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A Bronze spear-head from Moreton-in-Marsh

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NOTES

A BRONZE SPEAR-HEAD FROM MORETON-IN-MARSH

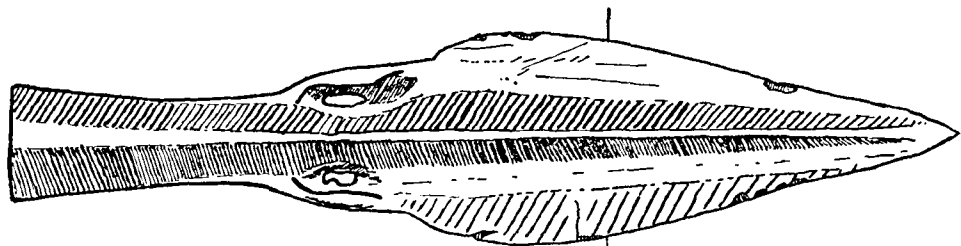
On 17 June 1952, while engaged in dredging out a stream which rises at a spring in Batsford Park and divides the lands of Lord Dulverton from those of the Hon. E. R. H. Wills in the neighbourhood of Boram Farm (N.G.R. SP 42/198328. O.S. 6" Gloucestershire xv S.W.), Mr W. Norris, a heavy driver in the employ of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Gloucester, turned up with his mechanical excavator the bronze spear-head which is roughly illustrated in the attached sketch. Having satisfied himself that it was not part of a German butterfly-bomb dropped during the last war, the finder took it to Miss E. M. Adlard, to whom the present writer is indebted for bringing it to his notice.

The spear-head is leaf-shaped, and is cast in yellow bronze with a socket extending up into the blade. It is furnished with 'basal loops' for thonging it to a wooden shaft. The length is 6.25 inches, the breadth of the blade at the widest point is 1.4 inches, and the socket is $\frac{8}{10}$ inch in diameter at the base. It has one small imperfection of casting—a small air bubble on the socket in the middle of one face of the blade. The condition of the specimen is very fine, and it has a beautiful olive green patina which was unfortunately damaged to a certain extent by the finder in determining the non-explosive nature of his find.

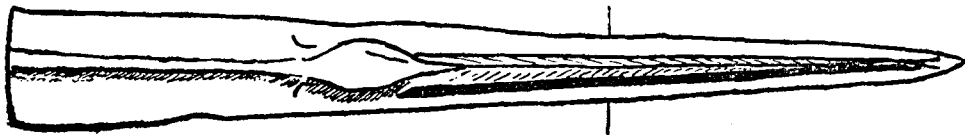
From the above description it will be recognized at once that this spear-head is one of that type, of peculiarly British manufacture, which is usually assigned to the first phase of the Late Bronze Age (*circa* 750 B.C.).

The specimen remains at present in the hands of the finder.

W. NEVILLE TERRY.



Cm.
Inch.



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