The Anglo-Saxon Kingdom of Kent

The Kingdom of Kent was the first Anglo-Saxon kingdom. The Jutes, a group from southern Scandinavia, settled on the coast of Kent after the Romans left Britain. They ruled the lands to the east of the River Stour, which runs through Canterbury. Many of the early artefacts made in Kent have a distinctive ‘Kentish’ style, influenced by Jute art. Saxon Kent subsequently absorbed the artistic traditions of many travellers to Britain.

Christianity was brought to England through Kent, and the first Christian church in the country, St Martin’s, still stands in Canterbury. The church was rebuilt in AD 580 for Queen Bertha, a French princess who married the Kentish king Ethelred on the condition that she could keep her Christian faith. St Augustine, an Italian monk sent by the pope to convert England to Christianity, owed much of his warm welcome to Queen Bertha’s influence.

Despite its close links to Europe, the Kingdom of Kent was very small compared to other kingdoms in England. Kent lost more and more of its power during the seventh century until it became dominated by Mercia, a large kingdom in the centre of Britain. After winning in battle in AD 825, Wessex, a kingdom in the South West of England, ruled in Kent. The heir to the throne of Wessex kept the title ‘King of Kent’ until the end of the ninth century.
First Shelf

Items discovered by Explorers of Kent, such as Canterbury Archaeological Trust and metal detectorists, in the 20th and 21st centuries. They are arranged in date order from left to right covering the period of the earliest Saxon settlements in Kent until the end of the Kingdom in the Eighth century.

**Disc Brooch**
Mid 5th-6th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Copper alloy disc brooch decorated with a quincunx (group of five) of cup-and-dot decorations, a favoured decorative motif in this period.

Excavated in 1978 from the Marlowe Car Park. Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust
CANCM:1980.12.1160

**Square Headed Brooch**
Mid 6th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Square headed brooch decorated with the ring-and-dot motifs popular in the early Saxon period. This type of brooch is one of the most common worn by the Anglo-Saxons, and was used to secure clothing.

Excavated in 1978 from the Marlowe Car Park. Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust
CANCM:1978.3.1124

**Zoomorphic Brooch**
Late 6th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Cast in bronze to resemble a bird. This shape has been found both in Kent and in Northern France, and it is one of the ways we know about the close links of the Anglo Saxons across the Channel.

Excavated from a site in Castle Street in 1978. Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust
‘Spangle’ Pendant
Mid 6th-Mid 7th Century AD
Metal

Trapezoid “spangle” made of white washed metal sheet, with punched dots around the edges. This may have been worn on a necklace, or it could have been mounted on another object as decoration.

CANCM:1978.3.1120

Key
6th-7th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Key with shepherd’s crook suspension loop. It was cast in bronze and finished by hand with deeply cut out carving.

Excavated in 1978 from the Marlowe Car Park. Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust
CANCM:1978.3.1278

Beads
5th – 8th Century AD
Glass and Copper Alloy

Brass wire strung with two opaque yellow ‘annular’ beads and one unpolished cobalt blue ‘annular’ bead. This may have been a breast ornament – it would have been pinned onto a piece of clothing.

CANCM:1978.3.174

Bead
5th – 8th Century AD
Glass

Glass Bead.

Found in Canterbury in 1979 by Mr A. Waters.
No accession number
**Gold Pendant**  
6th – 7th Century AD  
Gold

Pendant. The central swastika, or Tetraskle, was used on many items in the Early Anglo-Saxon period.

Found by a metal detectorist near Manston in Kent. Acquired for the museum through the Portable Antiquities scheme.  
CANCM:2014.8

**Gilt Brooch or Mount**  
Late 6th – Early 7th Century AD  
Copper alloy and gold

Gilded copper alloy small-long brooch or mount in four pieces.

Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust  
CANCM:1988.57.3

**Pin**  
Early 7th Century AD  
Copper Alloy with gold and garnet

Copper Alloy pin with a garnet set into the head. There is a piece of gold foil behind the garnet to enhance the colour of the stone.

Excavated in 1960 in Gravel Walk, Canterbury. Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust  
No accession number

**Buckle and Buckle Plate**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Silver gilt

Buckle, broken into two pieces, with triangular plate. Such buckles were normally found in graves of high status males and are often decorated with garnets. This is a slightly cheaper version, but would still have belonged to a rich man.

