INDEX

Compiled by Isobel Thompson

Abingdon (Oxon.), cemetery I: grave B33: shield in, apparently between body’s legs, 65; grave B39: Group 2 boss and associations in, 13, 23, 57; possible strap holder from, 60; grave B69: Group 3 boss from, 14, 15; technological examination of boss, 32; Group 1 bosses from cemetery I, 10, 11; Group 4 bosses, 17, 18, 23

Alfriston (E. Sussex): boss repairs, in graves 34 and 69, 59; thickness of shield from grave 42, doubtful, 47

Alton (Hants.), shield boss from grave 16 at, 21

Alveston (Warwicks.), structure of shield board from, 50

Andover (Hants.): function of board studs from grave 6, discussed, 52-3; lozenge-shaped shield fitting from grave 49, 52, and repaired boss, 59

‘Anglian’, regional meaning of, 3; preference in shield deposition in Anglian regions, 65, 67

Armour see Helmets and body armour

Axes, in combination with shields in burials, 67; axe burials, 69

Bargates (Dorset), late cemetery, 63; bosses from, 22; burial plots possibly discernible at, 65; range of shield board thicknesses at, 48; grave 29, analysis of shield grip from, cited, 35

Barton Court Farm (Oxon.), fish-shaped shield appliqué fitting, re-used as a brooch, from grave at, 29

Battle of Maldon, tenth-century poem, references to shields in, 44

Bayeux Tapestry, shield depicted on, 43, 45, 60

Belt fittings, possible, 29; associated with shield boss, 11-12

Bergen (Norway), repaired shield boss from, similar to English examples, 34

Bergh Apton (Norfolk), shield boss from, 22, 23; grave 12: bronze plate from, 52; grave 26: figural appliqué shield mounts from, 28, 29

Berinsfield (Oxon.), bronze shield studs from, 28; grave 29; adolescent with shield in, 68; grave 69, repaired boss from, 58, 59; Group 1 bosses from, 10, 11, 12, 23; Group 2 boss, 13; Group 3 bosses, 14, 15, 16; Group 4 boss, 18; Group 6 boss, 20, 21; rare central grip positions, 41; tubular belt endplate, 11-12

Biford-on-Avon (Warwicks.): grave 182, high status decoration of shield in, 61; grave 207, repaired boss in, 59; Group 3 shield boss, 15-16, 23; Group 4 boss, 19; Group 5 boss, 20; lozenge-shaped shield fittings, 27, 28

Bog deposits, Continental Roman Iron Age, shield remains from, 31, 39; board construction, 50; boss repairs, 59; fittings, 51, 52; handles, 36, 38, 41; shape, 43, 44; size, 46; wood used, 49

Bosses see Shield bosses

Brighampton (Oxon.), grave 13, hand on shield grip in, 65; grave 31, composite sword from, 12; Group 1 shield bosses, 10; Group 4 bosses, 17, 18

Broadstairs (Kent), leather cover of Roman shield from, described, 51, 54

Chessell Down (Isle of Wight), two Group 4 shield bosses from, 19

Cirencester (Glos.), cemetery I, Group 3 shield boss and pottery bowl from, 20

Cole, Hector, blacksmith, experimental shield boss made by, 32

Collingbourne Ducas (Wilts.), wood remains on shield from grave 2, discussed, 41

Cologne (Germany): rich grave of boy from Cathedral, 38, 69

Coombe Bissett (Wilts.), shield boss from, 21

Devizes (Wilts.): technological examination of shield bosses in Devizes Museum, discussed, 31-2

Dover (Kent), cemetery II, 69; graves 27 and 131, buckles from possible carrying straps in, 60; grave 39 and 98, textile wrapping of shield grips from, 36; grave 56, boss, 22; grave 71, shield studs, 27; grave 93, complicated grip attachment, 42; and lozenge-shaped shield fittings, 27. Group 3 bosses, 15, 16; scabbard, possible parallels for, 12; shield board stud from female grave, possibly reused, 31, 61

Droxford (Hants.), lozenge-shaped shield fitting from grave 12 at, 52

Dura-Europos (Syria), construction of Roman shields from, described, 50

‘Early Saxon’, chronological term, 3

East Ilsley (Berks.), cemetery I, lost Group 7 shield boss from, 21

Eynsham (Oxon.), cemetery I: boss from, 11; probably early sixth-century seas from grave, 1, 12
EARLY ANGLO-SAXON SHIELDS

