

British Sigillography Collection

Princeton Series: Romano-British

Item Number: 1

Title

Romano-British Seal Box in a diamond shape with remains of enamelling

Physical Description

diamond-shaped bronze seal box with remains of enamelling and image of cross; 1.25" x .75"

Period: 2nd C. *Dealer:* Valued History, Paul Murawski, Cambridge, U.K.

Notes

Romano-British seal box with top and bottom present but hinge corroded shut. Cross pattern with remains of enamelling. These boxes were used by the Romans in England to seal personal letters. A string or strings would be tightly wound around the document and then the ends would be passed through the back of the box. The box would be filled with wax covering the strings and would then be impressed with a seal matrix. With the lid to the box closed, the seal impression would be protected from damage and the strings could not be removed with destroying the seal. The recipient of the letter could be reassured that the document had not been tampered with and the box could be re-used. As recently as the early 1900's, the function of these boxes was not known though they were frequently found on Roman sites. An early theory was that they were meant to contain perfumes and were to be worn by ladies. The enamelling is of particular interest since this seems to have been a skill taught to the Romans by the celtic peoples they had subjugated.

Provenance



British Sigillography Collection

Princeton Series: Romano-British

Item Number: 2

Title

Top of a Romano-British Seal Box With Remains of Enamelling

Physical Description

Period: 2nd C. *Dealer:* Birgit Anderson, private collector in Germany

Notes

The top lid of a Romano-British seal box. It is round and displays a central disk containing a red-enamelled diamond shape. Surrounding the central figure are seven small circles each filled with red enamel. In the spaces between the decorative figures there are remains of blue and red enamelling.

Provenance



British Sigillography Collection

Princeton Series: Romano-British

Item Number: 3

Title

Romano-British Seal Ring with image of man

Physical Description

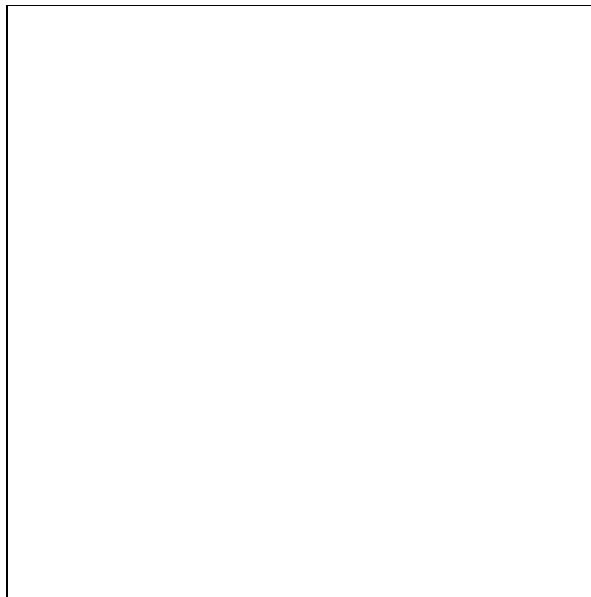
Roman bronze seal ring; green patina, image of man

Period: 2nd C. *Dealer:* Nick Bird through the Bath Antiquities Center, Bath England

Notes

A Roman bronze seal ring probably found in south Gloucestershire. It was once in a collection of Roman coins owned by a local Gloucestershire metal detectorist and purchased by Nick Bird (0780-334-8032) The ring probably dates from the 2nd to the 4th centuries A.D.

Provenance



British Sigillography Collection

Princeton Series: Romano-British

Item Number: 4

Title

Romano-British Seal Box With Image of Panther Facing Backward

Physical Description

bronze seal box in good condition; top and bottom present and hinge working; circular and approximately .75 inches in diameter; image of panther looking backward; nice green patina

Period: 3rd C. *Dealer:* Valued History, Paul Murawski, Cambridge, U.K.

Notes

A nicely preserved Romano-British seal box in working condition with both top and bottom present and showing the image of a panther facing backward. The panther's head is turned, as if looking over its shoulder. Panthers were symbols often associated with the God Bacchus (Dionysus) the God of Wine, green-growing things, and of fertility.

Provenance



British Sigillography Collection

Princeton Series: Romano-British

Item Number: 5

Title

Romano-British Enamelled Bronze Seal Box

Physical Description

Bronze petal-shaped box with traces of red and green enamel on top filling in a simple geometric design; 1.25 inches in length (including hinge); .25 inches thick

Period: 3rd C. *Dealer:* Collectable Treasures (ebay item 238952657) (2/1/00)

Notes

A nicely preserved example of a Romano-British seal box with traces of enamelling remaining on the cover. This box is complete but sealed shut from corrosion. It was found near York.

Provenance Found near York



British Sigillography Collection

Princeton Series: Romano-British

Item Number: 6

Title

Romano-British Silver Finger Ring With Blue Colored Intaglio Carved Stone

Physical Description

silver, ring opening .6"; intaglio stone .25" x .35"

Period: 3rd C. *Dealer:* Ancient & Oriental, Ltd., Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, U.K.

Notes

An attractive silver finger ring for a small finger or hand with an engraved stone to be used for sealing. The image is that of a boy or man standing and brandishing a sword.

Provenance Found in the U.K.

