

8. Contexts, recovery and reasons for deposition	59
8.1 Interpretation of hoards	59
8.2 Hoards containing basal-looped spearheads	61
8.3 Single finds	62
8.4 The basal-looped spearhead corpus: accuracy of the data.	63
8.5 Contexts	64
8.6 Recovery	66
8.7 Date of recovery	69
8.8 Is the corpus a representative sample?	69
8.9 Votive offerings	71
9. Condition	75
9.1 Objectives and methods	75
9.2 Purposeful damage	76
9.3 Spearhead use	77
9.4 Other spearhead conditions	79
10. Manufacture	80
10.1 Moulds	80
10.2 Metallurgical analysis	82
10.3 Wooden shafts	83
11. Production centres and distribution routes	85
11.1 Production centres	85
11.2 Basal-looped spearhead distribution	86
12. The use of the loops	89
12.1 Research background	89
12.2 Methods of securing spearhead to the shaft	89
12.3 Examination of the basal-looped spearhead corpus	90
12.4 Alternative uses of the loops	90
13. The use of basal-looped spearheads	93
13.1 The weapons of the Middle Bronze Age in the British Isles	93
13.2 Advantages and disadvantages of spears and swords	93
13.3 The development of an experimental programme	95
13.4 Results of the experimental programme	95
13.5 Use for display	97
13.6 Use for hunting	99
Appendices	
1. List of Museums	100
2. Radiocarbon dates	102
3. Metallurgical analyses	103
Bibliography	104
Figures in the text	
2:1 Bronze Age spearheads from Ireland	11
2:2 Spearhead Classification: Greenwell & Brewis 1909	14
2:3 Number of basal-looped spearheads. Evans 1933 vs Present Study	15
2:4 Spearhead classification, and numbers of spearheads from Scotland	15
2:5 Middle Bronze Age spearheads from Southern Britain	16
2:6 Class IV spearheads from Southern Britain	17
2:7 Basal-looped spearheads from Southern Britain	17
2:8 Spearheads from Berks, Bucks and Oxford	18
2:9 Comparison of MBA spearheads from Ireland and Southern England	19
2:10 Irish basal-looped spearheads by type	20
2:11 Analysis of spearheads by Greenwell & Brewis Classes	21
3:1 Database fields	22
3:2 Sources of illustrations in the study	23
4:1 Spearhead descriptive terms	25

