

THE FINDS FROM LA TÈNE IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM: LA TÈNE, UN SITE, UN MYTHE 6

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APPENDIX SM1

CATALOGUE OF THE FINDS FROM LA TÈNE IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM

INTRODUCTION

Paul Vouga listed fifteen objects in his summary listing that accompanied his account of the finds diaspora (Vouga 1923, 28), yet there are at least sixteen objects from La Tène in the British Museum. The difference is accounted for by the scabbard bridge fragment (no. 5), which was formerly attached to scabbard no. 3 but which is now separate, having been accessioned separately. Vouga states that Reginald Smith sent information about the finds in the museum, though he seems to have used a list prepared by Franks at some point between 1880–96 and which is now in Neuchâtel Museum (Reginelli-Servais *et al* 2011, Laténium, LAT-A-MAR-LT-A-0065-4662; fig SM1), as Vouga's description of the sickle (no. 16) as a key ('*clef en fer*') repeats the phrase used by Franks.

De Navarro stated that there were seventeen finds (de Navarro 1972, 10–11), and this was based on ascribing all six of the iron objects donated by Desor in 1867 to the site. However, only four of these objects were accessioned as being from La Tène (Department of Britain, Europe and Prehistory 1867, 0701.1–4 = nos 1–2, 11 and 13 here) and, as Franks did not attribute them to the site in the list he sent to Neuchâtel, it seems certain that they are not from the site (*see* Appendix SM2).

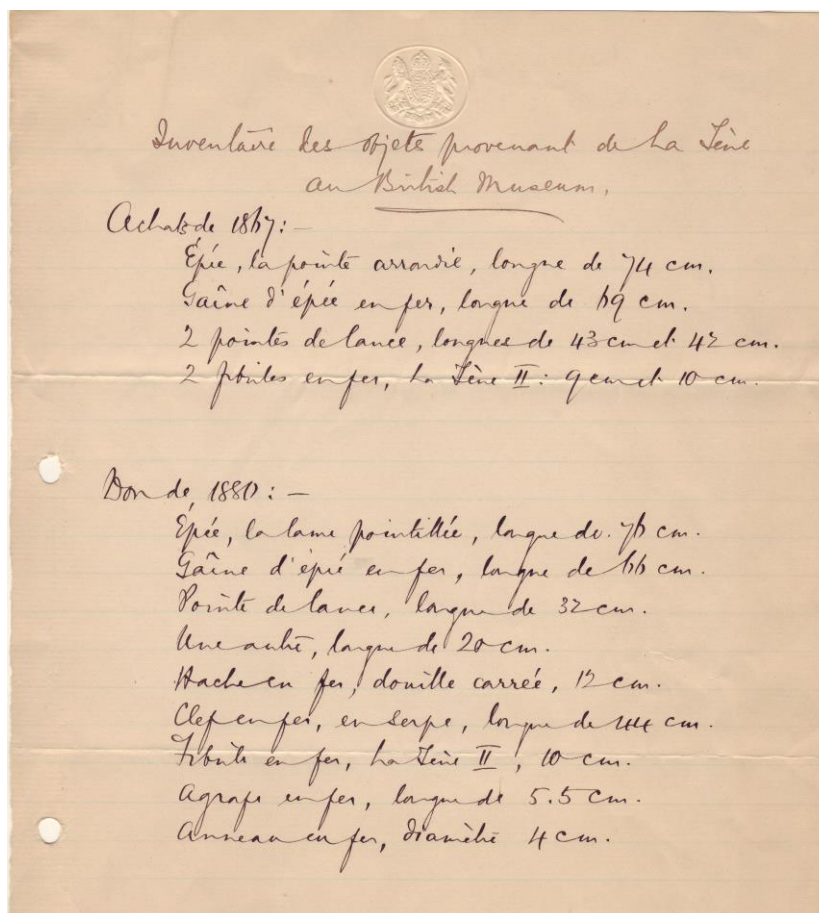


Fig SM1. List compiled by Augustus Franks of the finds from La Tène in the British Museum. Reproduced by courtesy of Laténium.

WEAPONS AND ARMOUR

OBJECT 1. Scabbard (Department of Britain, Europe and Prehistory 67, 0701. 2)

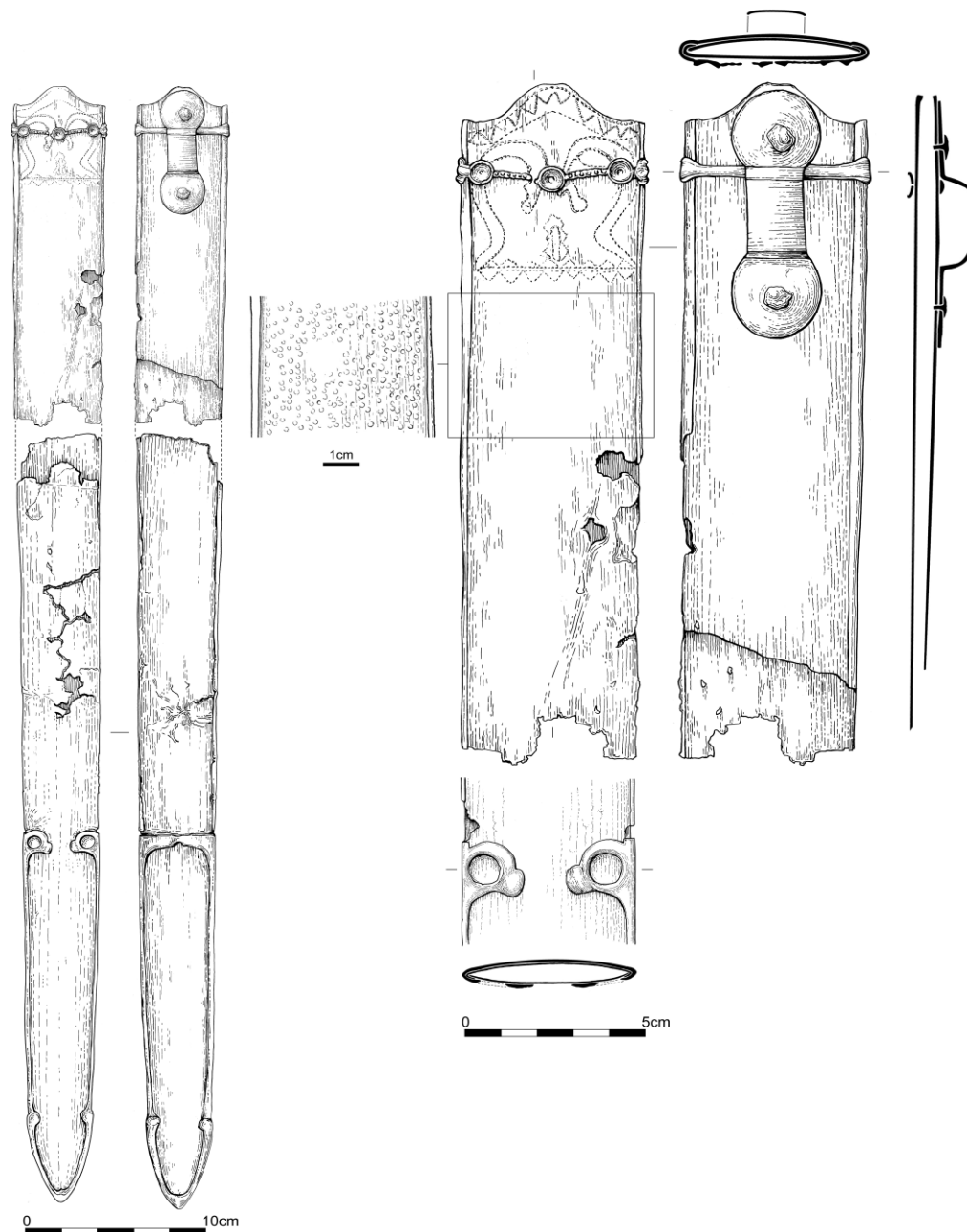


Fig SM2. Scabbard from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 1. Drawn by Craig Williams.

