

Textile fragments on grave goods

Grave 90

3. Equal-armed brooch (30)

Front: traces and patches fabric, parts not completely replaced probably undyed linen, best area 1.4 X 0.8 cm: Z,Z, plain weave, count c.16/16 per cm (taken as 8 on 5 mm).

Back: round pin, replaced, in folds, probably same weave, Z,Z, plain where identifiable.

Grave 91

Iron & bronze buckle (27)

Front: very coarse Z threads, probably twill; beneath this, next to bronze, finer threads.

Back: on tongue, area 0.9 X 0.7, fine regular 2/2 twill, Z,Z, count c.12/12 (taken as 6 on 5 mm); two loose fragments, probably same fabric, ?wool, measuring 0.6 X 0.5, 0.5 X 0.8cm, spinning and weaving regular, count c.16/14 (8/7 on 5 mm).

Grave 93

1. Bronze square-headed brooch (25)

Front: areas textile, best, on hump of brooch, c.1.0 cm square; undyed ?linen, Z,Z, plain weave, count est. 10/10 per cm.

Back: Z twists, possibly tablet-weave.

2. Brooch, pair to 1 (26)

Scraps of replaced textile on front, Z,Z, where decipherable, plain weave, probably the same as that on 1.

Grave 99

4. Bronze square-headed brooch (42)

Front: traces textiles; Z spun.

Back: replaced area c.1.5 X 1.4 cm on pin and round a bead; ?linen, Z,Z, regular spinning and weaving, plain weave, 14/13 per cm. Other traces Z threads probably from same.

Loose: scraps of same weave, one double; also ?leather and wood.

Grave 100

Bow brooch (312)

Front ? : Fragments textile detached, 1.5 X 0.6, 1.0 X 0.9 cm.; Z,Z, twill, 2/2, regular, count 12/12 (the second taken as 6 on 5 mm).

HMA: Animal fibres, some of which are pigmented.

Grave 107

Spearhead (219)

Lumps almost certainly formed of replaced textile, no details obtainable.

Grave 108

Bronze disc brooch (310)

Front: Very coarse Z threads, replaced; finer threads underneath.

Back: Areas deteriorated half replaced textile over most of surface; Z,Z, plain weave, count c.12/12, possibly linen. Above this, brown threads very deteriorated, ?wool, some Z, some S.

Loose: scrap textile, replaced by iron pin? Z and S threads. Scraps of vegetable matter, leaf and stem.

(Numbers in brackets are Ministry Laboratory numbers)

HMA fibre analysis by H.M.Appleyard
MID fibre analysis by M.L.Ryder

Grave 117 (mid 5th cent.)

1. Large bronze buckle (46)

Front: textiles traces, Z threads; along one edge flax fibres, probably from 5. Back: possible traces of leather.

2. Belt plate (48)

Front: course Z threads. Back: traces of leather.

5. Bronze fragment (49)

Front: areas covering surface of ?linen, undyed, Z,Z, rather loose open plain weave, no selvedge preserved, count 12/9 per cm, partly replaced. Back: traces Z threads, also marks of leather. Loose: scraps of leather, from belt ?

4. Bronze belt plate (55)

Front: fragments ?linen, undyed, and replaced traces of same fabric, Z,Z, plain weave, count 16/14 per cm; some coarse threads.

Back: fibres, replaced, probably from leather.

Loose: pieces of two weaves, pressed closely together, on a layer of vegetable matter, perhaps leaves and stems. (a) From next to bronze, area c.2.5 X 2.0 cm, ?linen, undyed, Z,Z, plain weave, rather open, badly pulled, count in present condition 8/8 per cm. This fabric is coarser than that on the front of the plate, but probably similar to that on piece no.5. On the back of this fabric there is an area of long Z threads packed closely, 8 to 2.5 mm, possibly remains of selvedge.

(b) Above the linen, area c.5.0 X 4.0 cm, woollen fabric, dark brown, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, surface damaged, count c.10/10 per cm.

MLR, wool with fine and medium fibres, non-pigmented.

Grave 120

Spearhead (122)

Area 3.5 X 1.5 cm, replaced textile, Z,Z, coarse 2/2 twill, count 7/8 per cm. Spinning uneven, with very coarse threads in one system.

Other smaller areas of same weave on the same face of the blade.

Grave 123

Beads (10-13, 29)

10. Small patch deteriorated textile, fairly fine, Z,S threads.

11,12. Coarse thread inside bead; impression of insect pupae.

13. Traces Z and S threads, insect pupae.

29. Thread fibres inside bead.

Bronze disc brooch (308)

Grave 123 (con.)

