BROOCH

Unique ID: SOM-7FD882

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An incomplete Roman copper alloy hinged Hod Hill type brooch, probably dating to c. AD 43-70. The surviving brooch largely comprises of the bow and head of the brooch only, with the catchplate, axis bar and pin all missing.

The head of the brooch expands backwards, in a flat, inverted trapezoidal plate, 10.6mm wide at the maximum and 1.5mm thick. The head would have originally been rolled forwards, holding in place and axis bar and pin, both now missing and with the head broken at the fold. A central rectangular slot has been cut into the reverse of the head to accommodate the pin.

The bow projects outwards from the head with a broadly D-shaped cross section, this upper section of the bow cast into a single cross-moulding, flanked by two narrower transverse waisted sections. This section expands outwards c. 8.4mm outwards, tapering broadly to a width of 7.1mm, where there is a pronounced break in angle, c. 100 degrees, and at which point the bow also thickens, though remaining broadly D-shaped in cross section, to 4.7mm thick.

Below this break in angle the bow continues for a further 45.7mm, tapering to a pointed foot, 1.3mm wide and 1.4mm thick, sub-circular in cross section. Two parallel longitudinal channels run down either edge of the front of the bow, divided by a pronounced central ridge. These channels are inlaid with enamel which survives *in situ*, but which is now highly degraded. A notable "step" in the narrowing of the foot at the terminal may suggest the original presence of an applied foot knop, now missing. There is a dent at the bow's mid-point causing the foot to be angle forwards slightly. From the reverse of the foot expands the vestigial remains of an integral catchplate, 17.4mm high, probably with a circular perforation at the mid-point. The maximum thickness of the brooch is at the foot, where including the catchplate it reaches 5.0mm thick.

Overall dimensions: length 52.9mm; width 10.6mm; thickness 5.0mm; weight 5.07g.

A continental brooch type, a number of comparable examples can be seen recorded on this database, see for example: BH-1EE4FE. Further parallels found at Richborough can be seen illustrated by Bayley & Butcher (2004: 77, esp. nos. 131-132), who note that the type has largely went out of use by c. AD 70. (*ibid*: 153).

Class: Hod Hill

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN Period from: ROMAN Period to: ROMAN Date from: Circa AD 43 Date to: Circa AD 70

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 52.9 mm Width: 10.6 mm Thickness: 5 mm Weight: 5.07 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Friday 1st January 2016 - Thursday 6th April 2017

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: SCC receipt: 017350

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy Secondary material: Enamel Completeness: Incomplete

Surface Treatment: Inlaid with enamel

Spatial metadata

Region: South West (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Somerset (County)

District: <u>South Somerset</u> (District)
To be known as: Charlton Musgrove CP

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From a paper map

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector General landuse: Cultivated land

Bayley, J. and Butcher, S., 2004. <u>Roman Brooches in Britain: A Technological and Typological Study</u> <u>Based on the Richborough Collection</u> London: The Society of Antiquaries 68