PENCIL

Unique ID: NMS-5A8A39

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Medieval to post-medieval writing lead, round-sectioned at the pointed end, square sectioned near the centre and flattened and widened at the other. Biddle 1990, Class II or III. Length 50mm. Maximum width 8mm. 12th - 16th century.

Writing leads like this follow the traditional shape of the earlier writing tablet styli, although it is unclear how effective a lead stylus would be for inscribing wax, and it seems more likely that they were used to make grey marks, as pencils. They are difficult to date as they have a long lifespan and examples of similar writing leads from Winchester ranged from 13th-15th century in date. However, it seems that some writing leads were also used in the post-medieval period and it is not inconceivable that this is later than medieval.

Class: writing lead

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL Period from: MEDIEVAL Period to: POST MEDIEVAL Date from: Circa AD 1100 Date to: Circa AD 1600

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1 Length: 50 mm Width: 8 mm

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Tuesday 11th February 2014 - Monday 8th December 2014

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

SMR reference number: 11816 Other reference: KLMD122014

Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead Manufacture method: Cast Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: Eastern (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: <u>Norfolk</u> (County) District: <u>King's Lynn and West Norfolk</u> (District)

Parish or ward: **Congham** (Civil Parish)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TF7222

Four figure Latitude: 52.76820403 Four figure longitude: 0.54801937

1:25K map: TF7222 1:10K map: TF72SW

Grid reference source: Centred on field

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.