may have implications for the conditions within the turrets during occupation. The tight dating, as will be seen, reflects the general date of the finds from the turrets.

One of the enamelled brooches, from Sewingshields turret (35a.1) is in the form of a wheel. Such motifs are usually indicative of the cult of Taranis, the Celtic wheel god. A wheel stud was also found in the excavation of Sewingshields Milecastle (Allason-Jones in Haigh and Savage 1984, Fig.11, No.8) and the only other wheel motifs from the Wall itself are both from Housesteads: a brooch and an applied pot motif (Green 1978, Pl.47, 61, Nos.1 and 2). There is therefore a tight grouping of wheel motifs in the Sewingshields-Housesteads sector and it is tempting to suggest that a unit from Housesteads, devotees of Taranis, was manning Sewingshields Milecastle and turret. No other

jewellery was discovered bar a few glass beads, the majority of which were melon beads (29b.4, 39a.6, 48b unlocated and 50b unlocated). It has been suggested that these beads, dated to the 1st and 2nd centuries AD (Guido 1978, 100) are talismanic rather than merely decorative, following the discovery of a dolabra sheath from Bonn which was found with melon beads attached (Curle 1911, 279).

An unusual feature is the number of prehistoric flints discovered at the east end of the Wall. It is possible that they were being reused by the soldiers to make a spark to light fires although no strike-a-lights were found (cf Sewingshields Milecastle: Allason-Jones in Haigh and Savage 1984, Fig.16, No.162).

Comparison of the material excavated from turrets with that known from milecastles shows some distinct similarities. Spearheads, sheathing, shield bosses and scabbard fittings for example, are found in forts but not in the quantity found in turrets and milecastles such as Sewingshields (Allason-Jones in Haigh and Savage 1984), Castle Nick (Crow forthcoming) and Randylands (Allason-Jones, Bennett and Welsby 1984). In the case of the turrets such items must have been broken when discarded as it is impossible to imagine anyone losing a large shield or a 6 foot spear in the narrow confines of a turret. Quernstones are also common finds making it clear that those on duty were provided with basic provisions for several days at least and expected to fend for themselves. The numbers of gaming boards and counters suggest a certain amount of leisure time was taken in the turrets - the inhabitants were not on duty all the time.

It is equally important to note what is missing from the Catalogue. There are no obviously feminine objects such as earrings and bracelets, and unlike the milecastles there are no finger rings or intaglios. This lack of feminine objects will be discussed later. There is limited evidence of weaponry - mostly spearheads with only one arrowhead and no other evidence of archery. The knives are of the domestic type rather than daggers. There is no harness equipment, no obviously religious objects and no locks or keys.

When the finds are plotted according to type and findspot it can be seen that some of the objects appear to group geographically (see Figs.7 and 8). Shield bosses are grouped between Turrets 18b and 29b, ballista balls are found only in the areas 17 and 18 despite the fact that in the report on 44b (Mucklebank) it was felt necessary to mention that 'there were not found any of the rounded stones used as projectiles in the ballista' (AA² XXIV, 1903, 15). This, and the limited weaponry, may be of relevance in the argument as to whether or not Hadrian's Wall provided a fighting platform (see Dobson 1986, 6). The distribution of nails is also interesting. Again in the Mucklebank report (AA² XXIV, 1903, 15) it is stated 'the number of very large iron nails, many much oxydized, found at this stage of the excavations seem to indicate that a great proportion of the upper part of the turret must have been constructed of wood'. If this supposition is correct then one would expect to find large iron nails in quantity on all the turret sites but, although where nails are present they are invariably in some numbers, they are neither particularly large, i.e. masonry nails, nor numerous enough to warrant the suggestion that the upper parts of all turrets were built of wood. The lack of nails from many

turrets may be seen as an argument against Dobson's suggested reconstruction of a stone tower with a timber gallery around it (Dobson 1986, Fig.4b and c). The nails tend to group, 18b-26a, 33b-35a, 44b-48b and 51b-52a, irrespective of modern or ancient excavating techniques, and it is noticeable that they are equally as uncommon in the Turf Wall sector than as in the Stone Wall sector.

Belt-plates tend to cluster at the west end of the Wall where the chapes and scabbard runners are found. The belt fittings consist of strap-ends, a military buckle with a plain belt plate and several openwork copper alloy plates - all mid to late 2nd century. Knives also tend to be found at the west end of the Wall with whetstones appearing on the same sites.

This grouping may or may not be significant but it is tempting to see it as evidence for the garrisoning of the turrets by particular units. By grouping the turrets by finds and taking into consideration such factors as distance and the barriers formed by rivers the following hypothetical list emerges: Turret 7b stands alone at the present and could be tentatively attributed to Benwell, 10a to 18b could be manned from Rudchester although 18a and 18b could equally be manned from Halton Chesters. The tight grouping of the ballista balls, however, suggests that 17a, 18a and 18b may have been manned from Rudchester. 25b and 26a could be assigned to Chesters as there are groupings of belt fittings, sheathings, studs, pottery lids, bone objects and counters.

29b could be manned from Carrawburgh but has no obvious connexion with 29a and 30b on either side. 33b could be attached to Housesteads as could 34a and 35a on the knife evidence. 35a is already linked to Housesteads by the Taranis wheel motif. Other links between 33b, 34a and 35a are spearheads, tools, enamelled brooches and copper alloy vessels. 45a is likely to have been the responsibility of Carvoran whilst the rest of the excavated turrets, with the groupings of belt fittings, sheathings, studs and pottery lids, may have come under the jurisdiction of Birdoswald.

