

BROOCH

Unique ID: PAS-D36287

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Published

The fragment comprises the bow and part of the semi-circular head-plate of a Frankish radiate-headed brooch. It is cast in white metal, which has not been analysed but is possibly silver, and three of the original five plain knobs round the head remain. The head is decorated with an arc of repeating scrolls and the bow has a median rib which develops into a raised ovoid 'disc' on the top. The border rib of the head and the mid-rib of the bow are decorated with small punched triangles. There are traces of a support for the pin-spring on the back of the head-plate. The foot-plate is missing, but would probably have been of the common, straight-sided form with either a square or, possibly, an animal-headed terminal, similar to Rhineland examples from Andernach and Bonn, Germany (H Kühn, *Die germanischen Bügelfibeln der Völkerwanderungszeit in der Rheinprovinz* (Bonn, 1940), Taf. 67: 6,3; 6,5; 6,6). However, a more ovoid form ending in an animal head is not impossible. The raised 'disc' on the bow is unusual, but may imitate a gem or glass setting, as on a brooch of unknown provenance (*ibid.*, Taf. 72: 6,98). Kühn's map is rather out of date, but shows the general distribution of the type, mainly in the Rhineland/Upper Danube and northern French regions, including a couple of findspots from Anglo-Saxon contexts such as Howletts in Kent. Examples of other types of Frankish radiate-headed brooches from England are also recorded.

Notes:

Bm Treasure case: 2001 T1

Class: radiate headed

Subsequent actions

Current location of find: With finder

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2001T1

Chronology

Broad period: EARLY MEDIEVAL

Subperiod from: Early

Period from: EARLY MEDIEVAL

Subperiod to: Early

Period to: EARLY MEDIEVAL

Date from: AD 500

Date to: AD 599

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 35 mm

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Saturday 1st September 2001

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Treasure case number: 2001T1

Materials and construction

Primary material: Silver

Decoration method: Multiple

Decoration style: Geometric

Surface Treatment: Multiple

Spatial metadata

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

County or Unitary authority: [West Berkshire](#) (Unitary Authority)

District: [West Berkshire](#) (Unitary Authority)

To be known as: Boxford

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From a paper map

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Chance find during metal detecting

Current location: With finder

Kühn, H., 1940 [Die germanischen Bügelfibeln der Völkerwanderungszeit in der Rheinprovinz](#) Bonn: Röhrscheid ,