PALSTAVE

Unique ID: LON-B60A98

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A Middle Bronze Age copper alloy palstave axe (1500 - 1400BC). From the flat butt of this palstave there is an expanded flange on each side that extend 70mm down the length towards the cutting edge. In between the two flanges is a flat groove 'septum' with a stop ridge across the width where the ends of the prongs of the wooden handle would rest to haft the palstave to the handle. The stop ridge prevents the butt of the palstave from splitting the handle. Just below the stop ridge at the top of the blade is a semi-circular ridge with central double ribs forming a 'shield-pattern'. The blade then expands to the curved cutting edge which is bevelled for sharpness. The copper alloy has a rough mid-pale green patina; there is some surface and edge damage. This palstave is very similar to examples from the "Acton Park" axe-industry that emerged at the beginning of the Middle Bronze Age in north Wales (Savory 1980:45-6). Dimensions: length: 165.68mm; width of cutting edge: 64.01mm; thickness: 27.25mm; weight: 400.36g. Reference: Savory, H. N. 1980. Guide Catalogue of Bronze Age Collections. National Museum of Wales, Cardiff. CSP Printing of Cardiff.

Class: Palstave

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: BRONZE AGE Subperiod from: Middle Period from: BRONZE AGE Subperiod to: Middle Period to: BRONZE AGE Date from: 1500 BC

Date to: 1400 BC

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 165.68 mm Width: 64.01 mm Thickness: 27.25 mm Weight: 400.36 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Friday 1st August 2008

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: Eastern (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Hertfordshire (County)

District: <u>East Hertfordshire</u> (District)
Parish or ward: <u>Buntingford</u> (Civil Parish)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TL3429

Four figure Latitude: 51.94337 Four figure longitude: -0.05192

1:25K map: TL3429 1:10K map: TL32NW

Grid reference source: From a paper map

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector General landuse: Cultivated land

Specific landuse: Operations to a depth greater than 0.25m

Savory, H.N., 1980 Guide Catalogue of the Bronze Age Collections Cardiff: National Museums and

Galleries of Wales,