None of this evidence is conclusive but does provide food for thought and it will be interesting to see if future work or the pottery evidence supports or refutes this list.

If one considers the finds purely from a dating viewpoint it is noticeable that they tend to fall into the 2nd century AD with a few very late 1st century finds. There is nothing which can be assigned to the 3rd or 4th centuries. Considering the presently accepted history of turrets on Hadrian's Wall this might be seen as not surprising. The turrets were built as part of the original plan of Hadrian's Wall before the decision was made to move the forts onto the Wall. This decision must have made the turrets rather surplus to requirements but it would appear that none were given up (Breeze and Dobson 1976, 130). It was only when the whole of Hadrian's Wall was abandoned, when the frontier moved north and was consolidated as the Antonine Wall, that any of the turrets were emptied. When the Antonine Wall in its turn was abandoned many of the turrets were repaired - in fact it appears that all the turrets so far investigated were put back into working order in the 160s, although the pottery evidence from 33b, 34a and 35a suggests

that in some cases this reoccupation was very brief and it would appear that most, if not all, the turrets were abandoned during the modifications of the 180s, some having their doorways blocked and some being demolished totally. In the Central Sector no turrets between 33b and 41b were left standing. So the evidence suggests that the turrets were occupied only from the 120s to the 140s and then from the 160s to the 180s.

Excavations of milecastles have produced 3rd and 4th century material: Sewingshields for example, was clearly reused as a metalworking factory (Haigh and Savage 1984). Turret 26a produced mould fragments but the only fragment for which the final product can be positively identified (26a.17) can be dated to the mid 2nd century indicating that this part of the turret's history fell into the second period of occupation in 160s-180s. None of the other turrets have shown any sign of metalworking. Only Turret 51b has any irrefutable evidence of reoccupation by civilians but this takes the form of a hut built independently within the ruins of the turret rather than a reuse of the building itself. This occupation can be dated to the 4th century and is reflected by the discovery of a bone weaving plate (51b unlocated). There is a reference to the discovery of 4th century pottery at Turret 7b but this was unstratified and may have come from outside the turret (AA⁴ VII, 1930, 149). The floor, which the excavator regarded as being dated by the discovery of the pottery, 'had gone completely having been higher than the modern surface level'.

If the turrets were only occupied for 40 years in two clear cut stages, and then only for military purposes, perhaps we should look again at the traditional division between 'military' and 'civilian' in the classification of small finds. Brooches invariably appear in the civilian section of reports yet they are seen regularly on sculpture and tombstones fastening military cloaks. The turret evidence confirms that soldiers not only wore brooches but also lost them with a great deal of unmilitary carelessness. Needles, nail-cleaners and tweezers would also be seen traditionally as evidence for civilian or even female occupation but civilian and military populations have the same needs: 2nd century soldiers would have had to mend clothes, clean nails and remove splinters whilst civilians would have needed arrows and knives for hunting, hobnails for their boots and chapes for their knife scabbards. It is possible that the Roman soldier was given a survival kit containing sewing equipment on enlisting as was the British recruit in the Second World War. To further confuse the issue men would no doubt take civilian objects into military service with them and then take military objects into civilian retirement. This suggests that the normal separation of finds into 'military' and 'civilian' by use alone is invalid.

