MISCELLANEA

ANCIENT BRITISH SILVER COINS FROM CHICHESTER

The coin finds from the excavation conducted at Chichester between 1968 and 1973 included no less than nine of the rare silver coins, mostly minims, of the last decades of the Ancient British coinage before the Roman conquest in A.D. 43. Through the generosity of the owners of the several sites on which these coins were found, and the good offices of Mr. Alec Down in charge of the excavations, all nine coins have been donated to the British Museum, and it is a pleasant duty to record sincere appreciation of the generosity which has ensured the preservation of these important items in the National Collection, and their availability for consultation. In the descriptive list below nos. 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, and 9 were presented by the Post Office, nos. 3 and 4 by the Bishop of Chichester, and no. 6 has been deposited on loan by West Sussex Council.

These coins will be published in their archaeological context in the third volume of the report on the Chichester excavations which is now being prepared. The purpose of this note is primarily to make the details of this group available to numismatists. (Pl. I, 1–9, where the numbering corresponds with that used in this list.)

ATREBATES AND REGNI

Tincommius (c. 20 B.C.–A.D. 5).
1. **Obv.** Letters **TINC** disposed in a circle.
   **Rev.** Lion to left; around, **CONF.**
   Wt. 1:14 gm.

Verica (c. A.D. 10–40).
2. **Obv.** At centre, small circle with central dot, all surrounded by four groups of three dots.
   **Rev.** Lion to right; above, **VIR** and below, trefoil between two annulets.
   Wt. 0:30 gm. (*BNJ* XXXVI, pl. 14, 14).

3. **Obv.** In two lines on a tablet **VIR/VAR**.
   **Rev.** Pegasus to right; below, \( \text{CO.} \)
   Wt. 0:34 gm.

4. **Obv.** Bucranium; around, **VERICA.**
   **Rev.** Tomb or monumental altar; to left \( \text{C.} \), to right \( \text{F.} \)
   Wt. 0:29 gm.

5–6. **Obv.** A in centre of two interlaced squares with curved sides.
   **Rev.** Bird to right.
   Wt. 0:39 gm.; 0:31 gm. (Mack 316).

CATUVELLAUNI

Epaticcus (c. A.D. 25–35).
7. **Obv.** Head of Hercules to right; in front, **EPAT.**
   **Rev.** Eagle facing with outspread wings and head turned left, standing on a serpent.
   Wt. 1:03 gm. (Mack 263).

8. **Obv.** Winged Victory seated right holding wreath **TASICOV.**
   **Rev.** Boar to right; below, **EPAT.**
   Wt. 1:13 gm. (Mack 263A).

9. **Obv.** **EPATI.** Above and below, an annulet enclosing a pellet.
   **Rev.** Boar’s head to right; below **TA.**
   Wt. 0:31 gm. (Mack 264).

Of the coins of the Atrebates and Regni the coin of Tincommius appears to be quite new, but the lion type on the reverse is known in this series on rare minims of Verica of which no. 2 in the list is an example. This latter coin has the same types as a minim found at Owlesbury near Winchester and published in an earlier number of the journal, but the reverse appears to be from a different die. Where on the earlier coin traces of the letters **R** and **X** were discerned, flanking the trefoil below the lion, on the present coin the trefoil appears to be flanked simply by annulets.

The remaining two minims of Verica are both new. On the obverse of no. 3 a two-line inscription gives the not uncommon abbreviation of the king’s name, **VIR**, accompanied by the enigmatic letters, **VAR**. Coin no. 4 is the most interesting and novel of the whole group. The king’s name is given in full, with the letters of **VERICA** disposed circularly around a bucranium, a novel type in the Ancient British coinage. On the reverse the appearance of an architectural type is something quite unexpected in this series. The precise identification of the building remains a matter of conjecture. The domed roof suggests that it is a tomb,
presumably a royal tomb, possibly that of Verica's father, Commius. With the exception of the domed roof the details of the reverse type are strongly reminiscent of a Roman coin type. The angled base of the structure, and the double doors on the front, each decorated with two studs, recall the monumental altar on the reverse of the *Divus Augustus Pater* bronze asses of Tiberius. On the Roman type the altar is flanked by the letters s-c in exactly the position occupied by the letters c-f on this minim. That the types of Roman gold and silver coins are reflected in the late Ancient British coinage is a commonplace, and there is no lack of archaeological evidence for the presence of the Roman originals in Britain, but it is difficult to produce hard evidence for familiarity with Roman bronze coinage before the Claudian invasion.

