

CLOTH SEAL

Unique ID: SOM-FBAE42

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A modern lead-alloy disc probably from a four-disc type cloth seal issued by Weres, Matravers & Fox of Wellington, Somerset. One disc survives, with cracks on the inner surface, and with stubs of strips for attachment at opposing ends. The outer surface bears a design stamped in low relief of a shield which at its base breaks through an outer band within which the inscription: WERES MATRAVERS & FOX WELLINGTON. The shield bears the arms of the Were family; its heraldic description is taken from Burke's General Armory and therefore gives tinctures not visible on this monochromatic object: Argent on a bend vert between six cross crosslets fitchee gules three crosiers or, above which the crest a demi lion rampant proper holding a cross crosslet fitchee gules (Burke 1969, 1093). The other side appears plain. There is no clear impression of the cloth on the inner side.

Thomas Fox and Stephen Matravers were admitted as partners to the company in 1772 and Matravers died in 1795 giving suggested bounding dates for this seal (P. Maunder pers. comm. Jan 2015).

Notes:

Fox Brothers & Co Ltd the successor company to Weres Matravers and Fox is still in business making cloth in Wellington.

The company is referenced with all three names (Weares, Matravers and Fox) as found on this seal in a document dated 5 February 1784 (Mary Siraut pers. com. Somerset Record office: DD/HC 64/1/9).

Find of note status

This is a find of note and has been designated: County / local importance

Inscription: WERES MATRAVERS & FOX WELLINGTON

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: MODERN

Period from: MODERN

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Date from: Exactly AD 1772

Date to: Exactly AD 1795

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1
Length: 30 mm
Width: 24.8 mm
Thickness: 2.2 mm
Weight: 6.68 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Wednesday 1st October 1997 - Friday 31st October 1997

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: SCC receipt 16621

Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead Alloy
Completeness: Fragment

Spatial metadata

Region: [South West](#) (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: [Somerset](#) (County)
District: [Taunton Deane](#) (District)
To be known as: Wellington CP

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: Centred on field
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector
General landuse: Cultivated land

Burke, B., 1989 [The General Armoury](#) Ramsbury: Heritage Books 1093