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THE COAT OF ARMS

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Third series

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Part 1

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ARTEFACTS OF INTEREST

Reported under the Portable Antiquities Scheme and the Treasure Act

In what is hoped to be the first of a continuing series, we list here a short selection of small finds of heraldic or related interest recently reported under the terms of the Treasure Act 1996 or the Portable Antiquities Scheme. All the objects were found by metal-detectorists; most will be (and some already are) listed on line in the PAS database at www.finds.org.uk; these are ascribed a unique PAS number. Objects found to be treasure have a T number prefixed by the year in which they were declared. All the items in this initial list (save one) were found in Norfolk and accordingly have a Norfolk Historic Environment Database number (NHER) which identifies the site at which they were found in the on-line database at www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk. The editors are grateful to Steven Ashley for his assistance in the preparation of this list.

* * *

NORFOLK: BEESTON WITH BITTERING

NHER 4084. See **Figure 1** and **Plate 9a**.

Probable medieval copper alloy livery badge cast in the form of a couped boar's head, with an integral tapering shank on the flat back (projects 8mm). The badge is worn and corroded. However some cast details of the ear, eye, hair, mouth and tusk survive. The orientation of the head would probably have been either to sinister or erect. 19 x 16mm. Found December 2009 / January 2010.

S. J. Ashley

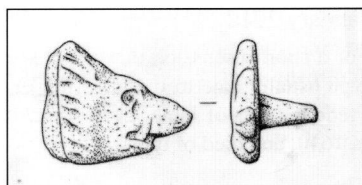


Figure 1.

Medieval livery badge from Beeston with Bittering (Norfolk).

Scale 1:1. Drawn by J. Gibbons.

NORFOLK: CLEY NEXT THE SEA

PAS NMS-82AD63, 2012 T88, NHER 31348. See **Figure 2a** (over) and **Plate 9b**.

Post-medieval silver hawking verrel: D-sectioned ring, the flat outer face of the band inscribed Henrye Prince *. The ends of the band are butted together and soldered onto the reverse of a shield-shaped plate aligned longitudinally with the band. The face

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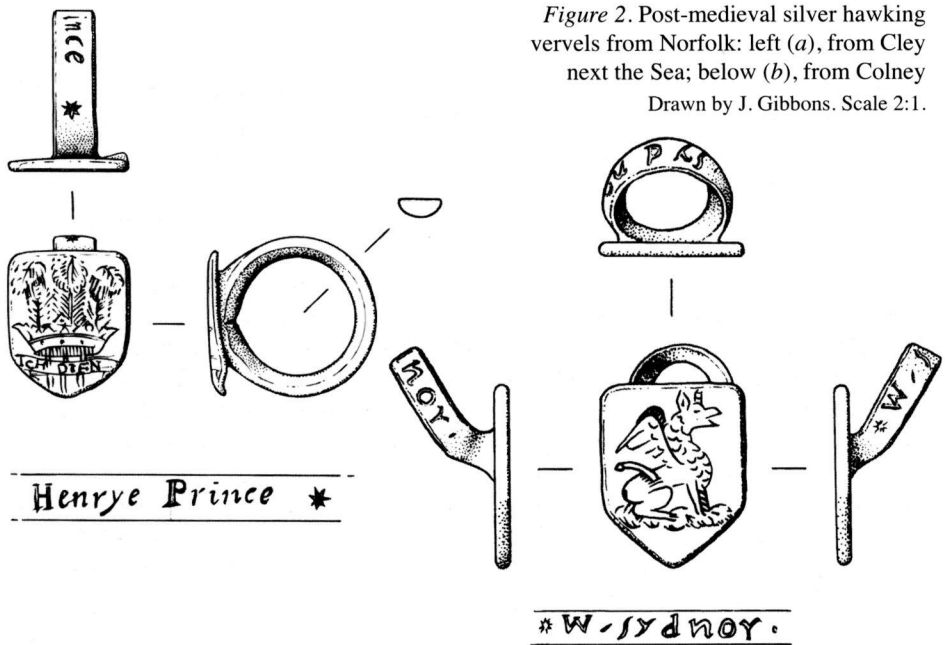


Figure 2. Post-medieval silver hawking vervels from Norfolk: left (a), from Cley next the Sea; below (b), from Colney

Drawn by J. Gibbons. Scale 2:1.

of the shield is engraved with the badge of the Prince of Wales, three ostrich feathers enfilading a coronet and passing through a scroll bearing the words ICH DIEN. Internal diam. of band 8 mm. External diam. of band 10.5 mm. Width of band 3mm. Height of shield 10 mm. Width of shield 8 mm. Thickness <0.5 mm. Weight 1.37 g. Found January 2012.