Description

An iron scabbard, the front plate of which is now in two pieces. The decoration on its face was published by Keller in his sixth *Pfahlbauten* report (Keller 1866a, pl lxxv, 4; Keller 1866b, Taf xi, 11) (see fig SM3, 11) and has been published many times subsequently, most comprehensively by de Navarro (de Navarro 1959, 86, n. 14, 102, 104, 106, Taf 4,1; 17, 1; de Navarro 1972, 219–20, 223, 366–7, no 12; pl vii, 3a–b; lxxvi, 1; xcv, 11).

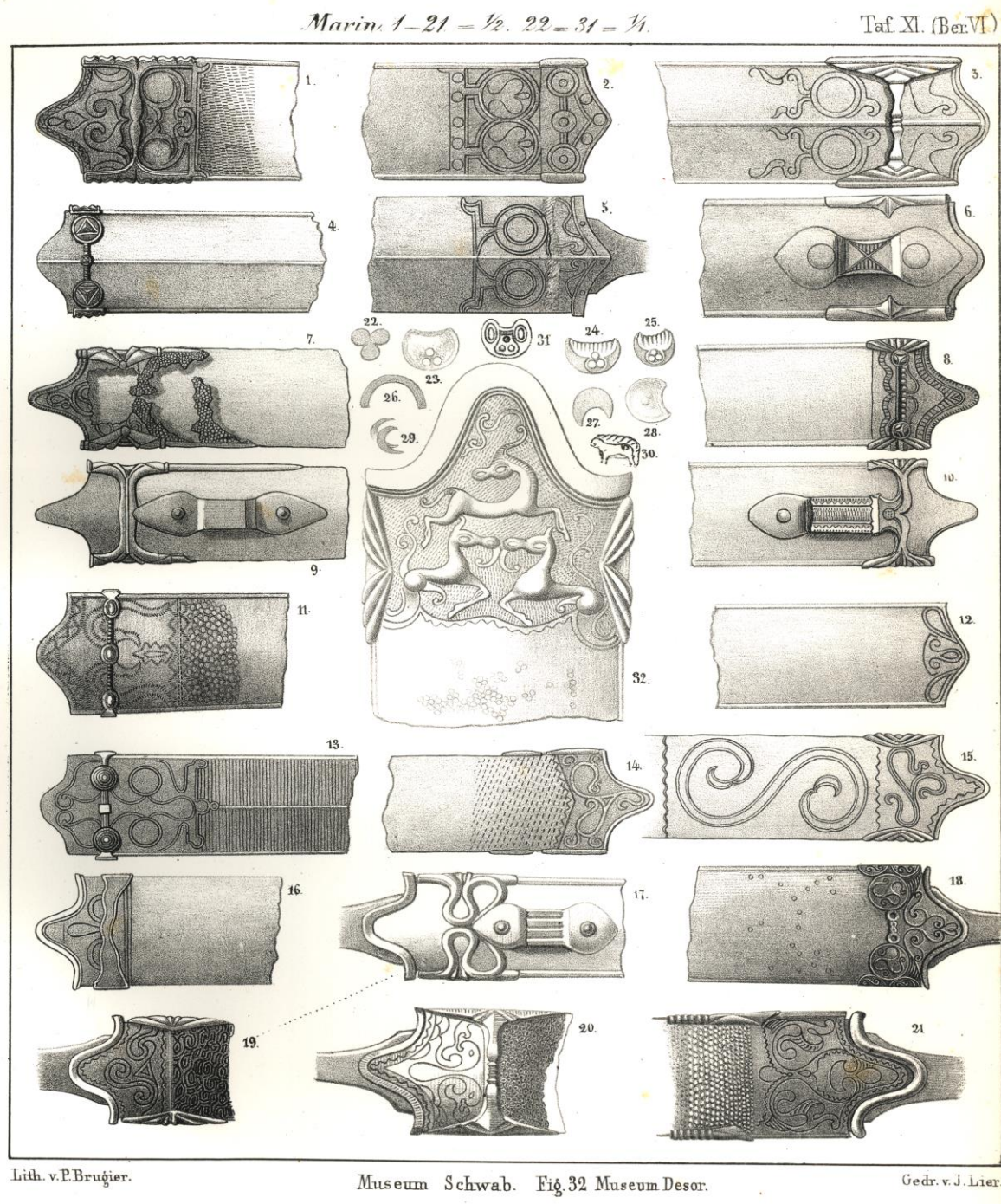


Fig SM3. Decorated scabbards and sword stamps from La Tène published by Keller (1866b). Note that scabbard cat. no. 1 is illustrated in Keller (1866b) as no. 11.

The scabbard has a low campanulate mouth and a long, leaf-shaped chape. The clamps that fix the upper end of the chape to the scabbard on the back of the scabbard are of the so-called 'bird-head' variety. The loop plate for retaining the sword belt has round loop plates that are fixed by rivets and the bridge passes over the ferrule, which strengthens the top of the scabbard. The ferrule has three scyphate discs on the front, each of which has a small hole for retaining either inlays (probably of enamel or coral) or ornamental rivets. The ferrule runs across a decorative panel containing what is probably a dragon pair between which there is a foliate motif, possibly a debased palmette. The upper and lower borders of the panel are decorated with wavy lines, the upper one of which is framed by

two lines. These elements are all in tremolo lines. Below this panel, the front of the scabbard is decorated with *chagrinage* (punched decoration).

If the opposed beasts are a dragon pair – and de Navarro initially did not think that they were (for example, de Navarro 1959, 102, 104, 106) – they are of his Type II (de Navarro 1972, 219, 366), where he considers the creatures represented may be birds, though Ginoux omits the piece from her comprehensive survey (Ginoux 2007).

Length: 682mm.

Width: 523mm.

As well as the break, which is below 180–90mm from the mouth, the scabbard is also bent *c* 60mm above the chape clamp. In Lejars' terminology, it is a Type 2.1b scabbard (Lejars 2013, 92–112, fig 77–9).

Comments

Although de Navarro stated that this scabbard was given to Franks by Schwab (de Navarro 1972, 366–7, no. 12), the museum's Accession Register (67, 7-1, 2) attributes the gift to Desor, and this is consistent with Frank's account of Desor having given a fine and well-preserved sword and scabbard to the museum (Franks 1868, 129–30). Keller stated that the swords he illustrated were chiefly, but not exclusively, in the collection of Schwab, though he mentions only the one with the leaping stags as belonging to Desor, and the source of the illustration seems to be a watercolour, perhaps by Louis Favre, now in the Staatsarchiv des Kantons Zürich (StAZH); W I 3 400.2: no. 1336 (MVI, 36) (*see* fig 21a of main paper).

OBJECT 2. Sword (1867, 0701.1)*Description*

Iron sword with curving shoulders, a pronounced mid-rib and a rounded tip. There is a disc button on the end of the handle tang. The blade is damaged about three-quarters of the way down, and there are notches that may represent deliberate damage on the opposite site.

Total length: 773mm (blade: 628mm; hilt: 138 mm).
Width: 38.5mm.

Comments

De Navarro did not associate a sword with the scabbard as he believed that the scabbard had been given by Schwab (above). However, as Franks stated that Desor gave a sword and scabbard, it must have been this one.