Coin (220)

Textile preserved on coin, fragment 0.7 X 0.6 cm, dark brown; fibre very brittle, HMA identified as probably vegetable; Z,Z, plain weave, slightly open, count 4/4 on 5 mm, i.e. 8/8 per cm.

Grave 128

Spearhead (119)

Lumps probably of replaced deteriorated textile.

Knife (120)

Area replaced textile, c.6.0 X 2.8 cm, with patches of ?grass stems lying across it; Z,Z, very coarse regular 2/2 twill, count 5-6/8 per cm.

Grave 159

Shield (715058)

Three fragments textile, replaced on iron on wood, 5.0 X 2.3, 3.3 X 2.3, and 1.7 X 1.6 cm (this on the rim of the boss), Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 9/9 per cm, regular spinning and weaving.

Grave 228

Bronze tweezers (691132)

On fragment of iron attached, replaced fine Z threads.

Grave 245

Shield boss

Area replaced textile on front surface 9.5 X 4.5 cm, and other smaller patches; Z,Z, 2/2 twill, spinning and weaving both very regular, count 12/11 per cm. Coming from under the twill appears to be a piece of the edge of the textile, curved round and folded under; the twill threads seem to join onto the edge, which is 0.7 cm wide, with 6 lines that may be the thicker warps of a selvedge, or possibly 6 tablet-twists. There is a possible trace of another piece of edge under the opposite corner of the large twill area.

Grave 246

Bronze annular brooch (690933)

Deteriorated textile preserved by bronze, Z and S threads, weave not clear.

Bronze tweezers (690934)

Two fragments textile, one, 2.5 X 0.9, going round one bronze fragment, one 1.1 X 1.4 cm, on iron fragment; some tiny detached scraps. Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count estimated 14/12 per cm; all could be from same weave. HMA. Fibres impossible to identify, as they immediately broke up into powder form. Their appearance and weave suggests wool.

Grave 249

Bronze applied brooch (691136)

Front: area 3.6 X 2.6, Z,Z, fine 2/2 twill, count 14/14 per cm.

HMA. animal fibres, some pigmented.

From pinhead: area 2.0 X 1.5, three folds of fabrics, (a) on top, i.e. furthest from pin, 1.8 X 0.8 cm, two layers of twill with similar count, but the clearest showing centre of broken diamond; possibly same twill as on front, i.e. a spaced diamond. Underneath (b) 1.5 X 0.8 cm, part of tablet-weave band or border, 7 rows twists, Z spun warp, weft Z, Sply 13 per cm; twists lie 1 Z, 4 S, 2 Z, 1 S, with what may be remains of a pattern run on the surface in coarse Sply thread (fig.2).

Iron knife 690950. Replaced textile, area 1.8 X 1.4 cm, & smaller fragment round edge, Z,Z, twill, count c. 12/12 but surface deteriorated

Grave 252

Iron ?buckle, with bone

Fragments replaced textile on iron, best area 2.2 X 2.4 cm, and a few small scraps on the bone; Z,Z, close plain weave, count estimated c.8/8 p.cm.

Grave 266

Iron buckle (715029)

Fragment replaced very deteriorated textile, Z,Z, probably twill of usual type.

(.4 x 1.0 cm -

Grave 334

Iron buckle, ?with plate

Area c.5.0 X 5.0 cm replaced textile curving over edge on back of buckle; Z,Z, regular 2/2 twill, count 14/14 per cm.

Iron pin

Replaced textile for length of 3.8 cm along and round the pin, in a double fold on one side, clearest fragment 1.4 X 0.7 cm; Z,Z, twill, regular 2/2 as far as can be seen, surface too bad for count, but c.12/12 per cm. Insect pupae on surface.

Bronze disc brooch

Traces textile, replaced, Z,Z, too deteriorated for weave or count to be seen.

Grave 336

1. Small square-headed brooch

Front: fragment 1.0 X 0.3 cm, dark brown textile, Z,Z, twill, too small and deteriorated for count. Back: round pinhead, deteriorated mass of replaced textile, Z threads.

2. Small square-headed brooch

Back: traces of Z threads.

Grave 341

Silver inlaid Frankish purse mount (700160)

Front: fragment replaced textile, c.2.5 X 1.0 cm, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 11-12/10 per cm; traces of deteriorated textile on front of discs. Underneath mount, between leather and metal: several layers deteriorated twill, finer, count at least 14-16 threads in each system, perhaps the lining of the leather purse.

Back: Area 2.6 X 1.0 cm, replaced, ?part of dress, Z,Z, twill, count 6-7/6

Grave 343

Iron knife (715020)

Replaced lump of textile, 2.0 X 1.2 cm, in several folds; Z,Z, count 12/16 per cm.

