

CLOTH SEAL

Unique ID: PUBLIC-4726F3

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Post medieval lead cloth seal, probably of 17th century date

The cloth seal is represented by one of the inner discs of a four-part seal (with a length of 39.9mm and a weight of 15.3g). The disc is circular (with a diameter of 37.9mm and a thickness of 1.9mm). The design on the disc depicts an angel facing forward in pleated dress. She is holding a palm branch in the right hand (with extended arm) and possibly an hour-glass in the left hand (with the arm bent at the elbow). The encircling legend around reads: GLORIA IN EXC[ELS]IS. There appears to be a four-petalled flower at the end of the legend. The connecting strip is evident at the base of the disc but not at the apex, although a tear suggests its position.

Cloth seals bearing a facing angel are issued from London, where the angel is a symbol of the city's pious optimism for stable and lasting trade (Egan 1994, p 41) . Parallels are published from the British Museum (ibid, nos. 64, 67 - 69).

Inscription: GLORIA IN EXC[ELS]IS

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Period from: POST MEDIEVAL

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Date from: Circa AD 1600

Date to: Circa AD 1700

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 39.9 mm

Weight: 15.3 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Thursday 2nd September 2010 - Thursday 7th October 2010

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: NMWPA 2010.121.29

Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead

Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

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

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

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

Parish or ward: [Arborfield and Newland](#) (Civil Parish)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: SU7566

Four figure Latitude: 51.388097

Four figure longitude: -0.92355

1:25K map: SU7566

1:10K map: SU76NE

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

General landuse: Cultivated land

Egan, G., 1994 [Lead cloth seals and related items in the British Museum](#) London: Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities, British Museum 41