Appendix 1

Provincial Roman jewellery of the 2nd–3rd centuries AD

Six brooches (cat. nos 93–98) are all of familiar types. Six are enamelled bronze brooches typical of the Middle Empire period (2nd–3rd century AD), and particularly common in the north-western provinces of the Empire, while the seventh (cat. no. 99) is a silver fibula of cross-bow type, a Late-Roman form.

Though enamelling on gold was an ancient tradition in the Classical world, the use of enamel on base metal ornaments was established before the Roman conquest in many of the Celtic areas of Europe and continued to be popular in those regions when they became provinces of the Empire. Enamelled brooches and studs, as well as small bronze vessels with enamel decoration, were probably made at numerous centres in provinces from Britannia to Pannonia (Hungary), and certainly including many areas of Gaul.¹

Note

¹ Catherine Johns, former curator in the Department of Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities, British Museum. The notes and descriptions of cat. nos 93–99 below are also written with the benefit of her expertise and advice.

93 Brooch (Pl. 50)

Single piece of composite construction.
Copper-alloy brooch in the shape of a leopardess, enriched with enamel and glass inlays.
2nd–3rd century
Copper alloy, enamel, glass, iron
Prov.: unknown
Inv. no. GR 1924,5-2.1 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1923
Old cat. no. 167
Size: L: 45mm W: 20mm Weight: 13.29g

The copper-alloy brooch is three dimensional, cast. It represents a reclining pantheress or leopardess, its head raised and thus cast fully in the round. The three projections along the animal's belly indicate teats, identifying it as a female. The eyes are inlaid with small beads of yellow glass, while the body is ornamented with 14 circular spots of enamel, all apparently red. The figure is carefully executed with cast features, such as the ears, the forehead, the mouth, the paws and the incised twisting on the tail.

The back is flat.

The catchplate and the spring-holder are cast. The spring-holder is a pair of semicircular lugs, centrally perforated for an iron (?) pin-spring axis.

(H at body: 4–5mm, H at head: 15mm).

The catchplate and the pin-spring axis are fragmentary. The pin is missing.

Plate-brooches in a variety of shapes, including zoomorphic forms, were probably intended as much for pure decoration as for use in securing garments. Of the examples present in this collection, the spotted panther or leopard is a well-known form, and is one of the more three-dimensional, the heads in particular being rendered completely in the round and the enamel taking the form of solid enamel colour, but the leopards belong to a distinctive group which are more three-dimensional, the heads in particular being rendered completely in the round and the enamel taking the form of small spots in the metal background. The body spots are generally in two colours, e.g. black and red, but appear here to be in red alone.

94 Brooch (Pl. 50)

Single piece of composite construction.
Copper-alloy rectangular plate-brooch with enamel inlays.
2nd–3rd century
Copper alloy, enamel
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine – 1897
Inv. no. GR 1924,5-2.2 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1923
Old cat. no. 196
Size: L: 45mm W: 26mm Weight: 7.74g

Convex, rectangular, cast plate-brooch of copper alloy with a projecting, discoid lobe below each corner. There is a triangular plate projection at each of the two shorter sides with a similar discoid lobe at their top. There is a rectangular, raised panel in the centre of the front, inlaid with three different-coloured strips of enamel (red, blue and amber yellow). There is a notched, rectangular framing rib around the raised area. Each peripheral lobe is decorated with concentric, engraved circles.

The back is plain.

The catchplate and spring-holder are cast, the latter consisting of a pair of semicircular lugs centrally perforated for the pin-spring axis.

(H: 6mm, size of enamelled zone: 8 x 20mm, D of lobes: 5.5mm).

The pin-spring axis and catchplate are fragmentary.

95 Brooch (Pl. 50)

Single piece of composite construction.
Copper-alloy lozenge-shaped plate-brooch with enamel inlays.
2nd century
Copper alloy, enamel, iron
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine – 1897
Inv. no. GR 1924,5-2.3 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1923
Old cat. no. 261
Size: L: 42mm W: 32mm Weight: 5.87g

Lozenge-shaped, cast plate-brooch with a discoid lobe at each corner. There is a lozenge-shaped, central, raised panel divided into four lozenge-shaped zones of equal size. Each zone is inlaid with enamel, two opposed red and two opposed, vivid, hyacinth-blue enamels.

There is a notched rib running between the enamelled zones, and a similar rib all around them. Each peripheral lobe is decorated with concentric, engraved circles.

The back is plain with a central, circular depression.

The pin-catch and spring-holder are cast, the latter consisting of a pair of semicircular lugs centrally perforated to secure an iron spring axis.

(H: 3mm, size of enamelled zone: 13 x 15mm, D of lobes: 6mm).

The surface of one of the red enamels has deteriorated to green. The catchplate and pin-spring axis are fragmentary. The pin is missing.

96 Brooch (Pl. 50)

Single piece of composite construction.
Copper-alloy hexagonal plate-brooch with enamel inlays.
2nd–3rd century
Copper alloy, enamel
Prov.: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1900
Inv. no. GR 1924,5-2.4 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1923
Old cat. no. 233
Size: L: 35mm W: 23mm Weight: 7.88g

Hexagonal, cast plate-brooch with a discoid lobe at each corner. There is a central, hexagonal zone decorated with enamel inlays of various colours and shapes: a central, orange disc surrounded by black and red dots on a turquoise background. One of these is damaged and it is neither red nor black. The fact of its complete decay suggests a different composition. The centre of each peripheral lobe is inlaid with a red enamel disc.

The back is plain and flat. The pin-catch and spring-holder are cast on the back, each being behind the lobe at either end. Fragments of the iron pin-spring axis are preserved. (H: 2.5mm, D of lobes: 5.5mm).

The pin-catch is fragmentary. The pin is missing.

97 Brooch (Pl. 50)

Single piece of composite construction.
Copper-alloy disc-brooch with a central, riveted boss and millefiori enamel inlays.
2nd century
Copper alloy, millefiori enamel
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine – 1897
Inv. no. GR 1924,5-2.5 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1923
Old cat. no. 197
Size: D: 37mm Weight: 10.44g

Copper-alloy, disc-brooch with eight peripheral, discoid lobes. There is a raised, disc-shaped panel at the centre with a central
projecting, riveted boss decorated with red enamel inlay on the top. The central, raised panel is decorated with two concentric, enamelled rings with copper-alloy borders. The inner ring is inlaid with red enamel, the outer one with millefiori enamel. There are three patterns of millefiori enamel as follows: (a) eight squares of turquoise with a ?red and black 5 x 5 checkerboard centre; (b) four squares of red with black and white 5 x 5 checkerboard; (c) four squares of white with a central, floral element consisting of a red dot and circle surrounded by eight black petals. Each peripheral lobe is decorated with concentric, engraved circles.

The back is plain and concave. The pin-catch and spring-holder are cast on the back, each behind a lobe at either end. The spring-holder consists of a pair of semicircular lugs centrally perforated to secure the pin-spring axis.

The pin-catch is fragmentary. The pin is missing. (D of raised panel: 21.5 mm, D of boss: 6 mm, H with boss: 10 mm, H without boss: 3 mm).

