SCABBARD

Unique ID: CAM-D38556

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A copper-alloy scabbard chape of later Medieval to early Post-Medieval date, c.1450-1600.

This chape has a cast front, the lower half of which is shaped as a scallop shell with radiating alternating grooves and raised lines. This scallop shape has a height of 20.27mm, width of 28.84mm and thickness of 6.08mm. At the base of the curve is a small knop measuring: height 2.93mm, width 4.21mm and thickness 3.24mm. Set at the top of the scallop shape is a cluster of three open work circles arranged as a trefoil (one below and between the upper two). These circular perforations have a diameter of 3.70mm and are separated from each other by a minimum of 2.18mm. The chape narrows at the top of the scallop shape to a width of 22.72mm, and a moulded horizontal band decorated by diagonal raised lines and grooves occupies the next 3.15mm of the chape. This diagonal decoration creates the effect of a twisted rope. From the base of the horizontal band the sides angle outwards to give a width of 25.47mm at the top of the chape. Above the horizontal band is a plain field, 7.92mm in height, decorated only by a central openwork heart that has a height of 7.92mm and width of 6.80mm. A narrow horizontal raised line 1.43mm high separates the plain field below from the crenellated top of the chape. The crenellated field has a height of 4.78mm and is formed of five projecting tabs the outer two of which curve over at the corner to continue the sides of the artefact. The upper surface of the chape curve over, except at the top, to form the sides of the chape. The underside of the upper surface of the chape is concave however very little of this can be seen as the flat back plate survives over the entire scallop shape and a little of the upper, narrower, part of the chape. The back plate seems to have been made of sheet copper-alloy 0.37mm thick. Dried mud fills the space between the front and back plate of the chape and it is important to note that this will account for some of the weight of the object as recorded here. The chape was originally silvered however this now only survives as small patches on the edges.

Overall dimensions: weight is 10.75g, height is 39.65mm, maximum width is 28.84mm, thickness is 6.10mm.

For examples of a few of the similar scabbard chapes see PAS records: NMCW-C40DA3, DUR-F4C7C3, GLO-898576, BERK-9F9A83, DENO-9DE706, CAM-ED4E38 & LANCUM-A69627.

Class: chape

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL Period from: MEDIEVAL Period to: POST MEDIEVAL Date from: Circa AD 1450 Date to: Circa AD 1600

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Height: 39.65 mm Width: 28.84 mm Thickness: 6.1 mm Weight: 10.75 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Friday 1st May 2009 - Saturday 30th May 2009

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

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

County or Unitary authority: Cambridgeshire (County)

District: <u>South Cambridgeshire</u> (District) To be known as: South Cambridgeshire Area

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From a paper map

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.