AMPULLA

Unique ID: NMGW-364EE5

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Medieval lead pilgrim's ampulla of 14th to 16th century date

The ampulla is near-complete, missing the loops (with a length of 50.8mm and a weight of 36.6g) and with some damage to the mouth. The mouth is expanded slightly (with a width of 26.8mm) and is closed. The sides of the neck are concave and the positions of the damaged loops are clear (with a length of 10-11mm). The obverse face has a linear groove running from the top of the body along the neck. The sides of the neck are faceted, producing an hexagonal section. There is the suggestion of double lateral ribs, possibly filled with hatching at the base of the neck on the obverse face but no other decoration is now discernible on the neck. The reverse face of the ampula is flat, while the obverse is convex (giving a maximum thickness of 10.4mm). The body of the ampulla is curved (with a width of 31.4mm). The obverse face has numerous fine ribs, indicating the ampulla to be of Spencer's (1990, p 59)[1] Type II and representing the scallop shell, the emblem of Saint James and signifying pilgrimage. The reverse face is flat and is without any discernible decoration or design. The reverse has a number of striations running along the face, which are likely to be contemporary with its use or discard. The ampulla has a yellow-grey to white corroded surface.

[1] Spencer, B. 1990; Salisbury & South Wiltshire Medieval Catalogue, Part 2, *Pilgrim Souvenirs & Secular Badges*; Salisbury & South Wiltshire Museum

Class: pilgrim's ampulla

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL Date from: Circa AD 1300 Date to: Circa AD 1600

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 50.8 mm Width: 26.8 mm Weight: 36.6 g

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: NMWPA 2013.102

Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: Wales (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Monmouthshire (Unitary Authority)

District: <u>Monmouthshire</u> (Unitary Authority) Parish or ward: <u>Gwehelog Fawr</u> (Community)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: SO3404

Four figure Latitude: 51.73081125 Four figure longitude: -2.95705193

1:25K map: SO3404 1:10K map: SO30SW

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.