

# PENCIL

**Unique ID:** IOW-36B614

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An incomplete Modern cast-lead pencil sharpener of 19th century date (c. 1850-c. 1900). The lower part is hollow and cone-shaped to house the pencil. It has a rim at the base and a vertical slot at one side. On the opposite side of the slot there is a raised cartouche or similar feature with initials, possibly S O. The decorative handle end is sub-triangular in plan and pointed in side view. Two scrolls rise from each side of the cone to form an opening. The scrolls support a scallop-like feature which has an almost similar design on each face with a circular hole at the base. Each of the scallop-like faces has a raised design, a crown on one side and a standing human figure on the other. This sharpener is worn and corroded in places and has a buff patina. The iron cutting blade is missing. 40.97 x 17.13 x 11.14mm. Weight: 9.08g.

Similar pencil sharpeners have been recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database. See finds: **HAMP1653**; **HAMP-3334**; **IOW-1577F3**; **NARC-E4E785** and **NARC-52E1F8**.

According to Wikipedia:

'Bernard Lassimone, a French mathematician, applied for the first patent (French patent #2444) on pencil sharpeners in 1828. In 1847,Therry des Estwaux invented the manual pencil sharpener' (accessed 09/08/2011).

**Class:** Pencil sharpener

## Subsequent actions

Current location of find: Finder

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

## Chronology

Broad period: MODERN

Period from: MODERN

Period to: MODERN

## Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 40.97 mm

Width: 17.13 mm

Thickness: 11.14 mm

Weight: 9.08 g

## Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Friday 9th March 2012

## Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

## Other reference numbers

Other reference: IOW2012-4-121

## Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Incomplete

## Spatial metadata

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

County or Unitary authority: [Isle of Wight](#) (Unitary Authority)

District: [Isle of Wight](#) (Unitary Authority)

To be known as: Isle of Wight

## Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: GPS (from the finder)

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

## Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

Current location: Finder

General landuse: Grassland, Heathland

Specific landuse: Regularly improved