

BROOCH

Unique ID: SOM-083A37

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Published

An incomplete cast copper-alloy Dorset-type T-shaped brooch of early Roman date. The head, pin and upper part of the bow are missing to old breaks; the rest of the bow, the leg and catch-plate survive. The head is lost to an old, broadly horizontal break. The bow is sub-rectangular in cross-section. The front is moulded with two ridges at the sides and a central bevelled ridge with deep longitudinal groove. Between the ridges are very fine diagonally incised lines. Compared to the bow the plain leg is thinned. It tapers gradually, terminating in a ridged foot knob. On its lower surface the catch-plate has a web extending the full length of the leg, 16.1mm overall. It is of sub-triangular form, rounded through wear and abrasions, and having lost its fold.

There are several similar brooches illustrated in Hattatt (2000, 304; fig. 163, lower row). Bayley and Butcher (2004, 167-168) suggest this type (T139) is an unusual variant of the T-shaped brooches with a mostly south western distribution; they suggest a second to possibly third century date. This object has an even mid-green patina.

Notes:

Found at the same time as a hoard of 138 Roman bronze coins placed under a stone (Treasure case 2013 T73a). These coins, found scattered from the rest of the field, appear to be a mixture of Roman copper-alloy denominations dating from across most of the four centuries of Roman rule over Britain.

Age

All are of Roman date and therefore over 300 years old.

Metal content

They are all essentially base metal in composition (copper alloy).

From the same find?

This group of coins has the appearance of an accumulation of losses from different periods over the course of the second to fourth centuries AD. It spans a wider period than is likely for a hoard deposited in, say, the late fourth century and contains a mixture of denominations. The coins were therefore probably not deposited together as a hoard but instead form a series of technically separate finds as a result of random deposition over a period of time. As such, these coins do not appear to constitute Treasure under the stipulations of the *Treasure Act 1996* which require that coins must be from the same find.

Class: T-shaped **Sub class:** Dorset type

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder after being declared not Treasure

Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2013T73B

Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN

Period from: ROMAN

Date from: Circa AD 100

Date to: Circa AD 250

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 32 mm

Height: 7.8 mm

Width: 7 mm

Thickness: 1.7 mm

Weight: 2.06 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Sunday 10th February 2013

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: SCC receipt 22401

Treasure case number: 2013T73B

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

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

County or Unitary authority: [Somerset](#) (County)

District: [South Somerset](#) (District)

To be known as: Somerton CP

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: Generated from computer mapping software
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector
General landuse: Grassland, Heathland
Specific landuse: Disturbed

Hattatt, R., 2000 [*A Visual Catalogue of Richard Hattatt's Ancient Brooches*](#) Oxford: Oxbow Books
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