

Part 5:

Using the database to get information

How to search the database

The records you create on the database are a useful resource for yourself and everyone else. The next few pages will explain how to search the database and find information.

The **Search database** button is at the top of the left-hand menu of any database page.

When you click on **Search database**, the screen below appears.

The screenshot shows the PAS search interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, Contacts, Get Involved, Database, Treasure, Guides, News & Events, Publications, Research, and Forum. The 'Database' link is highlighted. Below the navigation bar is the 'Portable Antiquities Scheme' logo and the URL 'www.finds.org.uk'. The main section is titled 'Perform a basic search' and contains a search box with the placeholder text 'Try coin for example'. To the left of the search box are checkboxes for 'Only with images?' and '3D content ready?'. Below the search box is a blue 'Search!' button. To the left of the search box is a sidebar with a 'Search database' button and links for 'All artefacts & coins', 'All images', 'More searches', and 'Statistics'. Below the search box are two sections: 'Some examples of how to search' and 'More complex search forms'. The 'Some examples of how to search' section lists: ROMAN NOT coin, Sompting, coin AND gordian, and "Gordian III". The 'More complex search forms' section lists: Advanced search, Iron Age numismatic search, Roman numismatic search, Greek & Roman numismatic search, Early medieval numismatic search, Byzantine numismatic search, Medieval numismatic search, Post medieval numismatic search, Search via map, Postcode search, and Public saved searches. At the bottom of the page is a footer with 'The British Museum' logo and links for 'About Us' and 'About our Site'. The 'About our Site' section lists: About our site, Accessibility, Terms of Use, Privacy & Cookies, Freedom of information, and Help. The 'Help' link is circled. Callouts explain the search process: 'The basic (or simple) search is the easiest way to start searching.' points to the search box; 'Type a word in the Search content box that you think may be in the record and press Search!' points to the 'Search!' button; 'There are also searches for coins, and finds from a specific place. See page 100 for details.' points to the 'More complex search forms' section; and 'You can find tips on basic searching under the Help link.' points to the 'Help' link in the footer.

Home Contacts Get Involved **Database** Treasure Guides News & Events Publications Research Forum

Portable Antiquities Scheme
www.finds.org.uk

Log in | Register

Search database

All artefacts & coins
All images
More searches
Statistics

Perform a basic search

Search content: Try coin for example

Only with images? ☐

3D content ready ☐

Search!

Some examples of how to search

Try some of these for example.

- ROMAN NOT coin
- Sompting
- coin AND gordian
- "Gordian III"

More complex search forms

- Advanced search
- Iron Age numismatic search
- Roman numismatic search
- Greek & Roman numismatic search
- Early medieval numismatic search
- Byzantine numismatic search
- Medieval numismatic search
- Post medieval numismatic search
- Search via map
- Postcode search
- Public saved searches

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Join the community

The **basic (or simple) search** is the easiest way to start searching.

Type a word in the **Search content** box that you think may be in the record and press **Search!**

There are also searches for coins, and finds from a specific place. See page 100 for details.

You can find tips on basic searching under the **Help** link.

Help topic 1. **Searching the PAS database for the first time** gives you enough information to become a good searcher.

Help topic 3. **Searching our database** gives you more detail on how to compile 'Solr' searches – the most precise and powerful way to search the PAS database.

The screenshot shows the 'Help topics for our database' page. It features a list of 14 topics, numbered 1 to 14. The first three topics are circled: 1. Searching the PAS database for the first time, 2. Configuring the copy last record function, and 3. Searching our database. Below the list is a blue button labeled 'Database help topics' and a link labeled 'Site help topics'. At the bottom of the page, it says '1 - 14 of 14 records.' Callouts explain the topics: 'Help topic 1. Searching the PAS database for the first time gives you enough information to become a good searcher.' points to topic 1; and 'Help topic 3. Searching our database gives you more detail on how to compile 'Solr' searches – the most precise and powerful way to search the PAS database.' points to topic 3.

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Log in | Register

Database help topics

Site help topics

Help topics for our database

1. Searching the PAS database for the first time
2. Configuring the copy last record function
3. Searching our database
4. Image labels
5. Find spots - what can I publish
6. Why can't I add personal data (public recorders)
7. Deleting an image
8. Publishing find spots as a third party
9. Downloading HER data
10. Access levels and what you can view
11. Why should I register for an account on this site?
12. Downloading data in spreadsheet format
13. How do I get a profile picture for my account?
14. Your form tokens do not match

1 - 14 of 14 records.

If you click on **Advanced search**, this form will appear:

You can search using any number of fields. You can enter a value into several boxes, or just one.

Object description contains

searches on the precise phrase or 'string' of words. So if you type two words, it will look for those words in that order in the description.

Typing 'shield medieval' will bring up different results to 'medieval shield'.

