CLOTH SEAL

Unique ID: SF-004062

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A complete four-part lead cloth seal of Post-Medieval date. It is formed from four flattened discs joined at the middle by a short rectangular connecting strip. They are folded so that the outer two discs meet and are held together by a central circular flattened rivet. The two inner discs have impressed stamps. One depicts the arms of the Commonwealth with possible numbers or letters above, but this is uncertain due to the preservation of the object. The opposite disc carries a shield bearing the arms of the Clothworkers' Company, namely 'sable a chevron ermine in chief two havettes argent and in base a teasel cob or' (a chevron with ermine, two havettes above and a teasel below). The 'havettes' were the hooks used to attach the fabric to the forms for teaselling. The remaining two discs have suffered from post-depositional wear and appear to have no trace of surviving decoration. It measures 30.24mm in length, 14.19mm in width, 6.87mm in maximum thickness and 9.30g in weight.

This is a lead cloth seal of Post-Medieval date. The Arms of the Commonwealth indicate that it dates to the Commonwealth period following the English Civil War, thus c. 1649-1660 AD. Of interest is the association with the Clothworkers' Company who, according to their online history (http://www.clothworkers.co.uk/The-Company/Company-History/1601---1700.aspx) counted Alderman Sir John Ireton, brother of Oliver Crowmwell's son-in-law Henry Ireton (who actively supported regicide and was a signatory on Charles I's death warrant), as its Master between 1652-1653 AD.

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 1649 Date to: Circa AD 1660

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 30.24 mm Width: 14.19 mm Thickness: 6.87 mm

Weight: 9.3 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Thursday 1st September 2011

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: Finder's Ref.: 1

Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead Manufacture method: Cast Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: <u>Eastern</u> (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Suffolk (County)

District: Forest Heath (District)
To be known as: Mildenhall

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: Generated from computer mapping software 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