

58. Dublin, halfpenny group B, 0.67 g (chipped).

Scotland: Alexander III Long Voided Cross coinage

59. Berwick, Iohan, type VIIIa, 1.24 g (chipped).

Sterling imitations

60–1. England, Edward I, Durham, obv. †EDWR[?][?]DNSHVB, rev. CIVI / TAS / DVRI / [-]MĒ (two coins from same dies), 1.60 g; 1.59 g (bent, chipped and cracked).

62. England, Edward I, London, obv. †EDWRÆIGIDIHVB (same obv. die as 63), rev. CIVI / TAS / LOII / DOII, 1.61 g.

63. England, Edward I, London, same obv. die as 62, rev. CIVI / TAS / LOII / DOII (OII ligated), 1.21 g (chipped).

64. England, Edward I, London, obv. †EDWREX[---]DISH[?][?]B, rev. CIVI / TAS / LOI / DO[N or I], 1.39 g.

65. Ireland, Edward I, Dublin, obv. EDWR / TIGH. / .H.S.H.B, rev. CIVI / TAS / DVHL / IIE, 1.18 g (chipped).

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THE MID-FOURTEENTH CENTURY ‘DRAYTON’ HOARD

N.J. MAYHEW

A fourteenth-century coin hoard came to light in a car boot sale in Drayton, Oxfordshire in 2003 (Treasure case 2009 T756; PAS: BERK-A67006). It appeared as a solid ball of coins, much corroded and stuck together, contained in a pottery vessel, which was subsequently broken and most of the pottery fragments were lost (see Fig. 1).¹ The circumstances of its original discovery are unknown. Before cleaning the whole hoard weighed 1.066 kg, and 767 pennies and one halfpenny recovered from it are summarized in Tables 1 and 2.

As in some sense an Oxfordshire find, the Heberden Coin Room in the Ashmolean Museum expressed an interest, and the British Museum invited Nick Mayhew to prepare a report for the coroner. Separating the coins has been a major conservation task, for which we must thank the staff at the British Museum. The corrosion was such that many coins became damaged when separated from one another. This explains the unusually high proportion of broken coins. In many cases the original identity of the pieces has been retained, and often coins have been glued back together. However, despite such heroic efforts, time constraints meant that many of the coins could only be partially cleaned, and treatment was concentrated on the legends, although many of the finer points of the classification are based on the obverses of the pennies, which often remained obscured. For a more complete classification, many more hours of cleaning would have been required. Unfortunately neither the British Museum nor the Ashmolean Conservation teams were able to devote the necessary time for the complete

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¹ <<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/281376>>.



Fig. 1. The hoard before cleaning (© Portable Antiquities Scheme)

cleaning of this very difficult material. Had either museum been in a position to acquire the hoard something could perhaps have been managed over the long term, but this was not possible and naturally the owner of the hoard was anxious to retrieve the coins within a reasonable time.

Accordingly the list which follows can only be regarded as extremely approximate, and the failure to refine the classification of the Scots and Irish element is particularly regretted. Nevertheless, it seems worthwhile to place even this inadequate listing on the record. Comparison with the Chesterton Lane, Cambridge hoard on the basis of percentages by mint and class suggests that this listing of 2009 T756 is not entirely unreliable, assuming that the uncertain coins in the 'Drayton' find are a random selection. Tables 1 and 2 present a comparison of the silver coins in the two hoards.² Although the London mint coins and the continental element in the Cambridge find are greater than in the 'Drayton' find, the total numbers of Berwick, Scots, Irish, Canterbury, Durham and Bury coins as a proportion of the whole, are similar in both hoards. Comparison of the London and Canterbury coins by class in the two hoards confirms this sense of the similarity between the two finds, since the percentages vary by more than the odd per cent only in the case of London class Xs and in the enhanced numbers of class XVI ('Florin' coinage) pence in the Cambridge find.³ Both finds contained only small numbers of Pre-Treaty silver pennies, indicating dates of deposit soon after 1351, but the Cambridge hoard also had eight gold coins of 1351–c.1355, dating it to the mid-1350s. The 'Drayton' hoard has one Pre-Treaty penny of York, providing a *terminus post quem* of 1353, when royal and archiepiscopal mints were opened in York for the issue of the Pre-Treaty coinage.⁴ The 'Drayton' find contained seven pennies of David II's c.1351–7 issue, while the Cambridge hoard had none. This might indicate a possible Scottish or northern location for this hoard.

