

FINGER RING

Unique ID: BERK-12895D

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

TREASURE CASE 2016 T1041. A complete gold 'posy' finger ring of post-medieval date, now distorted with a broken hoop. The finger ring has a thick D-shaped section with external decoration and an internal inscription.

The external decoration consists of four oval cartouches separated by horizontal and linear bands. The cartouches contain a central lozenge with three outer lozenges increasing in size to the edge of the band. Each outermost lozenge has lateral extensions which terminate in curved, or scrolled tendrills. A small double-crescentic moulding then completes the decoration within each cartouche. A small amount of blue enamelling survives in the lozenges of three of the cartouches.

The internal inscription reads 'I LIKE MY GHOYSE' (sic CHOICE) in upper case. The words are separated by small four-pointed stars while a scrolled tendrill ends the inscription. There is no maker's mark.

Discussion: Variations of this inscription are common and several are recorded in Evans (1931, p 54), with parallels recorded on the PAS database including IOW-879D84 (2012 T189 'I Lyke my choyce'), and SUSS-D21D31 (2009 T85) and variations on the inscription (I like my choyse) recorded at SWYOR-859922 (2014 T182). The use of capital letters suggests a late 16th / early 17th Century date (lower case letters in similar rings is suggestive of a 17th-18th century date, demonstrated by an example from the British Museum collection (1961,1202.30)). Parallels to the enamelling of finger rings during this period include NMGW-C6437A (2015 TRW21), DUR-23C436 (2016T243) and LIN-764E24 (2007T427).

Notes:

In conclusion, the lettering, enamelled decoration and form of the ring indicate that it dates from the period c. AD 1550-1650. Therefore as this finger ring has a precious metal content of greater than 10% and is older than 300 years, it should be considered 'Treasure' under the requirements of the Treasure Act 1996.

Subsequent actions

Current location of find: FLO

Subsequent action after recording: Acquired by museum after being declared Treasure

Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2016T1041

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Period from: POST MEDIEVAL
Period to: POST MEDIEVAL
Date from: Circa AD 1600
Date to: Circa AD 1650

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1
Width: 4 mm
Thickness: 1.4 mm
Weight: 3.3 g
Diameter: 21.57 mm

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Tuesday 15th November 2016

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: OXPAS2016.628
Treasure case number: 2016T1041
Museum accession number: Oxfordshire Museums Service: OXCMS : 2019.79

Materials and construction

Primary material: Gold
Decoration style: Geometric
Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: [South East](#) (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: [Oxfordshire](#) (County)
District: [West Oxfordshire](#) (District)
To be known as: Aston, Cote, Shifford and Chimney 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
Current location: FLO
General landuse: Cultivated land