Grave 351

Small annular brooch (715179)

Partly replaced textile both sides of pin, 2.0 X 0.6 front, 2.5 X 1.5 back. (a) Z,Z, twill, count 6-7/6 on 5 mm. HMA. Fine animal fibres, on some traces of scale margins. The indications are that they are wool.

Front: one clear patch of this twill, replaced 0.7 X 0.6, shows possible break for reverse, but there may be missing threads.

Back: (b) also under twill on front, i.e. the pin (detached) passed through it, Z,Z, plain weave, count 10/12 (6 on 5 mm); a replaced area, 1.0 X 0.6, shows a clear paired thread, either a weaving mistake or ?coloured line; 6 throws preserved one side of paired thread, only 1 other side.

HMA. Fine animal fibres, degradation too severe for further identification.

Small annular brooch (715182)

Area replaced textile 1.7 X 2.2 cm on ?back, smaller area ?front: Z,Z, twill, 2/2 as far as can be seen, count estimated 12/12 per cm. Obviously same twill as on other brooch.

Grave 355

Bronze applied brooch (715195)

Back: round pin, confused area c.2.5 X 3.5 cm, folds of Z,Z, twill, 2/2 as far as can be seen, count 8/6 on 5 mm; one detached fragment, and fragments mixed with ?grass. HMA Too badly degraded and too much debris to allow identification.

Grave 356

Small gilt bronze buckle

Back: area 0.8 X 0.7 cm, replaced textile; Z,Z, twill, too many threads deteriorated for clear identification, count estimated c.12/12 per cm.
Front: traces Z threads on front of pin.

Grave 374

Square-headed brooch

Back: on pin, replaced textile, several layers, 1.3 X 1.3 cm overall; Z,Z, twill, 2/2 count c.12/12 (clear area 5 mm, 6/6).
Front: coarse threads passing round foot of brooch, very little spinning direction, probably flax. Foot possibly sewn to garment?

Grave 397

Small square-headed brooch

Front: replaced fragment 0.5 X 0.3 cm; Z,Z, plain weave, 6 by 3 threads.
Back: deteriorated textile round pin head, Z threads; fragment 1.0 X 0.5 cm on pin catch-plate, replaced, probably same weave as on front.

Iron annular brooch (715040)

Back: replaced fragments on brooch and on back of pin, clearest area 1.7 X 0.6 cm; all seem to be from same Z,Z, fine twill, 2/2 as far as can be seen, count 16/12-13.
Front: one fragment, c.1.0 X 0.7 cm, replaced, Z,Z, twill, coarser than that on back, count 5/5 on 5 mm.

Grave 448

Pair of small square ended brooches

Back: on pin head of one, fragment replaced textile 0.8 X 0.7 cm, Z,S, probably twill, too deteriorated for identification our count.
Round pin head of other brooch, similar Z,S deteriorated textile.

Belt area, bronze pin, ?from buckle

Replaced fragments round the pin, 1.5 X 1.2 and 1.3 X 1.3 overall; Z,Z, twill 2/2, count 14/12 per cm.

Grave 451

Disc brooch, bronze, silvered

On back round pin, against bone, area replaced textile, c.2.0 X 1.5 cm; Z,Z, twill, regular 2/2, count c.10/10 per cm.

Grave 493

Bronze buckle

Fragment of leather belt, 3 cm long, 2.2 wide, with three rivet holes.
Fragment tablet weave with leather on both sides, 1.5 cm long, width of 1.0 cm preserved under the leather; thread Z spun, 4-hole tablet-twists Z and S (chevrons) 8 tablets per 5 mm., 14-16 wefts per cm; end of double Z thread sticking out, perhaps a sewing thread. This could have been a tablet-braid belt with reinforced leather ends.
Front of buckle, small traces Z spun textile.

Grave 529 (Late 5th or early 6th C.)

Small square headed brooch, l.

Back: on head of pin, replaced textile, best area 1.5 X 1.5; Z,Z, fairly coarse thread, probably warp face plain weave, count c.16/8 (taken as 8/4 on 5 mm. clear). Replaced pupae of insects.

Grave 533

Disc brooch

Back: areas of replaced textile, 2.8 X 1.5 cm, pin attachment going through; Z,Z, surface deteriorated but probably regular 2/2 twill, count c.16/16 per cm.
Front: fragment on brooch, 0.6 X 0.4. Loose pieces, the best 1.7 X 1.4 cm, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 14/14 per cm. Probably same as textile on back.
HMA. Animal fibre.

