# **COIN HOARD**

Unique ID: BERK-C479A1

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

TREASURE CASE 2016 T638. A small coin hoard, or purse-drop, consisting of three gold coins of James I, all found together. The coins have been identified by Barrie J Cook of the Department of Coins and Medals at the British Museum. His report follows:

I have examined a group of three coins reported found in West Berkshire. All three are good gold (over 90% fine metal), and are official issues of King James VI and I. Their details are as follows:

James VI and I

Eighth Scottish Coinage (1601-4)

1. Gold sword and sceptre piece 1601 5.02g

Second English Coinage (1604-19)

2. Gold unite tower (1612-13) 9.91g

Third Coinage (1619-25)

3. Gold laurel thistle (1621-3) 9.03g

The Scottish coin was worth 120 shillings Scots when issued, equivalent to 10 shillings sterling; the two English coins were each worth £1 sterling (20-shillings) when issued. Due to shifting gold prices, however, the value of the Second Coinage unite had been enhanced to 22-shillings in 1612 and the laurel was introduced at a lower weight to provide a £1 coin again. The Scottish coin's value would have been similarly raised in England to 11-shillings.

These coins would have been in currency together and, with a face-value in the years around 1620 of £2 13s., represent a considerable sum of money at the time, equivalent to several months' income for an ordinary labourer or artisan.

#### Notes:

As these coins are over 300 years old are gold and were found at the same findpsot, they constitue Treasure under the stipulations of the 1996 Treasure Act.

#### Find of note status

This has been noted as an interesting find by the recorder.

## **Subsequent actions**

Subsequent action after recording: Submitted for consideration as Treasure

#### Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2016T638

# Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL Period from: POST MEDIEVAL Period to: POST MEDIEVAL Date from: Circa AD 1603 Date to: Circa AD 1625

## **Dimensions and weight**

Quantity: 3

## **Discovery dates**

Date(s) of discovery: Saturday 18th June 2016

#### Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

#### Other reference numbers

Other reference: OXPAS2016.304 Treasure case number: 2016T638

## **Materials and construction**

Primary material: Gold

Manufacture method: Struck or hammered

Completeness: Complete

## Spatial metadata

Region: South East (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: <a href="West Berkshire">West Berkshire</a> (Unitary Authority)

District: West Berkshire (Unitary Authority)

To be known as: Frilsham CP

# **Spatial coordinates**

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

# **Discovery metadata**

Method of discovery: Metal detector General landuse: Cultivated land