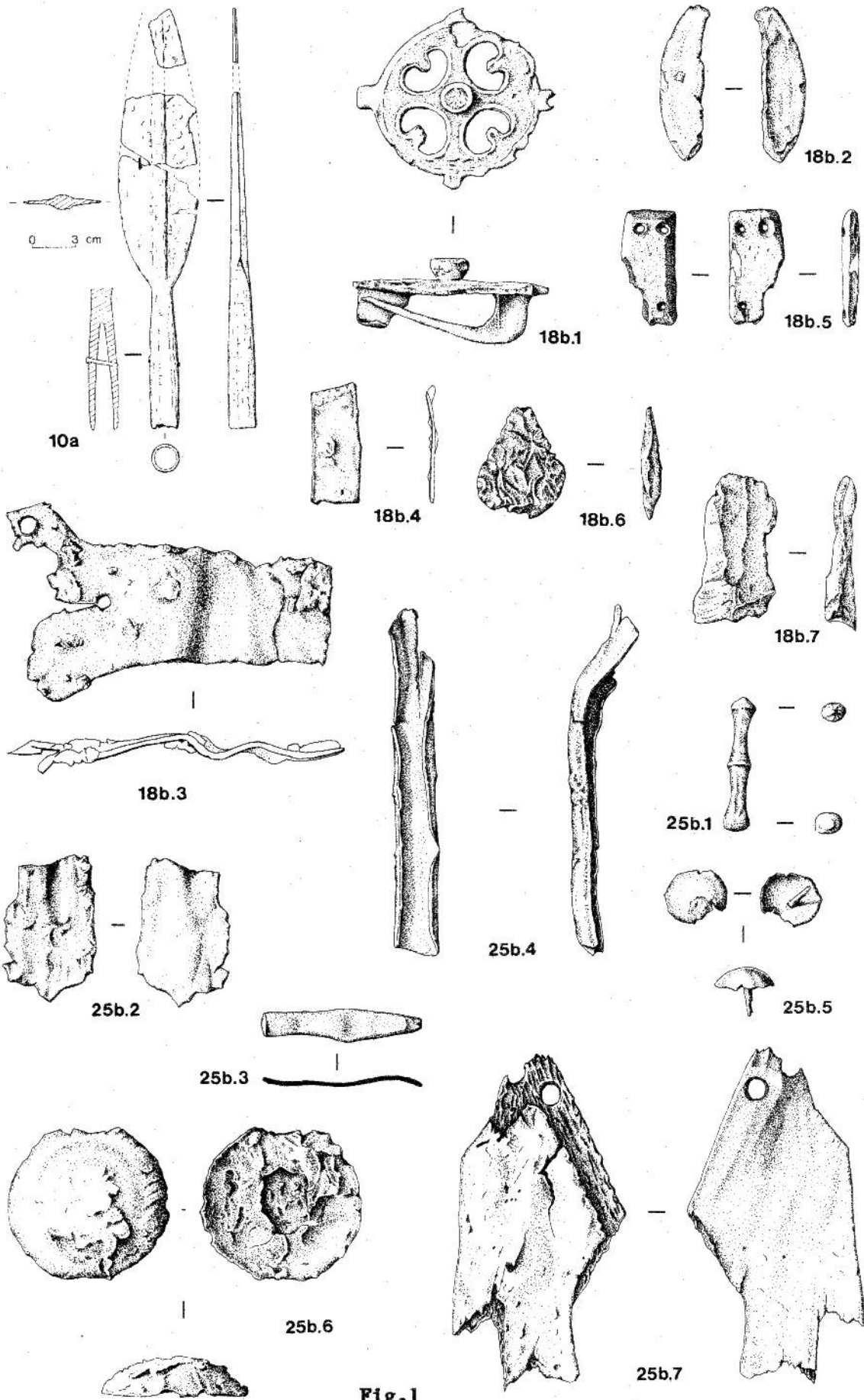
To conclude: it is clear that given a reasonable extent of excavation small finds are found in turrets on Hadrian's Wall. Secondly these finds are all of late 1st to 2nd century date. 3rd and 4th century finds are not found in turrets supporting the theory that turrets were not reused as factories as were some milecastles nor were they reused as civilian habitation but were only used by the military in what appear to be two clearly defined periods in the 2nd century. As the finds are all from purely military contexts they must in themselves be military thus making the traditional separation of finds into

'military' and 'civilian' by use alone untenable. Finally some of the types of finds seem to group geographically which may suggest which fort was responsible for manning each series of turrets.

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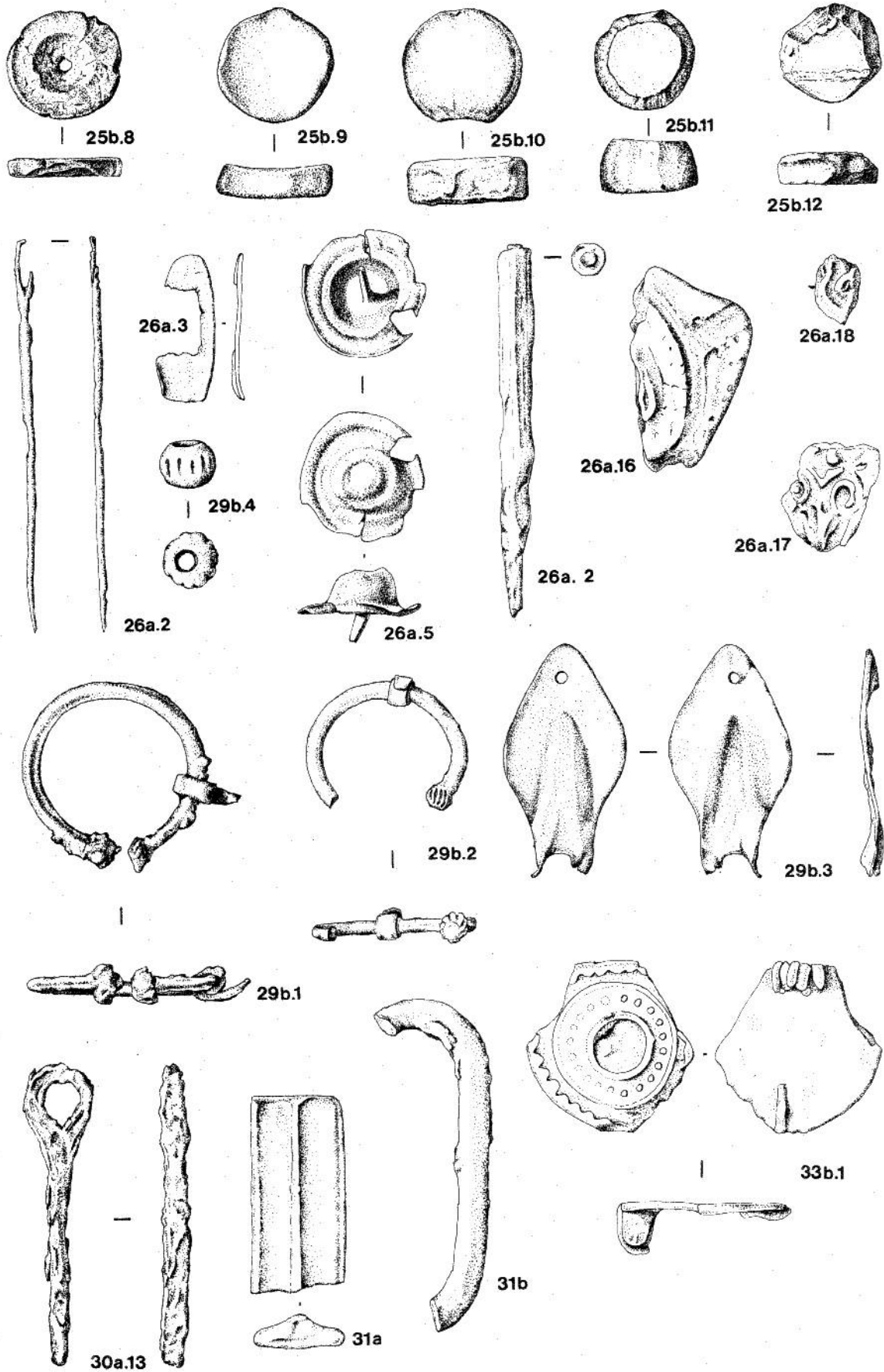


