KNIFE

Unique ID: NMGW-B18276

Object type certainty: Possibly Workflow status: Published

Bronze Age knife or razor probably of Late Bronze Age date

The knife or razor is of crescent form and appears to be near-complete but is perhaps missing a tang (with a length of 51.3mm, a height of 40.1mm and a weight of 43.9g). The blade edge is concave with a deep-arched back. The blade tips at both ends may have been elongated, as suggested shallowing to the curve at the back. One tip has a small semi-circular notch (3.3mm diameter), possibly the remnants of a rivet attachment hole and if correct, may suggest a slight tang on that side. There is an irregular long notch (12.5m long and 3.3mm deep) on the top edge, just below the apex and may also be the result of hafting. The blade is thickest at the centre (with a maximum thickness of 4.4mm) and thins at a blade facet on both edges and on both faces. The blade facet has a consistent length (of 7.4mm) along the edge. The surface is more corroded on one face and is dark-green brown with pale. The opposite face has a dark-green patina with a few striations evident running along the blade, possibly from sharpening.

The bronze blade is difficult to closely parallel with British archaeological finds but is perhaps best paralleled with Late Bronze Age Hog backed or triangular knives or Racloirs. The blade edge on these examples is usually comparatively straight rather than concave and perhaps suggests a specialised function. The possible rivet indent on one end and damage to the apex, perhaps suggest a tanged knife with handle on one end but covering the top of the blade.

Find of note status

This is a find of note and has been designated: Regional importance

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: BRONZE AGE

Subperiod from: Late

Period from: BRONZE AGE

Subperiod to: Late Period to: BRONZE AGE

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 51.3 mm Height: 40.1 mm Thickness: 4.4 mm Weight: 43.9 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Sunday 26th March 2017

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: NMWPA 2017.23.1

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy Manufacture method: Cast Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: Wales (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Monmouthshire (Unitary Authority)

District: Monmouthshire (Unitary Authority)
Parish or ward: Caerwent (Community)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: ST4789

Four figure Latitude: 51.59733773 Four figure longitude: -2.76655802

1:25K map: ST4789 1:10K map: ST48NE

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.