# **NUT CRACKERS**

**Unique ID:** HAMP-B20DEB

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

An incomplete post-medieval copper alloy pocket-sized screw-action nutcracker, consisting of the ring of the nutcracker only (and missing the screw handle/ thumbpiece section). The ring is slightly oval in shape (rather than perfectly circular) and has a D-shaped cross-section (being flat to the inside surface). To opposing sides of the hoop are two sub-circular projections, one of which is a walled perforation 12.7x12.1mm (internal 8.5x7.4mm) and 4.9mm tall. It has a screw-thread to the inside and a decorative concentric groove around the outside, which is faceted and octofoil in shape. The second projection is a seal matrix measuring 12.8x12.1mm, with a slight hollowing on the inside of the loop at this point (with additional possibly hammer/ working marks). The matrix projects 3.4mm from the ring and is inscribed with W I (or perhaps I M) either side of a vertical rib. At one end a crescent rib curves over the end, at the other there is a crescent rib to either side (creating a circle shape) with a short narrow horizontal extending either side of the vertical rib. Flanking the outside of the crescent curves are short radiating ribs. There is a pellet above and below each letter and a concentric ring surrounds the isncription and decoration. The object has lost its original patina and is brown in colour with patches of light green concretion

With grateful thanks to Laura Burnett for her recognition of this object. Ms. Burnett further comments on dating for this object type, 'They are often late 17th century in date, there is one of slightly different style with a 1676 date on the matrix so late 17th to early 18th century' (pers. comm. July 2018). See also

(especially on the outside of the hoop and its inner surface). It measures 27.53mm in length and 23.4mm in width, with an internal measurement of 19.4x18.7mm. It is max.12.7mm in thickness and

http://www.antiquemetalware.org.uk/2017/09/18/screw-action-nutcracker/, and PUBLIC-6FF674, SWYOR-142317 and LANCUM-C8E757 on this database.

#### Find of note status

weighs 11.45g.

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

#### **Subsequent actions**

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

#### Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL Period from: POST MEDIEVAL Period to: POST MEDIEVAL Date from: Circa AD 1650

Date to: Circa AD 1750

## Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 27.53 mm Width: 23.4 mm Thickness: 12.7 mm Weight: 11.45 g

#### **Discovery dates**

Date(s) of discovery: Tuesday 1st August 2017 - Thursday 31st August 2017

#### **Personal details**

This information is restricted for your access level.

#### Other reference numbers

Other reference: Hampshire Cultural Trust Object Entry Form WINCM 628

### **Materials and construction**

Primary material: Copper alloy Completeness: Incomplete

## **Spatial metadata**

Region: South East (European Region)

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

District: Winchester (District)
To be known as: Bishops Waltham

## **Spatial coordinates**

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

## **Discovery metadata**

Method of discovery: Metal detector General landuse: Cultivated land