

Shorter Notes

Note on an Unprovenanced Palstave

by C. J. Wolsey

This previously unpublished palstave is in the collection of Mr M Deans of Kincardine-on-Forth. It has been in his family since the last century and probably comes from either the Langholm or Stirling areas. It would appear to belong to the Corstorphine group defined by Coles (*PSAS*, xcvi (1963-4), 92) and attributed by him to the Caverton phase of the early Middle Bronze Age, around 1500-1300 BC. Either of the probable provenances would confirm the general east Scottish distribution of this type.

The major dimensions of the axe are as follows: length 15 cm, maximum width 67 mm, maximum height of flange 14 mm, and of septum 6 mm. It has traces of hammering along the cutting edge and one small casting bubble exists on the side not shown in the accompanying photograph (pl 22). It was extensively scratched and dented before discovery.

My thanks to Mr Malcolm Murray for the photograph and to Mr R J C Mowat for his advice and help.



Bronze palstave in private collection at Kincardine-on-Forth (3)