Millefiori enamelling is represented on this wheel-brooch. This intricate technique required specialised glassmaking and gem-cutting skills, as well as those of the bronzesmith and enameller, and was used on some highly specialised, small bronze vessels, as well as on personal ornaments. The very wide distribution of the rare, hexagonal ink-pots (pyxides) with millefiori enamelling extends as far as Palmyra and Kerch (the latter apparently from a Sarmatian grave), suggesting that they were seen as exotic curios.

98 Fibula (Pl. 51)
Single piece of composite construction.
Copper-alloy composite plate-brooch, inlaid with enamel.
2nd century
Copper alloy, enamel
Prov.: Kerch, Crimea (Krym), Ukraine – 1900
Inv. no. GR 1924.5-2.6 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1923 Old cat. no. 232
Size: L: 50 mm Weight: 21.76 g
Cast, copper-alloy brooch with a lozenge-shaped upper section and lobed lower section, both inlaid with enamel. There is a projecting, cast, discoid boss in the centre of the upper section, with red and blue enamel inlays. It is enclosed by two lozenge-shaped strips with gilt-copper-alloy dividers. The pattern of the enamel is of alternating red and turquoise squares. The turquoise areas in the corners of both the inner and outer lozenges have had directly inset enamel spots of contrasting colour – all lost, but their positions can clearly be seen. The border rib is notched transversely. The bottom part of the brooch consists of four zones of red enamel inlays: a central triangle with a tear-shaped zone below, flanked by a semicircular zone at each side. Each zone of enamel has a gilt-copper-alloy frame.

The back is plain. The pin-catch and spring-holder are cast, the latter consisting of a tube divided in two by a slot which accommodates the base of the pin. The pin-catch is cast on the back of the lower part of the bow and is perforated to accommodate a chain, or string of beads, when worn as one of a matching pair. (L of top part: 28 x 31 mm, L of bottom part: 22 mm, D of boss: 8 mm, H with boss: 8 mm, H without boss: 3 mm).

Unlike the other enamelled brooches above, this is effectively a Fibula rather than a plate-brooch, but its decoration is much influenced by the many geometric forms of plate-brooches. The closest parallels to this example would seem to be from Pannonia rather than Gaul.

99 Brooch (Pl. 51)
Single piece of composite construction.
Silver crossbow-brooch with three knobs at the head-end and niello decoration on the bow.
Late 3rd/early 4th century
Silver, niello
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine – 1896
Inv. no. GR 1924.5-2.7 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1923 Old cat. no. 193
Size: L: 58 mm W (of head): 31 mm Weight: 7.82 g
Small silver brooch of crossbow type. The bow is decorated with a running chevron pattern inlaid with niello, and the relatively short, narrow foot has two pairs of cross mouldings and lightly chamfered sides at the tip. The catchplate is a simple, open one. The simple tubular cross-bar terminates in very small rounded knobs, and the central knob terminal is also small, though slightly pointed. (Thickness of the bow: 4 mm).

It is a type which was found throughout the Empire in the 4th century AD, and, unlike most earlier fibula types, was quite often made in gold, silver or gilded bronze, as well as plain bronze. It was, indeed, the only fibula type which was commonly used in the Late-Roman period. The silver specimen in this collection has all the typical features of an early example in the type-series: it is small and slender, has a short, narrow foot, small knob terminals and a simple, open catchplate. Later crossbow-brooches are larger, often excessively so, with proportionately longer and wider feet, very large knob terminals, and often have elaborate decoration and an ingenious fastening mechanism.

Late-Antique and Sarmatian material

100 Fibula (Pl. 52)
Single piece.
Gold fibula.
2nd–3rd century
Gold
Prov.: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1893
Inv. no. GR 1981.9-5.1 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1981 Original Inv. no. 1923.7-16.2 Old cat. no. 65
Percentage of gold: 82
Size: W: 16 mm L: 41 mm Weight: 2.9 g
The fibula is made from a single wire of gold, shaped by hammering. The pin is of circular section with a pointed end, the other end coiled to form the spring. The spring itself is also of circular section and consists of two spirals outwards, a loop around the front, and forms three spirals inwards to the bow. The bow is a rectangular-section strip, bent to shape. It is hammered flat at the end to form a triangular foot-plate. At the back this is folded back and its edges are turned in to form the pin-catch. The end of the pin-catch is hammered to form a plano-convex-section wire, which is returned and wrapped seven times round the base of the bow.

There are three other similar fibulas in the collection (cat. nos 101, 102 and 103 below). The technique of making these fibulas from a single strip of gold is skilfully executed. There is no similarity between the four fibulas in their alloy composition. The circular-section wire of cat. no. 100 is formed by hammering, but that of cat. nos 101 and 102 was made by twisting the strip tightly and rolling it between two hard, flat surfaces to smooth it. However, both of the above-mentioned methods were used for the construction of the fibula, cat. no. 103.

A similar gold fibula from Kerch is published by Rostovtsev and a pair also from Kerch is in the Louvre. There is one from south Russia, but with no exact provenance, published by Greifenhagen and one in the museum of Hamburg with no known provenance.

Comparative bibliography
1 Rostovtsev 1923b, 107 no. 10, pl. 4
2 De Ridder 1924, 82 nos 945, 946, pl. XV
3 Greifenhagen 1975, 1, 47, pl. 24:10–12
4 Hoffmann and von Claer 1968, 155 no. 97

101 Fibula (Pl. 52)
Single piece.
Gold fibula.
2nd–3rd century
Gold
Prov.: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1893
Inv. no. GR 1981.9-5.2 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1981 Original Inv. no. 1923.7-16.3 Old cat. no. 66
Percentage of gold: 91
Size: W: 16 mm L: 36.5 mm Weight: 2.65 g
Very similar to cat. no. 100 above, and made in the same way, though smaller. It is hammered from a single piece of block-twisted wire. The pin-spring consists of a single spiral outwards, a loop around the front, and forms two spirals inwards to the bow. This is of circular-section...
There is a beaded-wire border soldered around the edge. The wire is the pendant by means of folding the edges of the pendant all around it, with both of its ends soldered to a disc which is attached to the base of the pendant. A circular-section wire connects this end to a loop at the base of the pendant; a single loop of circular-section wire. This end is bent to form a smaller loop with its end wrapped around the base of the pendant is fastened to a loop at the base of the pendant, a circular-section wire of the wire. To it is attached a single loop of circular-section wire. This end is bent to form a smaller loop with its end wrapped around the base of the pendant. The main suspension attachment is of circular-section wire,

102 Fibula (Pl. 52)

Single piece.
Gold fibula.
End of the 1st/beginning of the 2nd century
Gold
Prov.: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1897
Inv. no. GR 1981,9-5.6 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1981
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,50 Old cat. no. 200
Percentage of gold: 88
Size: W: 9.9mm L: 23mm Weight: 1.28g

Very similar to cat. no. 100 above, and made in the same way, though smaller. It is also hammered to shape, but the wire itself was formed by twisting. The pin-spring consists of a single spiral outwards, a loop beneath the bow, and forms two spirlals inwards to the bow. The end of the pin-catch is a circular-section wire which is wrapped only three times around the base of the bow.

