

FINGER RING

Unique ID: SWYOR-F5ABF6

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Published

A Post Medieval silver gilt finger ring dating from 1500 - 1700 AD. The band is rectangular in section and has split at one point. The outer face is decorated with beaded borders, each flanked by raised lines. The plain band in the centre is inscribed: " + DYE x TO x LIVE * " in seriffed capital letters. On the inside of the hoop is a maker's mark which is a recessed square containing letters in relief. These may be interpreted as an R back to back with a reversed R (ЯR) when read one way up, or a lombardic and ligated EF from another angle. The internal diameter is 18.2mm.

This is a memento mori ring in remembrance of death. The legend 'DYE · TO · LIVE · EVER' is noted on page 33 of Evans (1931). A similar inscription is found on a ring within the British Museum collections: '+ DYE TO LIVE' (AF. 971).

The ring is similar in style to SUR-126873 (2011 T293), GLO-19A336 (2007 T383), NMGW-9F38B2 (2007.16) and DOR-71A791 (2008 T407). These have been attributed a 16th - 17th century date.

For comparison see AF. 1747 in British Museum collections, a serjeants ring with a date of 1577.

The makers mark cannot be identified.

Consequently, in terms of age and as the object contains a minimum of 10% precious metal it qualifies as Treasure under the stipulations of the Treasure Act 1996.

Notes:

TVC Valuation 20/06/2012: £100

Sub class: posy

Inscription: + DYE x TO x LIVE *

Subsequent actions

Current location of find: North Somerset Museum

Subsequent action after recording: Acquired by museum after being declared Treasure

Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2011T613

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Period from: POST MEDIEVAL

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Date from: Circa AD 1500

Date to: Circa AD 1700

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Width: 8.66 mm

Thickness: 1.32 mm

Weight: 4.45 g

Diameter: 21.92 mm

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Monday 13th September 2010 - Monday 12th September 2011

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: PAS form number 1641

Treasure case number: 2011T613

Materials and construction

Primary material: Silver

Completeness: Complete

Surface Treatment: Gilded

Spatial metadata

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

County or Unitary authority: [North Somerset](#) (Unitary Authority)

District: [North Somerset](#) (Unitary Authority)

To be known as: Burrington

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From a paper map

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

Current location: North Somerset Museum