Found in Littlebourne, Long Meadow, Well Chapel, Kent, UK. by Mr. B. Riley.  
CANCM:2003.389.1-3
**Buckle**  
5th-8th Century AD  
Copper Alloy

Oval copper alloy buckle with buckle plate and tongue complete.

No accession number

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**Mount and Buckle**  
c.650AD  
Copper Alloy

Decorative mount with buckle. Animal themes were very common on Anglo-Saxon metalwork and probably reflected Viking influence on local design traditions. This openwork piece is decorated with two joined bird-headed creatures surrounding the fish motif in the centre.

CANCM:1978.3.1561

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**The Canterbury Pendant**  
Early 7th Century AD  
Gold, Garnets, Glass

A fine example of an Anglo Saxon pendant made from a gold disc inlaid with garnets and glass. The empty central spaces would have been filled with white paste to form a cross.

Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust  

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**Ansate Brooch**  
5th-8th Centuries AD  
Copper Alloy

Brooch. This type of brooch is sometimes called a ‘caterpillar’ brooch on account of their shape.

Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust  
CANCM:1980.12.719
**Tweezers**  
*7th-8th Centuries AD*  
*Copper Alloy*  

Tweezers are often found in Anglo-Saxon graves. They may have been worn on a necklace or attached to a belt, but either way their inclusion in a grave shows how dedicated the Anglo-Saxons were to personal hygiene.  

*CANCM:1980.11.1410*

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**Sceat**  
*5th – 8th Century AD*  
*Silver*  

Coin. Probably known as ‘pennies’ when they were in use, these coins were minted in Kent, Frisia and Jutland. The earliest sceatta in Britain were minted in Kent and the Thames estuary.  

*Found in Elham; Henbury Manor, Kent, UK. by Mr. G.T. Hall.  
CANCM:1993.44.1*

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*Found in Elham; Henbury Manor, Kent, UK. by Mr. G.T. Hall.  
CANCM:1993.44.2*

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**Penny of King Offa**  
*c794 AD*  
*Silver*  

Coin. Minted in Canterbury for Archbishop Aethelheard during the reign of King Offa. We can date the coin to within just a few years, as Aethelheard became Archbishop in 793 and Offa died in 796.  

*Found by Mr D. Hunt. Purchased with the assistance of the Victoria and Albert Museum, Mr D. Hunt and Henry Moorhead and Company.  
CANCM:2010.69*
**Pins**

5th-8th Century AD

Bone

Three worked bone pins. These may have been used to hold a hair style, or perhaps to secure an item of clothing.

No accession number

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**Comb**

8th Century AD

Antler

Fragment of double-sided antler comb. The comb is decorated with a series of ring-and-dot motifs in a triangular arrangement at its end.

Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust

CANCM:1986.37.382

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**Comb Case**

6th Century AD

Antler

The Anglo-Saxons kept their combs in cases to stop the teeth from breaking.


No accession number

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**Comb**

8th Century AD

Antler, iron and bone

Single-sided comb with antler handle, iron nails and bone teeth.

Excavated from Christ Church College 1993.

Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust

CANCM:1979.64.1331

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**Comb**

Bone

9th Century AD

Worked Bone single-sided comb.

Excavated from the Marlowe Car Park 1979.

Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust

CANCM:1980.12.269
**Spindle Whorl**
*8th Century AD*
Bone

Bone spindle whorl with incised decoration. Spindle whorls were used when spinning wool into yarn. Attached to the spindle, they helped maintain the speed of the spin used to twist the raw wool into a long thread. Using a spindle whorl helped maintain the same thickness of the wool as it was spun.

No accession number

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**Spindle Whorl**
*8th Century AD*
Bone

Two bone Spindle whirls.

No accession number

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**Spindle Whorls**
*8th Century AD*
Ceramic

Two Ceramic spindle whorls.

No accession number

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**Pinbeaters**
*7th and 8th Century AD*
Bone

Five worked bone double-ended pinbeaters. Pinbeaters were used while weaving to adjust the placement of threads on the loom.

No accession number

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**Brooch**
*5th – 8th Century AD*
Copper Alloy

Equal arm brooch, set with garnets in gilt copper.