Fairford (Glos.), Group 1 shield boss from, 12; group 4 bosses from, 17, 18
Farthingdown (Surrey), construction of shield boss from, 31
Finglesham (Kent), early associations of Group 3 boss in founder-burial at, 15; grave 62: buckle in, 15; iron shield fittings in, 28, 29, 31, 42; and function of, 32, 60; iron shield grip in, 25; lack of boss in, 31; grave 22, shield, 48
Fonaby (Lincs.), textile binding of shield grip from grave 24 at, 36
Ford (Wilts.), shield in barrow 2 at, 44, 45
Franks Casket, pictorial representation of shield on, 43
Frillford (Oxon.), fifth-century buckle from burial at, 12
Germany: age range of those buried with shields, 69; boss repairs, 59; boss types, compared with Early Saxon in England, 14, 16, 19, 22, 24; and with other parts, 47; decoration and paint on shields, 54; Roman Iron Age origin of shield types, 19, 22, 31, 43, 71; and shape and size, 44, 46; shield and weapon combinations, 67; symbolic importance, 61–2; wooden boss, 31; woods used, 50; see also Roman Iron Age Germany
Giengen (Germany), leather decoration on shield from, 34
Gokstad (Norway), shields from Viking ship burial at: paint on, 54; sizes, 46; solid plank construction, 50; wood used, 49–50; wooden grips, 36
Hadstock (Essex), Late Saxon wooden door from St Botolph’s church at, 51
Harnham Hill (Wilt.), iron shield grip in grave 55 at, without boss, 31
Helments and body armour, rare in Anglo-Saxon and Continental graves, 67
Holborough (Kent), late cemetery, 63; grave 3: presence of two bosses doubtful, 63; grave 7: board studs, 27, 53; shield probably not broken before burial, 64; grave 8: boss, 35; iron grip, 25, 26; lozenge-shaped fittings, 27, 52; size and date of shield, 45
Holywell Row (Suffolk), ill-fitting grip and boss from grave, 60, 59; possible distinct burial plots at, 65
Ironworking: shield boss evidence for technology, 31, 32, 34–5
Kempston (Beds.), possible shield board edge bindings from, 29–30, 61; silver capped iron discs possibly from grave 52 at, 27
Kingsley (Bucks.), Group 8 shield from, 21–2
Knives, associated with shield bosses, 20, 22
Krefeld-Gellep (Germany), shield bosses from graves at, 16, 22
Leather, use of, in construction of shields, 35, 38, 41, 51, 52, 53; decorative use of, 54; possible strap for carrying shield on back, 60
Lechland (Glos.), Group 7 shield boss from, 21; right hand inside shield boss in inhumation 1040, 65
Long Wittenham (Oxon.), cemetery I: Group 1 shield bosses from, 10; associated Group 1 bosses and grip types, 11; Group 2 bosses, 13; Group 3 bosses, 14, 15; Group 4 bosses, 17, 18, 19, 23; Group 5 boss, 20
Lowbury Hill (Oxon.), barrow at: buckle possibly from carrying strap, 60; Group 7 shield boss, 21, 25; iron strips from shield, 52
Lyminge (Kent), cemetery II: iron shield grip from grave 31, 25, 42; possible shape of the shield board from evidence of this grip, 44; range of board thickness, 48
Marktoberdorf (Germany), shields from Alamannic cemetery at, 38; only in adult burials, 69
Mucking (Essex): annular stains in graves, not necessarily shields, 31, 43, 45; decorative board fittings in grave 600, 53–4, 61; lozenge-shaped shield fittings from grave 248, 27; range of board thicknesses at, 48; shield boss of Germanic type from cemetery II, 19
Multivariate analysis, of shield bosses from Upper Thames region: data and method, 4–5; results assessed, 5–6
Nassington (Northants), Group 4 shield boss from, 19
Niederstotzingen (Germany), leather padding inside shield boss from, 33; meanings of setting of board studs from, 61; woods used for shields from, 50
Nydam (Denmark), wooden shield handle from bog deposit at, 35, 38; possibly without iron grip, 36
Oberflacht (Germany), shield board from waterlogged Alamannic cemetery at, 46, 50
Organic materials: possibly used for shield grips, 36; see also Leather; Wood
Orpington (Kent), iron shield grips from, 25, 26; grave 3: function of board studs in, considered, 53; grave 25: unique bronze grip from, 27, 36, 50; grave 26: bronze shield fittings from, 28, 52, 60; grave 37: boss and grip from, showing off-centre position, 42; grave 42: construction of shield considered, 31, 32–3
Oxford (Oxon.), cemetery II, Group 4 shield boss from, 17, 18
Petersfinger (Wilts.), grips from cemetery at, 42; grave 3, shield board from, not laminated, 50; grave 7, Group 3 shield boss from, 16; grave 58, replaced board studs in, 60
Pewsey (Wilts.), range of board thicknesses from cemetery at, 48; grave 8: function of board studs from, discussed, 52–3; iron shield grip from, 25; grave 22: repaired boss from, 38; grave 34: bronze edge binding from, 28, 48; iron fitting from, 28, 52; grave 47: boss damage, 57; grip and handle construction, 38; grave 94: iron grip with leather thong, possible carrying-strap, 60
Portsdown (Hants.), cemetery I, grave 6: boss of typical manufacture for late type, 31, 32; size and date of shield, 45
Pottery: bossed and stamped bowl associated with Group 5 shield boss at Cirencester, 20
INDEX