Metallurgical analysis

The sword was sectioned in the British Museum research laboratory by Janet Lang, whose published text is given below:

This sword shows no signs of any welds and the structure is mainly fine grained with pearl and ferrite throughout most of the section, with the carbon content increasing towards the cutting edge, being concentrated in bands. Hot working took place after heating to above 800°C, but there was no cold working. The finished sword was probably not carburised. Hardness: the cutting edge was hard (426 HV) while the rest of the section was above 210 HV, averaging 270 HV. (Lang 1987, 71)

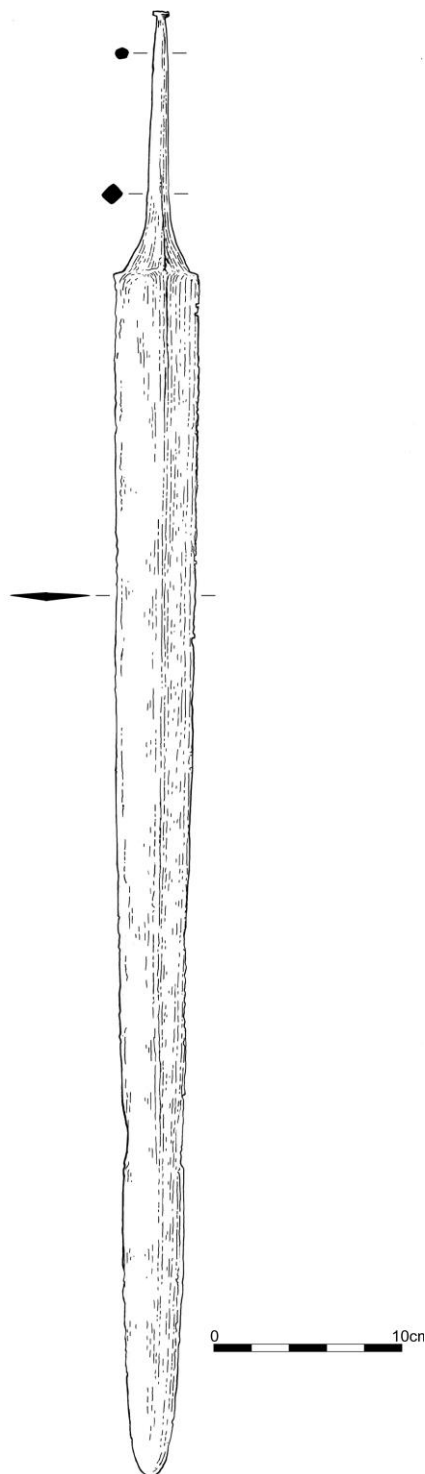


Fig SM4. Sword from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 2.
Drawn by Craig Williams.

OBJECT 3. Scabbard (80, 1214. 3 & 80, 1214.3b)*Description*

An iron scabbard, from which its sword (no. 4) has been removed. The scabbard has a low, curving mouth (sub-campanulate). Most of the chape is missing, but enough survives to show that it would have been leaf-shaped. Traces of the clamps are preserved in the corrosion products and it is possible that they were of the bird-head variety.

On the front, but on one side only, there is also a mark that might also be from a clamp, though it would be unusual (albeit not unknown) for there to be clamps on both the front and back (de Navarro

1972, 30, 175, 214, 424, pl li). The loop plate pointed ends are fixed by rivets. The reinforce on the front, which appears as if it is made of four conical elements, has two conical roundels at each end (de Navarro 1972, 424–5, no 109, pl xlvi, 1, a–c; li). A small fragment of the scabbard has become detached (de Navarro 1972, 80, 1214. 3b) (not illustrated).

De Navarro did not believe that the chape bridge (that is, the top of the bridge) that was once fixed to the scabbard (no. 5 below; de Navarro 1972, 424, pl xcix, 6) belonged to the scabbard, as it is narrower than the scabbard at the point where there are marks of a clamp. As the impressions in the corrosion products were formed while the scabbard was in its archaeological context, this would suggest that the bridge was fixed to the scabbard after it was recovered rather than representing an ancient repair.

Length: 658mm.
Width: 444mm.

The scabbard is slightly bent about two-thirds of the way down, though de Navarro did not think that this was intentional (de Navarro 1972, 424). As most of the chape is missing, it cannot be categorised in Lejars' terminology more closely than as a Type 2.1 (Lejars 2013, 92–112, fig 77–9).

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

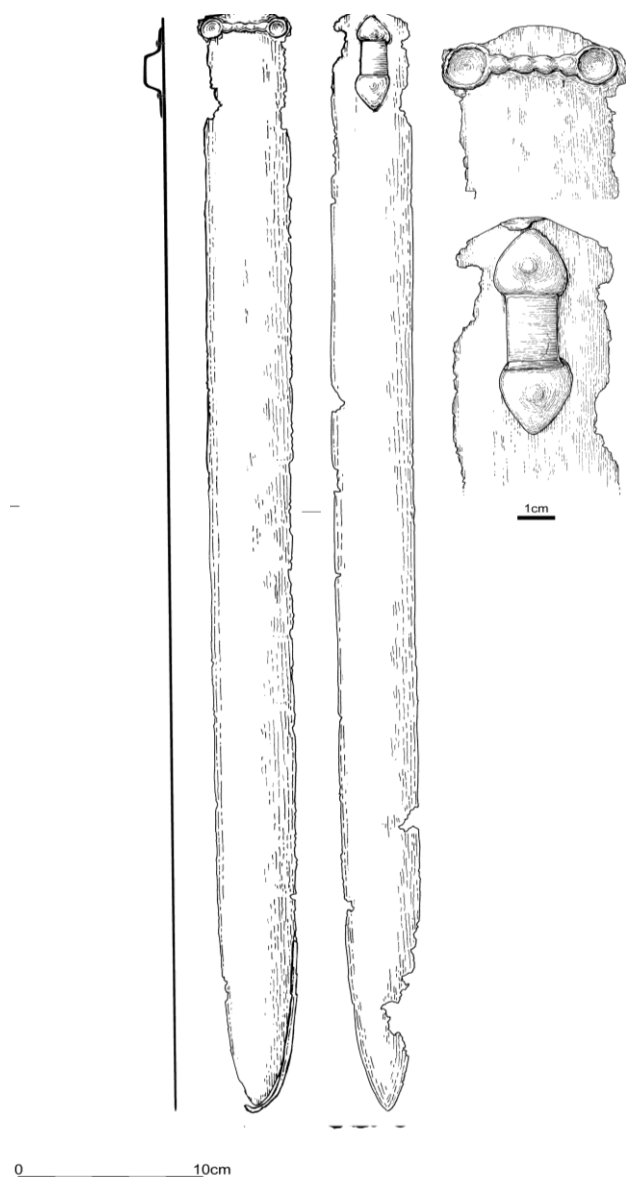


Fig SM5. Scabbard from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 3. Drawn by Craig Williams.

OBJECT 4. Sword (80, 1214. 2)*Description*

Iron sword with stepped shoulders and a pronounced mid-rib. The tip of the blade is sharp. The disc button is missing from the end of the handle tang, which is slightly bent. The full lengths of both sides of the blade are decorated over on both sides with circular punch marks. Although de Navarro was uncertain whether this was due to corrosion, such decoration has been noted subsequently on a small number of other swords from La Tène. It is slightly bent about two-thirds of the way down and there is some blade edge damage on one side in the lower third (de Navarro 1972, 424–5, no 109a, pl xlvi; 1c–2).

Total length: 756mm (blade: 628mm; hilt: 128mm).

Width: 43mm.