Found in Bourne Park, Kent, UK, by Mr. T. Sewell.
CANCM:1991.80.1
Sword Ring
5th – 8th Century AD
Silver Gilt
Silver-gilt sword ring inlaid with niello.
CANCM:2003.390

Square headed Brooch
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy
Square-headed brooch fragment with gilding
Found in Chartham, Kent, by Mr. N. Austin.
CANCM:1996.6

Owl Pendant
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy
Fragment with gilt front; chip carved decoration showing a stylised owl.
Found in Barham, Kent, UK. by Mr. M. Rundle.
CANCM:1993.28
Second Shelf

Items discovered by Explorers of Kent, such as the antiquarian John Brent, in the later 19th and early 20th centuries. They are arranged in date order from left to right covering the period of the earliest Saxon settlements in Kent until the end of the Kingdom in the Eighth century.

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**Square-Headed Brooch**

6th Century AD

Silver Gilt

Silver-gilt square-headed brooch of a cruciform shape, jeweled and set with 9 garnets.

Found at Stowting, Kent by Mr. J. Brent.

CANCM:2677

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**Strap End**

5th-8th Century AD

Copper Alloy

A strap end would have been affixed to the end of a belt or strap of a harness as decoration. They would protect the leather end of the strap and make it easier to thread, but despite this very functional purpose they were still considered jewellery in their own right.

Found in Martyr’s Field, Canterbury, in around 1900.

CANCM:7162

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**Gilt Pin1**

5th – 8th Century AD

Copper Alloy

A highly ornamented, fine gilded, bronze pin.

Found at Guilton, Ash, Kent by Mr. Kingsford. Given to the museum by Mr J. Brent.

CANCM: 2714
**Cloth Fragments**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Cloth  

Fragments of cloth in glass slide.  
Found adhering to the remains of an Anglo-Saxon in a grave at Sarre, Kent in 1863.  
CANCM:7159

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**Necklace**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Glass and Stone  

String of 68 beads, of various colours.  
Found in a grave in Grove Ferry, Kent. Bequeathed by Lt. Col. Copeland.  
CANCM: 1975

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**Beads**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Glass and stone  

String of beads.  
Found at Westbere Anglo-Saxon cemetery, Kent. Bequeathed by Osborn Dan  
CANCM:6425

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**Beads**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Glass and stone  

String of 69 beads of various colours.  
Found in a grave at field coll place, Grove Ferry, Kent.  
CANCM:1976

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**Amethyst beads**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Amethyst  

String of 14 amethyst beads. Amethyst beads, mainly from trade routes that led through Germany, are more commonly found in Kent than elsewhere in the country.  
Found by Mr. J. Brent.  
CANCM:2139
**Brooch**

**5th – 8th Century AD**

**Silver**

Rare Kentish silver brooch of cruciform shape.

**Found by Mr. J. Brent.**

**CANCM:2660**

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**Brooch**

**5th – 8th Century AD**

**Copper Alloy**

Bronze gilt brooch of Jutish type without a pin.

**CANCM:2651**

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**Cruciform Brooch**

**5th – 8th Century AD**

**Copper Alloy**

Bronze gilt brooch of cruciform shape and foreign manufacture, probably from South West Germany. This type is very rarely found in England, and another example is known from Silton, Ash, Kent.

**Found by Mr. J. Brent.**

**CANCM:2678**

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**Brooch**

**Early 6th Century**

**Copper Alloy**

Electroform copy of bronze gilt brooch - the original is at the British Museum. The earliest Saxons regularly used almost abstract animal designs on their jewellery.

**Found in Martyr’s Field in 1900.**

**CANCM:2192**

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**Brooches**

**5th – 8th Century AD**

**Copper Alloy**

Two radiate-headed brooches with five inlaid garnets.

**Found by Mr. J. Brent.**

**CANCM:2192**
Saucer Brooch
6th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Rare gilded bronze saucer brooch of West Saxon type, one of a pair.

Found in Faversham, Kent by Mr. J. Brent.
CANCM:2166

Bracteates
5th – 8th Century AD
Gold

Kentish bracteates. Bracteates, thin single-sided gold medals, were worn as pendants on a string around the neck. They may have been seen as a protective amulet.

Bequeathed by Mr. J. Brent.
CANCM:2159, 2160

Disc Brooch
5th – 8th Century AD
Silver and garnet

Circular silver gilt disc brooch set with 3 square and 1 round garnet

Found in Faversham; King’s Field, Kent, by Mr. J. Brent.
CANCM:2659

Crystal Sphere
5th – 8th Century AD
Crystal

Crystal sphere in a silver sling. It is not known what these spheres were used for, but they are often found in the graves of women alongside silver spoons. It has been suggested that they may have been used to symbolically purify water.

