

SEAL MATRIX

Unique ID: SOM-865FB7

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An oval (or vessica) lead Medieval personal seal matrix. The impression features a central fleur de lis within a slightly raised border surrounded by the inscription +S'Alisi Devire, short for Sigillum Alisi Devire, or 'Seal of Alice Devire' perhaps, with a further raised, oval border around the outside of this. Harvey and McGuiness (1996, p.79) suggest that this type of oval seal became popular in the early 13th century, particularly with women. The fleur de lis was also a particularly common design on this type of seal (ibid. p.80). There was a change in styles of seals at the end of the 13th century, with the owner's name often being omitted in favour of a phrase or motto (ibid. p.88), so this matrix is likely to predate this. The reverse is undecorated with a small semi-circular suspension loop in the centre to one end. Length: 37.59mm, Width: 21.51mm, Thickness: 8.68, Weight: 19.20g

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL

Period from: MEDIEVAL

Date from: AD 1200

Date to: AD 1300

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 37.59 mm

Width: 21.51 mm

Thickness: 8.68 mm

Weight: 19.2 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Monday 5th October 2009

Personal details

Found by: This information is restricted for your login.

Recorded by: Ms Anna Booth

Identified by: Ms Anna Booth

Other reference numbers

Other reference: Entry 020505

Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead

Manufacture method: Cast

Spatial metadata

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

County or Unitary authority: [Wiltshire](#) (Unitary Authority)

District: [Wiltshire](#) (Unitary Authority)

To be known as: Urchfont

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 100 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

General landuse: Cultivated land

Specific landuse: Character undetermined

Harvey, P.D.A. and McGuinness, A., 1996 [A Guide to British Medieval Seals](#) : University of Toronto Press, 79-88 ,