

BROOCH

Unique ID: IOW-055A79

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An incomplete Early-Medieval (Anglo-Saxon) copper-alloy zoomorphic bird brooch (c. 500-c. 550).

The pin is missing.

The brooch is in the form of a stylised bird in profile, with a raptor-like hooked beak, blind hole for the eye, collared neck, part of a folded wing along the back and an incomplete crescent moulding for the foot. The collar, edge of the wing, and foot are decorated with stamped annulets/pellets. The tail is slightly forked and is divided horizontally by a line of stamped annulets/pellets. The rear face has a single pin-lug at the tail end which is 'D'-shaped in profile. There is a complete 'D'-shaped catch-plate at the beak end. A corroded deposit of iron is attached to the pin-lug. The front is gilded.

Length: 24.7mm; width: 10.8mm; thickness: 2.2mm; thickness including pin-lug: 7.4mm. Weight: 2.36g.

A very similar brooch has been recorded from Bressingham, Norfolk (**NMS-B913D5**). Also compare with: **HAMP-A0BB4E**.

Notes:

Jo Ahmet comments that this brooch is similar in form to the pair from grave 51 at Bifrons, Kent. Dating early-mid 6th century (Hawkes 2000). Both of which have in situ garnets. This Isle of Wight brooch (IOW-055A79) has the remains of an eye cell so likely would have had a garnet or possibly blue glass inlay.

Hawkes 2000, S. 'The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery of Bifrons, in the Parish of Patricxbourne, East Kent' in Anglo-Saxon Studies in Archaeology and History 11, 1-94).

Find of note status

This is a find of note and has been designated: County / local importance

Class: bird

Subsequent actions

Current location of find: Finder

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: EARLY MEDIEVAL

Subperiod from: Early

Period from: EARLY MEDIEVAL
Subperiod to: Early
Period to: EARLY MEDIEVAL
Ascribed Culture: Anglo-Saxon style
Date from: Circa AD 500
Date to: Circa AD 550

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1
Length: 24.7 mm
Width: 10.8 mm
Thickness: 7.4 mm
Weight: 2.36 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Saturday 10th June 2017 - Saturday 10th June 2017

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: IOW2017-3-79

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy
Secondary material: Iron
Completeness: Incomplete
Surface Treatment: Gilded

Spatial metadata

Region: [South East](#) (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: [Isle of Wight](#) (Unitary Authority)
District: [Isle of Wight](#) (Unitary Authority)
To be known as: Isle of Wight

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: GPS (from the finder)
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector
Current location: Finder
General landuse: Cultivated land

Specific landuse: Operations to a depth greater than 0.25m

finds.org.uk