

GOUGE

Unique ID: LVPL-09CD58

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Published

An incomplete cast copper alloy gouge dating to the late Bronze Age. The gouge (used as a wood-working tool) is sub-rectangular in plan. The socketed end which is incomplete is oval in cross-section while the incomplete cutting edge is 'C'-shaped in cross-section with an elongated triangular or 'V' shaped groove leading back from it on the upper surface of the gouge. Linear striations are visible on the gouge furrow. A casting flash is visible down each side of the object. The object has a dark brown patina.

It is likely that this tool is from the Wilberton, Ewart Park or Llyn Fawr metalworking, phases which correspond to Needham's (1996) Period's 6 - 8. Socketed gouges have been found associated with metalwork assemblages of Wilberton (eg. Guilsfield, Savory, 1980, No. 268. 64-65) through Ewart Park (eg Penwyllt, Savory 1980, No 284. 7-8) and Llyn Fawr (Savory 1980, No 291 9-11). Savory (ibid., p 55) suggests that the earliest examples have multiple mouth mouldings, while later examples have a plain or broad, flat collar. According to Pearce in the 1983 publication 'The Bronze Age Metalwork of South Western Britain Part I', page 43, socketed gouges 'appear to have begun in the Wilburton phase, and continued as part of the tool repertoire until the end of the Bronze Age', although she suggests that most socketed gouges can be dated to the Ewart phase between c. 1000 - c. 800 BC.

A similar example which can be found on the database is HESH-A48FE1.

Notes:

This object was found in association with LVPL-09B703 and LVPL-09C113 and therefore qualifies as Treasure under the 1996 Treasure Act. Treasure case 2012 T150.

Find of note status

This is a find of note and has been designated: Regional importance

Subsequent actions

Current location of find: Shropshire Museum Service

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

Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2012T150

Chronology

Broad period: BRONZE AGE

Date from: Circa 1100 BC

Date to: Circa 650 BC

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 53.74 mm

Width: 16.92 mm

Thickness: 13.68 mm

Weight: 18.4 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Sunday 26th February 2012

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Treasure case number: 2012T150

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

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

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

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

To be known as: Selattyn and Gobowen

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

Discovery circumstances: Found while metal detecting

Current location: Shropshire Museum Service

General landuse: Grassland, Heathland

Specific landuse: Character undetermined

Savory, H.N., 1980 [Guide Catalogue of the Bronze Age Collections](#) Cardiff: National Museums and Galleries of Wales