The minims, nos. 5 and 6, with letter A on the obverse, are further examples of the coin which has been identified as part of the rare coinage attributed to Amminus, thought to be a chieftain of the Cantii.

The last group consists of three coins of Epaticcus, son of Tasciovanus of the Catuvellauni, and brother of Cunobelin. The types of all three coins are known. A few examples of no. 7 are recorded but no. 8 is only the second example of the coin found in the Bagendon excavations, while no. 9 was previously known only from an electrotype in the British Museum of a minim of uncertain provenance. This new example enables the reverse type to be identified as a boar's head accompanied by the letters T A.

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**THE SELINDGE (ALDINGTON) KENT FIND, 1974–1975**

In June 1974 Miss Diana Price discovered two silver groats of 1553–4 during the ploughing of a field at Partridge Farm, Sellindge, Kent. A further search on 9 March 1975, by members of the Ashford Archaeological Society, disclosed a further fourteen sixteenth–seventeenth-century silver coins in an area no larger than a dinner plate. At an inquest held at Ashford on 3 June 1975 it was decided that the find did not constitute Treasure Trove and the coins were returned to the finders.

The coins are badly worn and appear to have been lost during the second half of the seventeenth century at a date considerably later than that of the latest coin (1643–5).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Motto</th>
<th>Weight in grains</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary I 1553–4</td>
<td>Groats 1553–4</td>
<td>mm pomegranate</td>
<td>16.9, 19.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philip and Mary 1554–8</td>
<td>Groat 1554–8</td>
<td>mm lis</td>
<td>20.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth I 1558–1603</td>
<td>Sixpence 1565</td>
<td>mm rose</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sixpences 1568</td>
<td>mm coronet</td>
<td>25.9, 34.5, 35.6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sixpence 1578</td>
<td>mm plain cross</td>
<td>30.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sixpence 1580</td>
<td>mm plain cross</td>
<td>29.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Threepence 15??</td>
<td>mm?</td>
<td>12.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James I 1603–25</td>
<td>Shilling 1603–4</td>
<td>mm thistle, second bust</td>
<td>74.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Half-groat 1603–19</td>
<td>mm?</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles I 1625–49</td>
<td>Sixpences 1636–8</td>
<td>mm tun</td>
<td>35.8, 35.8, 39.8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sixpence 1643–5</td>
<td>mm (P) or (R)</td>
<td>39.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*BMCRE* i, Tiberius 146 ff, a.d. 22–30.
A SMALL HOARD OF SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY
tokens, BUSHEY, HERTS., 1965

A small hoard of seventeenth-century tokens was found in 1965 beneath the floorboards of a bedroom at No. 6 High Street, Bushey. This house is part of an interesting group of eight opposite the parish church and pond, ranging in period from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. It is undoubtedly the oldest of the group, forming part of a timber-framed hall house of two bays, with angled queen posts, built approximately in the year 1500. An upper floor was inserted, probably in the early seventeenth century. This house would have been one of the more important residences in the village of Bushey during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Six tokens were found, three of Bushey tradesmen and three of Watford. The town of Watford is only three miles distant from Bushey. It is significant that four, if not five, of the tokens have connections with inns and brewing. A number

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HIGH STREET, BUSHEY

1. Early 19th century (No. 2)
2. 1500 circa timber framed hall house (where hoard was found) (No. 4 & 6)
3. Half-timbered late 16th and early 17th century (No. 8 & 10)
4. Twin-bayed half-timbered 17th century (Nos. 12 to 16)
5. Small 18th century (No. 18)
6. Late 18th century (No. 20)
7. 1800 circa (No. 22 & 24)
8. Early 19th century (No. 26)
9. Half-timbered 17th century
10. Modern Red Lion (on site of 17th-century inn)

Based on a map shown in *Bushey Then and Now*, Booklet No. 6 (Grant Longman and Graham Bailey).

