

STRAP FITTING

Unique ID: NMS-F70707

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Published

Incomplete enamelled copper alloy Roman zoomorphic strap fitting of Boucher's (2008) Type C2 dating to the period c. AD 80 - 250. In the form of a boar facing right. The head exhibits features moulded in relief with one ear projecting slightly from the top of the head. The eye is recessed and inlaid with black enamel. The mouth is depicted by a transverse groove just below the snout with a moulded tusk projecting from the edge. A series of fine grooves across the head indicate the texture of bristles. The head is divided from the body by a line of punched annulets. The body exhibits a recessed cell filled with blue champlévé enamel and three spots of white enamel; one at the shoulder, one at the top of the foreleg and one, larger spot on the flank. This last spot exhibits a central recess with traces of a red substance within. The finder notes that it originally had a dark-coloured enamel filling when discovered, but this dropped out and was lost in the soil. In the centre of the enamelled field is a circular aperture surrounded by a reserve border. This would have originally held a loop for a pivoting copper alloy ring. Both of the legs terminate in cloven trotters. Two projecting stubs at the rear of the animal indicates the position of the missing tail.

On the reverse of the fitting are two integrally cast T-shaped attachment rivets, one of which is incomplete due to old damage.

The boar is a common figure in zoomorphic enamelled brooches, with many examples recorded on the PAS database including: WILT-5D5B17 & SUSS-DB2C32, however, the attachment rivets at the back clearly indicate that this example is not intended for use as a brooch.

In terms of the attachment rivets, this artefact is related to similar enamelled strap fittings, most commonly circular in form and a number of which have been recorded on the PAS database including: SUR-67CFC7, WILT-B03D73, BH-F9B471 & ESS-7E7BB6. It has been noted that, as with the current example, these also exhibit characteristics in common with enamelled disc and plate brooches of the same period, indicating that similar motifs were employed across a range of dress accessories, of which brooches are the most common.

Length (head to front foot): 18mm, width (nose to tail): 32.2mm, thickness (including rivets): 8.4mm, thickness (excluding rivets): 3.3mm, weight: 5.9g.

See: Boucher, T, 2008, p. 27, no. 35.

Find of note status

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

Class: Zoomorphic **Sub class:** Boucher (2008) Type C2

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN
Period from: ROMAN
Period to: ROMAN
Date from: Circa AD 80
Date to: Circa AD 200

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1
Length: 18 mm
Width: 32.2 mm
Thickness: 8.4 mm
Weight: 5.9 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Sunday 2nd April 2017 - Sunday 2nd April 2017

Personal details

Found by: This information is restricted for your login.
Recorded by: Miss Julie Shoemark
Identified by: Miss Julie Shoemark

Other reference numbers

SMR reference number: 61796
Other reference: NHRG052017

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy
Completeness: Complete
Surface Treatment: Inlaid with enamel

Spatial metadata

Region: [Eastern](#) (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: [Norfolk](#) (County)
District: [Broadland](#) (District)
Parish or ward: [Guestwick](#) (Civil Parish)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TG0527
Four figure Latitude: 52.80158415
Four figure longitude: 1.03959965
1:25K map: TG0527
1:10K map: TG02NE
Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1 metre square.

Boucher, T., 2008 [*Un nouveau type d'attaches romaines : les appliques à anneau pivotant et tenons en "T"*](#) France: Instrumentum

finds.org.uk