Small square ended brooch

Back: deteriorated textile on pin and plate, Z,Z, too confused for count or weave identification. HMA. could be animal fibre.

Detached: very small fragments, possibly leather.

Grave 540

Small disc brooch, silvered

Deteriorated textile on pin; under the pin head a few twisted threads, Z spun, Sply, possibly from 2-hole tablet-weave, with Z wefts sticking through.

Iron fragment (690947)

A few threads, replaced, Z,Z, only 0.3 X 0.5 overall.

Iron knife (690950)

On one surface, area replaced textile 1.8 X 1.4 cm, and smaller piece round edge; Z,Z, twill, count estimated c.12/12, but surface deteriorated.

Grave 546

Iron pin (715094)

Deteriorated replaced textile on pin in at least two layers, and curved folds on the head; detached fragments, Z,Z, twill, 2/2, count 16/12, the best area preserved 1.7 X 1.0 cm.

Iron pin (715095)

Replaced on pin and some tiny fragments, 2.0 X 0.8 cm in curve, Z,Z, twill, similar to that on other pin.

Grave 547

Shield boss (715092)

Fragment textile, replaced on iron, 1.3 X 1.4 cm; Z,Z, twill, 2/2 with one double thread, count 9/8 per cm.

Grave 548

Bronze brooch (715187)

On bronze: fragment replaced plain weave, 0.5 X 0.4, Z,Z, 9/8 threads. From pin: fine replaced textile in at least 4 layers, area 2.3 X 1.6 cm; Z,Z, plain weave, count 18-19/18 per cm, pulled diagonally.

Grave 550

Pair small bronze saucer brooches

Back: on both, round pin heads, deteriorated replaced textile, Z,Z.

Grave 551

Iron buckle (715068)

Underside: area replaced textile, seems to be in a double fold, area 1.6 X 1.3 cm; Z,Z, surface too deteriorated for identification, probably plain.

Grave 552

Small square plate brooch

Back of pin: area replaced textile, 1.3 X 0.9 cm; Z,Z, twill, 2/2 as far as can be seen, count c.12/10 per cm.

Iron ring (715048)

Deteriorated fragments replaced textile, probably same as that still adhering to ring; best piece 2.2 X 1.5 cm, with traces of second and third folds on top; Z,Z, twill 2/2, count 14/10 per cm.

Iron buckle & plate (715049)

Fragments replaced textile on ring of buckle and plate, best areas 1.0 X 0.7, 1.0 X 0.8 cm; Z,Z, regular fine 2/2 twill, count c.12/12 per cm.

Iron key (715051)

A number of fragments replaced textile from parts of the key, all probably from same weave, good areas 1.0 X 0.8 cm; Z,Z, fine 2/2 twill, count 8/6 on 5 mm, thread rather uneven in weft.

Coin, RB, used as pendant

Bronze toilet set and ring (715194)

On face of pendant, fragment textile, 1.0 X 0.8 cm; dark brown, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 13/14 per cm. Recognisable deteriorated patches of same weave on most parts of toilet set; probably same as on RB coin. HMA. Very badly degraded, but could be of animal origin.

5-6 strands of Z spun thread in hole of pendant, to attach it.

Buckle, strap end and plate (715193)

Remains of belt, almost completely replaced, at least 2 cm wide; Z,Z, plain weave, count 14/10 per cm. HMA. Possibly vegetable fibre.

The belt is a little wide for the buckle, and went through it in folds, present also on both sides of the iron plate; on the two fragments against the plate the edge is turned over, but it is impossible to see if the s lvedge is preserved.

Grave 553

Bronze bands from bucket (715262)

Areas of textile preserved on the bands, c.5.0 X 1.7, deteriorated surface, and 5.5 X 1.9 clearly preserved; Z,Z, fine broken diamond twill, count 22/18 per cm. HMA. Vegetable fibres. (fig. 3.)

Cf. Sutton Hoo 12, exactly similar diamond twill, flax, & below, *Grave 859*

Grave 562

Silver inlaid buckle

On top: fragment replaced textile, 0.4 X 0.4 cm, Z,Z, twill, 5/4 threads.

Grave 566

Iron key

Coarse replaced Z,Z, threads, probably twill.

Grave 568

Bronze pin with amber beads

Z spun threads wound round pin.

Grave 576

Bronze buckle

Underneath: area 1.3 X 0.6 cm, Z,Z, twill 2/2, thread deteriorated, count 7/6 on 5 mm. Leather on belt plate.

Small disc brooch (715211)

Front: area deteriorated textile, 2.0 X 1.0 cm, and other traces, Z threads.