For a short discussion of vervels see *Treasure Annual Report 2004*, no. 345. Vervels of this type usually date to the late 16th or 17th century. The badge and inscription refer to Henry Frederick, son of James I and Anne of Denmark. He was born in 1594, created Prince of Wales in 1610, and died of typhoid fever in 1612.

S. J. Ashley

NORFOLK: COLNEY

PAS NMS-D15F32, 2005 T197, NHER 24833. See **Figure 2b**.

Post-medieval silver hawk-ring or vervel, narrow D-sectioned band applied with shield. The shield is engraved with a griffin sejant on a crest wreath. The band is bent up towards the top of the shield and bears an inscription around the flat outer face: * W / Sydnor *. 10 x 13mm; internal diameter of band approx. 6mm. Weight 1.55g. Found March/April 2005. 17th century.

Perhaps Sydnor of ?Blundeston; cf. the crest *A griffin sejant azure beaked and membered or*, Sydnor, of Norfolk. J. Corder, *A Dictionary of Suffolk Crests* (Woodbridge 1998), p. 366.

Published in *Treasure Annual Report 2005/6* (BM/DCMS 2008) p. 166, no 853.

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ARTEFACTS OF INTEREST

NORFOLK: GRIMSTON

NHER 41901. See **Plate 10a**.

Fragment of a medieval copper alloy armorial mount, in the form of a vertical rectangular strip, possibly a mount from a box or casket, chopped at the upper end, broken with ragged break at the lower end, bent and with a longitudinal median split extending up from the break. At the chopped end there is a single chevron, enamel missing, on a metal field with a tiny trace of probable gilding. The remaining length is taken up with a rectangular or banner-shaped field containing four lions rampant (perhaps *or* or *argent*), the enamel missing, and a horizontal dividing line above a tiny fragment of the upper part of another field, also with no surviving enamel. There is a fixing hole (diam. 1.5 mm) near the corner to the right of the chevron. Length >67mm, width 31mm, thickness 2mm. Probably 14th century. Found 2005. The centre of the field in which the find was made is about 300 metres from the parish church.

Less than half of the incomplete upper field remains. It bears a single chevron in base. The charge or charges that occupied the upper part of this field are unknown. The arms displayed on the banner-shaped field occupying the majority of the strip comprise: [?] *four lions rampant* [*?or/argent*]. They are possibly those of Fremonde, *Gules four lions rampant argent* (DBA 1, p. 310). There was at least a third field, once coloured with enamel and presumably armorial, of which only a fragment survives.

S. J. Ashley

NORFOLK: PULHAM MARKET

PAS NMS-F39863, 2011 T858, NHER 56331. See **Plate 10b**.

Post-medieval silver hawking verrel. Flat sectioned band with a separate shield set longitudinally and attached with solder, engraved with a lion rampant. The outer face of the band is inscribed Edward Hunne. External diameter 9.5mm. Width of band 3mm. Width of shield 4mm. Weight 0.54g. 17th century. Found 2011.

The family of Hunne, of Ilketshall St Margaret, Suffolk, bore *Azure a lion rampant guardant argent*: J. Corder, *A Dictionary of Suffolk Arms* (Suffolk Records Soc. vol. 7: Ipswich, 1965), column 44.

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NORFOLK: SUSTEAD

PAS NMS-8B3435, 2011 T923, NHER 56366. See **Plate 11a**.

Medieval gold livery badge made in the form of an engrailed 'Gothic' shield, with six concave edges, comprising both sides and a double engrailed top and base. The shield is *à bouche*. The badge is of cut sheet with a separately applied welded raised bordering rim with delicate finely incised rocker-arm on the narrow upper and outside edges. The main face and reverse have similar multiple filed or scratched vertical striations, those on the face possibly to key-in missing enamel. There is a sub-rectangular perforation in the centre of the sheet plate with a tiny notch on both sides and the upper and lower edges of the face at the opening. On the reverse the central perforation is framed by the ends of a small rectangular-sectioned welded separate loop, now squashed and broken at the lower end. The badge is slightly bent,

exaggerating a probably original longitudinal curve with the upper and lower ends arched backward. However, this is the opposite of what one would find on a full size shield of this type, where the face would be longitudinally concave, rather than convex. Width 20.5mm. Length 28mm. Weighs 2.35g. Found August 2011.

