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# THE COAT OF ARMS

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# THE COAT OF ARMS

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## ARTEFACTS OF INTEREST

*Reported under the Portable Antiquities Scheme and the Treasure Act*

A second 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](http://www.finds.org.uk); these are ascribed a unique PAS number. Objects submitted to H.M. Coroner as potential treasure have a T number prefixed by the year in which they were submitted. Items found in Norfolk 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](http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk). The editors are grateful to Steven Ashley, Michael Lewis and the Finds Liaison Officers of the P.A.S. for their assistance in the preparation of this list

### CORNWALL: HAYLE

PAS CORN-00E3C3. See **Plate 3a**.

Medieval cast gilt copper-alloy heraldic harness pendant in the form of a shield of 'heater' shape, with an integral loop protruding from the centre of the upper edge, set perpendicular to the face of the pendant, on a short, rectangular-sectioned neck. The face of the pendant has raised devices within a raised border that follows the edge of the pendant, and the remains of blue enamelling in the recessed area between. The field of the arms appears to be blue, the garbs gold; around the edge runs a raised gold border with oblique zigzag lines. Length 52 mm; width 32.4 mm; thickness 2.7 mm Weight: 13.35g. Found 2000.

The zigzag lines may represent an early or modified version of the engrailed border in the arms of Kemp of Crugsillick in Veryan, Lavethan in Blisland and Rosteague in Gerrans: *Gules three garbs within bordure engrailed or*. The Kemp family was established in the named manors by the early 15th century, and there is evidence that they moved west to Penwith in the 17th century and that there was a descendant, John Kemp, at Phillack by 1747. See W. H. Pascoe, *A Cornish Armory* (Padstow 1979), p. 57.

*Anna Tyacke*

### NORFOLK: COLNEY

PAS NMS-F2EEC6; 2013 T172. See **Plate 3b**.

Post-medieval silver-gilt hawking verrel. Shield-shaped with a large lateral integral loop springing from the upper edge. One face bears the royal arms: Quarterly, 1 and 4 France Modern, 2 and 3 England. The other face bears a quarterly shield. There are traces of a whitish deposit in the fields of both shields, apparently representing the remains of gilding. Length 23mm; width 13mm; thickness <1.5mm. Weight 2.02g. Found December 2012.

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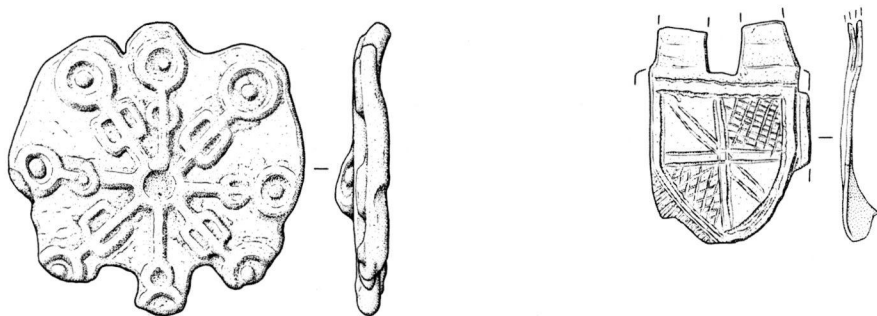


Figure 1. Small finds from Norfolk: left (a), lead mount from Pentney; right (b), copper-alloy buckle plate from Runcton Holme  
 Drawn by J. Gibbons (a) and S. J. Ashley (b). Scale 1:1.

The Royal arms are those used from c.1400 to 1603; the arms on the other face are those of Charles Brandon, first Duke of Suffolk (so created 1514, d. 1545): *Quarterly 1 and 4 Barry of ten argent and gules a lion rampant or ducally crowned per pale of the first and second* (Brandon), *2 and 3 counter-quarterly i and iv Azure a cross moline or* (Bruyn), *ii and iii Lozengy gules and ermine* (Rokeby). For the use of a vervel with the Royal arms on one face and the owners on the other, cf. the different but parallel practice advocated by George Turberville, *Booke of Falconrie or Hawking* (London 1611), pp. 140-1: 'then also put on her Jesses, the which must bee of Shameuse, leather, or soft calues leather, or such other leather as may bee gentle and plyable to her legge. At the end thereof, it shall not bee amisse to sette twoo Veruelles of Siluer, the one thereof may haue the Armes of the King, or Queen whom you serue, and the other a Scutcheon of your owne armes'.

S. J. Ashley

### NORFOLK: PENTNEY

NHER 16583. See **Figure 1a**.

Medieval lead mount, flat, roughly circular, with two pairs of slightly miscast and irregular rounded cut-outs on the edge. There is no means of attachment. On the front face in relief is an eight-spoked motif, each spoke bisecting alternately a rectangle or circle and ending in a ring-and-dot. Diameter 38–41mm; thickness 3mm. Weight 25.25g. 13th–15th century.

The chains in cross and saltire effectively form an escarbuncle; the design probably represents the arms of the kingdom of Navarre: see *DBA* 2, pp. 250-1.

