

STUD

Unique ID: YORYM-A2AA3F

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An incomplete copper alloy lock pin dating to the Roman period (AD 43 - AD 410).

The lock pin is circular in plan, flaring to the rim, with a concave upper surface and conical shaped central boss. The base has a wide, circular sectioned band with a small, rectangular sectioned shaft protruding from the centre.

The metal is uneven and light green in colour, with patches of brown on the upper surface. The lock pin is 21.9 mm in diameter, 14.8 mm long and weighs 9.3 g. The upper boss is 95.8 mm in diameter.

Similar examples can be seen in Crummy (1995, p.125, no. 4143) and on the PAS database such as [YORYM-7BECA5](#) and [SUR-AED102](#). These objects are thought to have been used for fastening lock plates to wooden chests and boxes.

Bell-shaped studs are a multi-purpose form of artefact, commonly found on sites dating to the Roman period. The key difference from other Roman studs, nails and fittings is the circular countersunk or convex face, which usually has at its centre a boss or cone.

While their exact purpose is not fully understood, they are believed to have been used, for example, on furniture, doors, and caskets, such as the bronze box-plate from Walheim Germany (Allason-Jones and McKay 1985, 30). It is noted that unless found in-situ, or as part of a set, it is rarely possible to attribute the stud to a specific purpose (Allason-Jones 2011, 8-9). Often found in association with northern frontier forts, the studs are known to be in use from the 1st to 4th centuries AD.

Refs:

Allason-Jones, L. (2011) *Artefacts in Roman Britain: Their Purpose and Use*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Allason-Jones, L. and McKay, B. (1985) *Coventina's Well: A Shrine on Hadrian's Wall*. Trustees of the Clayton Collection Chesters Museum, Hexham.

Crummy, N., 1983 [Colchester Archaeological Report 2: The Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester, 1971-9](#) Colchester : Colchester Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Class: bell shaped **Sub class:** Allason-Jones type 2

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN

Period from: ROMAN

Period to: ROMAN

Date from: Circa AD 43

Date to: Circa AD 410

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 14.8 mm

Weight: 9.3 g

Diameter: 21.9 mm

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: YMT: E04702

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

Region: [Yorkshire and the Humber](#) (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: [North Yorkshire](#) (County)

District: [Ryedale](#) (District)

To be known as: North Yorkshire

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.