103 Fibula (Pl. 52)

Single piece.
Gold fibula with decoration on the bow.
Second half of the 2nd century
Gold
Prov.: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1900
Inv. no. GR 1981,9-5.9 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1981
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,61 Old cat. no. 226
Percentage of gold: 66
Size: W: 15.5mm L: 42mm Weight: 3.71g

The pin-spring consists of a single spiral outwards, a loop around the front, and forms two spirlals inwards to the bow. The wire forming the spring is hammered to shape. The loop connecting the two outermost spirals of the spring is soldered to the bow. The foot-plate is narrow and almost rectangular. The end of the pin-catch is a hammered circular-section wire which is wrapped four times around the base of the bow. The decoration consists of a single, circular-section gold wire, made by twisting. It is wound around the bow, forming a pattern of alternate transverse zones and wavy vertical lines along its whole length. There is no trace of solder which would support this decorative wire.

Both methods of shaping a wire by hammering and twisting are present, which suggests that they were in use at the same time and, presumably, in the same workshop.

104 Pendant (Pl. 53)

Single piece of composite construction.
Gold, three-dimensional pendant in the form of a clenched fist.
Gold, enamel
Prov.: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1899
Inv. no. GR 1981,9-5.7 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1981
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,51 Old cat. no. 206
Percentage of gold: body: 83   loop: 81
Size: L: 40mm overall Weight: 2.57g

The main suspension attachment is of circular-section wire, irregularly grooved and bent to form an oval loop at the top. The other end is bent to form a smaller loop with its end wrapped around the base of the wire. To it is attached a single loop of circular-section wire. This is fastened to a loop at the base of the pendant, a circular-section wire with both of its ends soldered to a disc which is attached to the base of the pendant by means of folding the edges of the pendant all around it. There is a beaded-wire border soldered around the edge. The wire is probably shaped by a two-edged tool.
The pendant itself is in the form of a closed hand and is hollow inside. It is constructed of two longitudinal halves of repoussé work, hammered into a former and joined together. The finger-nails and joints are indicated by incised lines. The thumb projects between the first and second fingers in a gesture of ‘ficus’. Soldered onto the front of the wrist is a single wire bent into a leaf shape. It contains traces of enamel, which is now opaque and white (originally it may not have been white).

The suspension attachment and the beaded wire are both heavily worn.
There is a similar pendant in the British Museum from Olbia (Ukraine) and another in the Hermitage.²

Comparative bibliography
1 Marshall 1911, 533 no. 2964, pl. LXVIII
2 Comptes Rendus 1872, pl. 3:11

105 Pendant (Pl. 53)

Single piece of composite construction.
Miniature gold pendant of pyramidal shape with suspension loops.
Gold
Prov.: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1900
Inv. no. GR 1981,9-5.8 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1981
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,56 Old cat. no. 218
Percentage of gold: pyramid: 97   suspension loop: 73   loop: 69
Size: L: 29mm overall Weight: 1.28g

There is a suspension loop of circular-section, beaded wire at the top. To its base is soldered a hinge, which consists of two loops with a rod passing through it securing a ribbed strip with a median groove. Both ends are bent around to form a loop and between the two ends is soldered a large granule. To the lower loop is hooked a loop of plain, circular-section wire which has another similar strip attached. A small loop of beaded wire is hooked through the lower section and from it a miniature pendant of pyramidal shape is suspended by a soldered-on loop of beaded wire.

The suspension loop is heavily worn on the top inside edge. The pyramid is covered with platinum group metallic inclusions, which suggest an alluvial source for the gold.
The XRF analyses of the pendant show that the metal-composition of the pyramid is quite different from that of the rest of the component parts. It is therefore possible that the pyramid has been re-used from another item of jewellery.

106 Earring (Pl. 53)

Single piece of composite construction.
Gold hoop with a pyramidal pendant of gold spheres enriched with granules. 2nd–3rd century
Gold
Prov.: ?1894
Inv. no.: GR 1981,9-5.16 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1981
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,109 Old cat. no. 155
Percentage of gold: body: 72   cylinder attachment: 74 hoop: 76
Size: W: 14mm L overall: 35mm Weight: 1.9g

The hoop consists of a ring of circular-section wire, made by twisting and rolling. It narrows towards the ends. One end is bent to form a hook, the other is bent to form a loop then twisted cylindrically around itself in a return. The two ends together form a hook-and-eye fastening.

The pendant is a pyramid of spheres and granules. Each of the five spheres is hollow and constructed of two hemispheres soldered together. The three at the top and the one at the bottom each have a pyramid of four granules soldered to their base and there are two granules soldered between each of the spheres at the top. There is a twisted wire soldered around the top of the lowermost sphere, and a beaded wire to its base directly above the pyramid of granules. To its top is soldered a cylindrical, ribbed strip which is in turn soldered to a loop of ribbed strip with a groove along the middle by means of which the pendant is attached to the earring hoop.

There is an earring with a similar pendant from Dura Europus (Syria) now in Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven,¹ and a pair of earrings of the same type in the Brooklyn Museum.² A pair from south Russia is published by Greifenhagen.³

Comparative bibliography
1 Baur et al. 1933, 246, pl. IX:2
2 Davidson and Oliver, JR 1984, 117 no. 126 A–B
3 Greifenhagen 1975, I, 46, pl. 23:14, 15

107 Earring (Pl. 53)

A pair, each of composite construction.
Cabochoon garnet inlay on the hoop and pyramidal pendant of granules. 3rd century
Gold, garnet
Prov.: Elitgen, Heroivske (Geroyevskoye), the antique Nymphaion, a Greek town in the Krym near Kerch – 1899
Inv. no. GR 1981,9-5,14 and 15 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1981
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,62 and 63
Old cat. no. 230
Percentage of gold: back sheet: 92  twisted wire: 95  hoop: 93
Size: no. 10: W: 19mm  Weight: 3.38g
no. 11: L overall: 48mm  Weight: 3.44g
The hoop is an elongated hook of circular-section wire with a small, dome-headed knob at its end. The other end is flattened where it is soldered to the hexagonal base-plate of the pendant, onto which it is soldered to a central, box-shaped setting. The four sides of it are constructed from a single strip with a soldered join adjacent to the suspension hoop. Around its top edge a rectangular sheet is fixed by wax with a rectangular opening cut into the centre and its edges turned in to hold the inlay. The setting contains a rectangular garnet plate. There is no foil visible behind the garnet, although it is difficult to see through. The garnet and its surround are now held in place by a white, waxy paste, which is unlikely to be part of the original construction (it blocks and has squeezed out of the small holes in the sides of the box, which must once have anchored some missing attachment). The garnets are too small for their settings and would fall out without the adhesion of the white paste. To the top of no. 1981,9-5,10 is soldered vertically a thin sheet bent to form a cylinder containing a small, circular-section wire with a rosette of granules soldered onto the end. No. 1981,9-5,11 has remains of a similar construction, but its cylindrical sheet is held in place by the wax. There are several similar wires (but with no sheet around them) soldered onto the base-plate, each of them enriched with similar rosettes. The lower edge of the base-plate is bent in to secure a beaded wire formed by a multiple-bladed tool. It serves to support three pendants. Each of these is suspended by a loop, one end of which is flattened where it is soldered on, while the other is free. On no. 1981,9-5,10 the central pendant has a replacement suspension loop. Each pendant consists of a single wire bent round at the top to form a suspension loop, with the return wrapped cylindrically around the body for three-quarters of its length. The wires were all made by twisting strips or rods of gold and rolling them to form a round section. Each pendant terminates in a circular sheet with granules soldered onto it in the form of a rosette.

The garnets are probably replacements; the white paste is not original.