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of lead pieces of uncertain date were found with them.

The tokens are as follows:

1. Unpublished ★ JEREMIAH • DELL • Malt Shovel ★ IN • BUSHEY • 1664

Farthing brass 360°

This token was completely unknown prior to the finding of the hoard. The device of a malt shovel indicates that the issuer might well have been an innkeeper.

Jeremiah Dell was a well-known person in Bushey, holding office as churchwarden (1656–7), overseer of the poor (1658–9) and (1667–9), and surveyor of the highways (1660–1) and (1670–1). His name first appears on the local records as a defaulter at the View of Frankpledge of Bushey Manor in 1648. He was taxed for three hearths in 1661. He died in 1681, his wife, Elizabeth, having been buried two years previously. It is possible that Jeremiah Dell lived in the house where two tokens bearing his name have been found.

2. Unpublished

A lead impression of the obverse above muled with the impression of the reverse of a Middlesex token (W 89) issued by Nathaniel Page, a Harrow grocer. The reverse reads

AT HARROW ON Y^E HILL

Farthing size 360°

Will Litchfield and John Pile may have been partners—joint landlords of the Red Lion which still exists in the High Street (No. 50), only a hundred yards away from the house where this token was found. It is known that there was an Inn of the same name on the site in the seventeenth century. The present building dates from 1895.

Like Dell, Will Litchfield was a prominent resident in Bushey, and his name frequently appears in the records during the period 1651–78. He was a copyholder and traded as a builder.

It is interesting to note that the device on Jeremiah Dell’s token corresponds with that on the reverse of this piece.

3. W 73 ★ WILL • LITCHFIELD • OF • BUSHEY

Lion Rampant holding an arrow ½ ★ JOHN • PILE • OF • BUSHEY

16 Malt Shovel 69

Brass farthing 360°

The fact that the lettering is inverse indicates that this token was actually formed from the two tokens mentioned above and not from dies. Lead is of course a very soft metal. It seems likely from the irregularity of the flan that it consists of two uniface flans pressed together.

This strange home-made piece was probably the result of a shortage of the issuer’s brass tokens. Dell must have had a Page token to hand. Bushey and Harrow are less than five miles apart.

4. W 212 ★ GEORGE • BROCKETT • AT • Y^E

Swan

IN • WATFORD • 1666 6 8 8

HIS

HALFE

PENY

Brass farthing 180°

An innkeeper’s token ★ GS★
The Swan still exists in the Lower High Street, having been rebuilt twice since the seventeenth century.

5. W 220 • JOHN • & IONATHON* NEWMAN  
   Lion Rampant  
   TALLOW • CHANDLER • WATFORD  
   ½ above stick of 7 candles  
   Brass farthing 360°

Another innkeeper's token. Probably related, these two issuers seem to have combined the trade of innkeeping with that of chandler. The 'Red Lion' was situated in the High Street near the entrance to the old public market.

6. Unpublished • T*JRMAN  
   IN  
   WAT  
   Cottage Loaf (on both faces)  
   J. VRGES  
   FORD  
   1653 (Border of rosettes)  
   Lead farthing 360°

A specimen of this lead piece is referred to in W. Longman's notebook (now in Hertford Museum). Longman's collection was sold at Glendinings in 1957 and this lead token is mentioned in the catalogue (17 July 1957). It is now in the Norweb collection in the U.S.A. We have come across no other specimen.

A later token was issued by the same two issuers in 1669 (W 216).

7. A lead token (cast), diam 12.5 mm.

One face bears crude lettering i k within a circle. The other face bears the letter e within a circle. The size and style of this piece is similar to that of an early London tradesman's farthing token of cast pewter dated 1644 (Norweb collection, U.S.A.).

8. Another cast lead token, diam. 17 mm.

This is uniface and bears a distinctive cross. The blank reverse has a raised rim. It is almost impossible to date this piece.

Acknowledgements

The authors are indebted to Mr. Grant Longman for allowing them to publish his notes on the Bushey issuers, and to Mr. H. A. Batchelor for kindly providing photographs.

GEORGE BERRY AND BRYEN WOOD

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1 Illustrated in George C. Boon, Welsh Tokens of the Seventeenth Century (1973), fig. 1. no. 10.