

THIMBLE

Unique ID: LON-A08286

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A complete Post-Medieval copper alloy thimble dating AD 1520-1620. The thimble has a wide margin between the base and the regularly spaced pits which is decorated with a stamped pattern. The pattern comprises three stamped bands of repeated decoration. The upper and lower bands consisting of opposing crescents with a pellet between each. The central band is made from a repeating sometimes overlapping motif of a shield with eagle displayed, head left (an emblem that is represented on the town arms of Nuremberg) with a beaded border. The pits are drilled in a spiral and they cover the peak. Where the pits terminate, there is an undiagnosed makers stamp. The object is a brassy golden colour.

Dimensions: height: 19.35mm; diameter: 14.95mm; weight: 1.95g.

Holmes (1988:3) writes "Thimbles with hand punched indentations often have a maker's mark which is struck where the spiral of the indentations begins near the base. These would appear to have been imported mostly from Nuremberg where, under the ordinances of the Guild of Thimble-makers, all thimbles and sewing rings were required to carry the mark of the master who made them. However not all Nuremberg thimbles are necessarily marked. So far as one can judge thimbles with makers' marks normally date from 1520-1620."

Similar thimbles on the database are LON-6EDF95, LON-94D972, LON-396407 and NMS-725926. See also an example from the Mary Rose, which sank in 1545 (Gardiner and Allen 2005, 329-40, no. 81 A0807).

Class: Nuremberg

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Period from: POST MEDIEVAL

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Height: 19.35 mm

Weight: 1.95 g

Diameter: 14.95 mm

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: [London](#) (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: [Greater London Authority](#) (Greater London Authority)

District: [City and County of the City of London](#) (London Borough)

Parish or ward: [Queenhithe](#) (London Borough Ward)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TQ3280

Four figure Latitude: 51.5035277

Four figure longitude: -0.09955492

1:25K map: TQ3280

1:10K map: TQ38SW

Grid reference source: Generated from computer mapping software

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

General landuse: Open fresh water

Specific landuse: Running water