Bequeathed by Mr. J. Brent.
CANCM:2144
The Canterbury Cross

C. 850AD

Copper alloy, silver, niello

Cruciform brooch. Created in around 850 AD, the Canterbury Cross has become the most prominent symbol of the Anglican Communion across the world.

Discovered in 1867 during excavations in St. Georges Street, Canterbury, it incorporates a number of sophisticated techniques into its design: it was cast in bronze, and each arm includes a triangle which has been engraved and filled with niello (a black metal mixture consisting of copper, silver, lead and sulphur) enamel. The engraving is a triquetra (a three cornered knot), which traditionally symbolises the Christian holy trinity. The arms of the cross widen from the centre to appear triangular, again mirroring the Trinity. The tips of the arm curve and become the arcs of a single circle. This shape is similar to a ‘consecration cross’ – early churches would have had twelve circular crosses painted on their walls, signifying each of the disciples, in the places where a bishop had anointed the walls with holy oil or water.

The significance of the Canterbury Cross continues. In 1937 a series of 92 wall crosses bearing the Canterbury cross were created and 91 were gifted to Anglican cathedrals throughout the world as a symbol of Christian fellowship. They are now embedded in the fabric of many cathedrals. One cross was mounted on the wall of the Nave of Canterbury Cathedral where it can be seen today.

It remains a custom for Anglican cathedrals from time to time to receive a Canterbury cross carved from Caen stone and made in Canterbury Cathedrals’ masons yard.

With deep connections to the religious and cultural heritage of the city, the cross has subsequently become iconic.

Excavated in 1867 in St George’s Street, Canterbury. Bequeathed by Dr H. Wacher.
CANCM:6421
**Buckle**
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Jewelled buckle of Frankish type.
Bequeathed by Mr. J. Brent.
CANCM:2175

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**Enamelled Disc**
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Enamelled disc, possibly from side of a hanging bowl and used to suspend it. Design is of celtic origin thrown up by red champleve enamel. It probably comes from Western England, or Wales.
Found in Greenwich; Tilting Yard, Kent, UK. by Mr. J. Brent
CANCM:2157

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**Enamelled Disc**
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Enamelled disc, similar to above.
Found in Greenwich; Tilting Yard, Kent, UK. by Mr. J. Brent
CANCM:2158

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**Silver Spoon**
5th – 8th Century AD
Silver Gilt

Silver gilt spoon with swastika in niello on junction of bowl and handle. Found between knees of skeleton.
Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.
CANCM:7519

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**Bird Brooch**
5th – 8th Century AD
Silver Gilt

Bird brooch, silver gilt, garnet inset in eye and tail, niello inlay.
Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.
CANCM:7523
**Bird Brooch**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Silver Gilt  

Bird brooch, silver gilt, garnet inset in eye and tail, niello inlay.  

Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.  
**CANCM:7524**

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**Square Headed Brooch**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Silver Gilt  

Small square headed brooch, silver gilt.  

Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.  
**CANCM:7526**

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**Square Headed Brooch**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Silver Gilt  

Small square headed brooch, silver gilt.  

Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.  
**CANCM:7525**

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**Buckle Plate**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Bronze  

Bronze buckle and buckle plate inlaid with silver.  

Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.  
**CANCM:7537**

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**Radiate Brooch**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Copper Alloy  

Radiate brooch, cast bronze.  

Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.  
**CANCM:7530**
**Crystal Sphere**

5th – 8th Century AD

Crystal

Crystal ball suspended in silver sling, with silver wire ring through the top of the sling.

Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.

CANCM:7518

**Pyramidal Ornaments**

5th – 8th Century AD

Copper Alloy

Bequeathed by Mr. J. Brent.

CANCM:2180, 2181

**Brooch**

5th – 8th Century AD

Copper Alloy, silver and garnet

Circular silver jewelled disc brooch of Kentish work set with garnets; cloisonée work and gold wire filigree.

Found in Anglo Saxon cemetery at Stouting, Faversham. Collected by Mr. J. Brent.

CANCM:2614

**Gold Pendant**

5th – 8th Century AD

Gold

Small gold pendant set with cross in centre.

Bequeathed by Mr. J. Brent.