4:2 Model of attribute hierarchy among basal-looped spearheads	26
4:3 Spearheads with incorporated loops: position of maximum width	27
4:4 Spearheads with projecting loops: position of maximum width	27
4:5 Length of basal-looped spearheads	29
4:6 Dating indications: basal-looped spearheads with associated artefacts	30
5:1 Basal-looped spearheads: by Type	31
5:2 Basal-looped spearheads: by Region	31
5:3 Basal-looped spearheads: by Attributes	31
5:4 Selected attributes by Type	32
5:5 Percentage split between certain defined attributes	35
5:6 Basal-looped spearheads with special attributes	38
5:7 Incised decoration elements	39
6:1 European chronological sequence: Later Bronze Age	41
6:2 Metalwork sequence for the British Isles: Middle and Late Bronze Age	41
6:3 Linkage between the cultural sequence of Britain and France	42
6:4 Cultural sequence in Britain: Middle Bronze Age to early Iron Age	42
6:5 Radiocarbon chronology for Bronze Age Europe	43
6:6 Class III and IV spearheads from Ireland and Southern Britain	44
6:7 Kite-shaped and side-looped spearheads with associated metalwork	45
6:8 Basal-looped spearheads with associated metalwork	45
6:9 Side-looped spearheads: contexts with associated finds	45
6:10 Analysis of lead content in side-looped spearheads	47
6:11 Side-looped spearheads from Southern Britain	47
7:1 Protected-loop spearheads: length	54
7:2 Drilled loop spearheads from Sicily: length	56
7:3 Examples of looped spearheads from Eastern Europe and Asia	58
8:1 Hoard content in Southern Britain during the Middle Bronze Age	60
8:2 Hoard content: Britain	61
8:3 Hoards containing basal-looped spearheads: context	61
8:4 Hoards containing basal-looped spearheads: content	61
8:5 Contexts of basal-looped spearheads: number of spearheads	65
8:6 Contexts of basal-looped spearheads: % of total with known contexts	65
8:7 Basal-looped spearhead contexts: breakdown by rivers	65
8:8 Methods of recovery of basal-looped spearheads	67
8:9 Methods of recovery of basal-looped spearheads Includes projections for agriculture and dredging	67
8:10 Date of recovery of basal-looped spearheads: number of spearheads	69
8:11 Percentage of total with known date of recovery	69
9:1 Database for the study of spearhead condition: number of spearheads	76
9:2 Purposeful damage: by damage category	77
9:3 Any purposeful damage: by region and basal-looped spearhead type	77
9:4 Blade edge analysis: examples of the five point scale criteria	78
9:5 Blade condition evaluation	79
9:6 Types of spearhead damage	79
10:1 Basal-looped spearhead moulds	80
10:2 As:Ni relationship – 1	82
10:3 As:Ni relationship – 2	82
10:4 Metallurgical analysis of the Stibbard hoard spearheads	83
10:5 Wood used in basal-looped spearhead shafts	84
10:6 Wood used in spearhead shafts	84
13:1 Middle Bronze Age spearheads and swords from the British Isles	93
13:2 Length of complete dirks/rapiers	94
13:3 Brief for the Royal Armouries	96

CATALOGUE

List of sites		118
Section 1.	Britain	126
Section 2.	Ireland	165
Section 3.	Continent	187
Section 4.	Moulds	198
Section 5.	Associations	200
Tables of associations in sites with a secure context		205

PLATES

Illustrations of the Corpus

Plate 1.	Type 1: Transitional
Plates 2-8.	Type 2: Leaf
Plates 9-18.	Type 3: Flame
Plate 19.	Type 4: Ogival
Plates 20-1.	Type 5: Flame, projecting loops
Plates 22-34.	Type 6: Triangular
Plates 35-9.	Type 7: Narrow Channel
Plates 40-1.	Type 8: Late Irish/Scottish
Plate 42.	Type 9: Drilled loops
Plate 43.	Type: Unidentified
Plate 44.	Moulds

Illustrations of Associations

Plates 45-67.	Associations
---------------	--------------

Distribution maps

Plate 68.	All basal-looped spearheads
Plates 69-76.	Types 1-8
Plates 77-9.	Attributes
Plates 80-1.	Metallurgy
Plate 82.	Protected-loop spearheads

Text-related illustrations, maps and charts

Plate 83.	Metalwork from Clifton, Nottinghamshire
Plate 84.	Greenwell & Brewis 1909: Typology
Plate 85.	Rowlands 1976: Typology
Plates 86-7.	Ramsey 1989: Typology
Plates 88-9.	Spearhead length histograms
Plate 90.	Incised decoration on Nordic spearheads
Plate 91.	Regional traditions, c1100BC
Plates 92-3.	Typological evolution
Plate 94.	Spearhead chronological sequence
Plate 95.	Protected-loop and pierced blade spearheads
Plate 96.	Lunate spearheads
Plate 97.	Drilled loop spearheads: Sicily
Plate 98.	Drilled loop spearheads: Greek sanctuaries and Hungary
Plate 99.	Chinese spearheads
Plate 100.	Looped and flanged spearheads: Eurasia and China
Plate 101.	Distribution map: Eurasia and China
Plate 102.	Distribution map: River Thames
Plate 103.	Use of the loops
Plate 104.	Halberds
Plate 105.	Ethnographic examples of spearhead decoration
Plate 106-8.	Experimental combat