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Knot Motif Found in Hoard Jewels

Archaeologists have discovered a Staffordshire Knot symbol among the treasures of the Staffordshire Hoard, making the county sign 500 years older than previously thought. The symbol was believed to originate from the 11th century, but the gold artifact dates back to at least the sixth century. Council leader Councillor Philip Atkins said: “The Staffordshire knot found on one of the items was 500 years older than the oldest known use of the county symbol.” The knot may have originated as a heraldic device for the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Mercia. The find of more than 1,500 gold and silver objects by metal detectorist Terry Herbert from Burntwood is the largest hoard of Anglo-Saxon gold ever found.



Re-written from <http://www.expressandstar.com/latest/2009/10/16/knot-found-in-hoard-jewels/>