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

Metallurgical analysis

The sword was sectioned and chemically analysed in the British Museum research laboratory by Janet Lang, whose published text is repeated below:

Analysis Ni 0.035%, Mn 0.025%, P 0.17%

The blade surface, on either side of the rib, was decorated with dots. The sword had an edge to edge structure with bands of phosphorous rich material running across the section. Grain size was large (1.2 mm average diameter of some of the larger grains). The structure was almost entirely ferritic with a little cementite at the grain boundaries. Hot working had taken place after heating to about 800°C, while Neumann bands showed that the sword had been finally cold worked.

Hardness: this was a maximum of 318 HV near the cutting edge, and the surfaces were 279 and 287 HV while the rest of the section was between 250–220 HV. (Lang 1987, 71)

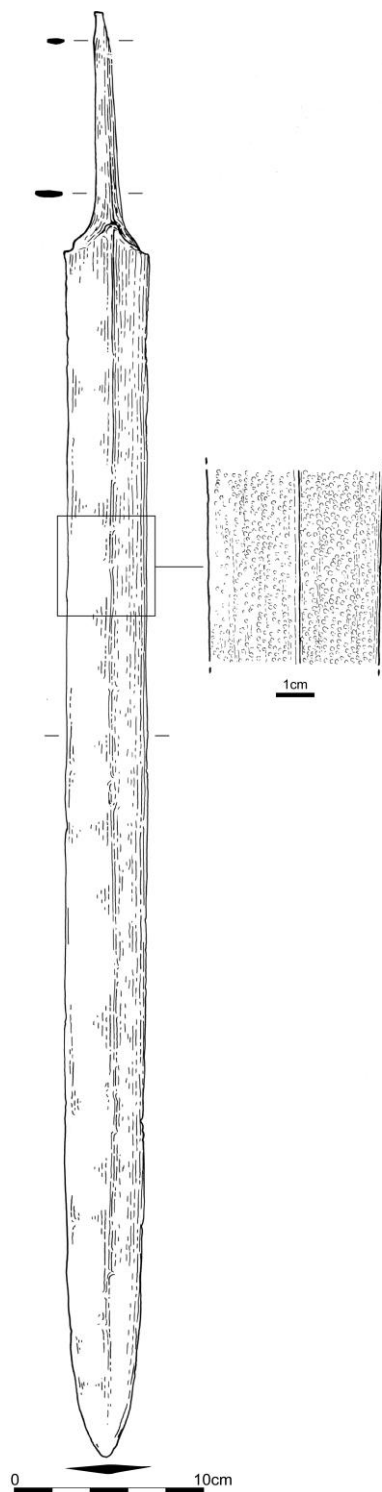


Fig SM6. Sword from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 4.
Drawn by Craig Williams.

OBJECT 5. Scabbard chape (80, 1214.3a)*Description*

Part of a straight chape clamp of iron, one of whose rings is broken. At one time this was mounted on scabbard 3, to which it seems not to belong, though there is no reason to doubt that the object is from La Tène (de Navarro 1972, 424, pl xcix, 6). The clamp is from a Type 2.1.b scabbard in Lejar's terminology (Lejars 2013, 92–112, fig 77–9).

Width: 40mm.

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

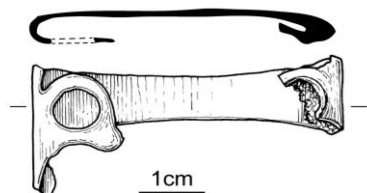


Fig SM7. Scabbard chape from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 5. Drawn by Craig Williams.

OBJECT 6. Belt hook (80, 1214.9)*Description*

A simple angular-sectioned iron ring with a moulded arm that is slightly bent upwards. The upturned hook has a slightly domed terminal. Probably from a sword belt or baldric.

Length: 53mm.

Diameter of ring: 32mm.

Thickness of ring: 6mm.

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

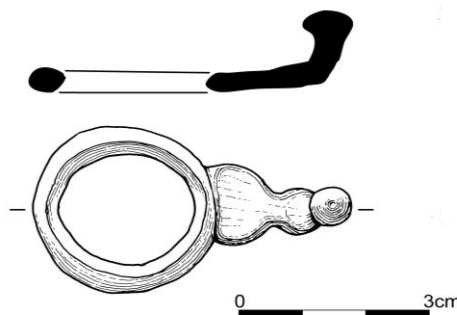


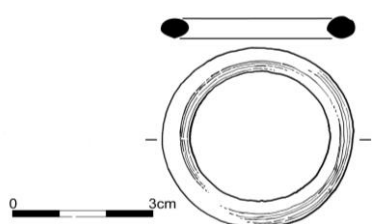
Fig SM8. Belt hook from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 6. Drawn by Craig Williams.

Comments

There are many similar pieces from La Tène (example, Vouga 1923, 48, pl viii, 27; Lejars 2013, 122–7, form 1A, pl 68 and 156, 3037–46; Müller and Stapfer 2013, 41–2, Taf 7, 20–2).

OBJECT 7. Ring (80, 1214.10)*Description*

A plain iron ring with an angular section. Probably a scabbard suspension loop or similar.



Diameter: 41mm.

Thickness: 5mm.

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

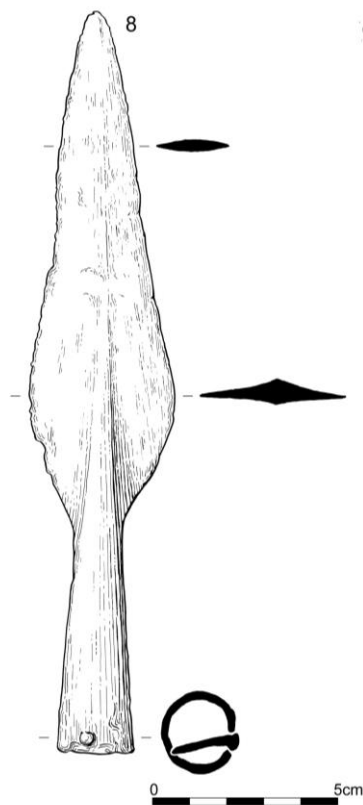
Comments

Compare with Vouga 1923, 117, 168, pl xlvi, 16; Lejars 2013, 134–41, group 6, pl 64; Müller and Stapfer 2013, 44, Taf 8, 1–7.

Fig SM9. Ring from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 7. Drawn by Craig Williams.

OBJECT 8. Spear (80, 1214.5)*Description*

Short angular iron spearhead with a pronounced mid-rib. The fixing rivet is still in place. A throwing spear (or 'javelot', in Lejars' terminology).



Overall length: 198mm (length of socket: 58mm).
Maximum width of blade: 40mm.

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

Comments

Comparable finds are illustrated by Vouga 1923, 53, pl xiii, 6 and 56, pl xiv, 7; Lejars 2013, 152, 155–6, group vi, a, for example, pl 44 and 142, 2837.

Fig SM10. Spearhead from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 8. Drawn by Craig Williams

OBJECT 9. Spear (80, 1214.4)*Description*

Long iron spearhead or lance with curving blades, a pronounced mid-rib, and a long socket that still has two rivets in place. This form is particularly well-represented at La Tène.

Overall length: 319mm (length of socket: 95mm).
Maximum width of blade: 31mm.

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

Comments

Very similar to one depicted in a watercolour; StAZH, W13 400.2: no 1318 (MVI, 12). Comparable finds are illustrated by Vouga 1923, 50, pl x, 1–9. Lejars 2013, 152, group e, ii, c, pl 35–6 and 138; Müller and Stapfer 2013, 45, Taf 9, 52–3.

