

COIN

Unique ID: LON-F39CD5

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A Post Medieval copper alloy coin: Gunmoney small halfcrown of James II (AD 1685-1688), struck in Ireland, AD 1690.

Obverse: Laureate bust left.

Obverse inscription: JACOBVS II DEI GRATIA

Reverse: Crown with date 1690 and XXX above, month below, but covered by concretion.

Reverse inscription: MAG BR FRA ET HIB REX

Mint mark: Issued in Dublin, Ireland.

Die axis measurement:12.00

Dimensions: diameter: 28.81mm; weight: 7.84g.

Notes:

'Gunmoney' is so called, as the coins were struck from reclaimed brass and a good source of this was often cannons. Gunmoney was issued by James II during his poorly-funded campaigns against William of Orange (William III). James II landed in Ireland in 1689, believing that support gained in Ireland would help him to regain his English crown (Went 1960). James II intended to redeem the gunmoney with silver coinage following his aspired-for military success, and this explains why the coins all feature the month of issue as well as the year. This was so that after the war, in the event of victory, the soldiers would be able to claim interest on their wages, for which proper payment had been withheld so long. Gunmoney can also be referred to as 'Money of Necessity' (Went 1960).

Reference: Went, Arthur E. J. (1960) James II's Money of Necessity Often Called Gunmoney Dublin Historical Record Vol 16:1 pp. 16-21

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Subperiod from: Late

Period from: POST MEDIEVAL

Subperiod to: Late

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Date from: Circa AD 1690

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1
Weight: 7.84 g
Diameter: 28.81 mm

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Monday 1st February 2010

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy
Manufacture method: Struck or hammered
Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: [London](#) (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: [Greater London Authority](#) (Greater London Authority)
District: [Southwark](#) (London Borough)
Parish or ward: [Rotherhithe](#) (London Borough Ward)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TQ3579
Four figure Latitude: 51.49383345
Four figure longitude: -0.05674007
1:25K map: TQ3579
1:10K map: TQ37NE
Grid reference source: GPS (from the finder)
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector
General landuse: Open fresh water
Specific landuse: Running water