# **BROOCH**

Unique ID: LIN-A6943E

Object type certainty: Certain Workflow status: Published

An early Anglo-Saxon copper alloy brooch, probably an unusual variant of an applied saucer brooch (also known simply as an "applied brooch") or a hybrid between cast and applied types.

The brooch is circular, concave, and has the remains of silver or tin coating in patches on both the concave front and the convex reverse. No decoration is visible. Noticeable pitting, corrosion and slight colour changes form a narrow band (4-5mm wide) around the edge of the front, just inside the rim. The reverse contains a single damaged lug for the pin, broken through a hole. This lug is set in line with a complete catchplate, and iron corrosion is visible around the lug, probably from an iron pin bar.

This brooch is not thick and flat like a disc brooch, neither does it have the normal cast decoration of a cast saucer brooch. The white-metal coating on the front is likely to be solder from a thin relief-decorated applied plate or foil, with the different colour and condition around the edge showing that this applied plate did not reach as far as the rim.

This type of 'applied' brooch is normally made entirely of sheet metal, with a separate rim, pin bar lug and catchplate all made from sheet and riveted or soldered together, with the joins being covered by a soldered-on plate. However, parallels to this form, with cast backplate and missing their applied plate, can be found from Brighthampton and Fairford (MacGregor and Bolick 1993, 41 nos. 1.40 and 1.41) and from grave 59 at Berinsfield (Boyle et al 1995, 77). Further examples on the PAS database include NMS-C5D5B1, NMS-213456 (incomplete) and possibly IOW-0CA342 (incomplete).

Although all of these have flat centres and the complete examples have sharply up-turned rims, the concave shape is a common variant among cast saucer brooches. A similar object was found at the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Wigston Magna, Leicestershire (Liddle and Middleton 1994, figure 6, catalogue no. 6).

Applied saucer brooches are among the earliest of Anglo-Saxon brooches, being known from the start of the 5th century into the early 6th century (MacGregor and Bolick 1993, 32).

#### Find of note status

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

Class: applied saucer

#### **Subsequent actions**

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 400 Date to: Circa AD 550

### Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Thickness: 7.3 mm Weight: 16.06 g Diameter: 46.6 mm

#### Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

#### **Materials and construction**

Primary material: Copper alloy Completeness: Incomplete

Surface Treatment: White metal coated

# **Spatial metadata**

Region: East Midlands (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: <a href="Lincolnshire">Lincolnshire</a> (County)

District: <u>East Lindsey</u> (District) To be known as: Alford area

## **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 General landuse: Cultivated land

MacGregor, A. and Bolick, E., 1993 A summary catalogue of the Anglo-Saxon collections (non-

ferrous metals), Ashmolean Museum, Oxford Oxford: Tempvs Reparatum