

FINDS REPORTED TO THE PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME IN 2016

By Katie Hinds

During 2016 a total of 2,688 Hampshire finds were added to the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database in 2,415 records.

- The finds were from all periods from the Palaeolithic to c. 1800, with the following breakdown: Stone Age (1.7%), Bronze Age (2.5%), Iron Age (3.5%), Roman (43%), Early-Medieval (3.1%), Medieval (27%), Post-Medieval and Modern (18%), Uncertain (1.2%).
- They were made from a range of materials: metal (94%, of which copper alloys, 65%), ceramics (3.8%), worked stone (2%) and glass (0.2%).
- Most finds were discovered whilst metal-detecting (99%), some as 'eyes only' surface finds; the others were found through a variety of means including gardening and chance finding (1%).

A proportion of finds examined by the Hampshire Finds Liaison Officer and colleagues were not recorded – generally those that post-date 1700. The artefacts described below are considered to be particularly interesting examples reported to the Scheme during 2016. The PAS database number (Record ID) is included in each description. The public online database contains detailed information and colour photographs for each object recorded by the Scheme, including those below: see www.finds.org.uk/database.

Principal finds

A Lower Palaeolithic handaxe from the Itchen Valley (BERK-AA8256) (Fig. 14)

Dating from c. 500,000-150,000 BC, this Lower Palaeolithic flint cordate handaxe has bifacial removals achieved by hard hammer percussion. Although there is recent damage to the tip and post-depositional weathering, it has survived remarkably well. It does not have the typical 'toffee coloured' patina that so many Palaeolithic finds exhibit.

Palaeolithic finds from the county, including this one, are commonly discovered close to the rivers and the coastline. Length: 111.7 mm; weight: 332.9 g.



Fig. 14 A lower Palaeolithic handaxe

A Late Bronze Age armlet from Soberton (HAMP-5E48D1; treasure case 2016 T397) (Fig. 15)

A Late Bronze Age (c.1150-750 BC) solid gold penannular armlet or bracelet, circular in cross-section with expanded and dished terminals. One of these is bent upwards, away from the other although it is unclear if this is intentional or the result of damage. However both terminals are angled at approximately 45 degrees and it is unlikely they would abut each other. Both terminals have raised edges about 1mm thick. At the centre of the dished surfaces and on the outside of the flared terminals are traces of a dark brown substance. The armlet can be best compared to examples from the Selsey hoard in the British Museum, which comprises two or possibly three penannular armlets with expanded terminals. Length: 69.9mm; weight: 121g (to the nearest gram).



Fig. 15 A Bronze Age armlet

A continental Iron Age coin from Preston Candover (BERK-9E2ECA) (Fig. 16)

An incomplete and cast copper-alloy Late Iron Age Gallo-Belgic potin unit of Cottam *et. al*'s 'Soissons Eye Boar' type, dating to c.60 - 20 BC and produced by the Suessiones tribe who inhabited the region to the north east of Paris in the first century BC.

This is the second coin of this type to be recorded from Hampshire through the PAS, the other example – also incomplete – being from South Wonston, HAMP-39AE23. In fact, only three other 'Soissons Eye Boar' type coins have been recorded on the PAS database, the other examples being from Kent, Sussex and Hertfordshire. The type depicts a head right to the obverse and on the reverse an eye motif with several pellets beneath and to the left side with a boar facing right above. This coin appears to have a different die to the other Hampshire example (Cottam *et. al* 2010, no. 85). Diameter: 17.3 mm; weight: 3.3 g.



Fig. 16 Continental Iron Age coin

A Late Iron Age coin of Caratacus from Odiham (FASAM-EB7789) (Fig. 17)

This silver minim of the Regini and Atrebates tribe does not have a published parallel. It was struck for Caratacus around AD 40-43 and the obverse depicts the letters CAR with a ringed pellet above and below. The reverse shows a boar's head right with possibly C and V below, probably for Cunobelinus, Caratacus' father. The coin is very similar to one of Epaticcus, Cunobelinus' brother (and Caratacus' uncle) (Cottam *et. al* 2010, no.1370), which is perhaps not surprising given the similarity between other coins attributed to Epaticcus and Caratacus (*ibid*; nos 1346 & 1376). Diameter: 8.5 mm; weight: 0.27 g.