CANCM:2162

**Gold Pendant**

5th – 8th Century AD

Gold

Small gold pendant set with garnets, may have been used as a sword bead.

Found in Anglo Saxon cemetery at Stouting, Faversham. Collected by Mr. J. Brent.

CANCM:2161
### Pendants

**5th – 8th Century AD**

- **Gold**
  - Bracteate. Bracteates, thin single-sided gold medals, were worn as pendants on a string around the neck. They may have been seen as a protective amulet.

  Found in Westbere (Anglo-Saxon cemetery) Kent, UK. Bequeathed by Osborne Dan.
  CANCM:6426.4-6

### Brooch

**5th – 8th Century AD**

- **Copper Alloy**
  - Bronze brooch of foreign type, possibly from Belgium or the Lower Rhine region of Germany.

  CANCM:2634

### Fish Brooch

**5th – 8th Century AD**

- **Copper Alloy and garnets**
  - Cast silver fish brooch with geometric decoration and garnet set eye, fins and tail.

  Found in Westbere (Anglo-Saxon cemetery) Kent, UK. Bequeathed by Osborne Dan.
  CANCM:6422

### Pendant

**5th – 8th Century AD**

- **Gold**
  - Triangular gold pendant.

  Found in Westbere (Anglo-Saxon cemetery) Kent, UK. Bequeathed by Osborne Dan.
  CANCM:6426.3

### Pendant

**5th – 8th Century AD**

- **Gold**
  - Oval gold pendant.

  Found in Westbere (Anglo-Saxon cemetery) Kent, UK. Bequeathed by Osborne Dan.
  CANCM:6426.2
Copper Alloy Buckle
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Bronze buckle of Frankish type.

Bequeathed by Mr. J. Brent.
CANCM:2174

Radiate Brooch
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Radiate brooch, cast bronze, ring and dot and chevron decoration on bow and foot.

Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.
CANCM:7529

Three Stone Objects
5th – 8th Century AD
Stone

Circular stone objects, probably used in a game.

Bequeathed by Mr. J. Brent.
CANCM:2278-80

Copper Alloy Object
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Churn shaped object in bronze.

Bequeathed by Mr. J. Brent.
CANCM:2190

Shield Boss
5th – 8th Century AD
Iron

Iron shield boss. Found 9” from the grave floor and 15” from the head of the grave, suggesting that the width of shield was not more than 30”.

Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.
CANCM:7586
**Brown Ware Mug**

5th – 8th Century AD

Brown Ware

Handmade, burnished, handled pottery mug with round base, brownish ware. Found close to the head of a child. Burnishing (rubbing a pot with a leather cloth) would make the mug watertight and also a lot smoother to the touch.

Found in Bekesbourne, Kent, UK. by Mr. P.G. Wilson.
CANCM:7588

**Cone Jar**

5th – 8th Century AD

Glass

Glass tumbler.

Found in Westbere (Anglo-Saxon cemetery) Kent, UK. Bequeathed by Osborn Dan.
CANCM:6431

**Cone Jar**

5th – 8th Century AD

Glass

Conical glass vase.

Found in Westbere (Anglo-Saxon cemetery) Kent, UK. Bequeathed by Osborn Dan.
CANCM:6428

**Funnel-Shaped Vase**

5th – 8th Century AD

Glass

Cone beaker, with vertical fluting and horizontal thread of opaque white glass below the rim. Cone beakers may have been used at feasts where, because they had no bases, the drinkers would have had to down the contents in one go, perhaps as a toast.

Found in Westbere (Anglo-Saxon cemetery) Kent, UK. Bequeathed by Osborn Dan.
CANCM:6429
**Bell Beaker**  
6th Century AD  
Glass  

Carinated glass Bell-Beaker with fine white trials below the rim, and on the base. As this glass has no base, it has been suggested it was used for toasts at feasts; the drink would have had to be downed in one go.  

Found in Westbere (Anglo-Saxon cemetery) Kent, UK. Bequeathed by Osborn Dan.  
CANCM:6430

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**Glass Jar**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Glass  

Green glass vessel, repaired.  

Faversham, Kent, UK. Brent, J., Mr.  
CANCM:2149

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**Squat Jar**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Glass  

Glass Vessel.  

Bequeathed by Mr. J. Brent.  
CANCM:2150

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**Squat Jar**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Glass  

Glass vessel.  

