COIN

Unique ID: LON-B2F5CF

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Silver drachm of Khosrow II (also known as Khusro II, Chosroes II or Khusraw Parvēz), Sasanian king in Iran, AD 590-628. Mint LAM= Ram Hormuz in southwestern Iran.

Obverse: Crowned bust of Khosrow II facing right, Zoroastrian astrological symbols: stars and crescents around perimeter.

Reverse: Holy fire-altar flanked by two attendants, monograms/ Zoroastrian astrological symbols.

Similar drachms on the database are LVPL2174 and LEIC-BF6164.

Gareth Williams pers com "It's not impossible that such a coin could have reached England in Viking hands. There was a Byzantine coin of comparable date in the Cuerdale hoard, and Sasanian and Arab-Sasanian coins do turn up in Viking hoards in Scandinavia, although in very small numbers compared with later Islamic dirhams." he continues "There are two other possibilities. One is that it is a much later deposition, possibly a souvenir brought back from the Middle East. This has been argued to be the case with a number of Byzantine bronze coins of comparable date found in unlikely places around Britain, and particularly from some areas linked with military service overseas in the 20th century. However, it is now recognised that there are increasing numbers of genuine finds of Byzantine bronze coins from Britain, and I have noted a resurgence of imported coins (particularly gold but some silver) in Britain in the sixth and early seventh centuries, culminating around the time of this coin."

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Donated to a museum

Chronology

Broad period: BYZANTINE Period from: BYZANTINE Period to: BYZANTINE Date from: Circa AD 590 Date to: Circa AD 628

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1 Weight: 3.69 g Diameter: 30.8 mm

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Materials and construction

Primary material: Silver

Manufacture method: Struck or hammered

Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: London (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Greater London Authority (Greater London Authority)

District: Wandsworth (London Borough)

Parish or ward: Thamesfield (London Borough Ward)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TQ2375

Four figure Latitude: 51.4606202 Four figure longitude: -0.23089644

1:25K map: TQ2375 1:10K map: TQ27NW

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: Open fresh water Specific landuse: Running water