ANCIENT MONUMENTS LABORATORY

REPORT

1868

SERIES/No

CONSULTANT

AUTHOR

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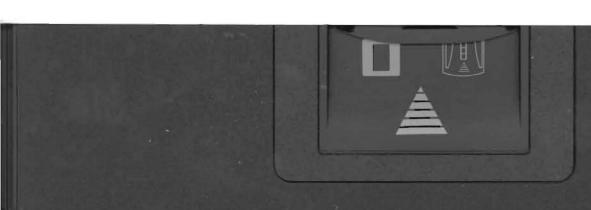
Nov 1975

TITLE

CAMBER CASTLE

Sussex

Textile



?15th century

Parts of a delicate cone, 4.4 cm diameter at the widest part preserved, 2.7 cm at narrowest, broken at both ends. This appears to be made of leather, now dark brown, with gilded Sply metal wiregoing round and round, both inside and outside, 1.5 mm of leather showing between the wires; X-ray examination would show if the wires are a continuous spiral or a series of diminishing circles. Inside the cone are remains of wood. Fibrous remains in the earth on the outside of the cone are coarse, and probably grass fibres.

The only item in 15th century costume this suggests is part of a lady's hennin, perhaps a section from near the point; these however are generally described as covered in brocade or gold or dilver tissue, and I cannot find any mention of wooden supports for the long cone.

Elisabeth Compor.