The *à bouche* shield form that this badge copies, with its notch in dexter chief originally designed to allow a lance to pass through, was introduced in the second half of the 14th century but became more common in the 15th century and the first few decades of the 16th (Grazebrook 1890, pp. 33-8, with plate I and plate IV, no 59). It is probable that the badge belongs within this period, perhaps the fifteenth century. It is likely that the shield was originally decorated with enamelled arms. It might have been a composite object with a separate element secured by a rivet in the central perforation, although this perforation could be connected with a secondary repair or modification. The loop on the reverse would originally have been sewn onto a cap or tunic. Livery or retainers' badges of precious metal rarely survive and this example joins a small number of others from the fifteenth century including the gold and enamelled Dunstable Swan Jewel (Cherry 1969; 1987; 2003b), the Percy crescent crest (Lightbown 1992, 198, fig. 104) and a silver-gilt boar of Richard III from Chiddingly, East Sussex (Gaimster 2002, Cherry 2003a). Other notable later livery badges include a fragmentary late fifteenth or early sixteenth-century silver crowned lion's head from Kellington in North Yorkshire (Ackermann 2005), an early sixteenth-century silver-gilt livery badge of the Gainsford family crest from Chelsham in Surrey (Gaimster and Goodall 1999) and a pair of silver badges of the Cholmondeley family of c. 1600 (Wilson, Gaimster, Dawson and Rudoe 1990, no 11).

S. J. Ashley

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NORFOLK: WIVETON

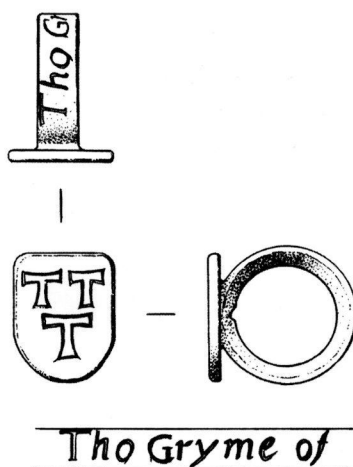
2006 T231, NHER 44442. See **Figure 3**.

Post-medieval silver hawk-ring or vervel consisting of a D-section ring with a shield-shaped plate soldered to the flat outer face. There is a small gap between the ends of

ARTEFACTS OF INTEREST

Figure 3. Post-medieval silver hawking
vervel from Wiveton, Norfolk.

Drawn by J. Gibbons. Scale 2:1.



the ring at the junction with the plate. The flat outer surface of the hoop is engraved: Tho. Gryme. of. The shield is engraved three times with the letter T, two side-by-side above a slightly larger example. Weight 1.02g. Int. diam. 6mm, ext. diam. 8.5mm. Shield 8.5 x 7mm. Late 16th/early to mid-17th-century. Found March 2006.

Though no tinctures survive this matches the arms ascribed to the Grime family of Trimingham, Antingham and Suffield, Norfolk: *Azure three tau crosses or*; W. Rye, *Norfolk Families* (Norwich 1913), p. 271. The owner of the object may well have been Thomas Gryme, lord of the manor of Antingham, whose will was proved in 1591. His second son was also called Thomas (C. M. Hoare, *The History of an East Anglian Soke* (Bedford 1918), p. 391), but it is unlikely that he would have borne the arms undifferenced.

Published in *Treasure Annual Report 2005/6*, p. 165, no. 846.

S. J. Ashley and A. Rogerson

NORFOLK: WORTWELL

NHER 28209. See **Plate 10c**.

Post-medieval copper alloy livery badge, the face is very worn, cast in the form of a crest: an 'Englishman's (or savage's) head affronty wreathed and couped beneath the shoulders garbed in drapery secured by a trefoil clasp on the sinister shoulder, on a torse or crest wreath. The reverse is hollow and has traces of solder at the top and on both sides at the base for separate wire loops or spikes for attachment. 27 x 39mm. 16th-18th century. Found February/March 2010.

S. J. Ashley

NORFOLK: WYMONDHAM

NHER 37523. See **Figure 4** (over) and **Plate 12**.

Fragment of a medieval tinned or silvered copper alloy livery badge, cast flat-backed beast with the head of an antelope, ears and stumps of missing horns or antlers, engraved oval eye, prominent snout and open mouth with upward pointing tusk. The

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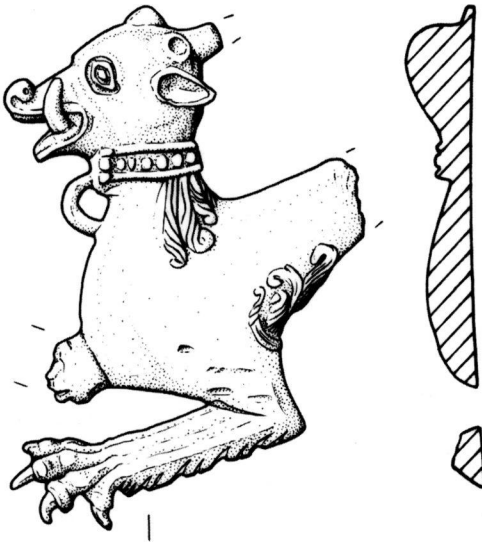


Figure 4. Fragment of medieval livery badge from Wymondham, Norfolk.