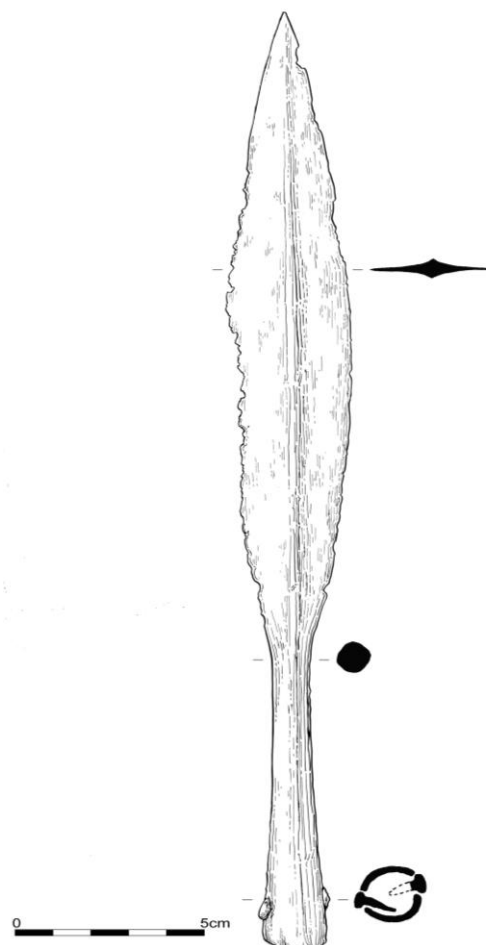
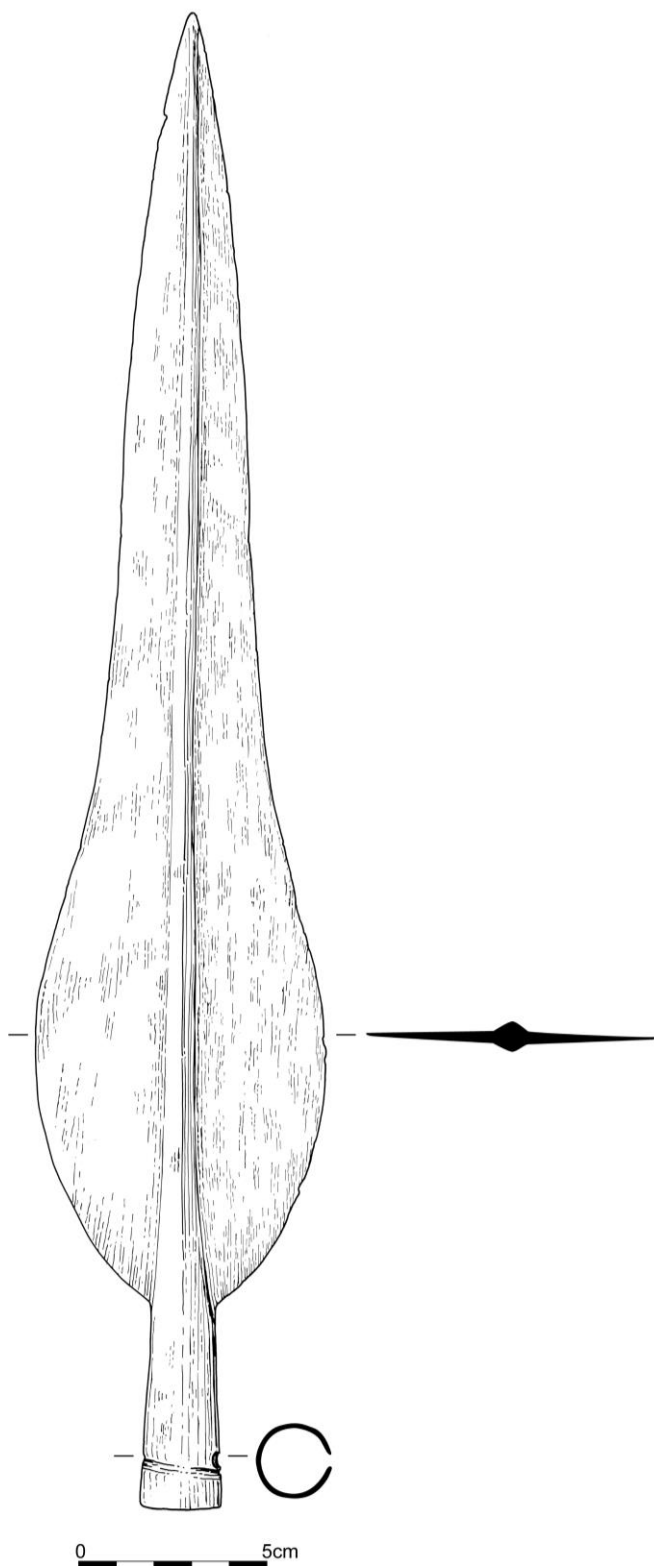


Fig SM11. Spearhead from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 9. Drawn by Craig Williams.

OBJECT 10. Spear (67, 0702.1)*Description*

Long, iron, leaf-shaped spearhead with a biconvex blade and a pronounced mid-rib and a short socket. The rivet is missing from the socket.



Overall length: 419mm (length of socket: 56mm).

Maximum width of blade: 83mm.

Donated by Friedrich Schwab in 1867.

Comments

The weapon is also very similar to one illustrated in a watercolour; StAZH, W13 400.2: no 1321 (MVI, 15) (see fig 23 of the main paper) and ones that were in Schwab's collection and which were illustrated by Keller and are now in Neuchâtel (Lejars 2013, 72, fig 49; Keller 1866a, 416, Taf lxxvii, 2; 866b, Taf xii, 2).

Comparable examples are in Lejars' groupe v, c, though these are not as curvilinear in profile (Lejars 2013, 154–5; also, compare with Vouga 1923, 49–50, pl ix, 10, 12).

Fig SM12. Spearhead from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 10. Drawn by Craig Williams