If you get fewer results than you were expecting, check your spelling!

This field does not work with search terms such as * or AND.

The Advanced Search can only be refined using the filters (see next section).

If you click **Back to advanced search** at any point after you have left this page, the form will not retain your last search criteria.


Click **Submit your search** when you have entered what you want to search for.

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced search the database' form. The form is divided into several sections: 'Main details:', 'Dates and periods:', 'Spatial details:', and 'Discovery details:'. The 'Object description contains' field is circled in red, with a callout box explaining its function. The 'Submit your search' button at the bottom is also circled in red, with a callout box explaining its function. The form includes various input fields for search criteria, including 'Find number', 'Object type', 'Notes', 'Find of Note', 'Reason for noteworthy status', 'Treasure find', 'Treasure ID number', 'Rally find', 'Found at this rally', 'Workflow stage', 'Other reference', 'SMR reference', 'Primary material', 'Manufacture method', 'Surface Treatment', 'Broad period', 'Sub period from', 'Period from', 'Sub period to', 'Period to', 'Ascribed culture', 'Start date', 'End date', 'County', 'European region', 'District', 'Parish', 'Four figure grid reference', 'Elevation', 'Where on earth ID', 'Recording institution', 'Found by', 'Primary identifier', 'Recorded by', 'Date record created on or after', 'Date record created on or before', 'Date record updated on or after', 'Date record updated on or before', and 'Year of discovery'.

After completing any of the searches, a list of results will appear.

You can **Save this search**, or **Send this search to someone**. A saved search will appear in your Saved search list.

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Portable Antiquities Scheme

www.finds.org.uk

[Database search results](#)

[Back to simple search](#) | [Back to advanced search](#) | [Send this search to someone](#) | [Save this search](#)

[Map results](#)

[Export all results as KML](#)

[Export as CSV](#)

[Export for HER import](#)

[PDF disabled](#)

[Add artefact](#)

[Add hoard](#)

[PASP Volunteer](#) » [Log out](#)

Assigned role:
Member

Search database

All artefacts & coins

Finds recorded by me

My institution's records

My images

All images

More searches

Record ID: IOW-A20BC6

Object type: COIN

Broad period: ROMAN

County: Isle of Wight

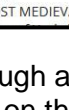
Workflow stage: Published

A complete Roman copper-alloy radiate of Gallienus, sole reign (AD 260-268), dating to the period AD 260-268 (Reece period 13). LAETITIA AVG reverse type depicting Laetitia standing left, holding purse and anchor. Mint of Rome. Mint-mark: - -// Obvers: [GA]LLIE[NVS AVG]; Radiate head right Reverse: LAETITIA AVG; Laetitia standing left, holding purse and anchor Diameter: 17.1mm. Weight: 1.38g. DA=12:6. Cnetio, p. 113, no. 1078.

Created on: Tuesday 10th February 2015

Last updated: Tuesday 10th February 2015

Spatial data recorded. [This findspot is known as 'Isle of Wight', grid reference and parish protected.](#)



Records per page: 10 20 40 100

Only results with images:

☐ on ☒ off

Only results with 3D content:

☐ on ☒ off

Sort your search by:

DATE CREATED

Object type

Broad period

Recording institution

Workflow status

Updated

Which direction?

[descending](#) [ascending](#)

Total results available: 354


Search server index: valhalla

You are viewing records: 1 - 20.

Record ID: [FAKL-732269](#)

Object type: POWDER

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL



copper alloy purse bar. The crossing pairs of incised the cylinder is a 4.4mm diameter projection. Beneath the cylinder is flat, web-like this is a 2.8mm diameter hole, one of a ned. The fragment is truncated and appears length 38.8mm, Width 12.5mm, Thickness

as 'Elloughton', grid reference and parish

You can scroll through all the results. By clicking on the **Record ID** you will open the complete record. Do this in a separate tab to preserve your search results.

Clicking on the large version top of the wi

You can sort your search results by clicking on one of the options here. The default option is **Date created**, so you see the newest records first.

You can scroll through all the results. By clicking on the **Record ID** you will open the complete record. Do this in a separate tab to preserve your search results.

Clicking on the picture will open a large version of the image over the top of the window.

You can scroll through the images of all the objects in the list by clicking **Next**.

To close the image click **Close**.

If you click **Map results**, a map showing the findspots will appear. This shows results for the whole of the UK, but you can zoom in and have a closer look at where your search results were found.

Map of search results

You searched for:

- Object type: CURTAIN FITTING

Return to search results [Login or register so you can export data](#)

At the top of the map you can change the information displayed, e.g. whether you see a road map, satellite image, etc.

This map works in the same way as Google maps. Zoom and Pan controls are on the left, and you can drag the map in different directions using your mouse.

How far you can zoom in depends on whether you are logged in, and whether they are your finds.

