

COIN

Unique ID: WILT-D08E16

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An Early Post-Medieval Irish Sixpence ('Gun money') of James II, measuring 20mm with a die axis of 12. The coins is corroded and very worn, particularly on the obverse.

Obverse: Laureate draped bust left

IACOBVS II [DEI GRATIA]

Reverse: VI over crown, crossed sceptres behind, Sep below, flanked by I R

MAG BR [FRA ET H]IB RE[X 1689]

Mint: Dublin/Limerick

Date: 1689, September

Reference: Seaby 6583e

As discussed in other database records (eg. WMID-B4F361), during 1689 and 1690, James II operated a military campaign in Ireland from where he planned to mount an invasion of England, having been deposed by Mary and William of Orange. During this time, copper alloy emergency coinage was issued by James II to pay the troops. It was intended that this coinage would be redeemed when James II regained the English throne.

In "The Coins of Scotland, Ireland and the Islands" (Seaby, 1984, p.166) it is noted that the coins were made of brass or latten from old cannon, bells and other scrap metal and were called "Brass Money", though they later became known as "Gunmoney coins". The coins include the year of issue and a nominal month - in this case September - so they could be redeemed in stages over a period of time. The coins also include their value - in this case VI (six pence).

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Subperiod from: Early

Period from: POST MEDIEVAL

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Date from: Circa AD 1689

Date to: Circa AD 1689

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Diameter: 20 mm

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Wednesday 31st August 2011 - Wednesday 28th September 2011

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: SMAG DD05

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

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

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

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

To be known as: Swindon

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