# DRESS HOOK

Unique ID: SOM-6DE4E0

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A Post-Medieval copper alloy dress hook, probably dating to c. AD 1500-1600.

The artefact is trefoilate in plan formed of three lobes arranged in a triangle and plano-convex in cross section. Each lobe is domed with a convex front and partially flat back with central slightly concave areas. An applied rectangular loop and the attached portion of the hook survive *in situ*, soldered onto the back plate into these hollows.

The front face's outer edge is decorated with a row of pellets, now slightly abraded and chipped in places. Each trefoil is decorated with two annulets each surrounding a central raised pellet plus one third of a central annulet shared evenly divided between each trefoil. The centre of this inner annulet is damaged but may have contained a central pellet.

Occasional holes are present in the front of the trifoliate design showing it to be hollow while the hook is broken just beyond the end of the backplate. The loop is bent inwards towards the backplate at its centre.

The artefact is 24.9mm long 23.9mm wide and 9.6mm thick. It weighs 4.83 grams.

Dress hooks of similar form are classified by Read (2008: 75-78) as his Class D, type 6. Many similar examples are included in this reference while similar examples in this database are known from the region e.g. SOM-FD1746, SOM-0BF130 and further afield SWYOR-7A0654, HAMP-B7066E.

In its form, decoration and construction the dress hook bears an obvious similarity to relatively more common silver gilt examples, although the decoration on this example is a simplified version, with an excavated example from Newcastle upon Tyne's Castle ditch dated to the late-16th century, while documentary evidence support such a date, indicating that such items were popular in the sixteenth century, with the latest inventory referencing them dated to 1598 (Gaimster et al. 2002: 160, 184).

# **Subsequent actions**

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

## Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL Period from: POST MEDIEVAL Period to: POST MEDIEVAL Date from: Exactly AD 1500 Date to: Circa AD 1600

## **Dimensions and weight**

Quantity: 1

Length: 24.9 mm Width: 23.9 mm Thickness: 9.6 mm Weight: 4.83 g

### **Discovery dates**

Date(s) of discovery: Sunday 7th October 2018 - Monday 7th January 2019

#### Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

#### Other reference numbers

Other reference: SCC Receipt 017852

#### **Materials and construction**

Primary material: Copper alloy Completeness: Complete

# **Spatial metadata**

Region: South West (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Wiltshire (Unitary Authority)

District: Wiltshire (Unitary Authority)

Parish or ward: Chute Forest (Civil Parish)

# **Spatial coordinates**

4 Figure: SU3250

Four figure Latitude: 51.24827923 Four figure longitude: -1.54290618

1:25K map: SU3250 1:10K map: SU35SW

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.

# **Discovery metadata**

Method of discovery: Metal detector General landuse: Cultivated land

Read, B., 2008 *Hooked-Clasps and Eyes* Langport: Portcullis Publishing