Prittlewell (Essex), Group 3 shield boss from, 16

Repton (Derbys.): depiction of shield on Repton stone, 43, 51

Rhenen (Netherlands), repaired shield boss from, similar to English examples, 34

Richborough (Kent), two shield bosses of Germanic type from, 19, 23

Riseley (Kent), lozenge-shaped shield fitting from, misidentified, 27

Roman: Late Roman dish in Saxon grave at Long Wittenham cemetery I, 15; leather covers on Roman shields, 51; oval shields, 49; use of paint on Roman shields, 54; see also Bog deposits; Roman Iron Age Germany

Roman Iron Age Germany: importance of shield in, 61-2; boards and handles, 38; bosses, 19; size and shape, 43, 46-7

Salter, C., laboratory studies of shield bosses by, discussed, 32-4

Sarre (Kent), radial iron boards from shield in burial at, 29; 'soil impression' dubious, 45

'Saxon', regional meaning of, 3; preference in shield deposition in Saxon regions, 65

Scandinavian shields in burials, 31, 71; decoration, 54; frequency, 63-4; handles, 38; shape, 44; size, 46-7; woods used, 49-50; see also Sutton Hoo

Seaxes, associated with shield bosses, 12, 15, 21; in combination with shields in burials, 67; seax burials, 68, 70

Sewerby (Humberside), range of board thicknesses at, 48

Sleaford (Lincs.), Group 4 shield boss from, 19; unusual deposition of shields at, 65

Shield board fittings: always compatible with circular board shape, 43; association of types with shield boss groups, 29, 30; indicators of board size, 44; and thickness, 47-8; levels and meanings of display, 61; possible strap holders, 60

Bronze or iron plates and strips, 27, 28, 29, 30; function, 52, 60

Edge bindings, 27, 28, 29-30, 43, 44; use in board construction, 50, 51-2

Figural appliqués, 27, 28, 29, 30, 50, 61

Iron bands, 27, 28, 29, 30; function, 52, 61

Lozenge-shaped fittings, iron, 27, 28, 30; function, 52, 61

Non-figural mounts, 27, 28, 30, 42; associated with bosses of Group 1, 11; of Group 2, 13; of Group 3, 15; of Group 4, 17; use in repairs, 60; use in board construction, 51, 52-3

Shield board fittings: always on Repton stone, 43, 51

Studs and discs, 27, 28, 30, 42; associated with bosses of Group 1, 11; of Group 2, 13; of Group 3, 15; of Group 4, 17; use in repairs, 60; use in board construction, 51, 52-3

Spearheads, 1; in combination with shields in burials, 67; spear burials, 68, 69, 70; types, associated with shield boss groups, 11, 12; with Group 2, 13; with Group 3, 15-16; Group 4, 17, 19; Group 5, 20; Group 6, 20; Group 7, 21; Group 8, 22; chronological typology, 22-4, 71

Technology, 31-5; flange, 35; Group differences and technological progress, 34-5, 71; materials, 31; methods, 31-4, 49; padding, 35; regional differences, 35, 70; repairs, 59, 60; rivets, 35; unique boss from Stretton-on-Fosse, 62

Iron grips: classification of iron grips, 24-7; correlation with Upper Thames boss groups, 26-7; types associated with Group 1, 10-11; Group 2, 13; Group 3, 15, 16; Group 4, 17

Long grips: evidence of, for board sizes, 44, 47; for convex boards, 43-4; use of, in board construction, considered, 50-1

Technology, 35-42; attachment, 38, 41-2; chronology, 36, 38, 71; construction, 35-8; geographical distribution of handle types, unclear, 38; materials, 36, 38, 40; rivets, 42, 47, 50

Shields: changes in fighting practices, reflected in boss types, 55; and in analysis of damage and repairs, 53-60; display, levels of, 61; literary references to damage in use, 56; origins, in Continental Roman Iron Age, 43, 71; possible evidence for carrying on back, 60; reconstruction, 47, 71, 72; 83; reflection of social and political change, 71-2; symbolism, 61-2, 69; terminology of component parts, 1, 3

Shield burials: Anglo-Saxon shields in inhumations only, 63; deposition of shield, 63-7; deposition pattern, 63; exceptions to one-per-grave rule, 63; frequency statistics and chronology, 63, 68, 70; local and regional variation, 65-7, 69-70, 72; ritual damage, unlikely, 56, 64-5; shield and weapon combinations, 67-8; and correlations with age groups, 68-9; token of adult male status, 69