The heavy wire scrollwork of this earring is similar to the decoration of several pieces of late Hellenistic (1st century BC) jewellery such as an earring in the Jewellery Museum, Pforzheim (Germany),1 an armband from Palaiokastro (Greece),2 and the armbands in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.3

Comparative bibliography
2 Op. cit. ill. 217
3 Op. cit. pl. XXXII

110 Earring (Pl. 54)

Single piece of composite construction.
Gold hoop and a pendant of a lunate gold sheet decorated with three cabochoon garnets, and enriched with bordering wires and granules.
2nd century?
Gold, garnet
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine
Inv. no. GR 1981,9-5,13 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1981
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,74
Old cat. no. 310
Percentage of gold: base-plate: 95  body: 93
Size: W: 22mm  L: 26mm  Weight: 2.89g
The hoop consists of a circular-section wire formed by twisting, it is bent to form a hook at one end. The other end is bent to form a loop then twisted cylindrically around itself in a return. The two ends together form a hook-and-eye fastening.
The lunate pendant is soldered to the hoop and also secured by a triangular projection from the base-plate, which is folded over it. The base-plate is a single sheet of lunate form with seven triangular projections around its outer edge. Each projection contains three soldered-on granules in a triangular arrangement. The edge of the base-plate is folded up, except where the groups of granules are. Within the edge of the base-plate is soldered a strip forming a vertical projection around its outer edge. Each projection contains three soldered-on granules in a triangular arrangement. The edge of the base-plate is folded up, except where the groups of granules are. Within the edge of the base-plate is soldered a strip forming a vertical projection around its outer edge. Each projection contains three soldered-on granules in a triangular arrangement. The edge of the base-plate is folded up, except where the groups of granules are. 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The edge of the base-plate is folded up, except where the groups of granules are. Within the edge of the base-plate is soldered a strip forming a vertical
collar. It has two twisted wires in a herring-bone pattern all along the inside-edge. A thin, plain, circular-section wire is soldered onto the plate within the twisted wires. All the wires are made by twisting. There is a hemispherical sheet at each point of the base-plate covering the wires with a granule soldered onto the centre of each. The main field is decorated with three cabochon garnets in a triangular arrangement, each in an individual collet. The two smaller ones have their collets squashed to size, since the latter were originally tear-shaped, but the present stones are circular and may be replacements. The collet of the bigger cabochon is notched around the edge and folded around it. This has a twisted-wire border with a granule soldered onto the base-plate above the centre of it.

There is a very similar pair of crescent-shaped gold earrings decorated with garnet inlays in the Collection of Burton Y. Berry.  

**Comparative bibliography**

1 Rudolph and Rudolph 1973, 92 no. 71b, pl. 71

**111 Earring (Pl. 55)**

Single piece of composite construction. Gold hoop and a pendant of triangular gold sheet containing a tear-shaped garnet enriched with granules and beaded wire, and three garnet bead pendants.  
2nd–1st century bc  
Gold, garnet  
Prov.: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1893  
Inv. no. 1923.7-16,13 Old cat. no. 147  
Percentage of gold: body, side: 93 base-plate: 93 base-plate abraded: 94  
Size: W: 20mm  L: 38mm  Weight: 6.65g

The hoop consists of a circular-section wire with one end bent to form a hook. The other end is flattened and soldered to the base-plate of the pendant. This consists of a triangular sheet with a box-shaped setting soldered on. The sides of the setting are formed by a broad strip bent to a tear shape. From the limited access available, there is no evidence of any material inside the box-shaped setting. To the top of the box is soldered a ribbed strip bent to form a cylinder, soldered to the top surrounding a small perforation where the two ends of the strip meet. The broken ends of at least three gold wires can be seen through the perforation. They appear to be twisted together in a rope-like fashion and presumably formed another decorative feature, similar to the protruding wire decoration of cat. no. 109 above. The tear-shaped strip has a thin strip soldered around its top edge supporting a line of granules soldered on. There is a further strip soldered at right angles to the top inside edge of the side-strip, which is bent along its central line around the garnet to secure it. The garnet is of a three-dimensional tear shape (flame-like or representing an ivy leaf, very similar to that of cat. no. 28 above). There is a small loop of beaded wire soldered to each lower corner of the base-plate, directly next to the setting. The beading is uneven and poorly executed. It was probably made with a single-bladed tool. The lower edge of the base-plate has a strip soldered on, which is bent to a semicircular section in order to secure a line of granules soldered on top.

There are three loops of ribbed strip soldered to the base-plate, each with a median groove. One end of each is flattened where it is fastened to the base-plate. The other end is free. From each of these is suspended a pendant by a circular-section wire, the top end of which is bent to form a loop. The wire passes through the centre of an ovoid garnet bead, which has a flower-shaped sheet washer at the top and bottom. The washers are held in place by pressure from the burred end of the suspension wire.

The lower edge of the base-plate has been overheated during the solder work and has melted in several places. Earrings of this type are published by Ondrejova and dated to the 2nd–3rd century. There is an earring with similar ovoid garnet pendants from Palaiokastro (Greece) in the Museum of Hamburg.

See cat. no. 28 above for similar three-dimensional garnet inlays.  

**Comparative bibliography**

1 Ondrejova 1975

**112 Buckle-loop (Pl. 55)**

In two pieces. Copper-alloy, elongated buckle-loop with animal-head decoration on the tongue.  
1st–3rd century. Sarmatian  
Copper-alloy  
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine  
Inv. no. 1923.7-16,84 Old cat. no. 320  
Size: loop: 55 x 27mm tongue L: 40mm  Weight: 13.77g

The loop is cast, oval. It has an oval-section head, which is opened at the base, each end of which is decorated with an openwork spiral downwards and elongated into a rectangular-section rod for accommodating the tongue. The elongated part has a pattern of three circles on the top of each arm followed by a rectangular projection with a central circular perforation for attachment of the tongue. There is a circular projection at both ends of the loop with a circular perforation for attachment to the plate.

The tongue is of semicircular section with a T-shaped base by means of which it is hinged into the perforations on the arms of the loop. The base of the tongue is decorated with an elaborate, cast, projecting animal-head (dog, or wolf?). The tongue is further decorated with four deep lines crosswise and an animal-head (bird?) terminal in profile. The tongue is loose. One of the perforations preserves fragments of the plate-attachment and another one of the tongue. The plate is missing.

**113 Buckle-loop (Pl. 56)**

In two pieces. Copper-alloy loop with openwork decoration, and tongue.  
Copper, copper alloy  
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine  
Inv. no. 1923.7-16,83 Old cat. no. 320  
Size: 29.5 x 34mm  Weight: 13.94g

The cast, copper-alloy loop is oval with an openwork, rectangular projection at its base for attachment to the plate. The oval part is decorated with two openwork scrolls at the base, below which is a small, cast bar for the attachment of the tongue.

The narrow tongue is of copper with an elongated, rectangular base decorated with a carved, zig-zag pattern on top. It has a circular opening at the back of the base with both of its ends flattened to form a closed, circular fitting around the bar of the loop.

The tongue is probably a replacement. The plate is missing, or the loop may belong to the attachment-plate (cat. no. 114) below.

Similar buckle-loops were found in Kerch and Cherni. There are attached to buckle-plates of the type cat. no. 114. They are considered to be Sarmatian and dated to the 1st–3rd centuries by Shkorpil and also by Solomonik. There are two buckle-loops of this type from Kerch in the Ashmolean Museum, and one of unknown provenance in the Odessa Museum.

