

THIMBLE

Unique ID: WMID-B40425

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An incomplete cast lead leather worker's palm guard, probably dating from the 17th-20th century AD (length: 85mm; width: 48mm; thickness: 8mm; weight: 151.23g).

This sub-oval guard has a circular depression (diameter: 18mm) on one side of the artefact. The object was cast in a fresh water mussel or oyster, similar to other examples known. The underside of the guard is flat without any indentations.

Leather workers' palm guards are discussed in an article in Gordon Bailey's 'Detector Finds 2', 1993, pages 64-5. Originally identified by W. Wyman of London, most of the examples are made of lead, although some have the addition of tin, which was used to produce a harder metal. The final product, when made, was enclosed in a thin leather pouch or wrapped in cloth which would have a hole going through it to match a depression in the lead. The whole lot was then strapped to the hand and would give protection when forcing needles through tough material. Dating of these artefacts is very difficult, although the earliest examples seem to date from the 17th century AD, although they may have been in use right through to the 20th century (Bailey, page 64).

Class: palm guard

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Period from: POST MEDIEVAL

Period to: MODERN

Date from: AD 1600

Date to: AD 2000

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 85 mm

Width: 48 mm

Thickness: 8 mm

Weight: 151.23 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Sunday 10th July 2005

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

Region: [West Midlands](#) (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: [Warwickshire](#) (County)

District: [Stratford-on-Avon](#) (District)

To be known as: Alderminster

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

General landuse: Cultivated land

Bailey, G., 1995 [Detector Finds](#) Chelmsford: Greenlight Publishing pages 64-5 ,