THIMBLE

Unique ID: YORYM-E59D79

Object type certainty: Certain
Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A complete copper alloy thimble of medieval date. The thimble has a circular base from which the sides taper inwards and curve towards the top where they form the crown, creating a dome. The thimble is decorated with irregular pits in continuing spiralling rings from centre of the dome towards the thimble base where they terminate.

The metal has a mid-brown patina and is worn. The thimble is 19.8mm in height, 20.8mm in diameter, 2.3mm thick and weighs 14.5g. The thimble remains filled with organic material as a result of its deposition which adds to the overall weight of the object.

Thimbles have been in common use in England from the 14th century onwards and Geoff Egan (2010, p.265) states that no medieval thimble indisputably dating from before the 14th century has been found in England.They were originally used to protect the finger used to push a needle through sewing material and were commonly used by dressmakers and tailors. From the circa 16th century onwards silver thimbles were regarded as an ideal gift for ladies and have become gifts and collector's items made of a variety of materials including base and precious metals, and china. The pits on the surface of thimbles were originally created by the technique of hand punching though, in the mid-18th century they were machine-made.

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL
Period from: MEDIEVAL
Period to: MEDIEVAL
Date from: Circa AD 1300
Date to: Circa AD 1500

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1
Length: 19.8 mm
Thickness: 2.3 mm
Weight: 14.5 g
Diameter: 20.8 mm

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: YMT : E04612

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy
Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: Yorkshire and the Humber (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: East Riding of Yorkshire (Unitary Authority)
District: East Riding of Yorkshire (Unitary Authority)
Parish or ward: Wawne (Civil Parish)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TA0937
Four figure Latitude: 53.81786138
Four figure longitude: -0.34581617
1:25K map: TA0937
1:10K map: TA03NE
Grid reference source: GPS (from the finder)
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector
General landuse: Cultivated land
Specific landuse: Character undetermined

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