**Comparative bibliography**

1 Shkorpil 1910b, 32 ill. 8; Solomonik 1959, 132, 133, nos 71, 76, 78 – no. 71 is of gold  
2 OIAK 1938, 34 no. 18  
3 Shkorpil 1910b, 32  
4 Solomonik 1959, 132  
5 Inv. nos 1909.805 (with a plate attached) and 1909.809. Both acquired by Sir John Evans in 1886 and presented to the Ashmolean by Sir Arthur Evans in 1909.  
6 Pota 1905, 433 ill. 244: 4

**114 Buckle-plate (Pl. 56)**

Single piece. The copper-alloy buckle-plate is a rectangular frame containing an openwork tanga.  
Copper, copper alloy  
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine – 1909  
Inv. no. 1923.7-16,85 Old cat. no. 320  
Size: 43 x 22mm  Weight: 7.58g

Published: Sulimirski 1970, 152, pl. 37 left

The copper-alloy (brass) plate is cast in one and has a folded flap attachment at one end to secure it to the loop or to a plate, like cat. no. 115 below. Two copper attachment-rivets survive in two perforations drilled through the end of the plate.

Thickness of plate: 2mm; W of folded flap attachment: 11.5mm; D of rivet-heads: 3mm. The folded flap attachment is imperfect. There are traces of corrosion on the plate and the loss is missing.
There are many similar Sarmatian buckle-plates from the Black Sea region.  In some cases they bear different targa-motifs, or they may be attached to various kinds of loop, including loops like that of cat. no. 113 above.  One such plate was attached to a belt-mount identical to cat. no. 115 below.  In some cases they are made of gold.}

At Chorna/Chernaya Rechka (Crimea, Ukraine) a similar buckle was found with objects considered to be of the second half of the 3rd century by Aibabin.  Solomonik and Shkorpil dated them to the 1st–3rd centuries, while according to Aibabin they should be dated to the 2nd and 3rd centuries.

In view of the joint appearance of this type of object with cat. nos 113 and 115 in the collection, the information above should apply to them too.

Comparative bibliography

1. OIAK 1893a, 34, ill. 18; OIAK 1893b, 53, ill. 29; Shkorpil 1907, 14, ill. 5; Shkorpil 1908, 23–35, ill. 8–12; Pósta 1905, 55 ill. 244; also in: Solomonik 1959, 133 no. 5; Solomonik 1959, 132–7 also list of similar buckles with literature, ill. 71; 72; 76; 78–80; 84–6; Babenchikov 1963, 108–10, pl. VII:11 and XV:3

2. OIAK 1893a, 34, ill. 18–19; Shkorpil 1908, 32, ill. 8–11; Gulf of Kerch together with coins of Choti I (1st century); Solomonik 1959, 78–79; Kerch

3. Shkorpil 1908, 32, ill. 9–11; Gulf of Kerch Gulf together with buckle under footnote 2

4. Solomonik 1959, 132, nos 71–2; Römisch-Germanisches Museum, Cologne – Inv. nos: D 100 and D 99


6. Aibabin 1990, pl. 2:1–2

7. Solomonik 1959, 132–7

8. Shkorpil 1908, 31–4

9. Aibabin below

115  Belt-mount (Pl. 56)

Single piece.  Copper-alloy, tongue-shaped frame with openwork decoration based on the pelta and volutes.


Copper alloy.

Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine – 1909

Inv. no. 1923,7-16,86  Old cat. no. 320

Size: 52 x 15mm  Weight: 6.11g

Unpublished

The mount is a single casting in the form of an elongated, tongue-shaped frame containing openwork decoration.  There is a rectangular attachment slot at the base.  The openwork comprises a lunette cut-out below the base, followed by a rectangle with an opened circle on either side.  Below is a circular section containing an openwork rectangle in the centre surrounded by four segments.  There is a taper-shaped section below, containing an openwork, lunette shape, two circles next to each other below that, and a triangle at the end above a small disc terminal.  The front and back are both flat.  (Thickness of plate: 2.5mm.)

The rectangular attachment slot is broken.  An almost identical mount was found near Kerch in 1909 and is dated to the 1st–3rd century by Shkorpil and Solomonik.  There is a similar mount in the British Museum and a further two mounts of the type in the Römisch-Germanisches Museum, Cologne, all from Kerch and attached to openwork plates similar to cat. no. 114 above by means of rectangular attachment slots at the base.

Aibabin dates this group of Sarmatian belt-mounts to the 2nd–3rd century.

Comparative bibliography

1. Shkorpil 1908, 31, ill. 9

2. Solomonik 1959, 133; ill. 76

3. Inv. no. 56,10-4,56

4. Inv. nos: D 99 and D 100

5. Aibabin below

116  Sword-scabbard slide (Pls 57–58)

Single piece.  Rectangular jade bar with attachment slot at the back, decorated with scrollwork carved in low relief.

Late 2nd–end of 1st century BC Chinese.  Late Han Dynasty (？) – date of manufacture

3rd century.  Sarmatian – later use

Jade.

Prov.: Kuban area – 1895

Inv. no. 1925,3-7,16,88  Old cat. no. 29

Size: 94.5 x 26.5mm  Weight: 59.79g

Published: Rostovtsev 1923a, 38 note 2; Rostovtsev 1930, 338–40 no. 2, figs 256–7; Werner 1956, 27 note; Trousdale 1966, 61, fig. 8; Trousdale 1975, 25, 102–3, 237–8, 264 table 2, pl. 19c; Khazanov 1971, 25, 149, pl. XV:7

One end of the bar is flat and expanded, the other narrows to a rounded terminal.  (Thickness of one end: 1mm; other end: 2mm.)

The front surface is decorated with incised, low-relief scrollwork.

See Pl. 58 for details of the design.

From the back projects a large, cuboid block.  It is perforated by a transverse, rectangular slot for attachment, 17mm from one end and 41mm from the other end of the bar.  (Size of the slot: 8 x 35mm; the bar is 3.5mm thick under the slot.)

There are traces of metal on the back (iron corrosion).

A very similar Chinese jade slide was found in Kerch in the Messaksoudi find, which is dated to the second half of the 3rd century.

Beck, Kazanski and Vallet date it to the first half of the 4th century.  A sword found in Pokrovsk (Voskhod, Russia) dating to the Hunnic era has a similar slide made of nephrite, and a hilt decorated with garnet inlays.

Another slide of the same type from Alt-Weimar (lower Volga region, Russia) is said to be late Sarmatian.  According to Werner this fashion was spread from the East by the Alans coming from the Volga region in the period of the late Roman Empire.  Maksimenko and Bezugoł date the nephrite sword slide from the Sarmatian kurgan of Sladovský (Rostov district, Russia) to the end of the 2nd–first half of the 3rd century.  Ginters associates the origin of this type of object with the Iranian people, while the ornaments and the use of jade are Chinese characteristics.

A similar nephrite slide from the Perm area (Russia) is published by Spitsin.

Trousdale’s monograph on sword and scabbard slides surveys a large number of this type of object discussing their history, origin, development and bibliography.  According to his idea the long sword and scabbard slide were first used by the equestrian people of the southern Ural steppe during the 7th–6th centuries bc, antedating the earliest appearance of the Chinese jade slides in the 5th century bc.

