

RING

Unique ID: WILT-091140

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A copper alloy possible horse harness ring of Bronze Age to Roman date (c. 1000 BC - AD 410). The ring measures 20.14mm in diameter (internal diameter 7.43mm), is 6.24mm thick and weighs 9.31g. It is circular in shape with a defined circumferential ridge running around the centre and flattened faces above and below. The interior surface also features a defined circumferential ridge, creating a hexagonal cross section. The interior surface exhibits scratch or wear marks which appear to have occurred during use. The ring has a pitted dark brown patina with patches of green.

Similar rings have been discovered in a number of Bronze Age hoards and have been suggested as horse harness fittings, as being part of the handles of a sheet-metal cauldron of Class A1 (Type Tulla-cross) and Class B1 (Types Llyn Fawr, Ballyshannon and Castlederg) (Gerloff 2010, Pl. 17, 7b; Pl.32, 14a; Pl. 33, 14f-h; Pl. 34, 15d, Pl. 54, 33c and Pl. 66, 37g)., or part of a chain from which a cauldron or other vessel was suspended over a fire.

Cf. WILT-9439A7 for a similar example on the database.

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: BRONZE AGE

Period from: BRONZE AGE

Period to: ROMAN

Date from: Circa 1000 BC

Date to: Circa AD 410

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Thickness: 6.24 mm

Weight: 9.31 g

Diameter: 20.14 mm

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Wednesday 7th March 2012

Personal details

Found by: This information is restricted for your login.

Recorded by: Miss Julie Shoemark

Identified by: Miss Julie Shoemark

Other reference numbers

Other reference: SSWM 4381 185b

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

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

County or Unitary authority: [Wiltshire](#) (Unitary Authority)

District: [Wiltshire](#) (Unitary Authority)

To be known as: Salisbury

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: GPS (from the finder)

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1 metre square.

Gerloff, S., 2010 [*Atlantic cauldrons and buckets. Studies in typology, origin and function of multi-sheet vessels of the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age in Western Europe. With a contribution on their construction and metallurgy by P. Northover.*](#) Stuttgart: Uncertain