S. J. Ashley

### NORFOLK: RUNCTON HOLME

NHER 28741. See **Figure 1b**.

Medieval copper alloy buckle plate, bent and broken, two joining fragments, rectangular, with pin slot and recessed for frame. Broken where folded widthways to form



## ARTEFACTS OF INTEREST

loops. Part of the loops, the back plate and the attachment-end of the front plate, are missing. The face is engraved with a shield bearing *Quarterly 2 and 3 fretty overall a bend*. Length >29mm; width >21mm. 13th-14th century. Found April/May 2003.

Although the tinctures are absent the arms depicted are likely to be those of Despenser (*Quarterly argent and gules fretty or overall a bend sable*).

S. J. Ashley

### NORFOLK: WIGGENHALL ST GERMAN'S

PAS NMS-922641. See **Plate 4a**.

Incomplete medieval lead seal: half of the original seal survives, broken (as often with papal *bullae*) along the central line that originally contained the thread attached to the document. The obverse depicts a mounted knight to dexter with a sword in his raised left hand held at an oblique angle behind his head. The horse is caparisoned. The inscription reads ] : IOhAnIS : D'N...OLS .....AS...h[. The reverse bears the dexter half of the quartered arms of Castile and Leon: *Quarterly 1 and 4 a triple-towered castle, 2 and 4 a lion rampant*. The inscription reads ]STELLE : ...ET...LEGIONIS : [ (Castile and Leon). Diameter 57mm; thickness 7mm. Weight 67.41g.

This is likely to be the seal of either John I (1379-90) or John II (1406-54) of Castile and Leon. Further research is in progress.

S. J. Ashley

### OXFORDSHIRE: WOLVERCOTE

PAS BERK-8D66C3. See **Plate 3c**.

A post-medieval gold seal matrix in almost perfect condition. The matrix has a circular base upon which is engraved a shield with a *vair* or *vairy* field and three lions rampant on a chief. The seal matrix is hexagonally faceted above the base and leads into a stem with two raised hexagonal collars. Above these collars is an oval loop flanked by splayed squared leaves; the loop is crowned with a small rounded knop. This style of seal matrix dates to the post-medieval period, probably to the mid to late 17th or even early 18th century. Height 15.72 mm; diameter 13.31 mm. Weight: 5.8g. Found May 2012.

Arms similar to these were granted in 1572 to a John Younge of Durnford in Wiltshire: see Burke, *GA* p. 1152 (*Vair on a chief gules three lions rampant or*); cf. Foster, *GA* pp. 289-90 (the lions *reguardant*). The family was recorded at Little Durnford in the 1623 Visitation of Wiltshire (CA record Ms 1.C22/26v, citing the patent). A similar design, but with white lions on a red chief, is ascribed to Waryn de Guston in the Carlisle Roll of 1334: cf. *DBA* 3, p. 39.

Anni Byard

### SHROPSHIRE: WATERS UPTON

PAS HESH-C85A60. See **Plate 4b**.

Medieval cast copper-alloy enamelled harness pendant, generally well preserved although the edges are abraded eroded and corroded. The pendant is sub-triangular (shield shaped) and is sub-rectangular (D shaped) in cross-section. The edges of the

front face are slightly bevelled and the profile of the pendant is slightly bowed (convex). From the centre of the top edge of the pendant an integral cast suspension loop extends, set at 90 degrees to the plain of the pendant. This is slightly distorted or bent and the upper section is flattened and pierced (diameter: 2.1mm). The front face of the pendant has an inlaid white enamel design of a moth or butterfly with outstretched wings. The design is well achieved and fills the entire front face. The butterfly consists of a rounded head with two small circular eyes and long antennae extending from the sides of the head. The thorax and abdomen are shown as one long, segmented lentoid shape. The wings are outstretched, the two forewings smaller than the hind wings. Each forewing is decorated with three small spots arranged in a triangle and edged with a frilled outer skirt; on the right side this merges with the hind wing. The hind wing of each side is similarly decorated with a single spot and a skirt on the lower edge. Small traces of gilt surface are present on the area around the insect suggesting that the entire field was gilt. Length 46.7mm; width 28.2mm; thickness 6.9mm across suspension loop, 1.9mm thick across plate. Weight 10.31 g.



Figure 2: harness pendant from Gooderstone in Norfolk. PAS SF8239.

This find joins a group of similar pendants showing butterflies or moths with a distribution mainly across the midlands and a small but discernible concentration in Cheshire and North Shropshire. See the PAS database for examples from Cheshire (Churchton-by-Aldford LVPL-375DD7; Hale LVPL1880), South Yorkshire (Maltby NLM4677), Lincolnshire (Osgodby NLM-505AE6), Norfolk (Gooderstone SF8239: see **Figure 2**), Suffolk (Long Melford SF-8BC685) and Hampshire (Crondall SUR-F76721). It is likely that they represent the butterfly badge of the Audley family, for which see M. P. Siddons, *Heraldic Badges in England and Wales* (London 2009) vol. 2.2, pp. 18, 290; cf. the tradition reported by Sampson Erdeswick that the original arms of the Audleys were *Azure three butterflies argent* (S. Erdeswick, *Survey of Staffordshire* ed. T. Harwood (London 1844), p. 102). The distribution is appropriate for the land-holdings of the Audleys, and interestingly the findspot of this object is near Blore Heath, where James Touchet, Lord Audley, fell in battle in 1459.