The scabbard slide was brought westwards from China by the Yüeh-chi people living on the north-northwest frontier of China until the third decade of the 2nd century bc, who occupied Russian Central Asia in the third quarter of the same century.  The Berthier-Delagarde piece was carved in China in the late 2nd/3rd century bc and was found in a Sarmatian grave of the 3rd–4th century bc.  In the 3rd and 4th centuries bc the scabbard slides manufactured in south Russia imitate the Chinese ones.

The scabbard slides were then imported to the Ural steppe from south Russia.  The history of this type of object therefore began in the southern Ural steppe and ended some thousand years later in the same region.  Trousdale rules out the possibility that the scabbard slides could be associated with the Huns.  But Zasetskaya, as a proponent of this theory, dates the slide from Pokrovsk to the 2nd half of the 5th century.

The ‘in situ’ finds of two sword slides of this type, one from the Han period from Korea, the other from the above-mentioned kurgan in Alt-Weimar, solved the problem of how these objects were used (see Pl. 58 right side).

Comparative bibliography

1. Rostovtsev 1923a, 10–11, ill. 3–5

2. Beck, Kazanski and Vallet 1988, 63 et seqq. – with further literature and references.

3. Werner 1956, 26–7, pl. 40:3; Bona 1991, 1993, ill. 22/1; Menghin 1994/45, 178, 185, ill. 35 – with further literature and references.

4. Rau 1927, 39

5. Werner 1956, 26–7, 42, pl. 38:4


7. Ginters 1928, 173 – pl. 29a is wrongly attributed to the Berthier-Delagarde Collection

8. Spitsin 1901, 25, ill. 1


10. Trousdale 1975, 112


12. Yetts 1926, 197–201
117 Earring (Pl. 59)

Single piece.
Ribbed wire hoop with a flat, tear-shaped terminal.
3rd-4th century? Sarmatian.
Silver.
Prov.: ‘Ecaterinos tertre’ (in register; ‘tertre’ is French for ‘mound’ or ‘barrow’) – 1893
Inv. no. 1923,7-16,116 Old cat. no. 158
Percentage of silver: 93
Size: 44 x 30mm Weight: 6.35g
Unpublished
The earring is made from a single piece. The hoop consists of a spirally ribbed wire. It narrows towards a hook at the end which is plain. The terminal is a thin, flat, tear-shaped plate, with a perforation at the tip. There are traces of a tear-shaped setting having been soldered in the centre of it.
Size of sheet: L: 34mm; W: 18mm; thickness: 0.2mm; size of central tear shape: 12 x 7mm; D of hole at the tip: 2mm; thickness of hoop: 3.5–1.3mm.
The terminal is damaged.
The original photograph of the collection does not show this object.
According to Aibabin these earrings are typically Sarmatian, of the second half of the 3rd/early 4th century. They are made of gold, silver or bronze, and are often decorated with a central, tear-shaped glass, or semi-precious stone inlay.
Similar earrings of gold with a central sard inlay have been found in Chorna/Chernaya Rechka (Crimea, Ukraine), and are dated to the 3rd century by Babenchikov. A bronze variant of this type from the site Kaborg IV (Ukraine) is dated to the same period by Magomedov and a pair of silver earrings with glass inlay from Balka (Ukraine) is published by Savovs’ky. Bichir dates a similar pair of earrings from Tîrgs¸or (Romania) to the 2nd–3rd century. They are made of silver and inlaid with a violet-coloured cabochon. A similar earring has been found at Dnipropetrovsk (Ukraine). It is made of bronze, and contains a central glass inlay.
Comparative bibliography
1 Aibabin below
2 Babenchikov 1963, 93, 98; pl. II:13–14
3 Magomedov 1979, 59, 61; pl. X:3
4 Savovs’ky 1977, 65–6; ill. 5:2
5 Bichir 1977, 193; pl. 24:12
6 OIAK 1893b, 87, ill. 68

118 Brooch (Pl. 59)

Single piece of composite construction.
Base silver bow brooch.
3rd-4th century? Chernyakhovsk culture.
Base silver, iron.
Inv. no. 1923,7-16,121 Old cat. no. unknown
Percentage of silver: pin: 65 body: 69
Size: L: 5.6mm Weight: 5.68g
Unpublished.
The body of the brooch is made from two pieces. The spring and pin are made of the same piece of circular-section wire with a pointed end. The bow, foot-plate and pin-catch are made from another, separate piece of metal. The bow is a strip of square section. At the head-end it is bent over to form a loop to secure the pin-spring axis, which is of iron. The foot-plate consists of a rectangular sheet, formed by hammering flat the end of the bow. The pin-catch element is missing, but its end is a plano-convex-section wire which is returned and wrapped six times round the base of the bow.
W of bow: 3mm; thickness: 2mm; pin: L: 40mm; D: 2mm; foot-plate: 6 x 20mm.
It is broken in two. The pin-spring is fragmentary and the pin-catch is missing.
The pin-catch has not been restored properly and a fragment of it has been fixed to the foot-plate.
The main feature of this type of brooch is that its spring and pin are made of a separate piece of wire and the pin-spring axis is secured by a loop created by bending the head-end of the bow. They were made either of silver, or copper alloy.
According to Aibabin many brooches of this type were found in 3rd–4th-century cemeteries of the Chernyakhovsk culture and also in late Sarmatian burials of the 3rd–beginning of the 4th century. According to Skripkin they appear in the second half of the 3rd century, but Ambroz dates the pieces from the Caucasus and Volga regions into the 4th century. Brooches of this type were found e.g. in Budješti (Romania), in the Lower Don region, in Kislovodsk (south Russia), in the Lower Volga region, and in Sîntana de Mureş (Marosszentana, Romania).
Comparative Bibliography
1 Aibabin below
2 Skripkin 1977, 102–3
3 Ambroz 1966, 52
4 Rikman 1975, 109, ill. 28:4 (Chernyakhovsk culture)
5 Bezuglov and Kopylov 1989, 176, ill. 5:2 (Sarmatian)
6 Kužnetsov 1990, 253, ill. 1:14–16 (Sarmatian)
7 Skripkin 1977, 102–103, ill. 3:10–17 (Sarmatian)
8 Bóna 1986a, 116, ill. 6:1–3 (Chernyakhovsk culture)
Appendix 1 - Provincial Roman

Cat. No. 93

Cat. No. 94

Cat. No. 95

Cat. No. 96

Cat. No. 97
Appendix 1 - Provincial Roman

Cat. No. 98

Cat. No. 99
Appendix 1 - Late Antique and Sarmatian

Cat. No. 100

Cat. No. 101

Cat. No. 102

Cat. No. 103
Appendix 1 - Late Antique and Sarmatian

Cat. No. 104

Cat. No. 105

Cat. No. 106

Cat. No. 107
Appendix 1 - Late Antique and Sarmatian

Cat. No. 108

Cat. No. 109

Cat. No. 109

Cat. No. 110
Appendix 1 - Late Antique and Sarmatian

Cat. No. 111

Cat. No. 112
Appendix 1 - Late Antique and Sarmatian

Cat. No. 113

Cat. No. 114

Cat. No. 115
Appendix 1 - Late Antique and Sarmatian

Cat. No. 116
Appendix 1 - Late Antique and Sarmatian

Detail of Low Relief Decoration  Side View

Reconstruction of Slide Attached to Sword Sheath

Cat. No. 116 - continued
Appendix 1 - Late Antique and Sarmatian

Cat. No. 117

Cat. No. 118
Appendix 2

Other early material

119 Pendant (Pl. 60)
Single piece of composite construction.
Silver lunette pendant decorated with three gold studs. 1st century? Silver, gold
Prov.: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1893
Inv. no. GR 1969,11-1.1 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1969
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,38 Old cat. no. 160
Size: 31 x 27mm Weight: 5g
The pendant is cast and of flattened rectangular section, narrowing towards the terminals. There is a gold (or gilt-silver?) stud soldered to each terminal and to the centre, where the suspension loop is attached. The suspension loop is oval and of flat, rectangular section. The surface of the pendant is very corroded.

