15th-Century Golden Finds
A metal detectorist has discovered, on the foreshore of the River Thames in London, a copper-alloy gilt badge of a boar. These badges were ordered for use at Richard III’s coronation (in July 1485) and also for the investiture of his son, Edward, as Prince of Wales (in September). It is not certain how this work was originally used -- maybe it adorned a piece of furniture or was used to decorate an item of leather once owned by a supporter of Richard III, or possibly even by the king himself.

Originally found by a metal detectorist in 2008 Darren Hoyle in Rolleston, Nottinghamshire, the golden locket was acquired by the British Museum in 2010. Dating to 1450-1500, it is inscribed *cauns [sauns] repentir* (without regret), which may have been an amatory phrase. A similar piece was discovered as part of the Fishpool Hoard (also from Nottinghamshire), in 1966, which is also held by in the British Museum.

For further information, see
http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=3335914&partId=1