

WEIGHT

Unique ID: NLM-87F988

Object type certainty: Possibly

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Lead possible weight. Cast and possibly originally discoid weight, either hammered or trimmed to a hexagonal form. Patinated. The mass may suggest this to have represented three Viking-Age units of 4.07gms as used for silver bullion transactions, or one half of an *ora/ore*, the contemporary equivalent of an [underweight] ounce. Values of odd numbers of units are otherwise rare in this apparently duodecimal system. Suggested date: Early Medieval, 850-950

Diameter: 16.5mm, Thickness: 8.1mm, Weight: 12.42gms

Notes:

The subject of Viking Age metrology is discussed for Flixborough, North Lincolnshire by Wastling 2009 (Wastling, L.M., 'Lead and lead alloy mensuration weights', in Evans, D.H. and Loveluck, C., *Life and Economy at Early Flixborough c.AD600-1000*, Excavations at Flixborough volume 2, Oxbow, Oxford and Oakville, pages 422-424). Wastling draws on Wallace 1987 for weights from Dublin using a module of 4.43gms (Wallace, P.F. 'The Economy and Commerce of Viking Age Dublin', in K. Duwel *et al*, *Untersuchungen zu Handel und Verkehr der vor- und fruhgeschichtlichen Zeit in Mittel- und Nordeuropa*, Teil IV. *Der Handel der Karolinger und Wikingerzeit*, Gottingen), and on Kruse (1988, 1992) for weights of a more general Scandinavian currency using a module of 4.07gms (Kruse, S. 1988, 'Ingots and Weights in Viking Age Silver Hoards', *World Archaeology* 20, 265-381; Kruse, S. 1992, 'Late Saxon Balances and Weights from England', *Medieval Archaeology* 36, 67-95). Kruse bases calculations on Nielsen 1983, on Hedeby, to arrive at the figure of 4.07gms (Nielsen, H-O, 1983, 'Rontgenologische und metrische Untersuchungen an zwei Kugel-Gewichtssatzen aus Haithabu', *Berichte uber die Ausgrabungen in Haithabu* 18, 109-120, Neumunster). These details were requested by Helen Geake, though this reporter regrets his lack of facility with the imposition of appropriate accents for the Continental sources cited by Wastling. These appear in their proper form in the bibliography of the Flixborough volume.

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: EARLY MEDIEVAL

Subperiod from: Late

Period from: EARLY MEDIEVAL

Subperiod to: Late

Period to: EARLY MEDIEVAL

Date from: Circa AD 850

Date to: Circa AD 950

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1
Thickness: 8.1 mm
Weight: 12.42 g
Diameter: 16.5 mm

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Tuesday 6th November 2018

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Other reference: NLM41149

Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead
Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: [East Midlands](#) (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: [Lincolnshire](#) (County)
District: [West Lindsey](#) (District)
To be known as: Usselby

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: Generated from computer mapping software
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector
General landuse: Cultivated land