The list only provides the basic classification, without sub-types. In many cases it would have been possible to suggest sub-types as well, but not consistently enough to make a full listing. Even attempting to provide only the basic classification has left an unusually high proportion of the coins unidentified. I have retained the old-fashioned Fox notation in Roman numerals as a further indication that this listing falls well short of ideal modern standards.

² Allen 2005.

³ A comparison of the Cambridge hoard with other hoards by Allen and Oddie 2015, 241–2, indicates that the Cambridge find has abnormally large numbers of coins in class XVI.

⁴ Lawrence 1926, 462–3; Allen 2000, 61, 63.

TABLE 1. Comparison of the 'Drayton' and Cambridge hoards: mints, etc.

	'Drayton'		Cambridge ⁵	
	Coins	% of total	Coins	% of total
London	331	43	863	48
Canterbury	170	22	371	21
Durham	61	8	129	7
Bury	20	3	69	4
Berwick	15	2	38	2
Irish	10	1	24	1
Scottish	34	4	49	3
Continental	30	4	121	7
	768		1,805	

TABLE 2. Comparison of the 'Drayton' and Cambridge hoards: Fox classes, etc.

Classes	London				Canterbury			
	'Drayton'		Cambridge		'Drayton'		Cambridge	
	Coins	% of total	Coins	% of total	Coins	% of total	Coins	% of total
I	13	4	19	6	-	0	-	0
II	12	4	43	5	1	1	1	0
III	46	14	74	9	6	4	36	10
IV	38	11	91	11	26	15	43	12
V-VII	2	1	18	2	1	1	1	0
VIII	7	2	16	2	-	0	-	0
IX	20	6	99	11	6	4	22	6
X	133	40	334	39	73	43	155	42
XI	13	4	52	6	9	5	45	12
XII-XIII	6	2	5	1	6	4	19	5
XIV	5	2	15	2	8	5	17	5
XV	6	2	18	2	10	6	28	8
XVI	8	2	76	9	1	1	1	0
'Star-marked'	1	0	0	0	-	0	-	0
Pre-Treaty	2	1	2	0	-	0	-	0
Uncertain	19	6	1	0	23	14	3	1
Total	331		863		170		371	

Coin list

The coins are all pennies, apart from one Edward III 'Star-marked' halfpenny of London.

London: Class I: 13; II: 12; III: 46; I-III ? 1 (face obscured, early S, reversed Ns); III-IV?: 1 (late S); III-IV? 1; I-IV?: 1; IV: 38; VI?: 1; VII: 1; VIII: 7; IX: 20; X: 133; XI: 13; XII: 0; XIII: 6; XIV: 5; XV: 6; X-XV? 5 (1 in 3 fragments); London 'Star-marked' halfpenny: 1; XVI ('Florin'): 8; uncertain class: 10; Pre-Treaty: 2.

Canterbury: Class II or III: 1; III: 6; IV: 26; I-IV? (open E): 1 fragment; IV-VI? 1; VII: 1; IX: 6; X: 73; XI: 9; XII: 2; XIII: 4; XIII-XIV?: 2; XIII-XV?: 4; XIV: 8; XV: 10; XVI ('Florin'): 1; uncertain class: 15.

Berwick: 15.

Bristol: Class II: 3; III: 12; IX: 1.

Bury St Edmunds: Class X: 6; XI: 2; XIII: 1; XIV: 4; XV: 4; XI-XV?: 1; uncertain class: 2.

Chester: Class III: 1.