A Late Iron Age or Early Roman votive object from North Waltham (HAMP-7A34A2) (Fig. 18)

A copper alloy votive model or miniature object in the form of a wheel, of probable Late Iron Age or Early Roman date (c.200 BC - AD 100). The object is openwork in design and circular in shape with four equidistant arms at the centre.

This is the eighth example of a miniature wheel recorded on the PAS database. Others have been excavated from sacred contexts, suggesting they held a special significance. They appear in south and eastern England but cluster in Gaul, the Rhine and Danube regions. Published British examples include a group of three discovered in the spoil from the Late Iron Age and Roman settlement site at Wavendon Gate, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Miranda Green believes that it is highly probable that the group was associated with a solar cult which may have had its cult centre at Wavendon Gate (Williams, Hart & Williams 1996, 116). At Felmingham Hall in Norfolk, a wheel-model was found in association with a head of Jupiter suggesting a direct connection between the objects and the sky-cult (*ibid.*). Diameter: 31.9mm; weight: 15.44g.

A Roman coin of Claudius from Odiham (BUC-1A1EFF) (Fig. 19)

Roughly every third find recorded on the PAS database in Hampshire is a Roman coin. However, gold Roman coins are particularly unusual (there are only six on the PAS database for the county). This is an aureus of Claudius (AD 41-54), minted at Rome between AD 41 and 42. The reverse depicts DE GERMANIS on the architrave of a triumphal arch surmounted by an equestrian statue between two trophies. It is struck from dies recorded in a comprehensive corpus of the coins of Claudius (von



Fig. 17 Iron Age coin of Caratacus



Fig. 18 Late Iron Age or Early Roman votive object



Fig. 19 Roman coin of Claudius

Kaenel, 1986, plate 2, no. 73; see also Mattingly, H. & Sydenham, E A 1923, 122, no. 3). Diameter: 20.1 mm; weight: 7.67 g.

A Roman brooch from Soberton (HAMP-21185C) (Fig. 20)

An incomplete copper-alloy Roman plate brooch of an early 'wheel' type, dating to the mid to late 1st century AD. The brooch consists of about half the frame, which is connected to a central raised boss by two spokes. The catchplate is intact to the reverse but the pin and hinge are missing.

Two very similar examples are illustrated in Hattatt (2000, nos. 1004 and 1005) and a more complete example from Surrey can be seen on the PAS database (SUR-6AAD11). Mackreth's (2011, 174) publication of this type, his Continental plate brooch Type 13.a, had not at the time been found south of the Thames. Length: 34.8mm; weight: 6.36g.

A Roman provincial coin from Soberton (HAMP-9EE89B) (Fig. 21)

Greek and Roman provincial coins such as these tend to be seen as modern, tourist losses. However a significant number have been discovered in recent years by metal detectorists, which may suggest that some at least were lost in Roman Britain.

This is a copper alloy Roman provincial billon tetradrachm of Probus (AD 276-82) struck at Alexandria, the reverse depicting an eagle standing left, head right; wreath in beak. The letters L B are to either side and date the coin to the second year of his reign, AD 276-7. (Poole 1892, 315, no. 2427). Diameter: 20.9 mm; weight: 8.56 g.

A Roman coin from Breamore (WILT-CE7DCC) (Fig. 22)

A deliberately cut copper-alloy Roman sestertius of Postumus dating to AD 260-261. It depicts a galley to the reverse with the partial inscription TIA AVG from 'LAETITIA AVG'. It was struck at the mint of Lugdunum (Lyon).

The cut on this coin is deliberate, as can be seen from the groove to the right of the break on the obverse. The reason for this is unclear although intentionally damaged coins in the Roman period are thought to have had ritual purposes (Mattingly, H & Sydenham, E A 1962, no. 143). Diameter: 30.3 mm; weight: 7.01 g.



