

# TOKEN

**Unique ID:** LEIC-F2C60C

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Medieval to post medieval lead alloy boy bishop token, 15mm in diameter with a weight of 2.12grams.

The obverse depicts a mitre in a solid border with an inscription. The reverse has a long cross and pellets in each quarter with an incscription mimicking a sterling penny.

During medieval winter solistices it became a Christian tradition for each town to elect a Boy Bishop whom was paraded around on processions. In the processions, lead tokens were handed out to the crowd to celebrate the event. This is based on the Roman celebration 'Feast of Saturnalia' which was where society was turned upside down. The Christian community evolved the event so instead of the King of Slaves elected, the Boy Bishop was.

For similar examples see NMS-301C07 SF-FB8B37 WILT-ABF826.

## Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

## Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL

Period from: MEDIEVAL

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Date from: Circa AD 1470

Date to: Exactly AD 1530

## Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Weight: 2.12 g

Diameter: 15 mm

## Personal details

Found by: This information is restricted for your login.

Recorded by: Ms Joyce Lee

Identified by: Wendy Scott

## Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead Alloy

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Complete

## Spatial metadata

Region: [Eastern](#) (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: [Hertfordshire](#) (County)

District: [East Hertfordshire](#) (District)

Parish or ward: [Hormead](#) (Civil Parish)

## Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TL4128

Four figure Latitude: 51.93265666

Four figure longitude: 0.04944038

1:25K map: TL4128

1:10K map: TL42NW

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 100 metre square.