



Ancient 2,000-Year-Old Anchor Discovered in North Sea

Description

A 2,000-year-old anchor has been discovered beneath the North Sea, revealing an extraordinary piece of history. This find occurred off the coast of the UK during a seabed survey, and it is significant because it has survived longer than most similar objects, hidden under layers of sand that protected it from ocean currents and oxygen, which typically cause decay.

The anchor, made from wood and iron, is remarkably preserved. Generally, wood deteriorates quickly when submerged, but thick sand and low oxygen levels contributed to its exceptional condition. Maritime archaeologist Brandon Mason stated that if the anchor dates back nearly 2,000 years, it would be historically significant, as only three pre-Viking anchors are known to exist in northern European waters outside the Mediterranean.

This anchor likely belonged to a trading ship, as vessels in the area transported goods like metal and pottery across the North Sea. This indicates that ancient sea routes were busy long before modern shipping began. Mason noted that this discovery provides strong evidence of significant maritime activity during Roman times.

The anchor was located using sonar scanning, a modern technology that identifies buried objects. Stuart Churchley, from Historic England, highlighted that this discovery shows the thorough investigation of the North Sea's seafloor is unprecedented. After its retrieval, the anchor will be studied further, indicating that there is still much to learn from the ocean's depths.

Vocabulary List:

1. **seabed** //ˈsiː,bɛd// (noun): the bottom of the sea or ocean
2. **survey** //ˈsɜːrveɪ// (noun): a careful check or study of an area
3. **deteriorates** //dɪˈtɪəriə,reɪts// (verb): becomes worse or weaker over time
4. **submerged** //səbˈmɜːdʒd// (verb): covered or placed completely under water
5. **maritime** //ˈmæɪrɪ,tɑɪm// (adjective): connected with ships, sea travel, and shipping
6. **sonar** //ˈsɒnɑːr// (noun): technology using sound to find objects underwater

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. How old is the discovered anchor?

- Option: 1,000 years
- Option: 2,000 years
- Option: 3,000 years
- Option: 500 years

2. What does the anchor reveal about ancient sea routes?

- Option: They were inactive
- Option: They were busy
- Option: They were newly established
- Option: They were dangerous

3. What material is the anchor made from?

- Option: Only wood
- Option: Only iron
- Option: Wood and iron
- Option: Gold and silver

4. Who is the maritime archaeologist mentioned in the text?

- Option: Stuart Churchley
- Option: Brandon Mason
- Option: Historic England
- Option: Unknown

5. What technology was used to locate the anchor?

- Option: Radar
- Option: Sonar scanning
- Option: Drones
- Option: Magnetic fields

6. How many pre-Viking anchors are known to exist in northern European waters?

- Option: One
- Option: Two
- Option: Three
- Option: Four



True-False

7. The anchor is believed to have been found in the Mediterranean Sea.
8. The anchor's preservation is attributed to being buried under sand.
9. The anchor was discovered during a historical excavation.
10. There is still much to learn from the ocean's depths according to the text.
11. Stuart Churchley is an archaeologist from Historic England.
12. The anchor indicates that trading ships operated in the area.

Gap-Fill

13. The anchor is approximately _____ years old.
14. The anchor was discovered off the coast of the _____.
15. The preservation of the anchor is due to low _____ levels.
16. Modern technology used to locate the anchor is called _____ scanning.
17. The anchor likely belonged to a _____ ship.
18. Brandon Mason stated that this find provides evidence of significant maritime _____ during Roman times.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 2,000 years 2. They were busy 3. Wood and iron 4. Brandon Mason 5. Sonar scanning
6. Three

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. True 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. 2,000 14. UK 15. oxygen 16. sonar 17. trading 18. activity



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What does the term 'turnaround' commonly refer to in a business context?
Option: A significant improvement
Option: A type of financial loss
Option: A method of production
Option: A marketing strategy
2. What is a 'milestone' in project management?
Option: A monetary reward
Option: A significant stage or event
Option: A final report
Option: An employee evaluation
3. What does it mean to 'streamline' a process?
Option: To make it more complex
Option: To reduce waste and improve efficiency
Option: To increase costs
Option: To hire more employees
4. What is usually the purpose of a 'demonstration'?
Option: To confuse the audience
Option: To showcase how something works
Option: To sell products
Option: To collect data
5. What type of waves does 'infrared' refer to?
Option: Visible light waves
Option: Sound waves
Option: Electromagnetic waves
Option: Radio waves
6. What does 'inaccessible' mean?
Option: Easily reachable
Option: Difficult or impossible to reach
Option: Accessible to everyone
Option: Available for purchase
7. What does it mean to have 'stumbled' upon something?



- Option: To search meticulously
- Option: To encounter unexpectedly
- Option: To avoid completely
- Option: To disregard

8. What is typically the goal of an 'expedition'?

- Option: To stay indoors
- Option: To explore unknown areas
- Option: To document history
- Option: To participate in sports

9. What is the primary role of 'astronauts'?

- Option: To conduct undersea research
- Option: To work in laboratories
- Option: To travel and work in space
- Option: To teach science

10. What is meant by 'docking' in space missions?

- Option: Landing on a planet
- Option: Connecting two spacecraft
- Option: Firing rockets
- Option: Returning to Earth

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Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The company decided to _____ its operations to improve productivity.

12. To gather more information, the researchers conducted a _____ of the local population.

13. During the storm, many sought _____ in the local community center.

14. The submarines used _____ technology to detect objects underwater.

15. The shipwreck was found _____ beneath the surface of the ocean.

16. If not properly maintained, the building gradually _____ over time.

17. The scientist explained that the discovery of penicillin was an _____ breakthrough.



18. She felt _____ by her older brother's achievements.
19. Reaching the summit was a significant _____ in the climbers' journey.
20. The thermal camera detects _____ radiation to measure heat from objects.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The company achieved a remarkable turnaround after implementing new strategies.
22. The software was modified to include new features based on user feedback.
23. The rugged terrain made the hiking expedition more challenging.
24. The commander gave clear instructions before the mission began.
25. The Mars rover successfully transmitted data back to Earth.
26. The solar eclipse was a breathtaking event that drew many spectators.
27. The scientists explored the seabed to learn more about marine life.
28. The demonstration showcased the robot's ability to perform complex tasks.
29. The expedition aimed to uncover new species in the untouched rainforest.
30. The astronauts trained rigorously for their mission to the International Space Station.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. A significant improvement 2. A significant stage or event 3. To reduce waste and improve efficiency 4. To showcase how something works 5. Electromagnetic waves 6. Difficult or impossible to reach 7. To encounter unexpectedly 8. To explore unknown areas 9. To travel and work in space 10. Connecting two spacecraft

Gap-Fill: 11. streamline 12. survey 13. refuge 14. sonar 15. submerged 16. deteriorates 17. accidental 18. shadowed 19. milestone 20. infrared

Matching sentence: 1. turnaround 2. modified 3. terrain 4. commander 5. rover 6. eclipse 7. seabed 8. demonstration 9. expedition 10. astronauts

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL4



POST TAG

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2. buried anchor
3. ESL learning
4. esl news
5. Level 4
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Date Created

2026/04/20

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