Peter Reavill

#### WILTSHIRE: LUCKINGTON

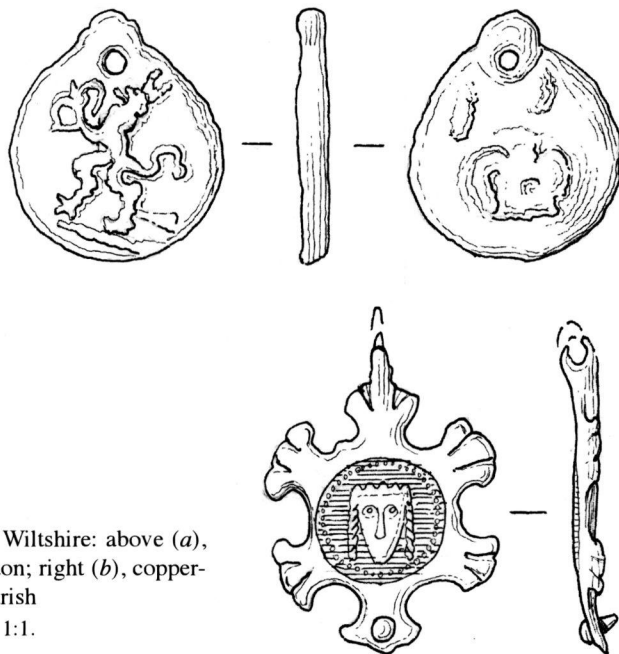
PAS WILT-DAB507. See **Figure 3a**.

Cast-lead pendant, probably post-medieval. The pendant is broadly circular with a slight projection at the top, pierced by a roughly circular perforation. The front face is decorated with a twin tailed, crowned lion rampant facing left holding a bow and arrow. The reverse is worn and is decorated with a crown. Length 33.60mm; width 29.5mm. Weight 26.45g. Found September 2012.

If, as seems likely, the design is heraldic, it is probably not British and may well relate to a coat of arms in Germany or the Low Countries.

Richard Henry

## ARTEFACTS OF INTEREST



*Figure 3.* Small finds from Wiltshire: above (a), lead pendant from Luckington; right (b), copper-alloy pendant from Whiteparish  
 Drawn by Nick Griffiths. Scale 1:1.

### WILTSHIRE: STOCKTON

PAS WILT-0C5965. See **Plate 4c**.

Medieval copper-alloy shield-shaped harness mount. The mount features an integrally cast stud projecting for c.6.1mm from a central position. The stud has a hammered terminal and has a washer or rove on it, suggesting that the mount was attached to a soft or flexible material. The front of the mount is in the form of a 'heater' shaped shield with the unquartered arms of England. Shield: length 14.45mm; width 11.35mm; thickness 8.15mm. Washer: length 15.85mm; width 13.3mm; thickness 0.8mm. Total weight 3.27g.

The arms of England were borne unquartered until 1340, though unofficial uses of later date may be found. It is unusual for the washer to survive.

*Alastair Willis*

### WILTSHIRE: WHITEPARISH

PAS WILT-6A5803. See **Figure 3b**.

Incomplete medieval copper-alloy enamelled sexfoil harness pendant. The incomplete suspension loop is at 90 degrees to the face. The pendant is corroded and worn in places, and bears a central enameled motif of a face surrounded by blue enamel; the design is imperfectly preserved, the mouth being worn away, but the nose and eyes



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are visible. At the bottom of the sexfoil pendant is a perforation housing a copper-alloy rivet, visible on both the front face and reverse. The reverse of the pendant is corroded and undecorated. Length 41.8mm; width 30.25mm; thickness 6.3mm. Weight 10.01g.

The motif has been interpreted in a number of ways: a female face with hanging ringlets, the head and mane of a lion or the head of another mammal. Its heraldic status is questionable.

*Richard Henry*



PLATE 3

Left (a), medieval gilt copper-alloy armorial harness pendant from Hayle in Cornwall. Scale 2:1. Above right (b), post-medieval silver gilt hawking verrel from Colney in Norfolk. Scale  $2\frac{1}{2}$ :1. Below right (c), post-medieval armorial gold seal matrix from Wolvercote near Oxford. Scale about 2:1. *See pages 125-7.*



# PLATE 4



Top (a), fragment of lead seal of a medieval king of Castile and Leon, from Wigenhall St Germans in Norfolk. Scale 1:1. Centre (b), medieval enamelled copper-alloy harness pendant, from Waters Upton, Shropshire. Scale 1½:1. Bottom (c), medieval copper-alloy harness mount with stud and washer, from Stockton in Wiltshire. Scale 2:1.

*See pages 127-9.*