

# UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT

**Unique ID:** SF-370C47

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An incomplete and unidentified cast copper alloy object of possible Medieval date. The object is flat with faceted edges and tapers at one end towards a circular point that is now missing due to old breaks. At the opposite end the object widens to a lozenge shaped terminal with flattened end. There are two circular holes at the centre of the terminal and a deeply incised transverse groove that transects the lower of the two holes. On both upper and lower surfaces are extensive signs of tool marks, in particular on the upper surface, however there are no other traces of decoration. The object measures 49.50mm in length, 11.39mm in width, 2.26mm in thickness, and weighs 4.02g. The precise function of this object remains uncertain and a close parallel has not yet been found. Parallels can be seen with several objects covering a broad chronological range. The terminal end of this item is similar to some examples of Medieval padlock keys, although the tapering cylindrical shaft is reminiscent of pins from Roman through Medieval periods. Additionally, it shares some similarities with the terminal ends of Early Medieval, and perhaps Roman, toilet implements. In appearance it would seem most plausibly to belong to the Medieval period, however it is equally possible that an earlier or later date might be suggested.

## Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN

Period from: ROMAN

Period to: MEDIEVAL

Date from: AD 43

Date to: AD 1500

## Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 49.5 mm

Width: 11.39 mm

Thickness: 2.26 mm

Weight: 4.02 g

## Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Monday 1st September 2008

## Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

## Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

## **Spatial metadata**

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

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

District: [Suffolk Coastal](#) (District)

To be known as: Orford

## **Spatial coordinates**

Grid reference source: From a paper map

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

## **Discovery metadata**

Method of discovery: Metal detector

General landuse: Cultivated land

Specific landuse: Character undetermined

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