Found in Faversham, Kent, UK. by Mr. J. Brent.  
CANCM:2151
Bottom Shelf

Items discovered by some of the earliest explorers of Kent in the later 18th and early 19th centuries. They are arranged in date order from left to right covering the period of the earliest Saxon settlements in Kent until the end of the Kingdom in the Eighth century.

**Rune Stone**

5th – 6th Century AD

Stone

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Rune stone. One of the only two surviving pagan grave markers from the period. (The other is to the left of the case). They may have been made by invading Scandinavian warriors to commemorate comrades who fell in battle.

Found in Sandwich, Kent, UK. by Mr. W.H. Rolfe.

CANCM:1141

**Cup**

Fifth to 6th Century AD

Ceramic

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Ceramic mug in a brownish ware. This cup was handmade, and would have been burnished (rubbed at speed with a leather cloth) to make it more watertight.

Presented by Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

**Copper Alloy Bindings from a bucket**

5th – 8th Century AD

Copper Alloy

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Bronze bindings and handle of an Anglo-Saxon bucket mounted on a modern wooden copy by the London Institute of Archaeology.

CANCM:8529
**Beads**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Glass and stone

Necklace containing four cylindrical (bugle) beads and what were originally quadruple pearl-like beads, some of which have since separated into single, double and triple beads.

Found at Eastry, Kent by Mr. Irby. Presented to the museum by Dr. W.G. Urry  
CANCM:7511

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**Amber Beads**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Amber

Necklace of 12 amber beads, of various shapes and sizes. Amber was likely imported from the Baltic, and would have been expensive to purchase; these beads would have belonged to someone very wealthy.

Found at Eastry, Kent, by Mr. Irby. Presented to the museum by Dr. W.G. Urry  
CANCM:7509

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**Buckle**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Copper Alloy

Small bronze buckle complete with tongue. The buckle loop is decorated with groups of incised lines and part of the buckle plate remains.

Found at Eastry, Kent in 1792. Presented to the museum by Dr. W.G. Urry after a loan from Mr Irby  
CANCM:7501

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**Mount**  
5th – 8th Century AD  
Copper Alloy

Bronze mount, partly gilded, with an animal design.

Found at Guilton, Kent, 1771  
CANCM:2637
**Gilt Pin**
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy

A highly ornamented, fine gilded, bronze pin.

Found at Giltton, Ash, Kent by Mr. Kingsford.
Given to the museum by Mr J. Brent. CANCM: 2714

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**Small-Long Type Brooch**
5th-6th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Copper alloy brooch with cup and dot decoration at head and foot. This type of brooch was generally worn in a pair.

No accession number

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**Crystal Sphere**
5th – 8th Century AD
Crystal

Large crystal ball without the suspender. The purpose of Anglo-Saxon crystal balls is unclear: they may have been used as a magnifying glass, or perhaps even had a magical or ritual use. They are often found in the graves of women next to silver spoons.

CANCM: 2616

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**Bucket**
5th – 8th Century AD
Copper Alloy

Bucket/vat with handle, fragments inside.

CANCM: 1113
**The Dragon Pendant**  
9th Century AD  
Gold, Garnets

An animal-head pendant. It is made from a sheet of gold decorated with gold filigree and granules. One of the eye sockets is now empty, but the other has a deeply sunken garnet set in it. The decoration and style are similar to other pendants that date from the Ninth century, but the suspension loop at the back of the head is unique among Anglo Saxon finds.

Found by Mr Peter Thomas when metal detecting at Monkton, Kent in 2013. Purchased with grant-aid from Arts Council England/Victoria and Albert Museum Purchase Grant Fund and the Headley Trust  
CANCM:2016.14

**The Bishop Liudhard Medalet**  
c. 590 AD  
Gold

A electroform copy of the Bishop Liudhard Medalet, now in the World Museum Liverpool. The Medalet honours Queen Bertha’s chaplain and was probably created prior to St Augustine’s arrival in 597 AD.

Original excavated from St Martin’s Churchyard in 1844.  
CANCM:10353

**Coin**  
Eighth Century AD  
Silver

Electroform copy of an Anglo-Saxon coin - the original is in the British Museum. This coin was minted in around 765AD for Ecgberht II, who ruled from 765 to 779. Not much is known about Ecgberht aside from his coins and the small number of charters in which he is mentioned; he was likely installed by Offa as a king. Offa then attempted to rule Kent more directly in 776, which prompted a rebellion under Ecgberht. Kent seems to have remained independent for several years afterwards, which suggests it was successful.