Fig.2

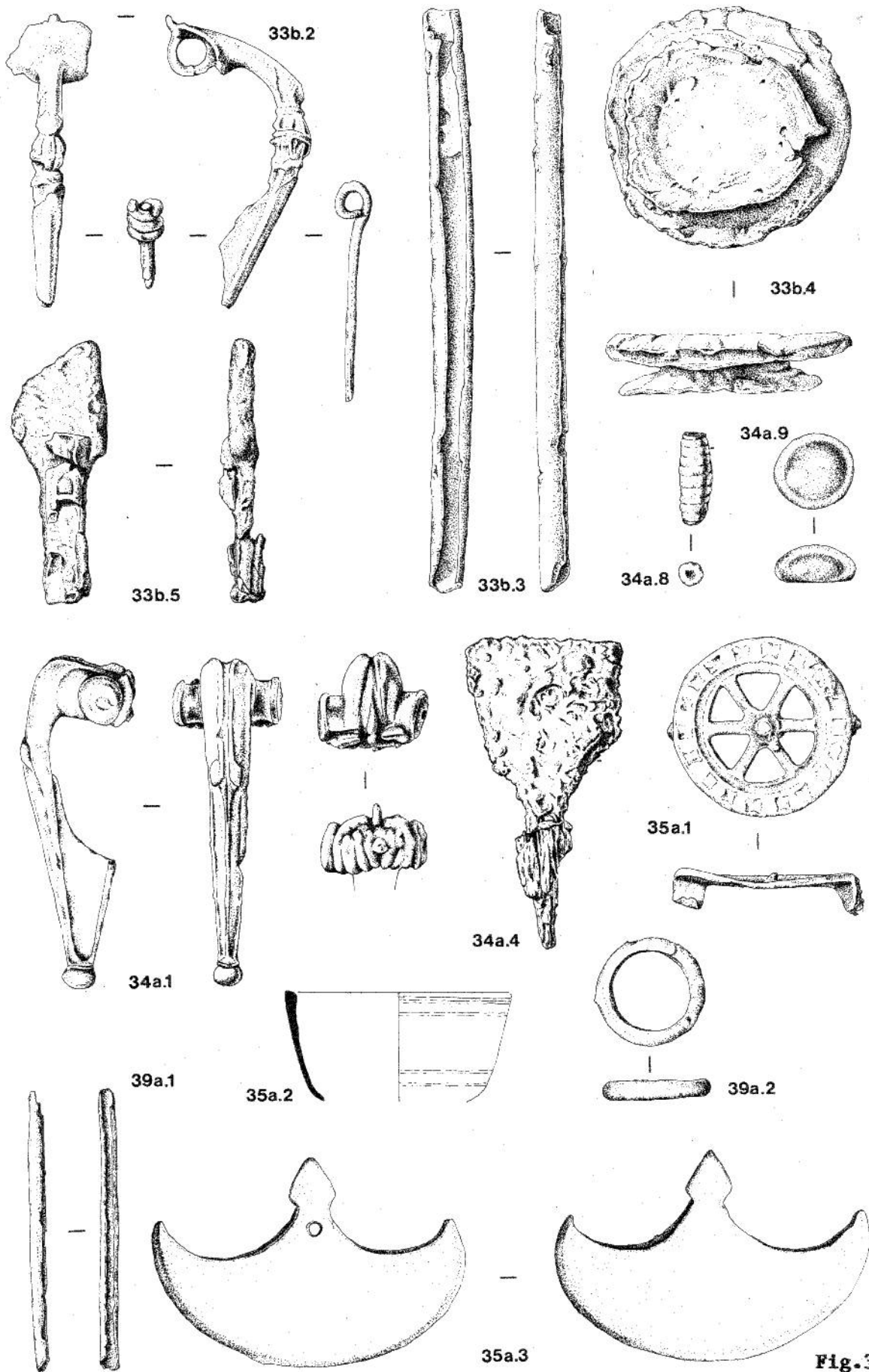


Fig.3

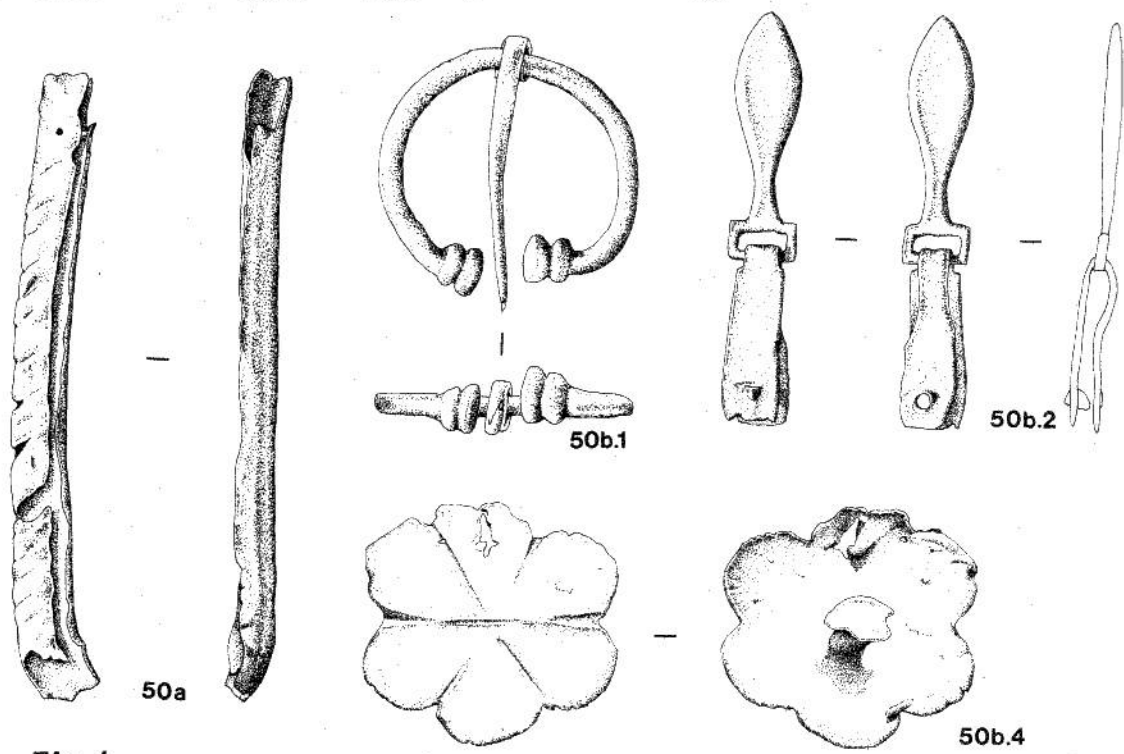
