

BROOCH

Unique ID: HESH-D1784E

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A near complete cast copper alloy Roman Trumpet brooch dating from AD 75 - 175. The bow of the brooch has an angular profile and an angular D shaped cross section. The bow tapers from a flared head to a tapered foot knob. The head of the brooch is complete, it is very robust being oval in plan, and tapers into the bow. The reverse of the head is concave and has a cast D shaped projecting bar which extends from the upper to lower edges of the reverse. This projection has a small circular hole (2.3mm) through it; this would originally have held a wound wire spring / pin - which is now lost. The head extends into the bow which remains uniform in width. At the mid-point of the bow are three bulbous sub-circular cast mouldings. The upper and lower mouldings are decorated by a circumferential transverse groove. Whereas, the central has a D shaped projecting rib flanked by a pair of single recessed groove. Beneath the mouldings the lower part of the bow extends and tapers slightly. The lower bow is faceted and more triangular in section. The bow terminates in a point with a U shaped depression forming a slight gouge shape positioned below a circumferential collar. The catch plate is formed from a rib which extends from a point beneath the three mouldings and terminates in line with the foot knob. It is eroded and abraded having lost the external edge and it been rolled to form the pin rest. The catch plate would have been sub-triangular in shape and possibly decorated. The lower bow is undecorated however the head and bow have a cast and drilled design. The head is decorated by a central spinal rib projecting from the mid point -to the upper moulded bow. Either side of this are conical drilled holes - possibly to hold a glass or enamel inset - no such applied setting survives and the holes are relatively clean. The brooch is of a mid green brown colour with a well formed but corroded patina which covers all surfaces. The surface has a mid grey coloured sheen possibly suggesting it was silvered / had a white metal coating. A number of similar brooches of this type can be seen in Richard Hattatt's Visual Catalogue of Ancient Brooches; page 326-328. All the brooches in this section are dated to the later 1st and 2nd century AD.

The brooch measures 54.5mm in length, 17.1mm width (across head), 9.4mm width (across central moulding on the bow) is 10.2mm thick (at the same point), and weighs 15.79 grams.

Class: Trumpet

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN

Period from: ROMAN

Period to: ROMAN

Date from: Circa AD 75

Date to: Circa AD 175

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1
Length: 54.5 mm
Width: 9.4 mm
Thickness: 10.2 mm
Weight: 15.79 g

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: Shropshire Museum Service; Object Entry Form: E. 01553

Materials and construction

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

Spatial metadata

Region: [West Midlands](#) (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: [County of Herefordshire](#) (Unitary Authority)
District: [County of Herefordshire](#) (Unitary Authority)
To be known as: Little Birch

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From a paper map
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.