

VESSEL

Unique ID: ESS-8E86D1

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

TREASURE CASE 2010 T164: Silver handle

Silver handle in the form of a snake. The sinuous form, adapted to the requirements of a vessel handle, provides a looped grip and two contact points with the (now missing) vessel body. Both points preserve remains of the joining solder. A schematic punched 'scaly' design is present on the outer surface, while the rhomboidal head of the snake is depicted with eyes and parted jaws. Although passingly similar to Roman snake jewellery the form, style and craftsmanship are not closely paralleled by Roman work. Nor has it been possible to assign the handle to another era or culture.

The metal composition, especially of the solder, is suggestive of a relatively modern origin for the object.

Date: uncertain, but probably modern.

Dimensions: height 44.9 mm. Weight: 11.72 g.

The find likely dates to later than 1710 and as such falls outside the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996. Ralph Jackson Dept. of Prehistory & Europe British Museum 15th April 2011

Class: Handle

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder after being declared not Treasure

Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2010T164

Chronology

Broad period: MODERN

Period from: MODERN

Date from: AD 1710

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Height: 44.9 mm

Weight: 11.71 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Thursday 11th February 2010

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Treasure case number: 2010T164

Materials and construction

Primary material: Silver

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

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

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

District: [Colchester](#) (District)

To be known as: Colchester District

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

Specific landuse: Character undetermined