

A ROMANO-BRITISH INTAGLIO FROM NEATHAM, HANTS

In 1986 a copper-alloy finger ring was handed to Guildford Museum for identification by a metal detector user (Museum identification ref TRB 2760). The findspot was given as Neatham. Photographs of the ring (Fig 1) were

nicolo-glass intaglio, 7mm by 5mm on the upper face but bevelling outwards to 8mm by 6mm.

The ring is of a common third-century form (cf. Henig 1978, 39 Type XIII; Henig 1985,



Fig 1. The Neatham finger ring. (Photograph: Guildford Museum)

sent by the Museum to MH, and MM was informed. The photographs identify it as that seen but not recorded by MM in 1979 during the excavation of Area B trench V (Millett & Graham 1986, 33–37). At the time it was clear that the object had come from that part of the site, although its precise findspot remains unknown. The object remains with its finder.

The ring (diameter 19mm) has prominent shoulders with a raised ovoid bezel 10mm in length by 7mm in breadth. Inset is a moulded,

122; 129; fig. 42 no. 54 – in a small cache of rings found in the Period 4A occupation c AD 235–250/60). The intaglio device as viewed on the gem itself is FORTUNA with a cornucopia in her right hand and holding a steering-oar attached to a rudder in her left hand (the device would of course be reversed in impression). The type is common and is closely matched by a nicolo-glass intaglio from *Vindolanda*, set in another Type XIII ring (Henig 1978, 305, pl XXIX, no App 138).

REFERENCES

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