TOKEN

Unique ID: LON-1D81C8

Object type certainty: Certain Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A Post Medieval lead alloy 'Lyon' counter, dating AD1575-1590. On the obverse is an oval shield between two columns, with three fleurs-de-lys within the shield, below 75. Above the shield is a crown and two smaller crowns are above the columns.The reverse depicts a rampant lion within a circular banner, surmounted by a crown. Within the banner is the inscription [HONI] SOIT [QUI MAL Y PENSE].

Dimensions: diameter: 22.25mm; weight: 3.99g.

Other 'Lyon counter' on the database is LON-C1DFD7, LON-1046ED and LON-C5DD59.

This type of token is associated with the order of the garter and Henri III of France in particular, who was invested as knight of the garter in AD 1575.

Mitchiner (1998:1637) writes "These counters are characterised by showing a 'rampant lion within garter' as their obverse design. They have been given the name 'Lyon' counters because they can probably be identified with the 'Lyon' counters cited in the Hengrave (Suffolk) Book of Expenses for April 1583 ("for a case of Lyon counters xviij d" : Barnard 1916, p.86; discussed above).

The Lyon counters form one of the three major series of Elizabethan counters - the Exchequer counters, the Lyon counters and the Crowned Rose counters. Although the majority of Lyon counters have been found in London, they circulated across a much wider are of the Home Counties. Many have been found in East Anglia and their range extends westwards, across to Wiltshire. In this respect the Lyon counters appear to have enjoyed the widest usage among the general population of all counters of English manufacture during the two decades of their hayday, the 1570' to 1590's."

Reference: Hawkins E., 1885. Medallic Illustrations of the History of Great Britain and Ireland to the Death of George II (Volume 1) London: Spink

Mitchiner, M. 1998. British Isles Circa 1558 to 1830, Jetons Medalets & Tokens, Volume 3. Seaby: London

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL Period from: POST MEDIEVAL Period to: POST MEDIEVAL Date from: Circa AD 1575 Date to: Circa AD 1590

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1 Weight: 3.99 g Diameter: 22.25 mm

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead Alloy Manufacture method: Cast Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

Region: London (European Region) County or Unitary authority: <u>Greater London Authority</u> (Greater London Authority) District: <u>City of Westminster</u> (London Borough) Parish or ward: <u>Vincent Square</u> (London Borough Ward)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TQ3078 Four figure Latitude: 51.4860175 Four figure longitude: -0.12909005 1:25K map: TQ3078 1:10K map: TQ37NW Grid reference source: Generated from computer mapping software Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector General landuse: Open fresh water Specific landuse: Running water