TREDEGAR MEDIEVAL BROOCH

Phillip Prosser

The picture above is of a silver medieval brooch, now in Tredegar Town Museum, which was found on the mountain side between Rhymney and Tredegar by a metal detectorist. The brooch, found by Mr. Michel Evans of Pontlottyn, is two and a half centimetres in diameter and is likely to be from the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century. Dr. Rhianydd Biebrach the project officer with 'Saving Treasures –Telling Stories' believes it to be very likely a single loss and she describes it as an exquisitely beautiful *Annular Stirrup Brooch* likely to have been used as an attachment on a cloak or purely as a decorative item. It is most likely to have been lost on this part of the medieval route between Cardiff and Brecon by someone travelling through the area of significantly more wealth than local inhabitants. Whilst several examples have been found in Wales, Dr. Biebrach, considers this to be the best example, and to best appreciate its fine detail and good lustre you should visit the Tredegar Museum which is located in the Town Library on Tredegar Circle, or visit our website at http://tredegarmuseum.co.uk .