Durham: Class III: 5; IV?: 1; VIII: 1; IX⁶: 6; X: 25; XI: 5; XIII: 3; XIV: 0; XV: 3; X-XV?: 2; uncertain class: 10 (including 1 one with uncertain coin attached to it); Pre-Treaty: 3.

Exeter: Class IX: 1.

Kingston upon Hull: Class IX: 2.

⁵ Nine gold coins excluded from total.

⁶ Including one local obverse die (North 1984, 76, fig. 6). I owe this identification to Martin Allen.

Lincoln: Class III: 6.

Newcastle: Class III: 1; IX: 7; X: 2 (1 attached to London class II?); uncertain class: 1.

York: Class II: 2; II–III? 1 (with fragments of London penny attached); III: 12; IX: 1; XVI: 2; Pre-Treaty: 1.

England: uncertain mints: 38.

Ireland: Dublin: 4; Waterford: 4; Cork: 1; uncertain: 1 halfpenny?

Scotland: Alexander III: 20; John Balliol: 2; Robert Bruce: 2; David II: 7; uncertain: 3.

Continental: 30 (references are to Mayhew 1983): Gui de Dampierre, Namur, M. 12; Gui de Dampierre, Flanders-Namur, M. 13; Jean d'Avesnes, Mons, M. 36; Valeran de Ligny, Serain, M. 225d–e; Gaucher de Chatillon, Yves, M. 238 or 239; Gaucher de Chatillon, Yves, M. 239 (M. 239 is erroneously printed as M. 234 in Mayhew 1983, 95); Gaucher de Chatillon, Yves, M. 239; Gaucher in name of Edward, 'London' M. 241; Gaucher in name of Edward, 'Waterford', M. 242a, but bifoliate crown; Gaucher in name of Edward, 'London' M. 243 (2 coins); Gaucher de Chatillon, Yves, M. 244; Gaucher de Chatillon, Yves, M. 245–7; John the Blind, M. 257; John the Blind, Luxemburg, M. 265m–M. 265t; John the Blind, Luxemburg, M. 265 (2 coins); John the Blind, Meraude, M. 277; John the Blind, Meraude, M. 278; John the Blind, Damvillers, M. 284 (2 coins); John the Blind, M -?, IOh----.REX.B / ...ETA .EX:; Ferry of Lorraine, M. 306; Louis of Bavaria, as King of the Romans, Aachen, M. 334; **EDWRE** 'London' M. 374; **EDWARAIIOIDISHYB** 'Lomdon', cf. M. 383–406; Hartrad of Schonecken, 3 fragments, cf. M. 345–352; **EDWARA** with open E, 'London'; John III of Brabant, Brussels mint, Chatel type, de Witte 307, but now dated by Ghyssens after 1317–18 (see Mayhew 1983, 48–9 n. 2, 85); John III of Brabant, Cross in field with no pellets, **MONETA**.... Lion rampant facing left, de Witte 368, Antwerp.

Unidentified fragments: uncertain number of coins.

Pottery fragments: few.

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TWO HOARDS OF LATE MEDIEVAL ENGLISH GOLD COINS

MURRAY ANDREWS

RECENT studies have demonstrated the value of historic newspapers as a source of information concerning otherwise unknown coin finds.¹ This note draws attention to two 'forgotten' late medieval gold hoards recorded in nineteenth century newspapers, considering aspects of their numismatic contents and broader archaeological contexts.

1. Grimsargh, Lancashire, 1860

In May 1860 a hoard of three fourteenth-century gold coins was found in a field in Grimsargh, Lancashire. An account of the find in the *Preston Chronicle and Lancashire Advertiser*, which also records the discovery of a hoard of silver coins of Elizabeth I, reads as follows:

DISCOVERY OF COINS. – We yesterday saw two fine gold coins, one of the reign of Edward the Third, and the other of Richard the Second. They were found in a field in Grimsargh, this week, along with another smaller gold coin, of the former reign. When found, they were enclosed in something like a shell box, which, however,

¹ For instance, Cessford and Newman 2011; Briggs 2012; Allen and Briggs 2013; Andrews 2015.