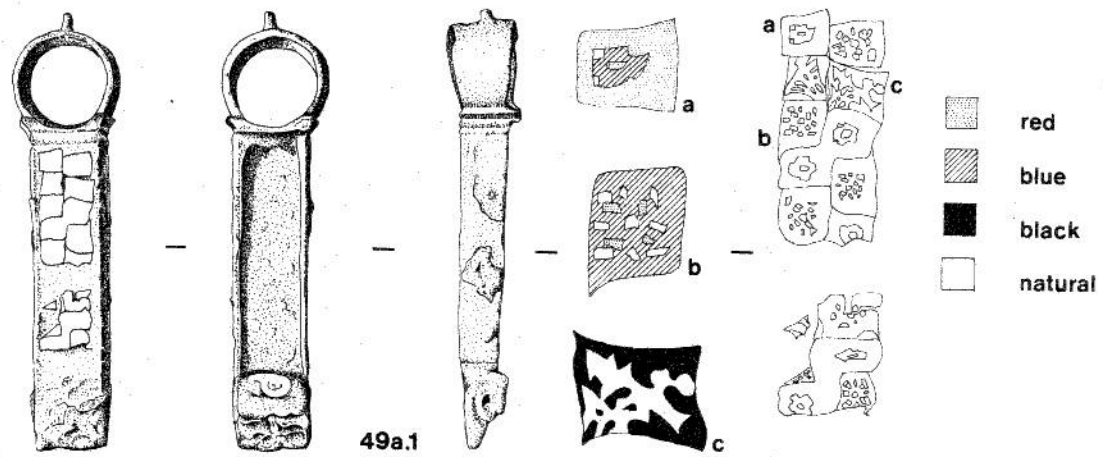
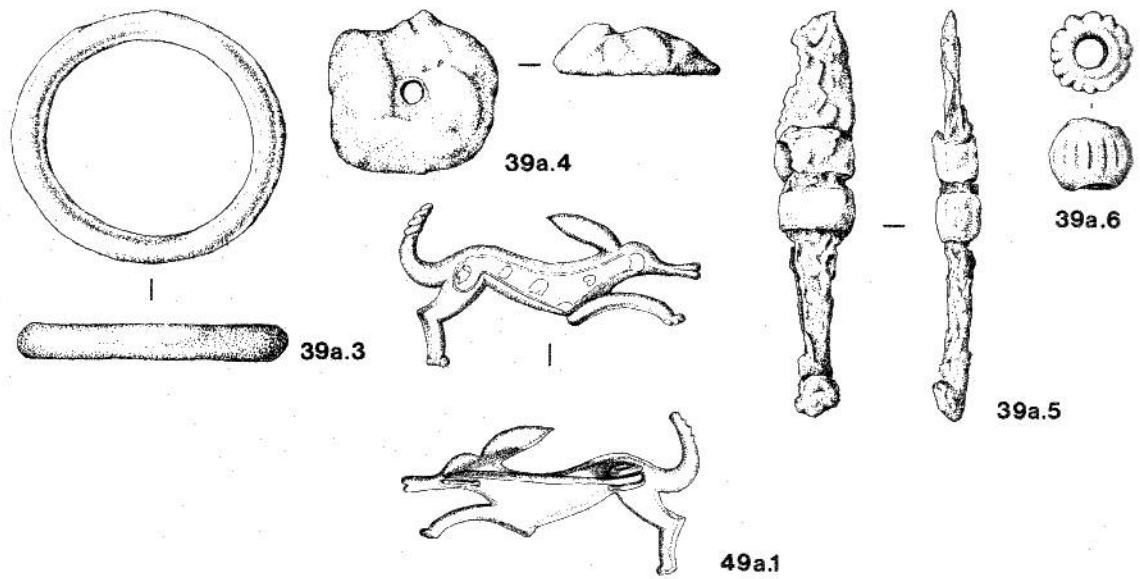