120 Coil (Pl. 60)
Single piece.
Silver coil decorated with granules and S-scrolls. c. 400 bc?
Silver
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine
Inv. no. GR 1969,11-1.2 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1969
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,75 Old cat. no. 317
Size: 30 x 22mm Weight: 14.64g
The coil is a double spiral of oval shape, made of a silver wire of circular section. Both ends have a cylindrical silver strip soldered on to support the decoration. Each is decorated with a soldered-on rim of beaded wire. The strip is constructed of four wires soldered alongside each other. (D of wire: 4mm).

121 Coil (Pl. 60)
Single piece.
Silver coil, similar to cat. nos 120 and 121 above. c. 400 bc?
Silver
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine
Inv. no. GR 1969,11-1.3 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1969
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,68 Old cat. no. 318
Size: 26.5 x 18mm Weight: 3.9g
Similar to the coils above, but slightly smaller and with different decoration. Both ends have a soldered-on, cylindrical silver strip decorated with two lines of transverse grooves all round and a median rib between them. To each end is soldered a pyramidal terminal of granules. (D of wire: 4mm).

122 Coil (Pl. 60)
Single piece.
Silver coil decorated with patterned strip of silver and pyramid of granules. c. 400 bc?
Silver
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine
Inv. no. GR 1969,11-1.4 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1969
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,77 Old cat. no. 318
Size: 23 x 18mm Weight: 8.65g
Similar to the coils above, but slightly smaller and with different decoration. Both ends have a soldered-on, cylindrical silver strip decorated with two lines of transverse grooves all round and a median rib between them. To each end is soldered a pyramidal terminal of granules. (D of wire: 4mm).

Construction, shape and decoration are very similar to cat. nos 120 and 121 above, except it is made of a thinner wire. The pattern of decoration is slightly different: it consists of a plain wire rim with single S-scrolls below, and a pyramid of granules. (D of wire: 3mm).

123 Coil (Pl. 60)
Single piece.
Silver coil, similar to cat. nos 120 and 121 above. c. 400 bc?
Silver
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine
Inv. no. GR 1969,11-1.5 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1969
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,78 Old cat. no. unknown
Size: L: 27mm Weight: 3.39g
Approximately half of the coil is missing.

124 Coil (Pl. 60)
Single piece.
Silver coil decorated with granules and beaded wire. c. 400 bc?
Silver
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine
Inv. no. GR 1969,11-1.6 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1969
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,79 Old cat. no. unknown
Size: 26.5 x 18mm Weight: 3.9g
Silver coil with the ends decorated differently from cat. nos 120–123 above. All that remains of the pattern of beaded wires and granules is soldered directly onto the wire. To it is soldered a pyramidal terminal of granules. (D of wire: 2.5mm).

One end of the coil is missing, the wire is damaged, and the decoration is fragmentary.

125 Armlet (Pl. 61)
Single piece.
Silver armlet of circular section. 4th century bc?
Silver
Prov.: Olbia (Mikolayiv), Ukraine
Inv. no. GR 1969,11-1.7 – transferred to Greek and Roman Department in 1969
Old Inv. no. 1923,7-16,80 Old cat. no. 319
Size: D: 51mm Weight: 13.75g
The armlet has a circular section tapering towards the ends. It is constructed of two parts: a solid silver core of wire and a strip wound round it. The strip is constructed of four wires soldered alongside each other. (D at the centre: 7mm, at the ends: 3mm).
The armlet is fragmentary.

126 Amulet (Pl. 61)
Single piece.
Amulet of circular section. c.1350–1250 bc Egyptian – 18th to 19th Dynasties
Quartzite
Prov.: Chersonesus (Hersonès), Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1908?
Inv. no. 1923,7-16,93 Old cat. no. 275
Size: 40 x 18mm Weight: 5.1g
Unpublished
Amulet called a tit or Girdle of Isis. It is in the form of a standing human figure with carved features. The back is flat. There is a suspension loop at the top.
The suspension loop is broken.

According to Carol Andrews, Department of Egyptian Antiquities in the British Museum: ‘An Egyptian funerary amulet called the tit or Girdle of Isis. It takes the form of a loop of material from whose bound lower end hangs a long divided sash flanked by two folded loops,
Late material, 9th–13 centuries AD

129 Cross (Pl. 62)
Single piece of composite construction.
Gold pendant cross decorated with filigree wires and a central, circular, amethyst cabochon inlay.
12th century? Byzantine
Gold, amethyst
Prov.: Cherson (Hersonès), Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1895
Inv. no. 1923,7-16,89 Old cat. no. 95
Size: L: 46mm W: 37.5mm Weight: 5.4g

128 Figure of an animal (Pl. 61)
Single piece
Gold figure of an animal (horse?)
3rd century bc Scythian
Gold
Prov.: Maikop (south Russia) – 1909
Inv. no. 1923,7-16,95 Old cat. no. 95
Size: 17 x 15mm H: 3mm Weight: 6.7g

127 Figure of a hare (Pl. 61)
'Gold embossed figure of a hare, oval outline' according to the register.
Present location of the object within the British Museum is untraced.
Prov.: 'Terre Coutil Oas, Kerch' according to register, i.e. Kuloba ('terte' is French for 'mound' or 'barrow')
'1st century b.C.' (register)
Inv. no. 1923,7-16,1 Size: L: 12.5mm

Comparative bibliography
1 Andrews 1994, 44–45

133 Earrings (Pl. 63)
A pair, each of composite construction.
Silver earrings with bead pendants decorated with twisted wires and granulation. The hoop is enriched with spherical beads.
9th–11th century.
Silver
Prov.: unknown, but found in 1893 according to register
Inv. no. 1923,7-16,114 and 115 Old cat. no. 157
Percentage of silver: large sphere of no. 114: 95 hoop: 96 no. 115: 95
Size: no. 1923,7-16,114: L: 60mm overall Weight: 4.75g no. 1923,7-16,115: L: 56mm Weight: 4.48g
Unpublished

The earring hoop is made of a circular-section wire with pointed end. It is decorated at the top with a small, hollow bead capped by a granule. The hoop is further decorated with a similar bead pierced by a D-sectioned wire, which also encircles another small bead pierced by the earring hoop. All these small beads are constructed of two hollow hemispheres. (D of bead: 13mm, thickness of twisted wires: 0.5mm, D of granules: 2mm).

There is a blob of solder stuck on the hoop of no. 1923,7-16,115 and two small beads are missing from the same earring. The bead at the top of no. 1923,7-16,114 is repaired with soft solder.

The original photograph of the collection does not show these earrings.

