

# STRAP END

**Unique ID:** CORN-810591

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Cast copper alloy strap end front plate missing the back plate with bent sides in the form of a shield in plan with a lobed knob extension at the terminal end. The face plate is incised with the letters IHS with a line above that follows the form of the knopped end and oblique scrolled lines below that appear to form letters or numbers, but are too corroded to make out. All this is within an incised border which follows the edge of the plate. The letters "IHS" are a 'Christogram' (a monogram of the Holy Name), derived from the Greek word 'IHSOUS' (ΙΗΣΟΥΣ) for Jesus, or referring to *Iesus Hominum Salvator*, or Jesus Saviour of Mankind. The omega is also a Christian visual symbol, often being paired with an alpha. There are four rivets still extant on the back of this plate which would have attached to another plate to complete the strap end. See records [CORN-263BE3](#) and [CORN-2619B8](#) for more complete examples with keyhole-shaped openwork on the back plate. The original surface has corroded away to reveal the copper-coloured core on the front of the plate.

Though the function of these objects is not fully understood, it seems likely that it is the female part of a strap connector and that a male element with a projecting disc would have slotted into the recess at the back (in the complete examples). The male part might have looked similar to one recorded in [SF-CEBDA3](#).

Read (1988) illustrates a similar strap end with IHS, from Cockington, Torquay, Devon, on page 66, no.342, which is dated from the 15th to the 16th century.

## Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

## Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL

Subperiod from: Late

Period from: MEDIEVAL

Subperiod to: Early

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Date from: Circa AD 1400

Date to: Circa AD 1600

## Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 33 mm

Height: 6 mm

Width: 24.5 mm

Thickness: 3 mm

Weight: 9.85 g

## Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Wednesday 1st August 2018 - Tuesday 7th August 2018

## Personal details

Found by: This information is restricted for your login.

Recorded by: Ms Anna Tyacke

Identified by: Ms Anna Tyacke

## Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Incomplete

## Spatial metadata

Region: [South West](#) (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: [Cornwall](#) (Unitary Authority)

District: [Cornwall](#) (Unitary Authority)

Parish or ward: [St. Just](#) (Civil Parish)

## Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: SW3531

Four figure Latitude: 50.1197849

Four figure longitude: -5.70856683

1:25K map: SW3531

1:10K map: SW31NE

Grid reference source: Generated from computer mapping software

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1 metre square.

## Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

General landuse: Grassland, Heathland

Specific landuse: Disturbed

Read, B., 1995 [History Beneath our Feet](#) Ipswich: Anglia Publishing p.66, , no.342