Fig. 20 Roman 'wheel' brooch



Fig. 21 Roman provincial coin



Fig. 22 Cut Roman coin



Fig. 23 Late Roman or early Medieval bead



Fig. 24 Early-medieval cheekpiece

An early-medieval cheekpiece from the Itchen Valley (HAMP-2BEAOE) (Fig. 24)

An incomplete copper-alloy cheekpiece from a cheek-bar bridle bit, consisting of a central loop and one arm (the other is missing due to an old break) and dating to the mid-5th to 7th century. The central loop has four distinct areas of wear to its central perforation, which has an irregular shape but presumably was originally circular. These reflect the now missing attachments which would have formed part of the harness. The surviving arm is pelta-shaped and decorated to one side only with three moulded and grooved transverse ribs. Such finds are unusual in the early Anglo-Saxon period, but it is comparable to an example from Great Chesterford (Fern 2005, 55, fig. 5.10). Length: 88.1mm; max.width 59.7mm; max.thickness 7.8mm and weighs 53.71g.

An early-medieval coin from Houghton (HAMP-A55756) (Fig. 25)

A Merovingian silver denier dating to c.720-750, the obverse copying a Secondary Phase sceat of Series O, a bird with a long beak and forked tail walking right. The reverse shows a Parisian cross ancrée. The mint is unknown but is probably in Northern Francia or Frisia (Grierson and Blackburn, 1986, 631), which shows the same design although the bird is walking left rather than right, c.f. Metcalf (1993, 476). Diameter: 13 mm; weight: 0.86 g.

An early-medieval coin from Chilbolton (HAMP-822403) (Fig. 26)

A penny of Aethelstan I of East Anglia (825-45), one of his portrait issues which dates to c.827. The obverse reads +EDELSTAN REX, the reverse +MONN MONE.TA. It was minted in East Anglia, probably at Ipswich, by the moneyer Monna. See Naismith (2011; E31.2) and North (1980, 436). Diameter: 19.5 mm; weight: 1.28 g.

A late Roman or early-medieval bead from Upham (HAMP-D0145C) (Fig. 23)

A vitrified glass bead, circular in shape and reddish-brown in colour, dating probably from the late 4th to the 7th century AD. Two domed ovals are picked out in yellow with a yellow curve and green beneath and two wide areas of red around the edge (each section taking up roughly a quarter of each area). Patches of orange can be seen around the central hole to one side and are a result of vitrification.

The combination of colours is very typical of 5th-7th century English beads, their production having died out by the 7th century, particularly following the conversion of England to Christianity (J Peake, pers. comm). Birte Brugmann (pers. comm.) suggests that the bead may well be from a chronologically late Roman or early-medieval context. Diameter: max.12.3mm; weight: 2.52g.



Fig. 25 Merovingian silver denier



Fig. 26 penny of Aethelstan I of East Anglia

A medieval continental coin from Ropley (HAMP-367440) (Fig. 27)

A medieval cut denar struck by the Archbishop of Cologne, Konrad of Hochstaden, at Cologne (the Archbishop's Seat) and dating to c. 1239-44. The obverse depicts the throned archbishop with mitre, book and crook while the reverse shows a building with three arcades, a tower and two flags.

Continental coins are not uncommon finds from the medieval period, particularly from the Low Countries. This example however is slightly earlier in date and from further afield than what is usual, see Hävernick (1935, 659). Diameter: 15.8 mm; weight: 0.58 g.



Fig. 27 Medieval cut denar

A medieval seal matrix from Owslebury (HAMP-0A27BD) (Fig. 28)

A 14th-century impersonal seal matrix with a circular die and long handle tapering to a suspension loop. The matrix depicts a human head in profile, apparently at the end of a crustacean's body with a possible pincer at the opposite end. Between this and the head is what appears to be the lower half of an animal's body and legs, one leg terminating in a forked toe. The inscription around the edge reads: * PRIVE SV E POY CONV ('I am private and little known'). There are other examples of PRIVE SV E POV CONV seal matrices on the PAS database, which also feature the rather bizarre arrangement of human heads with animals, for example WAW-16E325, BH-FD7BD2 and WILT-1B1B43. Impersonal seal matrices with stock inscriptions such as this were popular in the 14th century (Harvey & MacGuinness 1996, 88-9). Diameter: 17.2mm; weight: 7.25g.

