# **WEIGHT**

Unique ID: YORYM-ED42BC

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A complete lead-alloy trade weight of medieval to post-medieval date, c.AD 1380 - 1600. The weight is shield shaped with rounded edges and corners. A raised crowned fleur-de-lis design is present on the upper surface. The reverse is flat with the initials IH deeply engraved at the centre.

The metal has a mid-white/brown patina and is worn. The weight is 65.9mm long, 48.9mm wide, 10.9mm thick and weighs 221g.

Lead weights have been used in trade since the Roman period and were used for weighing quantities of coin as well as goods. Shield-shaped weights are a distinctive group of trade weights which are used from c.AD 1380 and continue into the 15th century. Biggs & Withers (2000, p.34) discuss the difficulties in dating shield weights as links between documentary evidence and artefactual evidence are difficult to establish. Their longevity coupled with various qualities of workmanship and numerous designs employed over a long period of time also make dating difficult. It is likely however that some belong to the period following the conversion of the trade pound under the averdepois system and as such it is likely that these weights represent a desire to standardize the trade weight system.

It is common to encounter versions of royal insignia on shield shaped lead weights and Biggs & Withers (1992, p.42) state that the fleur-de-lis device is commonly found in the North of England.

#### **Subsequent actions**

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

#### Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL Period from: MEDIEVAL Period to: POST MEDIEVAL Date from: Circa AD 1380 Date to: Circa AD 1600

#### **Dimensions and weight**

Quantity: 1

Length: 65.9 mm Width: 48.9 mm Thickness: 10.9 mm

Weight: 221 g

#### Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

#### Other reference numbers

Other reference: YMT: E05923

#### **Materials and construction**

Primary material: Lead Alloy Completeness: Complete

## **Spatial metadata**

Region: <u>Yorkshire and the Humber</u> (European Region) County or Unitary authority: <u>North Yorkshire</u> (County)

District: **Selby** (District)

Parish or ward: Cliffe (Civil Parish)

### **Spatial coordinates**

4 Figure: SE6635

Four figure Latitude: 53.80711512 Four figure longitude: -0.99925138

1:25K map: SE6635 1:10K map: SE63NE

Grid reference source: GPS (from the finder)

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.

## **Discovery metadata**

Method of discovery: Metal detector General landuse: Cultivated land

Specific landuse: Character undetermined