Back: two small replaced areas, (a) 0.6 X 0.4, Z,Z, twill, count 6/4 threads, i.e. c.10/10 per cm; (b) 0.6 X 0.5, Z,Z, plain weave, folded, count 9/8 on 5 mm.

Knife (715096)

Fragment replaced twill, Z,Z, 0.5 X 0.4 cm.

Grave 579

Small cruciform brooch

Back: area 1.2 X 1.0, near pin head, curving round, Z,Z, plain weave, count c.10/10 per cm. On edge, coming round to front: area 0.7 X 0.6, Z,Z, twill.

Grave 583

Iron francisca

All over one end of blade, replaced textile, area 3.8 X 6.5 cm, and deteriorate traces coming round edge to other side; Z,Z, twill 2/2, count 8/8 per cm.

Iron buckle (715218)

Replaced textile on the fragments, clearest areas 1.5 X 0.8, 1.6 X 1.5 cm; Z,Z, 2/2 twill, 14/11-12 per cm.

Grave 584

Small square headed brooch

Front: area textile. 1.3 X 1.3 cm. and replaced traces: Z,Z. very regular

Applied brooch (715398)

Fragments replaced textile, deteriorated, one with Z,S spinning, twill, but too small for further identification.

Grave 598

Iron pennannular brooch

Detached: fragment 2.0 X 1.2 cm replaced textile: Z,Z, plain weave, rather pulled, count 11/9 on 5 mm. On brooch edge by animal head, replaced fragment of same weave, 0.4 X 0.5 cm.

Grave 602

Iron buckle and plate (700285)

Replaced textile fragments, (a) fragment tablet weave, 0.4 X 0.8, Z spun, probably 2-hole, 3 rows twists on 4 mm, 6 wefts per 5 mm.

(b) fragment 0.7 X 0.6 cm, Z,Z, probably twill, too coarse for (a) to be its border.

Grave 604

Knife

Area c.2.0 X 1.2 cm, deteriorated replaced textile, Z,Z.

Grave 609

Knife (715150)

Fragments replaced textile from round bronze ring, Z,Z, too deteriorated for identification; on other iron pieces, same Z,Z, probably plain weave.

On two other iron pieces, areas of fine tablet weave, (a) 0.8 X 0.9 cm, 15 twists (in 0.9 cm) Z spun, weft S or Sply, c.20 per cm.;

(b) 1.7 X 0.6 cm, 6-7 twists, Z,S,Z,Z,Z,Z, edge present as far as can be seen; (c) underneath this, fragment weave, possibly more tablet, but deteriorated.

Grave 610

Disc brooch

Back: round pin head, coarse Z threads, 6 in bunch, probably fastening beads; 3ply thread lying underneath. A few coarse Z,Z, threads from weave lying by pin head.

Bronze penannular brooch (715230)

Back: textile scattered over area 2.5 X 0.8 cm; Z,Z, twill, deteriorated surface, typical.

Grave 611

Iron key

Area 2.5 X 0.6, replaced, Z,Z, fine twill, count 8/7 on 5 mm.

Grave 615

Saucer brooches with silver discs (715234)

1. Front: 2.5 X 2.0 area deteriorated textile, Z,Z, plain weave; one detached fragment, 0.4 X 0.6, count 6/7 threads, i.e. c.15/11.

HMA. Animal fibres, could be wool.

2. Front: area 2.0 X 1.0, very deteriorated tablet twists, fine Z threads.

Grave 616

Knife

Area of replaced textile on blade, 2.0 X 1.0 and 2.0 X 2.5 cm, the larger piece with a fold or double layer on top; Z,S, plain weave, count 14/8 per cm.

Grave 618

Bronze buckle

Underside: area 1.4 X 0.7 cm, on edge and under surface, fine Z,Z, twill 2/2, rather loosely woven and pulled, count 14/12 (6 on 5 mm). Loose:

(a) fragment of same fine twill, folded, 1.4 X 0.7, HMA. fibre unidentifiable,

(b) fragments coarse twill Z,Z, count 5/4 on 5 mm. areas 0.6 x 0.6, 1.4 x

Applied brooch

Back, from pin attachment: fragment of tablet edge, 0.9 X 1.0 cm, Z warp and weft, edge clear with returns of weft, 5 on 5 mm; twists as far as can be seen 3 on 3 mm, but after the first two the surface is deteriorated. The weave is a 2-hole diagonal tablet weave, cf. Hans Dedekam, To tekstilfund fra folkevandringstiden, fig. 21. HMA. animal fibre.

Saucer brooch

Back: four coarse Z threads which may come from weave.