A medieval papal bulla from Winchester (HAMP-00D11E) (Fig. 29)

A lead papal bulla of Pope Gregory XI, whose papacy lasted from 1370 to 1378. He was the last of the Avignon popes, returning to Rome in 1377.



Fig. 28 Medieval seal matrix



Fig. 29 Medieval papal bulla

Papal bullae were used as authentication seals on official papal documents sent out from Rome and attached with cords of silk or hemp, depending on the contents of the document. This example was found in the back garden of a property just below the church of St. John the Baptist, Winchester (papal bullae are usually found within a short distance of a church). The reverse enabled its identification, reading [G]RE. // [G]ORIVS // .PP.XI. The obverse depicts the faces of St Peter and St Paul below the inscription SPASPE (SPA = Sanctus Paulus, SPE = Sanctus Petrus).

While it is likely many papal bullae would have been disposed of once the document had been opened, examples have been discovered with secondary piercings or cut in half, perhaps to act as an amulet and this example has had its piercings widened at either end. The object is now in the collections of Hampshire Cultural Trust. Diameter: max. 39.5mm; weight: 58.35g.



Fig. 30 Medieval oval-pointed seal matrix

A medieval seal-matrix from Wherwell (HAMP-4E0317) (Fig. 30)

A probable 13th-century silver oval-pointed seal matrix depicting St. Peter, robed and standing with two keys in one hand and a book in the other. Around is the legend + SIGILLVM.PETRI.DE.BARASTRE. The attachment loop is missing to the reverse.

Barastre is in the Pas-de-Calais department of northern France and Petri is presumably referring to Peter. Some research was undertaken, but it has not discovered an obvious connection between St. Peter and Barastre. Length: 39.2mm; weight: 19.90g.

A post-medieval cloth seal from Damerham (HAMP-0A8DB7) (Fig. 31)

This is a piece of lead without its original edges and with a clear transverse bend across the centre (although the object has since been straightened). It depicts in raised relief the badge of the City of London: a shield containing a cross with an upright dagger in the top left quadrant. D and I can be seen above the top edge of the shield and is likely to be from DE. LONDI. NO, presumably a contracted form of the City of London motto 'Domine Dirige Nos' (O Lord, direct us). It is likely the object is an inner disc of a four-part cloth seal (Egan 1994, no. 65); a date from the late 1620s into the early 18th century is suggested for his series of cloth seals that bear the arms of the City of London. Length: 45.9mm; weight: 11.17g.



Fig. 31 Post-medieval cloth seal



Fig. 32 Early modern clay pipe

An early modern clay pipe from Upham (HAMP-CE4703) (Fig. 32)

An incomplete clay pipe dating to between 1805 and 1832. It is an example of one of those interesting post-1700 finds that the PAS occasionally record. Most of the stem is missing due to an old break while recent damage has resulted in the loss of the heel and part of the bowl. The pipe is decorated with relief moulded Masonic symbols which were very popular motifs on English pipes during the late 18th and early 19th centuries (D Higgins pers. comm.). This example has a style and arrangement of motifs typical of London and the south coast and the damaged bowl would originally have included seven stars and a moon. The stem retains part of an inscription: the maker's name, beginning GO on one side and ending AM on the other. The bowl can be matched with a complete example illustrated by Fox and Hall (1979, 56), which shows the full lettering on the stem as GOODALL / FAREHAM. The missing heel would have been stamped IG, either for John Goodall I or II (working 1805-31) or James Goodall (working 1829-1832). The pipe was found about 15 miles north of Fareham, i.e. within the 15-20 mile radius from the place of manufacture that is a typical distribution for inland pipes of this period. Length: 54.4mm; weight: 9.26g.

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