

BROOCH

Unique ID: WILT-763D25

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An incomplete Roman (AD 150-250) copper alloy knee brooch of the tubular headed type, with spring mechanism and missing its lower bow and horizontal catchplate. It measures 26.55mm in length and weighs 6.44g.

The wings are tubular and C-shaped in profile, with a circular lug at either end, measuring 18.10mm. The chord passes under the spring, within the tubular housing. The pin, and possibly one coil, is missing. A concretion of some kind (presumably metal) covers much of the spring.

The bow extends in an accentuated curve. It is rectangular in section and measures 10.64x2.29mm in front of the wings, with a ridge flanking the join. The bow narrows to 8.36x1.97mm at its base, with another ridge, before narrowing and curving backwards into the lower bow, where there is an old, worn break (6.29x1.60mm).

Knee brooches are described by Bayley & Butcher (2004 Roman Brooches in Britain: A technological and Typological Study Based on the Richborough Collection Society of Antiquaries, page 179) as Late Bow Brooches and are a continental type, best known from the forts of the German limes. The authors state that knee brooches were also found in forts in Britain but have a wider distribution; 'some types seem to be British products and to be decorative rather than utilitarian'. Knee brooches date from 150 - 250 AD (Worrell, S. 2007 'Roman Brooch Timeline' North-West PAS Newsletter). Cf. Hattatt 2007, A Visual Catalogue of Richard Hattatt's Ancient Brooches, fig.194 no.1227. Hattatt comments this is of Hull's Type 175 and native to Britain.

Class: Knee

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN

Period from: ROMAN

Date from: Circa AD 150

Date to: Circa AD 250

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 26.55 mm

Width: 18.1 mm

Weight: 6.44 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Thursday 1st September 2011 - Wednesday 30th November 2011

Personal details

Found by: This information is restricted for your login.

Recorded by: Ms Katie Hinds

Identified by: Ms Katie Hinds

Other reference numbers

Other reference: Salisbury Museum Entry Form 3786

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

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

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

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

To be known as: Idmiston

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: Generated from computer mapping software

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 10 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

General landuse: Cultivated land