Front: area of deteriorated textile, fine Z threads both systems. Replaced fragment with impression of brooch edge, c. 2.0 X 1.5 cm, showing border as on the applied brooch, probable 2-hole tablet edge, Z,Z, 4-5 tablets on 5 mm, and 5-6 wefts; the weave to which this is the border, Z spun, is probably a plain weave, but is pulled diagonally, count 6/6 on 5 mm. The border is almost certainly a side border; the loops do not cross at the edge, or the threads entering the weave cross.

Grave 624

Disc brooch

Front: area 1.5 X 1.0 cm, textile, Z,Z, twill 2/2, count 14/13 per cm, HMA. Animal fibre. Back: area 1.8 X 1.0 cm, Z,Z, probably same twill, count 12/12 per cm; same fabric replaced on pin head.

Grave 628

Bronze buckle (715237)

Deteriorated textile, Z,Z, on top, with impression of edge. Replaced textile, probably from under the buckle, 1.7 X 1.0 cm, layer of fine twill (a) Z,Z, count 9/8 on 5 mm; on top of this, two patches Z,Z, plain weave, the best 0.6 X 0.5 cm, count 6/6 on 5 mm.

Grave 633

Bronze ring with strap & iron (715227)

All over iron surfaces, replaced Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 14/12 per cm, very regular spinning and weaving. This has lain in folds or two or more layers in most places, but seems to be the same textile throughout; largest area c. 5.0 X 5.0 cm, with remains of second and third layers above.

Grave 637

Unique equal-armed brooch

Front: patches of weave, medium brown, 1.2 X 1.5, 1.1 X 1.2 and other smaller fragments, fine spinning, Z,Z, twill 2/2, count 16/14 per cm; HMA. animal fibre. One small fragment had lying across it a reddish Sply thread.

Back: area 1.8 X 0.8, coarser Z,Z, threads, probably again from a twill.

Silver quoit brooch

Back: Z,Z threads, probably from twill. Underneath, detached, lump of replaced textile in 7-8 layers, 1.8 X 1.3 cm overall; Z,Z, fine plain weave, count 22/21 per cm. On underside of lump, coarse Z threads. HMA. animal fibres

Grave 638 Buckle fragments replaced textile on top of buckle, Z,Z, twill, count 6/5 on 5 mm

Grave 639

Iron knife (715141)

One side; clear area c. 3.0 X 1.0 cm, replaced, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 13/10. Other side: mixed grass stems and deteriorated textile.

Bronze brooch (715394)

Areas textile both sides of brooch, dark brown, front 0.8 X 0.7 and smaller patches, back 1.0 X 0.9 and smaller patch, both same fabric, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 14/12. HMA. Fine animal fibres; almost certainly wool.

Grave 643

Bronze end of square-headed brooch used as pendant

Front: area 2.0 X 0.7, mostly replaced, traces fine twill, Z,Z, too small and deteriorated for count. Detached fragments: (a) 0.5 X 1.0, two layers fabric, the underneath one probably from the replaced patch on the front, fine Z,Z, twill; above this very coarse threads, Z,Z, seem to be two shades of brown

Latch lifter

Area replaced textile (impression) over 4.5 X 1.3 cm on the ring, Z,Z, fine, probably plain weave.

Grave 648

Small square headed brooch

Front: deteriorated Z,Z textile. Back: by pin head, lying alongside, 1.5 cm plaited Z threads, probably 6. Area 1.0 X 0.6 cm tablet twists, 4-hole, 5 tablets per 5 mm; two S twists, or Sply threads, preserved round the other side of the pin head.

Pair to brooch

Front: area c.1.5 X 1.0, deteriorated fine Z,Z, plain weave, count 9/9 on 5 mm.

Buckle

Front of buckle, area 1.7 X 0.6 textile, Z,Z, too ragged for identification.

HMA. Animal fibre.

Knife (715134)

From broken piece, replaced fragment 0.7 X 0.4, Z,Z, plain weave, count 7/4-5 on 5 mm.

Iron object with hook (latch lifter?) (715135)

Traces replaced textile on most pieces, one clear area 2.5 X 1.2 cm; Z,Z, 2/2 twill, very regular, count 14/12 per cm.

Grave 649

Bronze buckle (715244)

Fragment detached textile, 0.8 X 1.0 cm, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 8/6 on 5 mm; there are traces on the top of the buckle that probably come from this.

HMA. fibre unidentifiable.

Back of buckle, traces textile with probable Z and S threads. Leather belt.

Grave 662

Spearhead (715357)

On ferrule, replaced textile, area 3.5 X 1.4 cm, parts very deteriorated, but seems to be a fine tablet weave border or band, 4-thread tablet, Z spun, all twists lying S c.11-12 per cm, weft S or Sply, 10 per cm; perhaps a braid used as a loop.