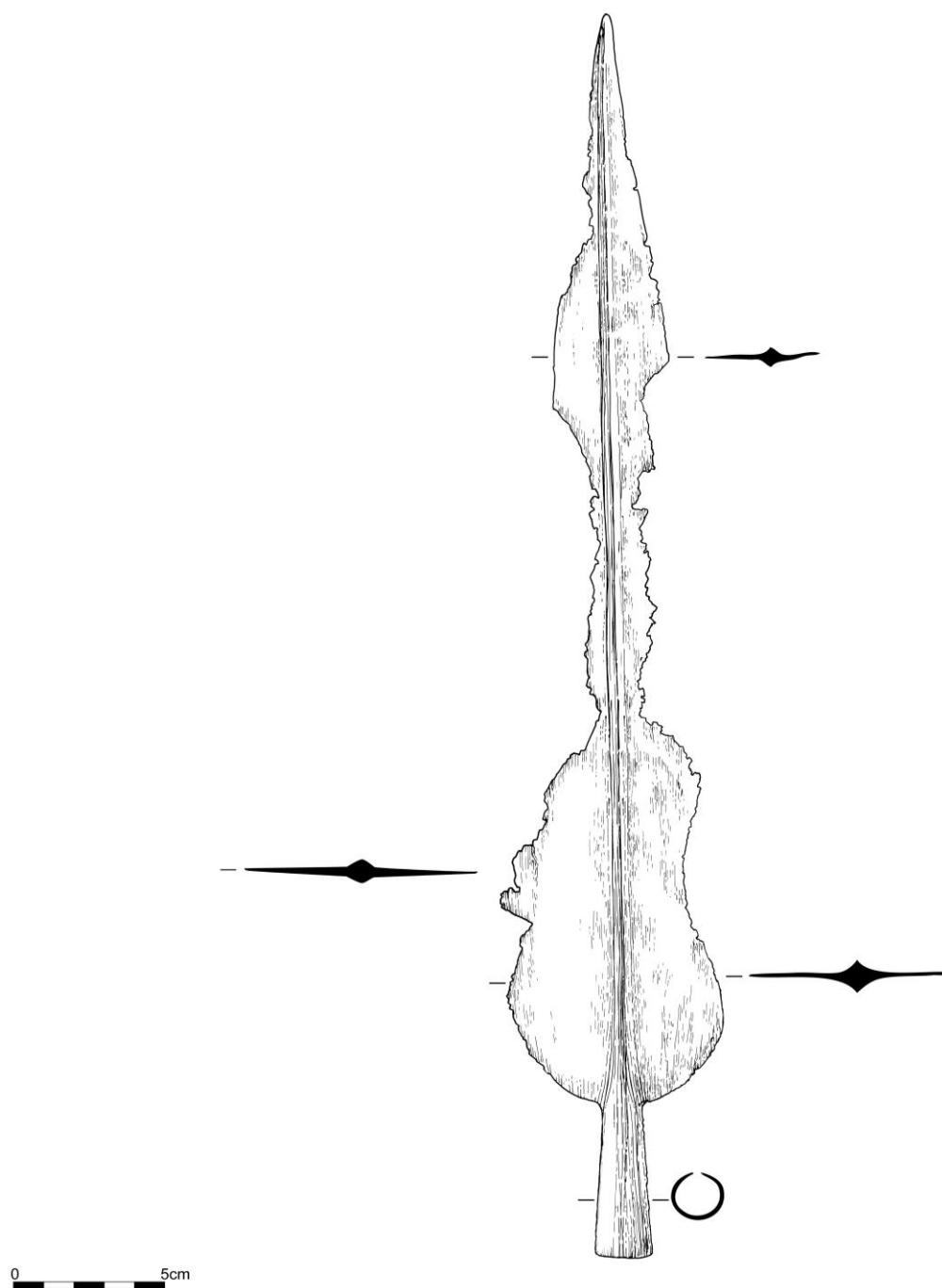
OBJECT 11. Spear (67, 0701.3)

Fig SM13. Spearhead from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 11. Drawn by Craig Williams.

Description

Long asymmetrical or 'wavy' iron spearhead or standard with a pronounced mid-rib and a short socket. The rivet is missing from the socket. There are two slight bends in the upper part of the blade and it is possible that the blade has been straightened at some time.

Overall length: 426mm (length of socket: 51mm). Maximum width of blade: 62mm.

Donated by Edouard Desor in 1867.

Comments

This weapon appears to be a genuine 'wavy' spearhead rather than a damaged symmetrical one.

Its size suggests that it is a standard as much as a weapon.

It was illustrated by M Favre Guillarmod in one of her aquatints (*Laténium*, LAT-A-MAR-LT-D-0001.0116; fig 22 in main paper; Reginelli Servais 2007).

These distinctive objects are relatively common at La Tène (Vouga 1923, 51, pl xi, 2; xii, 3–5; Lejars 2013, 154, groupe v, c; pl 45, 2842; 46, 2843; pl 143, 2842–3).

OBJECT 12. Brooch (67, 0701.4)*Description*

A pseudo La Tène II iron wire brooch with six springs and an external chord. The foot return is clasped to the bow high up by a collar. The tip of the pin is missing.

Length: 87mm.

Donated by Edouard Desor in 1867.

Comments

For comparable finds, see Vouga 1923, 65, 161, pl xx, 24 is related; Lejars 2013, 192, *classe* 1, *variante* 1321, pl 77 and 159, 3228; Müller and Stapfer 2013, 50–1, Taf 15, 85.

The brooch belongs to Gebhard's group 17 (Gebhard 1991, 18, Gruppe 17, Abb 6, 17a).

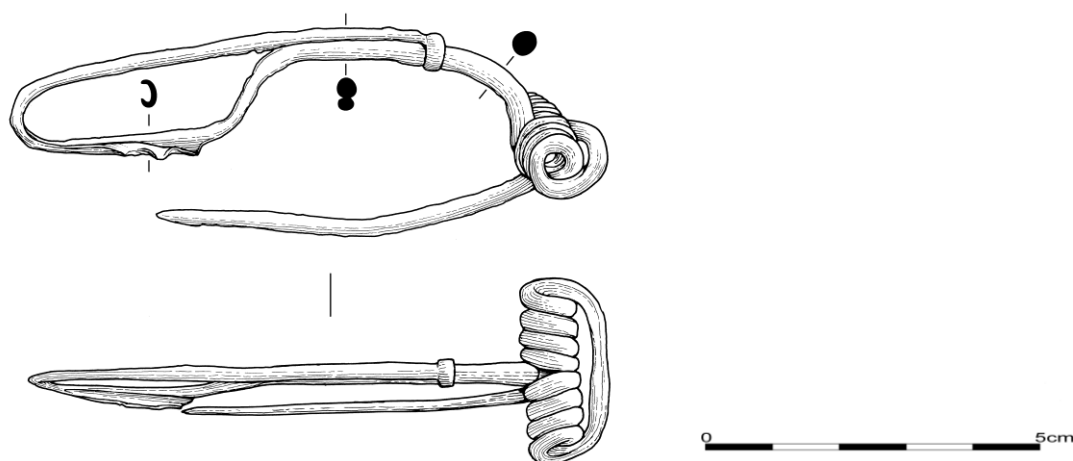


Fig SM14. Brooch from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 12. Drawn by Craig Williams.

OBJECT 13. Brooch (80, 1214.8)*Description*

A pseudo La Tène II iron wire brooch with four springs and an external chord. On the foot there is a boss, which is bordered by incised lines with simple mouldings either side of it. The foot return is clasped to the bow high up by a collar. The pin is complete and is now in a closed position resting inside the catch-plate. The illustration in the 1905 *Guide to the Antiquities of the Early Iron Age* shows the brooch open (Smith 1905, fig 38). The spring is damaged so that on one side one of the two springs has been pushed across to the opposite side and the other spring has been pulled outwards and out of shape. This damage has also been 'repaired' in relation to the 1905 illustration.

Lejars suggests (Lejars 2013, fig 52) that this is the brooch illustrated by Keller in 1858 (Taf iii, 28), but *that* brooch has a boss on the return and on the foot, whereas this example has only one boss – that on the bow.

Length: 98mm.

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

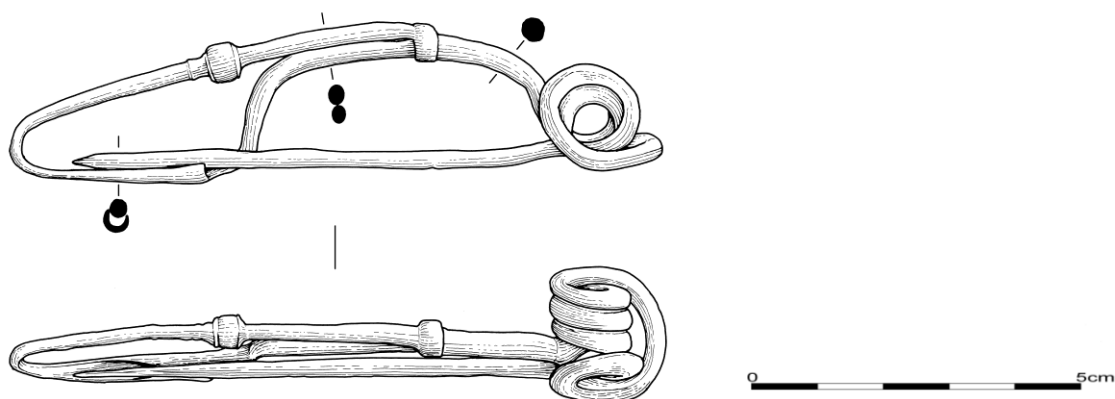


Fig SM15. Brooch from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 13. Drawn by Craig Williams.

