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## 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.

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### 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



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## 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



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### 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

### CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL4



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## POST TAG

1. archaeologists
2. buried anchor
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## Tags

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## Date Created

2026/04/20

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