Grave 666

Iron buckle (715359)

Fragment c. 0.7 X 0.5 cm, replaced twill, Z,Z, not clear enough for count.

Grave 672

Bronze buckle and rivets (715397)

Traces deteriorated Z textile; this looks like leather, but HMA. found no leather, but animal fibres, probably wool, both fine and fairly coarse, the latter being medullated.

Grave 690

Iron pin (715362)

Replaced textile in folds all over surface, largest piece 2.0 X 1.8 cm; Z,Z, 2/2 twill, counts 12/11, 13/11 per cm.

Button brooch (715400)

Back: replaced textile, several layers lying in folds, whole of one end of the brooch, (a) Z,Z, plain weave, fine, count 9/9 on 5 mm; on top of this (i.e. lying underneath) area that may be different (b), looser with some very coarse threads, but may be (a) deteriorated, count 8/6 on 5 mm.

(c) One 4-thread tablet-twist, 0.8 cm long, 11 weft ends protruding, warp Z, weft Sply.

Grave 692

Iron buckle (715366)

Area replaced textile 2.0 X 0.9, more like an earth replacement than iron, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 12/11 per cm.

Strap end (715406)

Patch on strap end, c.0.8 X 0.8, Z,Z, and detached lumps, the best 2.5 X 1.4, lying against the bronze, Z,Z, twill, count 16/12 per cm, but very pulled and surface deteriorated. HMA. Fine animal fibres, could be wool.

Grave 764

Iron buckle (715380)

Area 1.0 X 0.7, replaced; Z,Z, twill, probably 2/2, count 11/10, threads broken and displaced.

Grave 766

Sword (715348)

Textile replaced, lying across top of scabbard, clear area 6.0 X 2.5 cm; Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count c.14/10-12 per cm, regular spinning and weaving.

Grave 767

Bronze brooch (715402)

Photograph

Front: (a) area 2.5 X 2.0, at one end, Z,Z, plain weave, count 7/8 on 5 mm. HMA. Vegetable fibres, possibly flax.

(b) at other end and middle, area 5.0 X 2.0 cm, dark brown textile, with fold or trace of second layer, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, counts 17/12-13, 16/14 per cm. HMA. Animal fibres, possibly wool, mostly fine but a few coarser medullated fibres were also present.

Replaced lump from pin, (c) 2.0 X 2.0, included 4-hole tablet twists in Z thread with Sply wefts 6 to 5 mm, and some of (a) plain weave.

Bronze brooch (pair) (715403)

Tiny fragments plain weave (a), undyed, Z,Z, count 6/6 on 5 mm; traces of same fabric deteriorated scattered over surface of brooch, with traces of dark brown threads from (b) twill; replaced lump as an pair, made up of (a) and (c) tablet twists lying S.

715404

Detached fragments of textile from the brooches, dark brown threads from (b) friable mass of deteriorated (a) and Splyed threads from (c) tablet twists or fringe. In one detached lump (from 71403 pin) it appears as if the tablet weave may have been patterned, as there is a suggestion of Sply threads on the surface, and another layer of coarse Sply thread made with a number of Z threads protruding from underneath.

Knife (715405)

Fragment replaced textile, 1.0 X 0.8 cm; Z,Z, 2/2 twill count est.12-13/12.

Iron pin (715384)

Two replaced textiles, (a) scrap 0.8 X 0.6, Z,Z, fine plain weave, 9/8 on 5 mm. (b) c.3.0 X 1.0, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 14/12-13; probably same as on the brooches.

Grave 773

Iron brooch (715377)

On piece with ?pin, replaced textile impression, 2.5 X 1.5, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 12/12 per cm. On other fragment, replaced plain weave, Z,Z, count 10/10 per cm,

Knife (715387)

Traces on most fragments, one clear 1.5 X 1.2, replaced, Z,Z, 2/2 twill, fine regular, count 17/14 per cm.

Grave 775

Knife (715390)

Replaced areas, largest 2.0 X 2.0 on blade, probably earth replacement; (a) Z,Z, 2/2 twill, count 16/12 per cm. Another area, 2.0 X 1.0, with only one system of Z threads preserved (b) could be from fringe, but possibly the other has decayed. A second layer of textile under (a) and also visible on the other side of the knife blade, may be plain weave; under this there are plant stems.

The two-colour weave from Grave 123 is an interesting fabric. With so little preserved it is obviously impossible to conjecture if the whole fabric was covered with this small check pattern. Coarse Z threads from Grave 643 also seemed to be in two shades of brown, but unfortunately were not sufficiently well preserved or numerous enough for the fibre to be identified.

