EAR RING

Unique ID: NMS-FEB8BF

Object type certainty: Probably Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Incomplete gold sheet object, comprising two joining fragments, probably an earring of Roman date. It is in the shape of a round-shouldered or 'kite-shaped' shield, bent (and probably folded and then unfolded), with three vertical creases and broken along two probable horizontal creases. There is a small perforated lug in the same plane at the apex. The pointed lower end of the shield is missing, and approximately just over half survives. The original edges have a border, perhaps added to reinforce the flimsy sheet.

Traces of the damaged repoussé decoration on the front show a crowned human head facing out the viewer. The vertical creases correspond in part with the sides of the crown or head-dress, which has a central flower and traces of two flanking motifs. The lower edge of the crown, or upper part of the face, is defined by an deep arched rib. The head has voided oval eyes, nose and flanking curls of hair surviving above the broken lower edge. Extant length 31mm. Width 19mm. c. 0.20mm thick. Weighs 0.87q.

The shape of this object originally suggested a parallel with a sturdier 12th-century gold brooch of similar size and shape from Folkingham Castle (Cherry and Goodall, 1985). The discovery of another sheet gold object with a lug pierced from front to back, however (NMS-538775, 2022T255), has suggested a more likely identification, as an earring of Roman date; also compare NMS-B9A004 (2012T142), and two unprovenanced examples in the British Museum (BM 1814,0704.1172 and 1772,0314.84), both of which have soldered-on loops.

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder after being disclaimed as Treasure

Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2015T361

Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN Period from: ROMAN Period to: ROMAN Date from: Circa AD 43 Date to: Circa AD 409

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1 Length: 31 mm Width: 19 mm Thickness: 0.2 mm Weight: 0.87 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Monday 12th October 2015 - Monday 12th October 2015

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: IND08122015ED Treasure case number: 2015T361

Materials and construction

Primary material: Gold Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

Region: <u>Eastern</u> (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Essex (County)

District: <u>Uttlesford</u> (District)
To be known as: Leaden Roding

Spatial coordinates

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Cherry, J. and Goodall, J., 1985 <u>A twelfth-century gold brooch from Folkingham Castle, Lincs</u> London: Society of Antiquaries