The Thames Exchange Ring

Image id:

61311

Title:

Brass ring: 10th century

Description:

Brass ring with an inscription of Viking runes. This little brass ring has a mysterious inscription in Anglo-Saxon runes, apparently reading 't futhniine'. The first letter is double, and could be either 't' or 'ae'. The 'futh' may represent the first few letters of the runic alphabet, the equivalent of 'abc', while the 'ine' at the end could be a man's name 'Ine'. But inscriptions like this are not always intelligible. Christian Londoners preserved some of the beliefs of their pagan ancestors, and used runes for writing spells and magical formulae.

Date:

901 AD - 1000 AD

Image Number:

000590

Century:

10th century

London borough:

Unknown

Historical period:

Saxon (AD 450 - 1066)

Ownership of object:

LAARC

Accession number:

TEX88[0]<1330>*

Department:

Early History

Link with Museum gallery:

Medieval London

B&W/Colour:

colour

Credit:

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Image Ref:

000590