Fig.4

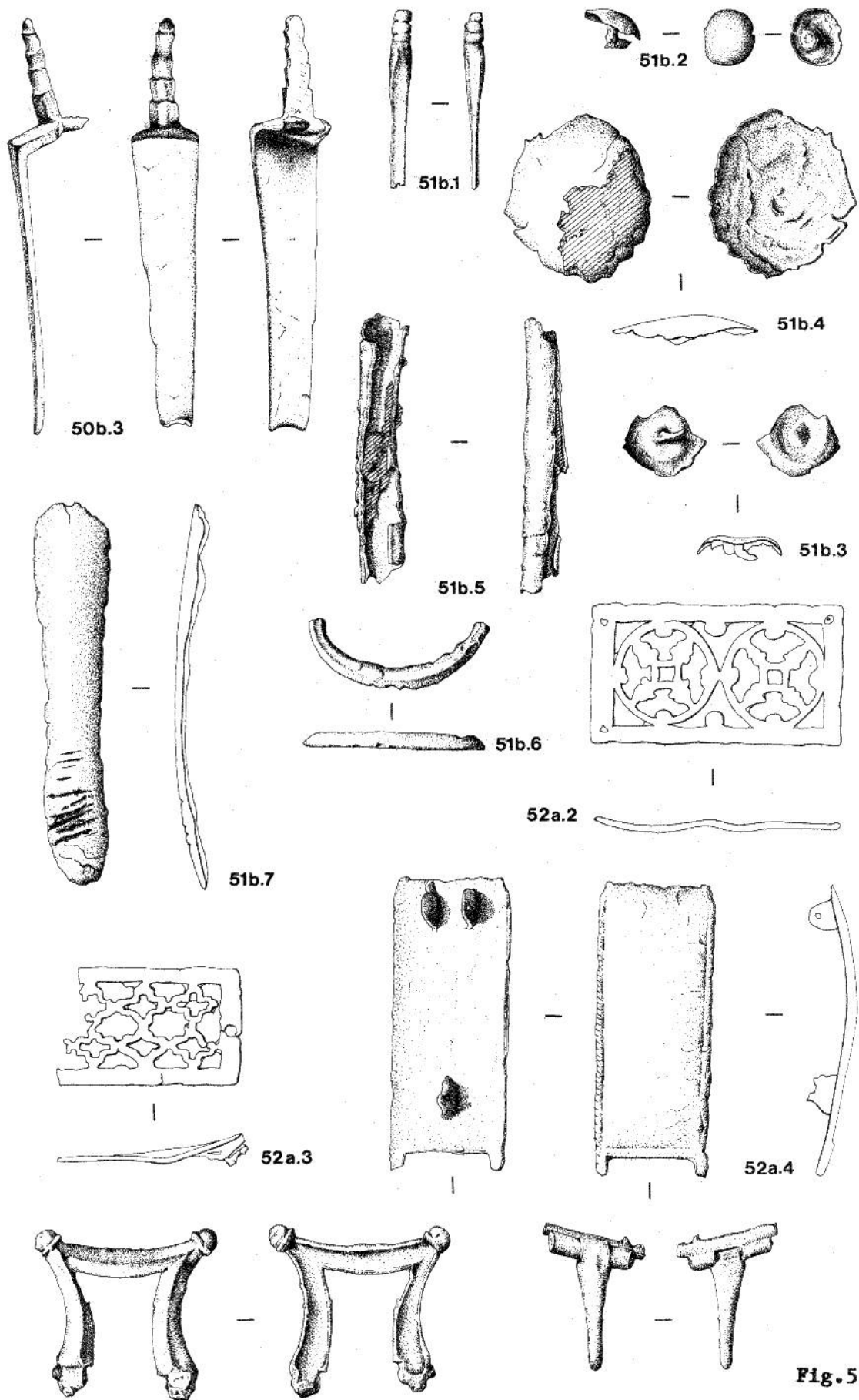


Fig. 5

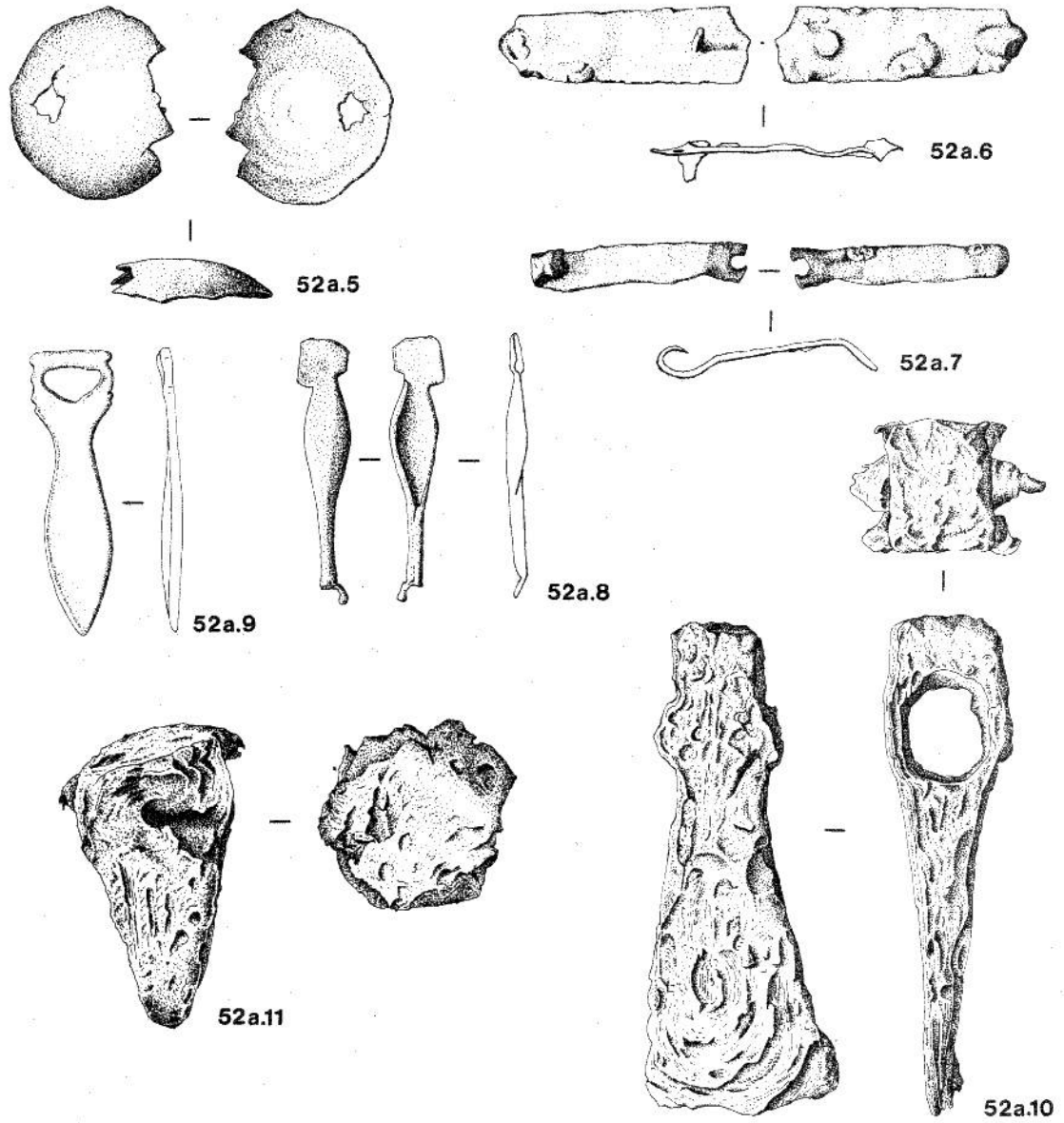


Fig.6

	spearheads	hobnails	nails	shield bosses	knives	studs	arrowheads	tools	buckles	chapes	querns	ballista balls	lids	whetstones	gaming boards	flints	bone objects	beads	moulds	counters	lead	
7b	●	●									●											
10a	●															●						
17a												●										
18a												●										
18b	●	●	●			●		●								●	●					
25b		●	●				●						●			●	●				●	●
26a		●	●	●				●					●	●			●			●	●	
29a											●											
29b	●			●							●				●	●		●				
30b								●														
31a																						
31b								●														
33b		●	●		●				●													●
34a	●	●			●	●		●										●		●		
35a	●		●		●			●														
38b																						
39a					●													●				●
44b			●																			
45a			●					●														
48a	●				●						●		●	●	●							
48b	●		●											●	●			●				
49b													●									
50a																						
50b																		●				
51a		●																				
51b		●	●		●					●	●		●	●			●				●	
52a			●					●									●					●
53a																					●	

Fig.7: Small find distribution by site and artifact class

	enamelled brooches	trumpet brooches	knee brooches	penannular brooches	other brooches	vessels	belt plates	chapes/runners	sheathing	studs	buckles	rings	domestic items	shield bosses	knives
7b									●						
10a															
17a															
18a															
18b	●									●				●	
25b							●		●	●					
26a							●		●	●			●		●
29a															
29b				●					●						
30b															
31a										●					
31b															
33b	●	●							●						
34a				●	●							●			
35a	●					●		●	●						
38b															
39a									●			●			
44b										●	●				
45a															
48a			●						●				●		
48b															
49b	●								●						●
50a									●						
50b				●			●	●		●					
51a															
51b							●		●	●		●	●		
52a	●					●	●		●	●	●				
53a															

Fig.8: Small find distribution by site and artifact class

APPENDIX

Turrets located or excavated for which no small finds survive:

- 6b Benwell Hill (NZ 2129 6491) Discovered in 1751. MacLaughlan 1858, 14.
- 8a West Denton (NZ 1880 6596) Discovered in 1928. 'Only pottery and occupation earth were found' NCH 13, 1930, 531.
- 8b Union Hall (NZ 1834 6611) Excavated in 1928. Only the south wall was examined. NCH 13, 1930, 531.
- 9b Walbottle (NZ 1694 6659) Located in 1928. Only the outer face of the south wall was examined. NCH 13, 1930, 533.
- 12a Heddon West (NZ 1304 6708) Excavated in 1930. Produced early 3rd century pottery. AA⁴ VIII, 1931, 322.
- 12b North Lodge (NZ 1256 6721) Excavated in 1930. AA⁴ VIII, 1931, 322.
- 13a Rudchester (NZ 1162 6745) Excavated in 1930. Produced early 3rd century pottery. AA⁴ VIII, 1931, 322.
- 15a Whitchester West (NZ 1874 6805) Located in 1931 and southern section excavated. Hepple notebook (Durham University).
- 15b Harlow Hill East (NZ 0825 6818) Located in 1931: south-east corner and south and west walls excavated. Hepple notebook (Durham University).
- 17b Welton West (NZ 0531 6830) Located in 1931 'almost completely destroyed' AA⁴ IX, 1932, 257.
- 19a Clarewood East (NZ 0286 6859) Excavated in 1932. 'The total yield of pottery... was disappointingly slight, but there was none that could be dated as late as AD 200' AA⁴ X, 1933, 98.
- 19b West Clarewood (NZ 0237 6864) Excavated in 1932. The pottery indicates occupation until the late 2nd century AD. AA⁴ X, 1933, 99; AA⁵ III, 1975, 222ff (pottery report).
- 22a Portgate (NY 9849 6873) Located in 1930. Hepple notebook (Durham University).
- 22b Stanley (NY 9800 6884) Located in 1930. Hepple notebook (Durham University).
- 24a Green Field (NY 9559 6936) Located in 1930. Hepple notebook (Durham University).
- 24b Tithe Barn (NY 9510 6940) Located in 1930. Hepple notebook (Durham University).
- 26b Brunton (NY 9215 6984) Excavated in 1873 and again in 1880. AA² VIII, 1880, 134; AA² IX, 1883, 22ff.

- 27a Chesters (NY 9119 7016) Excavated in 1945. PSAN⁴ X, 1947, 274; JRS XXXVI, 1946, 134; AA⁵ X, 1982, 199-200.
- 28a Walwick (NY 8982 7074) Located in 1727 and again in 1920. Gordon, Itinerarium Septentrionale, 74; Bruce 1957, 101.
- 30a Carrawburgh East (NY 8701 7144) Excavated in 1912. AA³ IX, 1912, 55-6.
- 35b Busy Gap (NY 7990 6974) Excavated in 1946. JRS XXXVIII, 1948, 84.
- 36a Kennel Crag (NY 7931 6915) Excavated in 1946. JRS XXXVII, 1947, 168.
- 36b Housesteads (NY 7896 6885) Excavated in 1949. As this turret lies under Housesteads fort it has proved impossible to differentiate between the finds from the turret and the rest of the fort. PSAN⁴ X, 1947, 247; Simpson 1976, 129ff.
- 37a Rapishaw Gap (NY 7805 6861) Located in 1911. Simpson 1976, 108.
- 37b Hotbank Crag (NY 7758 6848) Located in 1911 and found to have been demolished. Simpson 1976, 74.
- 38a Milking Gap (NY 7687 6792) Located in 1911. Bruce 1957, 142.
- 39b Steelrigg (NY 7504 6758) Excavated in 1909. Pottery suggests no occupation after the late 2nd century. Simpson 1976, 110-13.
- 40a Winshields (NY 7401 6751) Found in 1912. JRS XXXVII, 1947, 168.
- 40b Melkridge (NY 7352 6723) Found in 1912. JRS XXXVII, 1947, 168.
- 41a Caw Gap (NY 7255 6688) Excavated in 1912 and 1967. Simpson 1976, 108.
- 41b Thorny Doors (NY 7205 6683) Found in 1912. Charlesworth 1968, 69; Simpson 1976, 108.
- 42b Greatchesters (NY 7083 6683) Found in 1912. Bruce 1957, 152.
- 43a Cockmount Hill (NY 6985 6685) Found in 1912. Bruce 1957, 158.
- 43b Allolee East (NY 6935 6685) Found in 1912. Bruce 1957, 159.
- 44a Allolee West (NY 6842 6685) Found in 1912. Bruce 1957, 159.
- 45b Walltown Crags West (NY 6695 6607) Excavated in 1883. AA² IX, 234ff.
- 49b TW Birdoswald (NY 6097 6599) Located in 1934. CW² XXXV, 1935, 234ff.
- 50a SW High House (NY 6020 6587) Excavated in 1911. Finds included samian and coarse pottery, window glass, a stone trough and a

- milling stone. CW² XIII, 307, 309, 312.
- 53b Craggle Hill (NY 5549 6453) Found in 1932. 'Its examination was limited to proving that the turret belonged to the Turf Wall series'. CW² XXXIII, 1933, 270ff.
- 54a Garthside (NY 5457 6439) Excavated in 1933. CW² XXXIV, 1934, 138-44.
- 54b Howgill (NY 5407 6439) Excavated in 1933. CW² XXXIV, 1934, 131.
- 55a Dovecote (NY 5310 6436) Excavated in 1933. CW² XXXIV, 1934, 131.
- 56b Cambeck (NY 5122 6395) Excavated in 1933. CW² XXXIV, 1934, 132.
- 57a Beck (NY 5044 6333) Excavated in 1933. Samian, coarse pottery, amphora and glass found. CW² XXXIV, 1934, 132.
- 72a West End (NY 3189 5908) CW² LXI, 1961, 34.
- 72b Rindle House (NY 3144 5922) Found in 1948. CW² LII, 1953, 14-15.
- 79b Jeffrey Croft (NY 2283 6256) Found in 1934. CW² XXXV, 1935, 217ff.