There is no parallel to this piece from British sites; two fragments, both also using two shades of naturally pigmented wools, have so far been recorded, but both are twills - the Falkirk tartan, 3rd cent.A.D. (1), herringbone 2/2 twill with dark stripes in warp and weft forming checks, and Broomfield Barrow textile B3, 6th-7th cent., 2/2 twill with irregular light and dark stripes. In both these, as in the Mucking piece, the spinning is Z.

Checked weaves were popular in the north during the pre-Roman and Roman Iron Ages, and John Peter Wild has suggested convincingly that they were the scutulata of the Gauls (2). A number of examples of two-colour checks have been found in Scandinavian excavations, again twill weaves (3) with S-spinning in the earlier pieces; however, from the late Roman town at Mainz, as well as twills, a piece in Z spun two-colour plain weave check is also recorded (4), and this, so far, is the nearest parallel to the Mucking piece.

1. G.M.Crowfoot, "Two textiles from the National Museum, Edinburgh", Proc.Soc.Ant.Scot. X, 1947-8, p.227 ff.
2. J.P.Wild, "The textile term scutulatus", Classical Quarterly NS, XIV, 1964, pp.246 ff.
3. Margrethe Hald, Olddanske Tekstiler, Copenhagen 1950, p.423, figs.27,29,31,82.
4. J.P.Wild, Textile Manufacture in the Northern Roman Provinces, Cambridge, 1970, pp.53,105,113.

Grave unrecorded 122 Lab No 218

Shield

On wood from handgrip under shield umbel, area 4.0 X 3.5 cm, two layers of replaced textile; Z,2, 2/2 twill, coarse regular spinning and weaving, count 8/8 per cm. One S thread near edge.

(missed from Mucking.Textiles.3)

Grave 249

Iron knife (690950)

Replaced textile, areas 1.8 X 1.4 cm, and smaller fragment round edge, Z,Z, twill, count c.12/12, but surface deteriorated.

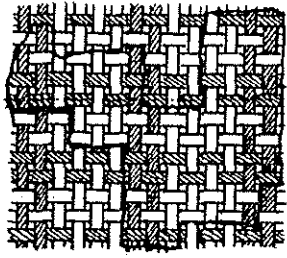


Fig 1.

Grave 123, (209) 2. colour plain weave.

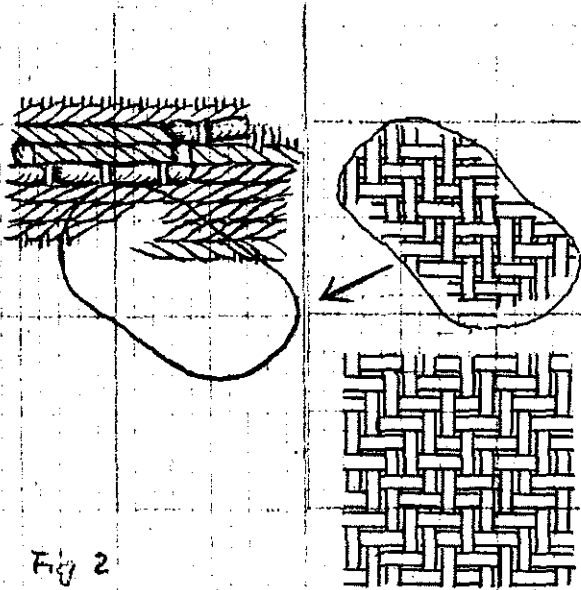


Fig 2

Grave 249 (691136) Diamond (Tull) & tablet braid

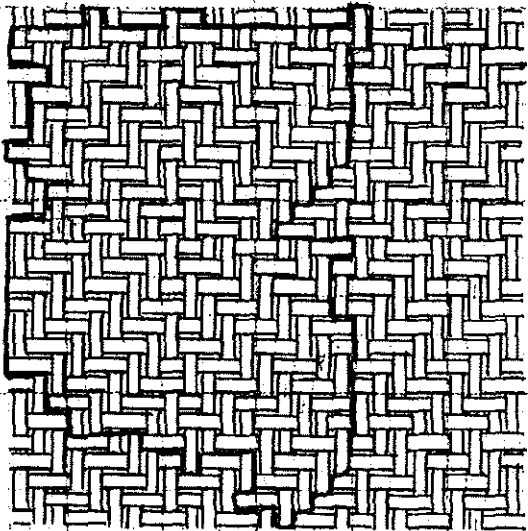


Fig-3.

Grave 553 (715262) Diamond Tull.

(Heavily outlined areas are those preserved.)

Fig 4. Mitt