Drawn by J. Gibbons. Scale 2:1.

beast's neck has long curled tufts of hair emerging from beneath a studded collar, from which projects an attachment loop. It has one complete lion-like foreleg behind which there are further curled tufts of hair on the underside of the body which is broken where it narrows towards the rear. The other foreleg survives as a stump only. >27 x >34mm. Found August 2009.

The chimerical beast represented here might be an unusual representation of a yale, the badge of the Beauforts. However the Beaufort yale is usually depicted with the body of a goat and only the tail of a lion.

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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: NEWARK

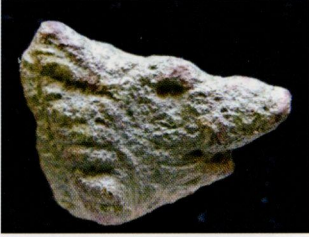
See **Plate 11b**.

Medieval copper alloy seal matrix, flat with a hinge comprising the remains of two soldered broken sheet loops for a missing, probably (semi-circular), plate, recessed to one side of the hinge to accommodate the plate when folded flat. Circular, diam. 28mm. The arms comprise a shield couché bearing *On a chevron rompu between three martlets a crescent*. A female figure with an elaborate hat or hairstyle stands behind the shield and holds a semi-circular object or horseshoe in both hands, the shield being supported by two wild men. The head of the female figure forms the initial mark for the inscription: *s · thomas warde* (Seal of Thomas Warde). Found January 2012.

Cf. WARDE or WARD *Argent on a chevron between three birds sable an annulet argent*: DBA 2, p. 456.

S. J. Ashley

PLATE 9



Left (a), probable medieval livery badge cast in the form of a boar's head, from Beeston with Bittering in Norfolk. Scale 2:1. *See page 47.*

Images by courtesy of the Historic Environment Service, Norfolk County Council



Left (b), post-medieval silver hawk-ing vervel, from Cley next the Sea in Norfolk. Scale 2:1. *See pages 47-8.*

PLATE 10

Images by courtesy of the Historic Environment Service, Norfolk County Council



Above left (a), fragment of medieval copper alloy armorial mount, from Grimston in Norfolk. Scale 1:1. *See page 49.*

Above right (b), post-medieval silver hawking verrel, from Pulham Market in Norfolk. Scale 2:1. *See page 49.*

Below (c), post-medieval livery badge, from Wortwell in Norfolk. Scale 1¼:1. *See page 51.*



PLATE 11



Above (a), medieval gold shield form for livery badge, from Sustead in Norfolk.
Scale 2:1. *See pages 49-50.*

Below (b), impression from medieval seal matrix found near Newark in
Nottinghamshire. Scale 2:1. *See page 52.*



PLATE 12

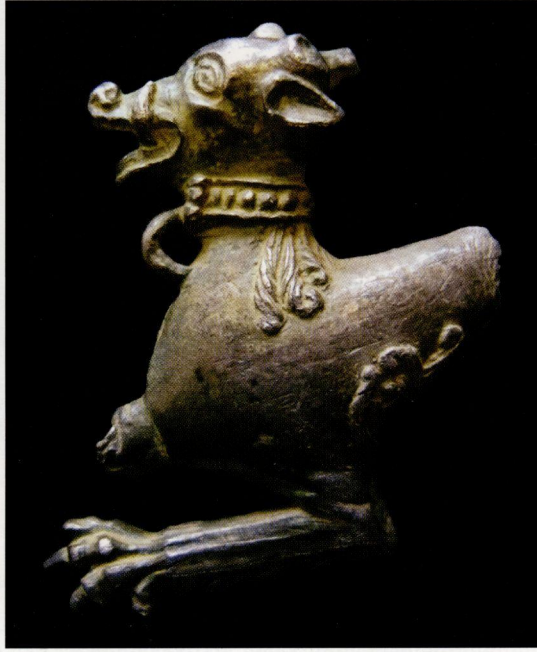


Image by courtesy of the Historic Environment Service, Norfolk County Council

Fragment of medieval tinned or silvered livery badge, from Wymondham in Norfolk. Scale $2\frac{1}{2}:1$. See pages 51-2.