Total results available: 62
These results might differ to the expected results. We only allow you to see records available to you

Search facets

Object type
[CURTAIN FITTING \(62\)](#)
[Clear this facet](#)

County of origin
[Staffordshire \(17\)](#)
[Worcestershire \(16\)](#)
[Warwickshire \(14\)](#)
[Walsall \(3\)](#)
[Cheshire West and Chester \(2\)](#)
[City of Stoke-on-Trent \(2\)](#)
[Northamptonshire \(2\)](#)
[West Sussex \(2\)](#)
[County of Herefordshire \(1\)](#)
[Gloucestershire \(1\)](#)

Broad period
[POST MEDIEVAL \(32\)](#)
[MEDIEVAL \(30\)](#)

Institution
[WAW \(31\)](#)
[WMID \(25\)](#)
[HESH \(2\)](#)
[LVPL \(2\)](#)
[NARC \(1\)](#)
[SWYOR \(1\)](#)

Workflow
[Validation \(62\)](#)

Mapping search results can be very useful. It could be possible to see:

- What has been found near where you live
- What has been found in a particular field
- Where your finds have come from

And much more!

Sorting and filtering your search results

You can sort your results in various ways, and narrow down your searches, by using the filters on the right-hand side of the results page.

The filters are easily reversible (to get back to your original search results) but it can be more helpful to open the filters in a new tab, thus preserving your original results anyway.

Click on one of these numbers to choose how many records are shown on each page.
The default is 20.

Click **on** to show only records that have images attached.

Click one of the link options under **Sort your search by** to change the way your results are sorted. The default is 'date created', so that you see the most recent records first.

You can change the direction of sorting by clicking **descending** or **ascending** here.

Here you can see how many results your search has found. **Total results available** is the number of records.

Total quantity is the number of objects recorded (some records include more than one object).

Find more on filters over the page...

Records per page: 10 20 40 100

Only results with images:

on

off

Only results with 3D content:

on

off

Sort your search by:

- **DATE CREATED**
- Object type
- Broad period
- Recording institution
- Workflow status
- Updated

Which direction?

descending ↓

ascending ↑

Total results available:
1,054

Search server index:
valhalla

You are viewing records: 1
- 20.

Search statistics

- Total quantity: 1,551
- Mean quantity: 1.503
- Maximum: 48

Under **Object type** are the most common object types that your search has found. Click on one to display just those results.

The numbers in brackets are the number of records found.

Click on **All object type options +** to see a full list of every object type in the search results.

We have chosen to filter the results by **County of Origin**, showing just the results for North Somerset.

You can easily get back to the full results by clicking on **✕ Clear this filter**.

Under **Broad period** are the most common periods represented in the search results.

To see all of the periods, click **All Broad period options +** and a pop-up window will open with all the periods.

Under **Institution** are the most common recording institutions (record number prefixes) in the search results.

Under **Ruler/issuer** are the most common rulers or issuers of the coins in the search results.

Find even more on filters over the page...

Filter your search

Object type

COIN (414)
BROOCH (75)
BUCKLE (66)
FLAKE (48)
SCRAPER (TOOL) (45)
VESSEL (43)
DEBITAGE (33)

All Object type options +

County of origin

North Somerset (1,054)

✕ Clear this filter

Broad period

ROMAN (446)
POST MEDIEVAL (181)
MEDIEVAL (176)
NEOLITHIC (175)
BRONZE AGE (24)
EARLY MEDIEVAL (19)
MESOLITHIC (14)

All Broad period options +

Institution

GLO (754)
PUBLIC (182)
SOM (69)
IARCH (22)
SOMDOR (9)

All Institution options +

Ruler/issuer

House of Constantine (79)
Elizabeth I of England (30)
Constantine I (23)
House of Valentinian (18)

All Ruler/issuer options +

Under **Denomination** are the most common denominations of the coins in the search results.

Denomination

Nummus (AE 1 - AE 4) (175)
Riate (antoninianus) (58)
Penny (48)
Riate or nummus (15)
Sestertius (12)
Halfgroat (silver) (9)

All Denomination options +

Under **Mint** are the most common mints of the coins in the search results.

Mint

London (38)
London (Tower) (26)
Treveri (Trier, Germany) (26)
Canterbury (10)

All Mint options +

Under **Material** are the most common materials represented in the search results.

Material

Copper alloy (604)
Flint (194)
Silver (144)
Lead Alloy (27)

All Material options +

Under **Workflow** you can filter your results by workflow stage.

Validation means yellow flag.

Review means red flag.

Published means green flag.

Workflow

Validation (880)
Review (128)
Published (43)

If you are interested in Roman coins, you may want to look just at the coins from one **Reece period**.

Reece Period

17 (78)
13 (29)
14 (22)
16 (20)
19 (20)
18 (19)
15 (18)
6 (3)