Comments

For comparable finds see Lejars 2013, *classe 3, variante 3323*; for example, pl 81 and 161, 3263; Müller and Stapfer 2013, 53, Taf 17, 97.

The brooch belongs to Gebhard's group 21 (Gebhard 1991, 21, Gruppe 21, Abb 7, 21a).

OBJECT 14. Brooch (67, 0702.2)*Description*

A La Tène II, iron wire brooch, with two large springs and an external chord. The foot return is clasped to the bow high up by a collar. The pin is complete and in the catch-plate.

Length: 95mm.

Donated by Friedrich Schwab in 1867.

Comments

For comparable finds, see Vouga 1923, 65, 161, pl xx, 9; Lejars 2013, 192, *classe* 1, *variante* 1420, pl 78 and 160, 3236–9; Müller and Stapfer 2013, 49–50, Taf 15, 79.

The brooch belongs to Gebhard's group 13a (Gebhard 1991, 15, Gruppe 13a, Abb 5, 13a).

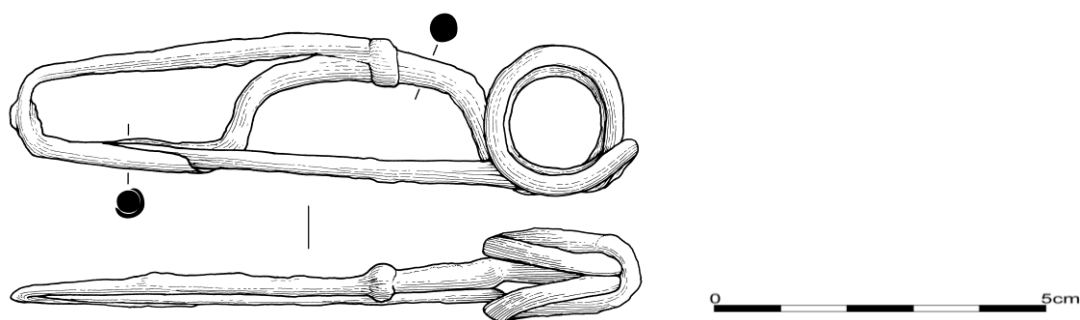


Fig SM16. Brooch from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 14. Drawn by Craig Williams.

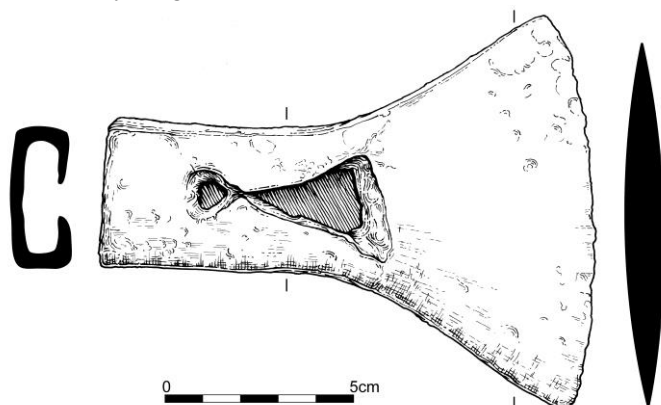
OBJECT 15. Axe (80, 1214.6)*Description*

An iron socketed axe, partly open on one side where it has been forged over. The socket for the wooden handle is square. There are mineral-replaced remains in the socket.

Length: 112mm.

Maximum width of blade: 93mm (width of socket: 35mm).

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

*Comments*

For similar finds, see Vouga 1923, 110, 166, pl xliii, 3–4; Lejars 2013, 236–9, pl 48–9 and 145, 2855–8; Müller and Stapfer 2013, 55, Taf 19, 112–13.

Fig SM17. Axe from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 15. Drawn by Craig Williams

OBJECT 16. Sickle (80, 1214.7)*Description*

Complete iron sickle that would have had a handle of wood or horn. It is made from a rectangular-sectioned rod with a cutting edge. Well-preserved incised teeth survive in the lower part of the blade.

Length: 445mm (length of tang: 102mm).

Donated by Augustus Franks in 1880.

Lejars suggests that this sickle is from Greng rather than La Tène (Lejars 2013, 80, doc 53; StAZH, W13 400.2). However, while the Greng example is similar, the stem between the handle and the blade is shorter and more curved and its tip is not as long as that on the example in the British Museum.

Comments

Vouga illustrates a very similar example from La Tène (Vouga 1923, 75–6, 163, pl xxiv, 3; compare with Jacobi 1974, 78–80, Abb 23) and there are other similar examples from Port de Joessant (Schwab 1990, 219–27, fig 13, c; 14, a). Somewhat contrarily, Nillesse and Buchsenschutz do not include the finds from La Tène (Lejars 2013, 235–6) in their assessment of Iron Age sickles (Nillesse and Buchsenschutz 2009, 164).