Snell's Corner (Hants.), range of board thicknesses at, 48

Snodland (Kent), Group 4 shield boss from, 19; unusual deposition of shields at, 65

Snedens Corner (Essex), Group 3 shield boss from, 16

Stretton-on-Fosse, 62

Sutton Hoo Technology, 35-42; attachment, 38, 41-2; chronology, 36, 38, 71; construction, 35-8; geographical distribution of handle types, unclear, 38; materials, 36, 38, 40; rivets, 42, 47, 50

Spong Hill (Norfolk), date of chamber graves at, considered, 12; inhumation 3f: figural appliqué shield fitting from, 28; shield in, probably not ritually damaged, 64
Sporle (Norfolk), construction of shield board from, considered, 51
Stansfeld, E., study of manufacture of shield bosses by, discussed, 31-2
Stretton-on-Fosse (Warwicks.), cemetery II: grave 38, Group 4 boss from, 19; grave 88, anomalous burial with unique shield, described, 62; and iron shield grip, 25, 26, 62. Range of board thicknesses at, 48
Strood (Kent), cemetery I: grave 3, Group 3 boss from, 15
Sutton Courtenay (Oxon.), cemetery II, shield boss from, 23
Sutton Hoo (Suffolk), shield from mound I at: appearance, showing status, 61; board construction, 50; and timber used, 48; board shape and size, 44, 45, 50; boss, 16; carrying mechanism, 60, 61; decorative gilt bronze bosses or studs, 53, 61; edge binding, 29, 48, 52; gilt bronze ‘ring’, 29, 61; grip with zoomorphic terminals, 26; and complicated attachment, 42; handle construction, Scandinavian parallels for, 38; leather cover, 51
Swaffham (Norfolk), shield boss from grave 18, 22, 64
Swanton, M.J., spearhead types identified by, associated with shield boss groups, 1, 11-22
Swords, I; associations with defined groups of shield bosses, 12, 20, 22; in combination with shields in burials, 67; sword burials, 68, 70; sword stud, 21
Tacitus, on colours of shields, cited, 54; on round shield of Germanic tribes, 43; on symbolic importance of shields, 61-2, 69; on use of shields, 55
Taplow (Bucks.), shield bosses in barrow at, 20, 23, 63
Thetford (Norfolk), radial iron bands with shield boss from, 28, 29
Thorsbjerg (Denmark), shield components and fittings from bog deposit at, 38, 39, 41, 50
Toddington ( Beds.), cemetery I: Group 4 shield boss from, 19
Uffington cemetery I (Oxon.): Group 3 shield boss in grave 4, 14
Valkenburg (Netherlands), goatskin covers on Roman auxiliary shields from, 51
Valsgärde (Sweden), shields from graves 6 and 8 at, 38, 42, 49, 50; leather cover on, 51; more than one shield per grave at, 63-4
Vendel (Sweden), shields depicted on helmet plates from, 55, 56, 60; more than one shield per grave at, 63-4
Vimose (Denmark), complete shield handle from, 38; possible shield grip made of bone from bog at, 36
Wakerley (Northants), cemetery I: grave 4, 56, twisted strings on shield grip from, 36; grave 79, spare grip on shield from, 59. Range of board thicknesses at, 48
Wallingford (Oxon.), shield boss from grave 22, 11
Waltharius Poem, descriptions of shield construction in, 50, 51, 54; descriptions of shield use in, 55, 56, 60
Wanborough (Wilts.), Group 8 shield boss from, 22
Warren Hill (Suffolk), exceptional presence of more than one shield per grave in barrow cemetery at, 63
Westgarth Gardens (Suffolk), deposition patterns of shields at, 63, 68; grave 41, board remains under boss from, 41; non-figural mounts from, 28, 29, 60; grave 49, repaired or refitted boss from, 59; grave 50, child with small shield in, 45, 68; grave 60, function of board studs from, and possibly from grave 23, discussed, 53; grave 62, stain of shield in, 43; grave 66, oversized grip from, 59
Westminster Abbey, Late Saxon wooden door in, 51
West Overton (Wilts.), shield from barrow 6b at, 60
Wheatley (Oxon.), Group 8 shield boss from, 21, 22; long shield-grip from, 16, 17
Winterbourne Gunner (Wilts.), iron shield grip and wood handle from grave IV at, 25, 38, 41, 58-9
Wood: types used in shield construction, 36, 38, 40, 48-50; see also Shield boards
Worthy Park (Hants.), grave 22, lozenge-shaped shield fitting from, 28, 52; grave 35: boss in, possibly buried without board, 60; grave 49, Group 3 boss from, 15; grave 67, boss and spearhead from, 19. Range of board thicknesses at, 48
Yarnton (Oxon.), grave I: date considered, 12; shield boss from, 11, 12

EARLY ANGLO-SAXON SHIELDS