

THIMBLE

Unique ID: HAMP-598DC8

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A medieval copper alloy Hispano-Moresque domed thimble dating to c.1100-1500, measuring 49.8mm in length, 23.2mm in width and weighing 33.81g. The walls are 1.6mm thick. The open end is flanked with decoration in the form of two pairs of concentric grooves, the upper pair of which contains diagonal grooves between them. Inside the two pairs of concentric grooves are long curlicues with a dot between the curl and a curving line flanking the open edge. The sides of the thimble are parallel, angling inwards at the closed end towards the rounded tip. Another pair of concentric grooves are visible just below the tip. Between this pair of concentric grooves and those with diagonal grooves the central area of the thimble is filled with irregular circular punches. The open end has a jagged break extending along the side of the thimble.

With many thanks to Brian Read for the identification. He comments further, "These date to c.12th - c.15th century, the degree of corrosion and condition makes me suspect this one is of the earlier date. The first I've noted as found in Britain. Probably made in Cordoba, Spain when under Moorish control. See Holmes 1985, pp 20-21 & McConnel 1991, pp 11, 14." (pers. comm. March 2016).

Illustration by Mike Trevarthen (reproduced with the kind permission of Brian Read).

Notes:

This was recorded at a rally and may fall below our usual standard of recording.

Find of note status

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

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL

Period from: MEDIEVAL

Period to: MEDIEVAL

Date from: Circa AD 1100

Date to: Circa AD 1500

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 49.8 mm

Width: 23.2 mm

Weight: 33.81 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Saturday 19th March 2016 - Saturday 19th March 2016

Rally details.

This object was found at [Andover Anton Rotary Club Charity Rally - Penton Grafton 19-20.3.16](#)

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: Penton Grafton 19.3.16; find no.209

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

Region: [South East](#) (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: [Hampshire](#) (County)

District: [Test Valley](#) (District)

Parish or ward: [Penton Grafton](#) (Civil Parish)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: SU3147

Four figure Latitude: 51.22135945

Four figure longitude: -1.55749179

1:25K map: SU3147

1:10K map: SU34NW

Grid reference source: Generated from computer mapping software

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

General landuse: Cultivated land