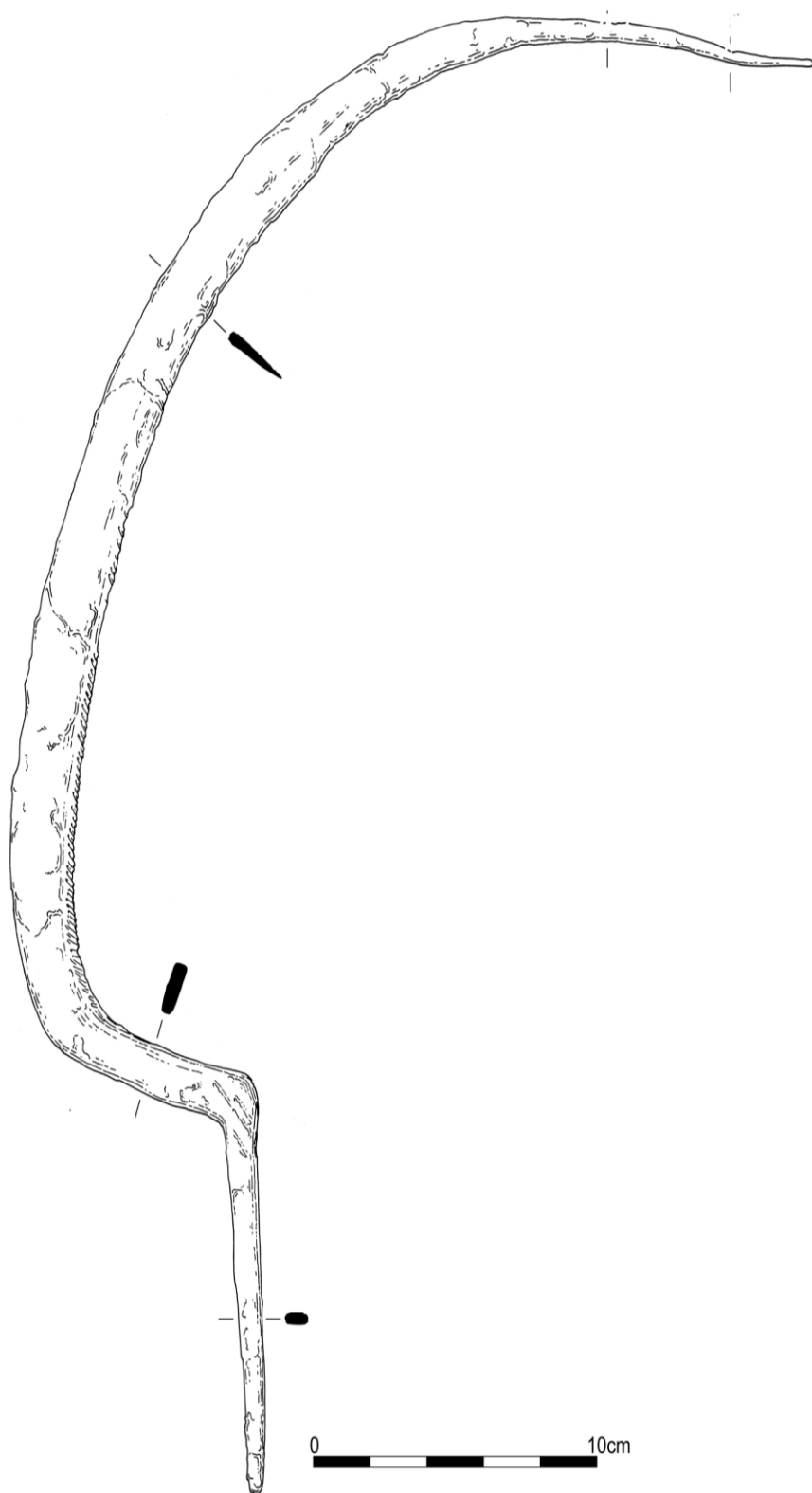


Fig SM18. Sickle from La Tène in the British Museum, cat. no. 16. Drawn by Craig Williams

OBJECTS FROM LA TÈNE PROBABLY OF LATER DATE

OBJECT 1. Chain mail (95, 0909.1)

This group of chain mail loops has diameters of *c* 55mm. As the loops of Iron Age chain mail are much smaller (compare with Hansen 2003, 30, Abb 9), this group is likely to be medieval or later in date.

Franks acquired the find from the well-known German collector Richard Zschille (1847–1903), who had, among his many interests, a passion for arms and armour. It is possible that this group was acquired after Zschille exhibited part of his collection at the World's Columbian Exhibition in Chicago in 1893.

No pieces of Iron Age body armour have certainly been found at La Tène, Although Paul Vouga illustrated three, small, diamond-shaped, iron objects that he interpreted as scale armour and repeated a report by Robert Forrer that in March 1891 '*un assez grande nombre de ces écailles*' had been found at La Tène (Vouga 1923, 57, pl. 15, 2–4), and some of these were acquired by the museums in Neuchâtel and Zürich (de Navarro 1972, 14), the objects have been identified as the heads of small nails used in caulking post-Medieval boats (Arnold 1992, 90).

Iron Age chain mail is well attested in the nearby and broadly Bern-Tiefenau *Massenfund* (Müller 1990, 50, Taf 11, 83–4) and Franks was certainly aware of this (Franks 1863, 174).

ABBREVIATIONS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abbreviations

Brit Archaeol Rep Int Ser British Archaeological Reports International Series

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APPENDIX SM2

OTHER IRON AGE OBJECTS FROM SWITZERLAND IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM

The two iron objects presented by Desor in 1867 along with the finds from La Tène are a small iron ring with ribs, *c* 20mm in diameter (Department of Britain, Europe and Prehistory 1867, 0701.7) and a large iron ferrule or spike, *c* 200mm long (Department of Britain, Europe and Prehistory Accession number 1867, 0701.5). Desor also presented a Late Bronze Age bronze pin (Accession number 1867.0701.6).

Although the accession register does not record a provenance for the spike, a label inside the socket says that it is from 'Bevaix, Steinberg, Neuenberg' [or Neuchâtel] and that it was donated by Desor. The reference to Steinberg is not clear – the stones at Zone 1 at La Tène were described as a 'Steinberg' (Lejars 2013, 419) – but there seems no reason to doubt the Bevaix provenance. Bevaix is on Lake Neuchâtel and Colonel Schwab had Iron Age finds that were fished from there in his collection (Keller 1866, Taf vii, 14; x, 6; compare with Lejars 2013, 343). A comparable spike is known from La Tène, its date is unknown (Müller and Stapfer 2013, 23, 57, Taf 8, 33–7; 21, G).

The British Museum Accession Register only gives the provenance of the ring and the pin as 'Switzerland', but it is probable that they are also from sites on Lake Neuchâtel. The ring is a sword ring of a type well known in western Switzerland, including La Tène (Lejars 2013, 136–7, group 2, pl 65; Müller and Stapfer 2013, 43, no. 33–7, Taf 8, 33–7). Although less well known in comparison to the mass deposits of weapons, small numbers of Iron Age weapons and other metal objects are known from watery contexts at several lakeside sites (*see* above; for example, Lejars 2013, 343–55).

Prodigious numbers of Bronze Age pins are known from lake dwellings such as Auvernier, which is only a few kilometres south of La Tène.

For this reason, there is no reason to attribute other Iron Age finds from Lake Neuchâtel to La Tène. These include a sickle, also from Auvernier donated by Franks in 1875 (accession no. Franks 1875, 1006.11), and a Nauheim brooch (accession no. Franks 94, 0727.29), which is provenanced as being from 'Lake Neuchâtel' and was donated by Augustus Franks in 1894 (Smith 1905, 44, fig 39, where it is described as being 'from a Swiss Lake-dwelling').

Other Iron Age objects from Switzerland in the British Museum include a representative sample of finds from the Berne-Tiefenau *Massenfund* that were acquired by Franks from the Berne Museum by exchange (Müller 1990), a sword and scabbard from the watery deposit at Port, and a series of finds from the Giubiasco cemetery in Tessin in the south of the country (Smith 1905, 44–5; Tori *et al* 2004; Pernet *et al* 2007).

Images of most of these objects may be found using the accession number at: www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/search.aspx (accessed 03 July 2018).

The weapon from Port is a La Tène II sword and scabbard with a boar-shaped stamp on the blade. The weapon is recorded as being from the 'River Thiéle, canton Vaud' and also 'Kanton Bern' (Department of Britain, Europe and Prehistory accession no. 1915, 0503.1), was donated by Oscar Raphael in 1915, and published by Smith in 1925 in the second edition of *A Guide to the Antiquities of the Early Iron Age*, but only with the provenance of 'Kanton Bern' (Smith 1925, 47–8, fig 47). The upper Zihl was called the Thiéle until *c* 1900. Drack (Drack 1955, 202, 228, Abb 7, 10, Taf 61, 10; 62, 10) wondered if the weapon was from the First Jura Water Correction, and this was confirmed subsequently. The British Museum Accession Register states it was 'found circ. 1890 at Port, Kt.

Bern, where [...there...] is an ancient passage across the Thielle' (Wyss *et al* 2002, 55–6, no. 69, Taf 21, 69; 22; 69; 31, 69; 34, 69; 38, 69). The weapon is one of the earlier examples from Port, dating to the end of La Tène C1 or the beginning of C2.

Oscar Charles Raphael (1874–1941) was a distinguished collector of oriental material and Honorary Curator of Oriental Art at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. He also assisted the British Museum's Department of Oriental Antiquities. He frequently donated objects to the British Museum, including prehistoric ones, and the sword was donated along with a very corroded Anglo-Saxon pattern-welded one from Herringswell, Suffolk (Accession no. Raphael 1915, 0503.2).

Raphael bequeathed his collection to the two museums (Spencer-Churchill 1941, 18, 1940–1, 14; Gray 1945). Among the objects that the British Museum acquired were a few from the Swiss lake villages.

ABBREVIATIONS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abbreviations

Brit Archaeol Rep Int Ser British Archaeological Reports International Series

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