CANCM:10446
Coin
Silver

Coin minted for Archbishop Æthelheard, who was enthroned in 793. It bears the names of both the archbishop and the King. King Offa gave the Archbishops of Canterbury the right to mint their own coins, and this continued into the reign of King Henry VIII. Found by Mr. David Hunt at Otford, Kent. Acquired by the Landowner with grant-aid from the MLA/V&A Purchase Grant fund, and generous contributions from Mr. Hunt and from a Kent charitable trust through the friends of Canterbury Museums. CANCM:2010.69

Two Glass Beakers
5th – 8th Century AD
Glass

Two glass beakers of yellow-green glass. Donated by Mr. John Hewett. Cancm:9934.2 + 3

Two Glass Beakers
5th – 8th Century AD
Glass

Two glass beakers. Found in Faversham, Kent, UK. No accession number

Glass Jar
5th – 8th Century AD
Glass

No accession number

Spindle Whorl
5th – 8th Century AD
Glass

Spindle whorl of very dark blue or green glass with inlaid white glass decoration. Anglo-Saxon Eastry appears to have been a place of some size and much importance. The Kings of Kent had a palace, and often held court there. Found at Eastry, Kent by Mr. Irby. Presented to the museum by Dr. W.G. Unry. CANCM:7903
**Square-Headed Brooch**
5th – 8th Century AD
Silver Gilt

Square-headed silver-gilt brooch. Found at Eastry, Kent in 1792. Presented to the museum by Dr. W.G. Urry after a loan from Mr Irby CANCM:7495

**Square-Headed Brooch**
5th – 8th Century AD
Silver Gilt

Square-headed silver-gilt brooch with an undivided foot and a motif decorating footplate which shows rampant animals either side of the foot reaching up to the bow. Found at Eastry, Kent in 1792. Presented to the museum by Dr. W.G. Urry after a loan from Mr Irby CANCM:7494

**Bird Brooch**
5th-8th Century AD
Gilded Copper Alloy

Bird shaped brooch of a Frankish type, with traces of gilt on the exterior. Found at Eastry, Kent in 1792. Presented to the museum by Dr. W.G. Urry after a loan from Mr Irby CANCM:7496

**Brooch**
5th – 8th Century AD
Silver Gilt

Silver-gilt brooch with garnet and greenstone. Found at Eastry, Kent in 1792. Presented to the museum by Dr. W.G. Urry after a loan from Mr Irby CANCM:7497
**Girdle-Hanger**

5th – 8th Century AD

Copper Alloy

Bronze girdle-hanger. This type of object, often found in Anglo-Saxon women’s graves, imitates a key. It has been suggested that girdle-hangers symbolise that women controlled access to the home.

Found at Eastry, Kent in 1792. Presented to the museum by Dr. W.G. Urry after a loan from Mr Irby

**Silver Ring**

5th – 8th Century AD

Silver

Portion of silver twisted ring.

Found by Mr J. Brent.

**Brooch**

5th – 8th Century AD

Copper-Alloy

Square brooch set with garnets at each corner.

Found at Mersham, Kent in 1828.

**Brooch**

5th – 8th Century AD

Copper-Alloy

Jeweled brooch of Jutish type, set with garnets.

Found at Mersham, Kent in 1828.

**Brooch**

5th – 8th Century AD

Copper-Alloy

Circular brooch set with garnets, one is missing.

Found at Merhsam, Kent in 1828

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EXPLORERS & COLLECTORS

The Anglo-Saxon Kingdom of Kent
**Crystal Sphere**

*5th – 8th Century AD*

**Crystal**

Large crystal ball without the suspender. The purpose of Anglo-Saxon crystal balls is unclear: they may have been used as a magnifying glass, or perhaps even had a magical or ritual use. They are often found in the graves of women next to silver spoons.

Found at Mersham, Kent in 1828.
CANCM:2616

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**Bronze Patera Bowl**

*7th Century AD*

**Copper Alloy**

‘Coptic bowl’. Bowls of this type have been found in several other Anglo-Saxon cemeteries in Kent. They were made in Egypt, and probably were imported from Alexandria in the seventh century AD, arriving to Britain via the river Rhine.

Thought to be from Wickhambreaux (1886).
Bequeathed by Lt. Col Copeland.
CANCM:1107