

Anglo-Saxon Aristocracy from 'near Diss'

A gold composite pendant with inlaid garnets was unearthed in December 2015 by a student from Norfolk. He discovered the finds within a 7th century grave whilst metal detecting at Winfarthing, near Diss. The pendant was found in the grave of a female and has been described as one of the "most elaborate...ever found".

Among the items recovered in January 2016 by a professional archaeological excavation were a Merovingian coin pendant, two gold biconical spacer beads, a gold openwork pendant with the form of a Maltese cross, a coin pendant with a gold suspension loop, another pendant with a Maltese cross design, a continental pottery biconical bowl, an iron knife and a collection of copper alloy chatelaine rings.

What's fascinating is that these finds reflect a women who was Christian, buried with a cross but not yet buried in a full Christian manner. The entire grave, taken as a whole, is of importance as it helps to build an understanding of the process of Anglo-Saxon society's conversion at this time to Christianity.

Image



Winfarthing Pendant
Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Image



Winfarthing Pendant
Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Image



Winfarthing Pendant
Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Nation/region
East of England
Grant awarded

£90,900

Award date

13/12/2017

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