Similar earrings of gold and silver were found in the North Caucasus area (in Kuban, Ližgor, Kumbulta, and Makhchesk). 1

Comparative bibliography
1 Uvarova 1900, 222–3, 260; pls XVIII/5, LXXIII/5; 6, LXXII/22, CVII/5; 6, CIX; 3 – all said to be in the collection of Uvarova

132 Earrings (Pl. 63)
A pair, each of composite construction.
Copper hoop with shell-shaped bead enriched with a gilt-silver overlay and repoussé decoration.
11th–12th century
Gilt-silver, impure copper
Prov.: Caucasian area – 1909
Inv. no. 1923,7-16,96 and 97 Old cat. no. 283
Percentage of silver: no. 6 gilding: 22 no. 7 inside: 67
Size: no. 96: 38 x 24mm Weight: 4.52g no. 97: 23 x 20mm Weight: 3.16g
Unpublished

The hoop consists of a circular copper wire of circular section. One of
its ends is bent to form a hook; the other is slightly pointed and is either corroded, or broken off (remains of a hook-and-eye fastening?).

Each bead is made of two hollow shells of impure copper onto which is pressed a gilt-silver overlay. It is decorated with triangular groups of repoussé circles on the surface, and a pseudo-filigree wire border.

There is a threefold pseudo-filigree wire around each perforation where the hoop passes through the pendant, and a double wire of the same type masks the joint around the centre of the shell, one around the edge of each half.

(Size of bead: D: 2 mm; W: 20 mm; D of circle motifs: 2.5 mm; W of filigree: 0.7 mm; D of hoop: 20 mm).

No. 1923,7-16,97 is fragmentary and its hoop is missing.

The original photograph of the collection shows no. 1923,7-16,97 with a hoop.

A very similar pair of earrings has been found at Kerch.¹

Comparative bibliography
1 OIAK 1906, 155-156, ill. 311a-b

133 Armlets (Pl. 64)
Two Penannular silver armlets made of twisted wires. 12th–13th century?

Silver.

Prov.: unknown; according to register found in 1894.

Inv. no. 1923,7-16,117 and 118  Old cat. no. 156
Percentage of silver: no. 117: 89  no. 118: 96
Size: no. 1923,7-16,117: 58 x 49 mm  Weight: 22.58 g
no. 1923,7-16,118: 54 x 51 mm  Weight: 21.03 g
Unpublished

Each piece is made from a single wire bent double, and twisted together with another wire to form a triple-twisted wire. Both ends are bent and flattened into circular terminals, which are decorated with a line of punched dots along the central line of each wire. Each end of the third wire is clearly visible within the hoop.

Thickness of the wires: three together: 5.5 mm; each: 2.5 mm; D of terminals: 16 mm.

Both are damaged.

The original photograph does not show these armlets.

Similar bracelets were found in the towns of Kievan Rus. Sedova dated them to the 12–13th century.¹

Makarova gives a typology of this kind of bracelet.²

Kepsa gives a bibliography for pieces listed from Macedonia, Serbia and Bulgaria.³

For armlets of this type, see also articles by Korzukhina,⁴ Levashova⁵ and Ryndina.⁶

Comparative bibliography
1 Sedova 1981, 97, pl. 34a4, 8
2 Makarova 1986, 33–8, figs 13–14
3 Kepsa 1995, 35, 62–62, ill. 16b:8–12, pl. VI:38/8–12
4 Korzukhina 1954, 62–71
5 Levashova 1967, 207–52
6 Ryndina 1963

134 Finger-ring (Pl. 64)
Single piece.

Copper-alloy finger-ring with an oval bezel engraved with a pentagram. 10th century.

Copper alloy

Provenance: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1909

Inv. no. 1923,7-16,70  Old cat. no. 284
Size: 20 x 21.5 mm  Weight: 2.81 g

The bezel and hoop are made of a single piece cast and hammered to shape. The bezel is oval. It is decorated in the centre with an engraved pentagram with a carved dot at each tip. There are smaller carved dots all around the edge of the bezel.

The hoop is a flat strip decorated with engraved, transverse lines. (Size of bezel: L: 13.5 mm; W: 10 mm; H: 2 mm; hoop: W: 3 mm; thickness: 1.2 mm).

135 Finger-ring fragment (Pl. 64)
Single piece

Silver hoop of a finger-ring with one expanding shoulder remaining. Silver

Provenance: Kerch, Krym (Crimea), Ukraine – 1900

Inv. no. 1923,7-16,72  Old cat. no. 287
Percentage of silver: 91
Size: 20 x 10 mm  Weight: 1.37 g
Unpublished

The fragmentary hoop consists of a band of rectangular section expanding at the shoulder, which has two engraewed V-shapes, one inside the other. All that remains of the bezel is part of a plain, thin plate, integral with the hoop. (Thickness of hoop: 2 mm; thickness of shoulder: 1 mm).

The original photograph of the collection does not show this object.

Objects of unknown date

136 Mount or buckle-plate? (Pl. 65)
Single piece of composite plate.

Trapezoidal plate.

Silver, copper alloy.

Provenance: unknown

Inv. no. 1923,7-16,145  Old cat. no. unknown
Percentage of silver: 96
Size: 32 x 41 mm  Weight: 11.6 g
Unpublished

Trapezoidal copper-alloy plate with an applied silver sheet on the front. The edge of the latter is wrapped around the edges of the plate. There are three attachment shanks in a triangular arrangement soldered onto the back. (Sides: 32 mm, 9.5 mm, 2 x 41 mm).

The silver sheet is imperfect.

137 Bindings or mounts? (Pl. 65)
Three.

4th–6th century.

Silver.

Provenance: unknown

Inv. no. 1923,7-16,146 to 148  Old cat. no. unknown
Percentage of silver: no. 46: 90  no. 47: 94 no. 48: 90
Size: no. 146: 31 x 25.5 mm  Weight: 1.73 g
no. 147: 29 x 26 mm  Weight: 1.53 g
no. 148: L: 23 mm; 18 mm surviving  Weight: 0.9 g
Unpublished

Each is a narrow silver strip bent to form a square frame with overlapping ends. (W of strip: 2 mm; thickness: 1 mm). No. 1923,7-16,148 is broken in two.

138 Bead (Pl. 65)
Single piece.

Oval, perforated.

Agate.

Provenance: Unknown

Inv. no. 1923,7-16,150  Old cat. no. unknown
Size: 12 x 25 mm  Weight: 4.5 mm
Unpublished

Elongated oval with polished surface. It has been perforated longitudinally, drilled from both ends, and the two holes are slightly misaligned where they meet. (D of perforation: 2.5 mm).

Objects without numbers, apparently Berthier-Delagarde Collection

a. Base silver penannular loop. (23 mm).

b. Bronze fragment of wire, bent one end. (15 mm).

c. Bronze overlaid with silver. Silver rivet. (L: 17 mm); from 1923,7-16,71?

d. Two silver fragments with filigree.
Appendix 2 - Early Material

Cat. No. 119

Cat. No. 120

Cat. No. 121

Cat. No. 122

Cat. No. 123

Cat. No. 124
Appendix 2 - Late Material

Cat. No. 129

Cat. No. 130
Appendix 2 - Late Material

Cat. No. 131

Cat. No. 132
Appendix 2 - Late Material

Cat. No. 133

Cat. No. 134

Cat. No. 133

Cat. No. 135
Objects of Unknown Date

Cat. No. 136

Cat. No. 137

Cat. No. 138